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# Rapid decay and polynomial growth for bicrossed products

PIERRE FIMA AND HUA WANG

## Abstract

We study the rapid decay property and polynomial growth for duals of bicrossed products coming from a matched pair of a discrete group and a compact group.

## 1 Introduction

In the breakthrough paper [Ha78], Haagerup showed that the norm of the reduced  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_r^*(\mathbb{F}_N)$  of the free group on  $N$ -generators  $\mathbb{F}_N$ , can be controlled by the Sobolev  $l^2$ -norms associated to the word length function on  $\mathbb{F}_N$ . This is a striking phenomenon which actually occurs in many more cases. Jolissaint recognized this phenomenon, called Rapid Decay (or property  $(RD)$ ), and studied it in a systematic way in [Jo90]. Property  $(RD)$  has now many applications. Let us mention the remarkable one concerning  $K$ -theory. Property  $(RD)$  allowed Jolissaint [Jo89] to show that the  $K$ -theory and  $C_r^*(\Gamma)$  equals the  $K$ -theory of subalgebras of rapidly decreasing functions on  $\Gamma$  (Jolissaint did attribute this result to Connes). This result was then used by V. Lafforgue in his approach to the Baum-Connes conjecture via Banach  $KK$ -theory [La00, La02].

In this paper, we view discrete quantum groups as duals of compact quantum groups. The theory of compact quantum groups has been developed by Woronowicz [Wo87, Wo88, Wo98]. Property  $(RD)$  for discrete quantum groups has been introduced and studied by Vergnioux [Ve07]. Property  $(RD)$  has been refined later [BVZ14] in order to fit in the context of non-unimodular discrete quantum groups.

In this paper, we study the permanence of property  $(RD)$  under the bicrossed product construction. This construction was initiated by Kac [Ka68] in the context of finite quantum groups and was extensively studied later by many authors in different settings. The general construction, for locally compact quantum groups, was developed by Vaes-Vainerman [VV03]. In the context of compact quantum groups given by matched pairs of classical groups, an easier approach, that we will follow, was given by Fima-Mukherjee-Patri [FMP17].

Following [FMP17], the bicrossed product construction associates to a matched pair  $(\Gamma, G)$  of a discrete group  $\Gamma$  and a compact group  $G$  (see Section 2.2) a compact quantum group  $\mathbb{G}$ , called the bicrossed product. Given a length function  $l$  on the set of equivalence classes  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$  of irreducible unitary representations of  $\mathbb{G}$  one can associate in a canonical way, as explained in Proposition 4.2, a pair of length functions  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  on  $\Gamma$  and  $\text{Irr}(G)$  respectively. Such a pair satisfies some compatibility relations and every pair of length functions  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  on  $(\Gamma, \text{Irr}(G))$  satisfying those compatibility relations will be called matched (see Definition 4.1). Any matched pair  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  on  $(\Gamma, \text{Irr}(G))$  allows one to reconstruct a canonical length function on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ . The main result of the present paper is the following.

**Theorem A.** *Let  $(\Gamma, G)$  be a matched pair of a discrete group  $\Gamma$  and a compact group  $G$ . Denote by  $\mathbb{G}$  the bicrossed product. The following are equivalent.*

1.  $\widehat{\mathbb{G}}$  has property  $(RD)$ .
2. There exists a matched pair of length function  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  on  $(\Gamma, \text{Irr}(G))$  such that both  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  and  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  have  $(RD)$ .

For amenable discrete groups, property  $(RD)$  is equivalent to polynomial growth [Jo90] and the same occurs for discrete quantum groups [Ve07]. Hence, for the compact classical group  $G$  one has that  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  has  $(RD)$  if and only if it has polynomial growth. Note that a bicrossed product of a matched pair  $(\Gamma, G)$  is co-amenable if and only if  $\Gamma$  is amenable [FMP17]. The following theorem shows the permanence of polynomial growth under the bicrossed product construction.

**Theorem B.** *Let  $(\Gamma, G)$  be a matched pair of a discrete group  $\Gamma$  and a compact group  $G$ . Denote by  $\mathbb{G}$  the bicrossed product. The following are equivalent.*

1.  $\widehat{\mathbb{G}}$  has polynomial growth.
2. There exists a matched pair of length function  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  on  $(\Gamma, \text{Irr}(G))$  such that both  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  and  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  have polynomial growth.

The main ingredient to prove Theorem A and B is the classification of the irreducible unitary representation of a bicrossed product and the fusion rules.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 is a preliminary section in which we introduce our notations. In section 3 we classify the irreducible unitary representation of a bicrossed product and describe their fusion rules. Finally, in section 4, we prove Theorem A and Theorem B.

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 Notations

For a Hilbert space  $H$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{U}(H)$  its unitary group and by  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  the  $C^*$ -algebra of bounded linear operators on  $H$ . When  $H$  is finite dimensional, we denote by  $\text{Tr}$  the unique trace on  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  such that  $\text{Tr}(1) = \dim(H)$ . We use the same symbol  $\otimes$  for the tensor product of Hilbert spaces, unitary representations of compact quantum groups, minimal tensor product of  $C^*$ -algebras. For a compact quantum group  $G$ , we denote by  $\text{Irr}(G)$  the set of equivalence classes of irreducible unitary representations and  $\text{Rep}(G)$  the collection of finite dimensional unitary representations. We will often denote by  $[u]$  the equivalence class of an irreducible unitary representation  $u$ . For  $u \in \text{Rep}(G)$ , we denote by  $\chi(u)$  its character, i.e., viewing  $u \in \mathcal{B}(H) \otimes C(G)$  for some finite dimensional Hilbert space  $H$ , one has  $\chi(u) := (\text{Tr} \otimes \text{id})(u) \in C(G)$ . We denote by  $\text{Pol}(G)$  the unital  $C^*$ -algebra obtained by taking the Span of the coefficients of irreducible unitary representation, by  $C_m(G)$  the enveloping  $C^*$ -algebra of  $\text{Pol}(G)$  and by  $C(G)$  the  $C^*$ -algebra generated by the GNS construction of the Haar state on  $C_m(G)$ . We also denote by  $\varepsilon : C_m(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  the counit and we use the same symbol  $\varepsilon \in \text{Irr}(G)$  to denote the trivial representation and its class in  $\text{Irr}(G)$ . In the entire paper, the word representation means a unitary and finite dimensional representation.

### 2.2 Compact bicrossed products

In this section, we follow the approach and the notations of [FMP17].

Let  $(\Gamma, G)$  be a pair of a countable discrete group  $\Gamma$  and a second countable compact group  $G$  with a left action  $\alpha : \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Homeo}(G)$  of  $\Gamma$  on the compact space  $G$  by homeomorphisms and a right action  $\beta : G \rightarrow S(\Gamma)$  of  $G$  on the discrete space  $\Gamma$ , where  $S(\Gamma)$  is the Polish group of bijections of  $\Gamma$ , the topology being the one of pointwise convergence i.e., the smallest one for which the evaluation maps  $S(\Gamma) \rightarrow \Gamma$ ,  $\sigma \mapsto \sigma(\gamma)$  are continuous, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , where  $\Gamma$  has the discrete topology. Here,  $\alpha$  is a group homomorphism and  $\beta$  is an antihomomorphism. The pair  $(\Gamma, G)$  is called a matched pair if  $\Gamma \cap G = \{e\}$  with  $e$  being the common unit for both  $G$  and  $\Gamma$ , and if the actions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  satisfy the following matched pair relations:

$$\forall g, h \in G, \gamma, \mu \in \Gamma, \quad \alpha_\gamma(gh) = \alpha_\gamma(g)\alpha_{\beta_g(\gamma)}(h), \quad \beta_g(\gamma\mu) = \beta_{\alpha_s(g)}(\gamma)\beta_g(\mu) \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_\gamma(e) = \beta_g(e) = e. \quad (2.1)$$

We also write  $\gamma \cdot g := \beta_g(\gamma)$ . From now on, we assume  $(\Gamma, G)$  is matched. It is shown in [FMP17, Proposition 3.2] that  $\beta$  is automatically continuous. By continuity of  $\beta$  and compactness of  $G$ , every  $\beta$  orbit is finite. Moreover, the sets  $G_{r,s} := \{g \in G : r \cdot g = s\}$  are clopen (see [FMP17, Section 2.1]). Let  $v_{rs} = 1_{G_{r,s}} \in C(G)$  be the characteristic function of  $G_{r,s}$ . It is shown in [FMP17, Section 2.1] that, for all  $\beta$ -orbits  $\gamma \cdot G \in \Gamma/G$ , the unitary  $v_{\gamma \cdot G} := \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} e_{rs} \otimes v_{rs} \in \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G)) \otimes C(G)$  is a unitary representation of  $G$  as well as a magic unitary, where  $e_{rs} \in \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G))$  are the canonical matrix units and the Haar probability measure  $\nu$  on  $G$  is  $\alpha$ -invariant.

It is shown in [FMP17, Theorem 3.4] that there exists a unique compact quantum group  $\mathbb{G}$ , called the bicrossed product of the matched pair  $(\Gamma, G)$ , such that  $C(\mathbb{G}) = \Gamma_\alpha \rtimes C(G)$  is the reduced  $C^*$ -algebraic crossed product, generated by a copy of  $C(G)$  and the unitaries  $u_\gamma$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $\Delta : C(\mathbb{G}) \rightarrow C(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C(\mathbb{G})$  is the unique unital  $*$ -homomorphism satisfying  $\Delta|_{C(G)} = \Delta_G$  (the comultiplication on  $C(G)$ ) and  $\Delta(u_\gamma) = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} u_\gamma v_{\gamma r} \otimes u_r$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . It is also shown that the Haar state on  $\mathbb{G}$  is a trace and is given by the formula  $h(u_\gamma F) = \delta_{\gamma,1} \int_G F dv$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $F \in C(G)$ .

### 3 Representation theory of bicrossed products

#### 3.1 Classification of irreducible representations

In this section we classify the irreducible representations of a bicrossed product. Let  $(\Gamma, G)$  be a matched pair of a discrete countable group  $\Gamma$  and a second countable compact group  $G$  with actions  $\alpha, \beta$ .

For  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  we denote by  $G_\gamma := G_{\gamma, \gamma}$  the stabilizer of  $\gamma$  for the action  $\beta : \Gamma \curvearrowright G$ . Note that  $G_\gamma$  is an open (hence closed) subgroup of  $G$ , hence of finite index: its index is  $|\gamma \cdot G|$ . We view  $C(G_\gamma) = v_{\gamma \cdot} C(G) \subset C(G)$  as a non-unital  $C^*$ -subalgebra. Let us denote by  $\nu$  the Haar probability measure on  $G$  and note that  $\nu(G_\gamma) = \frac{1}{|\gamma \cdot G|}$  so that the Haar probability measure  $\nu_\gamma$  on  $G_\gamma$  is given by  $\nu_\gamma(A) = |\gamma \cdot G| \nu(A)$  for all Borel subset  $A$  of  $G_\gamma$ .

For  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  we fix a section, still denoted  $\gamma$ ,  $\gamma : \gamma \cdot G \rightarrow G$  of the canonical surjection  $G \rightarrow \gamma \cdot G : g \mapsto \gamma \cdot g$ . This means that  $\gamma : \gamma \cdot G \rightarrow G$  is an injective map such that  $\gamma \cdot \gamma(r) = r$  for all  $r \in \gamma \cdot G$ . We choose the section  $\gamma$  such that  $\gamma(\gamma) = 1$ , for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . For  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$ , we denote by  $\psi_{r,s}^\gamma$  the  $\nu$ -preserving homeomorphism of  $G$  defined by  $\psi_{r,s}^\gamma(g) = \gamma(r)g\gamma(s)^{-1}$ . It follows from our choices that  $\psi_{\gamma, \gamma}^\gamma = \text{id}$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . Moreover, for all  $g \in G$ , one has  $\psi_{r,s}^\gamma(g) \in G_\gamma$  if and only if  $g \in G_{r,s}$ . It follows that  $\psi_{r,r}^\gamma$  is an isomorphism and an homeomorphism from  $G_r$  to  $G_\gamma$  intertwining the Haar probability measures.

Let  $u : G_\gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(H)$  be a unitary representation of  $G_\gamma$  and view  $u$  as a continuous function  $G \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H)$  which is zero outside  $G_\gamma$  i.e. a partial isometry in  $\mathcal{B}(H) \otimes C(G)$  such that  $uu^* = u^*u = \text{id}_H \otimes v_{\gamma \cdot}$ . Define, for  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$ , the partial isometry  $u_{r,s} := u \circ \psi_{r,s}^\gamma := (g \mapsto u(\psi_{r,s}^\gamma(g))) \in \mathcal{B}(H) \otimes C(G)$  and note that  $u_{r,s}^* u_{r,s} = u_{r,s} u_{r,s}^* = \text{id}_H \otimes 1_{G_{r,s}}$ . In the sequel we view  $u_{r,s} \in \mathcal{B}(H) \otimes C(G) \subset \mathcal{B}(H) \otimes C(\mathbb{G})$  and we define:

$$\gamma(u) := \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} e_{rs} \otimes (1 \otimes u_r v_{rs}) u_{r,s} \in \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G)) \otimes \mathcal{B}(H) \otimes C(\mathbb{G}),$$

where we recall that  $e_{rs}$ , for  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$ , are the matrix units associated to the canonical orthonormal basis of  $l^2(\gamma \cdot G)$ .

The irreducible unitary representations of  $\mathbb{G}$  are described as follows.

**Theorem 3.1.** *The following holds.*

1. For all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $u \in \text{Rep}(G_\gamma)$  one has  $\gamma(u) \in \text{Rep}(\mathbb{G})$ .
2. The character of  $\gamma(u)$  is  $\chi(\gamma(u)) = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} u_r v_{rr} \chi(u) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma$ .
3. For all  $\gamma, \mu \in \Gamma$ ,  $u \in \text{Rep}(G_\gamma)$  and  $w \in \text{Rep}(G_\mu)$  one has

$$\dim(\text{Mor}_{\mathbb{G}}(\gamma(u), \mu(w))) = \delta_{\gamma, \mu} \dim(\text{Mor}_{G_\gamma}(u, w \circ \psi_{\gamma, \gamma}^\mu)).$$

4. For all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $u \in \text{Rep}(G_\gamma)$  one has  $\overline{\gamma(u)} \simeq \gamma^{-1}(\overline{u} \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}})$  (which makes sense since  $\alpha_{\gamma^{-1}} : G_{\gamma^{-1}} \rightarrow G_\gamma$  is a group isomorphism and an homeomorphism).
5.  $\gamma(u)$  is irreducible if and only if  $u$  is irreducible. Moreover, for any irreducible unitary representation  $u$  of  $\mathbb{G}$  there exists  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $v$  an irreducible representation of  $G_\gamma$  such that  $u \simeq \gamma(v)$ .

*Proof.* (1). Writing  $\gamma(u) = \sum_{r,s} e_{r,s} \otimes V_{r,s}$ , where  $V_{r,s} := (1 \otimes u_r v_{rs})u_{r,s} \in \mathcal{B}(H) \otimes C(\mathbb{G})$ , it suffices to check that, for all  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$  one has  $(\text{id} \otimes \Delta)(V_{r,s}) = \sum_{t \in \gamma \cdot G} (V_{r,t})_{12} (V_{t,s})_{13}$ . We first claim that, for all  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$ ,  $(\text{id} \otimes \Delta)(u_{r,s}) = \sum_{t \in \gamma \cdot G} (u_{r,t})_{12} (u_{t,s})_{13}$ . To check our claim, first recall that, for all  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$  one has  $\psi_{r,s}^\gamma(g) \in G_\gamma$  if and only if  $r \cdot g = s$ . Let  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$  and  $g, h \in G$ . For  $t = r \cdot g \in \gamma \cdot G$  one has :

$$u_{r,s}(gh) = u(\gamma(r)g\gamma(t)^{-1}\gamma(t)h\gamma(s)^{-1}) = u(\psi_{r,t}^\gamma(g)\psi_{t,s}^\gamma(h)) = \begin{cases} u_{r,t}(g)u_{t,s}(h) & \text{if } r \cdot gh = s, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since we also have  $u_{t,s}(h) = 0$  whenever  $r \cdot gh \neq s$  we find, in both cases, that  $u_{r,s}(gh) = u_{r,t}(g)u_{t,s}(h)$ . Now, for  $t \neq r \cdot g$  we have  $u_{r,t}(g) = 0$  so the following formulae holds for any  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$  and any  $g, h \in G$ :

$$v_{r,t}(g)u_{r,s}(gh) = u_{r,t}(g)u_{t,s}(h).$$

Hence, for all  $r, s, t \in \gamma \cdot G$ ,  $(1 \otimes v_{r,t} \otimes 1)(\text{id} \otimes \Delta)(u_{r,s}) = (u_{r,t})_{12} (u_{t,s})_{13}$ . Using this we find:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t \in \gamma \cdot G} (V_{r,t})_{12} (V_{t,s})_{13} &= \sum_t (1 \otimes u_r v_{rt} \otimes 1)(u_{r,t})_{12} (1 \otimes 1 \otimes u_t v_{ts})(u_{t,s})_{13} \\ &= \sum_t (1 \otimes u_r v_{rt} \otimes u_t v_{ts})(u_{r,t})_{12} (u_{t,s})_{13} = \left( 1 \otimes \left( \sum_t u_r v_{rt} \otimes u_t v_{ts} \right) \right) (\text{id} \otimes \Delta)(u_{r,s}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $v_\gamma$  is a unitary representation of  $G$  and a magic unitary we also have:

$$\Delta(u_r v_{rs}) = \sum_{t,t'} (u_r v_{rt} \otimes u_t)(v_{rt'} \otimes v_{t's}) = \sum_t u_r v_{rt} \otimes u_t v_{ts}.$$

This shows that  $\gamma(u)$  is a representation of  $\mathbb{G}$ . We now check that  $\gamma(u)$  is unitary. As before, since for all  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$  one has  $\psi_{r,s}^\gamma(g) \in G_\gamma$  if and only if  $r \cdot g = s$  and because  $u$  is a unitary representation of  $G_\gamma$ , we have, for all  $r, t \in \gamma \cdot G$ ,  $(1 \otimes v_{rt})u_{r,t}u_{r,t}^* = 1 \otimes v_{rt}$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t \in \gamma \cdot G} V_{r,t} V_{s,t}^* &= \sum_t (1 \otimes u_r)(1 \otimes v_{rt})u_{r,t}u_{s,t}^*(1 \otimes v_{st})(1 \otimes u_s^*) \\ &= \delta_{r,s}(1 \otimes u_r) \left( \sum_t (1 \otimes v_{rt})u_{r,t}u_{r,t}^* \right) (1 \otimes u_r^*) = \delta_{r,s}(1 \otimes u_r) \left( \sum_t (1 \otimes v_{rt}) \right) (1 \otimes u_r^*) \\ &= \delta_{r,s}. \end{aligned}$$

A similar computations shows that  $\sum_{t \in \gamma \cdot G} V_{t,r}^* V_{t,s} = \delta_{r,s}$ .

(2). The character of  $\gamma(u)$  is given by

$$\chi(\gamma(u)) = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} (\text{Tr} \otimes \text{id})(V_{r,r}) = \sum_r u_r v_{rr} (\text{Tr} \otimes \text{id})(u_{r,r}) = \sum_r u_r v_{rr} \chi(u) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma.$$

(3). Let  $\gamma, \mu \in \Gamma$  and  $u, w$  be representations of  $G_\gamma$  and  $G_\mu$  respectively. Since the Haar measure on  $G$  is invariant under the action  $\alpha$  and the homeomorphisms  $\psi_{r,r}^\gamma$  and  $\psi_{r,r}^\mu$ , we find, by the character formulae in 2 and the crossed-product relations,

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(\text{Mor}(\gamma(u), \mu(w))) &= h(\chi(\gamma(u))\chi(\mu(w))^*) = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G, s \in \mu \cdot G} h(u_{rs^{-1}} \alpha_s(v_{rr} v_{ss} \chi(u) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma (\chi(w) \circ \psi_{s,s}^\mu)^*)) \\ &= \delta_{\gamma \cdot G, \mu \cdot G} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \int_G \alpha_r(v_{rr} (\chi(u) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma) (\overline{\chi(w) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\mu})) d\nu \\ &= \delta_{\gamma \cdot G, \mu \cdot G} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \int_{G_r} (\chi(u) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma) (\chi(\overline{w}) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\mu) d\nu \\ &= \delta_{\gamma \cdot G, \mu \cdot G} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \int_{G_\mu} \chi(u) \circ (\psi_{r,\gamma}^\mu)^{-1} (\chi(\overline{w}) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\mu \circ (\psi_{r,r}^\gamma)^{-1} \circ (\psi_{r,\gamma}^\mu)^{-1}) d\nu \end{aligned}$$

Now, note that  $\psi_{r,r}^\mu \circ (\psi_{r,r}^\gamma)^{-1} \circ (\psi_{\gamma,\gamma}^\mu)^{-1} = \text{Ad}(h)$ , where  $h = \mu(r)\gamma(r)^{-1}\mu(\gamma)^{-1}$ . Moreover,  $\mu \cdot h = \mu$  since:

$$\mu \cdot \mu(r)\gamma(r)^{-1}\mu(\gamma)^{-1} = r \cdot \gamma(r)^{-1}\mu(\gamma)^{-1} = \gamma \cdot \mu(\gamma)^{-1} = \mu.$$

Hence,  $h \in G_\mu$ . Since the characters of finite dimensional unitary representation of a group  $\Lambda$  are central functions i.e. invariant under  $\text{Ad}(\lambda)$  for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , we have  $\chi(\bar{w}) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\mu \circ (\psi_{r,r}^\gamma)^{-1} \circ (\psi_{\gamma,\gamma}^\mu)^{-1} = \chi(\bar{w}) \circ \text{Ad}(h) = \chi(\bar{w})$ . Hence:

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(\text{Mor}(\gamma(u), \mu(w))) &= \delta_{\gamma \cdot G, \mu \cdot G} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \int_{G_\mu} \chi(u) \circ (\psi_{\gamma,\gamma}^\mu)^{-1} \chi(\bar{w}) d\nu = \delta_{\gamma \cdot G, \mu \cdot G} \int_{G_\mu} \chi(u) \circ (\psi_{\gamma,\gamma}^\mu)^{-1} \chi(\bar{w}) d\nu_\mu \\ &= \delta_{\gamma \cdot G, \mu \cdot G} \dim(\text{Mor}_{G_\mu}(u \circ (\psi_{\gamma,\gamma}^\mu)^{-1}, w)) = \delta_{\gamma \cdot G, \mu \cdot G} \int_{G_\gamma} \chi(u) \chi(\bar{w} \circ \psi_{\gamma,\gamma}^\mu) d\nu_\mu \\ &= \delta_{\gamma \cdot G, \mu \cdot G} \dim(\text{Mor}_{G_\gamma}(u, w \circ \psi_{\gamma,\gamma}^\mu)). \end{aligned}$$

(4). Note that, by the bicrossed product relations, we have, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $g \in G$ ,  $(\gamma \cdot g)^{-1} = \gamma^{-1} \cdot \alpha_\gamma(g)$ . Hence  $v_{\gamma^{-1}\gamma^{-1}} \circ \alpha_\gamma = v_{\gamma\gamma}$  and  $(\gamma \cdot G)^{-1} = \gamma^{-1} \cdot G$ . In particular,  $\alpha_\gamma : G_\gamma \rightarrow G_{\gamma^{-1}}$  is an homeomorphism and, by the bicrossed product relations, one has, for all  $g \in G_\gamma$  and  $h \in G$ ,  $\alpha_\gamma(gh) = \alpha_\gamma(g)\alpha_{\gamma \cdot g}(h) = \alpha_\gamma(g)\alpha_\gamma(h)$  so that  $\alpha_\gamma : G_\gamma \rightarrow G_{\gamma^{-1}}$  is also a group homomorphism.

For  $r \in \gamma \cdot G$  one has  $\gamma^{-1} \cdot \alpha_\gamma(\gamma(r)) = (\gamma \cdot \gamma(r))^{-1} = r^{-1} = \gamma^{-1} \cdot \gamma^{-1}(r^{-1})$ . This implies that, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , there exists a map  $\eta_\gamma : \gamma \cdot G \rightarrow G_{\gamma^{-1}}$  such that, for all  $r \in \gamma \cdot G$ , one has  $\alpha_\gamma(\gamma(r)) = \eta_\gamma(r)\gamma^{-1}(r^{-1})$ .

Let now  $r \in \gamma \cdot G$  and  $g \in G_r$ . One has, using the bicrossed product relations, that  $e = \alpha_r(\gamma(r)\gamma(r)^{-1}) = \alpha_\gamma(\gamma(r))\alpha_r(\gamma(r)^{-1})$ , hence

$$(\alpha_\gamma \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma)(g) = \alpha_\gamma(\gamma(r))\alpha_r(g)\alpha_r(\gamma(r)^{-1}) = \alpha_\gamma(\gamma(r))\alpha_r(g)(\alpha_\gamma(\gamma(r)))^{-1} = \eta_\gamma(r)(\psi_{r^{-1},r^{-1}}^{\gamma^{-1}} \circ \alpha_r)(g)(\eta_\gamma(r))^{-1}.$$

Hence, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , if  $w \in \text{Rep}(G_{\gamma^{-1}})$ , since  $\chi(w) \in C(G_{\gamma^{-1}})$  is central we have

$$\chi(w) \circ \alpha_\gamma \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma(g) = \chi(w) \circ \psi_{r^{-1},r^{-1}}^{\gamma^{-1}} \circ \alpha_r(g) \quad \text{for all } r \in \gamma \cdot G, g \in G_r.$$

Since, as we seen above,  $\gamma^{-1} \cdot G = (\gamma \cdot G)^{-1}$  and because  $\chi(\bar{u} \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}) = \chi(\bar{u}) \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}$  we find, by the character formulae in 2,  $\chi(\gamma^{-1}(\bar{u} \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}})) = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} u_{r^{-1}} v_{r^{-1}r^{-1}} \chi(\bar{u}) \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}} \circ \psi_{r^{-1},r^{-1}}^{\gamma^{-1}}$ . It then follows from the crossed-product relations and the discussion above :

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(\gamma^{-1}(\bar{u} \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}})) &= \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} u_{r^{-1}} v_{r^{-1}r^{-1}} \chi(\bar{u}) \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}} \circ \psi_{r^{-1},r^{-1}}^{\gamma^{-1}} \\ &= \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} (\chi(\bar{u}) \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}} \circ \psi_{r^{-1},r^{-1}}^{\gamma^{-1}} \circ \alpha_r)(v_{r^{-1}r^{-1}} \circ \alpha_r) u_{r^{-1}} \\ &= \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \chi(\bar{u}) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma v_{rr} u_r^* = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} (\chi(u) \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma v_{rr})^* u_r^* \\ &= \chi(\gamma(u))^* \end{aligned}$$

(5). The statement on irreducibility following from 3, it suffices, by the general theory, to show that the linear span  $X$  of coefficients of representations of the form  $\gamma(u)$ , for  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $u$  an irreducible unitary representation of  $G_\gamma$ , is a dense subset of  $C(\mathbb{G})$ . Note that, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , the relation  $1 = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} v_{\gamma r}$  implies that any function in  $C(G)$  is a sum of continuous functions with support in  $G_{\gamma,r} := \{g \in G : \gamma \cdot g = r\}$ , for  $r \in \gamma \cdot G$ . Moreover, since  $G_{\gamma,r} = (\psi_{\gamma,r}^\gamma)^{-1}(G_\gamma)$ , any continuous function on  $G$  with support in  $G_{\gamma,r}$  is of the form  $F \circ \psi_{\gamma,r}^\gamma$ , where  $F \in C(G_\gamma)$ . Since the linear span of coefficients of irreducible unitary representation of  $G_\gamma$  is dense in  $C(G_\gamma)$ , it suffices to show that, for any  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , for any irreducible unitary representation of  $G_\gamma$ ,  $u : G_\gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(H)$ , any coefficient  $u_{ij} \in C(G_\gamma) = v_{\gamma\gamma} C(G) \subset C(G)$  satisfies  $u_\gamma u_{ij} \in X$ . But this is obvious since one has

$$u_\gamma u_{ij} = u_\gamma v_{\gamma\gamma} u_{i,j} = u_\gamma v_{\gamma\gamma} u_{i,j} \circ \psi_{\gamma,\gamma}^\gamma = \gamma(u)_{\gamma,\gamma,i,j} \in X. \quad \square$$

Finally, the fusion rules are described as follows.

Let  $\gamma, \mu \in \Gamma$ ,  $u : G_\gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(H_u)$ ,  $v : G_\mu \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(H_v)$  by unitary representations of  $G_\gamma$  and  $G_\mu$  respectively. For any  $r \in (\gamma \cdot G)(\mu \cdot G)$ , we define the  $r$ -twisted tensor product of  $u$  and  $v$ , denoted  $u \otimes_r v$  as a unitary representation of  $G_r$  on  $K_r \otimes H_u \otimes H_v$ , where

$$K_r := \text{Span}(\{e_s \otimes e_t : s \in \gamma \cdot G \text{ and } t \in \mu \cdot G \text{ such that } st = r\}) \subset l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes l^2(\mu \cdot G).$$

For  $g \in G$ , we define:

$$(u \otimes_r v)(g) = \sum_{\substack{s, s' \in \gamma \cdot G \\ t, t' \in \mu \cdot G \\ st = r = s't'}} e_{ss'} \otimes e_{tt'} \otimes v_{ss'}(\alpha_t(g))v_{tt'}(g)u(\psi_{s, s'}^\gamma(\alpha_t(g))) \otimes v(\psi_{t, t'}^\mu(g)) \in \mathcal{U}(K_r \otimes H_u \otimes H_v).$$

**Theorem 3.2.** *The following holds.*

1. For all  $\gamma, \mu \in \Gamma$ , all  $r \in (\gamma \cdot G)(\mu \cdot G)$  and all  $u, v$  finite dimensional unitary representations of  $G_\gamma, G_\mu$  respectively the element  $u \otimes_r v$  is a unitary representation of  $G_r$ .
2. The character of  $u \otimes_r w$  is  $\chi(u \otimes_r v) = \sum_{s \in \gamma \cdot G, t \in \mu \cdot G, st=r} (v_{ss} \circ \alpha_t)v_{tt}(\chi(u) \circ \psi_{s, s}^\gamma \circ \alpha_t)(\chi(v) \circ \psi_{t, t}^\mu)$ .
3. For all  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3 \in \Gamma$  and all  $u, v, w$  unitary representations of  $G_{\gamma_1}, G_{\gamma_2}$  and  $G_{\gamma_3}$  respectively, the number  $\dim(\text{Mor}_{\mathbb{C}}(\gamma_1(u), \gamma_2(v) \otimes \gamma_3(w)))$  is equal to:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{|\gamma_1 \cdot G|} \sum_{r \in \gamma_1 \cdot G \cap (\gamma_2 \cdot G)(\gamma_3 \cdot G)} \dim(\text{Mor}_{G_r}(u \circ \psi_{r, r}^{\gamma_1}, v \otimes_r w)) & \text{if } \gamma_1 \cdot G \cap (\gamma_2 \cdot G)(\gamma_3 \cdot G) \neq \emptyset, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let us observe that, by the bicrossed product relations, we have, for all  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3 \in \Gamma$ ,

$$\gamma_1 \cdot G \cap (\gamma_2 \cdot G)(\gamma_3 \cdot G) \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \gamma_1 \cdot G \subset (\gamma_2 \cdot G)(\gamma_3 \cdot G).$$

*Proof.* (1). Put  $w = u \otimes_r v$  and let  $g, h \in G_r$ . Then,  $w(gh)$  is equal to:

$$\sum_{s, s' \in \gamma \cdot G, t, t' \in \mu \cdot G, st = s't' = r} e_{ss'} \otimes e_{tt'} \otimes v_{ss'}(\alpha_t(gh))v_{tt'}(gh)u(\psi_{s, s'}^\gamma(\alpha_t(gh))) \otimes v(\psi_{t, t'}^\mu(gh)).$$

Since  $v_{ty}(g) \neq 0$  precisely when  $t \cdot g = y$ , the factor  $v_{ss'}(\alpha_t(gh))v_{tt'}(gh)u(\psi_{s, s'}^\gamma(\alpha_t(gh))) \otimes v(\psi_{t, t'}^\mu(gh))$  is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{x \in \gamma \cdot G, y \in \mu \cdot G} v_{sx}(\alpha_t(g))v_{xs'}(\alpha_{t \cdot g}(h))v_{ty}(g)v_{yt'}(h)u(\psi_{s, x}^\gamma(\alpha_t(g))u(\psi_{x, s'}^\gamma(\alpha_{t \cdot g}(h)))) \otimes v(\psi_{t, y}^\mu(g))v(\psi_{y, t'}^\mu(h)) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \gamma \cdot G, y \in \mu \cdot G} v_{sx}(\alpha_t(g))v_{xs'}(\alpha_y(h))v_{ty}(g)v_{yt'}(h)u(\psi_{s, x}^\gamma(\alpha_t(g))u(\psi_{x, s'}^\gamma(\alpha_y(h)))) \otimes v(\psi_{t, y}^\mu(g))v(\psi_{y, t'}^\mu(h)). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, since for all  $g \in G_r$  and all  $s, t$  such that  $st = r$ , one has, whenever  $t \cdot g = y$  and  $s \cdot \alpha_t(g) = x$ , that  $xy = (s \cdot \alpha_t(g))(t \cdot g) = (st) \cdot g = r \cdot g = r$ , it follows that the only non-zero terms in the last sum are for  $x \in \gamma \cdot G$  and  $y \in \mu \cdot G$  such that  $xy = r$ . By the properties of the matrix units we see immediately that  $w(gh) = w(g)w(h)$ . To end the proof of (1), it suffices to check that  $w(1) = 1$ , which is clear, and that  $w(g)^* = w(g^{-1})$  for all  $g \in G_r$ . So let  $g \in G_r$ . One has:

$$w(g)^* = \sum_{s, s' \in \gamma \cdot G, t, t' \in \mu \cdot G, st = r = s't'} e_{ss'} \otimes e_{tt'} \otimes v_{s's}(\alpha_{t'}(g))v_{t't}(g)u((\psi_{s', s}^\gamma(\alpha_{t'}(g)))^{-1}) \otimes v((\psi_{t', t}^\mu(g))^{-1}).$$

Note that for all  $t, t' \in \Gamma$  and all  $g \in G$ , one has  $v_{s's}(g) = v_{ss'}(g^{-1})$ . Also, using the bicrossed product relations one finds that  $\alpha_r(g)^{-1} = \alpha_{r \cdot g}(g^{-1})$  for all  $r \in \Gamma$  and  $g \in G$ . In particular,  $v_{s's}(\alpha_{t'}(g))v_{t't}(g) =$

$v_{ss'}(\alpha_t(g^{-1}))v_{tt'}(g^{-1})$  and, when  $t' \cdot g = t$ , one has  $\psi_{s',s}^\gamma(\alpha_{t'}(g))^{-1} = \psi_{s,s'}^\gamma(\alpha_t(g^{-1}))$ . It follows immediately that  $w(g)^* = w(g^{-1})$ .

(2). Is a direct computation.

(3). One has  $\dim(\text{Mor}_{\mathbb{C}}(\gamma_1(u), \gamma_2(v) \otimes \gamma_3(w))) = h(\chi(\gamma_1(u))^* \chi(\gamma_2(v)) \chi(\gamma_3(w)))$  which is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{r \in \gamma_1 \cdot G, s \in \gamma_2 \cdot G, t \in \gamma_3 \cdot G} h(\chi(\bar{u}) \circ \psi_{r,r}^{\gamma_1} v_{rr} u_r^* u_s v_{ss} \chi(v) \circ \psi_{s,s}^{\gamma_2} u_t v_{tt} \chi(w) \circ \psi_{t,t}^{\gamma_3}) \\
&= \sum_{r,s,t} h(u_{r-1st} \alpha_{t-1s-1r}(\chi(\bar{u}) \circ \psi_{r,r}^{\gamma_1} v_{rr}) \alpha_{t-1}(v_{ss} \chi(v) \circ \psi_{s,s}^{\gamma_2}) v_{tt} \chi(w) \circ \psi_{t,t}^{\gamma_3}) \\
&= \sum_{r \in \gamma_1 \cdot G} \sum_{s \in \gamma_2 \cdot G, t \in \gamma_3 \cdot G, st=r} \int_G \chi(\bar{u}) \circ \psi_{r,r}^{\gamma_1} v_{rr} \alpha_{t-1}(v_{ss} \chi(v) \circ \psi_{s,s}^{\gamma_2}) v_{tt} \chi(w) \circ \psi_{t,t}^{\gamma_3} d\nu \\
&= \sum_{r \in \gamma_1 \cdot G \cap (\gamma_2 \cdot G)(\gamma_3 \cdot G)} \frac{1}{|r \cdot G|} \int_{G_r} \chi(\bar{u}) \circ \psi_{r,r}^{\gamma_1} \chi(v \otimes w) d\nu_r \\
&= \frac{1}{|\gamma_1 \cdot G|} \sum_{r \in \gamma_1 \cdot G \cap (\gamma_2 \cdot G)(\gamma_3 \cdot G)} \dim(\text{Mor}_{G_r}(u \circ \psi_{r,r}^{\gamma_1}, v \otimes w)).
\end{aligned}$$

Note that, whenever  $\gamma_1 \cdot G \cap ((\gamma_2 \cdot G)(\gamma_3 \cdot G)) = \emptyset$ , there is no non-zero terms in the sum above.  $\square$

### 3.2 The induced representation

In this section, we explain how the induced representation maybe viewed as a particular twisted tensor product.

For  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $u : G_\gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(H)$  is a unitary representation of  $G_\gamma$  we define the induced representation:

$$\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u) := \varepsilon_{G_{\gamma^{-1}}} \otimes_1 u : G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H); g \mapsto \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} e_{rs} \otimes v_{rs}(g) u(\psi_{rs}^\gamma(g)).$$

It follows from Theorem 3.2 that  $\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u)$  is indeed a unitary representation of  $G$ . We collect some elementary and well known facts about this representation in the following Proposition. Note that, in property 3, we use the symbol  $\text{Res}_{G_\gamma}^G(u)$  for  $u \in \text{Rep}(G)$  to denote the restriction of  $u$  to a representation of  $G_\gamma$ . Hence, property 3 motivates the name induced representation for the representation  $\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u)$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** *The following holds.*

1. For all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and all  $u \in \text{Rep}(G_\gamma)$  one has  $\chi(\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u))(g) = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} v_{rr}(g) \chi(u)(\psi_{rr}^\gamma(g))$  for all  $g \in G$ .
2. For all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and all  $u, v \in \text{Rep}(G_\gamma)$  one has  $u \simeq v \implies \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u) \simeq \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(v)$ .
3. For all  $\gamma \in \Gamma, u \in \text{Rep}(G)$  and  $v \in \text{Rep}(G_\gamma)$  one has  $\dim(\text{Mor}_G(u, \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(v))) = \dim(\text{Mor}_{G_\gamma}(\text{Res}_{G_\gamma}^G(u), v))$ .

*Proof.* (1). It is obvious, by definition of  $\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u)$ .

(2). If  $u \simeq v$  then  $\chi(u) = \chi(v)$ . Hence,  $\chi(\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u)) = \chi(\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(v))$  by (1). So  $\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u) \simeq \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(v)$ .

(3). Let  $\gamma \in \Gamma, u \in \text{Rep}(G)$  and  $v \in \text{Rep}(G_\gamma)$ . One has,

$$\dim(\text{Mor}_G(u, \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(v))) = \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \int_G \chi(\bar{u}) v_{rr} \chi(v) \circ \psi_{rr}^\gamma d\nu = \frac{1}{|\gamma \cdot G|} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \int_{G_r} \chi(\bar{u}) \chi(v) \circ \psi_{rr}^\gamma d\nu_r.$$



Since  $\psi_{rr}^\gamma : G_r \rightarrow G_\gamma$  is a Haar probability preserving homeomorphism we obtain

$$\dim(\text{Mor}_G(u, \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(v))) = \frac{1}{|\gamma \cdot G|} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \int_{G_\gamma} \chi(\bar{u}) \circ (\psi_{rr}^\gamma)^{-1} \chi(v) d\nu_\gamma.$$

Finally, since, for all  $g \in G$ ,  $\chi(\bar{u}) \circ (\psi_{rr}^\gamma)^{-1}(g) = \chi(\bar{u})(g)$  (because  $\chi(\bar{u})$  is a central function on  $G$ ) it follows that:

$$\dim(\text{Mor}_G(u, \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(v))) = \frac{1}{|\gamma \cdot G|} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \int_{G_\gamma} \chi(\bar{u}) \chi(v) d\nu_\gamma = \dim(\text{Mor}_{G_\gamma}(\text{Res}_{G_\gamma}^G(u), v)). \quad \square$$

## 4 Length functions

Recall that given a compact quantum group  $\mathbb{H}$ , a function  $l : \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H}) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is called a *length function on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{H})$*  if  $l([\epsilon]) = 0$ ,  $l(\bar{x}) = l(x)$  and that  $l(x) \leq l(y) + l(z)$  whenever  $x \subset y \otimes z$ . A length function on a discrete group  $\Lambda$  is a function  $l : \Lambda \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that  $l(1) = 0$ ,  $l(r) = l(r^{-1})$  and  $l(rs) \leq l(r) + l(s)$  for all  $r, s \in \Lambda$ .

Let  $(\Gamma, G)$  be a matched pair with bicrossed product  $\mathbb{G}$ . In view of the description of the irreducible representations of  $\mathbb{G}$ , the fusion rules and the contragredient representation, it is clear that to get a length function on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ , we need a family of maps  $l_\gamma : \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$ , for  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , satisfying the hypothesis of the following definition.

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $(\Gamma, G)$  be a matched pair,  $l : \text{Irr}(G) \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$  and  $l_\Gamma : \Gamma \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$  be length functions. The pair  $(l, l_\Gamma)$  is *matched* if, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , there exists a function  $l_\gamma : \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$  such that

- (i)  $l_1 = l$  and  $l_\gamma(\varepsilon_{G_\gamma}) = l_\Gamma(\gamma)$ .
- (ii) For any  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $r \in \gamma \cdot G$ , and  $x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$ , we have  $l_\gamma(x) = l_r([u^x \circ \psi_{r,r}^\gamma])$ .
- (iii) For any  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$ , we have  $l_\gamma(x) = l_{\gamma^{-1}}([\bar{u}^x \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}])$ .
- (iv) For any  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3 \in \Gamma$ ,  $x \in \text{Irr}(G_{\gamma_1})$ ,  $y \in \text{Irr}(G_{\gamma_2})$ ,  $z \in \text{Irr}(G_{\gamma_3})$ , if  $\gamma_3 \in (\gamma_1 \cdot G)(\gamma_2 \cdot G)$ , and

$$\dim \text{Mor}_{G_r}(u^z \circ \psi_{r,r}^{\gamma_3}, u^x \otimes_r u^y) \neq 0 \quad (4.1)$$

for some  $r \in \gamma_3 \cdot G$ , then

$$l_{\gamma_3}(z) \leq l_{\gamma_1}(x) + l_{\gamma_2}(y). \quad (4.2)$$

The next Proposition shows that our notion of matched pair for length functions is the good one, as expected.

**Proposition 4.2.** Let  $(\Gamma, G)$  be a matched pair with bicrossed product  $\mathbb{G}$ .

1. If  $l$  is a length function on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$  then the maps  $l_G : \text{Irr}(G) = \text{Irr}(G_1) \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$ ,  $x \mapsto l([1(x)])$  and  $l_\Gamma : \Gamma \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$ ,  $\gamma \mapsto l([\gamma(\varepsilon_{G_\gamma})])$  are length functions and the pair  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  is matched.
2. If  $l_\Gamma$  is any  $\beta$ -invariant length function on  $\Gamma$  then the map  $l' : \text{Irr}(\mathbb{G}) \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$ ,  $[\gamma(u^x)] \mapsto l_\Gamma(\gamma)$  is a well defined length function on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ .
3. If  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  is a matched pair of length functions on  $(\Gamma, \text{Irr}(G))$  then  $l_\Gamma$  is  $\beta$ -invariant and the maps  $l, \tilde{l} : \text{Irr}(\mathbb{G}) \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$ ,  $l([\gamma(u^x)]) := l_\gamma(x)$  and  $\tilde{l}([\gamma(u^x)]) := l_\gamma(x) + l_\Gamma(\gamma)$  are well-defined length functions.

*Proof.* (1). Since  $1(\varepsilon_G)$  is the trivial representation of  $\mathbb{G}$  one has  $l_\Gamma(1) = 0$ . Let  $\gamma, \mu \in \Gamma$  and note that  $\gamma\mu \in (\gamma \cdot G)(\mu \cdot G)$ . Moreover,

$$\dim(\text{Mor}(\varepsilon_{G_{\gamma\mu}}, \varepsilon_{G_\gamma} \otimes_{\gamma\mu} \varepsilon_{G_\mu})) = \int_{G_{\gamma\mu}} \chi(\varepsilon_{G_\gamma} \otimes_{\gamma\mu} \varepsilon_{G_\mu}) d\nu_{G_{\gamma\mu}} = |\gamma\mu \cdot G| \sum_{s \in \gamma \cdot G, t \in \mu \cdot G, st = \gamma\mu} \int_{G_{\gamma\mu}} (v_{ss} \circ \alpha_t) v_{tt} d\nu$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= |\gamma\mu \cdot G| \sum_{s \in \gamma \cdot G, t \in \mu \cdot G, st = \gamma\mu} \nu(\alpha_{t^{-1}}(G_s) \cap G_t \cap G_{\gamma\mu}) \\
&\geq \nu(\alpha_{\mu^{-1}}(G_\gamma) \cap G_\mu \cap G_{\gamma\mu}).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, since  $\alpha_{\mu^{-1}}(G_\gamma) \cap G_\mu \cap G_{\gamma\mu}$  is open and non empty (it contains 1) we deduce that

$$\dim(\text{Mor}(\varepsilon_{G_{\gamma\mu}}, \varepsilon_{G_\gamma} \otimes_{\gamma\mu} \varepsilon_{G_\mu})) > 0.$$

So  $\varepsilon_{G_{\gamma\mu}} \subset \varepsilon_{G_\gamma} \otimes_{\gamma\mu} \varepsilon_{G_\mu}$  and, by the fusion rules of  $\mathbb{G}$  in Theorem 3.2,  $(\gamma\mu)(\varepsilon_{G_{\gamma\mu}}) \subset \gamma(\varepsilon_{G_\gamma}) \otimes \mu(\varepsilon_{G_\mu})$ . Hence, since  $l$  is a length function,  $l_\Gamma(\gamma\mu) = l([\gamma\mu(\varepsilon_{G_{\gamma\mu}})]) \leq l([\gamma(\varepsilon_{G_\gamma})]) + l([\mu(\varepsilon_{G_\mu})]) = l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\Gamma(\mu)$ . Finally, note that, by point 4 of Theorem 3.1, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , one has  $\gamma^{-1}(\varepsilon_{G_{\gamma^{-1}}}) \simeq \overline{\gamma(\varepsilon_G)}$ . Hence,

$$l_\Gamma(\gamma^{-1}) = l([\gamma^{-1}(\varepsilon_{G_{\gamma^{-1}}})]) = l([\overline{\gamma(\varepsilon_G)}]) = l([\gamma(\varepsilon_G)]) = l_\Gamma(\gamma).$$

So  $l_\Gamma$  is a length function on  $\Gamma$ . It is obvious that  $l_G$  is a length function on  $\text{Irr}(G)$ . Let us prove that the pair  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  is matched. Indeed, defining  $l_\gamma : \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$  by  $l_\gamma(x) = l([\gamma(u^x)])$ , point (i) of Definition 4.1 is clear while point (ii) follows from point 3 of Theorem 3.1, since it implies  $[\gamma(u^x)] = [r(u^x \circ \psi_{\gamma, \gamma}^r)]$ , thus

$$l_\gamma(x) = l([\gamma(u^x)]) = l([r(u^x \circ \psi_{\gamma, \gamma}^r)]) = l_r([u^x \circ \psi_{\gamma, \gamma}^r]).$$

Next, by point 4 of Theorem 3.1, we have  $\overline{[\gamma(u^x)]} = [\gamma^{-1}(\overline{u^x}) \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}]$  thus,

$$l_\gamma(x) = l([\overline{[\gamma(u^x)]}]) = l([\gamma^{-1}(\overline{u^x}) \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}]) = l_{\gamma^{-1}}([\overline{u^x} \circ \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}]),$$

which proves point (ii) of Definition 4.1. Finally, for point (iv), the fusion rules in Theorem 3.2 imply

$$\dim \text{Mor}(\gamma_3(u^z), \gamma_1(u^x) \otimes \gamma_2(u^y)) = \frac{1}{|\gamma \cdot G|} \sum_{r \in \gamma_3 \cdot G} \dim \text{Mor}_{G_r}(u^z \circ \psi_{r, r}^{\gamma_3}, u^x \otimes_r u^y). \quad (4.3)$$

If  $\dim \text{Mor}_{G_r}(u^z \circ \psi_{r, r}^{\gamma_3}, u^x \otimes_r u^y) \neq 0$  for some  $r \in \gamma_3 \cdot G$ , then (4.3) is also nonzero, which means, by irreducibility of  $\gamma_3(u^z)$  that  $[\gamma_3(u^z)] \subseteq [\gamma_1(u^x)] \otimes [\gamma_2(u^y)]$ . Hence, since  $l$  is a length function on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ ,

$$l_{\gamma_3}(z) = l([\gamma_3(u^z)]) \leq l([\gamma_1(u^x)]) + l([\gamma_2(u^y)]) = l_{\gamma_1}(x) + l_{\gamma_2}(y).$$

(2). Since  $l_\Gamma$  is  $\beta$ -invariant, the map  $l'$  is well defined by Theorem 3.1. It is clear that  $l'(\varepsilon_G) = 0$  and, by point 4 (and 5) of Theorem 3.1 and since  $l'$  is a length function we also have that  $l'(z) = l'(\overline{z})$  for all  $z \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ . Let now  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3 \in \Gamma$ ,  $x \in \text{Irr}(G_{\gamma_1})$ ,  $y \in \text{Irr}(G_{\gamma_2})$  and  $z \in \text{Irr}(G_{\gamma_3})$  be such that  $\gamma_1(u^x) \subset \gamma_2(u^y) \otimes \gamma_3(u^z)$  then, by point 3 in Theorem 3.2, there exists  $r \in \gamma_1 \cdot G$ ,  $s \in \gamma_2 \cdot G$  and  $t \in \gamma_3 \cdot G$  such that  $r = st$  (and  $u^x \circ \psi_{r, r}^{\gamma_1} \subset u^y \otimes u^z$ ). Then,

$$l'([\gamma_1(u^x)]) = l_\Gamma(\gamma_1) = l_\Gamma(r) \leq l_\Gamma(s) + l_\Gamma(t) = l_\Gamma(\gamma_2) + l_\Gamma(\gamma_3) = l'([\gamma_2(u^y)]) + l'([\gamma_3(u^z)]).$$

(3). Let  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  be a matched pair of length functions. By points 1 and 2 of Definition 4.1 we have, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and all  $r \in \gamma \cdot G$ ,  $l_\Gamma(\gamma) = l_\Gamma(\varepsilon_{G_\gamma}) = l_r([\varepsilon_{G_\gamma} \circ \psi_{r, r}^\gamma]) = l_r(\varepsilon_{G_r}) = l_\Gamma(r)$ . Hence,  $l_\Gamma$  is  $\beta$ -invariant. By assertion (2) we just proved above, we get a length function  $l'$  on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ . Now, it is clear from Definition 4.1, the fusion rules and the adjoint representation of a bicrossed product (point 3 of Theorem 3.2 and point 4 of Theorem 3.1) that  $l : [\gamma(u^x)] \mapsto l_\Gamma(x)$  is a length function on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ . Since  $\tilde{l} = l + l'$ ,  $\tilde{l}$  is also a length function on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ .  $\square$

## 5 Rapid decay and polynomial growth

In this section we study property (RD) and polynomial growth for bicrossed-products.

## 5.1 Generalities

We use the notion of property *(RD)* developed by Vergnioux in [Ve07] (see also [BVZ14]) and recall the definition below. Since we are only dealing with Kac algebras, we recall the definition of the Fourier transform and rapid decay only for Kac algebras.

Let  $\mathbb{H}$  be a compact quantum group. We use the notation  $l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{H}}) := \bigoplus_{x \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H})} \mathcal{B}(H_x)$  to denote the  $l^\infty$  direct sum. The  $c_0$  direct sum is denoted by  $c_0(\widehat{\mathbb{H}}) \subset l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{H}})$  and the algebraic direct sum is denoted by  $c_c(\widehat{\mathbb{H}}) \subset c_0(\widehat{\mathbb{H}})$ . An element  $a \in c_c(\widehat{\mathbb{H}})$  is said to have finite support and its finite support is denoted by  $\text{Supp}(a) := \{x \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H}) : ap_x \neq 0\}$ , where  $p_x$ , for  $x \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H})$  denotes the central minimal projection of  $l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{H}})$  corresponding to the block  $\mathcal{B}(H_x)$ .

For a compact quantum group  $\mathbb{H}$  which is always supposed to be of Kac type, and  $a \in C_c(\widehat{\mathbb{H}})$  we define its Fourier transform as:

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{H}}(a) = \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H})} \dim(x) (\text{Tr}_x \otimes \text{id})(u^x(ap_x \otimes 1)) \in \text{Pol}(\mathbb{H}),$$

and its ‘‘Sobolev 0-norm’’ by  $\|a\|_{\mathbb{H},0}^2 = \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H})} \dim(x) \text{Tr}_x((a^*a)p_x)$ .

Given a length function  $l : \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H}) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ , consider the element  $L = \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H})} l(x)p_x$  which is affiliated to  $c_0(\widehat{\mathbb{H}})$ . Let  $q_n$  denote the spectral projections of  $L$  associated to the interval  $[n, n+1)$ .

The pair  $(\widehat{\mathbb{H}}, l)$  is said to have:

- *Polynomial growth* if there exists a polynomial  $P \in \mathbb{R}[X]$  such that for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  one has

$$\sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H}), k \leq l(x) < k+1} \dim(x)^2 \leq P(k)$$

- *Property (RD)* if there exists a polynomial  $P \in \mathbb{R}[X]$  such that for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a \in q_k c_c(\widehat{\mathbb{H}})$ , we have  $\|\mathcal{F}(a)\|_{C(\mathbb{H})} \leq P(k)\|a\|_{\mathbb{H},0}$ .

Finally,  $\widehat{\mathbb{H}}$  is said to have *polynomial growth* (resp. *property (RD)*) if there exists a length function  $l$  on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{H})$  such that  $(\widehat{\mathbb{H}}, l)$  has polynomial growth (resp. property *(RD)*).

It is known from [Ve07] that if  $(\widehat{\mathbb{H}}, l)$  has polynomial growth then  $(\widehat{\mathbb{H}}, l)$  has rapid decay and the converse also holds when we assume  $\mathbb{H}$  to be co-amenable. Moreover, it is shown also shown in [Ve07] that duals of compact connected real Lie groups have polynomial growth. The fact that polynomial growth implies *(RD)* can easily be deduced from the following lemma.

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $\mathbb{H}$  be a CQG,  $F \subset \text{Irr}(\mathbb{H})$  a finite subset and  $a \in l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{H}})$  with  $ap_x = 0$  for all  $x \notin F$ . Then,*

$$\|\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{H}}(a)\| \leq 2 \sqrt{\sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)^2} \|a\|_{\mathbb{H},0}.$$

*Proof.* One can copy the proof of Proposition 4.2, assertion (a), in [BVZ14] or the proof of Proposition 4.4, assertion (ii), in [Ve07].  $\square$

## 5.2 Technicalities

Let  $(\Gamma, G)$  be a matched pair with actions  $(\alpha, \beta)$  and denote by  $\mathbb{G}$  the bicrossed product.

Recall that  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G}) = \sqcup_{\gamma \in I} \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$ , where  $I \subset \Gamma$  is a complete set of representatives for  $\Gamma/G$ . For  $\gamma \in I$  and  $x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$ , we denote by  $\gamma(x)$  the corresponding element in  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ . If a complete set of representatives of  $\text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$ ,  $x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$  is given by  $u^x \in \mathcal{B}(H_x) \otimes C(G_\gamma)$  then a representative for  $\gamma(x)$  is given by

$$u^{\gamma(x)} := \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} e_{rs} \otimes (1 \otimes u_r v_{rs}) u^x \circ \psi_{r,s} \in \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G)) \otimes C(\mathbb{G}).$$

The lemma below gives a way of obtaining an element  $\tilde{a} \in c_c(\widehat{G})$  from an  $a \in c_c(\widehat{G}_\gamma)$  in a suitable way so that they are compatible with the Fourier transforms.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $a \in c_c(\widehat{G}_\gamma)$ . Define  $\tilde{a} \in c_c(\widehat{G})$  by:*

$$\tilde{a}p_y = \sum_{x \in \text{supp}(a) \text{ and } y \subset \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)} \frac{\dim(x)}{\dim(y)} \sum_{i=1}^{\dim(\text{Mor}_G(y, \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)))} (S_i^y)^* (e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes ap_x) S_i^y,$$

where  $S_i^y \in \text{Mor}(y, \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x))$  is a basis of isometries with pairwise orthogonal images. The following holds.

1. If  $(l_\Gamma, l)$  is a matched pair of length functions on  $(\Gamma, \text{Irr}(G))$  then, for all  $y \in \text{supp}(\tilde{a})$  one has

$$l(y) \leq \max(\{l_\gamma(x) : x \in \text{supp}(a)\}) + l_\Gamma(\gamma),$$

where  $(l_\gamma)_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is any family of maps realizing the compatibility relations of Definition 4.1.

2.  $\mathcal{F}_{G_\gamma}(a) = v_{\gamma\gamma} \mathcal{F}_G(\tilde{a})$ .

3.  $\|\tilde{a}\|_{G,0} \leq \|a\|_{G_\gamma,0}$ .

*Proof.* (1). Since any  $y \in \text{supp}(\tilde{a})$  is such that  $y \subset \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x) = \varepsilon_{G_{\gamma^{-1}}} \otimes_1 x$  for some  $x \in \text{supp}(a)$ , it follows that any  $y \in \text{supp}(\tilde{a})$  satisfies  $l(y) = l_1(y) \leq l_{\gamma^{-1}}(\varepsilon_{G_{\gamma^{-1}}}) + l_\gamma(x) = l_\Gamma(\gamma^{-1}) + l_\gamma(x) = l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\gamma(x)$  for some  $x \in \text{supp}(a)$ .

(2). One has:

$$\begin{aligned} v_{\gamma\gamma} \mathcal{F}_G(\tilde{a}) &= v_{\gamma\gamma} \sum_y \dim(y) (\text{Tr}_y \otimes \text{id})(u^y \tilde{a}p_y \otimes 1) \\ &= v_{\gamma\gamma} \sum_{x \in \text{supp}(a), y \subset \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)} \sum_{i=1}^{\dim(\text{Mor}(y, \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)))} \dim(x) (\text{Tr}_y \otimes \text{id})(u^y ((S_i^y)^* (e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes ap_x) S_i^y) \otimes 1) \\ &= v_{\gamma\gamma} \sum_{x,y,i} \dim(x) (\text{Tr}_y \otimes \text{id})(((S_i^y)^* \otimes 1) \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u^x)(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes ap_x \otimes 1)(S_i^y \otimes 1)) \\ &= v_{\gamma\gamma} \sum_{x,y,i} \dim(x) (\text{Tr}_{l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H_x} \otimes \text{id})(\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u^x)(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes ap_x \otimes 1)(S_i^y (S_i^y)^* \otimes 1)) \\ &= v_{\gamma\gamma} \sum_{x \in \text{supp}(a)} \dim(x) (\text{Tr}_{l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H_x} \otimes \text{id})(\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u^x)(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes ap_x \otimes 1)) \\ &= v_{\gamma\gamma} \sum_{x \in \text{supp}(a)} \dim(x) (\text{Tr}_x \otimes \text{id})(u^x ap_x \otimes 1) = \mathcal{F}_{G_\gamma}(a), \end{aligned}$$

where, in the 3rd equation we use the fact that  $(S_i^y)^* \in \text{Mor}(\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x), y)$  and, in the last equation we use the definition of the representation  $\text{Ind}_\gamma^G(u^x)$ .

(3). One has:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{a}\|_{G,0}^2 &= \sum_y \dim(y) \text{Tr}_y(\tilde{a}^* \tilde{a}p_y) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \text{supp}(a), y \subset \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)} \sum_{i,j=1}^{\dim(\text{Mor}(y, \text{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)))} \dim(y) \frac{\dim(x)^2}{\dim(y)^2} \text{Tr}_y((S_i^y)^* (e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes a^* p_x) S_i^y (S_j^y)^* (e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes ap_x) S_j^y) \\ &= \sum_{x,y,i} \dim(x) \left( \frac{\dim(x)}{\dim(y)} \right) \text{Tr}_y((S_i^y)^* (e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes a^* p_x) S_i^y (S_i^y)^* (e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes ap_x) S_i^y) \end{aligned}$$

Since, for all  $y, i$ ,  $S_i^y(S_i^y)^*$  is a projection, one has  $S_i^y(S_i^y)^* \leq 1$  hence,

$$\mathrm{Tr}_y((S_i^y)^*(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes a^* p_x) S_i^y (S_i^y)^*(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes a p_x) S_i^y) \leq \mathrm{Tr}_y((S_i^y)^*(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes a^* a p_x) S_i^y).$$

Moreover, by Proposition 3.3, one has  $y \subset \mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)$  if and only if

$$\dim(\mathrm{Mor}_{G_\gamma}(\mathrm{Res}_{G_\gamma}^G(y), x)) = \dim(\mathrm{Mor}_G(y, \mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x))) \neq 0.$$

Since  $x$  is irreducible, we find that  $y \subset \mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x) \Leftrightarrow x \subset \mathrm{Res}_{G_\gamma}^G(y)$ . In particular, for any  $y \subset \mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)$  one has  $\dim(x) \leq \dim(y)$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{a}\|_{G,0}^2 &\leq \sum_{x,y,i} \dim(x) \mathrm{Tr}_y((S_i^y)^*(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes a^* a p_x) S_i^y) = \sum_{x,y,i} \dim(x) \mathrm{Tr}_{l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H_x}(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes a^* a p_x (S_i^y)^* S_i^y) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \mathrm{supp}(a)} \dim(x) \mathrm{Tr}_{l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H_x}(e_{\gamma\gamma} \otimes a^* a p_x) = \sum_{x \in \mathrm{supp}(a)} \dim(x) \mathrm{Tr}_x(a^* a p_x) = \|a\|_{G,\gamma,0}^2. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $(l_\Gamma, l)$  be a matched pair of length functions on  $(\Gamma, \mathrm{Irr}(G))$ . If  $(\widehat{G}, l)$  has polynomial growth then, there exists  $C > 0$  and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that:*

- $\|\mathcal{F}_G(a)\| \leq C(k+1)^N \|a\|_{G,0}$  for all  $a \in c_c(\widehat{G})$  with  $\mathrm{supp}(a) \subset \{x \in \mathrm{Irr}(G) : l(x) < k+1\}$ .
- $|\gamma \cdot G| \dim(x) \leq C(l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\gamma(x) + 1)^N$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma, x \in \mathrm{Irr}(G_\gamma)$ .
- For all  $\gamma \in \Gamma, \sum_{x \in \mathrm{Irr}(G_\gamma), l_\gamma(x) < k+1} \dim(x)^2 \leq C^2(k + l_\Gamma(\gamma) + 1)^{2N}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $P \in \mathbb{R}[X]$  be such that  $\sum_{x \in \mathrm{Irr}(G), k \leq l(x) < k+1} \dim(x)^2 \leq P(k)$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $C_1 > 0$  and  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $P(k) \leq C_1(k+1)^{N_1}$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . By Lemma 5.1 one has, for all  $a \in c_c(\widehat{G})$ , with  $\mathrm{supp}(a) \subset \{x \in \mathrm{Irr}(G) : k \leq l(x) < k+1\}$ ,  $\|\mathcal{F}_G(a)\| \leq 2\sqrt{P(k)} \|a\|_{G,0} \leq \sqrt{C_1}(k+1)^{\frac{N_1}{2}} \|a\|_{G,0}$ . Now, suppose that  $\mathrm{supp}(a) \subset \{x \in \mathrm{Irr}(G) : l(x) < k+1\}$  so that  $a \in q_k c_c(\widehat{G})$ , where  $q_k = \sum_{j=0}^k p_j$  and  $p_j = \sum_{x \in \mathrm{Irr}(G), k \leq l(x) < k+1}$ . One has,

$$\|\mathcal{F}_G(a)\| = \sum_{j=0}^k \|\mathcal{F}_G(ap_j)\| \leq \sum_{j=0}^k \sqrt{C_1}(j+1)^{\frac{N_1}{2}} \|a\|_{G,0} \leq \sqrt{C_1}(k+1)^{\frac{N_1}{2}+1} \|a\|_{G,0}. \quad (5.1)$$

Now, let  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $x \in \mathrm{Irr}(G_\gamma)$ . By Proposition 3.3 one has:

$$\begin{aligned} |\gamma \cdot G| \dim(x) &= \dim(\mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)) = \sum_{y \in \mathrm{Irr}(G)} \dim(\mathrm{Mor}_G(y, \mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x))) \dim(y) \\ &= \sum_{y \in \mathrm{Irr}(G), y \subset \mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)} \dim(\mathrm{Mor}_{G_\gamma}(\mathrm{Res}_{G_\gamma}^G(y), x)) \dim(y). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\dim(\mathrm{Mor}_{G_\gamma}(\mathrm{Res}_{G_\gamma}^G(y), x)) \leq \dim(y)$  for all  $x, y$ . Moreover, since  $\mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x) \simeq \varepsilon_{G_{\gamma^{-1}}} \otimes x$  and the pair  $(l_\Gamma, l)$  is matched, one has  $\{y \in \mathrm{Irr}(G), y \subset \mathrm{Ind}_\gamma^G(x)\} \subset \{y \in \mathrm{Irr}(G) : l(y) \leq l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\gamma(x)\}$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} |\gamma \cdot G| \dim(x) &\leq \sum_{y \in \mathrm{Irr}(G), l(y) < l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\gamma(x) + 1} \dim(y)^2 = \sum_{j=0}^{l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\gamma(x)} \sum_{y \in \mathrm{Irr}(G), j \leq l(y) < j+1} \dim(y)^2 \\ &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\gamma(x)} P(j) \leq C_1 \sum_{j=0}^{l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\gamma(x)} (j+1)^{N_1} \leq C_1(l_\Gamma(\gamma) + l_\gamma(x) + 1)^{N_1+1}. \quad (5.2) \end{aligned}$$

It follows from Equations (5.1) and (5.2) that  $C := \mathrm{Max}(C_1, \sqrt{C_1})$  and  $N := N_1 + 1$  do the job.

Let us show the last point. Fix  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and let  $F \subset \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$  a finite subset. Define  $p_F \in c_c(\widehat{G}_\gamma)$  by  $p_F = \sum_{x \in F} p_x$  and note that  $\mathcal{F}_{G_\gamma}(p_F) = \sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)\chi(x)$  and  $\|a\|_{G_\gamma,0}^2 = \sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)^2$ . Suppose that  $F \subset \{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) : l_\gamma(x) < k + 1\}$ . Using Lemma 5.2 and the first part of the proof we find, since  $\widetilde{p}_F \in c_c(\widehat{G})$  with  $\text{supp}(\widetilde{p}_F) \subset \{x \in \text{Irr}(G) : l(x) < l_\Gamma(\gamma) + k + 1\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)\chi(x) \right\|^2 &= \|\mathcal{F}_{G_\gamma}(p_F)\|^2 = \|v_{\gamma\gamma}\mathcal{F}_G(\widetilde{p}_F)\|^2 \leq \|\mathcal{F}_G(\widetilde{p}_F)\|^2 \leq C^2(k + l_\Gamma(\gamma) + 1)^{2N} \|\widetilde{p}_F\|_{G,0}^2 \\ &\leq C^2(k + l_\Gamma(\gamma) + 1)^{2N} \|p_F\|_{G_\gamma,0}^2 = C^2(k + l_\Gamma(\gamma) + 1)^{2N} \sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)^2. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that:

$$\left( \sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)^2 \right)^2 = \left( \sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)\chi(x)(1) \right)^2 \leq \left\| \sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)\chi(x) \right\|_{C(G)}^2 \leq C^2(k + l_\Gamma(\gamma) + 1)^{2N} \sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)^2.$$

Hence, for all non empty finite subsets  $F \subset \{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) : l_\gamma(x) < k + 1\}$  one has  $\sum_{x \in F} \dim(x)^2 \leq C^2(k + l_\Gamma(\gamma) + 1)^{2N}$ . The last assertion follows.  $\square$

### 5.3 Polynomial growth for bicrossed product

We start with the following result.

**Theorem 5.4.** *Suppose that  $(l_G, l_\Gamma)$  is a matched pair of length functions on  $(\Gamma, G)$ . If both  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  and  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  has polynomial growth then  $(\mathbb{G}, \tilde{l})$  have polynomial growth.*

*Proof.* Let  $I \subset \Gamma$  be a complete set of representatives for  $\Gamma/G$  so that  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G}) = \sqcup_{\gamma \in I} \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$ . Let  $k \geq 1$  and define

$$F_k := \{z \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{G}) : \tilde{l}(z) < k\} \subset \sqcup_{\gamma \in I_k} T_{\gamma,k},$$

where  $I_k := \{\gamma \in \Gamma : l_\Gamma(\gamma) < k + 1\} \cap I$  and  $T_{\gamma,k} := \{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) : l_\gamma(x) < k + 1\}$ . Since  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  has polynomial growth, there exists a polynomial  $P_1$  such that, for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $|I_k| \leq P_1(k)$ . Moreover, since  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  has polynomial growth, we can apply Lemma 5.3 to get  $C > 0$  and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and all  $\gamma \in I_k$ , one has  $\sum_{x \in T_{\gamma,k}} \dim(x)^2 \leq C^2(2k + 2)^{2N}$  and,  $|\gamma \cdot G| = |\gamma \cdot G| \dim(\varepsilon_G) \leq C(2k + 3)^N$ . Hence, for all  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{z \in F_k} \dim(z)^2 &= \sum_{\gamma \in I_k} |\gamma \cdot G|^2 \sum_{x \in T_{\gamma,k}} \dim(x)^2 \leq C^2(2k + 2)^{2N} \sum_{\gamma \in I_k} |\gamma \cdot G|^2 \leq C^4(2k + 2)^{2N} (2k + 3)^{2N} |I_k| \\ &\leq C^4(2k + 2)^{2N} (2k + 3)^{2N} P_1(k). \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

To complete the proof of Theorem B, we need the following Proposition.

**Proposition 5.5.** *Assume that there exists a length function  $l$  on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$  such that  $(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}, l)$  has polynomial growth and consider the matched pair of length functions  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  associated to  $l$  given in Proposition 4.2. Then  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  and  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  both have polynomial growth.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}, l)$  has polynomial growth. Since the map  $\text{Irr}(G) \rightarrow \text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ ,  $x \mapsto 1(x)$  is injective, dimension preserving and length preserving (by definition of  $l_G$ ), it is clear that  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  has polynomial growth. Let us show that  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  also has polynomial growth. Let  $P$  be a polynomial witnessing  $(RD)$  for  $(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}, l)$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Define  $F_k := \{\gamma \in \Gamma : k \leq l_\Gamma(\gamma) < k + 1\}$ . One has, for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |F_k| &= \sum_{k \leq l([\gamma(\varepsilon_G)]) < k+1} 1 \leq \sum_{k \leq l([\gamma(\varepsilon_G)]) < k+1} |\gamma \cdot G|^2 = \sum_{k \leq l([\gamma(\varepsilon_G)]) < k+1} \dim([\gamma(\varepsilon_G)])^2 \\ &\leq \sum_{z \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{G}), k \leq l(z) < k+1} \dim(z)^2 \leq P(k). \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

## 5.4 Rapid decay for bicrossed product

Recall that  $l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \cdot G \in \Gamma/G} \bigoplus_{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)} \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H_x)$ . Let us denote by  $p_{\gamma(x)}$  the central projection of  $l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$  corresponding to the block  $\mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H_x)$  and define, for  $\gamma \cdot G \in \Gamma/G$ , the central projection :

$$p_\gamma := \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)} p_{\gamma(x)} \in l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}).$$

Note that  $p_\gamma l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}) = \bigoplus_{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)} \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H_x) \simeq \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G)) \otimes L(G_\gamma)$ , where  $L(G_\gamma) = \bigoplus_{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)} \mathcal{B}(H_x)$  is the group von-Neumann algebra of  $G_\gamma$  (which is also the multiplier  $C^*$ -algebra of  $C_r^*(G_\gamma) = \bigoplus_{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)}^{c_0} \mathcal{B}(H_x)$ ). Using this identification, we define  $\pi_\gamma : c_0(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G)) \otimes C_r^*(G_\gamma) \subset c_0(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$  to be the  $*$ -homomorphism given by  $\pi_\gamma(a) = ap_\gamma$ , for all  $a \in c_0(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$ . We also write, for  $a \in c_0(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$ ,  $\pi_\gamma(a) = \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} e_{rs} \otimes \pi_{r,s}^\gamma(a)$ , where we recall that  $(e_{rs})$  are the matrix units associated to the canonical orthonormal basis  $(e_r)_{r \in \gamma \cdot G}$  of  $l^2(\gamma \cdot G)$  and  $\pi_{r,s}^\gamma : c_0(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}) \rightarrow C_r^*(G_\gamma)$  is the completely bounded map defined by  $\pi_{r,s}^\gamma := (\omega_{e_s, e_r} \otimes \text{id}) \circ \pi_\gamma$  and  $\omega_{e_s, e_r} \in \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G))$ ,  $\omega_{e_s, e_r}(T) = \langle T e_s, e_r \rangle$ .

We start with the following result.

**Theorem 5.6.** *Let  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  be a matched pair of length functions on  $(\Gamma, \text{Irr}(G))$ . Suppose that  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  has polynomial growth and  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  has (RD). Then  $(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}, \tilde{l})$  has (RD).*

*Proof.* Let  $a \in c_c(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$  and write  $a = \sum_{\gamma \in S} \sum_{x \in T_\gamma} ap_{\gamma(x)}$ , where  $S \subset I$  and  $T_\gamma \subset \text{Irr}(G_\gamma)$  are finite subsets.

**Claim.** *The following holds.*

1.  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{G}}(a) = \sum_{\gamma \in S} |\gamma \cdot G| \left( \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} u_r v_{rs} \mathcal{F}_{G_\gamma}(\pi_{s,r}^\gamma(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^\gamma \right)$ .
2.  $\|a\|_{\mathbb{G},0}^2 = \sum_{\gamma \in S} |\gamma \cdot G| \left( \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} \|\pi_{r,s}^\gamma(a)\|_{G_\gamma,0}^2 \right)$ .

*Proof of the Claim.(1).* A direct computation gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{G}}(a) &= \sum_{\gamma \in S, x \in T_\gamma} |\gamma \cdot G| \dim(x) (\text{Tr}_{l^2(\gamma \cdot G) \otimes H_x}(\gamma(u^x) ap_{\gamma(x)} \otimes 1)) \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in S, x \in T_\gamma} |\gamma \cdot G| \dim(x) \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} u_r v_{rs} (\text{Tr}_x \otimes \text{id})(u^x \circ \psi_{r,s}^\gamma \pi_{s,r}^\gamma(a) p_x \otimes 1) \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in S} |\gamma \cdot G| \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} u_r v_{rs} \mathcal{F}_{G_\gamma}(\pi_{s,r}^\gamma(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^\gamma. \end{aligned}$$

(2). Since  $\pi_\gamma$  is a  $*$ -homomorphism, we have  $\pi_{r,s}^\gamma(a^* a) = \sum_{t \in \gamma \cdot G} \pi_{t,r}^\gamma(a)^* \pi_{t,s}^\gamma(a)$  hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|a\|_{\mathbb{G},0}^2 &= \sum_{\gamma \in S, x \in T_\gamma} |\gamma \cdot G| \dim(x) \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} (\text{Tr}_x \otimes \text{id})(\pi_{s,r}^\gamma(a)^* \pi_{r,s}^\gamma(a)) \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in S} |\gamma \cdot G| \sum_{r,s \in \gamma \cdot G} \|\pi_{r,s}^\gamma(a)\|_{G_\gamma,0}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Let us now prove the theorem. Let  $b = \sum_{\gamma \in S'} \sum_{t,t' \in \gamma \cdot G} u_t v_{tt'} F_\gamma \circ \psi_{t,t'}^\gamma \in C(\mathbb{G})$ , where  $F_\gamma \in C(G_\gamma)$  and  $S' \subset I$  is a finite subset. For all  $r \in \Gamma$ , we denote by  $\gamma_r$  the unique element in  $I$  such that  $\gamma_r \cdot G = r \cdot G$ . We may re-order the sums and write:

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{G}}(a) = \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G| \left( \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} u_r v_{rs} \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r} \right) \text{ and } b = \sum_{t \in \Gamma} u_t 1_{S' \cdot G}(t) \left( \sum_{t' \in t \cdot G} v_{tt'} F_{\gamma_t} \circ \psi_{t,t'}^{\gamma_t} \right).$$

Also,  $\|a\|_{\mathbb{G},0}^2 = \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G| \left( \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} \|\pi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r}(a)\|_{G_{\gamma_r},0}^2 \right)$ . Then,  $\|\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{G}}(a)b\|_{2,h_{\mathbb{G}}}$  is equal to :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left\| \sum_{r,t \in \Gamma} u_{rt} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) 1_{S' \cdot G}(t) |r \cdot G| \left( \sum_{s \in r \cdot G, t' \in t \cdot G} v_{rs} \circ \alpha_t \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r} \circ \alpha_t v_{tt'} F_{\gamma_t} \circ \psi_{t,t'}^{\gamma_t} \right) \right\|_{2, h_G}^2 \\
&= \sum_{x \in \Gamma} \left\| \sum_{\substack{r,t \in \Gamma \\ rt=x}} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) 1_{S' \cdot G}(t) |r \cdot G| \left( \sum_{s \in r \cdot G, t' \in t \cdot G} v_{rs} \circ \alpha_t \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r} \circ \alpha_t v_{tt'} F_{\gamma_t} \circ \psi_{t,t'}^{\gamma_t} \right) \right\|_2^2 \\
&= \sum_{x \in \Gamma} \left\| \sum_{\substack{r,t \in \Gamma \\ rt=x}} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) 1_{S' \cdot G}(t) |r \cdot G| \left( \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} v_{rs} \circ \alpha_t \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r} \circ \alpha_t \right) \left( \sum_{t' \in t \cdot G} v_{tt'} F_{\gamma_t} \circ \psi_{t,t'}^{\gamma_t} \right) \right\|_2^2 \\
&\leq \sum_x \left( \sum_{\substack{r,t \in \Gamma \\ rt=x}} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) 1_{S' \cdot G}(t) |r \cdot G| \left\| \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} v_{rs} \circ \alpha_t \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r} \circ \alpha_t \right\|_\infty \left\| \sum_{t' \in t \cdot G} v_{tt'} F_{\gamma_t} \circ \psi_{t,t'}^{\gamma_t} \right\|_2 \right)^2 \\
&= \sum_x \left( \sum_{\substack{r,t \in \Gamma \\ rt=x}} \left( 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G| \left\| \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} v_{rs} \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r} \right\|_\infty \right) \left( 1_{S' \cdot G}(t) \left\| \sum_{t' \in t \cdot G} v_{tt'} F_{\gamma_t} \circ \psi_{t,t'}^{\gamma_t} \right\|_2 \right) \right)^2 \\
&= \|\psi * \phi\|_{l^2(\Gamma)}^2,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_2$  and  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  denote respectively the  $L^2$ -norm and the supremum norm on  $C(G)$  and  $\psi, \phi : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  are finitely supported functions defined by :

$$\psi(r) := 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G| \left\| \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} v_{rs} \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r} \right\|_\infty \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(t) := 1_{S' \cdot G}(t) \left\| \sum_{t' \in t \cdot G} v_{tt'} F_{\gamma_t} \circ \psi_{t,t'}^{\gamma_t} \right\|_2,$$

Note that  $\|\phi\|_{l^2(\Gamma)}^2 = \|b\|_{2, h_G}^2$ . Moreover, one has, since  $\psi_{r,s}^\gamma : G_{r,s} \rightarrow G_\gamma$  is an homeomorphism,

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\psi\|_{l^2(\Gamma)}^2 &= \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G|^2 \left\| \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} v_{rs} \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r} \right\|_\infty^2 \\
&\leq \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G|^3 \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} \|v_{rs} \mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)) \circ \psi_{r,s}^{\gamma_r}\|_\infty^2 \\
&= \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G|^3 \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} \|\mathcal{F}_{G_{\gamma_r}}(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a))\|_{C(G_{\gamma_r})}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

For  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $p_k = \sum_{\gamma \in I, x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) : k \leq l(\gamma(x)) < k+1} p_{\gamma(x)} \in l^\infty(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$ ,  $p_k^{G_\gamma} = \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) : k \leq l_{G_\gamma}(x) < k+1} p_x \in l^\infty(\widehat{G}_\gamma)$  and suppose from now on that  $a \in p_k c_c(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$ . Hence, we must have  $S \subset \{\gamma \in \Gamma : l_\Gamma(\gamma) < k+1\}$  and, for all  $\gamma \in S$ ,  $T_\gamma \subset \{x \in \text{Irr}(G_\gamma) : l_{G_\gamma}(x) < k+1\}$ . Hence, for all  $\gamma \in S$  and all  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$  one has  $\pi_{r,s}^\gamma(a) \in q_k^\gamma c_c(\widehat{G}_\gamma)$ , where  $q_k^\gamma = \sum_{j=0}^k p_j^{G_\gamma}$ .

Since  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  has polynomial growth, there exists  $C > 0$  and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfying the properties of Lemma 5.3. In particular, one has, for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $|\gamma \cdot G| \leq C(2l_\Gamma(\gamma) + 1)^N$ . Moreover, since  $S \subset \{g \in \Gamma : l_\Gamma(g) < k+1\}$  and  $l_\Gamma$  is  $\beta$ -invariant, it follows that  $S \cdot G \subset \{g \in \Gamma : l_\Gamma(g) < k+1\}$ . By Lemma 5.2 (and Lemma 5.3) we deduce that:

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\psi\|_{l^2(\Gamma)}^2 &\leq \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G|^3 \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} \left\| v_{\gamma_r, \gamma_r} \widetilde{\mathcal{F}_G(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a))} \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G|^3 \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} \left\| \widetilde{\mathcal{F}_G(\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a))} \right\|^2 \\
&\leq \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G|^3 \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} C^2(k + l_\Gamma(\gamma_r) + 1)^{2N} \left\| \widetilde{\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)} \right\|_{G,0}^2
\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq C^2(2k+2)^{2N} \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G|^3 \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} \|\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)\|_{G_{\gamma_r},0}^2 \\
&\leq C^4(2k+3)^{4N} \sum_{r \in \Gamma} 1_{S \cdot G}(r) |r \cdot G| \sum_{s \in r \cdot G} \|\pi_{s,r}^{\gamma_r}(a)\|_{G_{\gamma_r},0}^2 = C^4(2k+3)^{4N} \|a\|_{\mathbb{G},0}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  has  $(RD)$ , let  $C_2 > 0$  and  $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , for all function  $\xi$  on  $\Gamma$  supported on  $\{g \in \Gamma : l_\Gamma(g) < k+1\}$ , we have  $\|\xi * \eta\|_{l^2(\Gamma)} \leq C_2(k+1)^{N_2} \|\xi\|_{l^2(\Gamma)} \|\eta\|_{l^2(\Gamma)}$ . Note that  $\psi$  is supported on  $S \cdot G$  and  $S \cdot G \subset \{g \in \Gamma : l_\Gamma(g) < k+1\}$ . Hence, it follows from the preceding computations that:

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{G}}(a)b\|_{2,h_{\mathbb{G}}}^2 &\leq \|\psi * \phi\|_{l^2(\Gamma)}^2 \leq C_2^2(k+1)^{2N_2} \|\psi\|_{l^2(\Gamma)} \|\phi\|_{l^2(\Gamma)} \leq C^4(2k+3)^{4N} C_2^2(k+1)^{2N_2} \|a\|_{\mathbb{G},0}^2 \|b\|_{2,h_{\mathbb{G}}}^2 \\
&= (P(k) \|a\|_{\mathbb{G},0}^2 \|b\|_{2,h_{\mathbb{G}}}^2)^2.
\end{aligned}$$

where  $P(X) = C^2 C_2^2 (2X+3)^{2N} (X+1)^{N_2}$ . It concludes the proof.  $\square$

To complete the proof of Theorem A, we need the following Proposition.

**Proposition 5.7.** *Assume that there exists a length function  $l$  on  $\text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$  such that  $(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}, l)$  has  $(RD)$  and consider the matched pair of length functions  $(l_\Gamma, l_G)$  associated to  $l$  given in Proposition 4.2. Then  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  has  $(RD)$  and  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  has polynomial growth.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}, l)$  has  $(RD)$ . The fact that  $(\widehat{G}, l_G)$  has  $(RD)$  follows from the general theory (since  $C(G) \subset C(\mathbb{G})$  intertwines the comultiplication and the associated injection  $\text{Irr}(G) \rightarrow \text{Irr}(\mathbb{G})$ , actually given by  $(x \mapsto 1(x))$ , preserves the length functions). Let us show that  $(\Gamma, l_\Gamma)$  has  $(RD)$ . Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\xi : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a finitely supported function with support in  $\{\gamma \in \Gamma : k \leq l_\Gamma(\gamma) < k+1\}$ . Define  $\tilde{\xi} \in c_c(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$  by  $\tilde{\xi} = \sum_{\gamma \in I} \frac{1}{|\gamma \cdot G|} \left( \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \xi(r) e_{rr} \right) p_{\gamma(1)}$ , where we recall  $e_{rs} \in \mathcal{B}(l^2(\gamma \cdot G))$  for  $r, s \in \gamma \cdot G$  are the matrix units associated to the canonical orthonormal basis. Then,

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{G}}(\tilde{\xi}) = \sum_{\gamma \in I} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \xi(r) (\text{Tr}_{l^2(\gamma \cdot G)} \otimes \text{id})(u^{\gamma(1)}(e_{rr} \otimes 1)) = \sum_{\gamma \in I} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \xi(r) u_r v_{rr} \quad \text{also,}$$

$$\|\tilde{\xi}\|_{\mathbb{G},0}^2 = \sum_{\gamma \in I} |\gamma \cdot G| \text{Tr}_{l^2(\gamma \cdot G)} \left( \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \frac{|\xi(r)|^2}{|\gamma \cdot G|^2} e_{rr} \right) = \sum_{\gamma \in I} \frac{1}{|\gamma \cdot G|} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} |\xi(r)|^2 \leq \sum_{\gamma \in I} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} |\xi(r)|^2 = \|\xi\|_2^2.$$

Since  $\xi$  is supported in  $\{\gamma \in \Gamma : k \leq l_\Gamma(\gamma) < k+1\}$  and  $l_\Gamma$  is  $\beta$ -invariant, it follows that  $\text{supp}(\tilde{\xi}) \subset \{z \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{G}) : k \leq l(z) < k+1\}$ . Hence, denoting by  $P$  a polynomial witnessing  $(RD)$  for  $(\widehat{\mathbb{G}}, l)$ , we have:

$$\left\| \sum_{\gamma \in I} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \xi(r) u_r v_{rr} \right\| \leq P(k) \|\xi\|_2.$$

Denote by  $\Psi$  the unital  $*$ -morphism  $\Psi : C(\mathbb{G}) = \Gamma \rtimes C(G) \rightarrow C_r^*(\Gamma)$  such that  $\Psi(u_\gamma F) = \lambda_\gamma F(1)$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $F \in C(G)$ . Since  $\Psi$  has norm one, denoting by  $\lambda(\xi) \in C_r^*(\Gamma)$  the convolution operator by  $\xi$ , we have

$$\|\lambda(\xi)\| = \left\| \sum_{\gamma \in I} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \xi(r) \lambda_r \right\| = \left\| \Psi \left( \sum_{\gamma \in I} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \xi(r) u_r v_{rr} \right) \right\| \leq \left\| \sum_{\gamma \in I} \sum_{r \in \gamma \cdot G} \xi(r) u_r v_{rr} \right\| \leq P(k) \|\xi\|_2.$$

This concludes the proof.  $\square$

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