

*Pacific
Journal of
Mathematics*

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Volume 187 No. 2

February 1999

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For an almost normal subgroup Γ_0 of a discrete group Γ , conditions are given which allow one to define a universal C^* -norm on the Hecke algebra $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. If Γ is a semidirect product of a normal subgroup N containing Γ_0 by a group G satisfying some order relations arising from a naturally defined subsemigroup T , and if the normalizer of N is also normal in Γ , then a presentation of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is given. In this situation the C^* -completion of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is $*$ -isomorphic with the semigroup crossed product C^* -algebra $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$.

In their paper introducing a number theoretical model of a quantum statistical system exhibiting a phase transition with symmetry breaking, Bost and Connes introduce the notion of an almost normal subgroup Γ_0 of a discrete group Γ , along with the associated Hecke algebra $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ and its reduced C^* -algebra completion $C_r^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ ([**BC**]). They also provide a presentation of the Hecke algebra in the context of the specific almost normal subgroup they consider in their model. A connection between these relations and some relations occurring in a stable C^* -algebra associated with certain examples of dynamical systems described in [**B**] provided the motivation for considering the Hecke algebras further.

An overview of the structure of the paper follows. After some preliminaries on almost normal subgroup pairs (Γ, Γ_0) we introduce a fundamental semigroup \mathcal{T} in the group Γ , which contains the normalizer N_{Γ_0} of Γ_0 . A basic representation of this semigroup as isometries in the convolution Hecke algebra $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is described. In the presence of a normal subgroup N of Γ containing Γ_0 and contained in N_{Γ_0} , a natural semigroup C^* -dynamical system occurs which possesses a universal property with respect to $*$ -representations of the Hecke algebra.

In the [second](#) section we discuss some properties of group partial pre-order relations arising from a subsemigroup of the group in much the same spirit as Nica in [**N**]. Applying this to our situation, with \mathcal{T} as the subsemigroup of Γ , and introducing a notion of solvable least upper bounds, we obtain some conditions allowing a definition of a universal C^* -norm on the Hecke algebra. Assuming some more structure for the pair (Γ, Γ_0) , namely that Γ is an extension of a normal subgroup N containing Γ_0 , we obtain that

the C^* -completion of the Hecke algebra is a quotient of a semigroup crossed product C^* -algebra.

The main focus of Section 3 is to obtain an identification of the C^* -completion of the Hecke algebra and the semigroup crossed product C^* -algebra if the group Γ is a semidirect product of a normal subgroup N containing Γ_0 and a subgroup G which is both upward and downward directed. We also assume that solvable least upper bounds exist in the fundamental subsemigroup. This identification is proved by patterning our arguments after those of Bost and Connes to obtain a presentation of the Hecke algebra. A crucial role is played by the covariance relation Nica isolated in [N]. Once the identification is established, we can conclude that some of the relations were superfluous, as they are unnecessary in a presentation of the semigroup crossed product C^* -algebra.

Section 4 lists some examples pertaining to various stages in the structure of assumptions needed in the course of the paper.

Once a semigroup crossed product structure is available for these Hecke algebras, simplifications in the dynamical structure of the Hecke algebras can occur. For example, it is hoped that the study of the KMS state simplex and phase transitions under a one parameter automorphism group of the algebra, as first explored by Bost and Connes, can be extended to the other examples of Section 4.

As this paper was being prepared for submission we heard that results pertaining to Examples 4.1 and 4.5 discussed here were also being obtained in joint work of Arledge, Laca and Raeburn. The methods and approach employed are however different.

Notation. If X is a set, $|X|$ denotes the cardinality of S . For sets X and Y , $X \cong Y$ means that X and Y are isomorphic as sets. If \mathcal{A} is a set of transformations of a set X , then $\mathcal{A}x = \{a(x) \mid a \in \mathcal{A}\}$ for $x \in X$. If H is a subgroup of group G , write $H \leq G$. Let N_H be the normalizer of H in G , and if H is normal in G write $H \trianglelefteq G$. Also $[g]$ is the left coset gH in G/H , ($g \in G$), and the index of H in G is $(G : H) = |G/H|$. For $g \in G$, $\text{ad}(g)$ is the group automorphism of a normal subgroup H defined by $h \rightarrow ghg^{-1}$, ($h \in H$). The unit element of a group or semigroup is e . The natural numbers with zero, a semigroup under addition, are denoted by \mathbb{N} , while \mathbb{N}^\times denotes the non-zero elements of \mathbb{N} , an abelian semigroup under multiplication. If R is a ring, R^\times denotes the non-zero elements of R . For $d \in \mathbb{N}^\times$, $\mathfrak{M}_d(R)$ denotes the $d \times d$ matrices with entries in R . For $F \in \mathfrak{M}_d(R)$, F_t denotes the transpose matrix.

1. Basics.

If Γ_0 is a subgroup of a discrete group Γ , then Γ_0 acts on the left on the coset space Γ/Γ_0 . We say that Γ_0 is almost normal in Γ , or that (Γ, Γ_0)

form an almost normal subgroup pair, if the Γ_0 -orbits, $\Gamma_0[\gamma]$, in Γ/Γ_0 are finite for all $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ([BC]).

Proposition 1.1. *If Γ_0 is a subgroup of a discrete group Γ then $\Gamma_0[\gamma] \cong \Gamma_0/\Gamma_0 \cap \gamma\Gamma_0\gamma^{-1}$, ($\gamma \in \Gamma$).*

Proof. For each $\gamma \in \Gamma$ consider the map of Γ_0 onto the Γ_0 -orbit of $[\gamma]$ defined by $h \mapsto [h\gamma]$. Since $\{h \in \Gamma_0 \mid [h\gamma] = [\gamma]\} = \{h \in \Gamma_0 \mid h\gamma \in \gamma\Gamma_0\} = \Gamma_0 \cap \gamma\Gamma_0\gamma^{-1}$, this map defines a bijection of the coset space $\Gamma_0/\Gamma_0 \cap \gamma\Gamma_0\gamma^{-1}$ with $\Gamma_0[\gamma]$. \square

Another set bijection is useful to note. Left multiplication by an element α of Γ yields a bijection of Γ/Γ_0 with itself, so a subset M of Γ/Γ_0 is bijective with αM . Setting M to be the orbit $\Gamma_0[\gamma]$ and α to be γ^{-1} , we have that $\Gamma_0\gamma\Gamma_0/\Gamma_0 \cong \gamma^{-1}\Gamma_0\gamma \Gamma_0/\Gamma_0$.

For a given almost normal subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) , there are Γ_0 -bivariant maps L and R from Γ to \mathbb{N}^\times defined by $L(\gamma) = |\Gamma_0[\gamma]|$ and $R(\gamma) = L(\gamma^{-1})$ ([BC]). The last proposition shows that $L(\gamma) = (\Gamma_0 : \Gamma_0 \cap \gamma\Gamma_0\gamma^{-1})$ and that $[\gamma]$ is a fixed point under the left Γ_0 action, i.e., $L(\gamma) = 1$, if and only if $\Gamma_0 \subseteq \gamma\Gamma_0\gamma^{-1}$.

Definition. For an almost normal subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) let $\mathcal{T} = \{\gamma \in \Gamma \mid L(\gamma) = 1\} = \{\gamma \in \Gamma \mid \Gamma_0\gamma \subseteq \gamma\Gamma_0\}$.

Since $\Gamma_0\gamma \subseteq \gamma\Gamma_0$ implies $\gamma\Gamma_0 \subseteq \Gamma_0\gamma\Gamma_0 \subseteq \gamma\Gamma_0\Gamma_0 = \gamma\Gamma_0$, and since $\Gamma_0\gamma \subseteq \Gamma_0\gamma\Gamma_0$ it follows that $\mathcal{T} = \{\gamma \in \Gamma \mid \Gamma_0\gamma\Gamma_0 = \gamma\Gamma_0\}$.

Proposition 1.2. *If (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair then \mathcal{T} is a subsemigroup of Γ and $\mathcal{T} \cap \mathcal{T}^{-1} = N_{\Gamma_0}$, the normalizer of Γ_0 in Γ . The map $R : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^\times$ is a semigroup homomorphism.*

Proof. Clearly $e \in \mathcal{T}$. For $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ we have $\Gamma_0 \subseteq \alpha\Gamma_0\alpha^{-1}$ and $\Gamma_0 \subseteq \beta\Gamma_0\beta^{-1}$. Applying the automorphism $\text{ad}(\alpha)$ to the second inclusion shows that $\alpha\Gamma_0\alpha^{-1} \subseteq \alpha\beta\Gamma_0\beta^{-1}\alpha^{-1}$, so $\Gamma_0 \subseteq (\alpha\beta)\Gamma_0(\alpha\beta)^{-1}$ and $\alpha\beta \in \mathcal{T}$. Since $\mathcal{T}^{-1} = \{\gamma \mid R(\gamma) = 1\} = \{\gamma \mid \gamma\Gamma_0\gamma^{-1} \subseteq \Gamma_0\}$, the second claim is clear. The last assertion follows from the elementary fact that $(G : K) = (G : H)(H : K)$ for subgroups $K \leq H \leq G$ of a group G . For $\alpha\beta \in \mathcal{T}$, we have $R(\alpha\beta) = (\Gamma_0 : \Gamma_0 \cap (\alpha\beta)^{-1}\Gamma_0\alpha\beta)$ which is equal to $(\Gamma_0 : (\alpha\beta)^{-1}\Gamma_0\alpha\beta)$ since $\alpha\beta \in \mathcal{T}$. This equals $(\Gamma_0 : \beta^{-1}\Gamma_0\beta)(\beta^{-1}\Gamma_0\beta : \beta^{-1}\alpha^{-1}\Gamma_0\alpha\beta) = (\Gamma_0 : \beta^{-1}\Gamma_0\beta)(\Gamma_0 : \alpha^{-1}\Gamma_0\alpha) = R(\beta)R(\alpha)$. \square

Proposition 1.3. *The semigroup homomorphism $R : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^\times$ defines a map $r : \mathcal{T}/N_{\Gamma_0} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^\times$ satisfying $r([\alpha\beta]) = r([\alpha])r([\beta])$ for $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$.*

Proof. For $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$ set $r([\alpha]) = R(\alpha)$. For $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ with $[\alpha] = [\beta]$ we have $\beta^{-1}\alpha \in N_{\Gamma_0} = \mathcal{T} \cap \mathcal{T}^{-1}$. Thus $R(\alpha) = R(\beta\beta^{-1}\alpha) = R(\beta)R(\beta^{-1}\alpha) = R(\beta)$, the later equality a consequence of $\beta^{-1}\alpha \in \mathcal{T}^{-1}$. Thus r is a well defined map of sets. \square

Notice that \mathcal{T}/N_{Γ_0} is in general only a coset space, so multiplication of elements is not well defined.

We now recall from [BC] that the Hecke algebra $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ associated to an almost normal subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) is the convolution algebra of (\mathbb{C} -valued say) functions with finite support on $\Gamma_0 \backslash \Gamma / \Gamma_0$, the space of Γ_0 -orbits in Γ / Γ_0 . For $f, h \in H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ define

$$\begin{aligned} f * h(\gamma) &= \sum \{f(\alpha)h(\alpha^{-1}\gamma) \mid \alpha \in \Gamma/\Gamma_0\} \\ f^*(\gamma) &= \overline{f(\gamma^{-1})}, \quad (\gamma \in \Gamma). \end{aligned}$$

Here we view f and h as Γ_0 -bivariant functions on Γ . We now proceed to define some elements of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ that will play a basic role in the rest of the paper. For a finite subset A of $\Gamma_0 \backslash \Gamma / \Gamma_0$ let χ_A denote the characteristic function of the set A . Also, for $\gamma \in \Gamma$, let O_γ be the point $\Gamma_0[\gamma] = \Gamma_0\gamma\Gamma_0$ in $\Gamma_0 \backslash \Gamma / \Gamma_0$.

Definition. If (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair and $\gamma \in \mathcal{T}$ let W_γ be the element of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ defined by

$$W_\gamma = R(\gamma)^{-1/2} \chi_{O_\gamma}.$$

It will be useful to distinguish those elements W_γ with $\gamma \in N_{\Gamma_0}$ from the others. Write $U_\gamma = W_\gamma$ if $\gamma \in N_{\Gamma_0}$, so $U_\gamma = \chi_{O_\gamma}$. Note that $O_\gamma = \gamma\Gamma_0$ for $\gamma \in \mathcal{T}$, so if $\gamma, \gamma' \in \mathcal{T}$ then $O_\gamma = O_{\gamma'}$ if and only if $[\gamma] = [\gamma']$ in \mathcal{T}/Γ_0 . Since $R(\gamma) = R(\gamma')$ if $[\gamma] = [\gamma']$ in \mathcal{T}/Γ_0 , we have that $W_\gamma = W_{\gamma'}$ if and only if $[\gamma] = [\gamma']$ in \mathcal{T}/Γ_0 .

Theorem 1.4. For (Γ, Γ_0) an almost normal subgroup pair, $W : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is a representation of the semigroup \mathcal{T} by isometries.

Proof. We show first that $W_\gamma^* W_\gamma = W_e = I$. For $\beta \in \Gamma$, $W_\gamma^* W_\gamma(\beta) = R(\gamma)^{-1} \sum \{ \chi_{O_\gamma}(\alpha^{-1}) \chi_{O_\gamma}(\alpha^{-1}\beta) \mid \alpha \in \Gamma/\Gamma_0 \}$. Since $O_\gamma = \gamma\Gamma_0$ for $\gamma \in \mathcal{T}$, $\alpha^{-1} \in O_\gamma$ if and only if $\alpha \in \Gamma_0\gamma^{-1} = \Gamma_0\gamma^{-1}\Gamma_0$, a set with $L(\gamma^{-1}) = R(\gamma)$ points in Γ/Γ_0 . Thus $W_\gamma^* W_\gamma(\beta) = R(\gamma)^{-1} \sum \{ \chi_{O_e}(\beta) \mid \alpha \in \Gamma_0\gamma^{-1}\Gamma_0 \} = \chi_{O_e}(\beta) = W_e(\beta)$. It is clear that W_e is the identity of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$.

For $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} W_\alpha W_\beta(\gamma) &= (R(\alpha)R(\beta))^{-1/2} \sum \{ \chi_{O_\alpha}(\rho) \chi_{O_\beta}(\rho^{-1}\gamma) \mid \rho \in \Gamma/\Gamma_0 \} \\ &= R(\alpha\beta)^{-1/2} \chi_{O_\beta}(\alpha^{-1}\gamma), \end{aligned}$$

since $O_\alpha = \alpha\Gamma_0$ is a single point of Γ/Γ_0 . This expression equals $R(\alpha\beta)^{-1/2}$ if and only if $\gamma \in \alpha\Gamma_0\beta\Gamma_0 = \alpha\beta\Gamma_0 = O_{\alpha\beta}$, and is zero otherwise. Thus $W_\alpha W_\beta = W_{\alpha\beta}$. □

If $\gamma \in N_{\Gamma_0}$, we have that $\gamma^{-1} \in N_{\Gamma_0}$ also, so $W_\gamma W_{\gamma^{-1}} = W_e = I$. Thus $W_\gamma W_\gamma^* = W_\gamma W_\gamma^*(W_\gamma W_{\gamma^{-1}}) = W_\gamma W_{\gamma^{-1}} = I$ and $U = W|_{N_{\Gamma_0}}$ is a unitary

representation of the group N_{Γ_0} in $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. Since $W|_{\Gamma_0} = I$, U should actually be viewed as a unitary representation of the group N_{Γ_0}/Γ_0 . It follows from $W_\gamma W_\gamma^* = I$ ($\gamma \in N_{\Gamma_0}$) that for $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$ the selfadjoint idempotent $W_\alpha W_\alpha^*$ depends only on the equivalence class $[\alpha]$ of α in \mathcal{T}/N_{Γ_0} . Where convenient we denote $W_\alpha W_\alpha^*$ by $P[\alpha]$.

Proposition 1.5. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair, and choose $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$, $g \in N_{\Gamma_0}$. Then*

$$W_\alpha U_g W_\alpha^* = R(\alpha)^{-1} \sum \{ \chi_{O_\beta} \mid \text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})(\beta) \in g\Gamma_0 \}$$

where this sum is over a set of $R(\alpha)$ points in $\Gamma_0 \backslash \Gamma/\Gamma_0$.

Proof. First note that $W_\alpha U_g W_\alpha^* = W_\alpha W_g W_\alpha^* = W_{\alpha g} W_\alpha^*$. Since $\alpha g \in \mathcal{T}$, the orbit $O_{\alpha g} = \Gamma_0 \alpha g \Gamma_0$ is the single point $\alpha g \Gamma_0$ in Γ/Γ_0 , so the sum defining the product of $W_{\alpha g}$ with W_α^* consists only of one non-zero term. We have $W_{\alpha g} W_\alpha^*(\gamma) = R(\alpha)^{-1} \chi_{O_\alpha}(\rho^{-1}\gamma)^{-1}$ where $\rho = \alpha g \Gamma_0$. Since $\rho^{-1}\gamma \in \Gamma_0 \alpha^{-1}$ if and only if $\gamma \in \alpha g \Gamma_0 \alpha^{-1}$, this expression is $R(\alpha)^{-1}$ if $\gamma \in \alpha g \Gamma_0 \alpha^{-1}$ and zero otherwise. Since the set $\Gamma_0 \alpha^{-1} = \Gamma_0 \alpha^{-1} \Gamma_0$ consists of $L(\alpha^{-1}) = R(\alpha)$ points in Γ/Γ_0 , so does the set $\alpha g \Gamma_0 \alpha^{-1} \Gamma_0$. Each one of these points in Γ/Γ_0 is however also a point in $\Gamma_0 \backslash \Gamma/\Gamma_0$, since, as already noted, $\Gamma_0 \alpha g \Gamma_0 = \alpha g \Gamma_0$. Thus $W_\alpha U_g W_\alpha^* = R(\alpha)^{-1} \sum \{ \chi_{O_\beta} \mid \beta \in \text{ad}(\alpha)(g\Gamma_0) \}$, where the sum has $R(\alpha)$ terms. □

Remark 1.6. If we further stipulate that N_{Γ_0} be normal in Γ , then the solutions $\beta \in \text{ad}(\alpha)(g\Gamma_0)$ occurring in the sum all occur in N_{Γ_0} , in fact, in N_{Γ_0}/Γ_0 , and $\chi_{O_\beta} = U_\beta$. Thus $W_\alpha U_g W_\alpha^* = R(\alpha)^{-1} \sum \{ U_\beta \mid \text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})[\beta] = [g] \text{ in } N_{\Gamma_0}/\Gamma_0 \}$.

This remark suggests that if N_{Γ_0} is normal in Γ , a certain semigroup C^* -dynamical system associated to an almost normal subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) should be considered. More generally, if N is a normal subgroup of Γ with $\Gamma_0 < N < N_{\Gamma_0}$, then $\text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})N = N$ for $\alpha \in \Gamma$ and since $\text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})\Gamma_0 \subseteq \Gamma_0$ for any $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$, the map $\text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})$ defines a group homomorphism of N/Γ_0 to itself, for any $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$. Thus, if $g \in N$, we may replace N_{Γ_0} by N in the above remark. Define an action Θ of the semigroup \mathcal{T} on $l^1(N/\Gamma_0)$ by $\Theta_\alpha(f) = R(\alpha)^{-1} \cdot f \circ \text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})$, for $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$, $f \in l^1(N/\Gamma_0)$. For $g \in N/\Gamma_0$ let δ_g be the element of $l^1(N/\Gamma_0)$ which is one at g and zero elsewhere. Compute that

$$\Theta_\alpha(\delta_g) = R(\alpha)^{-1} \sum \{ \delta_\beta \mid \text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})(\beta) = g \}$$

so $\|\Theta_\alpha(\delta_g)\|_1 \leq \|\delta_g\|_1 = 1$. Thus Θ is a continuous action of the semigroup \mathcal{T} on the Banach $*$ -algebra $l^1(N/\Gamma_0)$, so defines an action, again denoted by Θ , of \mathcal{T} on the C^* -completion, $C^*(N/\Gamma_0)$. Thus, to any almost normal subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) and N a normal subgroup of Γ containing Γ_0 , and

contained in the normalizer of Γ_0 , there is a semigroup C^* -dynamical system $(C^*(N/\Gamma_0), \Theta, \mathcal{T})$.

For the reader's convenience we recall some facts concerning semigroup dynamical systems. For further details see the results in [LR] and the references therein. A covariant representation of a semigroup C^* -dynamical system (\mathcal{A}, Θ, S) where Θ is a representation of the semigroup S as (possibly non-unital) endomorphisms of a unital C^* -algebra \mathcal{A} , is a pair (π, V) with π a unital representation of \mathcal{A} on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} and V a representation of S on \mathcal{H} as isometries with $V_e = I$, such that $\pi(\Theta_s(a)) = V_s \pi(a) V_s^*$, $a \in \mathcal{A}$ and $s \in S$. If a semigroup dynamical system (\mathcal{A}, Θ, S) possesses a covariant representation (π, V) then there is a unique unital C^* -algebra $\mathcal{A} \rtimes S$ equipped with a unital homomorphism $i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \rtimes S$ and a representation $\nu : S \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \rtimes S$ by isometries so that (i, ν) satisfies the covariance relation, their images generate $\mathcal{A} \rtimes S$ as a C^* -algebra, and such that every covariant representation (ρ, W) of (\mathcal{A}, Θ, S) yields a representation $\rho \times W$ of $\mathcal{A} \rtimes S$ with $(\rho \times W) \circ i = \rho$ and $(\rho \times W) \circ \nu = W$.

We return now to our context, namely an almost normal subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) and a normal subgroup N of Γ with $\Gamma_0 < N < N_{\Gamma_0}$. If $\pi : H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a $*$ -representation of the Hecke algebra $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ as bounded operators on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , denote by π_W the representation of \mathcal{T} as partial isometries on \mathcal{H} given by $\pi_W = \pi \circ W$, and denote by π_U the unitary representation of the group N/Γ_0 on \mathcal{H} given by $\pi_U = \pi \circ U$. Combining Proposition 1.5 and Remark 1.6 with the above expression for $\Theta_\alpha(\delta_g)$, $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$ and $g \in N/\Gamma_0$, gives the following result.

Theorem 1.7. *If (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair and N a normal subgroup of Γ with $\Gamma_0 < N < N_{\Gamma_0}$ then to every $*$ -representation $\pi : H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ there corresponds a covariant representation (π_U, π_W) of the semigroup C^* -dynamical system $(C^*(N/\Gamma_0), \Theta, \mathcal{T})$ on \mathcal{H} .*

Corollary 1.8. *The C^* -algebra $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes \mathcal{T}$ exists and for each $*$ -representation π of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ there is a $*$ -representation ρ of $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes \mathcal{T}$ with image contained in the C^* -algebra generated by $\text{Im}(\pi)$ and with $\rho \circ i = \pi_U$ and $\rho \circ \nu = \pi_W$.*

Proof. To conclude that the C^* -semicrossed product algebra exists it is enough to show that there is at least one covariant representation of the dynamical system $(C^*(N/\Gamma_0), \Theta, \mathcal{T})$. This follows from Theorem 1.7 after noting that there is always a regular representation of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ on the Hilbert space $l^2(\Gamma/\Gamma_0)$ ([BC]). □

Under certain conditions, we may consider a slightly less cumbersome semigroup C^* -dynamical system. Consider the situation of a normal subgroup N of a discrete group Γ . There is a commuting diagram of groups

with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
 e & \rightarrow & N & \rightarrow & \Gamma & \xrightarrow{\rho} & G & \rightarrow & e \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow^{\text{ad}} & & \downarrow^{\psi} & & \\
 e & \rightarrow & C & \rightarrow & N & \xrightarrow{\text{ad}} & \text{Aut}(N) & \rightarrow & \text{Out}(N) & \rightarrow & e.
 \end{array}$$

Here C is the center of N , $G = \Gamma/N$, $\text{ad} : \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Aut}(N)$ is defined by $\gamma \rightarrow \text{ad}(\gamma) \upharpoonright_N$, and ψ is defined by the diagram. If Γ_0 is any normal subgroup of N , then $\text{ad}(\gamma)(\Gamma_0) = \Gamma_0$ for any $\gamma \in N$, so for $g \in G$ we may denote by $\psi_g(\Gamma_0)$ the well defined subgroup $\text{ad}(\gamma)(\Gamma_0)$ where $\gamma \in \Gamma$ is any element of $\rho^{-1}(g)$.

Lemma 1.9. *Given the above diagram and Γ_0 a normal subgroup of N , the subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) is almost normal if and only if the subgroup $\psi_g(\Gamma_0)\Gamma_0/\Gamma_0$ of N/Γ_0 is finite for each $g \in G$.*

Proof. The subgroup $\gamma\Gamma_0\gamma^{-1}\Gamma_0/\Gamma_0 = \text{ad}(\gamma)(\Gamma_0)\Gamma_0/\Gamma_0$ is finite for each $\gamma \in \Gamma$ if and only if $\psi_g(\Gamma_0)\Gamma_0/\Gamma_0$ is finite for each $g \in G$. The comment after Proposition 1.1 finishes the claim. □

Assume now that (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair. Then $\rho(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}/N = \{g \in G \mid \Gamma_0 \subseteq \psi_g(\Gamma_0)\}$ is a semigroup of G , denote it by T . The normalizer of Γ_0 is equal to N if and only if $\{g \in G \mid \psi_g(\Gamma_0) = \Gamma_0\}$, which is $T \cap T^{-1}$, is equal to e . Otherwise N_{Γ_0} is an extension of N by $T \cap T^{-1}$. Proposition 1.3 shows that the map $R : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^\times$ defines a semigroup homomorphism of \mathcal{T}/N to \mathbb{N}^\times . Also, for $\alpha \in N$, the group endomorphism $\text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})$ of N/Γ_0 is actually an automorphism of N/Γ_0 . If there is a splitting homomorphism $\nu : G \rightarrow \Gamma$, in other words if Γ is the semidirect product of N by G , then $\nu(g) \in \mathcal{T}$ for $g \in T$, so we may define a semigroup C^* -dynamical system $(C^*(N/\Gamma_0), \tilde{\Theta}, T)$ by setting $\tilde{\Theta} = \Theta \circ \nu$. If π is a $*$ -representation of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ then set $\pi_T = \pi \circ W \circ \nu$ and, as before, set $\pi_U = \pi \circ U$. The pair (π_U, π_T) is a covariant representation of this dynamical system. Summarizing these observations in connection with the previous results gives the following result.

Theorem 1.10. *If (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair and $e \rightarrow N \rightarrow \Gamma \xrightarrow{\rho} G \rightarrow e$ is a split exact sequence with $\Gamma_0 \trianglelefteq N$ then to every $*$ -representation $\pi : H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ there corresponds a covariant representation (π_T, π_U) of the semigroup C^* -dynamical system $(C^*(N/\Gamma_0), \tilde{\Theta}, T)$ on \mathcal{H} . The C^* -algebra $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ exists, and given π there is a $*$ -representation π' of $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ with image contained in the C^* -algebra generated by $\text{Im}(\pi)$, and with $\pi' \circ i = \pi_U$, $\pi' \circ \nu = \pi_T$.*

For example, consider the case when Γ_0 is a normal subgroup of Γ . It is clear that the Hecke algebra $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is the group algebra $\mathbb{C}[\Gamma/\Gamma_0]$. Setting $N = N_{\Gamma_0}$, so $N = \Gamma$, we have $G = \{e\}$ and Theorem 1.10 gives a

representation π' of $C^*(\Gamma/\Gamma_0)$ in the C^* -algebra generated by $\text{Im}(\pi)$ for any representation π of Γ/Γ_0 . Of course, in this context, Theorem 1.10 is far from the best possible.

2. Order Structure.

The semigroup \mathcal{T} of Γ defines a pre-order type structure on Γ . Some of the extra structure on this ordering that is of consequence for our context has been developed before in [N]. We develop some of the slightly more general results that are needed in our situation though.

Let S be a sub-semigroup of a discrete group G and define a relation \preceq on G by $a \preceq b$ if and only if $a^{-1}b \in S$. This relation is: Reflexive since $e \in S$; transitive since $SS \subseteq S$; and left invariant, i.e., $a \preceq b$ implies $ga \preceq gb$ for $g \in G$. We do not specify that the subgroup $S \cap S^{-1} = \{e\}$, so the relation is not a partial order on G . The elements a, b satisfy both $a \preceq b$ and $b \preceq a$ if and only if $a^{-1}b \in S \cap S^{-1}$. As noted in [N], the set $SS^{-1} = \{g \in G \mid g \text{ has an upper bound in } S\}$. If any two arbitrarily chosen elements of a subset A in G have a common upper bound (c.u.b) in G call A upward directed.

Lemma 2.1. *A subset A of G is upward directed if and only if $A^{-1}A \subseteq SS^{-1}$.*

Proof. First suppose that A is upward directed. If l is a c.u.b. for a pair a, b in A , then $a^{-1}b = a^{-1}l(b^{-1}l)^{-1} \in SS^{-1}$. For the reverse implication first notice that if $h = st^{-1}$ with $s, t \in S$ then h and e have a c.u.b., namely s . Given $a, b \in A$ arbitrary, $b^{-1}a \in SS^{-1}$ by hypothesis, so $b^{-1}a$ and e have a c.u.b., say l . By left invariance, $a \preceq bl$ and $b \preceq bl$, so bl is a c.u.b. for the pair a, b of A . □

Thus S is upward directed if and only if $S^{-1}S \subseteq SS^{-1}$ (cf [N, 2.2.2]). Also G is upward directed if and only if $G = SS^{-1}$.

For $a, b \in G$, denote by $a \vee b$ a least upper bound for a and b , if it exists. The set of least upper bounds for a and b is $a \vee b (S \cap S^{-1})$. The following fact is a straightforward consequence of left invariance for the relation \preceq .

Lemma 2.2. *Given a pair a, b in G so that $a \vee b$ exists, and $g \in G$, then $g(a \vee b)$ is a l.u.b. for the pair ga, gb .*

With an analogous definition for a subset A of G to be lower directed, it follows that A is lower directed if and only if $A^{-1}A \subseteq S^{-1}S$. For example, if l is a common lower bound (c.l.b) for a, b in A then $a^{-1}b = (l^{-1}a)^{-1}(l^{-1}b) \in S^{-1}S$. In the other direction, if $h = s^{-1}t \in S^{-1}S$ then s^{-1} is a c.l.b. for h, e . Thus, for $a, b \in A$, $a^{-1}b \in S^{-1}S$ so there is a c.l.b., say l , for $a^{-1}b, e$. Then al is a c.l.b. for a, b .

Thus S^{-1} is lower directed if and only if $SS^{-1} \subseteq S^{-1}S$ and G is lower directed if and only if $G = S^{-1}S$. Note also that if $A \subseteq G$ is lower directed

and if $a \vee b$ exists for $a, b \in S$ then $g \vee h$ exists for all $g, h \in A$. To see this, let c be a c.l.b. for g and h . Then $c^{-1}g, c^{-1}h \in S$, so $c^{-1}g \vee c^{-1}h$ exists. Then $c(c^{-1}g \vee c^{-1}h)$ is a l.u.b. for g and h .

Theorem 2.3. *Assume any pair of elements in S have a l.u.b. If $SS^{-1} \subseteq S^{-1}S$ then $e \vee g$ exists for any $g \in SS^{-1}$. In particular if $S \cap S^{-1} = \{e\}$, then (G, S) is a quasi-lattice ordered group.*

Proof. Since $SS^{-1} \subseteq S^{-1}S$, S^{-1} is lower directed. By the remarks preceding the theorem, $c^{-1} \vee d^{-1}$ exists for any $c, d \in S$. Thus $c(c^{-1} \vee d^{-1})$ is a l.u.b. for e and cd^{-1} . Set $g = cd^{-1}$. □

We may, following [N], define a partially pre-ordered group (G, S) to be quasi-lattice pre-ordered if

- 1) $e \vee g$ exists for $g \in SS^{-1}$.
- 2) For $a, b \in S$ with a c.u.b, $a \vee b$ exists.

As an example, consider the following: $G = \{g \in GL(d, \mathbb{Q}) \mid \det g > 0\}$ and $S = \{g \in \mathfrak{M}_d(\mathbb{Z}) \mid \det g \geq 1\}$. Then $S \cap S^{-1} = SL(d, \mathbb{Z})$ and $G = SS^{-1} = S^{-1}S$. In fact $G = \mathbb{N}^{-1}S$ where $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is identified with the diagonal matrix $n \otimes I_d$ and $S = \{g \in G \mid g(\mathbb{Z}^d) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d\}$. Thus, for $a, b \in G$, we have $a \lesssim b$ if and only if $b(\mathbb{Z}^d) \subseteq a(\mathbb{Z}^d)$. It is known that $a \vee b$ exists for any $a, b \in S$, usually known as the least common multiple of a and b . Theorem 2.3 shows that (G, S) is a quasi-lattice pre-ordered group.

Remark 2.4. One last observation before we return to our own context. If (G, S) is a pre-ordered group such that 1) above is satisfied, then any $x \in SS^{-1}$ may be written as st^{-1} for some $s, t \in S$ with $s^{-1} \vee t^{-1} = e$. For example, set s to be a l.u.b. for e and x and set $t = x^{-1}s$. Then $s, t \in S$ and $x = st^{-1}$. Since $e \vee x = s$, it follows that $s^{-1} \vee t^{-1} = s^{-1} \vee s^{-1}x = s^{-1}(e \vee x) = e$.

Returning to the situation of an almost normal subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) with \mathcal{T} the semigroup of Γ defined by $\mathcal{T} = \{\alpha \in \Gamma \mid \Gamma_0 \subseteq \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\}$ it follows that $\alpha \lesssim \beta$ in Γ with the pre-order defined by \mathcal{T} if and only if $\alpha\Gamma_0\alpha^{-1} \subseteq \beta\Gamma_0\beta^{-1}$.

Lemma 2.5. *Let $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ where (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair. Assume there is a $\gamma \in \Gamma$ with $\text{ad}(\gamma)\Gamma_0 = \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0$. Then γ is a l.u.b. for α and β . If η is any l.u.b. for α and β then $\text{ad}(\eta)\Gamma_0 = \text{ad}(\gamma)\Gamma_0$. We also have $\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 = \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0$.*

Proof. Any common upper bound δ for α and β satisfies $\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 \subseteq \text{ad}(\delta)\Gamma_0$ and $\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \subseteq \text{ad}(\delta)\Gamma_0$, so $\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \subseteq \text{ad}(\delta)\Gamma_0$. Thus γ is clearly a l.u.b. for α and β . If η is another l.u.b. for α and β , then $\eta^{-1}\gamma \in \mathcal{T} \cap \mathcal{T}^{-1} = N_{\Gamma_0}$, so $\text{ad}(\gamma)\Gamma_0 = \text{ad}(\eta)\Gamma_0$. Since $\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0$ is a subgroup $H = \text{ad}(\gamma)\Gamma_0$ of Γ , $H = H^{-1} = \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0$. □

A l.u.b. $\gamma \in \Gamma$ for $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ that satisfies $\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 = \text{ad}(\gamma)\Gamma_0$ will be referred to as a solvable l.u.b. We write $\gamma = \alpha \vee_s \beta$. The previous results on least upper bounds hold in (Γ, \mathcal{T}) with l.u.b. replaced by solvable l.u.b. The example described after Theorem 2.3 actually has solvable least upper bounds.

Lemma 2.6. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair. If $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ with $\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1} = e$, then $W_\alpha W_\beta^* = (R(\alpha\beta))^{-1/2} \chi_{O_{\alpha\beta^{-1}}}$.*

Proof. We have $W_\alpha W_\beta^*(\gamma) = (R(\alpha\beta))^{-1/2} \chi_{O_\beta}((\rho^{-1}\gamma)^{-1})$ where $\rho = \alpha\Gamma_0$. This is zero, except when $\gamma \in \alpha\Gamma_0\beta^{-1} = \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\alpha\beta^{-1}$. Now $O_{\alpha\beta^{-1}} = \Gamma_0\alpha\beta^{-1}\Gamma_0 = \Gamma_0\text{ad}(\alpha\beta^{-1})\Gamma_0\alpha\beta^{-1}$. Thus, the equality holds if and only if $\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 = \Gamma_0\text{ad}(\alpha\beta^{-1})\Gamma_0$, which is equivalent to $\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1} = e$. \square

We now consider the problem of finding norms on $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. As in [BC], there is an L^1 norm on $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. For f in $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ let

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_1 &= \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma_0 \backslash \Gamma / \Gamma_0} (R(\gamma)L(\gamma))^{1/2} |f(\gamma)| \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma / \Gamma_0} \delta(\gamma)^{-1/2} |f(\gamma)| \end{aligned}$$

where $\delta(\gamma) = L(\gamma)/R(\gamma)$. In order to define a universal C^* -norm on $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ the next lemma will be useful.

Lemma 2.7. *If $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ and $\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1} = e$ then $L(\alpha\beta^{-1}) = R(\beta)$ and $R(\alpha\beta^{-1}) = R(\alpha)$.*

Proof. Since $\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1} = e$, we have $\alpha\Gamma_0\beta^{-1} = \Gamma_0\alpha\beta^{-1}\Gamma_0$, so $L(\alpha\beta^{-1})$ is the number of left cosets in Γ/Γ_0 of $\alpha\Gamma_0\beta^{-1} = \Gamma_0\alpha\beta^{-1}\Gamma_0$, which in turn is the number of left cosets in Γ/Γ_0 of $\Gamma_0\beta^{-1}\Gamma_0$. This is of course $L(\beta^{-1}) = R(\beta)$. Since $\beta^{-1} \vee_s \alpha^{-1} = e$ also, it follows that $L(\beta\alpha^{-1}) = R(\alpha)$. So $R(\alpha\beta^{-1}) = R(\alpha)$. \square

If we assume that Γ is upward directed, in other words that $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{-1}$, then any $f \in H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ may be written as a finite sum $\sum \left\{ a_i \chi_{O_{\alpha_i\beta_i^{-1}}} \mid \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathcal{T}, a_i \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$. If we further assume that $\mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T} = \Gamma$ and that any pair of elements in \mathcal{T} have a solvable l.u.b., then by Theorem 2.3 and Remark 2.4, we can ensure that any $f \in H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ may be written as a finite sum $\sum \left\{ a_i \chi_{O_{\alpha_i\beta_i^{-1}}} \mid \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathcal{T}, \alpha_i^{-1} \vee_s \beta_i^{-1} = e, a_i \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$. If π is a $*$ -representation of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ as bounded operators on a Hilbert space, then, for f of this form, $\pi(f) = \sum a_i R(\alpha_i\beta_i)^{1/2} \pi[W_{\alpha_i} W_{\beta_i}^*]$ by Lemma 2.6. Thus $\|\pi(f)\| \leq \sum |a_i| R(\alpha_i)^{1/2} R(\beta_i)^{1/2} = \sum |a_i| R(\alpha_i\beta_i^{-1})^{1/2} L(\alpha_i\beta_i^{-1})^{1/2} = \|f\|_1$,

the first equality following from Lemma 2.7. Summarizing this gives the next proposition.

Proposition 2.8. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair satisfying $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}T^{-1}$ and so that any pair of elements of \mathcal{T} have a solvable l.u.b. Then $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0) = \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{W_\alpha W_\beta^* \mid \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}, \alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1} = e\}$. Also $\|f\| = \sup\{\|\pi(f)\| \mid \pi : H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H}) \text{ a } *-representation\}$ defines a C^* -norm on $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. Denote the C^* -completion of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ in this norm by $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$.*

Remark 2.9. One may define the almost normal subgroup pair (Γ, Γ_0) to be amenable, under the hypothesis of the Proposition, if $\|\cdot\| \leq \|\cdot\|_r$ on $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$, where $\|\cdot\|_r$ is the norm on $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ arising from the regular representation of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ on $l^2(\Gamma/\Gamma_0)$ ([BC]).

The situation discussed previously in Section 1, with N a normal subgroup of Γ and $\Gamma_0 \trianglelefteq N$ leads to further conclusions for (Γ, Γ_0) an almost normal subgroup pair satisfying the hypothesis of Proposition 2.8. We immediately have the following for example.

Proposition 2.10. *If (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair with $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}T^{-1}$ and such that $\alpha \vee_s \beta$ exists for $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$, and if N is a normal subgroup of Γ with $\Gamma_0 \leq N \leq N_{\Gamma_0}$, then there is a natural surjective $*$ -homomorphism of $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes \mathcal{T}$ onto $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$.*

Proof. Using the definition of $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$, Corollary 1.8 gives a $*$ -representation π of $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes \mathcal{T}$ into $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. Proposition 2.8 shows that the image of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ in $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is contained in the image of π , so π is a surjection. \square

Of course we can say more with the hypothesis of this proposition. With $G = \Gamma/N = \rho(\Gamma)$ and $T = \mathcal{T}/N$ as before, we can carry the order structure of (Γ, \mathcal{T}) to (G, T) . Thus $g \leq h$ in G if and only if $\psi_g(\Gamma_0) \subseteq \psi_h(\Gamma_0)$, where ψ is defined after Corollary 1.8. In particular, the definition of solvable least upper bound remains compatible, so $\alpha \vee_s \beta = \gamma$ in Γ if and only if $\rho(\alpha) \vee_s \rho(\beta) = \rho(\gamma)$. In the particular case that $N = N_{\Gamma_0}$, then $T \cap T^{-1} = \{e\}$, so (G, T) is a partially ordered group (the order relation is antisymmetric) and least upper bounds, if they exist, are unique. Also note that $G = T^{-1}T$ if and only if $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T}$. To see this, it is enough to show that $G = T^{-1}T$ implies $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T}$. Choosing $\gamma \in \Gamma$, we have $\rho(\gamma) = \rho(\alpha^{-1}\beta)$ some $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$. Thus $\gamma \in \alpha^{-1}\beta N$ so $\gamma \in \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T}$, since $N \leq N_{\Gamma_0} \leq \mathcal{T}$. Similarly, $G = TT^{-1}$ if and only if $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}T^{-1}$.

Theorem 2.11. *If (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair and $e \rightarrow N \rightarrow \Gamma \xrightarrow{\rho} G \rightarrow e$ is a split exact sequence with $\Gamma_0 \trianglelefteq N$, and if $G = TT^{-1} = T^{-1}T$ so that the solvable least upper bound $g \vee_s h$ exists for every pair $g, h \in T$,*

then there is a natural surjective $*$ -homomorphism of $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ onto $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$.

Proof. Since $G = TT^{-1} = T^{-1}T$, we have $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}T^{-1}$. Also, the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair α, β in \mathcal{T} . Proposition 2.8 shows that $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ exists, so Theorem 1.10 yields a $*$ -homomorphism $\pi : C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ to $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. Proposition 2.8 allows us to see that the image of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ in $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is contained in the image of π , so π is a surjection. \square

3. Universal Properties.

In this section our main goal is to provide certain conditions under which the Hecke C^* -algebra is isomorphic to a semigroup crossed product C^* -algebra. A crucial role is played here by the covariance condition of Nica, [N].

Lemma 3.1. *If $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ with $\alpha \vee_s \beta = \gamma$ then $R(\gamma) |\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 \cap \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0| = R(\alpha)R(\beta)$, where the cardinality is computed in Γ/Γ_0 .*

Proof. For $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$, the cardinality of $\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 = \alpha\Gamma_0\alpha^{-1}\Gamma_0$ in Γ/Γ_0 is the same as the cardinality of $\Gamma_0\alpha^{-1}\Gamma_0$ in Γ/Γ_0 , which is $R(\alpha)$. Since $\text{ad}(\gamma)\Gamma_0 = \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0$, $\text{ad}(\gamma)\Gamma_0 = \bigcup\{\eta \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \mid \eta \in \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\}$. The left cosets $\eta \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0$ are either disjoint or coincide as η varies, and as sets, each is isomorphic to $\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0$, which has $R(\beta)$ elements in Γ/Γ_0 . Since two such cosets given by η and η' coincide if and only if $\eta'^{-1}\eta \in \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0$, it follows that

$$\text{ad}(\gamma)\Gamma_0 = \bigcup\{\eta \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \mid \eta \in \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 / \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 \cap \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0\}.$$

Thus, in Γ/Γ_0 , $R(\gamma) = |\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 / \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 \cap \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0| R(\beta)$, so $R(\gamma) |\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 \cap \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0| = R(\alpha)R(\beta)$. \square

Proposition 3.2. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair. Suppose that $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$, with $\alpha \vee_s \beta = \gamma$. Then $P_{[\alpha]}P_{[\beta]} = P_{[\gamma]}$, where $P_{[\alpha]} = W_\alpha W_\alpha^*$ and $[\]$ denotes the equivalence class in \mathcal{T}/N_{Γ_0} .*

Proof. Recall that $P_{[\alpha]} = W_\alpha W_\alpha^* = R(\alpha)^{-1} \sum\{\chi_{O_\eta} \mid \eta \in \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0\}$ by Proposition 1.5, for $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$. Thus $P_{[\alpha]}P_{[\beta]} = R(\alpha)^{-1}R(\beta)^{-1} \sum\{\chi_{O_\eta}\chi_{O_\delta} \mid \eta \in \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0, \delta \in \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0\} = R(\alpha)^{-1}R(\beta)^{-1} \sum\{\chi_{O_\eta O_\delta} \mid \eta \in \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0, \delta \in \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0\}$ the convolution product of functions in $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. The later

expression

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= R(\alpha)^{-1}R(\beta)^{-1} \sum \left\{ \sum \left\{ \sum \{ \chi_{O_\eta \cdot O_\delta} \mid \delta \in \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \} \mid \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. \eta \in \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 / (\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \cap \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0) \right\} \mid \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \eta \in \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \cap \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 \right\} \\
 &= R(\alpha)^{-1}R(\beta)^{-1} \sum \{ R(\gamma)P_{[\gamma]} \mid \eta \in \text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \cap \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 \} \\
 &= R(\alpha)^{-1}R(\beta)^{-1} |\text{ad}(\beta)\Gamma_0 \cap \text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0| R(\gamma)P_{[\gamma]} = P_{[\gamma]} \text{ by Lemma 3.1.}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark 3.3. If (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair so that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements in \mathcal{T} , and if $\pi : H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is a $*$ -representation of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$, then Proposition 3.2 states that the map $\pi_W = \pi \circ W$ is a representation of the semigroup \mathcal{T} satisfying the covariance condition

$$\pi_W(\alpha)\pi_W(\alpha)^*\pi_W(\beta)\pi_W(\beta)^* = \pi_W(\alpha \vee_s \beta)\pi_W(\alpha \vee_s \beta)^*, \quad \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$$

of Nica in [N].

Remark 3.4. For $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ we have that $\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1} = e$ if and only if either one of the two equivalent conditions $\alpha\beta\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \alpha = \alpha\beta$, $\beta \vee_s \beta\alpha\beta^{-1} = \beta\alpha$ holds. In particular, if $\alpha\beta = \beta\alpha$ then $\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1} = e$ if and only if $\alpha \vee_s \beta = \alpha\beta$. Since $W_\alpha W_\alpha^* W_\beta W_\beta^* = W_{\alpha \vee_s \beta} W_{\alpha \vee_s \beta}^*$ by Proposition 3.2, we have $W_\alpha^* W_\beta = W_\alpha^* W_\alpha W_{\alpha^{-1}(\alpha \vee_s \beta)} (W_\beta W_{\beta^{-1}(\alpha \vee_s \beta)})^* W_\beta$, and so $W_\alpha^* W_\beta = W_{\alpha^{-1}(\alpha \vee_s \beta)} W_{\beta^{-1}(\alpha \vee_s \beta)}$ which is equal to $W_\beta W_\alpha^*$ if $\alpha\beta = \beta\alpha$. Thus, for $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ with $\alpha^{-1} \vee_x \beta^{-1} = e$ and $\alpha\beta = \beta\alpha$ we have $W_\alpha^* W_\beta = W_\beta W_\alpha^*$.

Definition. For (Γ, Γ_0) an almost normal subgroup pair, let \mathcal{L} be the linear span over \mathbb{C} of the set $\{W_\alpha W_\beta^* \mid \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}\}$ in $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$.

Proposition 3.5. Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair and assume that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements in \mathcal{T} . Then \mathcal{L} is a $*$ -subalgebra of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$.

Proof. Let $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathcal{T}$. Proposition 3.2 shows that $W_\beta W_\beta^* W_\delta W_\delta^* = W_{\beta \vee_s \delta} W_{\beta \vee_s \delta}^*$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_\beta^* W_\delta &= W_\beta^* W_{\beta \vee_s \delta} W_{\beta \vee_s \delta}^* W_\delta \\
 &= W_\beta^* W_\beta W_{\beta^{-1}(\beta \vee_s \delta)} (W_\delta W_{\delta^{-1}(\beta \vee_s \delta)})^* W_\delta = W_{\beta^{-1}(\beta \vee_s \delta)} W_{\delta^{-1}(\beta \vee_s \delta)}^*.
 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that $W_\alpha W_\beta^* W_\delta W_\gamma^* = W_{\alpha\beta^{-1}(\beta \vee_s \delta)} W_{\gamma\delta^{-1}(\beta \vee_s \delta)}^*$, which is in \mathcal{L} . Clearly \mathcal{L} is closed under adjoints. □

Lemma 3.6. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair so that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements in \mathcal{T} and that $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{-1} = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T}$. Suppose that $\alpha, \beta, \eta, \gamma \in \mathcal{T}$ satisfy $\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1} = \eta^{-1} \vee_s \delta^{-1} = e$.*

- (a) *If $\alpha\beta^{-1} = \eta\delta^{-1}$ then there is an $n \in N_{\Gamma_0}$ with $\eta = \alpha n$ and $\delta = \beta n$.*
- (b) *If $O_{\alpha\beta^{-1}} \subseteq O_{\eta\delta^{-1}}$ then $[\alpha] = [\eta]$ and $[\beta] = [\delta]$ in \mathcal{T}/N_{Γ_0} .*

Proof. (a) Set $x = \alpha\beta^{-1}$. Then $e \vee_s x = \alpha(\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1}) = \eta(\eta^{-1} \vee_s \delta^{-1})$ by Lemma 2.2 and the comments preceding Theorem 2.3. Thus α and η are both solvable l.u.b. for e and x so there is an $n \in N_{\Gamma_0}$ with $\alpha n = \eta$. Thus $\alpha\beta^{-1} = \alpha n \delta^{-1}$ and $\delta = \beta n$.

(b) Since $\Gamma_0\alpha\beta^{-1}\Gamma_0 \subseteq \Gamma_0\eta\delta^{-1}\Gamma_0 \subseteq \eta\Gamma_0\delta^{-1}$, there is an $m \in \Gamma_0$ with $\alpha\beta^{-1} = \eta m \delta^{-1}$. By part (a) there is an $n \in N_{\Gamma_0}$ with $\alpha = \eta m n$ and $\beta = \delta n$. Thus $[\alpha] = [\eta]$ and $[\beta] = [\delta]$ in \mathcal{T}/N_{Γ_0} . □

Proposition 3.7. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair with $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{-1} = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T}$ and such that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements of \mathcal{T} . Then $\mathcal{L} = H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. If N is a normal subgroup of Γ with $\Gamma_0 < N < N_{\Gamma_0}$ then $\mathcal{L} = \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{W_s W_n W_t^* \mid s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e, n \in N/\Gamma_0 \text{ and } s, t \in \mathcal{F}\}$ where \mathcal{F} is an arbitrarily chosen set in \mathcal{T} of distinct coset representatives of \mathcal{T}/N .*

Proof. That $\mathcal{L} = H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ follows from Proposition 2.8. Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}$ be arbitrary. Then by Theorem 2.3 there are elements $s, t \in \mathcal{T}$ with $s = e \vee_s \alpha\beta^{-1} = \alpha(\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1})$ and $t = \beta(\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1})$. Then $s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = (\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1})^{-1}(\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1}) = e$. Since $\alpha = s(\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1})^{-1}$ and $\beta = t(\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1})^{-1}$, it follows that $W_\alpha W_\beta^* = W_s W_q (W_t W_q)^* = W_s W_q W_q^* W_t^*$ where $q = (\alpha^{-1} \vee_s \beta^{-1})^{-1} \in \mathcal{T}$. Since N satisfies $\Gamma_0 \trianglelefteq N \trianglelefteq \Gamma$, Proposition 1.5 and Theorem 1.7 show that $W_q W_q^* = R(q)^{-1} \sum \{U_n \mid n \in (\text{ad}(q)\Gamma_0)/\Gamma_0\}$, a sum of $R(q)$ terms over N/Γ_0 , and that $W_\alpha W_\beta^*$ is in the linear span over \mathbb{Q} of $W_s W_n W_t^*$ where $n \in \text{ad}(q)\Gamma_0 \subseteq N$ and $s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e$. Note also that $(sn)^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e$. □

Proposition 3.8. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair with $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{-1} = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T}$ and such that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements of \mathcal{T} . If N_{Γ_0} is normal in Γ then $\mathcal{B} = \{W_s W_n W_t^* \mid s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e, n \in N_{\Gamma_0}/\Gamma_0, s, t \in \mathcal{F}_0\}$ is a basis for \mathcal{L} . Here \mathcal{F}_0 is a set in \mathcal{T} of coset representatives of \mathcal{T}/N_{Γ_0} .*

Proof. The preceding proposition shows that this set is a spanning set for \mathcal{L} . By Lemma 2.6 it is enough to show that the elements $\{\chi_{O_{snt^{-1}}} \mid s, t \in \mathcal{F}_0, s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e, n \in N_{\Gamma_0}/\Gamma_0\}$ are linearly independent in $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. If $O_{snt^{-1}} \subseteq O_{pmq^{-1}}$ where $s, t, p, q \in \mathcal{F}$, $s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = p^{-1} \vee_s q^{-1} = e$ and $n, m \in N_{\Gamma_0}$, then Lemma 3.6 (b) implies that $[s] = [sn] = [pm] = [p]$ in \mathcal{T}/N_{Γ_0} and similarly $[t] = [q]$. Thus $s = p$ and $t = q$. Again, using Lemma 2.6 and the fact that W_s and W_t are isometries, we have that $W_n = W_m$ (up to a

scalar), so $n = m$ in N_{Γ_0}/Γ_0 . Since $\{O_\gamma \mid \gamma \in \Gamma\}$ are points in $\Gamma_0 \backslash \Gamma/\Gamma_0$, this shows that the elements $\{\chi_{O_{snt^{-1}}} \mid s, t \in \mathcal{F}_0, s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e, n \in N_{\Gamma_0}/\Gamma_0\}$ are linearly independent. \square

In the presence of some more structure for the pair (Γ, Γ_0) there is a slight strengthening of Proposition 3.8.

Proposition 3.9. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair with $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{-1} = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T}$ and such that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements of \mathcal{T} . If $\Gamma_0 \leq N \leq N_{\Gamma_0}$ with both N and N_{Γ_0} normal in Γ , then $\mathcal{B}_N = \{W_s W_n W_t^* \mid s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e, n \in N/\Gamma_0, s \in \mathcal{F}, t \in \mathcal{F}_0\}$ is a basis for \mathcal{L} . Here \mathcal{F}_0 is an arbitrary set in \mathcal{T} of coset representatives of \mathcal{T}/N_{Γ_0} and \mathcal{F} is an arbitrary set in \mathcal{T} of coset representatives of \mathcal{T}/N .*

Proof. We show that there is a bijective correspondence between the set \mathcal{B}_N and the basis $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}_{N_{\Gamma_0}}$ of Proposition 3.8. First notice that given $s \in \mathcal{F}_0$ and $n \in N_{\Gamma_0}$ there is a unique $u \in \mathcal{F}$ and a unique $m \in N$ with $sn = um$. To see this, observe $snN = uN$ for a unique $u \in \mathcal{F}$. Then $sn \in uN$, so there is a unique $m \in N$ with $sn = um$. We then have that the element $W_s W_n W_t^*$ of \mathcal{B} is equal to the element $W_{sn} W_t^* = W_u W_m W_t^*$ of \mathcal{B}_N . Conversely, for $u \in \mathcal{F}$ and $m \in N$ given, there is a unique $s \in \mathcal{F}_0$ and $n \in N_{\Gamma_0}$ with $um = sn$. This follows as before, by first noting that $umN_{\Gamma_0} = sN_{\Gamma_0}$ for a unique $s \in \mathcal{F}_0$. \square

Theorem 3.10. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair with $\Gamma = \mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{-1}$, and such that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements in \mathcal{T} . If $\Gamma_0 \leq N \leq N_{\Gamma_0}$ with both N and N_{Γ_0} normal in Γ , then $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$, respectively $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$, is the universal $*$ -algebra, respectively C^* -algebra, generated by $\{V_\alpha \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{T}\}$ such that*

- 1) $V_\alpha^* V_\alpha = I = V_n \quad (\alpha \in \mathcal{T}, n \in \Gamma_0)$
- 2) $V_\alpha V_\beta = V_{\alpha\beta} \quad (\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T})$
- 3) $V_\alpha V_\alpha^* V_\beta V_\beta^* = V_{\alpha \vee_s \beta} V_{\alpha \vee_s \beta}^* \quad (\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T})$
- 4) $V_\alpha V_n V_\alpha^* = R(\alpha)^{-1} \sum \{V_b \mid b \in N/\Gamma_0 \text{ such that } [\text{ad}(\alpha^{-1})b] = [n] \text{ in } N/\Gamma_0\}, (\alpha \in \mathcal{T}, n \in N).$

Proof. If A is the universal $*$ -algebra generated by $\{V_\alpha \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{T}\}$ with these relations, there is a natural $*$ -homomorphism of A to $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ mapping V_α to W_α . This map is surjective since $\mathcal{L} = H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ by Proposition 3.7. Define \mathcal{L}' to be the linear subspace of A generated by $\{V_\alpha V_\beta^* \mid \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{T}\}$. Using 1), 2) and 3), we see, as in Proposition 3.5, that \mathcal{L}' is a $*$ -subalgebra of A . Since \mathcal{L}' contains the generators of A , $\mathcal{L}' = A$. By 4), it follows as in Proposition 3.7, that $\{V_s V_n V_t^* \mid s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e, n \in N/\Gamma_0, s, t \in \mathcal{F}\}$ spans \mathcal{L}' . Now notice that condition 4) with $n = e$ implies that V_α is a unitary element of A for $\alpha \in N_{\Gamma_0}$. For if $\alpha \in N_{\Gamma_0}$, then $\text{ad}(\alpha)\Gamma_0 = \Gamma_0$ and $\text{ad}(\alpha)$ is an automorphism of N_{Γ_0}/Γ_0 . The sum then has only $R(\alpha) = 1$ terms, and V_b for $b = e$ is the

only term appearing. Thus $V_\alpha V_\alpha^* = I$ for $\alpha \in N_{\Gamma_0}$. Using this, we can show that the set $\{V_u V_m V_w^* \mid u^{-1} \vee_s w^{-1} = e, m \in N/\Gamma_0, u \in \mathcal{F}, w \in \mathcal{F}_0\}$ spans \mathcal{L}' . To see this note that $tN_{\Gamma_0} = wN_{\Gamma_0}$ for some $w \in \mathcal{F}_0$, so $t = wp$ for some $p \in N_{\Gamma_0}$. Then $V_s V_n V_t^* = V_s V_n (V_w V_p)^* = V_s V_n V_{p^{-1}} V_w^* = V_{snp^{-1}} V_w^*$. Now $snp^{-1}N = uN$ for some $u \in \mathcal{F}$, so $snp^{-1} = um$ for some $m \in N$. Thus $V_s V_n V_t^* = V_u V_m V_w^*$ with $u \in \mathcal{F}, m \in N$ and $w \in \mathcal{F}_0$. Note also that $u^{-1} \vee_s w^{-1} = e$. Under the natural $*$ -homomorphism above, the image of this spanning set in $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is, by Proposition 3.9, linearly independent, so it must also be linearly independent in A , and so a basis for A . Thus $A \cong H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. \square

We conclude this section by considering the case where Γ is a semidirect product of the normal subgroup N by $G, \Gamma_0 \trianglelefteq N$.

Theorem 3.11. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair with $e \rightarrow N \rightarrow \Gamma \xrightarrow[\rho]{\nu} G \rightarrow e$ a split exact sequence and $\Gamma_0 \leq N \leq N_{\Gamma_0} \trianglelefteq \Gamma$. Also assume that $G = T^{-1}T = TT^{-1}$ and that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements of $T = \{g \in G \mid \Gamma_0 \subseteq \text{ad}(\nu(g))\Gamma_0\}$. Then $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$, respectively $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is the universal $*$ -algebra, respectively C^* -algebra, generated by $\{V_g, U_n \mid g \in T, n \in N/\Gamma_0\}$ such that for $g, h \in T, n, m \in N/\Gamma_0$*

- 1) $V_g^* V_g = I$
- 2) $V_g V_h = V_{gh}$
- 3) $V_g V_g^* V_h V_h^* = V_{g \vee_s h} V_{g \vee_s h}^*$
- 4) $U_{nm} = U_n U_m$ and $U_n^* = U_{n^{-1}}, U_e = V_e$
- 5) $U_n V_g = V_g U_{\text{ad}(\nu(g^{-1}))n}$
- 6) $V_g U_n V_g^* = R(g)^{-1} \sum \{U_b \mid \text{ad}(\nu(g^{-1}))b = n\}$.

Proof. First note that $V_e^2 = V_e$ by 2), so $I = V_e^* V_e = V_e^* V_e V_e = V_e$. Note that the first three conditions state that V is a covariant representation by “isometries” of the semigroup T , condition 4) states that U is a “unitary” representation of the group N/Γ_0 while condition 6) is saying that (U, V) is a “covariant pair”. We prove this result directly, rather than using Theorem 3.10. Let A be the universal $*$ -algebra generated by the V_g and U_n subject to the six conditions. Define $\mathcal{L}' = \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{V_s U_n V_t^* \mid s, t \in T, n \in N/\Gamma_0\}$. We claim that \mathcal{L}' is a $*$ -subalgebra of A , thus, since it contains the generators of $A, A = \mathcal{L}'$. To see this it is enough to show that $V_s U_n V_t^* V_u U_m V_w^*$ is of the form $V_a U_p V_b^*$. Condition 3) states $V_t V_t^* V_u V_u^* = V_{t \vee_s u} V_{t \vee_s u}^*$, so by 1), $V_t^* V_u = V_t^* V_{t \vee_s u} V_{t \vee_s u}^* V_u = V_t^* V_t V_{t^{-1}(t \vee_s u)} V_{u^{-1}(t \vee_s u)}^* V_u^* V_u = V_{t^{-1}(t \vee_s u)} V_{u^{-1}(t \vee_s u)}^*$. Substituting this into $V_s U_n V_t^* V_u U_m V_w^*$ and using condition 5) and its adjoint, finishes the claim.

One can define a $*$ -homomorphism of A to $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ by mapping V_g to $W_{\nu(g)}$ and U_n to W_n , since the six conditions are straightforward to verify for $W_{\nu(g)}$ and W_n .

The argument of Proposition 3.7 using condition 6) shows that $\mathcal{L}' = \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{V_s U_n V_t^* \mid s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e, s, t \in T, n \in N/\Gamma_0\}$. The argument in Theorem 3.10 using condition 6) with $n = e$ shows that $\mathcal{L}' = \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{V_s U_n V_t^* \mid s^{-1} \vee_s t^{-1} = e, s \in T, n \in N/\Gamma_0, t \in F_0\}$ where F_0 is a set in T of coset representatives of $T/\rho(N_{\Gamma_0})$. The image of this spanning set in $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is a basis in $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ by Proposition 3.9, so $A \cong H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. \square

Within the context of the preceding theorem, we saw earlier in Theorem 2.11 that there is a natural surjective $*$ -homomorphism of $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ onto $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. In fact this map is an isomorphism.

Theorem 3.12. *Let (Γ, Γ_0) be an almost normal subgroup pair with $e \rightarrow N \rightarrow \Gamma \xrightarrow{\nu} G \rightarrow e$ a split exact sequence. Assume also that $\Gamma_0 \leq N \leq N_{\Gamma_0} \trianglelefteq \Gamma$, $G = T^{-1}T = TT^{-1}$ and that the solvable l.u.b. exists for any pair of elements of $T = \{g \in G \mid \Gamma_0 \subseteq \text{ad}(\nu(g))\Gamma_0\}$. Then the natural surjective $*$ -homomorphism of $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ onto $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is an isomorphism.*

Proof. As in Section 1, for $n \in N/\Gamma_0$ let δ_n be the element of $l^1(N/\Gamma_0)$ which is one at n and zero elsewhere. Let $\eta : l^1(N/\Gamma_0) \rightarrow C^*(N/\Gamma_0)$ be the natural norm decreasing injective $*$ -homomorphism and $u_n = \eta(\delta_n)$ the natural unitaries generating $C^*(N/\Gamma_0)$. Also denote by $\{Y_g \mid g \in T\}$ the semigroup of isometries in $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ implementing the action of the semigroup T in the dynamical system $(C^*(N/\Gamma_0), \tilde{\Theta}, T)$ described before Theorem 1.10.

Define $V_g = Y_g$ and $U_n = u_n$ for $g \in T$ and $n \in N/\Gamma_0$. We first show that the conditions of Theorem 3.11 are fulfilled. It is clear that conditions 1), 2), 4), and 6) hold for this family of elements in $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$. Indeed, these are the defining relations for $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$. We only need to show that conditions 3) and 5) also hold. By condition 6), $V_g V_g^* = Y_g Y_g^* = R(g)^{-1} \sum \{U_b \mid \text{ad}(\nu(g^{-1}))b = e\} = \eta[R(g)^{-1} \sum \{\delta_b \mid b \in \text{ad}(\nu(g))\Gamma_0, \text{ distinct in } N/\Gamma_0\}]$. The argument of Proposition 3.2 along with the fact that η is a $*$ -homomorphism shows that condition 3) holds.

We now check condition 5). First note that $V_g V_g^* = \eta(\tilde{\Theta}_g(\delta_e))$ by condition 6). Thus $U_n V_g = \eta(\delta_n) V_g = \eta(\delta_n) Y_g Y_g^* Y_g = \eta(\delta_n * \tilde{\Theta}_g(\delta_e)) Y_g$. Also $V_g U_{\text{ad } g^{-1}(n)} = Y_g \eta(\delta_{\text{ad } g^{-1}(n)}) = Y_g \eta(\delta_{\text{ad } g^{-1}(n)}) Y_g^* Y_g = \eta(\tilde{\Theta}_g(\delta_{\text{ad } g^{-1}(n)})) Y_g$ by condition 6). It is a straightforward calculation to check that the convolution product $\delta_n * \tilde{\Theta}_g(\delta_e) = \tilde{\Theta}_g(\delta_{\text{ad } g^{-1}(n)})$, so condition 5) is verified.

Theorem 3.11 yields a $*$ -homomorphism of $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ to $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ which is easily seen to be surjective and the inverse of the surjective $*$ -homomorphism of Theorem 2.11. \square

4. Examples.

In this section we illustrate and apply some of the above results to various examples. As we will see, many of the examples given are special cases of other examples.

4.1.

As a first example, it is illustrative to see the Bost-Connes context. Their work provides the framework for much of this work. Here Γ is the semidirect product of the abelian group $N = (\mathbb{Q}, +)$ and the abelian group $G = (\mathbb{Q}_+^\times, \cdot)$, the multiplicative group of nonzero positive rational numbers. The action $\psi : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(N)$ is given by the ring structure of \mathbb{Q} , namely $\psi_g(r) = gr$ for $g \in G, r \in N$. For a subgroup Γ_0 of N to be an almost normal subgroup of Γ , it is only necessary by Lemma 1.9 that the subgroup $\psi_g(\Gamma_0)\Gamma_0/\Gamma_0$ of N/Γ_0 is finite for each $g \in G$. If $\Gamma_0 = \mathbb{Z}$, for $g = ab^{-1}$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{N}, b \neq 0$, we have $(\psi_g\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z})/\mathbb{Z} \cong (\psi_a\mathbb{Z} + \psi_b\mathbb{Z})/\psi_b\mathbb{Z} = (a, b)\mathbb{Z}/b\mathbb{Z}$, a finite group. Since $\psi_g(\Gamma_0) \neq \Gamma_0$ for all $g \neq e$ in G , N is the normalizer N_{Γ_0} of Γ_0 in Γ . We compute that $T^{-1} = \{g \in G \mid \psi_g(\mathbb{Z}) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}\} = \mathbb{N}$ and so $G = T^{-1}T = TT^{-1}$. For $a = n^{-1}, b = m^{-1}$ in $T = \mathbb{N}^{-1}$, we have $a \leq b$ if and only if $n \mid m$, so $a \vee_s b$ exists and is the least common multiple of n and m . Thus $a^{-1} \vee_s b^{-1} = e$ if and only if n, m are relatively prime. The C^* -Hecke algebra $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is thus isomorphic to the semigroup crossed product C^* -algebra $C^*(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \rtimes T \cong C^*(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \rtimes \mathbb{N}$, where we use the isomorphism of G given by $n \rightarrow n^{-1}$, mapping the semigroup T to \mathbb{N} .

4.2.

With N, G as in Example 4.1, there are different possible actions $\psi : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(N)$, each giving rise to a split extension Γ_ψ of N by G . The group $\text{Aut}(N) = GL(1, \mathbb{Q}) = (\mathbb{Q}^\times, \cdot)$, so ψ is determined by its effect on P , the prime members of \mathbb{N} , since $(\mathbb{Q}_+^\times, \cdot) \cong \bigoplus_P \mathbb{Z}$. If both $\psi^{-1}(1)$ and $\psi^{-1}(-1)$ are contained in $\{1\}$, the normalizer N_{Γ_0} of $\Gamma_0 = \mathbb{Z}$ is N and a similar analysis to that of 4.1 may be carried through.

4.3.

For $d \in \mathbb{N}$, let $G = \{g \in GL(d, \mathbb{Q}) \mid \det g > 0\} = GL(d, \mathbb{Q})_+$ and $N = (\mathbb{Q}^d, +)$, with $\psi : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(N)$ the inclusion map. Setting Γ to be an extension of N by G and $\Gamma_0 = \mathbb{Z}^d$ we check that (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair. Again we need only check that $\psi_g(\mathbb{Z}^d) + \mathbb{Z}^d/\mathbb{Z}^d$ is finite for $g \in G$. Choosing $g \in G$, there is an $m \in \mathbb{N}$ with $mg \in \mathfrak{M}_d(\mathbb{Z})$. For example, there is an $m \in \mathbb{N}$ so that the ideal $\{r \in \mathbb{Z} \mid rg \in \mathfrak{M}_d(\mathbb{Z})\}$ of \mathbb{Z} is $m\mathbb{Z}$. Then $\psi_g(\mathbb{Z}^d) + \mathbb{Z}^d/\mathbb{Z}^d = \psi_{m^{-1}}\psi_{mg}(\mathbb{Z}^d) + \mathbb{Z}^d/\mathbb{Z}^d \cong \psi_{mg}\mathbb{Z}^d + \psi_m\mathbb{Z}^d/\psi_m\mathbb{Z}^d \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d/\psi_m(\mathbb{Z}^d)$, which has m^d elements. The semigroup $T^{-1} = \{g \in G \mid \psi_g(\mathbb{Z}^d) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d\} = \mathfrak{M}_d(\mathbb{Z}) \cap G$, and $T \cap T^{-1} = SL(d, \mathbb{Z})$, which is not normal in G . Also $TT^{-1} = T^{-1}T = G$ and $a \vee_s b$ exists for each $a, b \in T$. Applying Proposition 2.8 gives us the universal C^* -algebra $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. Theorem 2.11 also applies.

4.4.

This example is a special case of Example 4.3, but designed to circumvent the problem of N_{Γ_0} not being normal in Γ . It is also the example which motivated my work in this paper, cf. [B].

Choose $M, F \in \mathfrak{M}_d(\mathbb{Z})$ with $MF = FM$, $\det F$ and $\det M$ both nonzero and relatively prime. Define an action $\psi : \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(N)$ by $\psi(n, m) = F_t^{-n} M_t^{-m}$ where N is the subgroup of \mathbb{Q}^d , endowed with the discrete topology, generated by $\{F_t^n M_t^m(\mathbb{Z}^d) \mid n, m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. With Γ chosen so that $e \rightarrow N \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow e$ is an extension inducing the given ψ , and with $\Gamma_0 = \mathbb{Z}^d$, the argument of Example 4.3) shows that (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair. The semigroup $T = \{(n, m) \in \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \mid F_t^n M_t^m(\mathbb{Z}^d) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d\}$ contains $\mathbb{N} \oplus \mathbb{N}$ and $T \cap T^{-1} = \{(n, m) \in \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \mid F_t^n M_t^m \in GL(d, \mathbb{Z})\}$. Recall that $(\det F, \det M) = 1$, so if we stipulate that both $|\det F|$ and $|\det M|$ are not 1, then $(n, m) \in T \cap T^{-1}$ if and only if $n = m = 0$. It also follows in this situation that $\mathbb{N} \oplus \mathbb{N} = T$. Thus $TT^{-1} = T^{-1}T = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$. We now show that any pair of elements of the additive group $G = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ has a solvable l.u.b. The argument of Proposition 3.11 of [B] shows that $F^a \mathbb{Z}^d + M^b \mathbb{Z}^d = \mathbb{Z}^d$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$. If we denote the minimum of two integers a and b by $a \wedge b$, it follows, since M and F commute, that $F^a \mathbb{Z}^d + M^b \mathbb{Z}^d = F^{a \wedge 0} M^{b \wedge 0}(\mathbb{Z}^d)$. Thus, for $(n, m), (p, q) \in G$, $F^n M^m(\mathbb{Z}^d) + F^p M^q(\mathbb{Z}^d) = F^{n \wedge p} M^{m \wedge q}[F^{n-n \wedge p} M^{m-m \wedge q}(\mathbb{Z}^d) + F^{p-n \wedge p} M^{q-m \wedge q}(\mathbb{Z}^d)] = F^{n \wedge p} M^{m \wedge q}(\mathbb{Z}^d)$, so $(n, m) \vee_s (p, q) = (n \wedge p, m \wedge q)$. Applying Theorem 3.10 we have, for Γ the semidirect product of N by $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ with respect to ψ , that the Hecke C^* -algebra $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ is isomorphic to the semigroup crossed product C^* -algebra $C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T = C^*(N/\Gamma_0) \rtimes (\mathbb{N} \oplus \mathbb{N})$. There are other similar examples along these lines.

4.5.

Let K denote an algebraic number field; so a subfield of \mathbb{C} which is a finite dimensional extension of \mathbb{Q} . Thus $K = \mathbb{Q}[\alpha]$ for some algebraic number α , say of degree d . Letting Γ_0 denote the ring of algebraic integers in K , choose an integral basis $B = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_d\}$ of Γ_0 ; so Γ_0 is the \mathbb{Z} -module generated by B . Let η denote the norm for K over \mathbb{Q} . The group of units of the ring Γ_0 , denoted by \mathcal{U} , is $\{g \in \Gamma_0 \mid \eta(g) = \pm 1\}$ and K^\times denotes the multiplicative group of units of K . There is an action $\psi : K^\times \rightarrow \text{Aut}(K)$, where K is viewed as an additive abelian group, given by $\psi_g(k) = gk$, $k \in K$ and $g \in K^\times$. Also set $T^{-1} = \{g \in K^\times \mid \psi_g(\Gamma_0) \subseteq \Gamma_0\}$. Since $1 \in \Gamma_0$, the condition $\psi_g \Gamma_0 \subseteq \Gamma_0$ holds if and only if $g \in \Gamma_0$, so $T^{-1} = \Gamma_0 \cap K^\times = \Gamma_0^\times$.

Lemma 4.5.1. $K^\times = T^{-1}T = TT^{-1}$.

Proof. For $g \in K^\times$ there is an $m \in \mathbb{N}/\{0\}$ with $mg \in \Gamma_0$, so $\psi_{mg}(\Gamma_0) \subseteq \Gamma_0$ and $mg \in T^{-1}$. Since $m \in T^{-1}$ it follows that $g = m^{-1}(mg) = (mg)m^{-1} \in TT^{-1} \cap T^{-1}T$. \square

The argument of Example 4.3 shows that $(\psi_g(\Gamma_0) + \Gamma_0)/\Gamma_0$ is finite for $g \in K^\times$, so (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair whenever $e \rightarrow K \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow K^\times \rightarrow e$ is an extension inducing the action ψ .

Lemma 4.5.2. $T \cap T^{-1} = \mathcal{U}$.

Proof. If $g \in T \cap T^{-1}$, then $\psi_g\Gamma_0 = \Gamma_0$, so ψ_g as a matrix with respect to the basis B of Γ_0 , is in $GL(d, \mathbb{Z})$. Thus $\det(\psi_g) = \pm 1$. Since $\eta(g) = \det(\psi_g)$, we have $g \in \mathcal{U}$. Conversely, if g is a unit of Γ_0 , then $\psi_g(\Gamma_0) = \Gamma_0$. \square

To be able to continue with this example, we need to show that solvable least upper bounds exist for pairs of elements from T . Since K^\times is an abelian group, this is equivalent to any pair of elements from T^{-1} possessing a solvable l.u.b. For $g, h \in T^{-1}$, g, h also belong to Γ_0 , so the subgroup $\psi_g\Gamma_0 + \psi_h\Gamma_0$ is the sum of two principle ideals in the ring Γ_0 , so also an ideal. The question of whether the solvable l.u.b. of g and h exists in T^{-1} is then equivalent to whether every ideal of Γ_0 is principle. For if $c \in \Gamma_0$ with $\psi_g\Gamma_0 + \psi_h\Gamma_0 = \psi_c\Gamma_0$ then $\text{rank}(\psi_c\Gamma_0) \geq \text{rank}(\psi_g\Gamma_0) \geq d$. Thus $\eta(c) \neq 0$ and $c \in \Gamma_0 \cap K^\times = T^{-1}$. Since every ideal of Γ_0 can be written as the sum of two principal ideals, the equivalence is established. Assuming then that every ideal of Γ_0 is equivalent to a principle ideal, namely that the class group of the field K consists of the unit element only, i.e., that the class number h_K of K is 1, we have that solvable least upper bounds exist in T^{-1} .

Remark 4.5.3. The subgroup $K_+^\times = \{g \in K \mid \eta(g) > 0\}$ of K^\times is just \mathbb{Q}_+ when $K = \mathbb{Q}$, which is the group considered in [BC]. One could try the same approach as above in this situation, obtaining for example $T^{-1} = \Gamma_0 \cap K_+^\times$ and $K_+^\times = TT^{-1} = T^{-1}T$; however, there are examples where $\psi_g\Gamma_0 + \psi_h\Gamma_0 = \psi_c\Gamma_0$ with $g, h \in T^{-1}$, so $\eta(g)$ and $\eta(h)$ are both positive, but $\eta(c) < 0$ for any such c , so $c \notin T^{-1}$. As an example, consider $K = \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{6}]$. Then $\Gamma_0 = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{6}]$ and \mathcal{U} , the units of Γ_0 , are $\{\pm(5 + 2\sqrt{6})^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. These units all have norm 1. Setting $g = 2$ and $h = 4 + \sqrt{6}$ we have that the norms of g and h are both positive, equal to 4 and 10 respectively. Now write $g = (2 + \sqrt{6})^2(5 - 2\sqrt{6})$ and $h = (2 + \sqrt{6})(-1 + \sqrt{6})$. Since $\eta(2 + \sqrt{6}) = -2$, the element $2 + \sqrt{6}$ of Γ_0 is indecomposable. Also $\eta(-1 + \sqrt{6}) = -5$, so $-1 + \sqrt{6}$ is indecomposable. Since $2 + \sqrt{6} = -g + h$, it follows that $\psi_g\Gamma_0 + \psi_h\Gamma_0 = \psi_c\Gamma_0$ where $c = 2 + \sqrt{6}$ is an element of negative norm. If $c\Gamma_0 = d\Gamma_0$ then d must be c up to multiplication by a unit of Γ_0 , so $\eta(c) < 0$ for any $c \in \Gamma_0$ with $\psi_g\Gamma_0 + \psi_h\Gamma_0 = \psi_c\Gamma_0$. We also mention that Γ_0 is Euclidean and so a principle ideal domain. Thus $h_K = 1$ for this example.

It is a straightforward computation using that K^\times is abelian to show that N_{Γ_0} is a normal subgroup of Γ , so Theorem 3.12 applies.

Proposition 4.5.4. *Let K be a number field with class number 1. Denoting the ring of algebraic integers by Γ_0 , (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair where Γ is the semidirect product $K \rtimes_{\psi} K^{\times}$ with $\psi : K^{\times} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(K)$ given by multiplication. If $T = \{g \in K^{\times} \mid \Gamma_0 \subseteq \psi_g(\Gamma_0)\}$ then $T^{-1} = \Gamma_0 \cap K^{\times}$, the Hecke algebra $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ has a universal C^* -norm, and there is a natural $*$ -isomorphism of the C^* -semigroup crossed product algebra $C^*(K/\Gamma_0) \rtimes T$ with $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$, the C^* -completion of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$. If Γ_0 has a unit of norm -1 , the statement remains true if K^{\times} is replaced with $K_+^{\times} = \{g \in K^{\times} \mid \eta(g) > 0\}$ and $T = \{g \in K_+^{\times} \mid \Gamma_0 \subseteq \psi_g(\Gamma_0)\}$.*

Consider the multiplicative group \mathcal{J} of fractional ideals of the Dedekind domain Γ_0 . This is a free abelian group generated by the prime ideals of Γ_0 , with unit element the ideal Γ_0 . A fractional ideal is of the form $d^{-1}J$ for some integral ideal J of Γ_0 and some $d \neq 0$ in Γ_0 . The fractional principle ideals $k\Gamma_0$ with $k \in K^{\times}$ form a subgroup \mathcal{K} of \mathcal{J} , namely the image of the group homomorphism $\varphi : K^{\times} \rightarrow \mathcal{J}$ mapping k to $k\Gamma_0$. The kernel of this homomorphism is \mathcal{U} , the group of units of Γ_0 , so K^{\times}/\mathcal{U} is isomorphic to the subgroup \mathcal{K} of fractional principle ideals of \mathcal{J} . Note that if the class number of K is 1, all ideals of Γ_0 are principle, so φ is surjective. Since \mathcal{J} is a free abelian group, so is the subgroup of fractional principal ideals \mathcal{K} and therefore the exact sequence $e \rightarrow \mathcal{U} \rightarrow K^{\times} \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \rightarrow e$ splits, yielding a subgroup \mathcal{H} of K^{\times} , isomorphic with \mathcal{K} and with $\mathcal{H} \cap \mathcal{U} = \{e\}$, $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{U} \cong K^{\times}$.

Theorem 4.5.5. *Let K be a number field with class number 1, Γ_0 the ring of algebraic integers in K . Then (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair where Γ is the semidirect product $K \rtimes_{\psi} \mathcal{H}$ with \mathcal{H} a subgroup of K^{\times} complementing \mathcal{U} , the group of units of Γ_0 and $\psi : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(K)$ defined by multiplication: $\psi_g(h) = gh$, $g \in \mathcal{H}$, $h \in K$. If $P = \{g \in \mathcal{H} \mid \Gamma_0 \subseteq \psi_g(\Gamma_0)\}$ then the Hecke algebra $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$ has a universal C^* -norm, and there is a natural $*$ -isomorphism of the C^* -semigroup crossed product algebra $C^*(K/\Gamma_0) \rtimes P$ with $C^*(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$, the C^* -completion of $H(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$.*

4.6.

It seems worthwhile to include another example, as it encompasses all of the examples mentioned above and uses standard constructions in ring theory ([R]). Let R be a unital ring and Γ_0 an R -module. For example, if Γ_0 is an abelian group, it can be viewed as an R -module where R is any unital subring of the ring $\mathcal{R} = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\Gamma_0, \Gamma_0)$ by setting $f \cdot m = f(m)$ for $f \in \mathcal{R}$, $m \in \Gamma_0$. In general, the left regular representation of R is a ring homomorphism $\rho : R \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$.

Now choose a unital multiplicatively closed subset S of the center $Z(R)$ of R and form N , the localization of the module Γ_0 at S , $N = S^{-1}\Gamma_0$. One construction of N involves considering S as a preordered directed set under $s \leq t$ if and only if s divides t . Define $\varphi_s^t : \Gamma_s \rightarrow \Gamma_t$ for $s \leq t$ by restriction,

where Γ_s is the abelian group $\text{Hom}_R(Rs, \Gamma_0)$ and set $S^{-1}\Gamma_0 = \varinjlim (\Gamma_s, \varphi_s^t)$, a limit of \mathbb{Z} -modules. If $S^{-1}R$ denotes the ring obtained by localizing the ring R at S , then N becomes an $S^{-1}R$ module. Letting G denote the group of units of the ring $S^{-1}R$ we have $S \subseteq G$ and we obtain an action of the group G which extends the original action of S on Γ_0 . This construction is basically the one Cuntz used in forming the crossed product of a C^* -algebra by an endomorphism [C].

Lemma 4.6.1. *If $\Gamma_0/s\Gamma_0$ is finite for each $s \in S$ then (Γ, Γ_0) is an almost normal subgroup pair for any extension $e \rightarrow N \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow G \rightarrow e$.*

Proof. Using Lemma 1.9 it suffices to show that $g\Gamma_0 + \Gamma_0/\Gamma_0$ is finite for each $g \in G$. Writing $g = s^{-1}r$ for some $s \in S$, $r \in R$ we have $g\Gamma_0 + \Gamma_0/\Gamma_0 \cong (r\Gamma_0 + s\Gamma_0)/s\Gamma_0 \subseteq \Gamma_0/s\Gamma_0$, which is finite. \square

If we consider the smaller abelian subgroup $G_0 = S^{-1}S$ of G and let Γ be the split extension of $N = S^{-1}\Gamma_0$ by G_0 , the setting of Theorem 2.11 begins to appear, with $T = S^{-1}$ in this case.

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Received August 5, 1996. The author acknowledges support, in connection with this research, from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Fields Institute for Research in the Mathematical Sciences.

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