

## Inverse limit of $M$ -cocycles and applications

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**Abstract.** For any  $m$ ,  $2 \leq m < \infty$ , we construct an ergodic dynamical system having spectral multiplicity  $m$  and infinite rank. Given  $r > 1$ ,  $0 < b < 1$  such that  $rb > 1$  we construct a dynamical system  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T)$  with simple spectrum such that  $r(T) = r$ ,  $F^*(T) = b$ , and  $\#C(T)/\text{wcl}\{T^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \infty$ .

**1. Introduction.** It was conjectured in [M1] that for any pair  $(m, r)$  of integers or  $\infty$ , with  $m \leq r$ , there exists an ergodic dynamical system  $(X, \mu, T)$  with rank  $r(T) = r$  and spectral multiplicity  $m(T) = m$ . Partial solutions of this question were obtained by several authors: [Ch] (the pair  $(1, 1)$ ), [dJ]  $(1, 2)$ , [M1]  $(1, r)$ , [GoLe]  $(2, r)$ , [R1,2]  $(r, r)$ , [M2]  $(r, 2r)$ , [FeKw]  $(p-1, p)$ ,  $p$  prime, and [Fe1]  $(1, \infty)$ , [FeKwMa] (given  $m$ , the set of  $r$  such that  $m(T) = m$  and  $r(T) = r$  has density 1). The latest result of this series [KwLa1] says that for any pair  $(m, r)$  with  $2 \leq m \leq r < \infty$  there is an ergodic automorphism  $T$  with  $r(T) = r$  and  $m(T) = m$ . Thus, together with [M1], every finite pair  $(m, r)$  with  $m \leq r$  is obtainable.

The solution of the (multiplicity, rank) problem will be complete if for any finite  $m \geq 1$  and  $r = \infty$  we can find an ergodic automorphism realizing  $(m, \infty)$ . The pair  $(1, \infty)$  is realized by the Gaussian–Kronecker system [dlR]. In this note we construct an ergodic automorphism realizing the pairs  $(m, \infty)$  for every  $m \geq 2$ .

We denote by  $C(T)$  the set of all measure-preserving automorphisms of  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$  which commute with  $T$ . We say that a sequence  $\{S_n\} \subset C(T)$  tends weakly to  $S \in C(T)$  if for every  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ ,

$$\mu(S_n A \Delta SA) \rightarrow 0.$$

With this topology,  $C(T)$  is a Polish group. We denote by  $\text{wcl}\{T^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  the weak closure of the set  $\{T^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . The weak closure theorem

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[Kin] says that  $C(T) = \text{wcl}\{T^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  if  $r(T) = 1$ . It turns out that it is the only relation between rank and the cardinality of the quotient group  $C(T)/\text{wcl}\{T^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  in the class of ergodic dynamical systems. In [KwLa2] examples of ergodic automorphisms  $T$  are constructed such that  $r(T) = r \geq 2$  and  $\#C(T)/\text{wcl}\{T^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = m \geq 1$ , where  $r, m$  are given. We construct an example of an ergodic automorphism  $T$  such that  $T$  has simple spectrum,  $r(T) = r$ ,  $F^*(T) = b$  and  $\#C(T)/\text{wcl}\{T^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \infty$ , where  $r, b$  are given and  $r \geq 2, 0 < b < 1, br > 1$ .

In [KwLa1] we used Morse automorphisms over finite abelian groups. Now, we use the class of inverse limits of Morse automorphisms over compact metric abelian groups. There are positive aspects of examining such dynamical systems. Any Morse automorphism is a group extension  $T_\varphi$  of an adding machine  $(X, T)$  defined by a special cocycle  $\varphi : X \rightarrow G$ , where  $G$  is a compact abelian group (the details follow).

The cocycle  $\varphi$  is determined by a sequence  $\{b^t\}, t \geq 0$ , of blocks over  $G$ . Each group homomorphism  $\pi : G \rightarrow H$  defines a natural factor  $T_\psi$ , where  $\psi = \pi \circ \varphi$ . The cocycle  $\psi$  is determined by the sequence  $\{\pi(b^t)\}, t \geq 0$ , of blocks over  $H$ . Now, let  $G = \varprojlim(G_t, \pi_t)$  be the inverse limit of finite groups  $G_t$  with homomorphisms  $\pi_t : G_{t+1} \rightarrow G_t, \pi_t(G_{t+1}) = G_t, t \geq 0$ .

Assume that  $\{b^s\}_{s=0}^\infty$  is a sequence of blocks over  $G_s$  and that there are mappings  $\tau_s : G_s \rightarrow G_{s+1}$  such that  $\pi_s \circ \tau_s = \text{id}, s \geq 0$ . This allows us to define an inverse limit  $T_\varphi$  of Morse automorphisms over  $G_s$  (see 3.2 and Sections 4 and 5). The spectral multiplicity  $m(T_\varphi)$  and the rank  $r(T_\varphi)$  of  $T_\varphi$  are the limits of  $m(T_{\varphi_s})$  and  $r(T_{\varphi_s})$ . In Section 4 we construct an example of a Morse automorphism  $T_\varphi$  such that  $m(T_{\varphi_s})$  is constant while  $r(T_{\varphi_s}) \rightarrow \infty$ . To compute  $m(T_{\varphi_s})$  and  $r(T_{\varphi_s})$  we use the same methods as in [GoKwLeLi] and in [KwLa1].

Similarly to [KwLa1] the automorphisms we construct here can be obtained within the class of weakly mixing transformations.

**2. Preliminaries.** Let  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T)$  be an ergodic dynamical system. We can look at the associated spectral operator  $U_T : L_0^2(X, \mu) \rightarrow L_0^2(X, \mu), U_T f = f \circ T, f \in L_0^2(X, \mu)$ , where  $L_0^2(X, \mu)$  consists of those functions of  $L^2(X, \mu)$  such that  $\int_X f d\mu = 0$ . By the *spectral multiplicity*  $m(T)$  of  $T$  we mean the supremum of all essential spectral multiplicities of  $T$  on  $L_0^2(X, \mu)$ . We refer the reader to [Fe2] for the definition of the rank  $r(T)$  and the covering number  $F^*(T)$  of  $T$  and for more information on those notions.

Now let  $T : (X, \mathcal{B}, \mu) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$  be the  $(p_t)$ -adic adding machine, i.e.  $p_t \mid p_{t+1}, \lambda_{t+1} = p_{t+1}/p_t \geq 2$  for  $t \geq 0, p_0 = \lambda_0 \geq 2$ ,

$$X = \left\{ x = \sum_{t=0}^\infty q_t p_{t-1} : 0 \leq q_t \leq \lambda_t - 1, p_{-1} = 1 \right\}$$

is the group of  $(p_t)$ -adic integers and  $Tx = x + \widehat{1}$ ,  $\widehat{1} = (1, 0, 0, \dots)$ . The space  $X$  has a standard sequence  $(\xi_t)$  of  $T$ -towers. Namely

$$\xi_t = (D_0^t, D_1^t, \dots, D_{p_t-1}^t),$$

where  $D_0^t = \{x \in X : q_0 = \dots = q_t = 0\}$ ,  $D_j^t = T^j(D_0^t)$ ,  $j = 0, \dots, p_t - 1$ ,  $X = \bigcup_{j=0}^{p_t-1} D_j^t$ .

The tower  $\xi_{t+1}$  refines  $\xi_t$  and the sequence  $(\xi_t)$  of partitions converges to the point partition. Let  $G$  be an abelian compact metric group and let  $m_G$  be normalized Haar measure of  $G$ . A *cocycle* is a measurable function  $\varphi : X \rightarrow G$ . A cocycle  $\varphi$  defines an automorphism  $T_\varphi$  on  $(X \times G, \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, \mu \times m_G)$ ,

$$T_\varphi(x, y) = (Tx, g + \varphi(x)), \quad x \in X, \quad g \in G,$$

where  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  is the product of the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  and the  $\sigma$ -algebra of borelian subsets of  $G$ .

Then  $T_\varphi^n(x, y) = (T^n x, g + \varphi^{(n)}(x))$ ,  $n = 0, \pm 1, \dots$ , where

$$(1) \quad \varphi^{(n)}(x) = \begin{cases} \varphi(x) + \varphi(Tx) + \dots + \varphi(T^{n-1}x), & n \geq 1, \\ 0, & n = 0, \\ -\varphi(T^{-1}x) - \dots - \varphi(T^n x), & n \leq -1. \end{cases}$$

The dynamical system  $(X \times G, \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, \mu \times m_G, T_\varphi)$  is called a *group extension* of  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T)$ .

$T_\varphi$  is ergodic iff for every non-trivial  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}$  ( $\widehat{G}$  is the dual group), there is no measurable solution  $f : X \rightarrow S^1$  (the unit complex circle) to the functional equation

$$(2) \quad \gamma(\varphi(x)) = \frac{f(Tx)}{f(x)}, \quad x \in X \text{ [Pa].}$$

We say that  $\varphi : X \rightarrow G$  is an *M-cocycle* if for every  $t \geq 1$ ,  $\varphi$  is constant on each level  $D_i^t$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, p_t - 2$  (except on the top  $D_{p_t-1}^t$ ). Such a cocycle is defined by a sequence a blocks  $b^{(0)}, b^{(1)}, \dots$  over  $G$ . By a *block*  $B$  over  $G$  we mean a finite sequence

$$B = B[0] \dots B[k - 1],$$

where  $k \geq 1$  and  $B[i] \in G$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, k - 1$ . The number  $k$  is called the *length* of  $B$  and denoted by  $|B|$ . If  $C = C[0] \dots C[m - 1]$  is another block then the *concatenation* of  $B$  and  $C$  is the block

$$BC = B[0] \dots B[k - 1]C[0] \dots C[m - 1].$$

We can concatenate more than two blocks in the obvious way. If  $v : G \rightarrow G$  is a continuous group automorphism then we let  $v(B)$  be the block

$$v(B) = v(B[0]) \dots v(B[k - 1]).$$

We denote by  $B(g)$ ,  $g \in G$ , the block

$$B(g) = (B[0] + g) \dots (B[k - 1] + g)$$

and by  $\check{B}$  the block  $\check{B} = (B[1] - B[0]) \dots (B[k - 1] - B[k - 2])$ ,  $k \geq 2$ . Now, we can define the product  $B \times C$  of  $B$  and  $C$  as follows:

$$B \times C = B([C[0]) \dots B(C[m - 1]).$$

Clearly,

$$|B \times C| = |B||C| \quad \text{and} \quad v(B \times C) = v(B) \times v(C).$$

This multiplication operation “ $\times$ ” is associative so it can be extended to more than two blocks. If  $|B| = |C| = k$  then we define

$$\bar{d}(B, C) = k^{-1} \#\{0 \leq i \leq k - 1 : B[i] \neq C[i]\}.$$

Now we describe Morse sequences ( $M$ -sequences). Let  $b^{(0)}, b^{(1)}, \dots$  be finite blocks over  $G$  with  $|b^{(t)}| = \lambda_t$ ,  $b^{(t)}[0] = 0$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . Then we define a one-sided sequence over  $G$  by

$$\omega = b^{(0)} \times b^{(1)} \times \dots$$

Such a sequence  $\omega$  allows one to define an  $M$ -cocycle  $\varphi = \varphi_\omega$  on  $X$  as follows: let

$$B_t = b^{(0)} \times \dots \times b^{(t)}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

Then  $|B_t| = p_t$  and  $|\check{B}_t| = p_t - 1$ . We finally put

$$\varphi(x) = \check{B}_t[j] \quad \text{if } x \in D_j^t, \quad j = 0, \dots, p_t - 2.$$

Clearly,  $\varphi$  is an  $M$ -cocycle. It is easy to observe that each  $M$ -cocycle can be obtained as described above. As a consequence of the definition of  $\varphi$  and (1) we get

$$(3) \quad \varphi^{(n)}(x) = B_t[j + n] - B_t[j]$$

if  $x \in D_j^t$  and  $j = 0, \dots, p_t - n - 1$ . If we examine  $\varphi^{(kp_t)}(x)$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq \lambda_{t+1} - 1$ , on the tower  $\xi_{t+1}$  then (3) implies

$$(4) \quad \varphi^{(kp_t)}(x) = b^{(t+1)}[q + k] - b^{(t+1)}[q]$$

if  $x \in D_{qp_{t+j}}^{(t+1)}$ ,  $0 \leq q \leq \lambda_{t+1} - k - 1$ ,  $j = 0, \dots, p_t - 1$ .

### 3. Spectral analysis of $M$ -cocycles and their inverse limit

**3.1. Spectral calculations.** It is known that

$$(5) \quad L^2(X \times G, \mu \times m_G) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \hat{G}} L_\gamma,$$

where

$$L_\gamma = \{f \otimes \gamma \in L^2(X \times G, \mu \times m_G) : f \in L^2(X, \mu)\}.$$

Moreover, the subspaces  $L_\gamma$  are  $U_{T_\varphi}$ -invariant and using the same arguments as in [KwSi] we see that  $U_{T_\varphi}$  on  $L_\gamma$  has simple spectrum.

Let  $\mu_\gamma$  be the spectral measure of  $U_{T_\varphi}$  on  $L_\gamma$ . The subspace  $L_e$  ( $e$  is the trivial character) is generated by the eigenfunctions of  $T_\varphi$  (in fact of  $T$ ) corresponding to all  $p_t$ -roots of unity. An  $M$ -cocycle  $\varphi = \varphi_\omega$  is called *continuous* if  $L_e$  contains all eigenfunctions of  $T_\varphi$ , or equivalently if each measure  $\mu_\gamma, \gamma \neq e$ , is continuous. We shall use the following criteria to find whether two measures  $\mu_\gamma, \mu_{\gamma'}, \gamma, \gamma' \in \widehat{G}, \gamma \neq \gamma'$ , are orthogonal or equivalent.

PROPOSITION 1 ([KwRo], [FeKw], [GoKwLeLi]). *If  $v : G \rightarrow G$  is a group automorphism and blocks  $b^{(0)}, b^{(1)}, \dots$  satisfy*

$$(a) \quad \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \bar{d}(b^{(t)}[k_t, \lambda_t - 1], v(b^{(t)})[0, \lambda_t - k_t - 1]) < \infty$$

for a sequence  $(k_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}, 0 \leq k_t < \lambda_t$ , for which

$$(b) \quad \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \frac{k_t}{\lambda_t} < \infty,$$

then  $\mu_\gamma \simeq \mu_{\widehat{v}(\gamma)}$  for all  $\gamma$  in  $\widehat{G}$ , where  $\widehat{v}$  is the dual automorphism.

PROPOSITION 2 [GoKwLeLi]. *If for given  $\gamma, \gamma' \in \widehat{G}$ ,*

$$(6) \quad \lim_{t \in \bar{N}} \int_X \gamma(\varphi^{(a_t p_t)}(x)) \mu(dx) \text{ and } \lim_{t \in \bar{N}} \int_X \gamma'(\varphi^{(a_t p_t)}(x)) \mu(dx) \text{ exist along a subsequence } \bar{N} \text{ and are different}$$

then  $\mu_\gamma \perp \mu_{\gamma'}$  whenever  $\sum_{t=1}^{\infty} a_t / \lambda_{t+1} < \infty$  (note that  $T^{a_t p_t} \rightarrow \text{Id}$  in the weak topology).

Let  $H_0$  be a subgroup of  $G$  and  $H = G/H_0$  be the quotient group. Let  $\pi : G \rightarrow H$  be the quotient map and let  $m_H$  be Haar measure on  $H$ . We can define a map  $P = \text{Id}_X \times \pi$  of the dynamical system  $(X \times G, T_\varphi, \mu \times m_G)$  onto  $(X \times H, T_{\varphi_H}, \mu \times m_H)$ , where  $\varphi_H(x) = \pi(\varphi(x))$ . The systems  $(X \times H, T_{\varphi_H}, \mu \times m_H)$  are called the *natural factors* of  $(X \times G, T_\varphi, \mu \times m_G)$ . If  $B$  is a block over  $G$  then  $\pi(B)$  denotes the block over  $H$  defined by

$$\pi(B) = \pi(B[0]) \dots \pi(B[k - 1]), \quad k = |B|.$$

Using the obvious equality  $\pi(B \times C) = \pi(B) \times \pi(C)$ , it is not hard to see that if  $\varphi$  is the  $M$ -cocycle defined by the sequence of blocks  $b^{(0)}, b^{(1)}, \dots$  over  $G$  then  $\varphi_H$  is the  $M$ -cocycle determined by the blocks  $\pi(b^{(0)}), \pi(b^{(1)}), \dots$

It is known that  $\widehat{H}$  can be identified with a subgroup of  $\widehat{G}$ , namely with the subgroup of those  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}$  such that  $\gamma(H_0) = 1$ . Let

$$L_{\gamma, H} = \{f \otimes \gamma \in L^2(X \times H, \mu \times m_H) : f \in L^2(X, \mu)\}, \quad \gamma \in \widehat{H}.$$

Then

$$(7) \quad L^2(X \times H, \mu \times m_H) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \widehat{H}} L_{\gamma, H}$$

and the unitary operator  $U_{T_{\varphi, H}}$  on  $L_{\gamma, H}$  is spectrally isomorphic to the unitary operator  $U_{T_\varphi}$  on  $L_\gamma$ . Thus  $U_{T_{\varphi, H}}$  has simple spectrum on  $L_{\gamma, H}$  and its spectral measure is  $\mu_\gamma$ .

**3.2. Inverse limit of  $M$ -cocycles.** Let  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T)$  and  $(X_s, \mathcal{B}_s, \mu_s, T_s)$ ,  $s = 0, 1, \dots$ , be dynamical systems. We say that  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T)$  is an *inverse limit* of  $(X_s, \mathcal{B}_s, \mu_s, T_s)$  if there exist homomorphisms  $V_s : (X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T) \rightarrow (X_s, \mathcal{B}_s, \mu_s, T_s)$  such that  $V_s^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_s) \subset V_{s+1}^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_{s+1})$  and the  $\sigma$ -algebras  $V_s^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_s)$  generate  $\mathcal{B}$ . For each  $s \geq 0$  we have a homomorphism  $W_s : (X_{s+1}, \mathcal{B}_{s+1}, \mu_{s+1}, T_{s+1}) \rightarrow (X_s, \mathcal{B}_s, \mu_s, T_s)$  and  $W_s \circ V_{s+1} = V_s$ . We write  $T = \varprojlim T_s$ . It follows from the definition of the spectral multiplicity, rank and covering number that  $m(T) = \lim m(T_s)$ ,  $r(T) = \lim r(T_s)$ ,  $F^*(T) = \lim F^*(T_s)$  and moreover  $m(T_s) \leq m(T_{s+1})$ ,  $r(T_s) \leq r(T_{s+1})$ ,  $F^*(T_s) \geq F^*(T_{s+1})$ .

It is clear that  $T$  is ergodic (weakly mixing, mixing) iff so is  $T_s$  for every  $s \geq 0$ . Consider an ergodic dynamical system  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T)$  and sequences  $(G_s)_{s=0}^\infty$  of metric compact abelian groups and group homomorphisms  $\pi_s : G_{s+1} \rightarrow G_s$  with  $\pi(G_{s+1}) = G_s$ . The sequence  $(G_s, \pi_s)$ ,  $s \geq 0$ , defines the inverse limit  $G = \varprojlim (G_s, \pi_s)$  and the homomorphisms  $\psi_s : G \rightarrow G_s$  such that  $\pi_s \circ \psi_{s+1} = \psi_s$ . Note that  $G$  is a metric compact abelian group. Assume that  $\varphi_s : X \rightarrow G_s$  are cocycles such that  $\pi_s \circ \varphi_{s+1} = \varphi_s$ . The cocycles  $\varphi_s$  define a unique cocycle  $\varphi : X \rightarrow G$  satisfying  $\psi_s \circ \varphi = \varphi_s$ . Then  $T_\varphi = \varprojlim T_{\varphi_s}$ .

Now, let  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T)$  be a  $(p_t)$ -adic adding machine,  $p_t = \lambda_0 \dots \lambda_t$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . We describe special inverse limits of group extensions  $T_{\varphi_s}$  determined by  $M$ -cocycles. To do this assume additionally that we have one-to-one measurable mappings  $\tau_s : G_s \rightarrow G_{s+1}$  such that  $\pi_s \circ \tau_s = \text{id}$ ,  $s \geq 0$ . Set  $H_s = \tau_s(G_s)$ .

Let  $\overline{H}_s$  be the set of all sequences  $\{g_t\}_{t=0}^\infty \in G$  such that  $g_s$  is an arbitrary element of  $G_s$  and  $g_{s+1} = \tau_s(g_s)$ ,  $g_{s+2} = \tau_{s+1}\tau_s(g_s)$  and so on,  $g_{s-1} = \pi_{s-1}(g_s), \dots, g_0 = \pi_0 \circ \dots \circ \pi_{s-1}(g_s)$ . Given blocks  $b^{(t)}$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , over  $G_t$ , we can treat them as blocks over  $G$  if we identify the members of  $b^{(t)}$  with the corresponding elements of  $\overline{H}_t$ . The sequence  $(b^{(t)})_{t=0}^\infty$  defines a cocycle  $\varphi : X \rightarrow G$ . Let  $m$  and  $m_s$  be normalized Haar measures of  $G$  and  $G_s$  respectively. The dynamical system  $(X \times G, \mathcal{B}, T_\varphi, \mu \times m_G)$  has natural factors

$$(X \times G_s, \mathcal{B}_s, T_{\varphi_s}, \mu \times m_s), \quad s \geq 0,$$

where  $\varphi_s = \psi_s \circ \varphi$  and the mappings

$$W_s = \text{Id}_X \times \psi_s : X \times G \rightarrow X \times G_s$$

are homomorphisms of those systems. Each cocycle  $\varphi_s$  is an  $M$ -cocycle determined by the blocks  $(b_s^{(t)})_{t=0}^\infty$ , where  $b_s^{(t)} = \psi_s(b^{(t)})$  if  $t \geq s$  and  $b_s^{(t)} = \tau_t \circ \dots \circ \tau_{s-1}(b^{(t)})$  if  $t < s$ .

**4. Example 1.** In this section we describe an example of an  $M$ -cocycle  $\varphi$  such that  $T_\varphi$  has infinite rank and spectral multiplicity  $r \geq 1$ .

**4.1. Definition of the cocycle.** Let  $r_t = r2^t$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , and  $n \geq 2$ . Select a sequence  $(l_t)_{t=0}^\infty$  of positive integers such that  $n \mid l_t$ ,  $l_t \nearrow \infty$  and

$$(8) \quad (1 - n/l_t)^{r_t} \rightarrow 1.$$

Let  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ , and

$$G_t = \overbrace{\mathbb{Z}_n \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_n}^{r_t}$$

be the direct product of  $r_t$  copies of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ 's,  $t = 0, 1, \dots$ . For  $g \in G_t$  we write  $g = (g_0, g_1, \dots, g_{r_t-1})$ ,  $g_i \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ .

We let

$$e_i^{(t)} = e_i = (\underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{i-1}, 1, 0, \dots, 0), \quad i = 1, \dots, r_t - 1.$$

Define homomorphisms  $\pi_t : G_{t+1} \rightarrow G_t$  by  $\pi_t(e_j^{(t+1)}) = e_i^{(t)}$ , where  $j = 0, 1, \dots, r_{t+1} - 1$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, r_t - 1$  and  $i \equiv j \pmod{r_t}$ . We have the natural mappings  $\tau_t : G_t \rightarrow G_{t+1}$  defined by

$$\tau_t \left( \sum_{i=0}^{r_t-1} g_i e_i^{(t)} \right) = \sum_{i=0}^{r_{t+1}-1} g_i e_i^{(t+1)}, \quad g_0, \dots, g_{r_t-1} = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1.$$

Then  $\pi_t \circ \tau_t = \text{id}$ . Set

$$G = \varprojlim (G_t, \pi_t).$$

As above let  $\psi_t : G \rightarrow G_t$  be continuous homomorphisms such that

$$\pi_t \circ \psi_{t+1} = \psi_t.$$

Now, we are in a position to describe  $M$ -cocycles  $\varphi_t$  as in part 3.2. To do this we define a sequence  $\{b^{(t)}\}_{t=0}^\infty$  of blocks, each block  $b^{(t)}$  over  $G_t$ . Put

$$(9) \quad F_i = F_i^{(t)} = 0(e_i)(2e_i) \dots (l-1)(e_i), \\ i = 0, 1, \dots, r_t - 1, \quad l = l_t, \quad e_i = e_i^{(t)}.$$

Then define a block  $\beta_{u,k}^{(t)} = \beta_{u,k}$ ,  $u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^t - 1$ ,  $k = 0, \dots, r - 1$ , as follows:

$$(10) \quad \delta_{u,k} = F_{ur+k} \times F_{ur+(k \oplus 1)} \times \dots \times F_{ur+(k \oplus r-1)} \text{ where } a \oplus b \text{ is } a+b \text{ taken mod } r, \\ a, b = 0, 1, \dots, r-1, \text{ and } \beta_{u,k} = \delta_{u,k} \times \delta_{u \oplus 1, k} \times \dots \times \delta_{u \oplus 2^t - 1, k}, \\ \text{and now } u \oplus \tilde{u} \text{ is } u + \tilde{u} \text{ taken mod } 2^t.$$

Finally, define

$$(11) \quad \beta_u^{(t)} = \beta_u = \beta_{u,0}\beta_{u,1} \dots \beta_{u,r-1}, \quad u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^t - 1$$

and

$$(12) \quad b^{(t)} = \overbrace{\beta_0 \dots \beta_0}^{q_{t,0}} \overbrace{\beta_1 \dots \beta_1}^{q_{t,1}} \dots \overbrace{\beta_{2^t-1} \dots \beta_{2^t-1}}^{q_{t,2^t-1}}$$

where  $q_{t,u}$  are positive integers such that

$$(13) \quad \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{q_t} < \infty, \quad q_t = \min(q_{t,0}, q_{t,1}, \dots, q_{t,2^t-1}).$$

Some additional conditions on  $q_{t,u}$ 's will be specified later.

Obviously,  $F_i^{(t)}, \beta_{u,k}^{(t)}, \beta_u^{(t)}, b^{(t)}$  are blocks over  $G_t$  and we have

$$|F_i| = l_t, \quad |\beta_{u,k}| = l_t^{r_t}, \quad |\beta_u| = r l_t^{r_t}, \quad |b^{(t)}| = r l_t^{r_t} Q_t$$

where

$$Q_t = \sum_{u=0}^{2^t-1} q_{t,u}.$$

Let  $v = v_t : G_t \rightarrow G_t$  be the group automorphisms defined by

$$v(e_{ur+k}) = e_{ur+(k \oplus 1)}, \\ u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^t - 1, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, r - 1, \quad e_{ur+k} = e_{ur+k}^{(t)}.$$

Then we have

$$(14) \quad v(F_{ur+k}) = F_{ur+(k \oplus 1)}, \quad v(\beta_{u,k}) = \beta_{u,k \oplus 1}.$$

Now, let  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T)$  be the  $(p_t)$ -adic adding machine, where  $p_t = \lambda_0 \dots \dots \lambda_t$ ,  $\lambda_t = |b^{(t)}| = r l_t^{r_t} Q_t$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . The sequence  $\{b^{(t)}\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$  determines the sequences of blocks  $\{b_s^{(t)}\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$ ,  $s \geq 0$ , and in consequence  $M$ -cocycles  $\varphi : X \rightarrow G$  and  $\varphi_s : X \rightarrow G_s$  described in part 3.2.

We have a sequence of dynamical systems

$$(15) \quad (X \times G_0, T_{\varphi_0}) \xleftarrow{W_0} (X \times G_1, T_{\varphi_1}) \xleftarrow{W_1} (X \times G_2, T_{\varphi_2}) \xleftarrow{W_2} \dots$$

determined by the homomorphisms  $\pi_t$ , the mappings  $\tau_t$  (in this case  $\tau_t$  are homomorphisms) and by the blocks (12).

**4.2. Additional conditions.** The blocks  $b_s^{(t)}$ ,  $t, s \geq 0$ , can be obtained by a procedure similar to that for  $b_t$ 's. If  $t \leq s$  then  $b_s^{(t)} = b^{(t)}$  (with  $e_i^{(s)}$  instead of  $e_i^{(t)}$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, r_t - 1$ ). If  $t > s$ , we define the blocks  $F_{i,s}^{(t)}$  by (9) for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, r_s - 1$  and  $l = l_t$ . We have

$$(16) \quad \pi_s \circ \dots \circ \pi_{t-1}(F_j^{(t)}) = F_{i,s}^{(t)}, \quad |F_{i,s}^{(t)}| = l_t$$

for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, r_t - 1$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, r_s - 1$  and  $j \equiv i \pmod{r_s}$ .



Then we define  $\beta_{u,k}^{(t,s)}, \beta_u^{(t,s)}, u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1, k = 0, 1, \dots, r - 1$ , by (10) and (11) using the blocks  $F_{ur+k,s}^{(t)}$ . Let

$$(17) \quad \bar{\delta}_a = \overbrace{\beta_0 \dots \beta_0}^{q_{t,a2^s}} \overbrace{\beta_1 \dots \beta_1}^{q_{t,a2^s+1}} \dots \overbrace{\beta_{2^s-1} \dots \beta_{2^s-1}}^{q_{t,a2^s+2^s-1}}$$

for  $a = 0, 1, \dots, 2^{t-s} - 1, \beta_u = \beta_u^{(t,s)}, u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1$ . Then (16) implies  $\beta_u^{(t,s)} = \psi_s(\beta_{a2^s+u}^{(t)})$  for  $u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1$  and  $a = 0, 1, \dots, 2^{t-s} - 1$ .

Now, comparing the blocks (12) and (17) we get

$$b_s^{(t)} = \bar{\delta}_0 \bar{\delta}_1 \dots \bar{\delta}_{2^{t-s}-1}.$$

To finish the definition of  $\varphi$  we must give conditions for the numbers  $q_{t,u}, u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^t - 1, t \geq 0$ . To do this consider the dual group  $\widehat{G}$ . We have  $\widehat{G} = \bigcup_{s=0}^\infty \widehat{G}_s$ . The group automorphisms  $v_s : G_s \rightarrow G_s$  satisfy  $v_s \circ \pi_s = \pi_s \circ v_{s+1}$  and they determine a continuous group automorphism  $v : G \rightarrow G$  such that  $v_s \circ \psi_s = \psi_s \circ v$ . The dual group automorphism  $\widehat{v} : \widehat{G} \rightarrow \widehat{G}$  satisfies  $\widehat{v}(\widehat{G}_s) = \widehat{G}_s$ . It is not hard to see that every  $\widehat{v}$ -trajectory of  $\widehat{G}$  has length  $\leq r$  and there are  $\widehat{v}$ -trajectories having length  $r$ . Consider all possible pairs  $(\gamma, \gamma'), \gamma, \gamma' \in \widehat{G}$ , such that  $\gamma, \gamma'$  are from different  $\widehat{v}$ -trajectories. Divide the set  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, \dots\}$  into disjoint infinite subsets  $N(\gamma, \gamma')$ . For every such pair  $(\gamma, \gamma')$  we choose  $s = s(\gamma, \gamma') \geq 0$  such that  $\gamma, \gamma' \in \widehat{G}_s$ . The functions

$$A_\gamma = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{p=0}^{r-1} \widehat{v}^p(\gamma), \quad A_{\gamma'} = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{p=0}^{r-1} \widehat{v}^p(\gamma')$$

are orthogonal in  $L^2(G_s, m_s)$  so we can find  $g = g(\gamma, \gamma') \in G_s$  such that

$$(18) \quad A_\gamma(g) \neq A_{\gamma'}(g).$$

Choose  $c = c(\gamma, \gamma')$  in such a way that

$$(19) \quad \frac{1}{2} < c < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad 2(1 - c) < \frac{1}{2}c|A_\gamma(g) - A_{\gamma'}(g)|.$$

To find the numbers  $q_{t,u}$  we need probability vectors  $\bar{\omega}^{(t,s)} = \bar{\omega} = \langle \omega_z^{(t,s)} \rangle$  where  $s < t$  and  $z = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1$ , defined as follows:

$$(20) \quad \omega_z = \sum_{a=0}^{2^{t-s}-1} \frac{q_{t,z+a2^s}}{Q_t}, \quad Q_t = \sum_{u=0}^{2^t-1} q_{t,u}.$$

Take  $t \in N(\gamma, \gamma')$  and  $t > s = s(\gamma, \gamma')$ . Choose  $q_{t,u}, u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^t - 1$ , in such a way that

$$(21) \quad \omega_0^{(t,s)} \geq c(\gamma, \gamma'),$$

$$(22) \quad \lim_{\substack{t \rightarrow \infty \\ t \in N(\gamma, \gamma')}} \omega_0^{(t,s)} = c(\gamma, \gamma'),$$

$$(23) \quad \omega_z^{(t,s)} = \omega_{z'}^{(t,s)} \quad \text{for } z, z' = 1, \dots, 2^s - 1.$$

If  $t \in N(\gamma, \gamma')$  and  $t \leq s(\gamma, \gamma')$  then we pick  $q_{t,u}$  satisfying (23) for every  $z, z' = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1$ .

**4.3. Propositions.** In the sequel let  $T_\varphi$  be the group extension of  $T$  defined by the cocycle  $\varphi$  described in 4.1 and 4.2.

PROPOSITION 3.  $T_\varphi$  is ergodic and  $\varphi$  is continuous.

PROOF. Take  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}_s$  and assume that

$$f(Tx)/f(x) = \gamma(\varphi_s(x))$$

for a.e.  $x \in X$ , where  $f : X \rightarrow S^1$  is a measurable function (see (2)). Using the same arguments as in [FeKwMa] we get

$$(24) \quad \gamma(\varphi_s^{(p_t)}(x)) \xrightarrow{t} 1$$

in measure. The definition of  $b_s^{(t)}$ , (4), (19) and (21)–(23) imply that  $\varphi_s^{(p_t)}(x)$  is equal to  $e_0^{(s)}, \dots, e_{r_s-1}^{(s)}$  on a set  $E_t \subset X$  with  $\mu(E_t) \rightarrow 1$ .

Moreover, if

$$E_{t,i} = \{x \in E_t : \varphi^{(p_t)}(x) = e_i^{(s)}\}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, r_s - 1,$$

then

$$\mu(E_{t,i}) \geq \frac{1}{2}c(\gamma, \gamma')$$

if  $t \in N(\gamma, \gamma')$  and  $\gamma'$  comes from a different  $\widehat{v}$ -trajectory than  $\gamma$ . It is obvious that the last inequality and (24) imply  $\gamma = 1$ . Thus  $T_{\varphi_s}$  is ergodic and then  $T_\varphi$  is ergodic because  $T_\varphi = \varinjlim T_{\varphi_s}$ .

To show the continuity of  $\varphi$  we must prove that the only eigenvalues of  $T_\varphi$  are  $p_t$ -roots of unity. Let  $F(x, g)$  be an eigenfunction with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . We have

$$F(x, g) = \sum_{\gamma \in \widehat{G}} f_\gamma(x)\gamma(g),$$

where  $f_\gamma \in L^2(X, \mu)$ . Then  $f_\gamma(Tx)\gamma(\varphi(x)) = \lambda f_\gamma(x)$  for all  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}$  and a.e.  $x \in X$ . Using again the same arguments as in [FeKwMa] we get

$$(25) \quad \gamma(\varphi^{(p_t)}(x))\lambda^{-p_t} \rightarrow 1 \quad \text{in measure}$$

for every  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}$  such that  $f_\gamma \neq 0$  in  $L^2(X, \mu)$ . Then  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}_s$  for some  $s \geq 0$  so (25) can be rewritten as

$$\gamma(\varphi_s^{(p_t)}(x))\lambda^{-p_t} \rightarrow 1.$$

Taking again  $\gamma'$  as before and  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $t \in N(\gamma, \gamma')$  we find that  $\gamma(e_i^{(s)})$  is constant for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, r_s - 1$ . Thus  $\gamma = 1$ . This means that  $F(x, y) = f_0(x)$  and  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $T$ , i.e.  $\lambda$  is a  $p_t$ -root of unity. We have proved the continuity of  $\gamma$ . ■

PROPOSITION 4.  $m(T_\varphi) = r$ .

Proof. Let  $\mu_\gamma$  be the spectral measure defined in part 3.1, and  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}$ . We will show that

$$(26) \quad \mu_\gamma \simeq \mu_{\widehat{v}(\gamma)},$$

$$(27) \quad \mu_\gamma \perp \mu_{\gamma'} \quad \text{whenever } \gamma, \gamma' \text{ are in different } \widehat{v}\text{-trajectories.}$$

It follows from (14) that every fragment  $\overbrace{\beta_u \beta_u \dots \beta_u}^{q_{t,u}}$ ,  $u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^t - 1$ , of  $b^{(t)}$  is of the form  $\beta_{u,0} v(\beta_{u,0}) \dots v^{r'}(\beta_{u,0})$ ,  $r' = r q_{t,u} - 1$ . Thus

$$(28) \quad \bar{d}(b^{(t)}[l_t^{r_t} - 1, \lambda_t - 1], v(b^{(t)})[0, \lambda_t - l_t^{r_t} - 1]) \leq \frac{2^t |\beta_{u,0}|}{|\beta_{u,0}| r Q_t} \stackrel{(13)}{\leq} \frac{1}{q_t}.$$

Choose  $s \geq 0$  such that  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}_s$ . The inequality (28) is valid for the blocks  $b_s^{(t)}$ , because  $\psi_s \circ v = v \circ \psi_s$ . Thus the sequence  $(b_s^{(t)})_{t=0}^\infty$  satisfies the conditions (a) and (b) of Proposition 1. In this manner (26) is proved.

Now we prove (27). Suppose  $\gamma, \gamma'$  do not belong to the same  $\widehat{v}$ -trajectory. Let  $\gamma, \gamma' \in \widehat{G}_s$  and let  $g = g(\gamma, \gamma')$  satisfy (18). Then

$$g = g_0 e_0^{(s)} + \dots + g_{r_s-1} e_{r_s-1}^{(s)},$$

with  $g_0, \dots, g_{r_s-1} = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ . Define

$$a_t = g_0 + g_1 l_t + \dots + g_{r_s-1} l_t^{r_s-1}.$$

Then

$$\frac{a_t}{l_t^{r_t}} \leq \frac{n r_s l_t^{r_s-1}}{l_t^{r_t}} \leq \frac{n r_s}{l_t} \xrightarrow{t} 0$$

and

$$\sum_{t=0}^\infty \frac{a_t}{\lambda_t} \leq n r_s \sum_{t=0}^\infty \frac{1}{l_t Q_t} < \infty.$$

We now show that

$$\lim_{\substack{t \in N(\gamma, \gamma') \\ t \rightarrow \infty}} \left[ \int_X \gamma(\varphi_s^{(a_t p_t)}(x)) \mu(dx) - \int_X \gamma'(\varphi_s^{(a_t p_t)}(x)) \mu(dx) \right] \neq 0.$$

Repeating the same calculations as in [GoKwLeLi] and using (4) we get for  $t > s$ ,

$$(29) \quad \int_X \widetilde{\gamma}(\varphi_s^{(a_t p_t)}(x)) \mu(dx)$$

$$= \underbrace{\sum_{h \in G_t} \left\{ \sum_{u=0}^{2^t-1} \frac{q_{t,u}}{Q_t} \left[ \frac{1}{r} \sum \widehat{v}^p(\widetilde{\gamma})(\psi_s(h)) \right] o_{t,u}(\psi_s(h)) \right\}}_{I_1} + \varrho_t$$

where

$$o_{t,u}(h) = \frac{1}{l_t^{r_t}} \#\{0 \leq j \leq l_t^{r_t} - a_t - 1 : \beta_{u,0}[j + a_t] - \beta_{u,0}[j] = h\},$$

$$\tilde{\gamma} = \gamma \text{ or } \gamma', \quad \varrho_t \leq \frac{a_t}{l_t^{r_t}} + \frac{2^t}{Q_t} \xrightarrow{t} 0, \quad \beta_{u,0} = \beta_{u,0}^{(t,s)}.$$

But  $o_{t,u}(\psi_s(h)) = o_{t,\bar{u}}(\psi_s(h))$  if  $u \equiv \bar{u} \pmod{2^s}$ . Thus

$$(30) \quad I_1 = \sum_{g \in G_s} \left[ \frac{1}{r} \sum_{p=0}^{r-1} \widehat{v}^p(\tilde{\gamma})(g) \right] \left\{ \sum_{z=0}^{2^s-1} o_{t,z}(g) \left[ \sum_{u \equiv z} \frac{q_{t,u}}{Q_t} \right] \right\}$$

$$\stackrel{(20)}{=} \sum_{g \in G_s} \left[ \frac{1}{r} \sum_{p=0}^{r-1} \widehat{v}^p(\tilde{\gamma})(g) \right] \left\{ \sum_{z=0}^{2^s-1} o_{t,z}(g) \omega_z \right\}.$$

Take  $j = 0, 1, \dots, l_t^{r_t} - 1$ . We can represent it as

$$j = j_0 + j_1 l_t + \dots + j_{r_t-1} l_t^{r_t-1},$$

where  $j_0, j_1, \dots, j_{r_t-1} = 0, 1, \dots, l_t - 1$ . Let

$$K_t = \{0 \leq j \leq l_t^{r_t} - 1 : 0 \leq j_0, j_1, \dots, j_{r_t-1} \leq l_t - n - 1\}.$$

We have

$$(31) \quad \frac{\#K_t}{l_t^{r_t}} \geq \left(1 - \frac{n}{l_t}\right)^{r_t}.$$

If  $j \in K_t$  then it is easy to check that

$$(32) \quad \beta_{u,0}[j + a_t] - \beta_{u,0}[j] = g_0 e_{zr}^{(s)} + g_1 e_{zr+1}^{(s)} + \dots + g_{r_s-1} e_{zr+r_s-1}^{(s)}$$

$$= g_z^*, \quad z = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1, \quad u \equiv z \pmod{2^s}.$$

In particular,  $g_0^* = g(\gamma, \gamma')$ .

(31) and (32) imply

$$(33) \quad o_{t,z}(g_0^*) \geq \left(1 - \frac{n}{l_t}\right)^{r_t}.$$

Using (8) and (29)–(33) we obtain

$$\int_X \tilde{\gamma}(\varphi_s^{(a_t p_t)}(x)) \mu(dx) = \sum_{z=0}^{2^s-1} \omega_z \left[ \frac{1}{\gamma} \sum \widehat{v}^p(\tilde{\gamma})(g_z^*) \right] + \varrho_t + \varrho'_t,$$

$$\varrho_t \rightarrow 0, \quad \varrho'_t \leq 1 - \left(1 - \frac{n}{l_t}\right)^{r_t} \xrightarrow{t} 0.$$

Now, if  $t \in N(\gamma, \gamma')$  then (18), (19) and (21)–(23) imply

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \int_X \gamma(\varphi_s^{(a_t p_t)}(x)) \mu(dx) - \int_X \gamma'(\varphi_s^{(a_t p_t)}(x)) \mu(dx) \right]$$

$$= c(\gamma, \gamma')[A_\gamma(g) - A_{\gamma'}(g)] + b,$$

and

$$|b| \leq 2(1 - c(\gamma, \gamma')) < \frac{1}{2}c|A_\gamma(g) - A_{\gamma'}(g)|.$$

In this way

$$\lim_{\substack{t \in N(\gamma, \gamma') \\ t \rightarrow \infty}} \left[ \int_X \gamma(\varphi_s^{(a_t p^t)}(x)) \mu(dx) - \int_X \gamma'(\varphi_s^{(a_t p^t)}(x)) \mu(dx) \right] \neq 0.$$

We have shown  $\mu_{\gamma'} \perp \mu_\gamma$  by Proposition 2. It follows from (5) and from the simplicity of  $U_{T_\varphi}$  on  $L_\gamma$ ,  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}$ , that

$$m(T_\varphi) = \max\{\text{lengths of } \widehat{v}\text{-trajectories of } \widehat{G}\} = r. \blacksquare$$

PROPOSITION 5.  $r(T_\varphi) = \infty$ .

PROOF. We have  $r(T_\varphi) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} r(T_{\varphi_s})$ . The blocks  $b_s^{(t)}$ ,  $t = 0, 1, \dots$ , defining the  $M$ -cocycle  $\varphi_s$  over  $G_s$  have a similar structure to those investigated in [KwLa1]. Repeating the same reasoning as in [KwLa1] we get  $r(T_{\varphi_s}) = r_s$ . In this manner  $r(T_\varphi) = \lim_s r_s = \infty$ .  $\blacksquare$

**5. Example 2.** In this part we construct an  $M$ -cocycle  $\varphi$  such that  $T_\varphi$  has the properties announced in the second part of the abstract.

To do this choose a prime number  $p > r$ , set  $G_t = \mathbb{Z}_{p^{t+1}}$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , and denote by  $\pi_t : G_{t+1} \rightarrow G_t$  the natural homomorphisms. Next, let  $\tau_t : G_t \rightarrow G_{t+1}$  be defined by  $\tau_t(g) = g$ ,  $g = 0, 1, \dots, p^{t+1} - 1$ . The groups  $G_t$ , the homomorphisms  $\pi_t$  and the mappings  $\tau_t$  satisfy the conditions described in 3.2. Take a probability vector  $\langle \omega(i) \rangle$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , with  $\omega(i) > 0$ . Select positive integers  $\lambda_t^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda_t^{(r)}$  such that

$$(34) \quad \lambda_t^{(i)} = l_t^{(i)} p^t, \quad l_t^{(i)} \nearrow_t \infty,$$

$$(35) \quad \omega_t(i) = \lambda_t^{(i)} / \lambda_t \xrightarrow{t} \omega(i), \quad i = 1, \dots, r, \quad \lambda_t = \lambda_t^{(1)} + \dots + \lambda_t^{(r)}.$$

Set

$$\beta_i^{(t)} = \beta_i = 0(i)(2i) \dots ((l-1)i), \quad l = \lambda_t^{(i)},$$

and

$$b^{(t)} = \beta_1^{(t)} \beta_2^{(t)} \dots \beta_r^{(t)}.$$

The sequence  $\{b^{(t)}\}$  of blocks determines an  $M$ -cocycle  $\varphi$  over the group  $G = \varprojlim(G_t, \pi_t)$  ( $G$  is the group of  $p$ -adic integers) and  $M$ -cocycles  $\varphi_s$  over  $G_s$  according to the definitions in 3.2.

PROPOSITION 6. *There exists a probability vector  $\langle \omega(i) \rangle$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , with  $\omega(1) > 1/r$ ,  $0 < \omega(i) < \omega(1)$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, r$ , such that  $r(T_\varphi) = r$ ,  $F^*(T_\varphi) = \omega(1)$ ,  $\#C(T_\varphi)/\text{wcl}\{T_\varphi^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \infty$  and  $T_\varphi$  has simple spectrum.*

PROOF. It is proved in [FiKw] that for every  $s \geq 0$ ,  $T_{\varphi_s}$  is ergodic and  $r(T_{\varphi_s}) = r$ ,  $F^*(T_{\varphi_s}) = \max(\omega(1), \dots, \omega(r)) = \omega(1)$ . Then  $r(T_\varphi) =$

$\lim_s r(T_{\varphi_s})$  and  $F^*(T_\varphi) = \lim_s F^*(T_{\varphi_s}) = \omega(1)$ . To prove the next properties of  $T_\varphi$  let us remark that the set  $\bigcup_{s=0}^\infty \overline{H}_s$  from 3.2 coincides with the set of all rational  $p$ -adic integers. For  $g \in G$  let  $\sigma_g : X \times G \rightarrow X \times G$  be defined by  $\sigma_g(x, h) = (x, g + h), h \in G$ . By this formula  $G$  acts as a group of measure-preserving transformations in  $X \times G$ . Moreover,  $\sigma_g \in C(T_\varphi)$ .

Consider  $\sigma_g, g \in G_s \simeq \overline{H}_s, s \geq 0$ . We show that  $\sigma_g \notin \text{wcl}\{T_\varphi^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Assume that  $(T_\varphi)^{u_t} \rightarrow \sigma_g$  in  $C(T_\varphi)$ . Then  $(T_\varphi)^{u_t} \xrightarrow{t} \sigma_g$  for every  $s \geq 0$ , which implies

$$(36) \quad \mu\{x \in X : \varphi_s^{(u_t)}(x) \neq g\} = \varepsilon_{t,s} \xrightarrow{t} 0.$$

Fix  $s \geq 0$ . Choose  $\tau(t) = \tau$  such that  $u_t/p_\tau < \varepsilon_{t,s}/2$ . It follows from (3) that

$$\varphi_s^{(u_t)}(x) = B_\tau[i + u_t] - B_\tau[i]$$

if  $x \in D_\tau^i, i = 0, 1, \dots, p_\tau - u_t - 1$ . Then (36) implies

$$\frac{1}{p_\tau} \{0 \leq i \leq p_\tau - u_t - 1 : B_\tau[i + u_t] - B_\tau[i] = g\} \geq 1 - \varepsilon_{t,s}.$$

On the other hand, from [FiKw] we can deduce that

$$\frac{1}{p_\tau} \{0 \leq i \leq p_\tau - u - 1 : B_\tau[i + u] - B_\tau[i] \neq g\} \geq \varrho > 0$$

whenever  $g \neq 0$  and  $0 \leq u < p_\tau/2$ .

In this way  $\sigma_g \notin \text{wcl}\{T_\varphi^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  for every  $g \in \bigcup_{s=0}^\infty G_s$ . To finish the proof it remains to select a probability vector  $\langle \omega(i) \rangle, i = 1, \dots, r$ , for  $T_\varphi$  to have simple spectrum. It follows from [KwSi] that if the numbers  $\omega(i)$  satisfy the condition

$$(37) \quad \sum_{i=1}^r [\gamma(i) - \gamma'(i)]\omega(i) \neq 0$$

whenever  $\gamma \neq \gamma', \gamma, \gamma' \in \widehat{G}_s$  then  $T_{\varphi_s}$  has simple spectrum.

Fix  $\omega(1)$  with  $1/r < \omega(1) < 1$ . If  $r = 2$  then  $F^*(T_\varphi) > 1/2$  and it is known [Fe2] that  $T_\varphi$  has simple spectrum.

Let  $r \geq 3$ . Consider the set

$$\Delta = \left\{ (\omega(2), \dots, \omega(r)) \in \mathbb{R}^{r-2} : 0 \leq \omega(i) \leq \omega(1), \sum_{i=2}^r \omega(i) = 1 - \omega(1) \right\}.$$

For distinct  $\gamma, \gamma' \in \widehat{G} = \bigcup_{s=0}^\infty \widehat{G}_s$  we have an  $(r - 3)$ -dimensional plane  $D(\gamma, \gamma')$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{r-2}$  described by

$$D(\gamma, \gamma') = \left\{ (\omega(2), \dots, \omega(r)) : \sum_{i=2}^r [\gamma(i) - \gamma'(i)]\omega(i) = [\gamma'(1) - \gamma(1)]\omega(1) \right\}.$$

The set  $\Delta_0 = \bigcup_{\gamma \neq \gamma'} D(\gamma, \gamma')$  has Lebesgue measure 0 (in  $\mathbb{R}^{r-2}$ ) so that we can find  $\langle \omega(i) \rangle \in \Delta - \Delta_0$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, r$ . Then the condition (37) is satisfied and  $T_{\varphi_s}$  has simple spectrum for  $s \geq 0$ . But  $m(T_\varphi) = \sup_s m(T_{\varphi_s}) = 1$ .

The proposition is proved. ■

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