

## GROUP-FREENESS AND CERTAIN AMALGAMATED FREENESS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we will consider certain amalgamated free product structure in crossed product algebras. Let  $M$  be a von Neumann algebra acting on a Hilbert space  $H$  and  $G$ , a group and let  $\alpha : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}M$  be an action of  $G$  on  $M$ , where  $\text{Aut}M$  is the group of all automorphisms on  $M$ . Then the crossed product  $\mathbb{M} = M \times_{\alpha} G$  of  $M$  and  $G$  with respect to  $\alpha$  is a von Neumann algebra acting on  $H \otimes l^2(G)$ , generated by  $M$  and  $\{u_g\}_{g \in G}$ , where  $u_g$  is the unitary representation of  $g$  on  $l^2(G)$ . We show that  $M \times_{\alpha} (G_1 * G_2) = (M \times_{\alpha} G_1) *_M (M \times_{\alpha} G_2)$ . We compute moments and cumulants of operators in  $\mathbb{M}$ . By doing that, we can verify that there is a close relation between Group Freeness and Amalgamated Freeness under the crossed product. As an application, we can show that if  $F_N$  is the free group with  $N$ -generators, then the crossed product algebra  $L_M(F_n) \equiv M \times_{\alpha} F_n$  satisfies that

$$L_M(F_n) = L_M(F_{k_1}) *_M L_M(F_{k_2}),$$

whenever  $n = k_1 + k_2$  for  $n, k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ .

In this paper, we will consider a relation between a free product of groups and a certain free product of von Neumann algebras with amalgamation over a fixed von Neumann subalgebra. In particular, we observe such relation when we have crossed product algebras. Crossed product algebras have been studied by various mathematicians. Let  $M$  be a von Neumann algebra acting on a Hilbert space  $H$  and  $G$ , a group, and let  $\mathbb{M} = M \times_{\alpha} G$  be the crossed product of  $M$  and  $G$  via an action  $\alpha : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}M$  of  $G$  on  $M$ , where  $\text{Aut}M$  is the automorphism group of  $M$ . This new von Neumann algebra  $\mathbb{M}$  acts on the Hilbert space  $H \otimes l^2(G)$ , where  $l^2(G)$  is the group Hilbert space. Each element  $x$  in  $\mathbb{M}$  has its Fourier expansion

$$x = \sum_{g \in G} m_g u_g \quad \text{for } m_g \in M,$$

where  $u_g$  is the (left regular) unitary representation of  $g \in G$  on  $l^2(G)$ .

On  $\mathbb{M}$ , we have the following basic computations;

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(0.1) If  $u_h$  is the unitary representation of  $h \in G$ , as an element in  $\mathbb{M}$ , then

$$u_{g_1} u_{g_2} = u_{g_1 g_2} \text{ and } u_g^* = u_{g^{-1}} \text{ for all } g, g_1, g_2 \in G.$$

(0.2) If  $m_1, m_2 \in M$  and  $g_1, g_2 \in G$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (m_1 u_{g_1}) (m_2 u_{g_2}) &= m_1 u_{g_1} m_2 (u_{g_1}^{-1} u_{g_1}) u_{g_2} \\ &= (m_1 (\alpha_{g_1}(m_2))) u_{g_1 g_2}. \end{aligned}$$

(0.3) If  $mu_g \in \mathbb{M}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (mu_g)^* &= u_g^* m^* = u_{g^{-1}} m^* (u_g u_{g^{-1}}) \\ &= (\alpha_{g^{-1}}(m^*)) u_{g^{-1}} = (\alpha_{g^{-1}}(m^*) u_g^*). \end{aligned}$$

(0.4) If  $m \in M$  and  $g \in G$ , then

$$u_g m = u_g m u_{g^{-1}} u_g = \alpha_g(m) u_g \text{ and } m u_g = u_g u_{g^{-1}} m u_g = u_g \cdot \alpha_{g^{-1}}(m).$$

The element  $u_g m$  is of course contained in  $\mathbb{M}$ , since it can be regarded as  $u_g m u_{e_G}$ , where  $e_G$  is the group identity of  $G$ , for  $m \in M$  and  $g \in G$ .

Free probability has been researched from mid 1980's. There are two approaches to study it; the Voiculescu's original analytic approach and the Speicher's combinatorial approach. We will use the Speicher's approach. Let  $M$  be a von Neumann algebra and  $N$ , a  $W^*$ -subalgebra and assume that there is a conditional expectation  $E : M \rightarrow N$  satisfying that (i)  $E$  is a continuous  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear map, (ii)  $E(n) = n$  for all  $n \in N$ , (iii)  $E(n_1 m n_2) = n_1 E(m) n_2$ , for all  $m \in M$  and  $n_1, n_2 \in N$ , and (iv)  $E(m^*) = E(m)^*$  for all  $m \in M$ . If  $N = \mathbb{C}$ , then  $E$  is a continuous linear functional on  $M$ , satisfying that  $E(m^*) = \overline{E(m)}$ , for all  $m \in M$ . The algebraic pair  $(M, E)$  is called an  $N$ -valued  $W^*$ -probability space. All operators in  $(M, E)$  are said to be  $N$ -valued random variables. Let  $x_1, \dots, x_s \in (M, E)$  be  $N$ -valued random variables for  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $x_1, \dots, x_s$  contain the following free distributional data.

- $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ -th joint  $*$ -moment :  $E(x_{i_1}^{u_{i_1}} \dots x_{i_n}^{u_{i_n}})$
- $(j_1, \dots, j_m)$ -th joint  $*$ -cumulant :  $k_m(x_{j_1}^{u_{j_1}}, \dots, x_{j_m}^{u_{j_m}})$  such that

$$k_m(x_{j_1}^{u_{j_1}}, \dots, x_{j_m}^{u_{j_m}}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{\pi \in NC(m)} E_{\pi}(x_{j_1}^{u_{j_1}}, \dots, x_{j_m}^{u_{j_m}}) \mu(\pi, 1_m)$$

for  $(i_1, \dots, i_n) \in \{1, \dots, s\}^n$ ,  $(j_1, \dots, j_m) \in \{1, \dots, s\}^m$  for  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $u_{i_k}, u_{j_i} \in \{1, *\}$ , and where  $NC(m)$  is the lattice of all noncrossing partitions over  $\{1, \dots, m\}$  with its minimal element  $0_m = \{(1), \dots, (m)\}$  and its maximal element  $1_n = \{(1, \dots, m)\}$  and  $\mu$  is the Möbius functional in the incidence algebra and  $E_{\pi}(\dots)$  is the partition-depending moment of  $x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_m}$  (See [18]).

For instance,  $\pi = \{(1, 4), (2, 3)\}$  is in  $NC(4)$ . We say that the elements  $(1, 4)$  and  $(2, 3)$  of  $\pi$  are blocks of  $\pi$ , and write  $(1, 4) \in \pi$  and  $(2, 3) \in \pi$ . In this case, the partition-depending moment  $E_{\pi}(x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_4})$  is determined by

$$E_{\pi}(x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}, x_{j_3}, x_{j_4}) = E(x_{j_1} E(x_{j_2} x_{j_3}) x_{j_4}).$$

The ordering on  $NC(m)$  is defined by

$$\pi \leq \theta \iff \text{for any block } B \in \pi, \text{ there is } V \in \theta \text{ such that } B \subseteq V$$

for  $\pi, \theta \in NC(m)$ , where " $\subseteq$ " means the usual set-inclusion.

Suppose  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are  $W^*$ -subalgebras of  $M$  containing their common subalgebra  $N$ . The  $W^*$ -subalgebras  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are said to be free over  $N$  in  $(M, E)$ , if all mixed cumulants of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  vanish. The subsets  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  of  $M$  are said to be free over  $N$  in  $(M, E)$ , if the  $W^*$ -subalgebras  $vN(X_1, N)$  and  $vN(X_2, N)$  are free over  $N$  in  $(M, E)$ , where  $vN(S_1, S_2)$  is the von Neumann algebra generated by arbitrary sets  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . In particular, we say that the  $N$ -valued random variables  $x$  and  $y$  are free over  $N$  in  $(M, E)$  if and only if  $\{x\}$  and  $\{y\}$  are free over  $N$  in  $(M, E)$ . Notice that the  $N$ -freeness is totally depending on the conditional expectation  $E$ . If  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are free over  $N$  in  $(M, E)$ , then the  $N$ -free product von Neumann algebra  $M_1 *_N M_2$  is a  $W^*$ -subalgebra of  $M$ , where

$$M_1 *_N M_2 = N \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \bigoplus_{i_1 \neq i_2, i_2 \neq i_3, \dots, i_{n-1} \neq i_n} (M_{i_1}^o \otimes \dots \otimes M_{i_n}^o) \right) \right)$$

with

$$M_{i_j}^o = M_{i_j} \circlearrowleft N \text{ for all } j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Here, all algebraic operations  $\oplus, \otimes$  and  $\circlearrowleft$  are defined under  $W^*$ -topology.

Also, if  $(M_1, E_1)$  and  $(M_2, E_2)$  are  $N$ -valued  $W^*$ -probability space with their conditional expectation  $E_j : M_j \rightarrow N$  for  $j = 1, 2$ . Then we can construct the free product conditional expectation  $E = E_1 * E_2 : M_1 *_N M_2 \rightarrow N$  making its cumulant  $k_n^{(E)}(\dots)$  vanish for mixed  $n$ -tuples of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  (See [18]).

The main result of this paper is that if  $G_1 * G_2$  is a free product of groups  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , then

$$(0.5) \quad M \times_{\alpha} (G_1 * G_2) = (M \times_{\alpha} G_1) *_M (M \times_{\alpha} G_2),$$

where  $M$  is a von Neumann algebra and  $\alpha : G_1 * G_2 \rightarrow \text{Aut}M$  is an action. This shows that the group-freeness implies a certain freeness on von Neumann algebras with amalgamation. Also, this shows that, under the crossed product structure, the amalgamated freeness determines the group freeness.

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### 1. Crossed product probability spaces

In this chapter, we will introduce the free probability information of crossed product algebras. Throughout this chapter, let  $M$  be a von Neumann algebra

and  $G$ , a group and let  $\alpha : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}M$  be an action of  $G$  on  $M$ , where  $\text{Aut}M$  is the automorphism group of  $M$ .

Denote the group identity of  $G$  by  $e_G$ . Consider the trivial subgroup  $G_0 = \langle e_G \rangle$  of  $G$  and the crossed product algebra  $\mathbb{M}_0 = M \times_\alpha G_0$ . Then this algebra  $\mathbb{M}_0$  is a  $W^*$ -subalgebra of  $\mathbb{M}$  and it satisfies that

$$(1.1) \quad \mathbb{M}_0 = M,$$

where the equality “=” means “\*-isomorphic”. Indeed, there exists a linear map sending  $m \in M$  to  $m u_{e_G}$  in  $\mathbb{M}_0$ . This is the \*-isomorphism from  $M$  onto  $\mathbb{M}_0$ , since

$$(1.2) \quad m_1 m_2 \mapsto \begin{cases} (m_1 m_2) u_{e_G} & = m_1 \alpha_{e_G}(m_2) u_{e_G} \\ & = m_1 u_{e_G} m_2 u_{e_G} u_{e_G} \\ & = (m_1 u_{e_G})(m_2 u_{e_G}) \end{cases}$$

for all  $m_1, m_2 \in M$ . The first equality of the above formula holds, because  $\alpha_{e_G}$  is the identity automorphism on  $M$  satisfying that  $\alpha_{e_G}(m) = m$  for all  $m \in M$ . Also, the third equality holds, because  $u_{e_G} u_{e_G} = u_{e_G^2} = u_{e_G}$  on  $G_0$  (and also on  $G$ ).

**Proposition 1.1.** *Let  $G_0 = \langle e_G \rangle$  be the trivial subgroup of  $G$  and let  $\mathbb{M}_0 = M \times_\alpha G_0$  be the crossed product algebra, where  $\alpha$  is the given action of  $G$  on  $M$ . Then the von Neumann algebra  $\mathbb{M}_0$  and  $M$  are \*-isomorphic, i.e.,  $\mathbb{M}_0 = M$ .*

From now, we will identify  $M$  and  $\mathbb{M}_0$ , as \*-isomorphic von Neumann algebras.

**Definition 1.** Let  $\mathbb{M} = M \times_\alpha G$  be the given crossed product algebra. Define a canonical conditional expectation  $E_M : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow M$  by

$$(1.3) \quad E_M \left( \sum_{g \in G} m_g u_g \right) = m_{e_G} \text{ for all } \sum_{g \in G} m_g u_g \in \mathbb{M}.$$

By (0.4), we have  $u_{e_G} m = \alpha_{e_G}(m) u_{e_G} = m u_{e_G}$ . So, indeed, the  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear map  $E$  is a conditional expectation; By the very definition,  $E$  is continuous and

- (i)  $E_M(m) = E_M(mu_{e_G}) = E_M(u_{e_G}m) = m$  for all  $m \in M$ ,
- (ii)  $E_M(m_1(mu_g)m_2) = m_1 E_M(m_g u_g) m_2$

$$= \begin{cases} m_1 m_g m_2 = m_1 E_M(mu_g) m_2 & \text{if } g = e_G \\ 0_M = m_1 E_M(mu_g) m_2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all  $m_1, m_2 \in M$  and  $mu_g \in \mathbb{M}$ . Therefore, we can conclude that

$$E_M(m_1 x m_2) = m_1 E_M(x) m_2 \text{ for } m_1, m_2 \in M \text{ and } x \in \mathbb{M}.$$

(iii) For  $\sum_{g \in G} m_g u_g \in \mathbb{M}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} E_M \left( \left( \sum_{g \in G} m_g u_g \right)^* \right) &= E_M \left( \sum_{g \in G} u_g^* m_g^* \right) \\ &= E_M \left( \sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g(m_g^*) u_{g^{-1}} \right) \\ &= \alpha_{e_G}(m_{e_G}^*) = m_{e_G}^* = \left( E_M \left( \sum_{g \in G} m_g u_g \right) \right)^* . \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by (i), (ii) and (iii), the map  $E_M$  is a conditional expectation. Thus the pair  $(\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  is a  $M$ -valued  $W^*$ -probability space.

**Definition 2.** The  $M$ -valued  $W^*$ -probability space  $(\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  is called the  $M$ -valued crossed product probability space.

It is trivial that  $\mathbb{C} \cdot 1_M$  is a  $W^*$ -subalgebra of  $M$ . Consider the crossed product  $\mathbb{M}_G = \mathbb{C} \times_\alpha G$ , as a  $W^*$ -subalgebra of  $\mathbb{M}$ . Recall the group von Neumann algebra  $L(G)$  is defined by

$$L(G) = \overline{\mathbb{C}[G]}^w .$$

Since every element  $y$  in  $\mathbb{M}_G$  has its Fourier expansion  $y = \sum_{g \in G} t_g u_g$  and since every element in  $L(G)$  has its Fourier expansion  $\sum_{g \in G} r_g u_g$ , there exists a  $*$ -isomorphism, which is the generator-preserving linear map, between  $\mathbb{M}_G$  and  $L(G)$ .

**Proposition 1.2.** Let  $\mathbb{M}_G \equiv \mathbb{C} \cdot 1_M \times_\alpha G$  be the crossed product algebra. Then  $\mathbb{M}_G = L(G)$ .

### 2. Moments and cumulants on $(\mathbb{M}, E_M)$

In the previous chapter, we defined an amalgamated  $W^*$ -probability space for the given crossed product algebra  $\mathbb{M} = M \times_\alpha G$ . As in Chapter 1, throughout this chapter, we will let  $M$  be a von Neumann algebra and  $G$ , a group and let  $\alpha : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}M$  be an action of  $G$  on  $M$ . We will compute the amalgamated moments and cumulants of operators in  $\mathbb{M}$ . These computations will play a key role to get our main results (0.5), in Chapter 3. Let  $(\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  be the  $M$ -valued crossed product probability space.

**Notation.** From now, we denote  $\alpha_g(m)$  by  $m^g$  for convenience.

Consider group von Neumann algebras  $L(G)$ , which are  $*$ -isomorphic to  $\mathbb{M}_G = \mathbb{C} \times_\alpha G$ , with its canonical trace  $\text{tr}$  on it. On  $L(G)$ , we can always define

its canonical trace  $\text{tr}$  as follows,

$$(2.1) \quad \text{tr} \left( \sum_{g \in G} r_g u_g \right) = r_{e_G} \text{ for all } \sum_{g \in G} r_g u_g \in L(G),$$

where  $r_g \in \mathbb{C}$ , for  $g \in G$ . So, the pair  $(L(G), \text{tr})$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued  $W^*$ -probability space. We can see that the unitary representations  $\{u_g\}_{g \in G}$  in  $(\mathbb{M}, E)$  and  $\{u_g\}_{g \in G}$  in  $(L(G), \text{tr})$  are identically distributed.

By using the above new notation, we have

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} & (m_{g_1} u_{g_1}) (m_{g_2} u_{g_2}) \cdots (m_{g_n} u_{g_n}) \\ &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 g_2 \cdots g_{n-1}}) u_{g_1 \cdots g_n} \end{aligned}$$

for all  $m_{g_j} u_{g_j} \in \mathbb{M}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The following lemma shows us that a certain collection of  $M$ -valued random variables in  $(\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  and the generators of group von Neumann algebra  $(L(G), \text{tr})$  are identically distributed (over  $\mathbb{C}$ ).

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n} \in \mathbb{M}$  (i.e.,  $u_{g_k} = 1_M \cdot u_{g_k}$  in  $\mathbb{M}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ ). Then*

$$(2.3) \quad E_M (u_{g_1} \cdots u_{g_n}) = \text{tr} (u_{g_1} \cdots u_{g_n}) \cdot 1_M,$$

where  $\text{tr}$  is the canonical trace on the group von Neumann algebra  $L(G)$ .

*Proof.* By definition of  $E_M$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} E_M (u_{g_1} \cdots u_{g_n}) &= E_M \left( (1_M \cdot 1_M^{g_1} \cdot 1_M^{g_1 g_2} \cdots 1_M^{g_1 g_2 \cdots g_{n-1}}) u_{g_1 \cdots g_n} \right) \\ &= E_M (u_{g_1 \cdots g_n}) \\ &= \begin{cases} 1_M & \text{if } g_1 \cdots g_n = e_G \\ 0_M & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

since  $1_M^g = u_g 1_M u_{g^{-1}} = u_g u_{g^{-1}} = u_{g g^{-1}} = u_{e_G} = 1_M$  for all  $g \in G$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By definition of  $\text{tr}$  on  $L(G)$ , we have that

$$\text{tr} (u_{g_1} \cdots u_{g_n}) = \text{tr} (u_{g_1 \cdots g_n}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } g_1 \cdots g_n = e_G \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . □

We want to compute the  $M$ -valued cumulant  $k_n^{E_M} (m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n})$ , for all  $m_{g_k} u_{g_k} \in \mathbb{M}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If this  $M$ -valued cumulant has a “good” relation with the cumulant  $k_n^{\text{tr}} (u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n})$ , then we might find the relation between a group free product in  $G$  and  $M$ -valued free product in  $\mathbb{M}$ . The following three lemmas are the preparation for computing the  $M$ -valued cumulant  $k_n^{E_M} (m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n})$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $(\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  be the  $M$ -valued crossed product probability space and let  $m_{g_1}u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n}u_{g_n}$  be  $M$ -valued random variables in  $(\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then*

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{aligned} & E_M(m_{g_1}u_{g_1} \cdots m_{g_n}u_{g_n}) \\ &= \begin{cases} m_{g_1}m_{g_2}^{g_1}m_{g_3}^{g_1g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}} & \text{if } g_1 \cdots g_n = e_G \\ 0_M & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

in  $M$ .

*Proof.* By the straightforward computation, we can get that

$$\begin{aligned} & E_M(m_{g_1}u_{g_1} \cdots m_{g_n}u_{g_n}) \\ &= E_M(m_{g_1}m_{g_2}^{g_1}m_{g_3}^{g_1g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}} \cdot u_{g_1}u_{g_2} \cdots u_{g_n}) \text{ by (0.2)} \\ &= E_M((m_{g_1}m_{g_2}^{g_1}m_{g_3}^{g_1g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}})u_{g_1 \cdots g_n}) \\ &= (m_{g_1}m_{g_2}^{g_1}m_{g_3}^{g_1g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}}) E_M(u_{g_1 \cdots g_n}) \\ & \quad \text{since } E_M : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow M = M \times_\alpha \langle e_G \rangle \text{ is a conditional expectation} \\ &= \begin{cases} m_{g_1}m_{g_2}^{g_1} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}} & \text{if } g_1 \cdots g_n = e_G \\ 0_M & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

by the previous lemma. □

Based on the previous lemma, we will compute the partition-depending moments of  $M$ -valued random variables. But first, we need the following observation.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $mu_g \in (\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  be a  $M$ -valued random variable. Then  $E_M(u_g m) = m^g E_M(u_g)$ .*

*Proof.* Compute

$$E_M(u_g m) = E_M(u_g m u_{g^{-1}} u_g) = E_M(m^g u_g) = m^g E_M(u_g).$$

□

Since  $E_M$  is a conditional expectation,  $E_M(u_g m) = E_M(u_g) m$ , too. So, by the previous lemma, we have that

$$(2.6) \quad E_M(u_g) m = E(u_g m) = m^g E(u_g).$$

In the following lemma, we will extend this observation (2.6) to the general case. Notice that since  $E_M$  is a  $M$ -valued conditional expectation, we have to consider the insertion property (See [18]), i.e., in general,

$$E_{M,\pi}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \neq \prod_{V \in \pi} E_{M,V}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

for  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{M}$ , where  $E_{M,V}(\dots)$  is the block-depending moments. But, if  $x_k = u_{g_k} = 1_M \cdot u_{g_k}$  in  $\mathbb{M}$ , then we can have that

$$E_{M, \pi}(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}) = \prod_{B \in \pi} E_{M,V}(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n})$$

since

$$E_M(u_g) = \begin{cases} 1 \in \mathbb{C} \cdot 1_M & \text{if } g = e_G \\ 0 \in \mathbb{C} \cdot 1_M & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and hence

$$E_{M, \pi}(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}) = \prod_{B \in \pi} (\text{tr}_V(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}) \cdot 1_M) \text{ by (2.3).}$$

Suppose that  $\pi \in NC(n)$  is a partition which is not  $1_n$  and by  $[V \in \pi]$ , denote the relation  $[V \text{ is a block of } \pi]$ . We say that a block  $V = (j_1, \dots, j_p)$  is inner in a block  $B = (i_1, \dots, i_k)$ , where  $V, B \in \pi$ , if there exists  $k_0 \in \{2, \dots, k - 1\}$  such that  $i_{k_0} < j_t < i_{k_0+1}$  for all  $t = 1, \dots, p$ . In this case, we also say that  $B$  is outer than  $V$ . Also, we say that  $V$  is innermost if there is no other block inner in  $V$ . For instance, if we have a partition

$$\pi = \{(1, 6), (2, 5), (3, 4)\} \text{ in } NC(6).$$

Then the block  $(2, 5)$  is inner in the block  $(1, 6)$  and the block  $(3, 4)$  is inner in the block  $(2, 5)$ . Clearly, the block  $(3, 4)$  is inner in both  $(2, 5)$  and  $(1, 6)$ , and there is no other block inner in  $(3, 4)$ . So, the block  $(3, 4)$  is an innermost block in  $\pi$ . Remark that it is possible there are several innermost blocks in a certain noncrossing partition. Also, notice that if  $V$  is an innermost block, then there exists  $j$  such that  $V = (j, j + 1, \dots, j + |V| - 1)$ , where  $|V|$  means the cardinality of entries of  $V$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\pi \in NC(n)$ , and let  $m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n} \in (\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  be the  $M$ -valued random variables. Then*

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{aligned} & E_{M,\pi}(m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n}) \\ &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} \dots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \dots g_{n-1}}) \text{tr}_\pi(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\text{tr}$  is the canonical trace on the group von Neumann algebra  $L(G)$ .

*Proof.* If  $\pi = 1_n$ , then  $E_{M,1_n}(\dots) = E_M(\dots)$  and  $\text{tr}_{1_n}(\dots) = \text{tr}(\dots)$ , and hence we are done, by (2.3) and (2.4). Assume that  $\pi \neq 1_n$  in  $NC(n)$ . Assume that  $V = (j, j + 1, \dots, j + k)$  is an innermost block of  $\pi$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} T_V &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E_{M,V}(m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n}) \\ &= E_M(m_{g_j} u_{g_j} m_{g_{j+1}} u_{g_{j+1}} \dots m_{g_{j+k}} u_{g_{j+k}}) \\ &= (m_{g_j} m_{g_{j+1}}^{g_j} m_{g_{j+2}}^{g_j g_{j+1}} \dots m_{g_{j+k}}^{g_j g_{j+1} \dots g_{j+k-1}}) \cdot \text{tr}(u_{g_j \dots g_{j+k}}). \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $V$  is inner in a block  $B$  of  $\pi$  and  $B$  is inner in all other blocks  $B'$ , where  $V$  is inner in  $B'$ . Let  $B = (i_1, \dots, i_k)$  and assume that there is  $k_0 \in$

$\{2, \dots, k - 1\}$  such that  $i_{k_0} < t < i_{k_0+1}$  for all  $t = j, j + 1, \dots, j + k$ . Then the  $B$ -depending moment goes to

$$\begin{aligned} & E_M(m_{g_{i_1}} u_{g_{i_1}} \cdots m_{g_{k_0}} u_{g_{k_0}} (TV) m_{g_{k_0+1}} u_{g_{k_0+1}} \cdots m_{g_{i_k}} u_{g_{i_k}}) \\ &= E_M\left( (m_{g_{i_1}} m_{g_{i_2}}^{g_{i_1}} \cdots m_{g_{k_0}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0-1}}} \right. \\ &\quad \cdot (m_{g_j}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}}} m_{g_{j+1}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}} g_j} \cdots m_{g_{j+k-1}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}} g_j \cdots g_{j+k-1}}) \\ &\quad \cdot m_{g_{i_{k_0}}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}} g_j \cdots g_{j+k}} \cdots m_{g_{i_k}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_j \cdots g_{j+1} \cdots g_{i_{k-1}}}) u_{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}} g_j \cdots g_{j+k} g_{i_{k_0+1}} \cdots g_{i_k}} \Big) \\ &= (m_{g_{i_1}} m_{g_{i_2}}^{g_{i_1}} \cdots m_{g_{k_0}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0-1}}} (m_{g_j}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}}} m_{g_{j+1}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}} g_j} \cdots m_{g_{j+k-1}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}} g_j \cdots g_{j+k-1}}) \\ &\quad \cdot m_{g_{i_{k_0}}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}} g_j \cdots g_{j+k}} \cdots m_{g_{i_k}}^{g_{i_1} \cdots g_j \cdots g_{j+1} \cdots g_{i_{k-1}}}) E_M(u_{g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_{k_0}} g_j \cdots g_{j+k} g_{i_{k_0+1}} \cdots g_{i_k}}). \end{aligned}$$

By doing the above process for all block-depending moments in the  $\pi$ -depending moments, we can get that

$$E_{M,\pi}(m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n}) = (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}}) E_\pi(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}).$$

By (2.3), we know  $E_\pi(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}) = \text{tr}_\pi(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}) \cdot 1_M$ , where  $\text{tr}$  is the canonical trace on the group von Neumann algebra  $L(G)$ .  $\square$

By the previous lemmas and proposition, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.5.** *Let  $m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n} \in (\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  be the  $M$ -valued random variables for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then*

$$(2.8) \quad \begin{aligned} & k_n^{E_M}(m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n}) \\ &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}}) k_n^{\text{tr}}(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} & k_n^M(m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n}) \\ &= \sum_{\pi \in NC(n)} E_{M,\pi}(m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n}) \mu(\pi, 1_n) \\ &= \sum_{\pi \in NC(n)} ((m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}}) \text{tr}_\pi(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n})) \mu(\pi, 1_n) \text{ by (2.7)} \\ &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}}) \left( \sum_{\pi \in NC(n)} \text{tr}_\pi(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}) \mu(\pi, 1_n) \right) \\ &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} \cdots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}}) k_n^{\text{tr}}(u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n}). \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

The above theorem shows us that there is close relation between the  $M$ -valued cumulant on  $(\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  and  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued cumulant on  $(L(G), \text{tr})$ .

**Example 1.** In this example, instead of using (2.7) directly, we will compute the  $\pi$ -depending moment of  $m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n}$  in  $\mathbb{M}$ , only by using the

simple computations (0.1)~(0.4). By doing this, we can understand why (2.7) holds concretely. Let  $\pi = \{(1, 4), (2, 3), (5)\}$  in  $NC(5)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 & E_{M, \pi} (m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_5} u_{g_5}) \\
 &= E_M (m_{g_1} u_{g_1} E_M (m_{g_2} u_{g_2} m_{g_3} u_{g_3}) m_{g_4} u_{g_4}) E_M (m_{g_5} u_{g_5}) \\
 &= m_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_1} E_M (m_{g_2} m_{g_3}^{g_2} u_{g_2 g_3}) m_{g_4} u_{g_4}) (m_{g_5} E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_1} (m_{g_2} m_{g_3}^{g_2}) E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) m_{g_4} u_{g_4}) (m_{g_5} E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} E_M (m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} u_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) m_{g_4} u_{g_4}) (m_{g_5} E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} E_M (m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} u_{g_1} m_{g_4}^{g_2 g_3} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) u_{g_4}) (m_{g_5} E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} E_M (u_{g_1} m_{g_4}^{g_2 g_3} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) u_{g_4}) (m_{g_5} E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} E_M (m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} u_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) u_{g_4}) (m_{g_5} E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} E_M (u_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) u_{g_4}) m_{g_5} (E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} E_M (u_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) u_{g_4} m_{g_5}) (E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} E_M (u_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) m_{g_5}^{g_4} u_{g_4}) (E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} E_M (u_{g_1} m_{g_5}^{g_2 g_3 g_4} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) u_{g_4}) (E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} E_M (m_{g_5}^{g_1 g_2 g_3 g_4} u_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_2 g_3}) u_{g_4}) (E_M (u_{g_5})) \\
 &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} m_{g_5}^{g_1 g_2 g_3 g_4}) ((E_M (u_{g_1} E_M (u_{g_2} u_{g_3}) u_{g_4})) (E_M (u_{g_5}))) \\
 &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} m_{g_5}^{g_1 g_2 g_3 g_4}) (\text{tr} (u_{g_1} \text{tr} (u_{g_2} u_{g_3}) u_{g_4}) (\text{tr} (u_{g_5}))) \\
 &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} m_{g_4}^{g_1 g_2 g_3} m_{g_5}^{g_1 g_2 g_3 g_4}) (\text{tr}_\pi (u_{g_1}, u_{g_2}, u_{g_3}, u_{g_4}, u_{g_5})).
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2.** We can compute the following  $M$ -valued cumulant, by applying (2.8).

$$\begin{aligned}
 & k_3^{E_M} (m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, m_{g_2} u_{g_2}, m_{g_3} u_{g_3}) \\
 &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2}) \cdot k_3^{\text{tr}} (u_{g_1}, u_{g_2}, u_{g_3}) \\
 &= (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2}) (\text{tr} (u_{g_1 g_2 g_3}) - \text{tr} (u_{g_1}) \text{tr} (u_{g_2} u_{g_3}) \\
 &\quad - \text{tr} (u_{g_1} u_{g_2}) \text{tr} (u_{g_3}) + 2 \text{tr} (u_{g_1}) \text{tr} (u_{g_2}) \text{tr} (u_{g_3})).
 \end{aligned}$$

### 3. The main result (0.5)

In this chapter, we will prove our main result (0.5). Like before, throughout this chapter, let  $M$  be a von Neumann algebra and  $G$ , a group and let  $\alpha : M \rightarrow \text{Aut}M$  be an action of  $G$  on  $M$ . Assume that a group  $G$  is a group free product  $G_1 * G_2$  of groups  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . (Also, we can assume that there is a subgroup  $G_1 * G_2$  in the group  $G$ , and  $M \times_\alpha (G_1 * G_2)$  is a  $W^*$ -subalgebra of  $M$ .) Recall that, by Voiculescu, it is well-known that

$$L(G_1 * G_2) = L(G_1) * L(G_2),$$

where “ $*$ ” in the left-hand side is the group free product and “ $*$ ” in the right-hand side is the von Neumann algebra free product, where  $L(K)$  is a group

von Neumann algebra of an arbitrary group  $K$ . This says that the  $\mathbb{C}$ -freeness on  $(L(G), \text{tr})$  is depending on the group freeness on  $G = G_1 * G_2$ , whenever  $\text{tr}$  is a canonical trace on  $L(G)$ . In other words, if the groups  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are free in  $G = G_1 * G_2$ , then the group von Neumann algebras  $L(G_1)$  and  $L(G_2)$  are free in  $(L(G), \text{tr})$ . Also, if two group von Neumann algebras  $L(G_1)$  and  $L(G_2)$  are given and if we construct the  $\mathbb{C}$ -free product  $L(G_1) * L(G_2)$  of them, with respect to the canonical trace  $\text{tr}_G = \text{tr}_{G_1} * \text{tr}_{G_2}$ , where  $\text{tr}_{G_k}$  is the canonical trace on  $L(G_k)$ , for  $k = 1, 2$ , then this  $\mathbb{C}$ -free product is  $*$ -isomorphic to a group von Neumann algebra  $L(G)$ , where  $G$  is the group free product  $G_1 * G_2$  of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $\mathbb{M} = M \times_\alpha G$  be a crossed product algebra, where  $G = G_1 * G_2$  is the group free product of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . Then*

$$(3.1) \quad \mathbb{M} = (M \times_\alpha G_1) *_M (M \times_\alpha G_2),$$

where “ $*_M$ ” is the  $M$ -valued free product of von Neumann algebras.

*Proof.* Let  $G = G_1 * G_2$  be the group free product of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . By Chapter 1, the crossed product algebra  $\mathbb{M}$  has its  $W^*$ -subalgebra

$$M = M \times_\alpha \langle e_G \rangle,$$

where  $\langle e_G \rangle$  is the trivial subgroup of  $G$  generated by the group identity  $e_G \in G$ . Define the canonical conditional expectation  $E_M : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow M$  by

$$E_M \left( \sum_{g \in G} m_g u_g \right) = m_{e_G} \text{ for all } \sum_{g \in G} m_g u_g \in \mathbb{M}.$$

By (2.8), if  $m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n} \in (\mathbb{M}, E_M)$  are  $M$ -valued random variables, then

$$k_n^{E_M} (m_{g_1} u_{g_1}, \dots, m_{g_n} u_{g_n}) = (m_{g_1} m_{g_2}^{g_1} m_{g_3}^{g_1 g_2} \dots m_{g_n}^{g_1 \dots g_{n-1}}) k_n^{\text{tr}} (u_{g_1}, \dots, u_{g_n})$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $\text{tr}$  is the canonical trace on  $L(G)$ . As we mentioned in the previous paragraph, the  $\mathbb{C}$ -freeness on  $L(G)$  is completely determined by the group freeness of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  on  $G$  and vice versa. By the previous cumulant relation, the  $M$ -freeness on  $\mathbb{M}$  is totally determined by the  $\mathbb{C}$ -freeness on  $L(G)$ . Therefore, the  $M$ -freeness on  $\mathbb{M}$  is determined by the group freeness on  $G$ . Thus, we can conclude that

$$M \times_\alpha (G_1 * G_2) = (M \times_\alpha G_1) *_M (M \times_\alpha G_2).$$

□

Recall that, if  $F_N$  is the free group with  $N$ -generators, then

$$L(F_N) = *_k=1^N L(\mathbb{Z})_k,$$

where  $L(\mathbb{Z})_k = L(\mathbb{Z})$  for all  $k = 1, \dots, N$  (see [22]). Also,  $L(F_N) = L(F_{k_1}) * L(F_{k_2})$  for all  $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $k_1 + k_2 = N$ .

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $F_N$  be the free group with  $N$ -generators for  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then*

$$(3.2) \quad M \times_\alpha F_N = \underbrace{(M \times_\alpha \mathbb{Z}) *_{\mathcal{M}} \cdots *_{\mathcal{M}} (M \times_\alpha \mathbb{Z})}_{N\text{-times}}$$

and

$$(3.3) \quad M \times_\alpha F_N = (M \times_\alpha F_{k_1}) *_{\mathcal{M}} (M \times_\alpha F_{k_2}),$$

whenever  $k_1 + k_2 = N$  for  $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ .

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