

THE STRUCTURE OF QUANTUM SPHERES

ALBERT JEU-LIANG SHEU

(Communicated by David R. Larson)

ABSTRACT. We show that the C*-algebra $C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1})$ of a quantum sphere \mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1} , $q > 1$, consists of continuous fields $\{f_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{T}}$ of operators f_t in a C*-algebra \mathcal{A} , which contains the algebra \mathcal{K} of compact operators with $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{K} \cong C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n-1})$, such that $\rho_*(f_t)$ is a constant function of $t \in \mathbb{T}$, where $\rho_* : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{K}$ is the quotient map and \mathbb{T} is the unit circle.

INTRODUCTION

Some interesting C*-algebras that arise from geometric objects have been successfully studied, using the groupoid C*-algebraic approach [R, CM, MR, SaShU, Sh1, Sh2]. In particular, the C*-algebra $C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1})$ of a quantum sphere \mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1} [VSo], $q > 1$, was realized as a concrete groupoid C*-algebra $C^*(\mathfrak{F}_n)$ independent of q [Sh3]. Decomposing the underlying groupoid \mathfrak{F}_n , we were able to conclude that $C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1})$ is an extension of $C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n-1})$ by $C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes \mathcal{K}$, which well reflects, at the quantum level, the symplectic leaf space structure [W] of the $SU(n+1)$ -homogeneous Poisson \mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1} [D] because $\mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1} \setminus \mathbb{S}_q^{2n-1}$ is a disjoint union of a \mathbb{T} -family of symplectic leaves \mathbb{C}^n , where \mathbb{T} is the unit circle. However since the extensions of C*-algebras are usually not unique, the algebra $C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1})$ is not completely determined up to isomorphism. In this paper, we find an explicit recursive description that completely determines the algebra $C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1})$ up to isomorphism. This description would be very useful, for example, in the study of the cancellation problem of “vector bundles” over \mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1} .

1. QUANTUM SPHERE AND GROUPOID

In this section, we identify the C*-algebra $C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1})$ of a quantum sphere \mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1} , $q > 1$, with a concrete groupoid C*-algebra $C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n)$ of a concrete groupoid \mathfrak{G}_n , independent of q , whose description is simpler and easier to handle than that of \mathfrak{F}_n found in [Sh3]. For the background material of groupoid and group C*-algebras, we refer readers to the books of Renault [R] and Pedersen [P].

Recall that the C*-algebra of the quantum group $SU(n)_q$ is generated by elements u_{ij} satisfying certain commutation relations and the C*-algebra of quantum

Received by the editors March 15, 2000.

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 46L05; Secondary 17B37, 46L89, 47B35, 58B32, 81R50.

Key words and phrases. Quantum spheres, quantum groups, groupoid C*-algebras, Toeplitz algebras.

The author was partially supported by NSF Grant DMS-9623008.

spheres $S_q^{2n+1} = SU(n)_q \backslash SU(n+1)_q$ defined as homogeneous quantum spaces [N] can be identified with

$$C(S_q^{2n+1}) = C^*(\{u_{n+1,m} \mid 1 \leq m \leq n+1\}).$$

Let $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq} = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, and regard $\overline{\mathbb{Z}} := \mathbb{Z} \cup \{+\infty\}$ and $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq} := \mathbb{Z}_{\geq} \cup \{+\infty\}$ as topological spaces with their canonical topologies. We use $\mathcal{H}^n := \mathbb{Z}^n \times \overline{\mathbb{Z}}^n|_{\overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq}^n}$ to denote the transformation group groupoid $\mathbb{Z}^n \times \overline{\mathbb{Z}}^n$ restricted to the positive “cone” $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq}^n$ of its unit space $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}^n$, and use $\mathcal{F}^n = \mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z}^n \times \overline{\mathbb{Z}}^n|_{\overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq}^n})$ to denote the direct product of the group \mathbb{Z} and the groupoid \mathcal{H}^n [R, MR, CM].

Let \approx be the equivalence relation on $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq}^n := (\overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq})^n$ that is generated by $w \approx w'$ for $w, w' \in \overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq}^n$ such that for some $1 \leq i \leq n$, $w_j = w'_j$ for all $j \leq i$ and $w'_j = \infty$ for all $j \geq i$. This equivalence relation can be canonically extended to equivalence relations \sim on spaces like \mathcal{H}^n or \mathcal{F}^n by defining $(x, w) \sim (x', w')$ if and only if $x = x'$ and $w \approx w'$ for $(x, w), (x', w') \in \mathcal{H}^n$, and $(z, x, w) \sim (z', x', w')$ if and only if $(z, x) = (z', x')$, and $w \approx w'$ for $(z, x, w), (z', x', w') \in \mathcal{F}^n$.

It is proved in [Sh3] that $C(S_q^{2n+1}) \simeq C^*(\mathfrak{F}_n)$ with $\widetilde{\mathfrak{F}}_n := \widetilde{\mathfrak{F}}_n / \sim$ a subquotient groupoid of \mathcal{F}^n where

$$\widetilde{\mathfrak{F}}_n := \{(z, x, w) \in \mathcal{F}^n \mid \text{for any } 1 \leq i \leq n, \text{ if } w_i = \infty, \text{ then}$$

$$x_i = -z - x_1 - x_2 - \dots - x_{i-1} \text{ and } x_{i+1} = \dots = x_n = 0\}$$

is a subgroupoid of \mathcal{F}^n .

We first note that by a “change of variables” $k := z + x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n$, the conditions

$$x_i = -z - x_1 - x_2 - \dots - x_{i-1} \text{ and } x_{i+1} = \dots = x_n = 0$$

in defining $\widetilde{\mathfrak{F}}_n$, can be replaced by

$$k = 0 \text{ and } x_{i+1} = \dots = x_n = 0.$$

More precisely, the bijection

$$(z, x, w) \mapsto (z + x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n, x, w)$$

defines a homeomorphic groupoid isomorphism from $\widetilde{\mathfrak{F}}_n$ to the subgroupoid

$$\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n := \{(k, x, w) \in \mathcal{F}^n \mid \text{for any } 1 \leq i \leq n, \text{ if } w_i = \infty,$$

$$\text{then } k = 0 = x_{i+1} = \dots = x_n\}$$

of \mathcal{F}^n . Defining $\mathfrak{G}_n := \widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n / \sim$, we get a groupoid \mathfrak{G}_n isomorphic to \mathfrak{F}_n since the above groupoid isomorphism preserves the equivalence relation \sim .

Proposition 1. For $q > 1$,

$$C(S_q^{2n+1}) \simeq C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n).$$

2. STRUCTURE THEOREM

In this section, we recursively characterize $C(S_q^{2n+1})$ as an algebra of fields of operators and hence determine $C(S_q^{2n+1})$ up to isomorphism.

We first note that $\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n \subset \mathbb{Z} \times \widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n \subset \mathcal{F}^n$ and

$$\mathfrak{G}_n \subset \mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n$$

where $\widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n$ is the subgroupoid

$$\widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n := \{(x, w) \in \mathcal{H}^n \mid \text{for any } 1 \leq i \leq n, \text{ if } w_i = \infty,$$

$$\text{then } x_{i+1} = \dots = x_n = 0\}$$

of \mathcal{H}^n and $\mathfrak{H}_n := \widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n / \sim$. The unit space of $\widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n$ (or $\mathbb{Z} \times \widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n$, or $\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n$) is $\widetilde{W} := \overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq}^n$ while the unit space of \mathfrak{H}_n (or $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n$, or \mathfrak{G}_n) is the quotient space $W := \widetilde{W} / \approx$.

The closed subset $\widetilde{W}_n := \overline{\mathbb{Z}}_{\geq}^n \setminus \mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n$ of \widetilde{W} and its complement $\widetilde{W} \setminus \widetilde{W}_n = \mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n$ are closed under the equivalence relation \approx and are invariant (under the $\widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n$ -action) subsets of \widetilde{W} . Correspondingly, we have the closed subset $W_n := \widetilde{W}_n / \approx$ of W and its complement $W \setminus W_n$ as invariant subsets of the unit space W of \mathfrak{H}_n . By the general theory of groupoid C*-algebras [R], we have the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n}) \xrightarrow{\iota_*} C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n) \xrightarrow{\rho_*} C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}) \rightarrow 0$$

where ρ_* is induced by the restriction map ρ on $C_c(\mathfrak{H}_n)$ and ι_* is induced by the inclusion map ι on $C_c(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n})$, and similarly the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow C^*((\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n)|_{W \setminus W_n}) \rightarrow C^*(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n) \rightarrow C^*((\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n)|_{W_n}) \rightarrow 0.$$

Since clearly $(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n)|_{W \setminus W_n} \cong \mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n})$ and $(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n)|_{W_n} \cong \mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n})$, we get the commuting diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n})) & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n) & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n})) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ 0 & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathbb{Z}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n}) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \iota_*} & C^*(\mathbb{Z}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \rho_*} & C^*(\mathbb{Z}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ 0 & \rightarrow & C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n}) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \iota_*} & C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \rho_*} & C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}) \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

of exact rows.

Clearly the equivalence relation \approx on $\widetilde{W} \setminus \widetilde{W}_n = \mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n$ is trivial, and hence $\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W \setminus W_n} \cong \widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W} \setminus \widetilde{W}_n}$ and $\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n} \cong \widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n|_{\widetilde{W} \setminus \widetilde{W}_n}$. Furthermore

$$\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W} \setminus \widetilde{W}_n} = \{(k, x, w) \in \mathcal{F}^n \mid w \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n\} = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{H}^n|_{\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n}.$$

and similarly $\widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n|_{\widetilde{W} \setminus \widetilde{W}_n} = \mathcal{H}^n|_{\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n}$. So we get $\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W \setminus W_n} = \mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n})$, and the commuting diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n}) & \xrightarrow{\iota_*} & C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n) & \xrightarrow{\rho_*} & C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \cong & & \cap & & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \mathcal{K}(\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n)) & \rightarrow & \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n)) & & \end{array}$$

via the faithful regular representation [R, MR] of $C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n)$ on $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n)$.

On the other hand, $\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W}_n}$ consists of $(k, x, w) \in \widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n$ with $w_i = \infty$ for some $i \leq n$ and hence $k = 0$. So $\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W}_n} = \{0\} \times \widetilde{\mathfrak{H}}_n|_{\widetilde{W}_n}$ and

$$\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W_n} = \{0\} \times \mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n} \subset \mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}.$$

Now it is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{G}_n &= (\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W \setminus W_n}) \cup (\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W_n}) = (\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n})) \cup (\{0\} \times \mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}) \\ &= (\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n})) \cup (\{0\} \times \mathfrak{H}_n) \end{aligned}$$

is an open subgroupoid of $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n$, and we have the commuting diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W_n}) & & \\ & & & & \downarrow \cong & & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W \setminus W_n}) & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n) & \rightarrow & C^*(\{0\} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n})) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \cong & & \cap & & \cap \\ 0 & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W \setminus W_n})) & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{H}_n) & \rightarrow & C^*(\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n})) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ 0 & \rightarrow & C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n)) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \rho_*} & C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \rho_*} & C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}) \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

of exact rows, in which $C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n)$ is embedded in $C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n) \cong C(\mathbb{T}, C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n))$ as an algebra containing $C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n))$ and $C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W_n})$ is embedded in $C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n})$ as

$$C^*(\{0\} \times (\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n})) \cong C^*(\{0\}) \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}) \cong \mathbb{C} \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}).$$

So

$$C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n) \cong (\text{id} \otimes \rho_*)^{-1}(\mathbb{C} \otimes C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n})).$$

We claim that $\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W_n}$ is isomorphic to the groupoid \mathfrak{G}_{n-1} . In fact, $\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W}_n}$ consists of $(k, x, w) \in \widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n$ with $w_i = \infty$ for some $i \leq n$ and hence $k = 0$. So by considering the smallest i with $w_i = \infty$, we get

$$\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W}_n} = \{(0, x, w) \in \mathcal{F}^n \mid \text{for some } i \leq n, w_i = \infty, x_{i+1} = \dots = x_n = 0$$

$$\text{but } w_j < \infty \text{ for all } j < i\}.$$

Note that the map $\tilde{\phi}$ sending $(0, x, w) \in \widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W}_n}$ to $(k', x', w') \in \mathcal{F}^{n-1}$, where $k' = x_n$, and $x'_i = x_i$ and $w'_i = w_i$ for all $i \leq n-1$, takes values in $\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_{n-1}$, because if $w'_i = \infty$ for some $i \leq n-1$, then $w_i = \infty$ and hence $k' = x_n = 0$ and $x'_j = x_j = 0$ for all $i < j \leq n-1$. It is not hard to verify that $\tilde{\phi}$ is a surjective groupoid morphism from $\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W}_n}$ to $\widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_{n-1}$. Furthermore $\tilde{\phi}$ preserves the equivalence relation \sim and hence induces a homeomorphic groupoid isomorphism ϕ from the quotient groupoid $\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W_n} = \widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_n|_{\widetilde{W}_n} / \sim$ to the quotient groupoid $\mathfrak{G}_{n-1} = \widetilde{\mathfrak{G}}_{n-1} / \sim$. So we have

$$C^*(\mathfrak{H}_n|_{W_n}) \cong C^*(\mathfrak{G}_n|_{W_n}) \cong C^*(\mathfrak{G}_{n-1}) \cong C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n-1}).$$

We conclude the above discussion in the following theorem.

Theorem 2. *There is a C^* -subalgebra $\mathcal{A} \supset \mathcal{K}(\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n))$ of $\mathcal{B}(\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n))$ and a short exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{K}(\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq}^n)) \subset \mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{\rho_*} C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n-1}) \rightarrow 0$$

such that

$$C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n+1}) \cong (\text{id}_{C(\mathbb{T})} \otimes \rho_*)^{-1}(\mathbb{C} \otimes C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n-1}))$$

$$\cong \{f \in C(\mathbb{T}, \mathcal{A}) \mid \rho_* \circ f \text{ is a constant function on } \mathbb{T}\}$$

where $\text{id}_{C(\mathbb{T})} \otimes \rho_* : C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes \mathcal{A} \rightarrow C(\mathbb{T}) \otimes C(\mathbb{S}_q^{2n-1})$ and $C(\mathbb{T}, \mathcal{A})$ is the algebra of continuous fields of operators in \mathcal{A} over the unit circle \mathbb{T} .

REFERENCES

- [CM] R. E. Curto and P. S. Muhly, *C*-algebras of multiplication operators on Bergman spaces*, J. Funct. Anal. 64 (1985), 315-329. MR **86m**:47044
- [D] V. G. Drinfeld, *On Poisson homogeneous spaces of Poisson Lie groups*, Theo. Math. Phys. 95 (1993), 226-227. MR **94k**:58045
- [MR] P. S. Muhly and J. N. Renault, *C*-algebras of multivariable Wiener-Hopf operators*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 274 (1982), 1-44. MR **84h**:46074
- [N] G. Nagy, *On the Haar measure of the quantum $SU(N)$ group*, Comm. Math. Phys. 153 (1993), 217-228. MR **94e**:46124
- [P] G. K. Pedersen, *"C*-algebras and their Automorphism Groups"*, Academic Press, New York, 1979. MR **81e**:46037
- [R] J. Renault, *A Groupoid Approach to C*-algebras*, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, Vol. 793, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1980. MR **82h**:46075
- [SaShU] N. Salinas, A. J. L. Sheu, and H. Upmeyer, *Toeplitz operators on pseudoconvex domains and foliation C*-algebras*, Annals of Mathematics 130 (1989), 531-565. MR **91e**:47026
- [Sh1] A. J. L. Sheu, *Reinhardt domains, boundary geometry and Toeplitz C*-algebras*, J. Func. Anal. 92 (1990), 264-311. MR **92a**:46068
- [Sh2] ———, *Compact quantum groups and groupoid C*-algebras*, J. Func. Anal. 144 (1997), 371-393. MR **98e**:46090
- [Sh3] ———, *Quantum spheres as groupoid C*-algebras*, Quarterly J. Math. 48 (1997), 503-510. MR **99b**:46112
- [VSo] L. L. Vaksman and Ya. S. Soibelman, *The algebra of functions on the quantum group $SU(n+1)$, and odd-dimensional quantum spheres*, Leningrad Math. J. 2 (1991), 1023-1042. MR **92e**:58021
- [W] A. Weinstein, *The local structure of Poisson manifolds*, J. Diff. Geom. 18 (1983), 523-557. MR **86i**:58059

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66045
E-mail address: sheu@falcon.cc.ukans.edu