

Conformal covariance and the split property

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Abstract

We show that for a conformal local net of observables on the circle, the *split* property is automatic. Both *full* conformal covariance (i.e. diffeomorphism covariance) and the circle-setting play essential roles in this fact, while by previously constructed examples it was already known that even on the circle, Möbius covariance does *not* imply the split property.

On the other hand, here we also provide an example of a local conformal net living on the two-dimensional Minkowski space, which — although being diffeomorphism covariant — does not have the split property.

1 Introduction

More than half a century passed away since the first formulation of an *axiomatic* quantum field theory. There are several existing different settings (differing e.g. on the chosen spacetime, or whether their fundamental notion is that of a *quantum field* or a *local observable*) with many “additional” properties that are sometimes included among the defining axioms. For an introduction and overview of the topic we refer to the book of Haag [24].

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Whereas properties like *locality* are unquestionably among the basic axioms, some other properties are less motivated and accepted. *Haag-duality* has an appealing mathematical elegance, but there seems to be no clear physical motivation for that assumption. Technicalities, like the *separability* of the underlying Hilbert space are sometimes required with no evident physical reason.

The *split property* is the statistical independence of local algebras associated to regions with a positive (spacelike) separation. It might be viewed as a stronger version of locality, and contrary to the previous two examples, it was formulated on direct physical grounds. However, traditionally it is not included among the defining axioms, as in the beginning it was unclear how much one can believe in it. Indeed, many years passed till this stronger version of locality was first established at least for the massive free field by Buchholz [2]. Only after the introduction of the nuclearity condition (which was originally motivated by the need of a particle interpretation [25]) it became more of a routine to verify the split property in various models, when its connection to nuclearity was discovered [6]. Another important step was the general mathematical understanding of split inclusions brought by the work of Doplicher and Longo [15].

In the meantime, interest rose in conformal quantum field theories, especially in the low dimensional case; i.e. conformal models given on the 2-dimensional Minkowski space and their chiral components that can be naturally extended onto the compactified lightray, the circle. The theory of conformal net of local algebras on S^1 is rich in examples and it provides an essential “playground” to people studying operator algebras as it turned out to have incredibly deep connections to the modular theory of von Neumann algebras as well as to subfactor theory; see e.g. [19, 41, 29]. In particular, the modular group associated to a local algebra and the vacuum vector always acts in a certain geometric manner: the so-called *Bisognano-Wichmann property* is automatic. In turn, this was used to conclude that several further important structural properties — e.g. *Haag-duality* and *Additivity* — are also automatic in this setting. We refer to the original works [19, 18, 1, 4] for more details on this topic.

The case of the split property seemed to be different — but there is an important detail to mention here. Initially, when studying chiral conformal nets, in the so-far cited works only Möbius covariance was exploited. There were several reasons behind this choice. First, because it is a spacetime symmetry implemented by a unitary representation for which the vacuum is an invariant vector. This is exactly how things go in higher dimension, but this is *not* how diffeomorphism covariance is implemented (no invariant vectors and one is forced to consider *projective* representations rather than true ones). Second, because the mentioned connection to modular theory of von Neumann algebras relies on Möbius covariance only. Thus, the listed structural properties — with the exception of the split property — are already automatic even if diffeomorphism covariance is not assumed.

From the physical point of view, however, diffeomorphism covariance is natural in the low dimensional conformal setting; by an argument of Lüscher and Mack, it should merely be a consequence of the existence of a stress-energy tensor [20]. All important models are diffeomorphism covariant with the exception of some “pathological” counterexamples; see [30, 9]. It is worth noting that the example constructed in [9] by infinite

tensor products, has *neither* diffeomorphism symmetry *nor* the split property. Thus, unlike the mentioned other properties, the split property surely cannot be derived in the Möbius covariant setting. However, as we shall prove it here, the split property is automatic if diffeomorphism covariance is assumed. Note that together with the result of Longo and Xu in [34] regarding strong additivity, this shows that a diffeomorphism covariant local net on S^1 is *completely rational* if and only if its μ -index is finite.

The crucial points of our proof are the following. We consider a conformal net \mathcal{A} on the circle with conformal Hamiltonian L_0 , and fix two (open, proper) intervals $I_a, I_b \in \mathcal{I}$ with positive distance from each other. Inspired by the complex analytic argument used in [18] to prove the conformal cluster theorem, for an element X of the $*$ -algebra $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ generated by $\mathcal{A}(I_a)$ and $\mathcal{A}(I_b)$ with decomposition $X = \sum_{k=1}^n A_k B_k$ (where $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $A_k \in \mathcal{A}(I_a)$, $B_k \in \mathcal{A}(I_b)$), we consider the function on the complex unit disc

$$z \mapsto \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \Omega, A_k z^{L_0} B_k \Omega \rangle.$$

For every $|z| \leq 1$, this defines a functional ϕ_z on $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$. For $z = 1$ this is simply the vacuum state ω , but for $z = 0$ this is the product vacuum state $AB \mapsto \omega(A)\omega(B)$ ($A \in \mathcal{A}(I_a)$, $B \in \mathcal{A}(I_b)$). The split property is essentially equivalent to saying that ϕ_0 is normal (actually, here some care is needed: in general one needs the product state to be normal *and* faithful. Fortunately, general results on normality and conormality in a Möbius covariant net [23] of the inclusions $\mathcal{A}(I_1) \subset \mathcal{A}(I_2)$ for an $I_1 \subset I_2$ imply that $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ is a factor; see more details in the preliminaries. It then turns out that the normality of ϕ_0 is indeed equivalent to the split property).

However, we do not have a direct method to show that ϕ_z is normal at $z = 0$. On the other hand, we *can* treat several points inside the disc. Using the positive energy projective representation U of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ given with the theory, for example for any (fixed) $r \in (0, 1)$ and $I_c, I_d \in \mathcal{I}$ covering the full circle we find a decomposition $r^{L_0} = CD$ in which $C_r \in \mathcal{A}(I_c)$ and $D_r \in \mathcal{A}(I_d)$. Choosing the intervals I_c and I_d carefully, C will commute with the A_k operators while D will commute with the B_k operators and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_r(X) &= \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \Omega, A_k r^{L_0} B_k \Omega \rangle = \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \Omega, A_k C D B_k \Omega \rangle \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \langle C^* \Omega, A_k B_k D \Omega \rangle = \langle C^* \Omega, X D \Omega \rangle \end{aligned}$$

showing that for our real $r \in (0, 1)$, the functional ϕ_r is normal as it is given by two vectors. Note that the origin of the decomposition $r^{L_0} = CD$ is the fact that a rotation can be decomposed as a product of *local* diffeomorphisms; something that using Möbius transformations alone, cannot be achieved (as all nontrivial Möbius transformations are global). However, even using the full diffeomorphism group, the issue is tricky, since we need a decomposition that can be analytically continued over to some imaginary parameters

— and of course the words “local” and “analytical” are usually in conflict with each other. Nevertheless, this kind of problem was already treated in [39], and the methods there developed were also used in the proof of [7, Theorem 2.16], so all we needed here was some adaptation of earlier arguments.

We then proceed by “deforming” our decomposition using the work [36] of Neretin, which allows us to access further regions inside the unit disk. In this way we establish normality along a ring encircling the origin, and thus we can use the Cauchy integral formula to conclude normality of ϕ_z at $z = 0$.

Note that we have really made use of the fact that the conformal Hamiltonian L_0 generates a compact group. Indeed, for a generic complex number z , the very expression z^{L_0} is meaningful only because $\text{Sp}(L_0)$ contains integer values only. However, unlike with chiral nets, in the 2-dimensional conformal case the theory does not necessarily extend in a natural way to the compactified spacetime. Thus one might wonder whether our result will remain valid or not: is this compactness of the spacetime just some technicality, or is it an essential ingredient of our proof? The answer turns out to be the latter one.

In fact, we manage to present an example of a diffeomorphism covariant local net on the 2-dimensional spacetime, which does not have the split property. More concretely, we consider a local extension $\mathcal{B} \supset \mathcal{A}$ of the net $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_{U(1)} \otimes \mathcal{A}_{U(1)}$ obtained by taking two copies of the $U(1)$ -current net (here considered as “left” and “right” chiral parts). Irreducible sectors of the $U(1)$ -current net are classified by a certain charge $q \in \mathbb{R}$. Our construction is such that when considered as a representation of $\mathcal{A}_{U(1)} \otimes \mathcal{A}_{U(1)}$, the net $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{B}$ decomposes as a direct sum $\bigoplus_{q \in \mathbb{R}} (\sigma_q \otimes \sigma_q)$ where σ_q is the representation corresponding to the sector with charge q . This model is naturally diffeomorphism covariant, but because its Hilbert space is not separable, it cannot have the split property. Note that here “diffeomorphism covariance” means only that we have an action of $\widetilde{\text{Diff}^+(S^1)} \times \widetilde{\text{Diff}^+(S^1)}$ which factors through the spacelike 2π -rotation, but not that of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1) \times \text{Diff}^+(S^1)$. This is in complete accordance with our earlier remark on the spectrum of L_0 .

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we introduce our operator-algebraic setting for conformal field theory and recall relevant technical results concerning conformal covariance and the split property. Sections 3 and 4 provide our technical ingredients, namely certain decompositions of z^{L_0} into local elements. In Section 5 we prove our main result, that the split property follows from diffeomorphism covariance, by proving the normality of ϕ_0 . A two-dimensional counterexample is provided in Section 6. In Section 7 we conclude with open problems.

2 Preliminaries

Let \mathcal{I} be the set of nonempty, nondense, open connected intervals of the unit circle $S^1 = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$. A **Möbius covariant net** is a map \mathcal{A} which assigns to every interval of the circle $I \in \mathcal{I}$ a von Neumann algebra $\mathcal{A}(I)$ acting on a fixed Hilbert space \mathcal{H} satisfying the following properties:

1. ISOTONY: if $I_1, I_2 \in \mathcal{I}$ and $I_1 \subset I_2$, then $\mathcal{A}(I_1) \subset \mathcal{A}(I_2)$;
2. MÖBIUS COVARIANCE: there exists a strongly continuous, unitary representation U of the Möbius group $\text{Möb} (\simeq \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}))$ on \mathcal{H} such that
$$U(g)\mathcal{A}(I)U(g)^* = \mathcal{A}(gI), \quad I \in \mathcal{I}, g \in \text{Möb};$$
3. POSITIVITY OF THE ENERGY: the **conformal Hamiltonian** L_0 , i.e. the generator of the rotation one-parameter subgroup has a non negative spectrum.
4. EXISTENCE AND UNIQUENESS OF THE VACUUM: there exists a unique (up to a phase) unit U -invariant vector $\Omega \in \mathcal{H}$, i.e. $U(g)\Omega = \Omega$ for $g \in \text{Möb}$;
5. CYCLICITY: Ω is cyclic for the von Neumann algebra $\bigvee_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathcal{A}(I)$.
6. LOCALITY: if $I_1, I_2 \in \mathcal{I}$ and $I_1 \cap I_2 = \emptyset$, then $\mathcal{A}(I_1) \subset \mathcal{A}(I_2)'$.

We will denote a Möbius covariant net with the triple (\mathcal{A}, U, Ω) . Some consequences of the axioms are (see e.g. [19, 18, 22]):

7. REEH-SCHLIEDER PROPERTY: Ω is a cyclic and separating vector for each $\mathcal{A}(I)$, $I \in \mathcal{I}$;
8. HAAG DUALITY: $\mathcal{A}(I)' = \mathcal{A}(I)$, where $I \in \mathcal{I}$ and I' is the interior of $S^1 \setminus I$;
9. BISOGNANO-WICHMANN PROPERTY: $U(\delta_I(-2\pi t)) = \Delta_{\mathcal{A}(I), \Omega}^{it}$ where δ_I is the dilation subgroup associated to the interval I and $\Delta_{\mathcal{A}(I), \Omega}^{it}$ is the modular group of $\mathcal{A}(I)$ with respect to Ω ;
10. IRREDUCIBILITY: $\bigvee_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathcal{A}(I) = \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$;
11. FACTORIALITY: algebras $\mathcal{A}(I)$ are type III₁ factors;
12. ADDITIVITY: let $\{I_\kappa\} \subset \mathcal{I}$ be a covering of I , namely $I \subset \bigcup_\kappa I_\kappa$, then $\mathcal{A}(I) \subset \bigvee_\kappa \mathcal{A}(I_\kappa)$.

The following seems relatively less known, yet it follows from Möbius covariance and has an important implication [23, Theorem 1.6].

13. NORMALITY AND CONORMALITY: for any inclusion $I_1 \subset I_2$, it holds that $\mathcal{A}(I_1) = \mathcal{A}(I_2) \cap (\mathcal{A}(I_1)' \cap \mathcal{A}(I_2))'$ and $\mathcal{A}(I_2) = \mathcal{A}(I_1) \vee (\mathcal{A}(I_1)' \cap \mathcal{A}(I_2))$

From conormality, it follows that two-interval algebras are factors. Indeed, take $I_1 \subset I_2$ such that they have no common end points. Then I_1 and I_2' are disjoint intervals with a finite distance. By Haag duality it follows that $(\mathcal{A}(I_1) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_2'))' = \mathcal{A}(I_1)' \cap \mathcal{A}(I_2)$, and by conormality we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{A}(I_1) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_2')) \bigvee (\mathcal{A}(I_1) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_2))' &= \mathcal{A}(I_1) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_2') \vee (\mathcal{A}(I_1)' \cap \mathcal{A}(I_2)) \\ &= \mathcal{A}(I_2) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_2') = \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality is a consequence of Haag duality and factoriality. Let us add this to the list of consequences.

14. FACTORIALITY OF TWO-INTERVAL ALGEBRAS: for disjoint intervals I_1 and I_2 with a finite distance, $\mathcal{A}(I_1) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_2)$ is a factor.

Now, we briefly discuss diffeomorphism covariance. Let $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ be the group of orientation preserving diffeomorphisms of the circle. It is an infinite dimensional Lie group modelled on the real topological vector space $\text{Vect}(S^1)$ of smooth real vector fields on S^1 with the C^∞ -topology [35]. Its Lie algebra has to be considered with the negative of the usual bracket on vector fields, in order to have the proper exponentiation of vector fields. We shall identify the vector field $f(e^{i\theta})\frac{d}{d\theta} \in \text{Vect}(S^1)$ with the corresponding real function $f \in C^\infty(S^1, \mathbb{R})$. We denote with $\text{Diff}^+(I)$ the subgroup of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ acting identically on I' , namely the diffeomorphisms of S^1 with support included in \bar{I} .

A strongly continuous, **projective unitary representation** U of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is a strongly continuous homomorphism of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ into $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})/\mathbb{T}$, the quotient of the group of unitaries in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ by \mathbb{T} . The restriction of U to $\text{Möb} \subset \text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ always lifts to a unique strongly continuous unitary representation of the universal covering group $\widetilde{\text{Möb}}$ of Möb . U is said to have **positive energy**, if the generator L_0 of rotations, the conformal Hamiltonian, has a nonnegative spectrum in this lift. Let $\gamma \in \text{Diff}^+(S^1)$. Note that expressions $\text{Ad } U(\gamma)$ makes sense as an action on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. We also write $U(\gamma) \in \mathcal{M}$ although $U(\gamma)$ is defined only up to a scalar.

When one has a strongly continuous projective unitary representation U of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ with positive energy, $e^{i2\pi L_0}$ is a multiple of the identity and therefore L_0 has a pure point-spectrum. It follows that the linear span \mathcal{D}_{fin} of eigenvectors of L_0 (the so-called “finite energy vectors”) form a dense set. U can then be “differentiated” to obtain a representation at the Lie algebra level [8, Appendix A] (see also [31]). Any smooth function $f \in C^\infty(S^1, \mathbb{R})$, as a vector field on S^1 , defines a one-parameter group of diffeomorphisms $\mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto \gamma_t := \text{Exp}(tf) \in \text{Diff}^+(S^1)$, hence, up to an additive constant, defines the self-adjoint generator $T(f)$ of the unitary group $t \mapsto U(\gamma_t)$. For any real smooth function f as above, $T(f)$ is essentially self-adjoint on the set $C^\infty(L_0) := \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} \text{Dom}(L_0^n)$. T shall be called the **stress energy tensor**.

Irreducible, projective, unitary positive energy representation of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ are labelled by certain values of the **central charge** $c > 0$ and the **lowest weight** $h \geq 0$. h is the lowest point in the discrete spectrum of the conformal Hamiltonian L_0 . There is a unique (up to a phase) vector $\Phi \in \mathcal{H}$ corresponding to the lowest eigenvalue. See [21, 26] for a detailed description of such representations.

One considers particular elements $\{L_n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$, $L_n = iT(y_n) - T(x_n)$, $L_{-n} = iT(y_n) + T(x_n)$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, where $x_n(\theta) := -\frac{1}{n} \sin n\theta$ and $y_n(\theta) := -\frac{1}{n} \cos n\theta$ (there is a canonical way to fix the scalar part of $T(x_n), T(y_n)$, as L_n, L_{-n} and L_0 generate a (projective) representation of $\widetilde{\text{Möb}}$). These operators satisfy the so-called Virasoro algebra on finite energy vectors \mathcal{D}_{fin} . In particular for all $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$: \mathcal{D}_{fin} is an invariant common core for any closed operator L_n ; if $n > 0$ then $L_n \Phi = 0$; $L_{-n} \subset L_n^*$; the family $\{L_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ satisfies the Virasoro

algebra relations on \mathcal{D}_{fin} :

$$[L_n, L_m] = (n - m)L_{n+m} + \frac{c}{12}(n^3 - n)\delta_{-m,n}\mathbb{1}.$$

Let $f \in C^\infty(S^1, \mathbb{R})$ be a vector field on S^1 , with Fourier coefficients

$$\hat{f}_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) e^{-in\theta} d\theta, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z},$$

then, one can recover the stress-energy tensor by

$$T(f) = \overline{\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{f}_n L_n} \quad (1)$$

and

$$e^{iT(f)} = U(\text{Exp}(f))$$

gives the correspondence between the infinitesimal generators and the representation of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ (up to a scalar).

Throughout the next few sections we shall often consider the net of von Neumann algebras

$$\mathcal{A}_U(I) = \{e^{iT(f)} \mid f \in C^\infty(S^1, \mathbb{R}), \text{supp}(f) \subset I\}'' \quad (I \in \mathcal{I}). \quad (2)$$

Note that when U is a so-called vacuum representation associated to central charge c , \mathcal{A}_U is nothing else than the well-known Virasoro net with central charge c . In general though, \mathcal{A}_U is not a conformal net in the sense we are introducing them in this preliminary; e.g. we might not have a vacuum vector. Nevertheless, we still have the locality relation $\mathcal{A}_U(I_1) \subset \mathcal{A}_U(I_2)'$ whenever $I_1 \cap I_2 = \emptyset$.

The stress energy tensor can be evaluated on a larger set of functions [9]. For a continuous function $f : S^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with Fourier coefficients $\{\hat{f}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ we shall set

$$\|f\|_{\frac{3}{2}} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} |\hat{f}_n| \left(1 + |n|^{\frac{3}{2}}\right).$$

Then $\|\cdot\|_{\frac{3}{2}}$ is a norm on the space $\{f \in C(S^1, \mathbb{R}) \mid \|f\|_{\frac{3}{2}} < \infty\}$. By [9], if $f \in C(S^1, \mathbb{R})$ with $\|f\|_{\frac{3}{2}} < \infty$, then $T(f)$, defined as in (1), is self-adjoint and moreover if $f_k \rightarrow f$ in the norm $\|\cdot\|_{\frac{3}{2}}$, then $T(f_k) \rightarrow T(f)$ in the strong resolvent sense. In particular, even for a non necessarily smooth function f with $\|f\|_{\frac{3}{2}} < \infty$, $\text{supp } f \subset I$, the self-adjoint $T(f)$ is still affiliated to $\mathcal{A}_U(I)$.

We shall say that a Möbius covariant net (A, U, Ω) is **conformal** (or **diffeomorphism covariant**) if the Möb representation U extends to a projective unitary representation $\text{Diff}^+(S^1) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})/\mathbb{T}$ of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ (that with a little abuse of notation we continue to indicate the extension with U) and satisfying

- $\text{Ad } U(\gamma)(\mathcal{A}(I)) = \mathcal{A}(\gamma I)$, for $\gamma \in \text{Diff}^+(S^1)$

- $\text{Ad } U(\gamma)(x) = x$, for $\gamma \in \text{Diff}^+(I), x \in \mathcal{A}(I')$

Now we recall the definition of the split property for von Neumann algebra inclusions and conformal nets.

Definition 2.1. Let $(\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{M}, \Omega)$ be an *standard inclusion* of von Neumann algebras, i.e. Ω is a cyclic and separating vector for \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{M} and $\mathcal{N}' \cap \mathcal{M}$.

A standard inclusion $(\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{M}, \Omega)$ is *split* if there exists a type I factor \mathcal{R} such that $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{M}$.

A Möbius covariant net (\mathcal{A}, U, Ω) satisfies the *split property* if the von Neumann algebra inclusion $\mathcal{A}(I_1) \subset \mathcal{A}(I_2)$ is split, for any inclusion of intervals $I_1 \Subset I_2$, namely when I_1 and I_2 have no common end points.

The following proposition provides an equivalent condition to the split property. Although similar statements are quite well-known to experts (see [11] and [15, Below Definition 1.4]), the precise assumptions we need are difficult to find in the literature (note, for example, that we do not assume neither the separability of the underlying Hilbert space¹ nor the faithfulness of the split state in the implication $2 \Rightarrow 1$ below).

Proposition 2.2. Let $(\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{M}, \Omega)$ be a standard inclusion of von Neumann algebras. We further assume that $\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'$ is a factor. Then the following are equivalent.

1. $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{M}$ is split;
2. there exists a normal state ϕ on $\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'$ such that the restrictions $\phi_{\mathcal{N}}$ and $\phi_{\mathcal{M}'}$ are faithful and ϕ is split, namely,

$$\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y), \quad x \in \mathcal{N}, y \in \mathcal{M}'.$$

Proof. If $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{M}$ is split, namely if there is an intermediate type I factor $\mathcal{R} \simeq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K})$, then $\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{N} \otimes \mathcal{M}'$, from which the implication $1 \Rightarrow 2$ follows.

Conversely, let there be a split state as in 2. First of all, as ϕ are faithful on \mathcal{N} and \mathcal{M}' , their GNS representations $\pi_{\mathcal{N}}, \pi_{\mathcal{M}'}$ are faithful and have a cyclic and separating vector. Next, as ϕ is normal on $\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'$, its GNS representation $\pi_{\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'}$ is also normal. The Hilbert space supporting $\pi_{\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'}$ is isomorphic to the closure of $\mathcal{N} \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{M}'$ w.r.t. the scalar product inherited by the normal state ϕ as $\langle x, y \rangle_{\phi} = \phi(x^*y)$. By the factorization assumption on ϕ , the Hilbert space is the tensor product $L^2(\mathcal{N}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\phi}) \otimes L^2(\mathcal{M}', \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\phi})$ and the GNS representation $\pi_{\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'}$ restricted to \mathcal{N} and \mathcal{M}' are of the form $\pi_{\mathcal{N}} \otimes \mathbb{1}$ and $\mathbb{1} \otimes \pi_{\mathcal{M}'}$, respectively. Furthermore, as both \mathcal{N} and \mathcal{M}' have a cyclic and separating vector Ω , their GNS representations $\pi_{\mathcal{N}}, \pi_{\mathcal{M}'}$ are actually unitary equivalences [37, Corollary 10.15]. As a consequence, by normality, we can assume that $\pi_{\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'}(\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}') = \mathcal{N} \otimes \mathcal{M}'$. Furthermore, by assumption $\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'$ is a factor, hence the GNS representation is an isomorphism. Now, both $\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'$ and $\mathcal{N} \otimes \mathcal{M}'$ have a cyclic and separating vector (Ω and $\Omega \otimes \Omega$ respectively), therefore, the GNS representation is actually a unitary equivalence. Then the preimage $\mathcal{R} = \pi_{\mathcal{N} \vee \mathcal{M}'}^{-1}(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \otimes \mathbb{C}\mathbb{1})$ gives the intermediate subfactor $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{M}$. \square

¹If the Hilbert spaces are not separable, several well-known statements no longer hold. For example, an isomorphism between type III algebras might be not a unitary equivalence.

Remark 2.3. The split property implies separability of the Hilbert space. Indeed, if we have a standard split inclusion of von Neumann algebra on an Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , then \mathcal{H} has to be separable: Ω is a cyclic and separating vector for the intermediate type I factor \mathcal{R} . By considering the cardinality of the basis, either \mathcal{R} or \mathcal{R}' must be isomorphic to $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and Ω defines a faithful vector state on it, hence $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is σ -finite, which is only possible if \mathcal{H} is separable.

3 Local decompositions of $e^{-\beta L_0}$

Throughout this section, we shall not need a conformal net, as we only work with a strongly continuous projective unitary representation U of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ with positive energy. We shall use the notations introduced in the preliminaries for all associated objects (i.e. $L_n, (n \in \mathbb{N})$ will stand for the associated Virasoro algebra representation, T for the stress-energy tensor, \mathcal{A}_U for the system of von Neumann-algebras appearing at (2) etc.).

In what follows, for a $\beta > 0$, $r = e^{-\beta}$ and two open proper arcs (intervals) $I_c, I_d \in \mathcal{I}$ that cover the circle: $I_c \cup I_d = S^1$, we shall find a decomposition $e^{-\beta L_0} = r^{L_0} = C_r D_r$ with the bounded operators $C_r \in \mathcal{A}_U(I_c)$ and $D_r \in \mathcal{A}_U(I_d)$. The main idea for producing such a decomposition was already presented and exploited in [39] and in the proof of [7, Theorem 2.16]. Here we shall recall the essential points of the argument presented there and then adjust and refine it to our purposes.

Proposition 3.1. *Let $I_c, I_d \in \mathcal{I}$ be two open proper arcs covering the circle: $I_c \cup I_d = S^1$. Then there exist two norm-continuous families of operators $(0, 1) \ni r \mapsto C_r \in \mathcal{A}_U(I_c)$ and $(0, 1) \ni r \mapsto D_r \in \mathcal{A}_U(I_d)$ such that*

$$r^{L_0} = C_r D_r \quad \text{and} \quad \|C_r\|, \|D_r\| \leq \frac{1}{r^q}$$

where the exponent $q = \frac{c}{48}(N^2 - 1)$ with N being a positive integer such that $6\pi/N$ is smaller than the lengths of both arcs that are obtained by taking the intersection $I_c \cap I_d$ (note that N must be at least 4).

Proof. Let us fix a positive integer N satisfying the condition of the proposition (see Figure 1). The operators $H := \frac{1}{N}L_0 + \frac{c}{24}(N - \frac{1}{N})\mathbb{1}$, $L_+ := \frac{1}{N}L_{-N}$ and $L_- := \frac{1}{N}L_N$ satisfy the following relations on \mathcal{D}_{fin} :

$$[H, L_{\pm}] = \mp L_{\pm}, \quad [L_-, L_+] = 2H, \quad L_{\pm} = L_{\mp}^*.$$

Moreover H is diagonalizable with non-negative eigenvalues only, the span of its eigenvectors is exactly \mathcal{D}_{fin} which is an invariant core for the operators L_{\pm} . It then follows that these operators generate a strongly continuous, positive energy unitary representation of the universal cover $\widetilde{\text{Möb}}$ of the Möbius group. This construction — both at the Lie algebra as well as the Lie group level — was already considered and used by various authors; see e.g. the work [34]. In particular,

$$P = \frac{1}{4}(2H - L_+ - L_-) \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{P} = \frac{1}{4}(2H + L_+ + L_-)$$

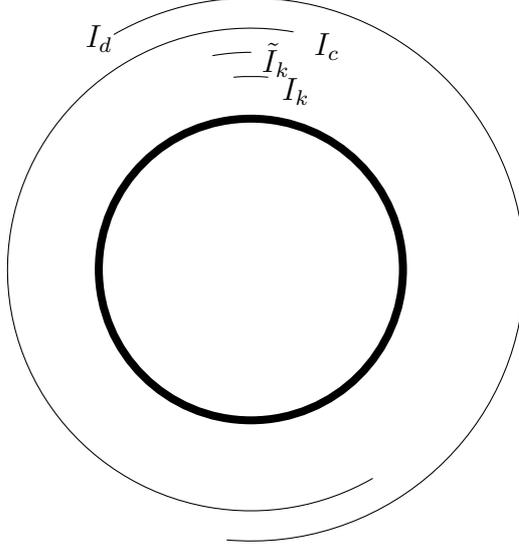


Figure 1: Intervals I_c, I_d covering S^1 and I_k, \tilde{I}_k with $N = 36$.

are conjugate to each other by the unitary operator $e^{i\pi H}$, with P being the self-adjoint generator of “translations” with spectrum $\text{Sp}(P) = \text{Sp}(\tilde{P}) = \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{0\}$. Moreover, by [4, Theorem 3.3] we have the relation

$$e^{-2sH} = e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P} e^{-\sinh(s)\tilde{P}} e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P} \quad (3)$$

for all $s > 0$. Let us now consider how P and \tilde{P} can be written in terms of the stress-energy T . We have

$$P = \frac{1}{4n} \overline{(2L_0 - L_{-N} - L_N)} + \frac{c}{48} \left(N - \frac{1}{N} \right) \mathbb{1} = T(p) + b\mathbb{1}$$

and likewise $\tilde{P} = T(\tilde{p}) + b\mathbb{1}$, where

$$b = \frac{c}{48} \left(N - \frac{1}{N} \right)$$

and p and \tilde{p} are the functions defined by the formulas $p(z) = \frac{1}{4n}(2 - z^N - z^{-N})$ and $\tilde{p}(z) = \frac{1}{4N}(2 + z^N + z^{-N})$.

The function p is nonnegative on S^1 and it has exactly N points where its value is zero:

$$p(z) = 0 \iff z = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{N}k} \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, N.$$

All these null-points are of course local (and also global) minima, where the derivative is zero. We can thus “cut” p into N “nice” pieces: $p = p_1 + \dots + p_N$ where the support of the nonnegative function p_k is the closure of the arc

$$I_k = \left\{ e^{i\theta} : \frac{k-1}{N} < \frac{\theta}{2\pi} < \frac{k}{N} \right\},$$

and $\|p_k\|_{\frac{3}{2}} < \infty$. This latter follows from the fact that p_k is once differentiable and its derivative is of bounded variations; see the similar considerations at [9, Lemma 5.3]. Thus for every $k = 1, \dots, N$,

$$P_k = T(p_k) + \frac{b}{N} \mathbb{1}$$

is a well-defined self-adjoint operator affiliated to $\mathcal{A}_U(I_k)$ and we have $P = \overline{P_1 + \dots + P_N}$. Since the terms in this decomposition are affiliated to commuting factors, just as in the proof [39, Proposition 3.2], we have that

$$\mathrm{Sp}(P_1) + \dots + \mathrm{Sp}(P_N) = \mathrm{Sp}(P) = \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{0\}.$$

On the other hand, the spectrum of the operators P_k ($k = 1, \dots, N$) must all coincide, since using rotations one can easily show that they are all unitary conjugate to each other. It then follows that each of them must be a positive operator. Thus for the bounded operator $e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P}$ appearing in formula (3), we have the *local* decomposition into a product of commuting bounded operators

$$e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P} = \prod_{k=1}^N e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P_k}$$

where the norm of each term is smaller or equal than 1.

Let us turn to \tilde{P} . As we have $\tilde{P} = \mathrm{Ad} e^{i\frac{\pi}{N}L_0}(P)$, the *localization* of $\tilde{P}_k = \mathrm{Ad} e^{i\frac{\pi}{N}L_0}(P_k)$ are different from that of P : \tilde{P}_k is affiliated to $\mathcal{A}_U(\tilde{I}_k)$ where $\tilde{I}_k = e^{i\frac{\pi}{N}I_k}$ and \mathcal{A}_U is defined in Section 2 (we are considering the intervals as subsets in \mathbb{C}). With this localization, we can still assure the strong commutation between P_k and \tilde{P}_j whenever $k \neq j, j+1 \pmod{N}$. So in the decomposition

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-2sH} &= e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P} e^{-\sinh(s)\tilde{P}} e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P} \\ &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^N e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P_k} \right) \left(\prod_{k=1}^N e^{-\sinh(s)\tilde{P}_k} \right) \left(\prod_{k=1}^N e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})\tilde{P}_k} \right) \end{aligned}$$

we can make some rearrangements. Note that $e^{-2sH} = r^{-L_0} r^{2q}$, where $q = \frac{c}{48}(N^2 - 1)$ if we set $r = e^{-2s/N}$. To shorten notations, let us introduce the self-adjoint contractions $X_k = e^{-\tanh(\frac{s}{2})P_k}$ and $Y_k = e^{-\sinh(s)\tilde{P}_k}$. For simplicity, we did not indicate their dependence on r , but note that in the range $0 < r < 1$ they depend norm-continuously on r (for $t > 0, x \geq 0$, the function e^{-tx} is uniformly continuous in t).

All X -operators and separately, all Y -operators commute between themselves, and moreover $[X_l, Y_m] = 0$ whenever $l \neq m, m+1 \pmod{N}$. Recall that $\frac{6\pi}{N}$ is smaller than the length of each of the intervals of $I_c \cap I_d$. Therefore, by cyclically renaming the intervals (but keeping the relation between I_k and \tilde{I}_k and the corresponding localization of the operators), we may assume that there are $1 \leq k < j \leq N$ such that $I_k \cup I_{k+1}$ and $I_j \cup I_{j+1}$ are included in the different connected components of $I_c \cap I_d$. Furthermore, to fix the notation, we

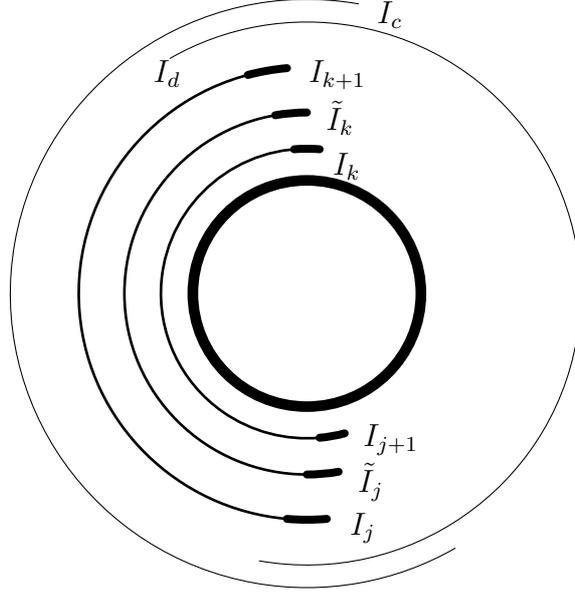


Figure 2: Localization of the factors of C_r . The indicated intervals $I_\bullet, \tilde{I}_\bullet$ correspond to thick segments. The operators $\prod_{l=k}^{j+1} X_l, \prod_{l=k}^j Y_l, \prod_{l=k+1}^j X_l$ are localized in the arcs, from the inside, respectively. The corresponding factors in D_r are localized in the complements of these arcs, respectively.

may assume that $I_k \cup \dots \cup I_{j+1} \subset I_c$, while $I_j \cup \dots \cup I_N \cup I_1 \dots \cup I_k \subset I_d$. Note that $\tilde{I}_k \cup \dots \cup \tilde{I}_j \subset I_c$ and $\tilde{I}_j \cup \dots \cup I_N \cup I_1 \dots \cup \tilde{I}_{k-1} \subset I_d$ (see Figure 2).

By the localization explained above, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
r^{-L_0} r^{2q} &= \left(\prod_{l=1}^N X_l \right) \left(\prod_{l=1}^N Y_l \right) \left(\prod_{l=1}^N X_l \right) \\
&= \left(\prod_{l=1}^{k-1} X_l \prod_{l=k}^{j+1} X_l \prod_{l=j+2}^N X_l \right) \left(\prod_{l=1}^{k-1} Y_l \prod_{l=k}^j Y_l \prod_{l=j+1}^N Y_l \right) \left(\prod_{l=1}^k X_l \prod_{l=k+1}^j X_l \prod_{l=j+1}^N X_l \right) \\
&= \left(\prod_{l=k}^{j+1} X_l \prod_{l=k}^j Y_l \prod_{l=k+1}^j X_l \right) \left(\prod_{l=1}^{k-1} X_l \prod_{l=j+2}^N X_l \prod_{l=1}^{k-1} Y_l \prod_{l=j+1}^N Y_l \prod_{l=1}^k X_l \prod_{l=j+1}^N X_l \right). \quad (4)
\end{aligned}$$

Here the first part $C_r = \left(\prod_{l=k}^{j+1} X_l \prod_{l=k}^j Y_l \prod_{l=k+1}^j X_l \right)$ is an element of $\mathcal{A}_U(I_c)$, where whereas the second part $D_r = \left(\prod_{l=1}^{k-1} X_l \prod_{l=j+2}^N X_l \prod_{l=1}^{k-1} Y_l \prod_{l=j+1}^N Y_l \prod_{l=1}^k X_l \prod_{l=j+1}^N X_l \right)$ is an element of $\mathcal{A}_U(I_d)$.

By construction, $\|C_r\|, \|D_r\| \leq 1$. Thus, we have obtained the desired decomposition $r^{-L_0} = \left(\frac{1}{r^q} C_r \right) \left(\frac{1}{r^q} D_r \right)$.

□

In the above proposition we specifically worked with L_0 . However, by considering the adjoint actions of $U(\gamma)$ for all diffeomorphisms $\gamma \in \text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ on the decompositions found above, it is now easy to draw the following conclusion.

Corollary 3.2. *Let $I_c, I_d \in \mathcal{I}$ be two open proper arcs such that $I_c \cup I_d = S^1$, and f a strictly positive smooth function on S^1 . Then there exist two norm-continuous families of operators $(0, 1) \ni r \mapsto C_r \in \mathcal{A}_U(I_c)$ and $(0, 1) \ni r \mapsto D_r \in \mathcal{A}_U(I_d)$ such that $r^{T(f)} = C_r D_r$.*

4 Further decompositions

In this section, we shall consider further decompositions of r^{L_0} , for which the crucial ingredient will be a result of Neretin [36]. Though in his work the relevant theorem is stated for representations which are direct sums of those highest weight ones, as was already mentioned, a positive energy, strongly continuous, projective unitary representation of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ can only be of that form. For better readability, we shall recall the statement that we are going to exploit. We will need the concept of *analytic diffeomorphism*; we will denote by $\text{Diff}_a^+(S^1)$ the set of $\gamma \in \text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ that extends to an annulus around $S^1 \subset \mathbb{C}$ in a complex analytic manner.

Theorem 4.1. [36, Theorem 2] *Let U be a positive energy, strongly continuous, projective unitary representation of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ with the associated conformal Hamiltonian L_0 . Then elements of the form $U(\gamma)r^{L_0}U(\tilde{\gamma})$ ($r \in (0, 1]$, $\gamma, \tilde{\gamma} \in \text{Diff}_a^+(S^1)$) form a projective semigroup: for any $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \tilde{\gamma}_1, \tilde{\gamma}_2 \in \text{Diff}_a^+(S^1)$ and $r_1, r_2 \in (0, 1]$ there exist some $\gamma_3, \tilde{\gamma}_3 \in \text{Diff}_a^+(S^1)$, $r_3 \in (0, 1]$ such that*

$$(U(\gamma_1)r_1^{L_0}U(\tilde{\gamma}_1)) (U(\gamma_2)r_2^{L_0}U(\tilde{\gamma}_2)) = U(\gamma_3)r_3^{L_0}U(\tilde{\gamma}_3),$$

where of course equality is meant in the projective sense.

Actually, what we shall really use is a certain adaptation of the above result for the case of *true* (and not just projective) representations of the Möbius group. Note that every Möbius transformation is of course analytic. To make the necessary modifications, we shall first make an observation².

Lemma 4.2. *Let (\mathcal{A}, U, Ω) be a conformal net. Then $U(\gamma)\Omega \in \mathbb{C}\Omega$ if and only if $\gamma \in \text{Möb}$.*

Proof. We need to show the “only if” part; the other direction is true by definition. If $\gamma = \text{id}$, the statement immediately follows, otherwise, by composing a Möbius element g , we may assume that γ fixes three points on S^1 . Let I_1, I_2, I_3 be three intervals with such end points.

²Roberto Longo suggested another idea for the proof of Lemma 4.2: as in the proof in the main text, we may assume that γ preserves three points. As $U(\gamma)$ preserves the vacuum vector, it commutes with the modular group of the three intervals between these points, hence with the whole Möbius group. From this it is straightforward that $\gamma = \text{id}$.

By contradiction, let us assume that $\gamma \neq \text{id}$. Then there is a point $s \in S^1$ such that $\gamma(s) \neq s$. As γ fixes three points on S^1 , it also preserves each interval bounded by any pair of these points. Say $\lim_n \gamma^n(s) =: s_\infty$ (for a single element $\gamma \in \text{Diff}^+(S^1)$, S^1 can be decomposed into intervals such that γ is monotone on each interval, hence such a limit exists).

It is not restrictive to assume that \bar{I}_1 , the closure of I_1 , contains neither $\{\gamma^n(s)\}$ nor s_∞ . Let us go to the real line picture (which is only necessary below, in order to simplify the conformal distance) and call $I_1 := (t_1, t_2)$, and $I := (s, s_\infty)$ (or (s_∞, s) depending on in which direction s is moved, without losing the generality, we may assume the former case). Assume that I_1 and I are bounded intervals on the line. Now they are separated by a finite distance.

We can pick $x \in \mathcal{A}(I_1)$ and $y \in \mathcal{A}(I)$ such that $\langle x\Omega, y\Omega \rangle \neq 0$ by Reeh-Schlieder property. We may further assume that $\langle \Omega, x\Omega \rangle = 0 = \langle \Omega, y\Omega \rangle$, as we can subtract their vacuum expectation. By the assumption that $U(\gamma)\Omega \in \mathbb{C}\Omega$ and [18, Conformal cluster theorem], we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle x\Omega, y\Omega \rangle| &= |\langle x(U(\gamma)^*)^n\Omega, y(U(\gamma)^*)^n\Omega \rangle| \\ &= |\langle \text{Ad } U(\gamma)^n(x)\Omega, \text{Ad } U(\gamma)^n(y)\Omega \rangle| \\ &\leq \frac{(t_2 - t_1)(s_\infty - \gamma^n(s))}{(\gamma^n(s) - t_1)(s_\infty - t_2)} \|x\| \|y\| \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

as $\gamma^n(s) \rightarrow s_\infty$, while other distances remain finite. This is a contradiction, hence $\gamma = \text{id}$ under the assumption that γ fixes three points. □

Corollary 4.3. *Let V be a strongly continuous, unitary representation of Möb with positive energy, with the associated conformal Hamiltonian L_0 . Then elements of the form $V(\gamma)r^{L_0}V(\tilde{\gamma})$ consist a semigroup: for any $g_1, g_2, \tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2 \in \text{Möb}$ and $r_1, r_2 \in (0, 1]$, there exist some $g_3, \tilde{g}_3 \in \text{Möb}, r_3 \in (0, 1)$ such that*

$$(V(g_1)r_1^{L_0}V(\tilde{g}_1)) (V(g_2)r_2^{L_0}V(\tilde{g}_2)) = V(g_3)r_3^{L_0}V(\tilde{g}_3)$$

in the proper (not only projective) sense.

Proof. Consider the well-known conformal net usually referred as the U(1)-current net [5]. One may restrict its projective unitary representation U of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$ to the Möbius group and arrange its phase factors in such a way that the vacuum Ω will be an invariant vector (see Section 2). In this way we get a positive energy, strongly continuous, unitary representation V of Möb in which all such irreducible representations (i.e. every possible integer highest weight) appear: this is evident because for every $n \geq 1$, the dimension of $(n + 1)^{\text{th}}$ energy space is strictly larger than the dimension of the n^{th} one. Thus, if we can show the statement for our particular representation V , we have proved it for all positive energy representations of Möb. By applying Theorem 4.1 to U of the U(1)-current

net, we obtain that for every $g_1, g_2, \tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2 \in \text{Möb}$ and $r_1, r_2 \in (0, 1]$ there must exist some $\gamma_3, \tilde{\gamma}_3 \in \text{Diff}_a^+(S^1)$ and an $r_3 \in (0, 1]$ such that

$$(U(g_1)r_1^{L_0}U(\tilde{g}_1)) (U(g_2)r_2^{L_0}U(\tilde{g}_2)) = U(\gamma_3)r_3^{L_0}U(\tilde{\gamma}_3)$$

in the projective sense. If $r_1 = r_2 = 1$, then of course g_3 and \tilde{g}_3 can be chosen to be in Möb. On the other hand, if $r_1 r_2 < 1$, then they *must* be in Möb. Indeed, in such a case r must be strictly smaller than 1 (the right hand side cannot be unitary as the left hand side does decrease the length of some vectors). Then “sandwiching” the left hand sides by Ω — i.e. considering the scalar product $\langle \Omega, \cdot \Omega \rangle$ for the left hand side (which is of course only defined up-to-phase) — gives a complex number of modulus 1, whereas by Lemma 4.2 and the fact $\mathbb{C}\Omega$ is the unique eigenvector of L_0 with the eigenvalue 0, the same sandwiching of the right hand side gives a number of modulus 1 if and only if $\gamma_3, \tilde{\gamma}_3 \in \text{Möb}$.

Considering the relevant unitary operators rather than projective ones, we therefore have that for every $g_1, g_2, \tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2 \in \text{Möb}$ and $r_1, r_2 \in (0, 1]$ there must exist some $g_3, \tilde{g}_3 \in \text{Möb}$ and an $r_3 \in (0, 1]$ such that $(V(\gamma_1)r_1^{L_0}V(\tilde{\gamma}_1)) (V(\gamma_2)r_2^{L_0}V(\tilde{\gamma}_2))$ and $V(\gamma_3)r_3^{L_0}V(\tilde{\gamma}_3)$ are proportional to each other. The proof is then finished by evaluating both sides on Ω and concluding that this proportion must be 1. \square

Corollary 4.4. *Let V be a positive energy, strongly continuous, unitary representation of Möb with associated conformal Hamiltonian L_0 . There exists some $r, r_1, r_2 \in (0, 1)$ and $g, g_1, g_2 \in \text{Möb}$, $g \neq \text{id}$, such that*

$$r^{L_0} = r_1^{H_1} r_2^{H_2} V(g)$$

in the proper sense, where $H_j = \text{Ad } U(g_k)(L_0)$ ($k = 1, 2$).

Proof. We choose two elements $\tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2 \in \text{Möb}$ such that $\tilde{H}_k = \text{Ad } V(\tilde{g}_k)(L_0)$, and \tilde{H}_1 and \tilde{H}_2 do not strongly commute: such choices are actually abundant, since L_0 is maximally abelian in the Lie algebra. Then there must exist some $r_1, r_2 \in (0, 1)$ such that $r_1^{\tilde{H}_1}$ and $r_2^{\tilde{H}_2}$ do not commute (otherwise their generators would strongly commute by analytic continuation).

Now we apply Corollary 4.3 to $r_1^{\tilde{H}_1} r_2^{\tilde{H}_2} = V(\tilde{g}_1)r_1^{L_0}V(\tilde{g}_1)^*V(\tilde{g}_2)r_2^{L_0}V(\tilde{g}_2)^*$ to obtain $g_3, \tilde{g}_3 \in \text{Möb}$ and $r \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$V(\tilde{g}_1)r_1^{L_0}V(\tilde{g}_1)^*V(\tilde{g}_2)r_2^{L_0}V(\tilde{g}_2)^* = V(g_3)r^{L_0}V(\tilde{g}_3)^*,$$

in the proper sense, or equivalently,

$$r^{L_0} = V(g_3^{-1}\tilde{g}_1)r_1^{L_0}V(g_3^{-1}\tilde{g}_1)^*V(g_3^{-1}\tilde{g}_2)r_2^{L_0}V(g_3^{-1}\tilde{g}_2)^*V(g_3\tilde{g}_3).$$

By defining $g_k = g_3^{-1}\tilde{g}_k$, hence accordingly $H_k := \text{Ad } V(g_3^{-1}\tilde{g}_k)(L_0)$ and $g := g_3\tilde{g}_3$, we obtain the desired equality. To check that $g \neq \text{id}$, note that by our choice of \tilde{H}_k , $r_1^{\tilde{H}_1}$ and $r_2^{\tilde{H}_2}$ do not commute as well. Yet, in the equality

$$r^{L_0} = r_1^{H_1} r_2^{H_2} V(g),$$

the left-hand side is self-adjoint, while if $g = \text{id}$, the right-hand side would not be self-adjoint. Therefore, $g \neq \text{id}$. \square

Proposition 4.5. *Let \mathcal{A} be a conformal net, U be the associated projective unitary representation of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$, and L_0 the conformal Hamiltonian. For some $r \in (0, 1)$, there exists a Möbius transformation $g \neq \text{id}$, such that for any $I_c, I_d \in \mathcal{I}$ be two open proper arcs such that $I_c \cup I_d = S^1$ we have two bounded operators $C \in \mathcal{A}_U(I_c)$ and $D \in \mathcal{A}_U(I_d)$ such that we have the decomposition*

$$r^{L_0} = CDU(g)$$

in the proper sense.

Proof. We apply Corollary 4.4 to obtain $r, r_1, r_2 \in (0, 1)$, $g \in \text{Möb}$, $g \neq \text{id}$ and H_1, H_2 such that

$$r^{L_0} = r_1^{H_1} r_2^{H_2} U(g).$$

Then we apply Corollary 3.2 to H_k with the intervals $K_{k,c}, K_{k,d}$ such that $K_{k,c} \subset I_c, K_{k,d} \subset I_d$ and $K_{1,d} \cap K_{2,c} = \emptyset$ (see Figure 3), to obtain operators C_k, D_k such that $r_k^{H_k} = C_k D_k$. By the localization, C_2 and D_1 commute.

Hence it holds that $r^{L_0} = r_1^{H_1} r_2^{H_2} U(g) = C_1 D_1 C_2 D_2 U(g) = C_1 C_2 D_1 D_2 U(g)$, and $C := C_1 C_2$ is localized in $K_{1,c} \cup K_{2,c} \subset I_c$, while $D := D_1 D_2$ is localized in $K_{1,d} \cup K_{2,d} \subset I_d$, as desired.

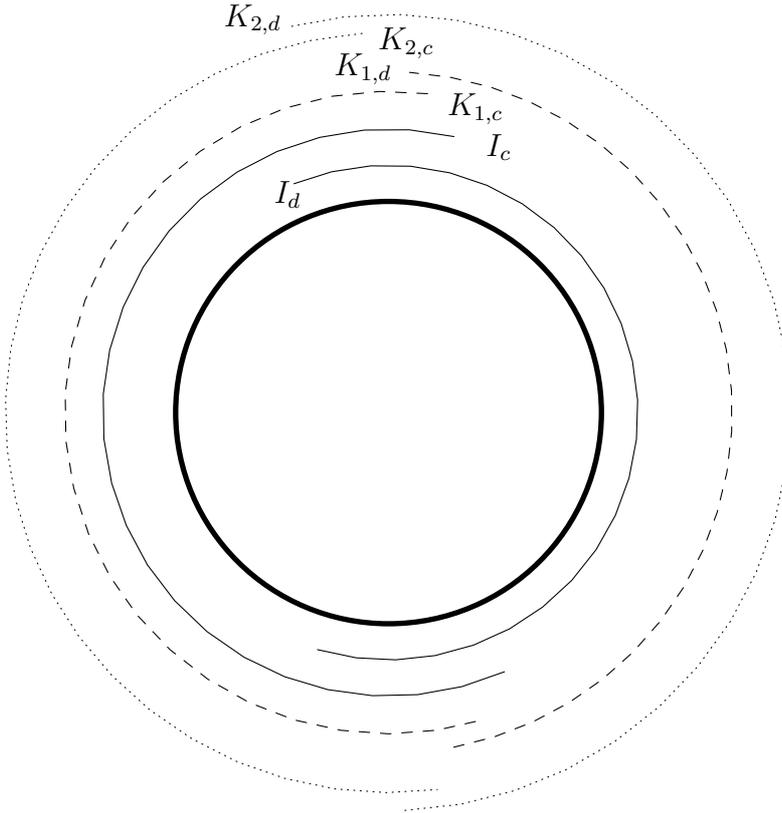


Figure 3: Intervals $I_c, I_d, K_{1,c}, K_{1,d}, K_{2,c}, K_{2,d}$.

□

5 Normality of the product vacuum state

We can now prove our main claim: for a conformal net on S^1 — where by “conformal” we mean that it has the full diffeomorphism covariance (see Section 2) — the split property is automatic. Let (\mathcal{A}, U, Ω) be a conformal net, and assume $I_a, I_b \in \mathcal{I}$ are two open proper arcs separated by a positive distance.

Consider the $*$ -algebra $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ generated by the commuting factors $\mathcal{A}(I_a)$ and $\mathcal{A}(I_b)$. We shall now introduce a family $\{\phi_z\}$ of functionals on this algebra indexed by a complex number z , $|z| \leq 1$. For a generic element $X \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$,

$$X = \sum_{k=1}^n A_k B_k \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, A_k \in \mathcal{A}(I_a), B_k \in \mathcal{A}(I_b)) \quad (5)$$

and a complex number z in the closed unit disk $\mathcal{D}_1 = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq 1\}$, let

$$\phi_z(X) = \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \Omega, A_k z^{L_0} B_k \Omega \rangle.$$

The above quantity is well-defined in the sense that it indeed depends only on z and X , but not on the particular decomposition chosen for X . Indeed, since $\mathcal{A}(I_a)$ and $\mathcal{A}(I_b)$ are commuting factors, there is a natural isomorphism between the algebraic tensor product $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \odot \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ and $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$, see [38, Proposition IV.4.20]. In particular, the bilinear form $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \times \mathcal{A}(I_b) \ni (A, B) \mapsto \langle \Omega, A z^{L_0} B \Omega \rangle \in \mathbb{C}$ extends to a unique linear functional ϕ_z on $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$.

Note that the expression z^{L_0} is indeed a well-defined bounded operator for every $z \in \mathcal{D}_1$ (for $z = 0$, we define it by continuity in the strong operator topology, hence to be the projection P_0 onto $\mathbb{C}\Omega$): this is because $\text{Sp}(L_0) \subset \mathbb{N}$. That is, we are using not just the positivity of L_0 , but also that elements of its spectrum are all integers (e.g. $z^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{z}$ would be ambiguous).

For every $X \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$, the map $z \mapsto \phi_z(X)$ is analytic in \mathcal{D}_1 . In fact, denoting by P_m the spectral projection of L_0 associated to the eigenvalue m , we have the power series decomposition of $\phi_z(X)$

$$\phi_z(X) = \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \langle \Omega, A_k P_m B_k \Omega \rangle z^m.$$

Since $P_0 = \langle \Omega, \cdot \rangle \Omega$ is the one-dimensional projection on the vacuum vector, we have that

$$\phi_0(X) = \sum_{k=1}^n \omega(A_k) \omega(B_k),$$

i.e. ϕ_0 is the product vacuum state, whereas $\phi_1 = \omega$. Thus, in view of Proposition 2.2, in order to prove the split property, we need to show that while “changing” the parameter

z from 1 to 0, the functional ϕ_z remains normal. In particular, it would be desirable to obtain estimates on $\|\phi_1 - \phi_0\|$.

The idea of considering ϕ_z not only at the points $z = 1$ and $z = 0$, but on a larger area (so that its analytic dependence on z can be exploited) comes from [18]. There the authors work with the function $z \mapsto \phi_z(AB)$ to obtain a bound on $|\phi_1(AB) - \phi_0(AB)|$ for a pair of elements $A \in \mathcal{A}(I_1)$ and $B \in \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ thereby proving the conformal cluster theorem for a Möbius covariant net. However, their estimate involves the product of norms $\|A\| \|B\|$; when it is reformulated for an element X of the considered form (5), we get some bounds in terms of $\sum_k \|A_k\| \|B_k\|$, rather than in terms of the norm of X . Hence their method does not give a useful estimate on $\|\phi_1 - \phi_0\|$. In fact, they *cannot* obtain anything that would imply the split property: this is because they only use Möbius covariance, and as was mentioned in the introduction, counterexamples to the split property exist when diffeomorphism covariance is not assumed [9, Section 6].

Instead, our idea is the following: using diffeomorphism covariance and in particular the decompositions of r^{L_0} established in the previous sections, we can show that ϕ_z depends norm-continuously on z and is normal (i.e. extends to a normal linear functional of the von Neumann algebra $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_b)$) when z is in a certain region. Unfortunately, the region directly obtainable by such decompositions do not contain the desired point $z = 0$. However, if this region contains a ring encircling the point $z = 0$ (and as we shall see, this will exactly be the case) we can use general complex analytic arguments (essentially the Cauchy theorem) to deduce normality of ϕ_0 :

Lemma 5.1. *Let $r_0 \in (0, 1)$ be a fixed radius and suppose that ϕ_z is normal whenever $|z| = r_0$ and that on the circle with radius r_0 , $r_0 S^1 \ni z \mapsto \phi_z$ is norm-continuous. Then ϕ_0 is also normal.*

Proof. We shall use some well-known technical facts. In particular, we shall exploit that the norm-limit of a sequence of normal functionals on a von Neumann algebra \mathcal{M} is normal (see e.g. [27, Corollary 7.1.13]). To apply this fact, one should note that the norm is defined on the von Neumann algebra \mathcal{M} , but by the Kaplansky density theorem, the norm of a normal functional on $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ is equal to the norm of its restriction to $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$. Therefore, in the following we do not distinguish them.

Thus one has — e.g. by considering Riemann-sums — that if $\varphi : [s_1, s_2] \ni t \mapsto \varphi_t \in \mathcal{M}_*$ is a norm-continuous family of normal linear functionals, then $\varphi(\cdot) = \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \varphi_t(\cdot) dt$ is also a well-defined normal functional on \mathcal{M} .

Since $\mathcal{D}_1 \ni z \mapsto \phi_z(X)$ is analytic, by the Cauchy integral formula we have

$$\phi_0(X) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{r_0 S^1} \phi_{r_0 e^{i\theta}}(X) \frac{dz}{z}$$

for every $X \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$. □

Let us now discuss how the decompositions r^{L_0} help us out in different regions of \mathcal{D}_1 . Let $I_c = I'_a$, and I_d be an (open) interval containing the closure of I_a but not intersecting I_b .

(Such an “enlargement” of I_b exists as I_a and I_b were assumed to have a positive distance from each other). We then have that $I_c \cup I_d = S^1$ and we can consider the decomposition of r^{L_0} given by Proposition 3.1 with $\{C_r\}_{r \in (0,1)} \subset \mathcal{A}(I_c)$ and $\{D_r\}_{r \in (0,1)} \subset \mathcal{A}(I_d)$. Let us denote by R_θ the rotation by θ . Then, as long as $z = re^{i\theta}$ is such that $r \in (0, 1)$ and the angle θ satisfies the condition

$$\overline{I_d} \cap R_\theta(\overline{I_b}) = \emptyset, \quad (6)$$

we have that the action of $\rho_\theta \equiv \text{Ad } e^{i\theta L_0}$ leaves $\mathcal{A}(I_b)$ inside $\mathcal{A}(I_d)'$ and thus for an $X \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ with decomposition (5), we can use *locality* to rewrite $\phi_z(X)$ as

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_z(X) &= \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \Omega, A_k r^{L_0} e^{i\theta L_0} B_k \Omega \rangle = \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \Omega, A_k r^{L_0} e^{i\theta L_0} B_k e^{-i\theta L_0} \Omega \rangle \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \Omega, A_k C_r D_r \rho_\theta(B_k) \Omega \rangle = \left\langle C_r^* \Omega, \left(\sum_{k=1}^n A_k \rho_\theta(B_k) \right) D_r \Omega \right\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Let (θ_-, θ_+) be the largest open interval of angles satisfying our condition (6) and containing 0, i.e., θ_\pm is the smallest positive / largest negative angle for which $R_{\theta_\pm}(\overline{I_b})$ intersects $\overline{I_d}$. We can obviously find a smooth function $f : S^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that f on I_a is zero, but is constant 1 on the complement of I_d (i.e. on the complement of the “enlarged” version of I_a). Viewing f as the vector field on S^1 formally written as $f(e^{i\theta}) \frac{d}{d\theta}$, it gives rise to a one parameter group of diffeomorphisms

$$\mathbb{R} \ni \theta \mapsto \gamma_\theta \equiv \text{Exp}(\theta f)$$

such that γ_θ is “localized” in I_a' , but if $\theta_- < \theta < \theta_+$, then the action of γ_θ on I_b coincides with that of the rotation by θ . Thus, $e^{i\theta T(f)}$ commutes with elements of $\mathcal{A}(I_a)$ but for $\theta \in (\theta_-, \theta_+)$, its adjoint action on $\mathcal{A}(I_b)$ coincides with the action of ρ_θ and hence we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n A_k \rho_\theta(B_k) &= \sum_{k=1}^n A_k e^{i\theta T(f)} B_k e^{-i\theta T(f)} = e^{i\theta T(f)} \sum_{k=1}^n A_k B_k e^{-i\theta T(f)} = \\ &= e^{i\theta T(f)} X e^{-i\theta T(f)}. \end{aligned}$$

Putting this back in (7), we get that for $\theta \in (\theta_-, \theta_+)$,

$$\phi_{re^{i\theta}}(X) = \langle \eta_\theta, X \zeta_\theta \rangle$$

where the vectors $\eta_\theta = e^{-i\theta T(f)} C_r^* \Omega$ and $\zeta_\theta = e^{-i\theta T(f)} D_r \Omega$.

Corollary 5.2. $\{\phi_z\}$ is a norm-continuous family of normal functionals in the region $\{re^{i\theta} | r \in (0, 1) \text{ and } \overline{I_d} \cap R_\theta(\overline{I_b}) = \emptyset\}$.

Note that Proposition 3.1 gives some bounds on the norms of C_r and D_r , and so actually with the constant $q > 0$ defined there, in the discussed region we have

$$\|\phi_{re^{i\theta}}\| \leq \|C_r^* \Omega\| \|D_r \Omega\| \leq \frac{1}{r^{2q}}.$$

Unfortunately, though this estimate is nicely uniform in θ , it “blows up” at $r \rightarrow 0$ and hence in itself it does not show that ϕ_r converges to ϕ_0 in norm as $r \rightarrow 0$.

However, so far we have only used our first decomposition of r^{L_0} . We shall now exploit the second one derived in Section 4. Consider a radius $r_0 \in (0, 1)$ such that the decomposition in Proposition 4.5 holds; that is, we have two bounded elements $C \in \mathcal{A}(I_c)$ and $D \in \mathcal{A}(I_d)$ and $g \neq \text{id}$ a Möbius transformation such that $r_0^{L_0} = CDU(g)$ (recall that this is valid in the proper sense, namely one can fix the phase of $U(g)$ for $g \in \text{Möb}$ unambiguously). Then, repeating the steps we did before with our previous decomposition and setting instead of (7), this time we get

$$\phi_{r_0 e^{i\theta}}(X) = \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \Omega, A_k CDU(g) e^{i\theta L_0} B_k \Omega \rangle = \left\langle C^* \Omega, \left(\sum_{k=1}^n A_k \rho_\theta(B_k) \right) D \Omega \right\rangle$$

whenever the disjointness condition

$$\overline{I_d} \cap g \circ R_\theta(\overline{I_b}) = \emptyset$$

holds. It is an easy exercise to show, that we can continue exactly as in the first case, and hence this time obtain the following.

Corollary 5.3. $\{\phi_z\}$ is a norm-continuous family of normal functionals in the region $\{r_0 e^{i\theta} \mid \overline{I_d} \cap g \circ R_\theta(\overline{I_b}) = \emptyset\}$.

Does the union of the two treated regions encircle the point 0? This might not be the case. However, note that the Möbius transformation g given by Proposition 4.5 is an “absolute” one; i.e. it does not depend on the intervals I_c and I_d (whereas of course the elements C and D obviously do). And though for some choices of I_a, I_b and $I_d \supset \overline{I_a}$ might lead to nowhere, it is enough for us to show that *there is* a “right” choice.

Theorem 5.4. A conformal net (\mathcal{A}, U, Ω) on the circle automatically has the split property.

Proof. By conformal covariance, we may assume that I_a, I_b and even the enlargement $I_d \supset \overline{I_a}$ are “tiny”; almost point-like intervals around two points which we will conveniently call a and b . Then the region guaranteed by Corollary 5.2 is \mathcal{D}_1 minus a slightly enlarged version of the half-line $\{te^{i\alpha} \mid t \geq 0\}$ where α is the angle for which $R_\alpha(b) = a$. On the other hand, the region guaranteed by Corollary 5.3 is the circle $r_0 S^1$ minus a slightly enlarged version of the point $r_0 e^{i\tilde{\alpha}}$, where $\tilde{\alpha}$ is the angle for which $g \circ R_{\tilde{\alpha}}(b) = a$, which is of course equivalent to saying that $R_{\tilde{\alpha}}(b) = g^{-1}(a)$. Since g is a certain fixed, non trivial Möbius transformation, we might even assume that our choice of a is such that $g^{-1}(a) \neq a$. Then $\alpha \neq \tilde{\alpha}$ and the union of the two regions covers the circle $r_0 S^1$.

Lemma 5.1 shows that ϕ_0 is a normal linear functional on $\mathcal{A}(I_1) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_3)$. Now our claim is concluded by Proposition 2.2 and a technical Lemma 5.5 below, by noting that

- $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ is a factor (Section 2, Factoriality of two-interval algebras)

- The restrictions of ϕ_0 to $\mathcal{A}(I_a)$ and $\mathcal{A}(I_b)$ are equal to the vacuum state, hence faithful.

□

Lemma 5.5. ϕ_0 is a positive normal functional on $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee \mathcal{A}(I_b)$.

Proof. We first consider ϕ_0 on $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$. By [38, Proposition 4.20], the map $\tau : \sum_k x_k y_k \mapsto \sum_k x_k \otimes y_k$ is well-defined and is a $*$ -isomorphism from $\mathcal{A}(I_1) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_3)$ onto $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \odot \mathcal{A}(I_b)$. Now the linear functional $\phi_0(\sum_k x_k y_k)$ translates into $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \odot \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ as $\langle \Omega \otimes \Omega, \cdot \Omega \otimes \Omega \rangle$. Namely, $\phi_0 = (\omega \otimes \omega) \circ \tau^{-1}$. Now, $\omega \otimes \omega$ is clearly positive, and $\tau^{-1}(x^*x) = \tau^{-1}(x)^* \tau^{-1}(x)$, therefore, $\phi_0(x^*x) \geq 0$ for any $x \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$.

We claim that, also on $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$, ϕ_0 is positive³. Indeed, take a positive element $a \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$. The function $f(x) = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$, $x \in [0, \|a\|]$ can be arbitrarily approximated by polynomials f_n with real coefficients, uniformly on $[0, \|a\|]$ and $f_n(a)^2$ tends to a in norm. We saw that ϕ_0 is a normal linear functional, hence it is in particular continuous in norm. Since $\phi_0(x^*x) \geq 0$ for $x \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ then $\phi_0(f_n(a)^2) \geq 0$, hence $\phi_0(a) \geq 0$ by norm continuity of ϕ_0 .

Now, by the Kaplansky density theorem and the normality of ϕ_0 , ϕ_0 is a positive functional. □

6 A non-split conformal net in two-dimensions

Conformal nets on S^1 constitute the building blocks of two-dimensional conformal nets. Let us recall the relevant definitions. A locally normal, positive energy, Möbius covariant **representation** ρ of a conformal net (\mathcal{A}, U, Ω) on S^1 is a family of normal representations $\{\rho_I : I \in \mathcal{I}\}$ of the von Neumann algebras $\{\mathcal{A}(I) : I \in \mathcal{I}\}$ on a fixed Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_ρ and a unitary, positive energy unitary representation U^ρ on \mathcal{H}_ρ of the universal covering group of the Möbius group $\widetilde{\text{Möb}}$:

1. Compatibility: if $I_1, I_2 \in \mathcal{I}$ and $I_1 \subset I_2$ then $\rho_{I_2}|_{\mathcal{A}(I_1)} = \rho_{I_1}$
2. Covariance: $\text{Ad } U^\rho(g) \circ \rho_I = \rho_{gI} \circ \text{Ad } U(g)$, $g \in \widetilde{\text{Möb}}$

A representation ρ is irreducible if $\bigvee_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \rho(\mathcal{A}(I)) = \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_\rho)$. The defining representation $\{\text{id}_{\mathcal{A}(I)}\}$ is called the **vacuum representation**.

A representation of a conformal net ρ is said to be **localizable** in I_0 if $\rho_{I'_0} \simeq \text{id}$, where \simeq means unitary equivalence. The unitary equivalence class of ρ defines a **superselection sector**, also called a **DHR (Doplicher-Haag-Roberts) sector** [14]. By Haag duality we have that $\rho(\mathcal{A}(I)) \subset \mathcal{A}(I)$ if $I_0 \subset I$. Thus we can always choose, within the sector of ρ , a representation ρ_0 on the defining Hilbert space \mathcal{H} such that ρ_{0, I_0} is an endomorphism of

³ $\mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ is not a C^* -algebra, in particular, a positive element $a \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$ in the sense of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is not necessarily of the form x^*x , where $x \in \mathcal{A}(I_a) \vee_{\text{alg}} \mathcal{A}(I_b)$.

$\mathcal{A}(I_0)$. If each ρ_I is an automorphism of $\mathcal{A}(I)$, we call ρ an **automorphism** of (\mathcal{A}, U, Ω) . Automorphisms can be composed in a natural way.

Let (\mathcal{A}, U, Ω) be the $U(1)$ -current net [5]. The main ingredients are (see [40] for a more detailed review):

- The Weyl operators $W(f)$ parametrized by real smooth functions f on S^1 which satisfy the commutation relations $W(f)W(g) = e^{\frac{i}{2}\text{Im}(f,g)}W(f+g)$, where $(f, g) := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta f'(e^{i\theta})g(e^{i\theta})$.
- There is a distinguished realization (“vacuum representation”) of the Weyl operators (which we denote again by $W(f)$) with a unitary positive energy representation of Möb which extends to a projective unitary representation U of $\text{Diff}^+(S^1)$, and the vacuum vector Ω such that $\text{Ad } U(\gamma)(W(f)) = W(f \circ \gamma)$ and $U(g)\Omega = \Omega$ if $g \in \text{Möb}$.
- The $U(1)$ -current net $\mathcal{A}(I) := \{W(f) : \text{supp } f \subset I\}''$.
- Irreducible sectors parametrized by $q \in \mathbb{R}$: we fix a real smooth function φ such that $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \varphi(e^{i\theta}) = 1$. The map $W(f) \rightarrow e^{iq\varphi(f)}W(f)$ extends to an automorphism $\sigma_{q,I}$ of $\mathcal{A}(I)$, where $\text{supp } f \subset I$ and $\varphi(f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta f(e^{i\theta})\varphi(e^{i\theta})$. We call this automorphism of the net σ_q . Different functions φ with the conditions above with the same q give the equivalent sectors, while sectors with different q are inequivalent. It holds that $\sigma_q \circ \sigma_{q'} = \sigma_{q+q'}$.
- Each irreducible sector is covariant: the projective representation $\gamma \mapsto U_q(\gamma) := \sigma_q(U(\gamma))$ of local diffeomorphisms extends to $\widetilde{\text{Diff}^+(S^1)}$, hence makes the automorphism σ_q covariant [10, Proposition 2] (in an irreducible representation σ_q , the choice of $U_q(\gamma)$ is unique up to a scalar [10, Remark after Proposition 2]): $\text{Ad } U_q(\gamma)(\sigma_q(x)) = \sigma_q(\text{Ad } U(\gamma)(x))$. Furthermore, we can fix the phase of $U_q(\gamma)$ and consider them as unitary operators (see [17, Proposition 5.1], where the phase does not depend on h , hence one can take the direct sum of multiplier representations (projective representations with fixed phases)). In this case, it holds that $U_q(\gamma_1)U_q(\gamma_2) = c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)U(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$ where $c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{1}$. $c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$ can be chosen without dependence on q , and continuous in a neighborhood of the unit element. This projective representation (restricted to $\widetilde{\text{Möb}}$) has positive energy [9].
- For two equivalent automorphisms $\rho, \tilde{\rho}$ localized in I, \tilde{I} , respectively, an operator which intertwines them is called a charge transporter. In the present case, as both $\rho, \tilde{\rho}$ are irreducible, such a charge transporter is unique up to a scalar. A charge transporter acts trivially on $\mathcal{A}((I \cup \tilde{I})')$, hence belongs to $\mathcal{A}((I \cup \tilde{I})')'$. In particular, it can be considered as an element in a local algebra containing I and \tilde{I} .
- The operator $z_q(\gamma) := U(\gamma)U_q(\gamma)^*$ is a charge transporter between σ_q and $\alpha_\gamma \sigma_q \alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}$.
- For a given pair of automorphisms ρ_1, ρ_2 , one defines the braiding $\epsilon_{\rho_1, \rho_2}$: one chooses equivalent automorphisms $\tilde{\rho}_1, \tilde{\rho}_2$ localized in \tilde{I}_1, \tilde{I}_2 , respectively, such that $\tilde{I}_1 \cap \tilde{I}_2 = \emptyset$

and charge transporters V_1, V_2 between ρ_1 and $\tilde{\rho}_1$, and ρ_2 and $\tilde{\rho}_2$, respectively. Define $\epsilon_{\rho_1, \rho_2}^\pm := \rho_2(V_1^*)V_2^*V_1\rho_1(V_2^*)$, where $+$ or $-$ depends on the choice whether \tilde{I}_1 is on the left/right of \tilde{I}_2 (which results from the choice of localization of the charge transporter above), but $\epsilon_{\rho_1, \rho_2}^\pm$ do not depend on the choice of $\tilde{\rho}_k, V_k$ under such a configuration.

- For our concrete automorphisms $\sigma_q, \sigma_{q'}$ on the $U(1)$ -current net, one can take the charge transporters $V_q, V_{q'}$ as Weyl operators and finds that the braiding satisfies $\epsilon_{\sigma_q, \sigma_{q'}}^\pm \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{1}$, $\overline{\epsilon_{\sigma_q, \sigma_{q'}}^+} = \epsilon_{\sigma_q, \sigma_{q'}}^-$.

The following is may be well known to experts, but it is difficult to find the right reference (for example, [32, Proposition 1.4] is proved for Möbius covariance). We note that a systematic formulation, closer to our needs, is to appear in [13]. Nevertheless, in part because we deal with multiplier representations, and in part for better readability, we include a formal statement with a proof.

Proposition 6.1 (Tensoriality of cocycles). *It holds that $z_q(\gamma)\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma)) = z_{q+q'}(\gamma)$.*

Proof. First recall that $z_q(\gamma)$ is an intertwiner between σ_q and $\alpha_\gamma\sigma_q\alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}$, hence the product $z_q(\gamma)\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma))$ is an intertwiner between $\sigma_q\sigma_{q'} = \sigma_{q+q'}$ and $\alpha_\gamma\sigma_q\alpha_{\gamma^{-1}} \circ \alpha_\gamma\sigma_{q'}\alpha_{\gamma^{-1}} = \alpha_\gamma\sigma_{q+q'}\alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}$. $z_{q+q'}(\gamma)$ also intertwines $\sigma_{q+q'}$ and $\alpha_\gamma\sigma_{q+q'}\alpha_{\gamma^{-1}}$. As they are automorphisms, hence irreducible, the difference between $z_q(\gamma)\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma))$ and $z_{q+q'}(\gamma)$ must be a scalar.

Next we show that $U'_{q+q'}(\gamma) := (z_q(\gamma)\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma)))^*U(\gamma)$ is a multiplier representation of $\widetilde{\text{Diff}^+(S^1)}$ such that $U'_{q+q'}(\gamma_1)U'_{q+q'}(\gamma_2) = c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)U'_{q+q'}(\gamma_1\gamma_2)$, namely it has the same 2-cocycle c as $U_{q+q'}$. Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} U'_{q+q'}(\gamma_1)U'_{q+q'}(\gamma_2) &= (z_q(\gamma_1)\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma_1)))^*U(\gamma_1)(z_q(\gamma_2)\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma_2)))^*U(\gamma_2) \\ &= \sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma_1))^*U_q(\gamma_1)\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma_2))^*U_q(\gamma_2) \\ &= \sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma_1))^*\sigma_q(\alpha_{\gamma_1}(z_{q'}(\gamma_2)))^* \cdot c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)U_q(\gamma_1\gamma_2) \\ &= \sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma_1)^*\alpha_{\gamma_1}(z_{q'}(\gamma_2))^*) \cdot c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)U_q(\gamma_1\gamma_2) \\ &= \sigma_q(U_{q'}(\gamma_1)U(\gamma_1)^*U(\gamma_1)U_{q'}(\gamma_2)U(\gamma_2)^*U(\gamma_1)^*) \cdot c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)U_q(\gamma_1\gamma_2) \\ &= \sigma_q(U_{q'}(\gamma_1\gamma_2)U(\gamma_1\gamma_2)^*) \cdot c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)z_q(\gamma_1\gamma_2)^*U(\gamma_1\gamma_2) \\ &= c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)U'_{q+q'}(\gamma_1\gamma_2), \end{aligned}$$

where in the 3rd and 6th equalities we used that U and U_q share the same 2-cocycle c .

Now let us define $U''(\gamma) := U'_q(\gamma)^*U_q(\gamma)$. As the difference between $U'_q(\gamma)$ and $U_q(\gamma)$ is just a phase and they share the same 2-cocycle c , it is easy to show that U'' is a \mathbb{C} -valued true (with trivial multiplier) representation of $\widetilde{\text{Diff}^+(S^1)}$. It is well-known that then U'' must be trivial, $U''(\gamma) = \mathbb{1}$. From this the claim immediately follows. \square

Let G be the quotient of $\widetilde{\text{Möb}} \times \widetilde{\text{Möb}}$ by the normal subgroup generated by $(R_{2\pi}, R_{-2\pi})$, where $\widetilde{\text{Möb}}$ naturally includes the universal covering \mathbb{R} of the rotation subgroup S^1 and $R_{2\pi}, R_{-2\pi}$ are the elements corresponding to $2\pi, -2\pi$ rotations, respectively. We call $\mathbb{R} \times S^1$ the Einstein cylinder \mathcal{E} , where the Minkowski space is identified with a maximal square

$(-\pi, \pi) \times (-\pi, \pi)$ (see [1])⁴. The group G acts naturally on it. Furthermore, let $\text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R})$ be the group of diffeomorphisms of the real line \mathbb{R} with compact support. Then $\text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R})$ acts naturally on the Minkowski space as the product of two lightrays⁵, and its action naturally extends to \mathcal{E} by periodicity. Let us denote by $\text{Conf}(\mathcal{E})$ the group generated by G and $\text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R})$. A two-dimensional conformal net $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{U}, \tilde{\Omega})$ consists of a family $\{\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O)\}$ of von Neumann algebras parametrized by double cones $\{O\}$ in the Minkowski space \mathbb{R}^2 , a strongly-continuous unitary representation of G which extends to a projective unitary representation of $\text{Conf}(\mathcal{E})$, and a vector $\tilde{\Omega}$ such that the following axioms are satisfied [28, Section 2]:

- ISOTONY. If $O_1 \subset O_2$, then $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O_1) \subset \tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O_2)$.
- LOCALITY. If O_1 and O_2 are spacelike separated, then $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O_1)$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O_2)$ commute.
- COVARIANCE. For a double cone O , it holds that $\text{Ad } \tilde{U}(\gamma)(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O)) = \tilde{\mathcal{A}}(\gamma O)$ for $\gamma \in \mathcal{V} \subset \text{Conf}(\mathcal{E})$, where \mathcal{V} is a neighborhood of the unit element of $\text{Conf}(\mathcal{E})$ such that $\gamma O \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ for $\gamma \in \mathcal{V}$. For $x \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O)$ and if $\gamma \in \text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R})$ acts identically on O , then $\text{Ad } \tilde{U}(\gamma)(x) = x$.
- EXISTENCE AND UNIQUENESS OF VACUUM. $\tilde{\Omega}$ is a unique (up to a scalar) invariant vector for $\tilde{U}|_G$.
- CYCLICITY. $\tilde{\Omega}$ is cyclic for $\bigvee_{O \subset \mathbb{R}^2} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O)$.
- POSITIVITY OF ENERGY. The restriction of \tilde{U} to the group of translations has the spectrum contained in $V_+ := \{(x_0, x_1) : x_0 \geq |x_1|\}$.

Now we construct a two-dimensional conformal net as follows, following the ideas of [16, 33]. Let us fix an interval $I \subset \mathbb{R} \subset S^1$ and a real smooth function φ as above. On the Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_q = \mathcal{H}$, we take the automorphism σ_q of the $U(1)$ -current net \mathcal{A} . The full Hilbert space is the non-separable direct sum $\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \bigoplus_{q \in \mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}_q \otimes \mathcal{H}_q$. The observable net $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{A}$ acts on $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}$ as the direct sum $\tilde{\sigma}(x \otimes y) = \bigoplus_q \sigma_q(x) \otimes \sigma_q(y)$. We can also define a multiplier representation of $\widetilde{\text{Diff}^+(S^1)} \times \widetilde{\text{Diff}^+(S^1)}$ by $\tilde{U}(\gamma_+, \gamma_-) := \bigoplus_q U_q(\gamma_+) \otimes U_q(\gamma_-)$. The representation \tilde{U} actually factors through $\text{Conf}(\mathcal{E})$. This can be seen by noting that in each component $U_q \otimes U_q$ the generator of spacelike rotations is $L_0^{\sigma_q} \otimes \mathbb{1} - \mathbb{1} \otimes L_0^{\sigma_q}$ whose spectrum is included in \mathbb{Z} , since the spectrum of $L_0^{\sigma_q}$ is included in $\mathbb{N} + \frac{q^2}{2}$.

As all the components are the same $\mathcal{H}_q \otimes \mathcal{H}_q = \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}$, the shift operators $\{\psi^q\}$ (“fields”) act naturally on $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}$: for $\Psi \in \mathcal{H}$, where $(\Psi)_q \in \mathcal{H}_q \otimes \mathcal{H}_q$,

$$(\psi^{q'} \Psi)_q = (\Psi)_{q+q'}.$$

⁴Here the segments $(-\pi, \pi) \times \{0\}$ and $\{0\} \times (-\pi, \pi)$ are identified with the time and space axis, respectively.

⁵The lightray decomposition $\mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ is not compatible with the above identification of \mathbb{R} with $(-\pi, \pi) \times (-\pi, \pi)$, where the components correspond to the time and space axis.

It is useful to note how they behave under covariance:

$$\begin{aligned}
(\text{Ad } \tilde{U}(\gamma_+, \gamma_-)(\psi^{q'})\Psi)_q &= U_q(\gamma_+) \otimes U_q(\gamma_-)(\psi^{q'} \cdot \tilde{U}(\gamma_+, \gamma_-)^*\Psi)_q \\
&= U_q(\gamma_+) \otimes U_q(\gamma_-)(\tilde{U}(\gamma_+, \gamma_-)^*\Psi)_{q+q'} \\
&= (U_q(\gamma_+) \otimes U_q(\gamma_-)) \cdot (U_{q+q'}(\gamma_+)^* \otimes U_{q+q'}(\gamma_-)^*)(\Psi)_{q+q'} \\
&= (z_q(\gamma_+)^* z_{q+q'}(\gamma_+)) \otimes (z_q(\gamma_-)^* z_{q+q'}(\gamma_-))(\Psi)_{q+q'} \\
&= (\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma_+))) \otimes (\sigma_q(z_{q'}(\gamma_-))) (\Psi)_{q+q'} \\
&= (\tilde{\sigma}(z_{q'}(\gamma_+) \otimes z_{q'}(\gamma_-))\psi^{q'}\Psi)_q
\end{aligned}$$

where we used tensoriality of cocycles in the 5th equality.

We define the local algebra, first for $I \times I \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$, where the real lines are identified with the lightrays $x_0 \pm x_1 = 0$, by

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(I \times I) = \{\tilde{\sigma}(x \otimes y), \psi^q : x, y \in \mathcal{A}(I), q \in \mathbb{R}\},$$

and for other bounded regions by covariance: take $\gamma_{\pm} \in \text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\gamma_{\pm}I = I_{\pm}$ and

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(I_+ \times I_-) = \{\tilde{\sigma}(x \otimes y), \psi^q : x, y \in \mathcal{A}(I), q \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

This does not depend on the choice of γ_{\pm} . Indeed, if γ_{\pm} preserves I , then $z_{q'}(\gamma_+) \otimes z_{q'}(\gamma_-) \in \mathcal{A}(I) \otimes \mathcal{A}(I)$ and $\text{Ad } \tilde{U}(\gamma_+, \gamma_-)(\psi^{q'}) \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}(I \times I)$ by above computation.

- Covariance. $\text{Ad } \tilde{U}(\gamma_+, \gamma_-)(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(O)) = \tilde{\mathcal{A}}((\gamma_+, \gamma_-) \cdot O)$ holds by definition. If $(\gamma_+, \gamma_-) \in \text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{Diff}_0(\mathbb{R})$ acts trivially on $I \times I$, then $\tilde{U}(\gamma_+, \gamma_-) = \tilde{\sigma}(U(\gamma_+) \otimes U(\gamma_-))$ and this commutes with $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(I \times I)$, as $\text{supp } \gamma_{\pm}$ are disjoint from I .
- Isotony. By covariance, we may assume that $I_{\pm} \supset I$. Take γ_{\pm} such that $\gamma_{\pm}I = I_{\pm}$. From the expression

$$\text{Ad } \tilde{U}(\gamma_+, \gamma_-)(\psi^{q'}) = (\tilde{\sigma}(z_{q'}(\gamma_+) \otimes z_{q'}(\gamma_-))\psi^{q'}\Psi)_q$$

and from the fact that $z_{q'}(\gamma_{\pm}) \in \mathcal{A}(I_{\pm})$, the isotony follows.

- Positivity of energy. Each component $U_q \otimes U_q$ has positive energy.
- Existence and uniqueness of the vacuum. Only $U_0 \otimes U_0$ contains the vacuum vector.
- Cyclicity. The fields ψ^q brings $\mathcal{H}_0 \otimes \mathcal{H}_0$ to any $\mathcal{H}_q \otimes \mathcal{H}_q$, while the local algebra $\tilde{\sigma}(\mathcal{A}(I) \otimes \mathcal{A}(I))$ acts irreducibly on each $\mathcal{H}_q \otimes \mathcal{H}_q$.
- Locality. In the two-dimensional situation, the spacelike separation of $I \times I$ and $I_+ \times I_-$ means either I_+ sits on the left of I and I_- on the right, or vice versa. We may assume the former case, as the latter is parallel.

The commutativity between the observables $\tilde{\sigma}(x \otimes y)$ is trivial. As for the observables and the fields $\{\psi^q\}$, if $x, y \in \mathcal{A}(I_{\pm})$ respectively, as I_{\pm} are disjoint from I and σ_q are

localized in I , we have $\tilde{\sigma}(x \otimes y) = \bigoplus_q x \otimes y$ and this commutes with shifts ψ^q . Finally, we need to check the commutativity between fields ψ^{q_1} , $\text{Ad } U(\gamma_+) \otimes U(\gamma_-)(\psi^{q_2})$, where $\gamma_{\pm} I = I_{\pm}$. We can compute the commutator explicitly:

$$\begin{aligned} & ([\psi^{q_1}, (\text{Ad } \tilde{U}(\gamma_+) \otimes \tilde{U}(\gamma_-)(\psi^{q_2}))\Psi]_q) \\ &= (\psi^{q_1} \tilde{\sigma}(z_{q_2}(\gamma_+) \otimes z_{q_2}(\gamma_-)) \psi^{q_2} \Psi - \tilde{\sigma}(z_{q_2}(\gamma_+) \otimes z_{q_2}(\gamma_-)) \psi^{q_2} \psi^{q_1} \Psi)_q \\ &= (\tilde{\sigma}(\sigma_{q_1}(z_{q_2}(\gamma_+)) \otimes \sigma_{q_1}(z_{q_2}(\gamma_-))) \psi^{q_1+q_2} \Psi - \tilde{\sigma}(z_{q_2}(\gamma_+) \otimes z_{q_2}(\gamma_-)) \psi^{q_1+q_2} \Psi)_q, \end{aligned}$$

and this vanishes because $z_{q_2}(\gamma_+)^* \sigma_{q_1}(z_{q_2}(\gamma_+)) \otimes z_{q_2}(\gamma_-)^* \sigma_{q_1}(z_{q_2}(\gamma_-)) = \epsilon_{q_1, q_2}^+ \otimes \epsilon_{q_1, q_2}^- = \mathbb{1}$, as the braidings $\epsilon_{q_1, q_2}^{\pm}$ are scalar and conjugate to each other.

This net cannot satisfy the split property. Namely, if there were a type I factor \mathcal{R} such that $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(D_1) \subset \mathcal{R} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{A}}(D_2)$, $\langle \Omega, \cdot \Omega \rangle$ would define a faithful normal state on \mathcal{R} , as it is separating for \mathcal{R} . As the full Hilbert space $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}$ is non-separable, by conformal covariance \mathcal{R} must be isomorphic to $\mathcal{B}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}})$. But this is impossible because the existence of a faithful normal state implies that $\mathcal{B}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}})$ is σ -finite, while it is not when $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}$ is non separable.

7 Outlook

In general, a standard technique to prove the split property is to verify certain nuclearity conditions for the dynamics. In the Möbius covariant case, the most handy one is the trace class condition of the conformal Hamiltonian $e^{-\beta L_0}$ [4]. The split property in turn implies certain compactness conditions [3]. With our result, one is lead to conjecture that the trace class property should be also automatic.

The existence of an intermediate type I factor does not depend on the sector. Assume \mathcal{A} to be a Möbius covariant net satisfying split property (for instance \mathcal{A} is a conformal net) and $I_1 \subset I_2$ an inclusion of intervals with no common end points. Any representation π of \mathcal{A} is a family of local algebra faithful isomorphisms onto their image, as any local algebra is a factor. Then an intermediate type I factor $\mathcal{A}(I_1) \subset \mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{A}(I_2)$ is mapped through ρ onto an intermediate type I factor $\rho_{I_2}(\mathcal{A}(I_1)) \subset \rho_{I_2}(\mathcal{R}) \subset \rho_{I_2}(\mathcal{A}(I_2))$ as ρ_{I_2} restricts to an isomorphism of \mathcal{R} on $\rho_{I_2}(\mathcal{R})$. Furthermore, when ρ is localizable, then $\rho_{I_1}(\mathcal{A}(I_1)) \subset \rho_{I_2}(\mathcal{A}(I_2))$ is a standard split inclusion acting on a separable Hilbert space (we can unitarily identify the Hilbert spaces). At this point it is also natural to expect that the trace class property of L_0^ρ in irreducible or factorial sectors should be automatic. While the split property has important implications in algebraic QFT, it is almost never seen in other approaches to CFT, such as vertex operator algebras (VOAs). On the other hand, the trace class property, or even the finite-dimensionality of the eigenspaces of L_0 would be useful for the study of VOAs.

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