

# Talia Fernus

Regular isometries of CAT(0)  
cube complexes are plentiful.

w/ Lécureux + Mathéus. (A)

w/ Chatterji + Izzi. (B)

Caprice + Sageev:

$T \rightarrow \text{Aut}(X)$  (in  $T \curvearrowright X$ )

$X$ : fin. dim. CAT(0) c.c. and

$T$ -action is irreducible, essential,  
non-elementary

$\Rightarrow \exists$  rank-1 isometry in image

$X$ : fin. dim'l, (not nec. loc. compact)

def:  $T \curvearrowright X$  is NON-ELEMENTARY

if  $\nexists$  a fin. orbit in  $X \cup \partial X$ .



visual boundary

notation:

$$h = \{ \text{half-spaces } h \}$$

where  $h = \{ \text{all vertices on one side of a hyperplane} \}$

eg.



$$X = \text{tree} \quad h = \{ a, b, c \}$$

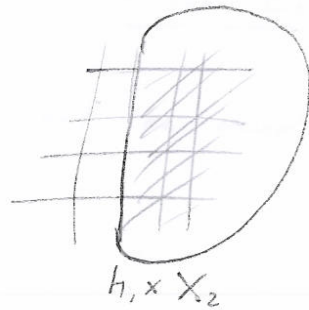
in product regions:

$$X = X_1 \times X_2$$

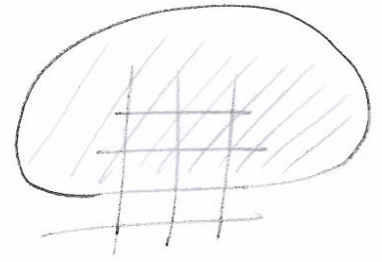


$$h(X) = h(X_1) \cup h(X_2)$$

vertical half spaces



$h_1 \times X_2$

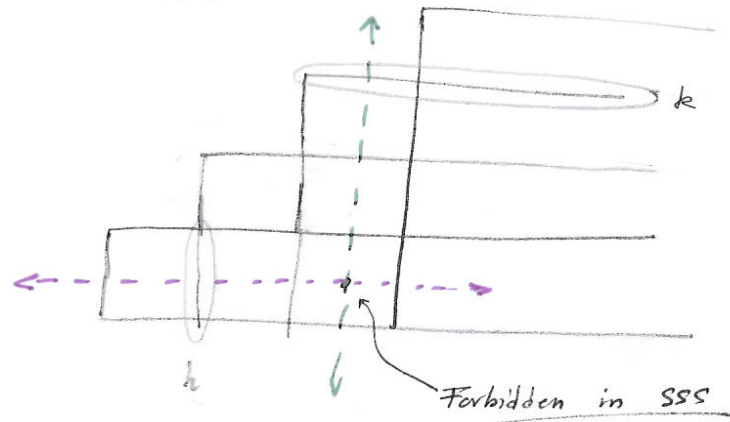


$X_1 \times h_2$

$\text{Aut}(X) =$  cubical isometries  
in both CAT(0)  
and edge metric.

N.B. the staircase (obstacle to HHS  
and unit disc. fib.)

is (SS), but not (SSS)



Important properties:

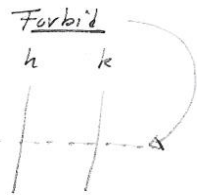
$\pi_1 X$  is essential  
if every half space is  
cutted by a hyperbolic element.

def<sup>n</sup> (Behrstock + Charney)

Two walls  $h, k \in \mathcal{H}$  are

(SS) STRONGLY SEPARATED if  $\nexists$  hyperplane  
crossing both  $h, k$

and



(SSS) SUPER-strongly separated if any  
hyperplane crossing  $h$  may NOT cross  
a hyperplane that crosses  $k$ .



Rk: distance in the contact graph is  $> 2$

Caprace + Sageev

$X$ : essential + non-elementary  
( $\text{Aut}(X)$  has these properties)

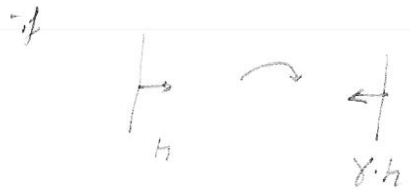
$X$ : irreducible

$\Leftrightarrow \exists$  pair of SS half planes

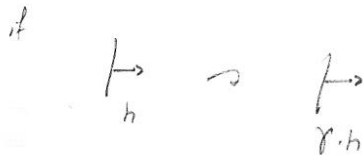
$\Leftrightarrow \exists$  pair of SSS half planes.

Behavior of elements in  $\text{Aut}(X)$

- $\gamma \circ h$  acts as a FLIP



- $\gamma \circ h$  acts as a SKEWER



Caprace + Sageev :

$T \curvearrowright X$  is essential + non-elementary

- $\Rightarrow$  •  $\forall h, k \in \mathcal{H}$  s.t.  $h \neq k$ .

then  $hck$  in  $\partial X$  (double sherry)

- if  $h, k$  are s.s.

then  $\exists$  rank-1 element  $\gamma$   
and  $hck$  in  $\partial X$

Cowling

if  $T$  is essential + non elementary

$X$  : irreducible

then rank-1 elements exist.

$X$  : essential and  $X = X_1 \times X_2$

$$\text{Aut}(X_1) \times \text{Aut}(X_2) \leq \text{Aut}(X)$$

def<sup>n</sup> a REGULAR ELEMENT in

$$\text{Aut}(X_1) \times \dots \times \text{Aut}(X_n)$$

is rank-1 on each factor  $X_i$ .

Main Thm (A)

$T \curvearrowright X$  non-elementary + essential.

$\Rightarrow$  regular elements exist.

part special cases

Caprace + Sageev :  $X$  : irred or  $T < \text{Aut}(X)$  a lattice.

Caprace + Zadnik :  $X$  "nice" CAT(0) space

$T$  : cocompact lattice.

idea: push forward random walks on  $T$  to  $X$ .

really just  
need  
fin. dim'l  
?

Pick  $\mu \in \text{Prob}(T)$  <sup>measure</sup> symmetric

s.t.  $\text{supp}(\mu)$  generates  $T$ .

$Z_n = g_1 \cdots g_n$  a random walk of length  $n$ .

$g_i$  are i.i.d. w.r.t.  $\mu$ .

associated to this probability measure

have  $B = \text{Poisson Boundary}$  (introduced by Furstenberg, but not Furstenberg boundary)  
 = "limits" of these random walks

Baer + Furman: "super super super super"

Ergodicity  
 strong "double" ergodicity

Zimmer amenability:

$T \curvearrowright X \Rightarrow \exists T$ -equivariant measure on  $X$   
 given by  $B \rightarrow \text{Prob}(X)$

Fernus: Rellier?

$T \curvearrowright X$  essential + non-elementary  
 $\Rightarrow \exists B \rightarrow \partial_r X \subset \partial X$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $T$ -equivariant.

Main Thm (A) 2

$\exists!$   $T$ -equiv. measurable  $B \rightarrow \bar{X}$

corollary:  $\exists!$  "stationary" measure on  $\bar{X}$   
 given by pushing forward the one on  $B$ .

Main Thm (B)

$\nu(h) > 0 \quad \forall h \in \mathcal{H}$

$\nu(\partial_r X) = 1$

where stationary means on average w.r.t.  $\mu$  measure is  $\nu$ -invariant.

Main Thm (A) 3

$T \curvearrowright X$  "nice" + preserves each factor.

almost every random walk  $(Z_n)$

$Z_n \cdot \theta \rightarrow \xi \in \partial_r X$

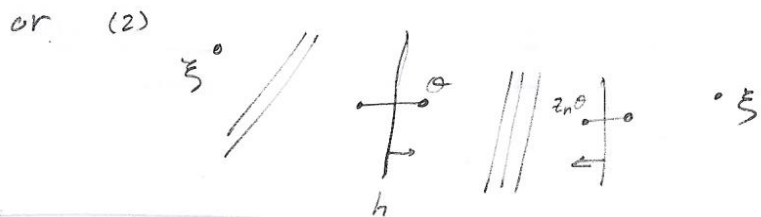
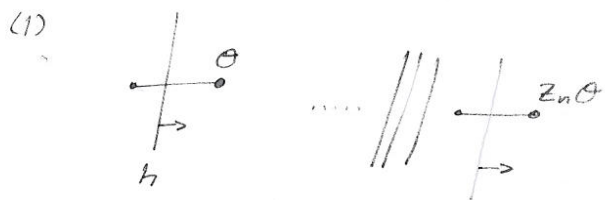
Lemma A

$X$ : smd,  $\mathbb{T}$ : nice,  $(z_n)$ : generic

s.t.  $z_n \theta \longrightarrow \xi \in \partial_r X$

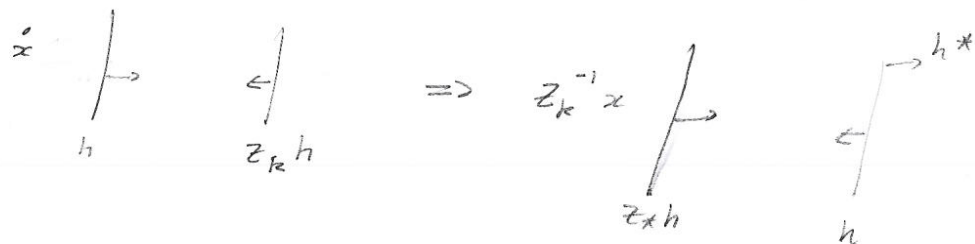
if  $h \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\xi \in h$

then  $\exists N$  s.t.  $\forall n > N$ .



proof of Timm A 2

(sum)  $\leq \# \{k \leq n : \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{h} \dots // \dots \xrightarrow{z_k h} \end{matrix} \} + N$



$\mathbb{I}_{h^*} (z_k^{-1} x) = 0$

$h$ : both closed + open  $\Rightarrow \mathbb{I}_h$  continuous.

Benoist + Quint

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{I}_{h^*} (z_k^{-1} X) = \nu(h) > 0$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \# \{k : z_k \text{ rank-1} \} = 1$