

# Sofic approximations en quantitative measure couplings

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Amandine Escalier. Sofic approximations en quantitative measure couplings. 2024. hal-03676029v2

# HAL Id: hal-03676029 https://hal.science/hal-03676029v2

Preprint submitted on 11 Mar 2024

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# SOFIC APPROXIMATIONS AND QUANTITATIVE MEASURE COUPLINGS

# Amandine Escalier

# March 11, 2024

#### Abstract

Measure equivalence was introduced by Gromov as a measured analogue of quasiisometry. Unlike the latter, measure equivalence does not preserve the large scale geometry of groups and happens to be very flexible in the amenable world. Indeed the Ornstein-Weiss theorem shows that all infinite countable amenable groups are measure equivalent to the group of integers.

To refine this equivalence relation and make it responsive to geometry, Delabie, Koivisto, Le Maître and Tessera introduced a quantitative version of measure equivalence. They also defined a relaxed version of this notion called "quantitative measure subgroup coupling".

In this article we offer to answer the inverse problem of the quantification (find a group admitting a measure subgroup coupling with a prescribed group with prescribed quantification) in the case of the lamplighter group.

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# 1 Introduction

A recurring theme in group theory is the description of large-scale behaviour of groups and their geometry. A well known example is the study of groups up to quasi-isometry: it describes the large-scale (or "coarse") geometry from the *metric* point of view. A *measure* analogue of quasi-isometry – called measure equivalence – was introduced by Gromov in [GNR93]. Two groups G and H are **measure equivalent** if they both act freely and measure preservingly on a standard measure space  $(\Omega, m)$ , such that each action admits a fundamental domain of finite measure. A first elementary illustration of measure equivalent groups is given by lattices in a common locally compact group. We refer to [Gab10, Fur11] for surveys on the topic.

In some cases, measure equivalence can show remarkable rigidity properties. For instance Furman proved [Fur99] that any countable group which is measure equivalent to a lattice in a simple Lie group G of higher rank, is commensurable (up to finite kernel) to a lattice in G. More recently Guirardel and Horbez [GH21] showed that for  $n \geq 3$ , any countable group that is measure equivalent to  $Out(F_n)$  is virtually isomorphic to  $Out(F_n)$ . On the contrary, completely opposite to the aforementioned results, a famous theorem of Ornstein and Weiss [OW80] implies that all amenable groups are measure equivalent. In particular – unlike quasi-isometry – measure equivalence does *not* preserve coarse geometric invariants.

To overcome this issue it is therefore natural to look for some refinements of this equivalence notion. We focus here on the *quantitative* version as introduced by Delabie, Koivisto, Le Maître and Tessera [DKLMT22].

# 1.1 Quantitative measure couplings

Let G and H be two groups that are measure equivalent over a measure space  $(\Omega, m)$ , and denote by  $X_G$  (resp.  $X_H$ ) the fundamental domains associated to the actions. In this case we have natural actions of G on  $X_H$ , and H on  $X_G$ , both denoted by "·" where for a.e.  $x \in X_H$  and all  $g \in G$ , we define  $g \cdot x$  to be the unique element of H \* g \* x contained in  $X_H$  (see also Figure 5, page 12 for an illustration). The action of H on  $X_G$  is defined analogously. The corresponding cocycles  $\alpha : G \times X_H \to H$  and  $\beta : H \times X_G \to G$  are defined by

$$\alpha(g,x) = h \Leftrightarrow h \cdot (g \cdot x) \in X_H \quad \text{and} \quad \beta(h,x) = g \Leftrightarrow g \cdot (h \cdot x) \in X_G. \tag{1.1}$$

When  $x \mapsto \alpha(g, x)$  and  $x \mapsto \beta(h, x)$  are  $L^p$  for all  $g \in G$  and  $h \in H$ , we say that the groups are  $L^p$ -measure equivalent.

This refinement allowed for example Bader, Furman and Sauer [BFS13] to obtain a new rigidity result: they showed that any group  $L^1$ -measure equivalent to a lattice in SO(n,1) for some  $n \ge 2$  is virtually a lattice in SO(n,1). It also lead Bowen to prove, in the appendix of [Aus16], that volume growth was invariant under  $L^1$ -measure equivalence. Delabie, Koivisto, Le Maître and Tessera offered in [DKLMT22] to extend this quantification to a family of functions larger than  $\{x \mapsto x^p, p \in [0, +\infty]\}$ . They also defined a relaxed version of measure equivalence called *measure subgroup coupling* and showed the monotonicity of the isoperimetric profile under quantitative measure subgroup couplings. A statement we make precise below.

**Quantitative measure subgroup couplings** Let  $G = \langle S_G \rangle$  and  $H = \langle S_H \rangle$  be two finitely generated groups. A **measure subgroup coupling** from G to H is a triple  $(\Omega, m, X_H)$  such that:

•  $(\Omega, m)$  is a standard measure space equipped with commuting measure-preserving free actions of G and H;

- the G-action on  $\Omega$  admits a Borel fundamental domain;
- $X_H$  is a Borel fundamental domain of finite measure for the action of H on  $\Omega$ .

Such couplings arise naturally from coarse embeddings (see Example 3.2, page 11 and Theorem 3.6, page 13) Remark that when  $(\Omega, m, X_H)$  is a measure subroup coupling, one can define the corresponding cocycle  $\alpha$  as in Equation (1.1). We refer to Section 3.1 for more details on these couplings.

Now let  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}_+ \to \mathbb{R}_+$  be a non-decreasing map. We say that the measure subgroup coupling  $(\Omega, m, X_H)$  is  $\varphi$ -integrable if the cocycle  $\alpha$  is  $\varphi$ -integrable, namely if there exists some constant c>0 such that  $x\mapsto \varphi\left(|\alpha(g,x)|_{S_G}\right)$  is integrable on  $X_H$ . We refer to Remark 3.5, page 13 for the definition of quantitative measure equivalence.

Monotonicity of the isoperimetric profile Let G be a group generated by a finite set S. If  $A \subseteq G$  we will denote  $y \partial_S A$  the S-boundary of A, namely the set of elements  $g \in A$  for which there exists  $s \in S$  such that as  $\notin A$ . We will also denote by  $|g|_S$  the word length of an element  $g \in G$ . Recall that the isoperimetric profile of G is defined as  $g \in G$ .

$$I_{G}(n) := \sup_{|A| \leq n} \frac{|A|}{|\mathfrak{d}_{S}A|}.$$

Remark that due to the Følner criterion, a group is amenable if and only if its isoperimetric profile is unbounded. Hence we can see the isoperimetric profile as a way to measure the amenability of a group: the faster  $I_G$  tends to infinity, the more amenable G is. For example the isoperimetric profile of  $\mathbb Z$  verifies  $I_{\mathbb Z}(n) \simeq n$  while the profile of a lamplighter group  $G := \mathbb Z/m\mathbb Z \wr \mathbb Z$  verifies  $I_G(n) \simeq \log(n)$ .

Finally, let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . We say that a measure subgroup coupling  $(\Omega, m, X_H)$  is at **most** k-to-one if for every  $x \in X_H$  the map  $g \mapsto g^{-1}*(g \cdot x)$  has pre-images of size at most m. Delabie, Koivisto, Le Maître and Tessera showed [DKLMT22, Theorem 4.4] that if

- $\varphi$  and  $t \mapsto t/\varphi(t)$  are two non-decreasing maps from  $\mathbb{R}_+^*$  to itself;
- and there exists an at most k-to-one φ-integrable measure subgroup coupling from G to H, for some k ∈ N;

then  $\phi \circ I_H \preccurlyeq I_G$ .

In [BZ21] Brieussel and Zheng managed to construct amenable groups with prescribed isoperimetric profile. Considering the monotonicity of the isoperimetric profile, the result of Brieussel and Zheng thus triggers a new question: instead of trying to quantify the measure equivalence relation between two given groups, can one find a group that is measure equivalent to a prescribed group with a prescribed quantification?

### 1.2 Background on the inverse problem

The family of amenable groups being quite large, the evaluation of its diversity is at the heart of numerous works. To do so, one can rely for example on geometric quantities – such as volume growth or the isoperimetric profile – or probabilistic data – such as entropy or return probability of random walks. In order to quantify this diversity, several results have been focusing on inverse problems namely, given a prescribed behaviour, does there exist a group having such behaviour?

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ We chose to adopt the convention of [DKLMT22]. Note that in [BZ21], the isoperimetric profile is defined as  $\Lambda_{G} = 1/I_{G}$ .

In the case of volume growth for example, the question of the existence of a group with intermediate growth has been solved by Grigorchuk [Gri85]. Later on, Bartholdi and Erschler exhibited uncountably many groups with intermediate growth [BE14, BE12]. Another illustration is the striking work of Brieussel and Zheng [BZ21], answering the inverse problem for a large family of quantities, such as the isoperimetric profile, entropy, or equivariant LP-compression.

The inverse problem of the quantification (that we formalise below) can be seen as a way to quantify the diversity of amenable groups, from the *ergodic* point of view.

If f and g are two non-decreasing real functions, write  $f \preccurlyeq g$  if there exists some constant C > 0 such that  $f(x) = \mathcal{O}(g(Cx))$  as x tends to infinity. We write  $f \simeq g$  if  $f \preccurlyeq g$  and  $g \preccurlyeq f$ .

**Question 1.1** (Inverse Problem). Given a group H and a non-decreasing function  $\phi$ , does there exist a group G such that:

- there exists a  $\varphi$ -integrable measure subgroup coupling from G to H;
- and this quantification is optimal, that is to say such that any other  $\phi'$ -integrable coupling verifies  $\phi' \leq \phi$ ?

Note that the monotonicity of the isoperimetric profile recalled above (see page 3) provides us with an upper bound to the possible optimal integrability. For example when  $H = \mathbb{Z}$ , we obtain that if there exists a  $\phi$ -integrable measure sugroup coupling from G to H, then  $\phi \preccurlyeq I_G$ . More generally, for any group H the question can be rephrased as follows.

**Question 1.2.** Given a group H and a non-decreasing function  $\varphi$ , does there exist a group G such that  $I_G \sim \varphi \circ I_H$ , and such that there exists a  $\varphi$ -integrable measure subgroup coupling from G to H?

Relying on Brieussel-Zheng groups, we tackled these questions in [Esc24] for  $H = \mathbb{Z}$ . This article studies the case when H is a lamplighter group.

#### 1.3 Main result

The main result of this article is Theorem 1.3 below, which studies the inverse problem for a coupling with a lamplighter group.

To prove it, we rely on the diagonal products of lamplighter groups defined by Brieussel and Zheng [BZ21], providing groups with prescribed isoperimetric profile. Such groups can be defined for profiles of the form  $I_G \sim \rho \circ log$  where  $\rho$  belongs to the following family of functions:

$$\mathcal{C} := \left\{ \rho : [1, +\infty) \to [1, +\infty) \middle| \begin{array}{c} \rho \text{ continuous,} \\ \rho \text{ and } x \mapsto x/\rho(x) \text{ non-decreasing} \end{array} \right\}. \tag{1.2}$$

# Theorem 1.3

Let  $m\geqslant 2$  be an integer and let  $L_m:=(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})\wr\mathbb{Z}.$  For all  $\rho\in\mathfrak{C}$  there exists a group G such that

- $I_G \sim \rho \circ \log$  and,
- there exists an at most 1-to-one measure subgroup coupling from G to  $L_m$  which is  $\rho^{1-\epsilon}$ -integrable for all  $\epsilon>0$ .

Note that the lamplighter group  $L_m$  verifies  $I_{L_m} \sim log$ . By monotonicity of the profile (see page 3), if there exists an at most k-to-one  $\phi$ -integrable measure sugroup coupling from G to  $L_m$ , then  $\phi \circ log \preccurlyeq I_G = \rho \circ log$ . Namely  $\phi$  has to grow slower than  $\rho$ . Therefore, the integrability of the coupling given by Theorem 1.3 is almost optimal.

Structure of the paper and strategy of the proof The next two sections present the tools we use to build our couplings. In Section 2 we introduce the necessary material on Brieussel-Zheng diagonal products; background on measure couplings are recalled in Section 3. The coupling is then build in Section 4 and relies on the criterion given in Theorem 3.9, page 14.

The strategy is the following: given a quantification  $\rho \in \mathcal{C}$  we chose G to be a diagonal product with isoperimetric profile  $I_G \sim \rho \circ log$ . The goal is then to verify the conditions of Theorem 3.9, namely to define sofic approximations  $(\mathfrak{G}_n)_n$  and  $(\mathcal{H}_n)_n$  in respectively G and H, then injections  $\mathfrak{t}_n : \mathfrak{G}_n \to \mathcal{H}_n$  such that  $\mathfrak{t}_n$  respects the geometry (see Equation (3.1), page 14 for the precise statement).

The appropriate sofic approximations in both G and H are defined in Section 4.1. We then define the injections  $t_n$  between them and show that these injections respect the geometry in Section 4.2.

**Acknowlegements** The author thanks Romain Tessera and Jérémie Brieussel, under whose supervision the work presented in this article was carried out. She thanks them for suggesting the topic, sharing their precious insights and for their many useful advice.

The author is supported by the European Union (ERC, Artin-Out-ME-OA, 101040507). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Council. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

The author was also funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) – Project-ID 427320536 – SFB 1442, as well as under Germany's Excellence Strategy EXC 2044 –390685587, Mathematics Münster: Dynamics–Geometry–Structure.

# 2 Background on diagonal products

In order for this article to be self contained, we recall necessary material from [BZ21] concerning the definition of *Brieussel-Zheng diagonal products*: we give the definition of such a group, recall some results concerning the range (see Definition 2.5) of an element. Finally we present in Section 2.3 the tools needed to recover such a diagonal product starting with a prescribed isoperimetric profile.

### 2.1 Definition of diagonal products

Recall that the wreath product of a group G with  $\mathbb{Z}$ , denoted by G  $\wr \mathbb{Z}$ , is defined as

$$G \wr \mathbb{Z} := \bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} G \rtimes \mathbb{Z}.$$

An element of G  $\wr \mathbb{Z}$  is a pair (f,t) where f is a map from  $\mathbb{Z}$  to G with finite support and t belongs to  $\mathbb{Z}$ . We refer to f as the **lamp configuration** and t as the **cursor**. Finally we denote by supp(f) the **support** of f which is defined as supp(f) :=  $\{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid f(x) \neq e_G\}$ .

**General definition** Let A and B be two finite groups. Let  $(\Gamma_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of finite groups such that each  $\Gamma_m$  admits a generating set of the form  $A_m \cup B_m$  where  $A_m$  and  $B_m$  are finite subgroups of  $\Gamma_m$  isomorphic respectively to A and B. For  $a \in A$  we denote  $a_m$  the copy of a in  $A_m$  and similarly for  $B_m$ .

Finally let  $(k_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of integers such that  $k_{m+1}\geqslant 2k_m$  for all m. We define  $\Delta_m=\Gamma_m\wr\mathbb{Z}$  and endow it with the generating set

$$S_{\Delta_m} \coloneqq \left\{ (id,1) \right\} \cup \left\{ \left( a_m \delta_0, 0 \right) \mid a_m \in A_m \right\} \cup \left\{ \left( b_m \delta_{k_m}, 0 \right) \mid b_m \in A_m \right\}.$$

# Definition 2.1 ([BZ21])

The **diagonal product** associated to the sequences  $(\Gamma_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  and  $(k_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$ , is the subgroup  $\Delta$  of  $(\prod_m \Gamma_m) \wr \mathbb{Z}$  generated by

$$\mathcal{S}_{\Delta} \coloneqq \left\{ \left( \left( id \right)_m, 1 \right) \right\} \cup \left\{ \left( \left( a_m \delta_0 \right)_m, 0 \right) \mid a \in A \right\} \cup \left\{ \left( \left( b_m \delta_{k_m} \right)_m, 0 \right) \mid b \in B \right\}.$$

The group  $\Delta$  is uniquely determined by the sequences  $(\Gamma_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  and  $(k_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$ . Let us give an illustration of what an element in such a group looks like. We will denote by g the sequence  $(g_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$ .

**Example 2.2.** We represent in Figure 1 the element (g, t) of  $\Delta$  verifying

$$(\mathbf{g},\mathsf{t}) = \left( (\mathsf{g}_{\mathsf{m}})_{\mathsf{m} \in \mathbb{N}},\mathsf{t} \right) := \left( (\mathsf{a}_{\mathsf{m}} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{0})_{\mathsf{m}},0 \right) \left( \left( \mathsf{b}_{\mathsf{m}} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{\mathsf{k}_{\mathsf{m}}} \right)_{\mathsf{m}},0 \right) (0,3),$$

when  $k_m = 2^m$ . The cursor is represented by the blue arrow at the bottom of the figure. The only value of  $g_0$  different from the identity is  $g_0(0) = (a_0, b_0)$ . Now if m > 0 then the only values of  $g_m$  different from the identity are  $g_m(0) = a_m$  and  $g_m(k_m) = b_m$ .

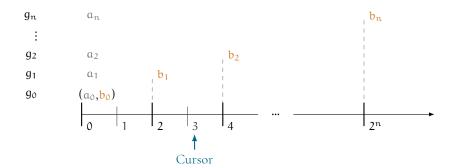


Figure 1: Representation of  $(\mathbf{g}, t) = ((a_m \delta_0)_m, 0)((b_m \delta_{k_m})_m, 0)(0, 3)$  when  $k_m = 2^m$ .

**Relative commutators subgroups** For all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $\theta_m : \Gamma_m \to \langle \langle [A_m, B_m] \rangle \rangle \backslash \Gamma_m \sim A_m \times B_m$  be the natural projection. Let  $\theta_m^A$  and  $\theta_m^B$  denote the composition of  $\theta_m$  with the projection to  $A_m$  and  $B_m$  respectively. Now let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and define  $\Gamma'_m := \langle \langle [A_m, B_m] \rangle \rangle$ . If  $(g_m, t)$  belongs to  $\Delta_m$ , then there exists a unique  $g_m' : \mathbb{Z} \to \Gamma'_m$  such that  $g_m(x) = g_m'(x)\theta_m(g_m(x))$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Example 2.3.** Let  $(\mathbf{g}, 3)$  be the element described in Figure 1. Then the only non-trivial value of  $\theta_0(g_0)$  is  $\theta_0(g_0(0)) = (a_0, b_0)$ . If m > 0 then the only non trivial values of  $\theta_m(g_m)$  are  $\theta_m(g_m(0)) = (a_m, \mathbf{e})$  and  $\theta_m(g_m(k_m)) = (\mathbf{e}, b_m)$ . Finally for all m we have  $g'_m = \mathbf{e}$  since there are no commutators appearing in the decomposition of  $(\mathbf{g}, 0)$ .

**Example 2.4.** Assume that  $k_m = 2^m$  for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , and consider first the element  $(\mathbf{f}, 0)$  of  $\Delta$  defined by  $(\mathbf{f}, 0) := (0, -k_1) ((a_m \delta_0)_m, 0) (0, k_1)$ . Now define the commutator

$$(\mathbf{g}, 0) = (\mathbf{f}, 0) \cdot \left( (b_m \delta_{k_m})_m, 0 \right) \cdot (\mathbf{f}, 0)^{-1} \cdot \left( (b_m^{-1} \delta_{k_m})_m, 0 \right)$$

and let us describe the values taken by  $\mathbf{g}$  and the induced maps  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_m(g_m)$  and  $g_m'$  (see Figure 2 for a representation of  $\mathbf{g}$ ). The only non-trivial commutator appearing in the values taken by  $\mathbf{g}$  is  $g_1(k_1)$  which is equal to  $a_1b_1a_1^{-1}b_1^{-1}$ . In other words  $g_0 = \mathbf{e}$ , thus  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0 = \mathbf{e}$ . Moreover when m = 1 we have  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 = \mathbf{e}$  and the only value of  $g_1'(x)$  different from  $\mathbf{e}$  is  $g_1'(k_1) = a_1b_1a_1^{-1}b_1^{-1}$  (on a blue background in Figure 2). Finally if m > 1 then  $g_m$  trivial thus  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_m = \mathbf{e}$  and  $g_m' = \mathbf{e}$ .

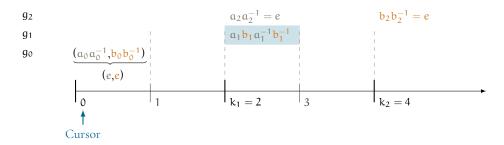


Figure 2: Representation of  $(\mathbf{g}, 0)$  defined in Example 2.4

The expanders case In the proof of our main theorem, we will restrict ourselves to a particular familiy of groups  $(\Gamma_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  called **expanders.** Recall that  $(\Gamma_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  is said to be a sequence of **expanders** if the sequence of diameters  $(\text{diam}(\Gamma_m))_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  is unbounded and if there exists  $c_0 > 0$  such that for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and all  $n \leq |\Gamma_m|/2$  the isoperimetric profile verifies  $I_{\Gamma_m}(n) \leq c_0$ .

Now, consider a family  $(\Gamma_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  of expanders. Assume that there exists c>0 such that for all  $l\geqslant 1$  there exists  $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}(l)}$  verifying that diam  $(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}(l)})\simeq l$ . We can thus define a "parametrization" by fixing a map  $l\mapsto \Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}(l)}$ . Consider now two non-decreasing sequences  $(k_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  and  $(l_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  of real numbers greater than 1 and denote by  $\Delta$  the diagonal product associated to  $(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}(l_m)})_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  and  $(k_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$ . Then  $\Delta$  is uniquely determined by the data of  $(l_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  and  $(k_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$ . In what follows, we will abuse notations and denote  $\Gamma_m$  instead of  $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}(l_m)}$ . Moreover we will always make the following assumptions when talking about diagonal products. We refer to [BZ21, Example 2.3] for an explicit example of diagonal product verifying **(H)**.

#### Hypotheses (H)

- 1.  $q := |A \times B| = 6$ ;
- 2.  $k_0 = 0$  and  $\Gamma_0 = A_0 \times B_0$ ;
- 3.  $\kappa \geqslant 3$  and  $(k_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}^*}$  is a sub-sequence of  $(\kappa^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ;
- 4.  $\lambda \geqslant 2$  and  $(l_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sub-sequence of  $(\lambda^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ;
- 5.  $(\Gamma_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of expanders such that  $\Gamma_m$  is a quotient of A\*B and there exists  $c_1>0$  such that diam  $(\Gamma_m)\leqslant c_1l_m$  for all  $m\in\mathbb{N}$ ;
- 6. the natural quotient map  $A_m \times B_m \to \langle \langle [A_m, B_m] \rangle \rangle \backslash \Gamma_m$  is an isomorphism, where  $\langle \langle [A_m, B_m] \rangle \rangle =: \Gamma_m'$  is the normal closure of  $[A_m, B_m]$ .

Recall (see [BZ21, page 9]) that in this case there exist  $c_1$ ,  $c_2 > 0$  such that, for all m

$$c_1 l_m - c_2 \leqslant \ln |\Gamma_m| \leqslant c_1 l_m + c_2.$$
 (2.1)

Finally, we adopt the convention of [BZ21, Notation 2.2] and allow  $k_m$  to take the value  $+\infty$ . In this case  $\Delta_m$  is the trivial group. In particular when  $k_1 = +\infty$  the diagonal product  $\Delta$  corresponds to the usual lamplighter group (A  $\times$  B)  $\wr \mathbb{Z}$ .

# 2.2 Range of an element

In this section we recall the notion of range of an element (g, t) in  $\Delta$ . We denote by  $\pi_2 : \Delta \to \mathbb{Z}$  the projection on the second factor, ie. the map that sends  $(f, t) \in \Delta$  to the value of its cursor t.

## **Definition 2.5**

If  $w=s_1\dots s_m$  is a word over  $S_\Delta$  we define its **range** as  $\text{range}(w):=\left\{\pi_2\left(\prod_{j=1}^i s_j\right)\ :\ i=0,\dots,n\right\}.$ 

The range is a finite subinterval of 
$$\mathbb{Z}$$
. It represents the set of sites visited by the cursor. We refer to Example 2.8 for an illustration.

#### Definition 2.6

The **range** of an element  $(f, t) \in \Delta$  is defined as the minimal diameter interval obtained as the range of a word over  $S_{\Delta}$  representing (f, t).

In what follows we will consider elements that can be written as a word with range in an interval of the form [0,n], where n belongs to  $\mathbb{N}$ . Therefore, when there is no ambiguity we will denote range( $\delta$ ) this interval, namely range( $\delta$ ) = [0,n]. For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we denote by  $\mathfrak{l}(n)$  the integer such that  $k_{\mathfrak{l}(n)} \leqslant n < k_{\mathfrak{l}(n)+1}$ . Let us now recall a useful fact proved in [BZ21].

Claim 2.7 ([BZ21, Fact 2.9]). An element  $(g, t) \in \Delta$  is uniquely determined by t,  $g_0$  and the sequence  $(g'_m)_{m \leqslant I(range(g,t))}$ .

**Example 2.8.** Let  $(\mathbf{g},0) \in \Delta$  such that range $(\mathbf{g},0) = [0,6]$ , that is to say: the cursor can only visit sites between 0 and 6. Then the map  $g_m$  can "write" elements of  $A_m$  only on sites visited by the cursor, that is to say from 0 to 6, and it can write elements of  $B_m$  only from  $k_m$  to  $6+k_m$ . Thus  $g_0$  is supported on [0,6], since  $k_0=0$ . Moreover, commutators (and hence elements of  $\Gamma'_m$ ) can only appear between  $k_m$  and 6. Thus  $\text{supp}(g'_m) \subseteq [k_m,6]$  Such a  $(\mathbf{g},0)$  is represented in Figure 3, page 9 for  $k_m=2^m$ .

Finally, the element  $(\mathbf{g}, 0)$  is uniquely determined by the data  $g_0$  (that is to say, the values read in the bottom line) and the values of  $g_i'$  for i=1,2 (namely, the value taken in the blue area). Figure 4, page 9 represents the aforementioned characterizing data.

# 2.3 From the isoperimetric profile to the group

We saw how to define a diagonal product from two sequences  $(k_m)_m$  and  $(l_m)_m$ . In this section we recall the definition given in [BZ21, Appendice B] of a diagonal product from its isoperimetric profile. We conclude on some useful results concerning the metric of these groups.

**Definition of**  $\Delta$  Recall that in the particular case of expanders (see Section 2.1) a diagonal product  $\Delta$  is uniquely determined by the sequences  $(k_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  and  $(l_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  (where  $l_m$  corresponds to the diameter of  $\Gamma_m$ ). Thus, starting from a prescribed function I, the goal is to define

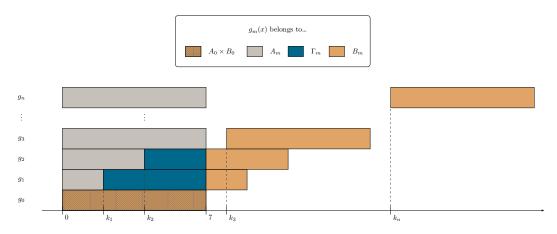


Figure 3: An element of  $\Delta$ 

Recall that  $g_m: \mathbb{Z} \to \Gamma_m$ . If  $m \leqslant \mathfrak{l}(6)$ , then  $g_m(x)$  belongs to  $A_m$  if  $x \in [0, k_m-1]$ , it belongs to  $\Gamma_m$  if  $x \in [k_m, 6]$  and to  $B_m$  if  $x \in [7, 6+k_m]$  and equals  $\mathbf{e}$  elsewhere. If  $m > \mathfrak{l}(6)$  then  $g_m(x)$  belongs to  $A_m$  if  $x \in [0, 6]$  and to  $B_m$  if  $x \in [k_m, 6+k_m]$  and equals  $\mathbf{e}$  elsewhere.

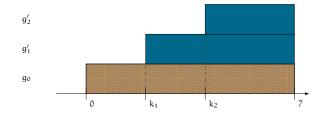


Figure 4: Data needed to characterized **g** such that range(**g**)  $\subset$  [0, 6] when  $k_m = 2^m$ 

sequences  $(k_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  and  $(l_m)_{m\in\mathbb{N}}$  such that the corresponding  $\Delta$  verifies  $I_{\Delta} \sim I$ . Brieussel and Zheng's construction of diagonal products is possible when the profile I is of the form  $I \sim \rho \circ \log$  where  $\rho$  belongs to the following set  $\mathcal{C}$ ,

$$\mathcal{C} := \left\{ \rho : [1, +\infty) \to [1, +\infty) \; \middle| \; \begin{array}{c} \rho \; \text{continue,} \\ \rho \; \text{and} \; x \mapsto x/\rho(x) \text{non-decreasing} \end{array} \right\}.$$

Equivalently this is the set of functions  $\rho$  satisfying

$$(\forall x, c \ge 1)$$
  $\rho(x) \le \rho(cx) \le c\rho(x)$ . (2.2)

So let  $\rho \in \mathcal{C}$ . Combining [BZ21, Proposition B.2 and Theorem 4.6] leads the following proposition (remember that with our convention the isoperimetric profile considered in [BZ21] corresponds to  $1/I_{\Delta}$ ).

#### Proposition 2.9

Let  $\kappa, \lambda \geqslant 2$ . For any  $\rho \in \mathcal{C}$  there exists a subsequence  $(k_m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}^*}$  of  $(\kappa^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and a subsequence  $(l_m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $(\lambda^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that the group  $\Delta$  defined in Section 2.1 verifies  $I_{\Delta} \sim \rho \circ \log$ .

**Example 2.10** ([BZ21, Example 4.5]). Let  $\alpha > 0$ . If  $\rho(x) := x^{1/(1+\alpha)}$  then the diagonal product  $\Delta$  defined by  $k_m = \kappa^m$  and  $l_m = \kappa^{\alpha m}$  verifies  $I_{\Delta} \sim \rho \circ \log$ .

**Example 2.11.** If  $\rho = \log$  then the diagonal product  $\mathbb{Z}$  defined by  $k_m = \kappa^m$  and  $l_m = \kappa^{\kappa^m}$  verifies  $I_{\Delta} \sim \rho \circ \log \circ \log$ .

Recall that we allow  $k_m$  to take the value  $+\infty$  (see below Equation (2.1)).

**Example 2.12.** If  $\rho(x) = x$  then the diagonal product defined by  $l_m = 1$  for all m and  $k_m = +\infty$  for all  $m \ge 1$  verifies  $\Delta = (A \times B) \wr \mathbb{Z}$  and  $I_{\Delta} \sim \log$ .

**Technical tools** Now let us recall the intermediary functions defined in [BZ21, Appendix B] and some of their properties.

Let  $\rho \in \mathcal{C}$ . The construction of a group corresponding to the given isoperimetric profile  $\rho$ -olog is based on the approximation of  $\rho$  by a piecewise linear function  $\bar{\rho}$ . For the quantification of our measure coupling, many of our computations will use  $\bar{\rho}$  and some of its properties. We recall below all the needed results, beginning with the definition of  $\bar{\rho}$ .

#### Lemma 2.13

Let  $\rho \in \mathcal{C}$ . Let  $(k_m)_m$  and  $(l_m)_m$  given by Proposition 2.9 and  $\Delta$  be the corresponding diagonal product. The function  $\bar{\rho}$  defined by

$$\bar{\rho}(x) := \begin{cases} x/l_m & \text{if } x \in [k_m l_m, k_{m+1} l_m], \\ k_{m+1} & \text{if } x \in [k_{m+1} l_m, k_{m+1} l_{m+1}], \end{cases}$$
(2.3)

verifies  $\bar{\rho} \sim \rho$ .

**Example 2.14.** If  $\rho(x) = x$  then  $l_m = 1$  for all m and  $k_m = +\infty$  for all  $m \ge 1$ . In this case  $\Delta = (A \times B) \ \mathbb{Z}$ .

# 3 Preliminaries on measure couplings

This section recalls some material from [DKLMT22, Section 2]. We start with general definition on measure equivalence and measure subgroup couplings, then turn to their quantitative version. Finally we present the two couplings building techniques that we use, in order to show our main theorem.

# 3.1 Measure couplings

A **standard Borel space**  $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}(\Omega))$  is a measurable space whose  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega)$  consists of the Borel subsets coming from some Polish (separable and completely metrisable) topology on  $\Omega$ . A **standard measure space**  $(\Omega, m)$  is a standard Borel space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}(\Omega))$  equipped with a non-zero  $\sigma$ -finite measure m.

A measure-preserving action of a discrete countable group G on a measured space  $(\Omega, m)$  is an action of G on  $\Omega$  such that the map sending (g, x) to g\*x is a Borel map and m(E) = m(g\*E) for all  $E \subseteq \mathcal{B}(X)$  and all  $g \in G$ . We will say that a measure-preserving action of G on  $(\Omega, m)$  is free, if for almost every  $x \in X$  we have g\*x = x if and only if  $g = \mathbf{e}_G$ . A fundamental domain for an action of G on  $(\Omega, m)$  is a Borel subset  $X_G \subseteq \Omega$  which intersects almost every G-orbit at exactly one point: in other words, there is a full measure G-invariant Borel set  $\Omega^* \subseteq \Omega$  such that for all  $x \in \Omega^*$ , the intersection  $\operatorname{Orb}_G(x) \cap X_G$  is a singleton.

Let G and H be two countable groups. Following the terminology of [DKLMT22], we call a **measure equivalence coupling** from G to H a quadruple ( $\Omega$ ,  $X_G$ ,  $X_H$ , m) such that G and H

both act freely and measure preservingly on the standard measure space  $(\Omega, m)$ , and  $X_G$  and  $X_H$  are fundamental domains of finite measure for the G- and the H-action on  $\Omega$ , respectively.

An elementary example of measure equivalence coupling is given by considering a countable group G endowed with the counting measure m, taking G = H and as actions the left and right translations of G on itself. The corresponding coupling is then  $(G, \{e_G\}, \{e_G\}, m)$ .

When G is an infinite subgroup of H, however, the (left) action by translation of G on H does not admit any fundamental domain of finite measure. This is why Delabie, Koivisto, Le Maître et Tessera introduced the notion of *measure subgroup coupling*, relaxing the condition on the fundamental domain of the G-action.

# Definition 3.1 ([DKLMT22, Def. 2.4])

Let G and H be two countable groups. A **measure subgroup coupling** from G to H is a triple  $(\Omega, X_H, m)$  such that:

- $(\Omega, m)$  is a standard measure space equipped with commuting measure-preserving free actions of G and H;
- and the G-action on  $\Omega$  admits a Borel fundamental domain;
- and  $X_H$  is a Borel fundamental domain of finite measure for the action of H on  $\Omega$ .

Remark that a measure equivalence coupling  $(\Omega, X_G, X_H, m)$  from G to H induces two measure subgroup couplings, namely  $(\Omega, X_H, m)$  from G to H and  $(\Omega, X_G, m)$  from H to G. Also, as suggested above, when G is a subgroup of H, a measure subgroup coupling grom G to H is given by  $(H, \{e_H\}, m)$ , where m denotes again the counting measure, and G acts on H by left translation, and H on itself by right translation.

We saw that two lattices in a common locally compact group are measure equivalent. Analogously, another example of measure subgroup coupling is given by considering  $\mathcal G$  a locally compact group endowed with a Haar measure m, then taking  $G\leqslant \mathcal G$  to be a discrete group and  $H\leqslant \mathcal G$  to be a lattice. Letting G and H act respectively by left and right translations on G, and denoting by  $X_H$  a fundamental domain for the H-action then produces the triple  $(\mathcal G, X_H, m)$  which is a measure subgroup coupling from G to H.

Finally, let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . We say that a measure subgroup coupling  $(\Omega, X_H, m)$  from G to H is at **most** k-**to-one** if for every  $x \in X_H$  the map  $g \mapsto g^{-1} * (g \cdot x)$  has pre-images of size at most m. Such couplings arise naturally from coarse embeddings.

**Example 3.2** (Coarse embeddings and regular maps). A map  $f: G \to H$  is a **regular map** if it is Lipschitz and verifies  $\sup_{h \in H} |f^{-1}(\{h\})| < +\infty$ . Coarse embeddings, for example, are regular maps. Recall that a **coarse embedding** is a map  $f: G \to H$  such that there exists two proper non-decreasing functions  $\rho_-, \rho_+: \mathbb{R}_+ \to \mathbb{R}_+$  verifying for all  $g_1, g_2 \in G$ ,

$$\rho_{-}\left(d_{G}\left(g_{1},g_{2}\right)\right)\leqslant d_{H}\left(f\left(g_{1}\right),f\left(g_{2}\right)\right)\leqslant\rho_{+}\left(d_{G}\left(g_{1},g_{2}\right)\right).$$

Delabie et al. showed [DKLMT22, Theorem 5.4] that if G is amenable and if there exists a regular map from G to H, then there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there is an at most k-to-one measure subgroup coupling from G to H. We will see a more precise version of this statement in Theorem 3.6, page 13, where we add the integrability of the measure subgroup.

Let us now define the quantitative version of such couplings.

# 3.2 Quantitative couplings

# 3.2.1 Definitions and examples

Recall that if a finitely generated group G acts on a space  $\Omega$  and if  $S_G$  is a finite generating set of G, one can define the **Schreier graph** associated to this action. It is the graph whose set of vertices is  $\Omega$  and set of edges is  $\{(x, s * x) | s \in S_G, x \in \Omega\}$ , where "\*" denotes the action of G on  $\Omega$ . This graph is endowed with a natural metric  $d_{S_G}$  fixing the length of an edge to one. Remark that if  $S'_G$  is another generating set of G then there exists C > 0 such that for a.e.  $x \in \Omega$  and all  $g \in G$ 

$$\frac{1}{C}d_{S_G}(x,g*x)\leqslant d_{S_G'}(x,g*x)\leqslant Cd_{S_G}(x,g*x).$$

Finally if  $(\Omega, X_H, m)$  is a measure subgroup coupling from G to H, we have a natural action of G on  $X_H$  (see Figure 5 for an illustration) denoted by "·" where for a.e.  $x \in X_H$  and all  $g \in G$  we define  $g \cdot x$  to be the unique element of H \* g \* x contained in  $X_H$ , viz.

$$\{g \cdot x\} = (H * g * x) \cap X_H.$$

# Definition 3.3 ([DKLMT22, Def. 2.20])

Let  $\phi: \mathbb{R}_+ \to \mathbb{R}_+$  be a non-decreasing map. Let G and H be two countable groups and denote by  $S_H$  a finite generating set of H. A measure subgroup coupling  $(\Omega, X_H, m)$  from G to H is said to be  $\phi$ -integrable if for all  $g \in G$  there exists  $c_g > 0$  such that

$$\int_{X_H} \phi\left(\frac{1}{c_g}d_{S_H}(g*x,g\cdot x)\right)dm(x)<+\infty.$$

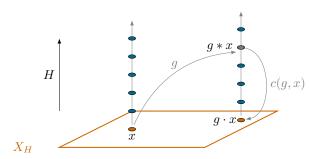




Figure 5: Definition of  $g \cdot x$ 

The constant  $c_g$  in the definition is introduced for the integrability to be independent of the choice of generating set  $S_H$ .

If  $\varphi(x) = x^p$  we will sometimes talk of  $L^p$ -integrability instead of  $\varphi$ -integrability. In particular,  $L^0$  means that no integrability assumption is made. We will talk about  $L^\infty$ -integrability if  $x \mapsto d_{S_H}(g * x, g \cdot x)$  is essentially bounded for all  $g \in G$ .

**Remark 3.4** (Reformulation using cocycles). When  $(\Omega, X_H, m)$  is a measure subgroup coupling from G to H, the associated **cocycle**  $\alpha : G \times X_H \to H$  is defined as being the map that verifies

 $\alpha(g, x) * g * x = g \cdot x$ , for all  $g \in G$  and a.e.  $x \in \Omega$ . In other words,  $\alpha(g, x)$  is the (unique) element of h sending g \* x to the fundamental domain  $X_H$ .

Now, denote by  $|h|_{S_H}$  the length of h in  $H = \langle S_H \rangle$ . An equivalent manner to formulate the above Definition 3.3 using cocycles, is to replace  $d_{S_H}(g * x, g \cdot x)$  in the integral by  $|\alpha(g, x)|_{S_H}$ .

Remark 3.5 (Quantitative measure equivalence). The authors also defined in [DKLMT22] the quantitative version of measure equivalence. Let  $(\Omega, X_G, X_H, m)$  be a measure equivalence coupling from G to H, and denote by  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  the corresponding cocycles (see Equation (1.1), page 2). One says that the measure equivalence is  $(\phi, \psi)$ -integrable if  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are respectively  $\phi$ -integrable and  $\psi$ -integrable. This is equivalent to ask for the measure subgroup coupling  $(\Omega, X_H, m)$  to be  $\phi$ -integrable and  $(\Omega, X_G, m)$  to be  $\psi$ -integrable.

Integrable measure subgroup couplings naturally arise from regular maps, and thus, in particular, from coarse embeddings. This is what the following theorem recalls. We refer to Example 3.2, page 11 for the definitions of coarse embeddings and regular maps.

# Theorem 3.6 ([DKLMT22, Theorem 5.4])

Let G and H be two finitely generated groups.

- If there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there is an at most k-to-one  $L^{\infty}$ -integrable measure subgroup coupling from G to H, then G regularly embeds into H.
- If G is amenable and regularly embeds into H, then there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there is an at most k-to-one  $L^{\infty}$ -integrable measure subgroup coupling from G to H.

# 3.2.2 Isoperimetric profile

Now recall from the introduction that the **isoperimetric profile** of G is the map  $I_G$  defined by  $I_G(n) := \sup_{|A| \le n} |A|/|\mathfrak{d}_S A|$ . Delabie, Koivisto, Le Maître and Tessera showed the monotonicity of this profile under measure eaquivalence and measure subgroup couplings.

## Theorem 3.7 ([DKLMT22, Theorems 1 and 4.4])

Let  $\phi: \mathbb{R}_+^* \to \mathbb{R}_+^*$  be a non-decreasing map such that  $t \mapsto t/\phi(t)$  is also non-decreasing. Let G and H be two finitely generated groups. If either

- there exists a  $(\varphi, L^0)$ -measure equivalence coupling from G to H;
- or there exists an at most k-to-one  $\varphi$ -integrable measure subgroup coupling from G to H, for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ;

then  $\phi \circ I_H \preccurlyeq I_G$ .

Assume for example that  $H=\mathbb{Z}$ . Then its profile verifies  $I_{\mathbb{Z}}\sim$  id. The above theorem proves that, if there exists at most k-to-one  $\phi$ -integrable measure sugroup coupling from a group G to  $\mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\phi \preccurlyeq I_G$ .

### 3.3 Couplings building techniques

In this section we recall the necessary material from [DKLMT22, CDKT24]. We present the tools needed to build the coupling of Theorem 1.3, page 4, namely sofic approximations and Følner tiling sequences. The necessity of both these tools is discussed in Remark 3.12, page 15.

#### 3.3.1 Sofic approximations

In this paragraph G will be a finitely generated group endowed with a finite generating set  $S_G$ , and  $(g_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  will be a sequence of finite directed graphs, labeled by the elements of  $S_G$ .

Let r>0 and denote by  $\mathcal{G}_n^{(r)}$  the set of elements  $x\in\mathcal{G}_n$  such that  $B_{\mathcal{G}_n}(x,r)$  is isomorphic to  $B_G(e_G,r)$  seen as directed labeled graphs, viz.  $\mathcal{G}_n^{(r)}=\left\{x\in\mathcal{G}_n\mid B_{\mathcal{G}_n}(x,r)\simeq B_G(e_G,r)\right\}$ . We say that  $(\mathcal{G}_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a **sofic approximation** if for every r>0

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\left| \mathcal{G}_n^{(r)} \right|}{\left| \mathcal{G}_n \right|} = 1.$$

**Example 3.8.** Any Følner sequence in an amenable group G is a sofic approximation.

In [CDKT24] Carderi, Delabie, Koivisto and Tessera proved a condition for a measure subgroup coupling to be  $\phi$ -integrable, using sofic approximations.

### Theorem 3.9 ([CDKT24])

Let  $\varphi \colon \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$  be a non-decreasing map. Let G and H be two finitely generated groups with respective sofic approximations  $(\mathcal{G}_n)_n$  and  $(\mathcal{H}_n)_n$ . Let  $\iota_n \colon \mathcal{G}_n \to \mathcal{H}_n$  be an injective map such that, for every  $s \in S_G$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\lim_{R \to \infty} \sup_{n} \sum_{r=0}^{R} \varphi(\delta r) \frac{\left| \left\{ x \in \mathcal{G}_{n}^{(1)} \mid d_{\mathcal{H}_{n}}(\iota_{n}(x), \iota_{n}(x \cdot s)) = r \right\} \right|}{|\mathcal{G}_{n}|} < \infty.$$
 (3.1)

Then there exists an at most 1-to-one  $\phi$ -integrable measure subgroup coupling from G to H.

Given two amenable groups G and H, with respective sofic approximations  $(\mathcal{G}_n)_n$  and  $(\mathcal{H}_n)_n$ , defining injections  $\iota_n$  that verify the above Equation (3.1) is not always straightforward. Our strategy to define such an injection relies on the notion of Følner tiling sequence, introduced by Delabie, Koivisto, Le Maître and Tessera [DKLMT22].

# 3.3.2 Følner tiling sequence: shifts and tiles

Følner tiling sequences are tools to chose the needed sofic approximations,  $(\mathcal{G}_n)_n$  and  $(\mathcal{H}_n)_n$ , and define an injection  $\iota_n$  from  $\mathcal{G}_n$  to  $\mathcal{H}_n$ , that verifies Equation (3.1).

# Definition 3.10 ([DKLMT22])

Let G be an amenable group and  $(\Sigma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of finite subsets of G. Define by induction the sequence  $(T_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  by  $T_0:=\Sigma_0$  and  $T_{n+1}:=T_n\Sigma_{n+1}$ .

We say that  $(\Sigma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a (right) Følner tiling sequence if

- $(T_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a (right) Følner sequence, viz.  $\lim_{n\to\infty} |T_ng\backslash T_n|/|T_n| = 0$  for all  $g\in G$ ;
- $T_{n+1} = \bigsqcup_{\sigma \in \Sigma_{n+1}} \sigma T_n$ .

We call  $\Sigma_n$  a set of **shifts** and  $T_n$  a **tile**.

Remark that in particular  $T_n = \Sigma_n \cdots \Sigma_0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and for all  $(\mathbf{f}, t) \in T_n$  there exists a unique sequence  $(\sigma_i)_{i=0,\dots,n}$  such that

$$(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{t}) = \sigma_n \cdots \sigma_0$$
 and  $\sigma_i \in \Sigma_i, \forall i \in \{0, \dots, n\}.$ 

**Example 3.11** ([DKLMT22, Proposition 6.10]). Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}$  and for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $\Sigma_n := \{0, 2^n\}$ . Then  $(\Sigma_n)_n$  is a Følner tiling sequence and the corresponding sequence of tiles is the sequence of intervals of the form  $T_n := [0, 2^{n+1} - 1]$ , for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We refer to Section 4.1.1, page 15 for the definition of Følner tiling sequences in diagonal products, and to Section 4.1.2, page 17 for a definition of another tiling in a lamplighter group.

**Remark 3.12** (On the choice of tools). In our proof, the criterion given in Theorem 3.9 allows us to build and quantify the coupling. The injections  $t_n$  this criterion requires us to build are obtained using Følner tiling sequences. Indeed, these tiling sequences allow us to define injections  $t_n$  that respect the geometry of the groups, that is to say, that verify Equation (3.1).

On the other hand, relying only on Følner tiling sequences is not possible for us in this case. More precisely, let G and H be two amenable groups with respective Følner tiling sequences  $(\Sigma_n)_n$  and  $(\Sigma'_n)_n$ . In [DKLMT22, Proposition 6.9], the authors give a criterion to show that G and H admit a measure equivalence coupling for which both cocycles are  $\varphi$ -integrable. Their criterion requires that the shifts verify  $\Sigma_n = \Sigma'_n$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We did not manage to fulfill this strong requirement in our case, namely, when G is a diagonal product and H a lamplighter gorup. This is why, instead, we rely on the criterion given in Theorem 3.9, which allows  $\Sigma'_n$  to contain more elements than  $\Sigma_n$ .

# 4 Construction of the coupling

We now turn to the proof of Theorem 1.3, page 4. In the following  $\Delta$  will denote a diagonal product as defined in Section 2 and verifying the hypotheses **(H)** page 7. In particular its isoperimetric profile is of the form  $I_{\Delta} \simeq \rho \circ \log$  for some  $\rho \in \mathcal{C}$ . To prove Theorem 1.3 we actually show that the diagonal product obtained from the isoperimetric profile  $\rho \circ \log$  is the wanted group G. The integrability of the coupling is proved using the criterion of Theorem 3.9.

# 4.1 Definition of the sofic approximations

The purpose of this section is to define the sofic approximations  $(\mathcal{G}_n)_n$  and  $(\mathcal{H}_n)_n$  in respectively  $G = \Delta$  and  $H = (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \wr \mathbb{Z}$ . We start by exhibiting Følner tiling sequences in both G and H, and then extract appropriate subsequences to work with.

#### 4.1.1 Følner tiling sequences in a diagonal product

In [Esc24] we constructed Følner tiling sequences of diagonal products. In particular, we showed in [Esc24, Lemma 3.10] that the sequence  $(T_n)_n$  defined in the following Equation (4.1), can be obtained as a sequence of tiles. We refer to Section 2.2 for details on the range of an element.

**Sequence of tiles** For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let

$$T_n := \left\{ (\mathbf{f}, t) \in \Delta \mid range(\mathbf{f}, t) \in [0, \kappa^n - 1] \right\}. \tag{4.1}$$

The sequence  $(T_n)_n$  is a (right) Følner sequence for  $\Delta$  [Esc24, Proposition 2.13 and Lemma 3.10]. It verifies  $|\mathfrak{d}_{S_\Delta} T_n|/|T_n| \leq 2/\kappa^n$ .

For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\mathfrak{L}(n) = \mathfrak{l}(\kappa^n - 1)$ , that is to say  $\mathfrak{L}(n)$  is the unique integer such that  $k_{\mathfrak{L}(n)} \leqslant \kappa^n - 1 < k_{\mathfrak{L}(n)+1}$ . For example if  $k_n = \kappa^n$ , then  $\mathfrak{L}(n) = n-1$ . We recall the following useful fact, concerning the growth of the map  $\mathfrak{L}$ .

Claim 4.1 ([Esc24, Claim 3.8]). Let  $n \ge 0$ , then either  $\mathfrak{L}(n+1) = \mathfrak{L}(n)$  or  $\mathfrak{L}(n+1) = \mathfrak{L}(n) + 1$ .

We computed in [Esc24, Lemma 4.2] the value of  $|T_n|$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , namely

$$|T_{n}| = \kappa^{n} (|A||B|)^{\kappa^{n}} \prod_{m=1}^{\mathfrak{L}(n)} |\Gamma'_{m}|^{\kappa^{n} - k_{m}},$$

$$(4.2)$$

and moreover showed [Esc24, Proposition 4.3] that there exist two constants  $c_{\Delta}$ ,  $C_{\Delta} > 0$  depending only on  $\Delta$ , such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

$$c_{\Delta} \kappa^{n-1} l_{\mathfrak{L}(n)} \leqslant \ln |T_n| \leqslant C_{\Delta} \kappa^n l_{\mathfrak{L}(n)}.$$
 (4.3)

We now recall the definition of the corresponding shifts.

Sequence of shifts Let  $\Sigma_0 := T_0 = \{(f,t) \in \Delta \mid \text{range}(f,t) \in \{0,1\}\}$ . Now for all  $n \ge 0$  we split  $\Sigma_{n+1}$  in  $\kappa$  parts defined as follows. For all  $j \in \{0,...,\kappa-1\}$  we let  $\Sigma_n^j$  be the set of  $(g,j\kappa^n) \in \Delta$  such that the following conditions are verified:

- 1. supp  $(g_0) \subseteq [0, j\kappa^n 1] \cup [(j+1)\kappa^n, \kappa^{n+1} 1]$
- $\text{2. supp } \left(g_m'\right) \subseteq \left[k_m, j\kappa^n + k_m 1\right] \cup \left[(j+1)\kappa^n, \kappa^{n+1} 1\right] \text{ for all } m \in [1, \mathfrak{L}(n)] \ ;$
- 3. If  $\mathfrak{L}(n+1)=\mathfrak{L}(n)+1$  then supp  $\left(g'_{\mathfrak{L}(n+1)}\right)\subseteq \left[k_m,\kappa^{n+1}-1\right]$ .
- 4. supp  $(g'_m) = \emptyset$  for all  $m \notin [0, \mathfrak{L}(n+1)]$

We refer to Figure 6, page 16 for a representation of an element in such a part. Finally, we define  $\Sigma_{n+1} := \bigcup_{i=0}^{\mathsf{K}-1} \Sigma_{n+1}^j$ . This sequence verifies  $T_{n+1} = \Sigma_{n+1} T_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  [Esc24, Lemma 3.10].

Let  $(\mathbf{g},t)$  be an element of some  $\Sigma_{n+1}^j$ . We represent in Figure 6 the supports and the sets where the maps  $g_0,g'_1,\ldots,g'_{\mathfrak{L}(n+1)}$  take their values. The light-blue rectangle with dotted outline is in  $\Sigma_{n+1}^j$  if and only if  $\mathfrak{L}(n+1)=\mathfrak{L}(n)+1$ .

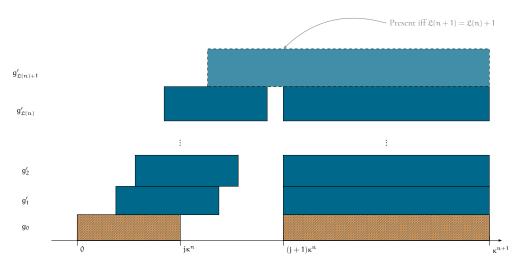


Figure 6: Support and values taken by  $(\mathbf{g},t) \in \Sigma_n^j$ 

We conclude with some remarks on the cursor of elements of  $\Sigma_n$ . Recall (see page 8) that  $\pi_2: \Delta \to \mathbb{Z}$  denotes the map that sends an element of  $\Delta$  to its cursor.

**Remark 4.2** (Cursor of tiling sequences). First note that by definition of  $\Sigma_0$  we have  $\pi_2(\sigma) = 0$  for all  $\sigma \in \Sigma_0$ ; Now let  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and note that if  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$ , then  $\pi_2(\sigma) = j\kappa^n$ , with  $j \in \{0, ..., \kappa-1\}$ .

In particular, let  $(f,t) \in T_n$  and let  $(\sigma_i)_{0 \leqslant i \leqslant n}$  denote the (unique) sequence such that  $(f,t) = \sigma_n \cdots \sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_i \in \Sigma_i$  for all  $i \in \{0,\ldots,n\}$ . Then  $\pi_2(\sigma_0) = 0$ . Now decompose t in base  $\kappa$  as  $t = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} t_i \kappa^i$ . Then for all  $i \in \{0,\ldots,n-1\}$ , we have  $\pi_2(\sigma_{i+1}) = t_i \kappa^i$ .

# 4.1.2 Tiling of the lamplighter group

In the following we endow  $H = (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \wr \mathbb{Z}$  with the following finite, symmetric generating set:  $S_H := \{(\mathbf{e}, \pm 1)\} \cup \{(a\mathbf{1}_0, 0) \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}\}$ . Recall that a (right) Følner sequence of H is given by

$$F_n' := \left\{ \left( (\epsilon_i)_i, t \right) : \ t \in \{0, n-1\}, \ supp \left( (\epsilon_i)_i \right) \subseteq [0, n-1] \right\}.$$

Our goal here is to extract a subsequence of  $(F'_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  to define a tiling for our group H. So let  $(d_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of integers and define  $\Sigma'_0:=F'_{d_0}$ . Now let  $D_n:=\prod_{i=0}^n d_i$  and consider for all  $n\geqslant 0$ 

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{n+1}' &\coloneqq \boldsymbol{\sqcup}_{j=0}^{d_{n+1}-1} \left\{ \left( (\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i)_i, j \boldsymbol{D}_n \right) \mid supp \left( (\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i)_i \right) \right. \subseteq & \left[ \boldsymbol{0}, j \boldsymbol{D}_n - 1 \right] \\ & \qquad \qquad \boldsymbol{\cup} \left[ (j+1) \boldsymbol{D}_n, \ \boldsymbol{D}_{n+1} - 1 \right] \right\}. \end{split} \tag{4.4}$$

These sets will be the shifts of the wanted Følner tiling sequence. This is what Lemma 4.4, page 17 formalises, but first let us give some illustration of this tiling.

**Example 4.3.** Assume that  $d_0=2$  and  $d_1=4$ , then  $D_0=2$  and  $D_1=8$ . Now consider  $\left((\epsilon_i)_i,t\right)\in F'_{D_0}$  and  $\left((\epsilon'_i)_i,jD_0\right)\in \Sigma'_1$ . We represent the product of these two elements in Figure 7 for j=0 (Figure 7a) or j=2 (Figure 7b). The dark blue squares correspond to lamp configurations coming from the element in  $F_{D_0}$  while the orange ones are coming from the shift. The cursor of this product, namely  $t+jD_1$ , belongs to the hatched blue rectangle.

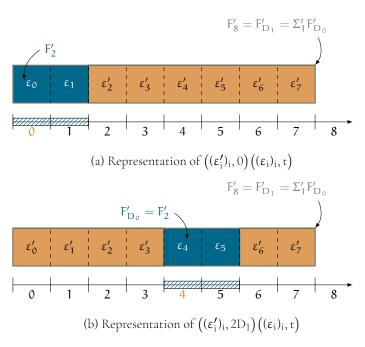


Figure 7: Tiling of the lamplighter

Let us now prove that it actually defines a Følner tiling sequence.

#### Lemma 4.4

Let  $(d_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of positive integers and for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ , let  $D_n=\prod_{i=0}^n d_i$ . Finally let  $(\Sigma_n')_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be as above.

Then  $(\Sigma'_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a (right) Følner tiling sequence and  $F'_{D_{n+1}} = \Sigma'_{n+1} F'_{D_n}$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(d_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of positive integers and for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$  let  $D_n:=\prod_{i=0}^n d_n$ . Let  $(\Sigma'_{n+1})$  be defined as in Equation (4.4).

Step 1 Let us prove that  $F'_{D_{n+1}} = \Sigma'_{n+1} F'_{D_n}$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

• We first show that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\Sigma'_{n+1} F'_{D_n}$  is contained in  $F'_{D_{n+1}}$ . Let  $\left((\epsilon'_i)_i, t\right)$  in  $F'_{D_n}$  and  $j \in [0, d_{n+1} - 1]$  and take  $\left((\epsilon_i)_i, jD_n\right) \in \Sigma'_{n+1}$ . Then

$$\left((\epsilon_i)_i, jD_n\right)\left((\epsilon_i')_i, t\right) = \left(\left(\epsilon_i + \epsilon_{i-jD_n}'\right)_i, \ t + jD_n\right)$$

By the definition of  $\Sigma'_{n+1}$  given in Equation (4.4) and since  $(\epsilon'_i)_i$  is supported on  $[0, D_n-1]$ , we have

$$\begin{split} \text{supp}\left(\left(\epsilon_i + \epsilon_{i-jD_n}'\right)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}\right) &\subseteq \left[0, jD_n - 1\right] \cup \left[(j+1)D_n, \ D_{n+1} - 1\right] \cup \left[jD_n, (j+1)D_n - 1\right], \\ &= \left[0, D_{n+1} - 1\right]. \end{split}$$

Finally, since  $t \leq D_n - 1$  and  $j \leq d_{n+1} - 1$ , we get

$$jD_n + t \le (d_{n+1} - 1)D_n + D_n - 1 \le D_n d_{n+1} - 1 = D_{n+1} - 1.$$

Thus  $\left((\epsilon_i)_i, jD_n\right)\left((\epsilon_i')_i, t\right)$  belongs to  $F_{D_{n+1}}'$ .

• Now take  $((\boldsymbol{\omega}_i)_i,t) \in F'_{D_{n+1}}$  and let us show that  $((\boldsymbol{\omega}_i)_i,t)$  belongs to  $\Sigma'_{n+1}F'_{D_n}$ . First, remark that since  $t \leqslant D_{n+1}-1$ , and  $D_{n+1}=d_{n+1}D_n$ , there exists a unique  $0 \leqslant j \leqslant d_{n+1}-1$  such that  $jD_n \leqslant t \leqslant (j+1)D_n-1$ . For such a j, lett' :=  $t-jD_n$  and let  $(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i)_i$  and  $(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i')_i$  be such that

$$\begin{split} \epsilon_i &= \begin{cases} \omega_i & \text{if } i \in [0, j D_n - 1] \cup [(j+1)D_n, D_{n+1} - 1], \\ e & \text{else}, \end{cases} \\ \epsilon_i' &= \begin{cases} \omega_{i+j D_n} & \text{if } i \in [0, D_n - 1], \\ e & \text{else}. \end{cases} \end{split}$$

Then  $\left((\epsilon_i)_i, jD_n\right) \in \Sigma'_{n+1}$  and  $\left((\epsilon'_i)_i, t'\right) \in F'_{D_n}$  and they verify  $\left((\epsilon_i)_i, jD_n\right) \left((\epsilon'_i)_i, t'\right) = \left((\omega_i)_i, t\right)$ . Hence the equality of the lemma.

Step 2 Let us prove that  $(\Sigma'_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a right Følner tiling sequence.

- First, the sequence of tiles  $(F'_{D_n})_n$  is a subsequence of the right Følner sequence  $(F'_n)_n$  of H. Therefore, it is itself a right Følner sequence.
- We now show that  $\sigma F'_{D_n} \cap \sigma' F'_{D_n} = \emptyset$  for all  $\sigma \neq \sigma' \in \Sigma'_{n+1}$ . So take  $\left((\epsilon_i)_i, jD_n\right)$  and  $\left((\epsilon_i')_i, j'D_n\right)$  in  $\Sigma'_{n+1}$  and take  $\left((\omega_i)_i, t\right)$  and  $\left((\omega_i')_i, t'\right)$  in  $F'_{D_n}$ . If

$$((\varepsilon_i)_i, jD_n)((\omega_i)_i, t) = ((\varepsilon_i')_i, j'D_n)((\omega_i')_i, t'), \tag{4.5}$$

then in particular  $t+jD_n=t'+j'D_n$ . But  $t,t'< D_n$  thus the last equality implies t=t' and therefore j=j'. In particular  $(\epsilon_i)_i$  and  $(\epsilon_i')_i$  are supported on the same set, namely  $[0,jD_n-1]\cup[(j+1)D_n,D_{n+1}-1]$ . This last set is disjoint from  $[jD_n,(j+1)D_n-1]$  which is the interval where  $(\omega_{i-jD_n})_i$  and  $(\omega_{i-jD_n})_i$  are supported. Combining this with Equation (4.5) we thus get that  $\epsilon_i=\epsilon_i'$  for all i. Hence the result.

We conclude with the following lemma.

#### Lemma 4.5

Let  $(d_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of positive integers and for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ , let  $D_n=\prod_{i=0}^n d_i$ . Let  $(\Sigma'_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be as in Equation (4.4), page 17. Then, the sequence of tiles  $(F_{D_n})_n$  verifies diam  $(F'_n)\leqslant 3D_n$  for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ . Moreover, for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$  we have

$$\left|F_{D_n}'\right| = D_n m^{D_n} \quad \text{ and } \quad \left|\Sigma_{n+1}'\right| = (d_{n+1}-1)D_n m^{(d_{n+1}-1)D_n}.$$

*Proof.* By choice of the generating set S<sub>H</sub>, the bound on the diameter is immediate.

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and consider  $((\epsilon_i)_i, t) \in F'_{D_n}$ . By definition of  $F'_{D_n}$  (see page 17), there are exactly  $D_n$  possible values for the cursor t, and  $m^{D_n}$  possible values for the sequence  $(\epsilon_i)_i$ . Therefore  $F'_{D_n}$  contains exactly  $D_n m^{D_n}$  elements. Furthermore, since  $F'_{D_{n+1}} = \Sigma'_{n+1} F'_{D_n}$ , the shift  $\Sigma'_{n+1}$  contains therefore  $(d_{n+1}-1)D_n m^{(d_{n+1}-1)D_n}$  elements.

We thus know how to build Følner tiling sequences for H. Now, we have to specify the sequence  $(d_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  such that the obtained tiling will give an appropriate Sofic approximation for our coupling.

# 4.1.3 Defining the sofic approximations

In the following we denote by  $(\Sigma_n)_n$  the Følner tiling sequence of  $\Delta$  defined in Section 4.1.1, page 15 and by  $(T_n)_n$  the corresponding tiling of  $\Delta$  (see Equation (4.1), page 15). In particular it verifies  $T_{n+1} = \Sigma_{n+1} T_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Given a sequence  $(d_n)_n$  of integers we also let  $D_n := \prod_{i=0}^n d_i$  and denote by  $(\Sigma'_n)_n$  the corresponding Folner tiling sequences defined in Equation (4.4). The goal is to define  $(d_n)_n$  such that one can embedd  $\Sigma_n$  in  $\Sigma'_n$  for all n.

So for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\mathcal{G}_n := T_n$ , and now let us define inductively the Sofic approximation  $\mathcal{H}_n$  of H. First, let  $d_0 := \min\{j : |T_0| \leqslant |F'_{d_0}|\}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_0 := F'_{d_0}$ . By definition of the Følner tiling sequences we have  $F'_{d_0} = \Sigma'_{d_0}$  and  $\Sigma_0 = T_0$ , thus  $|\Sigma_0| \leqslant |\Sigma'_0|$  and moreover, by definition of  $d_0$  and Lemma 4.5, page 19, we have

$$(d_0 - 1)m^{d_0 - 1} < |\Sigma_0| \leqslant d_0 m^{d_0} \tag{4.6}$$

Then let  $n \geqslant 0$  and assume that we have defined the sequence  $(d_i)_{0 \leqslant i \leqslant n}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_n = F'_{D_n}$ . Let  $d_{n+1}$  be the minimal integer such that the set  $\Sigma'_{n+1}$  defined in Equation (4.4) contains at least  $|\Sigma_{n+1}|$  elements, viz.

$$(d_{n+1} - 1) m^{D_n(d_{n+1} - 2)} \leqslant |\Sigma_{n+1}| \leqslant d_{n+1} m^{D_n(d_{n+1} - 1)}.$$
 (4.7)

Remark that in particular, one can embed  $\Sigma_{n+1}$  in  $\Sigma'_{n+1}$ . Finally let  $\mathcal{H}_{n+1} = F'_{D_{n+1}}$ . It defines by induction a sequence  $(\mathcal{H}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , which is a Sofic approximation of  $L_m$  since it is a sub-sequence of a Følner sequence. We refer to table 1, page 20 for a summary of the different objects defined above.

## 4.2 Quantification

The purpose if this section is to verify the criterion given by Theorem 3.9, page 14.

$g_0 = \Sigma_0 = T_0$	$g_{n+1} = T_{n+1} = \Sigma_{n+1} T_n$
$d_0:=\min\{j: T_0 \leqslant F_{d_0}' \}$	$\mathcal{H}_0 := F'_{d_0} = \Sigma'_0$
d <sub>n+1</sub> defined by Equation (4.7), page 19	$D_{n+1} = d_{n+1}D_n = \prod_{i=0}^{n+1} d_i$
$\Sigma'_{n+1}$ defined by Equation (4.4), page 17	$\mathcal{H}_{n+1} = F'_{D_{n+1}} = \Sigma'_{n+1} F'_{n+1}$

Table 1: Definition of the sofic approximations

# 4.2.1 Definition of the injection

Let us define, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the injection  $\iota_n$ , embedding  $\mathfrak{G}_n$  in  $\mathfrak{H}_n$ .

First remark that, by definition of  $(\Sigma'_n)_n$ , we have  $|\Sigma_n| \leq |\Sigma'_n|$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  (see Equation (4.7), page 19), and there thus exists an injection  $\nu_n$  from  $\Sigma_n$  to  $\Sigma'_n$ . From now on, we assume fixed such a sequence of (arbitrarily chosen) injections  $(\nu_n)_n$ .

Now let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $(\Sigma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a Følner tiling sequence, one can write every element of  $\mathcal{G}_n$  as a product  $\sigma_n \cdots \sigma_0$  where  $\sigma_i \in \Sigma_i$  is uniquely determined for all i. Thus we can define without ambiguity the following map  $\iota_n$ .

#### Lemma 4.6

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The map defined by

$$\iota_{n} \;:\; \begin{cases} \boldsymbol{\mathfrak{G}}_{n} = \boldsymbol{T}_{n} & \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\mathfrak{H}}_{n} = \boldsymbol{F}_{D_{n}}^{\prime}, \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{n} \cdots \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{0} & \mapsto \boldsymbol{\nu}_{n} \left(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{n}\right) \cdots \boldsymbol{\nu}_{0} \left(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{0}\right). \end{cases}$$

where  $\sigma_i \in \Sigma_i$  for all  $i \leqslant n,$  is an injection from  $\mathfrak{G}_n$  to  $\mathfrak{H}_n.$ 

*Proof.* Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The map  $t_n$  thus defined does not depend on the choice of the decomposition of an element of  $T_n$  in a product of shifts. Indeed, by the preceding discussion, there is only one choice possible for the aforementioned decomposition.

Now let  $x, x' \in \mathcal{G}_n$ . Let  $x = \sigma_n \cdots \sigma_0$  and  $x' = \sigma'_n \cdots \sigma'_0$  be the (unique) decompositions in product of shifts of x and x'. In particular, for all  $i \in \{0, \dots, n\}$  define  $\sigma_i, \sigma'_i$  are elements of  $\Sigma_i$ . Then by definition of  $\iota_n$  we have  $\iota_n(x) = \prod_{i=0}^n \nu_i (\sigma_i)$  and  $\iota_n(x') = \prod_{i=0}^n \nu_i (\sigma'_i)$ . But  $\nu_i(\sigma_i)$  and  $\nu_i(\sigma'_i)$  belong to  $\Sigma'_i$  for all i, thus  $\prod_{i=0}^n \nu_i (\sigma_i)$  is the decomposition of  $\iota_n(x)$  and  $\prod_{i=0}^n \nu_i (\sigma_i)$  the decomposition of  $\iota_n(x')$  in product of shifts. Since  $(\Sigma'_n)_n$  is a Følner tiling shift, this decomposition is unique. Thus if  $\iota_n(x) = \iota_n(x')$  then  $\nu_i(\sigma_i) = \nu_i(\sigma'_i)$  for all i. Hence  $\sigma_i = \sigma'_i$  since  $\nu_i$  is a bijection for all i, and therefore x = x'. Hence the injectivity of  $\iota_n$ .

In order to verify Equation (3.1), page 14, we now need to estimate the values taken by the distance between  $\iota_n((f,t))$  and  $\iota_n((f,t) \cdot s)$  when (f,t) belongs to  $\Delta$  and  $s \in S_{\Delta}$ .

#### 4.2.2 Distance

The goal of this subsection is to give an upper bound to the distance between  $\iota_n(f,t)$  and  $\iota_n((f,t)s)$ . We distinguish two cases depending on whether s=(e,1) or not. But first let us introduce some notations.

Let  $t \in \{0, \dots, \kappa^n - 1\}$  and let  $t = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} t_i \kappa^i$  be the decomposition in base  $\kappa$  of t. If  $(\mathbf{f}, t)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{G}_n^{(1)}$  then  $t < \kappa^n - 1$  and thus there exists  $i \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$  such that  $t_i < \kappa - 1$ . Therefore, we can define

$$i_0(t) := \min\{i \le n \mid t_i < \kappa - 1\}.$$
 (4.8)

This index corresponds to the one of the coefficient  $t_i$  that will absorb the carry when we add one to t. In other words, the decomposition of t+1 in base  $\kappa$  is given by  $t+1=(t_{i_0(t)}+1)\kappa^{i_0(t)}+\sum_{i=i_0(t)}^{n-1}t_i\kappa^i$ . Finally, let us recall that  $\mathcal{G}_n^{(r)}$  is defined as  $\mathcal{G}_n^{(r)}=\left\{x\in\mathcal{G}_n\mid B_{\mathcal{G}_n}(x,r)\simeq B_G(e_G,r)\right\}$ .

#### Lemma 4.7

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $s \in \mathcal{S}_{\Delta}$ . For all  $t \in \{0, \dots, \kappa^n - 1\}$ , let  $i_0(t)$  be as in Equation (4.8) Then for all  $(f, t) \in \mathcal{G}_n^{(1)}$  we have

$$\mathrm{d}\left(\iota_{n}\big((\mathbf{f},t)\big),\iota_{n}\big((\mathbf{f},t)\cdot s\big)\right)\leqslant \begin{cases} 3\mathrm{D}_{0} & \text{if } s\neq (\mathbf{e},1),\\ 3\mathrm{D}_{i_{0}(t)} & \text{if } s=(\mathbf{e},1). \end{cases}$$

The following proof relies on the definition of the range given in Definition 2.5, page 8.

*Proof.* Recall that  $\mathcal{G}_n = T_n$  where  $T_n$  is tiled by the sequence of shifts  $(\Sigma_i)_{i=0,\dots,n}$ . In particular (see Definition 3.10, page 14)  $T_n = \Sigma_n \cdots \Sigma_0$  and since  $(\mathbf{f}, t) \in T_n$ , there exists a unique sequence  $(\sigma_i)_{0 \leqslant i \leqslant n}$  such that  $(\mathbf{f}, t) = \sigma_n \cdots \sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_i \in \Sigma_i$  for all  $i \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ . Similarly, we denote by  $(\sigma'_n)_{0 \leqslant i \leqslant n}$  the unique sequence such that  $(\mathbf{f}, t) = \sigma'_n \cdots \sigma'_0$  and  $\sigma'_i \in \Sigma_i$  for all i.

First case Let  $s \in S_{\Delta} \setminus \{(e, 1)\}.$ 

- Let us first prove that  $\sigma_0$ s belongs to  $T_0$ . Since  $\sigma_0 \in \Sigma_0 = T_0$  it verifies range( $\sigma_0$ ) = {0}. Moreover, since s belongs to  $S_{\Delta} \setminus \{(\mathbf{e}, 1)\}$  its cursor is equal to 0. Therefore, by definition of the range, we have range( $\sigma_0$ s) = {0}. Hence  $\sigma_0$ s  $\in T_0$ .
- Let us now show that  $\sigma_i = \sigma_i'$  for all i > 0. Remark that

$$(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{t})\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{\sigma}_{n} \cdots \mathbf{\sigma}_{0}\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{\sigma}_{n} \cdots \mathbf{\sigma}_{1} (\mathbf{\sigma}_{0}\mathbf{s}).$$

But by the last point  $\sigma_0$ s belongs to  $\Sigma_0$ , thus the above equality gives a decomposition of  $(\mathbf{f}, t)$ s in a product of shifts. By uniqueness of this decomposition (see below Definition 3.10, page 14) we thus have  $\sigma_0' = \sigma_0 \cdot s$  and  $\sigma_i = \sigma_i'$  for all i > 0.

• Let us now bound by above the distance between  $\iota_n((f,t))$  and  $\iota_n((f,t)s)$ .

Using the definition of  $\iota_n$  given by Lemma 4.6, page 20, then the above point, and finally Lemma 4.5, page 19, we obtain that

$$d\left(\iota_{n}((f,t)), \iota_{n}((f,t)s)\right) = d\left(\nu_{0}(\sigma_{0}), \nu_{0}(\sigma_{0}s)\right),$$
  
$$\leq diam(\mathcal{H}_{0}) = 3D_{0}.$$

**Second case** Now assume that s = (e, 1).

• Let us prove that  $\sigma_{i_0(t)}\cdots\sigma_0\cdot(e,1)$  belongs to  $T_{i_0(t)}$ . First recall (see page 8) that  $\pi_2:\Delta\to\mathbb{Z}$  denotes the map that sends an element of  $\Delta$  to its cursor. Using Remark 4.2, page 16 we get that  $\pi_2(\sigma_0)=0$  and  $\pi_2(\sigma_{i+1})=t_i\kappa^{i-1}$  for all  $i\in\{0,\ldots,n-1\}$ . Therefore

$$\pi_2\left(\sigma_{i_0(t)}\cdots\sigma_0\right)=\sum_{i=0}^{i_0(t)}t_i\kappa^{i-1}.$$

But, by definition of  $i_0(t)$ , we have  $t_i = \kappa - 1$  for all  $i < i_0(t)$  and  $t_{i_0(t)} < \kappa - 1$ , thus

$$\pi_2\left(\sigma_{i_0(t)}\cdots\sigma_0\right)<\kappa^{i_0(t)}-1.$$
 Hence

$$\pi_2\left(\sigma_{i_0(t)}\cdots\sigma_0(e,1)\right)=\pi_2\left(\sigma_{i_0(t)}\cdots\sigma_0\right)+1\leqslant \kappa^{i_0(t)}-1.$$

Since  $\sigma_{i_0(t)} \cdots \sigma_0$  belongs to  $T_{i_0(t)}$ , its range is included in  $[0, \kappa^{i_0(t)} - 1]$ . Thus, using the above inequality we get

$$\begin{split} \text{range}\left(\sigma_{i_0(t)}\cdots\sigma_0(\textbf{e},1)\right) \subseteq \text{range}\left(\sigma_{i_0(t)}\cdots\sigma_0\right) \cup \left\{\pi_2\left(\sigma_{i_0(t)}\cdots\sigma_0(\textbf{e},1)\right)\right\} \\ \subseteq [0,\kappa^{i_0(t)}-1], \end{split}$$

namely  $\sigma_{i_0(t)} \cdots \sigma_0(e, 1)$  belongs to  $T_{i_0(t)}$ .

• Let us now show that  $\sigma_i = \sigma_i'$  for all  $i > i_0(t)$ . By the above point there exists a sequence  $(\bar{\sigma}_i)_{0 \leqslant i \leqslant i_0(t)}$  such that  $\sigma_{i_0(t)} \cdots \sigma_0 s = \bar{\sigma}_{i_0(t)} \cdots \bar{\sigma}_0$  and  $\bar{\sigma}_i \in \Sigma_i$  for all  $i \leqslant i_0(t)$ . Therefore

$$\begin{split} (f,t)s &= \sigma_n \cdots \sigma_0 s = \sigma_n \cdots \sigma_{i_0(t)+1} \left( \sigma_{i_0(t)} \cdots \sigma_0 s \right), \\ &= \sigma_n \cdots \sigma_{i_0(t)+1} \left( \bar{\sigma}_{i_0(t)} \cdots \bar{\sigma}_0 \right), \end{split}$$

where  $\bar{\sigma}_i$  belongs to  $\Sigma_i$  for all  $i \leq i_0(t)$  and  $\sigma_i$  belongs to  $\Sigma_i$  for all  $i > i_0(t)$ . Hence the above equality gives a decomposition of  $(\mathbf{f}, t)$ s in a product of shifts. Using once more the uniqueness of this decomposition (see below Definition 3.10, page 14) we thus have  $\sigma_i' = \bar{\sigma}_i$  for all  $i \leq i_0(t)$  and  $\sigma_i = \sigma_i'$  for all  $i > i_0(t)$ .

• Using the definition of  $t_n$  given by Lemma 4.6, page 20, then the above point, and finally Lemma 4.5, page 19, we obtain that

$$d\left(\iota_n\big((f,t)\big),\iota_n\big((f,t)s\big)\right)\leqslant diam(\mathcal{H}_{i_0(t)})=3D_{i_0(t)}.\quad \Box$$

We conclude with an estimate of the proportion of elements in  $\mathcal{G}_n$  verifying  $i_0(t) = i$  for some fixed  $i \in \{0, ..., n-1\}$ .

#### Lemma 4.8

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $i_0(t)$  be as in Equation (4.8). Then, for all  $i \in \{0, ..., n-1\}$ , we have

$$\left|\left\{(f,t)\in \mathcal{G}_n\ :\ i_0(t)=i\right\}\right|=\frac{(\kappa-1)}{\kappa^i}\left|\mathcal{G}_n\right|.$$

*Proof.* So let  $i \in \{0, ..., n-1\}$ . As above, let  $t = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} t_j \kappa^j$  be the decomposition in base  $\kappa$  of t. For a given  $j \in \{0, ..., n-1\}$ , the digit  $t_j$  can uniformly take  $\kappa$  different values, namely any value between zero and  $\kappa - 1$ . Thus, the proportion of  $(\mathbf{f}, t) \in \mathcal{G}_n$  verifying that  $t_i < \kappa - 1$  and  $t_j = \kappa - 1$  for all j < i is equal to  $(\kappa - 1)\kappa^{-i}$ . Hence the lemma.

# 4.2.3 Integrability

We now turn to the proof of the quantification. We prove that the sequences  $(\mathcal{G}_n)_n$  and  $(\mathcal{H}_n)_n$  defined before verify, for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , the condition of Theorem 3.9, page 14 with  $\phi = \rho^{1-\epsilon}$ . First, we need to bound by above the value of  $D_n$ .

#### Lemma 4.9

There exists  $C'_{\Delta}\geqslant 1$  depending only on  $\Delta$ , such that  $D_n\leqslant C'_{\Delta}\kappa^nl_{\mathfrak{L}(n)},$  for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}.$ 

*Proof.* We start by proving some inequalities and then show the upper bound by induction on n.

### Useful remarks

- 1. First, note that since  $m \ge 2$  we have  $ln(m) \ge 1/2$  and therefore  $1/ln(m) \le 2$ .
- 2. By definition of  $\Sigma_0$ , and item 1 of hypotheses **(H)**, page 7, we have  $|\Sigma_0| = q = 6$ . Therefore  $\ln |\Sigma_0| = \ln(q) \geqslant 1$ .
- 3. Let us show that  $d_{n+1}\geqslant 2$  for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ . Let  $n\in\mathbb{N}$  and assume towards a contradiction that  $d_{n+1}=1$ . By the right most inequality of Equation (4.7), page 19, this implies  $|\Sigma_{n+1}|\leqslant m^{d_0\cdots d_n\cdot 0}=1$ . But the value of  $|T_i|$  is strictly increasing. Since  $T_{n+1}=\Sigma_n T_n$  this forces  $\Sigma_{n+1}$  to contain at least 2 elements. Hence the contradiction.
- 4. Let us now prove that, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  we have  $\ln |\Sigma_n| \leqslant C_\Delta \kappa^n |_{\mathfrak{L}(n)}$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Recall that the sequence of shifts  $(\Sigma_i)_i$  verifies  $T_{n+1} = \Sigma_{n+1} T_n$ . In particular  $|\Sigma_{n+1}| = |T_{n+1}|/|T_n|$ . Combining this with the upper bound in Equation (4.3), page 16, leads

$$\ln |\Sigma_{n+1}| = \ln |T_{n+1}| - \ln |T_n| \leqslant \ln |T_{n+1}| \leqslant C_{\Delta} \kappa^{n+1} l_{\mathfrak{L}(n+1)}.$$

Now let  $C'_{\Delta} := \max \left\{ 3 \ln(q), 6 C_{\Delta} \right\}$ . Remark in particular that  $C'_{\Delta} \geqslant 1$  (see the above item 2). We now aim to show that  $D_n \leqslant C'_{\Delta} \kappa^n l_{\mathfrak{L}(n)}$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

**Base case** Let us first treat the case where n = 0.

• Remark that by Equation (4.6), page 19 we have  $(d_0-1)m^{d_0-1}\leqslant |\Sigma_0|$ . Therefore, using first the latter inequality, then that  $\ln |\Sigma_0|\geqslant 1$  (item 2), then that  $1/\ln(m)\leqslant 2$  (item 1), leads

$$d_0\leqslant \frac{\ln |\Sigma_0|}{\ln(m)}+1\leqslant \ln |\Sigma_0|\left(\frac{1}{\ln(m)}+1\right)\leqslant 3\ln |\Sigma_0|.$$

Using that  $|\Sigma_0| = q$  (item 2) and recalling that  $D_0 = d_0$  thus gives  $D_0 \leqslant 3 \ln |\Sigma_0| = 3 \ln(q)$ . The wanted inequality then comes noting that  $C'_{\Delta} \geqslant 3 \ln(q)$  and that  $\kappa^0|_{\mathfrak{L}(0)} \geqslant \kappa^0 \lambda^0 = 1$ .

**Induction** Now let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and assume that  $D_n \leqslant C'_{\Delta} \kappa^n l_{\mathfrak{L}(n)}$ . Recall that we showed (item 3) that  $d_{n+1} \geqslant 2$ . We distinguish two cases depending on whether  $d_{n+1} = 2$  or  $d_{n+1} \geqslant 3$ .

• If  $d_{n+1} = 2$ , then  $D_{n+1} = 2D_n$ . Using our assumption on  $D_n$ , and that  $\kappa \ge 3$ , we obtain

$$D_{n+1} = 2D_n \leqslant 2 \cdot C_{\Delta}' \kappa^n |_{\mathfrak{L}(n)} \leqslant C_{\Delta}' \kappa^{n+1} |_{\mathfrak{L}(n)}$$

We obtain the wanted inequality by recalling that  $\mathfrak{L}(n) \leqslant \mathfrak{L}(n+1)$  (see Claim 4.1, page 15). Since  $(l_i)_i$  is a subsequence of a geometric sequence (see item 5 of **(H)**, page 7), in particular it is non-decreasing. Thus  $l_{\mathfrak{L}(n)} \leqslant l_{\mathfrak{L}(n+1)}$  and hence we obtain the wanted inequality in this case.

• Assume now that  $d_{n+1}\geqslant 3$ . Taking the logarithm of the left most inequality of Equation (4.7), page 19 then leads  $D_n(d_{n+1}-2)\ln(m)\leqslant \ln|\Sigma_{n+1}|$ . Since  $D_{n+1}=d_{n+1}D_n$  we deduce

$$D_{n+1} \leqslant \frac{\ln |\Sigma_{n+1}|}{\ln(m)} \frac{d_{n+1}}{(d_{n+1}-2)}$$

But since  $d_{n+1} \geqslant 3$ , we have  $d_{n+1}/(d_{n+1}-2) \leqslant 3$ . Recalling that  $1/\ln(m) \leqslant 2$  (item 1 of the above useful remarks) thus leads  $D_{n+1} \leqslant 6\ln |\Sigma_{n+1}|$ . Then applying item 4 of the above remarks, and using that  $C_{\Lambda}' \geqslant 6C_{\Delta}$ , implies

$$D_{n+1}\leqslant 6C_{\Delta}\kappa^{n+1}l_{\mathfrak{L}(n+1)}\leqslant C_{\Delta}'\kappa^{n+1}l_{\mathfrak{L}(n+1)}.\quad \Box$$

We now turn to the proof of our main result.

Proof of Theorem 1.3. So let  $\rho \in \mathcal{C}$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  and define  $\phi_{\epsilon} = \rho^{1-\epsilon}$ . Consider  $\Delta$  verifying the conditions **(H)** page 7 and such that  $I_{\Delta} \sim \rho \circ \log$ . Let  $G := \Delta$  and  $H := (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \wr \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $(\mathcal{G}_n)_n$  and  $(\mathcal{H}_n)_n$  be as defined in Section 4.1, page 15

Consider  $s \in S_{\Delta}$  and fix R > 0 and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We distinguish two cases depending on whether  $s = (\mathbf{e}, 1)$  or not

First case Let  $s \in \mathcal{S}_{\Delta} \setminus \{e, 1\}$ . By Lemma 4.7, page 21 the distance between  $\iota_n(\mathbf{f}, t)$  and  $\iota_n\left((\mathbf{f}, t)s\right)$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{G}_n$  by  $3D_0$ . Therefore

$$\sum_{r=0}^{R} \phi_{\epsilon}(r) \frac{\left|\left\{(f,t) \in \mathcal{G}_{n}^{(1)} \mid d_{\mathcal{H}_{n}}(\iota_{n}(f,t),\iota_{n}\left((f,t)s\right) = r\right\}\right|}{|\mathcal{G}_{n}|} \leqslant \phi_{\epsilon}(3D_{0}) < +\infty.$$

Since this upper bound does not depend on R nor on n, the condition of Equation (3.1), page 14 is verified in this case.

**Second case** We now assume that s = (e, 1). By Lemma 4.7, page 21 and Lemma 4.8, page 22, we have

$$\sum_{r=0}^{R} \phi_{\epsilon}(r) \, \frac{\left|\left\{(\mathbf{f},t) \in \mathcal{G}_{n}^{(1)} \, | \, d_{\mathcal{H}_{n}}(\iota_{n}(\mathbf{f},t),\iota_{n}\left((\mathbf{f},t) \cdot s\right) = r\right\}\right|}{|\mathcal{G}_{n}|} \leqslant \sum_{i=0}^{n} \, \phi_{\epsilon}(3\mathrm{D}_{i}) \, \frac{\kappa - 1}{\kappa^{i}}.$$

But, when i > 0, by Lemma 4.9, page 22 there exists a constant  $C'_{\Delta} \geqslant 1$  such that  $D_i \leqslant C'_{\Delta} \kappa^i l_{\mathfrak{L}(i)}$ . Therefore, using that  $\boldsymbol{\rho}$  is non-decreasing, then Equation (2.2), page 9, we obtain that for all i > 0

$$\rho(\text{3D}_i) \leqslant \rho\left(\text{3C}_\Delta'\kappa^i l_{\mathfrak{L}(i)}\right) \leqslant \text{3C}_\Delta'\rho\left(\kappa^i l_{\mathfrak{L}(i)}\right).$$

Now, recall that the map  $\bar{\rho}$  given by Lemma 2.13, page 10 verifies  $\bar{\rho} \sim \rho$  and  $\bar{\rho} \left( \kappa^i l_{\mathfrak{L}(i)} \right) = \kappa^i$ . In other word, there exists some constant  $c \geqslant 1$  depending only on  $\Delta$  such that  $\rho \left( \kappa^i l_{\mathfrak{L}(i)} \right) \leqslant c \kappa^i$ . Combining these inequalities and recalling that  $\phi_{\epsilon} = \rho^{1-\epsilon}$ , we thus get

$$\begin{split} \sum_{i=0}^n \, \phi_\epsilon \, (\mathrm{3D_i}) \, \frac{\kappa-1}{\kappa^i} &\leqslant \rho(\mathrm{3D_0})^{1-\epsilon} (\kappa-1) + \sum_{i=1}^n \, \big(\mathrm{3C_\Delta' c} \kappa^i\big)^{(1-\epsilon)} \, \frac{\kappa-1}{\kappa^i}, \\ &= \rho(\mathrm{3D_0})^{1-\epsilon} (\kappa-1) + (\mathrm{3C_\Delta' c})^{(1-\epsilon)} (\kappa-1) \sum_{i=1}^n \, \kappa^{-\epsilon i}. \end{split}$$

Finally, since  $\kappa \geqslant 3$ , we have  $\kappa^{-\epsilon} < 1$  and thus the sequence  $(\kappa^{-\epsilon i})_i$  is summable. Hence the sum  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \kappa^{-\epsilon i}$  is bounded by above by a constant that does not depend on n nor on R. Therefore Equation (3.1) is verified.

Conclusion on the integrability. By Theorem 3.9, page 14, there exists an at most 1-to-one  $\varphi$ -integrable measure subgroup coupling from G to H.

# Notation index

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\preccurlyeq, \simeq See page 4.
|X| Cardinal of the set X.
∂F Boundary of the set F.
\Delta See Definition 2.1.
\Delta_{\rm m} See Section 2.1.
C See Equation (1.2), page 4.
F'_n A Følner sequence of (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \wr \mathbb{Z} (see Section 4.1.2, page 17).
g The sequence of maps (g_m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}}.
g' The sequence of maps (g'_m)_{m>0}.
g'<sub>m</sub> See Section 2.1.
g_n Sofic approximation of G.
\mathcal{G}_n^{(r)} The set \{x \in \mathcal{G}_n \mid B_{\mathcal{G}_n}(x,r) \simeq B_G(e_G,r)\}.
\Gamma'_{m} Normal closure of [A_{m}, B_{m}].
\mathcal{H}_n Sofic approximation of H.
i_0(t) Defined by i_0(t) := \min\{i \le n \mid t_i < \kappa - 1\} (see Equation (4.8)).
I<sub>G</sub> Isoperimetric profile of G.
\iota_n Injection from \mathfrak{G}_n to \mathfrak{H}_n.
L_m Lamplighter group (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \wr \mathbb{Z}.
\mathfrak{l}(n) Integer such that k_{\mathfrak{l}(n)}\leqslant n < k_{\mathfrak{l}(n)+1}.
\mathfrak{L}(n) Integer such that k_{\mathfrak{L}(n)} \leqslant \kappa^n - 1 < k_{\mathfrak{L}(n)+1}, i.e. \mathfrak{L}(n) = \mathfrak{l}(\kappa^n - 1).
v_i Injections from \Sigma_i to \Sigma'_i (see page 20);
\pi_2 Map that send an element (f, t) \in \Delta to its cursor t (see Section 2.2, page 8)
\bar{\rho} The affine approximation of the map \rho (see Lemma 2.13, page 10).
range(\mathbf{f}, t) See Section 2.2, page 8.
S<sub>G</sub> A generating set of the group G.
\Sigma_n Shifts in \Delta (see page 16)
\Sigma'_n Shifts in the lamplighter group H (see Equation (4.4), page 17)
T_n Tiles in \Delta such that T_{n+1} = \Sigma_{n+1} T_n (see Equation (4.1), page 15)
\theta_{\rm m}^{\rm A}(f_{\rm m}) Natural projection of f_{\rm m} on A_{\rm m} (see Section 2.1, page 6).
\theta_{\rm m}^{\rm B}({\rm f_m}) Natural projection of {\rm f_m} on {\rm B_m} (see Section 2.1, page 6).
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