MORITA EQUIVALENCE OF $C^*$-CROSSED PRODUCTS BY INVERSE SEMIGROUP ACTIONS AND PARTIAL ACTIONS

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ABSTRACT. Morita equivalence of twisted inverse semigroup actions and discrete twisted partial actions are introduced. Morita equivalent actions have Morita equivalent crossed products.

1. Introduction. Morita equivalence of group actions on $C^*$-algebras was studied by Combes [3], Echterhoff [5], Curto, Muhly and Williams [4] and Kaliszewski [11]. We adapt this notion for both Busby-Smith and Green type inverse semigroup actions, introduced in [18] and [19]. We show that Morita equivalence is an equivalence relation and that Morita equivalent actions have Morita equivalent crossed products. The close connection between inverse semigroup actions and partial actions [18], [9], [19] makes it easy to find the notion of Morita equivalence for discrete twisted partial actions. In Section 4 we work out some of the details of discrete twisted partial crossed products, continuing the work started in [8]. The fact that Morita equivalent twisted partial actions have Morita equivalent crossed products will then follow from the connection with semigroup actions. In [1] Abadie, Eilers and Exel introduced Morita equivalence of crossed products by Hilbert bimodules. We show that this definition is equivalent to our definition of Morita equivalence on the common special case of partial actions by $\mathbb{Z}$.

2. Preliminaries. In this section we discuss isomorphisms of Hilbert bimodules. Note that our Hilbert bimodules are not necessarily full. Our references for Hilbert modules are [10], [12] and [16].

Definition 2.1. The triple $(\phi_A, \phi, \phi_B)$ is called an isomorphism
between the Hilbert bimodules $AX_B$ and $CY_D$ if $\phi_A : A \to C$ and $\phi_B : B \to D$ are $\mathbb{C}^*$-algebra isomorphisms and $\phi : X \to Y$ is a map such that for all $x, y \in X$ and $a \in A$, $b \in B$ we have

(a) $\phi(x \cdot b) = \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b)$;
(b) $\phi_B(\langle x, y \rangle_B) = \langle \phi(x), \phi(y) \rangle_D$;
(c) $\phi(a \cdot x) = \phi_A(a) \cdot \phi(x)$;
(d) $\phi_A(\langle x, y \rangle) = C \langle \phi(x), \phi(y) \rangle$;
(e) $\phi$ is surjective.

The following lemma shows that we can relax some of these conditions. Note that part (ii) is an improvement of [11, Lemma 1.1.3].

**Lemma 2.2.** With the notations of Definition 2.1 we have

(i) if $\phi$ satisfies (b) then it is a linear isometry;
(ii) if $\phi$ satisfies (b) then it also satisfies (a);
(iii) if $\phi$ satisfies (b) and (c) and $CY_D$ is an imprimitivity bimodule then $\phi$ also satisfies (d) and (e) so that it is an isomorphism between $X$ and $Y$.

**Proof.** An easy calculation using (b) and the linearity of $\phi_B$ shows that $\|\phi(\lambda a + \mu b) - \lambda \phi(a) - \mu \phi(b)\| = 0$. It is also an isometry since

\[ \|\phi(x)\|^2 = \|\langle \phi(x), \phi(x) \rangle_D\| = \|\phi_B(\langle x, x \rangle_B)\| = \|\langle x, x \rangle_B\| = \|x\|^2. \]

Part (ii) follows from the following calculation:

\[
\begin{align*}
\|\phi(x \cdot b) - \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b)\|^2 &= \|\langle \phi(x \cdot b) - \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b), \phi(x \cdot b) - \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b) \rangle_D\| \\
&= \|\langle \phi(x \cdot b), \phi(x \cdot b) \rangle_D - \langle \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b), \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b) \rangle_D \\
&\quad - \langle \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b), \phi(x \cdot b) \rangle_D + \langle \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b), \phi(x) \cdot \phi_B(b) \rangle_D\| \\
&= \|\phi_B(\langle x \cdot b, x \cdot b \rangle_B) - \phi_B(\langle x \cdot b, x \cdot b \rangle_B)\phi_B(b) \\
&\quad - \phi_B(b^*)\phi_B(\langle x, x \cdot b \rangle_B) + \phi_B(b^*)\phi_B(\langle x, x \rangle_B)\phi_B(b)\| \\
&= 0.
\end{align*}
\]

To show (iii) let $Z = \overline{\phi(X)}$. Then we have

\[ D = \phi_B(B) = \phi_B(\mathfrak{span} \langle X, X \rangle_B) \subset \mathfrak{span} \phi_B(\langle X, X \rangle_B) = \mathfrak{span} \langle \phi(X), \phi(X) \rangle_D \subset \mathfrak{span} \langle Z, Z \rangle_D, \]


and so $D = \text{span} \langle Z, Z \rangle_D$. $Z$ is a left $C$-module since

$$C \cdot Z = \phi_A(A) \cdot \phi(X) \subset \phi_A(A) \cdot \phi(X) = \phi(A \cdot X) = \phi(X) = Z.$$  

$Z$ is also a right $D$-module since

$$Z \cdot D \subset \overline{\phi(X)} \cdot \text{span} \langle \phi(X), \phi(X) \rangle_D = \text{span} \langle C \cdot \phi(X), \phi(X) \rangle_D \subset Z.$$  

Hence $Z$ is a closed subbimodule of $Y$ with full right inner product, and so $Z = Y$ by the Rieffel correspondence. This shows that $\phi(X) = Y$ since $\phi$ is an isometry between Banach spaces. For $x, y, z \in X$ we have

$$\phi_A(A(x,y)) \phi(z) = \phi(A(x,y) \cdot z) = \phi(x \cdot \langle y, z \rangle_B) = \phi(x) \phi_B(\langle y, z \rangle_B) = \phi(x) \langle \phi(y), \phi(z) \rangle_D = c \langle \phi(x), \phi(y) \rangle \cdot \phi(z),$$

which implies condition (d) by a standard Hilbert module argument.

Note that the proof of (iii) shows that if $\phi$ satisfies (b) and (c) then $\phi$ is an isomorphism of $X$ onto a $C - D$ Hilbert subbimodule of $Y$. Also note that the statements of the lemma remain true if we interchange condition (b) with (d) and condition (c) with (a).

The proof of the following lemma is an easy application of Lemma 2.2.

**Lemma 2.3.** $(id, \phi, id)$ is an isomorphism between the Hilbert bimodules $A_X B$ and $A_Y B$ if and only if $(id, \phi, id)$ is an isomorphism between the corresponding imprimitivity bimodules $A_0 X_B$ and $C_0 Y_D$.

3. **Morita equivalent twisted actions.** Recall from [17] that if $A X_B$ is an imprimitivity bimodule then there is a bijective correspondence, often called the *Rieffel correspondence*, between closed subbimodules of $X$ and closed ideals of $A$. If $I$ is a closed ideal of $A$ then $I \cdot X$ is a closed subbimodule of $X$. Note that by the Cohen-Hewitt
factorization theorem we do not have to take the closure of $I \cdot X$. Similarly $X \cdot J$ is a closed subbimodule of $X$ if $J$ is a closed ideal of $B$. On the other hand, if $Y$ is a closed subbimodule of $X$ then $JY$ is an imprimitivity bimodule, where $I$ is the closed span of $A\langle Y, Y \rangle$ and $J$ is the closed span of $\langle Y, Y \rangle_B$. We call $JY$ an \textit{imprimitivity subbimodule} of $X$.

**Definition 3.1.** A \textit{partial automorphism} of the imprimitivity bimodule $AX_B$ is an isomorphism between two imprimitivity subbimodules of $X$. We denote the set of partial automorphisms by $\text{PAut}(X)$.

Let $A$ be a $C^*$-algebra, and let $S$ be a unital inverse semigroup with idempotent semilattice $E$, and unit $e$. Recall from [19] that a \textit{Busby-Smith twisted action} of $S$ on $A$ is a pair $(\beta, v)$, where for all $s \in S$, $\beta_s : A_{s^*} \to A_s$ is a partial automorphism, that is, an isomorphism between closed ideals of $A$, and for all $s, t \in S$, $v_{s,t}$ is a unitary multiplier of $A_{st}$, such that for all $r, s, t \in S$ we have

(a) $A_e = A$;

(b) $\beta_s \beta_t = \text{Ad} v_{s,t} \circ \beta_{st}$;

(c) $v_{s,t} = 1_{M(A_{st})}$ if $s$ or $t$ is an idempotent;

(d) $\beta_r(ava_{s,t})v_{r,s,t} = \beta_r(a)va_{r,s}v_{rs,t}$ for all $a \in A_{r^*}A_{st}$.

We refer to condition (d) as the cocycle identity.

Also recall that a \textit{covariant representation} of a Busby-Smith twisted action $(A, S, \beta, v)$ is a triple $(\pi, V, H)$, where $\pi$ is a nondegenerate representation of $A$ on the Hilbert space $H$ and $V_s$ is a partial isometry for all $s \in S$, such that for all $r, s \in S$ we have

(a) $V_s$ has initial space $\pi(A_{s^*})H$ and final space $\pi(A_s)H$;

(b) $V_rV_s = \pi(v_{r,s})V_{rs}$;

(c) $\pi(\beta_s(a)) = V_s\pi(a)V_{s^*}$ for $a \in A_{s^*}$.

**Definition 3.2.** The Busby-Smith twisted actions $(A, S, \alpha, u)$ and $(B, S, \beta, v)$ are \textit{Morita equivalent} if there is an imprimitivity bimodule $AX_B$ and a map $s \mapsto (\alpha_s, \phi_s, \beta_s) : S \to \text{PAut}(X)$ such that $\phi_s : X_{s^*} \to X_s$ where $X_s := A_s \cdot X = X \cdot B_s$ and for all $s, t \in S$ we have

$$\phi_s \phi_t = u_{s,t} \cdot \phi_{st}(\cdot) \cdot v_{s,t}^*.$$
We say that \((X, \phi)\) is a Morita equivalence between \((\alpha, u)\) and \((\beta, v)\), and we write
\[(A, S, \alpha, u) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, S, \beta, v).\]

Note that \(\phi_{s,t}\) and \(\phi_{s,t}^\ast\) have the same range \(X_{st}\) and so \(X_{st} \subset X_s\).

**Lemma 3.3.** Using the notations of Definition 3.2 we have
(a) \(\phi_{s}(X_{s^\ast} \cdot B_t) = X_{st}\);
(b) \(\phi_{s}(A_s \cdot X_t) = X_{st}\);
(c) \(\text{span} \alpha_s(A \langle X_{s^\ast}, X_t \rangle) = A_{st}\),
for all \(s, t \in S\).

**Proof.** We know from [19] that \(\beta_{s}(B_{s^\ast} B_t) = B_{st}\) and so we have
\[
\phi_{s}(X_{s^\ast} \cdot B_t) = \phi_{s}(X_{s^\ast} \cdot B_{s^\ast} B_t) = \phi_{s}(X_{s^\ast}) \cdot \beta_{s}(B_{s^\ast} B_t) = X_{s^\ast} \cdot B_{st} = X_{st},
\]
showing (a). A similar calculation shows (b). Finally (c) follows from the calculation:
\[
\text{span} \alpha_s(A \langle X_{s^\ast}, X_t \rangle) = \text{span} \alpha_s(A \langle A_{s^\ast} \cdot X_{s^\ast}, X_t \rangle)
= \text{span} \alpha_s(A \langle X_{s^\ast}, A_{s^\ast} \cdot X_t \rangle)
= \text{span} A \langle \phi_s(X_{s^\ast}), \phi_s(A_{s^\ast} \cdot X_t) \rangle
= \text{span} A \langle X_s, X_{st} \rangle = A_{st}. \quad \square
\]

**Proposition 3.4.** Morita equivalence of Busby-Smith twisted actions is an equivalence relation.

**Proof.** It is easy to see that \((A, S, \alpha, u) \sim_{A, \alpha} (A, S, \alpha, u)\). It is also easy to check that if \((A, S, \alpha, u) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, S, \beta, v)\), then \((B, S, \beta, v) \sim_{X, \phi} (A, S, \alpha, u)\), where \(\phi(x) = \phi(x)^\ast\). To show transitivity, suppose
\[(A, S, \alpha, u) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, S, \beta, v) \sim_{Y, \psi} (C, S, \gamma, w). \quad \square
\]

Let \(Z\) be the balanced tensor product \(X \otimes_B Y\), that is, the Hausdorff completion of \(X \otimes Y\) in the \(C\)-valued inner product determined by
\[
\langle x_1 \otimes y_1, x_2 \otimes y_2 \rangle_C := \langle y_1, (x_1, x_2) u \cdot y_2 \rangle_C.
\]
It is well known that $Z$ is an $A - B$ imprimitivity bimodule. We are going to define a map $\theta$ such that $(A, S, \alpha, u) \sim_{Z,\theta} (C, S, \gamma, w)$. For all $s \in S$ we have

$$Z_s = (X \otimes_B Y) \cdot C_s = X \otimes_B (Y \cdot C_s) = X \otimes_B (B_s \cdot Y_s) = (X \cdot B_s) \otimes_B Y_s = X_s \otimes_B Y_s.$$ 

For all $s \in S$ the map $\theta' : X_s \times Y_s \to Z_s$ defined by $\theta'(x, y) = \phi_s(x) \otimes \psi_s(y)$ is bilinear, and so we have a linear map $\theta'' : X_s \otimes Y_s \to Z_s$ satisfying $\theta''(x \otimes y) = \theta'(x, y)$. The following computation suffices to check that $\theta''$ is isometric:

$$\langle \theta''(x_1 \otimes y_1), \theta''(x_2 \otimes y_2) \rangle_C = \langle \phi_s(x_1) \otimes \psi_s(y_1), \phi_s(x_2) \otimes \psi_s(y_2) \rangle_C = \langle \psi_s(y_1), \phi_s(x_1), \phi_s(x_2)B \cdot \psi_s(y_2) \rangle_C = \langle \psi_s(y_1), \psi_s([x_1, x_2]B \cdot y_2) \rangle_C = \gamma_s\langle y_1, [x_1, x_2]B \cdot y_2 \rangle_C = \gamma_s\langle x_1 \otimes y_1, x_2 \otimes y_2 \rangle_C.$$ 

So $\theta''$ extends uniquely to an isometric linear map $\theta_s : Z_s \to Z_s$. The above calculation also shows that $\theta_s$ satisfies Definition 2.1(b), and it is routine to check Definition 2.1(c). Finally for all $s, t \in S$, we have

$$\theta_s \theta_t = \phi_s \phi_t \otimes \psi_s \psi_t = u_{s,t} \cdot \phi_{st}(\cdot) \cdot v_{s,t}^* \otimes v_{s,t} \cdot \psi_{st}(\cdot) \cdot w_{s,t}^* = u_{s,t} \cdot \phi_{st}(\cdot) \cdot v_{s,t}^* v_{s,t} \cdot \psi_{st}(\cdot) \cdot w_{s,t}^* = u_{s,t} \cdot \theta_{st} \cdot w_{s,t}^*.$$

Recall [2] that two projections $p$ and $q$ in the multipliers of a $C^*$-algebra $C$ are called complementary if $p + q = 1$. The two corners $pCp$ and $qCq$ are also called complementary. The projection $p$ is called full if the corner $pCp$ is full, which means $pCp$ is not contained in any proper ideal of $C$ or equivalently $CpC$ is dense in $C$. If the $C^*$-algebras $A$ and $B$ are Morita equivalent, then they are isomorphic to complementary full corners of the linking $C^*$-algebra

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} A & X \\ X & B \end{pmatrix}.$$ 

In fact, we can identify $A$ and $B$ with $pCp$ and $qCq$, respectively, where $p = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Here we identified the multiplier algebra $M(C)$ with

$$\begin{pmatrix} M(A) & M(X) \\ M(X) & M(B) \end{pmatrix}.$$
as in [6, Appendix]. On the other hand if two $C^*$-algebras are isomorphic to complementary full corners of a $C^*$-algebra, then they are Morita equivalent.

Note that if the actions $(A, S, \alpha, u)$ and $(B, S, \beta, w)$ are Morita equivalent, then the $C^*$-algebras $A$ and $B$ are also Morita equivalent. We have a natural action of $S$ on the linking algebra of $A$ and $B$:

**Proposition 3.5.** If $(A, S, \alpha, u) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, S, \beta, v)$, then the formulas

$$
\gamma_s \begin{pmatrix} a & x \\ \tilde{y} & b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_s(a) & \phi_s(x) \\ \phi_s(y)^{-1} & \beta_s(b) \end{pmatrix}, \quad w_{s,t} = \begin{pmatrix} u_{s,t} & 0 \\ 0 & v_{s,t} \end{pmatrix}
$$

define a Busby-Smith twisted action $(C, S, \gamma, w)$ on the linking algebra $C$ of $A \times_B$. Moreover, $(Y, \gamma(\cdot)|Y)$ implements a Morita equivalence between $(C, S, \gamma, w)$ and $(B, S, \beta, v)$, where $Y = \begin{pmatrix} X & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix} \subset C$.

**Proof.** It is well known that $C Y_B$ is an imprimitivity bimodule if $Y$ inherits the inner products from the $C^*$-algebra $C$, that is, $C \langle y_1, y_2 \rangle = y_1 y_2^*$ for all $y_1, y_2 \in Y$ and $\langle \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & z \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \rangle_B = \langle x, z \rangle_B + b^* d$ for all $x, z \in X$ and $b, d \in B$. It is easy to check that

$$
C_s = \begin{pmatrix} A_s & X_s \\ X_s & B_s \end{pmatrix}
$$

is the closed ideal of $C$ which is in Rieffel correspondence with $B_s$ via the imprimitivity bimodule $C Y_B$. The calculation

$$
\gamma_s \begin{pmatrix} a & x \\ \tilde{y} & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & z \\ \tilde{w} & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_s(a c) + \alpha_s(A(x, w)) & \phi_s(c \cdot y + w \cdot b) \\ \phi_s(c \cdot y + w \cdot b)^{-1} & \beta_s(\langle y, z \rangle_B + b d) \end{pmatrix}
$$

$$
= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_s(a) & \phi_s(x) \\ \phi_s(y)^{-1} & \beta_s(b) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_s(c) & \phi_s(z) \\ \phi_s(w)^{-1} & \beta_s(d) \end{pmatrix}
$$

$$
= \gamma_s \begin{pmatrix} a & x \\ \tilde{y} & b \end{pmatrix} \gamma_s \begin{pmatrix} c & z \\ \tilde{w} & d \end{pmatrix}
$$

shows that $\gamma_s$ is a homomorphism for all $s \in S$. It is easy to verify that $\gamma_s$ preserves adjoints and is bijective, hence is an isomorphism between $C_s^*$ and $C_s$. We only check the cocycle identity in the definition of
Busby-Smith twisted actions. It suffices to show that for $a \in A_{r^*}A_{st}$, $b \in B_{r^*}B_{st}$ and $x, y \in X_{r^*} \cap X_{st}$,

$$\gamma_r \left( \begin{pmatrix} a & x \\ y & b \end{pmatrix} \right) w_{s,t} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_r(au_{s,t})u_{r,st} & \phi_r(x \cdot v_{s,t}) \\ \phi_r(u_{s,t} \cdot y) & \beta_r(bv_{s,t})v_{r,st} \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\gamma_r \left( \begin{pmatrix} a & x \\ y^* & b \end{pmatrix} \right) w_{r,s}w_{r,s,t} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_r(a)u_{r,s}u_{r,s,t} & \phi_r(x) \cdot v_{r,s}v_{r,s,t} \\ \phi_r(y) \cdot u_{r,s}u_{r,s,t} & \beta_r(b)v_{r,s}v_{r,s,t} \end{pmatrix}$$

are the same. The diagonals are clearly equal. We check the upper right corner. Since $x = x_r \cdot a_r$ for some $x_r \in X_{r^*}$ and $a_r \in A_{r^*}$ we have

$$\phi_r(x \cdot v_{s,t})v_{r,st} = \phi_r(x_r \cdot a_r v_{s,t}) = \phi_r(x_r)\beta_r(a_r v_{s,t})$$

$$= \phi_r(x_r)\beta_r(a_r)v_{r,s}v_{r,s,t} = \phi_r(x)v_{r,s}v_{r,s,t}.$$ 

The equality of the lower left corners follows similarly. For the other part, the conditions of Definition 3.2 for the pair $(Y, \gamma(\cdot)|Y)$ follow from routine calculations.

A similar proof shows that in the previous theorem $(C, S, \gamma, w)$ and $(A, S, \beta, v)$ are also Morita equivalent. Recall [19] that two Busby-Smith twisted actions $(\alpha, u)$ and $(\beta, w)$ of $S$ on $A$ are exterior equivalent if for all $s \in S$ there is a unitary multiplier $V_s$ of $E_s$ such that for all $s, t \in S$

(a) $\beta_s = \text{Ad} V_s \circ \alpha_s$;

(b) $w_{s,t} = V_s \alpha_s(1_{M(E_s)})V_t u_{s,t} V_{s,t}^*.$

**Theorem 3.6.** If the twisted actions $(A, S, \alpha, u)$ and $(A, S, \beta, w)$ are exterior equivalent, then they are also Morita equivalent.

**Proof.** Let $V$ implement an exterior equivalence between $(\alpha, u)$ and $(\beta, w)$. We show that $(A, \phi)$ implements the Morita equivalence, where $\phi_s : A_{s^*} \to A_s$ is defined by $\phi_s(a) = \alpha_s(a)V_s^*$. For $a, b, x \in A_{s^*}$ we have

$$\phi_s(x \cdot b) = \alpha_s(x)\alpha_s(b)V_s^* = \alpha_s(x)V_s^* \beta_s(b) = \phi_s(x) \cdot \phi_B(b)$$
verifying Definition 2.1(a). If \( x, y \in X_s \), then we have

\[
\alpha_s(A(x, y)) = \alpha_s(xy^*) = \alpha_s(x)V^*(\alpha_s(y)V^*)^* = A(\phi_s(x), \phi_s(y)),
\]

which verifies Condition 2.1(d). By the note after Lemma 2.2, it remains to observe that if \( x \in X_{(st)} = A_{(st)} \), then

\[
(\phi_s \phi_t)(x) = \alpha_s(\alpha_t(x)V_t^*)V_s^*
= \alpha_s(\alpha_t(x))u_{s,t}V_{st}u_{s,t}^*\alpha_s(1_M(L_s^*)V_t)V_s^*
= u_{s,t}\phi_{st}(x)u_{s,t}^*.
\]

Recall [17] that if \( AX_B \) is an imprimitivity bimodule then every representation \( \pi \) of \( B \) on a Hilbert space \( H \) induces a representation \( \pi^X \) of \( A \) on the Hilbert space \( H^X \) defined by \( \pi^X(a)(x \otimes \xi) = (a \cdot x) \otimes \xi \), where \( H^X \) is the Hausdorff completion \( X \otimes_B H \) of the algebraic tensor product \( X \otimes H \) in the seminorm generated by the semi-inner product

\[
(x \otimes \xi | y \otimes \eta) := (\pi((y, x)_B)\xi | \eta)_H = (\xi | \pi((x, y)_B)\eta))_H.
\]

Note that \( (x \cdot b) \otimes \xi = x \otimes \pi(b)\xi \) for all \( x \in X \), \( b \in B \) and \( \xi \in H \). The following is the semigroup version of [3, Section 2].

**Theorem 3.7.** If \((A, S, \alpha, u) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, S, \beta, v)\), then every covariant representation \((\pi, V, H)\) of \((\beta, v)\) induces a covariant representation \((\pi^X, V^X, H^X)\) of \((\alpha, u)\) on the Hilbert space \( H^X = X \otimes_B H \), where \( \pi^X \) is as above and

\[
V^X_s(x \otimes \xi) = \phi_s(x) \otimes V_s(\xi)
\]

for all elementary tensors \( x \otimes \xi \in H^X_s = X_s \otimes_B H_s \).

**Proof.** First note that if \( x \in X_s \) and \( \xi \in H \) then \( x = y \cdot b \) for some \( y \in X_s \) and \( b \in B_s \); hence, \( x \otimes \xi = (y \cdot b) \otimes \xi = y \otimes \pi(b)\xi \). So \( H^X_s = X_s \otimes_B H_s \) where \( H_s = \pi(B_s)H = V_sH \). To show the existence of \( V^X_s \), define \( T : X_s \times H \to X_s \otimes_B H_s \) by \( T(x, \xi) = \phi_s(x) \otimes V_s\xi \). \( T \) is clearly bilinear so there is a unique linear map \( T' : X_s \otimes H_s \to X_s \otimes_B H_s \).
such that $T'(x \otimes \xi) = T(x, \xi)$. We check that $T'$ is isometric. For $x, y \in X_s$ and $\xi, \eta \in H_s$ we have

\[
(T'(x \otimes \xi) | T'(y \otimes \eta))_{H^X} = (\phi_s(x) \otimes V_s \xi | \phi_s(y) \otimes V_s \eta)_{H^X}
\]

\[
= (\pi(\phi_s(y), \phi_s(x))_B V_s \xi | V_s \eta)_{H^X}
\]

\[
= (\pi(\beta_s((y, x)_B)) V_s \xi | V_s \eta)_{H^X}
\]

\[
= (V_s \pi((y, x)_B) \xi | V_s \eta)_{H^X}
\]

\[
= (\pi((y, x)_B) \xi | \eta)_{H^X} = (x \otimes \xi | y \otimes \eta)_{H^X}.
\]

So $T'$ determines an isometry $T''$ from $H^X_s$ to $H^X_s$. If we define $V^X_s$ to be $T''$ on $H^X_s$ and $0$ on $(H^X_s)^\perp$ then $V^X_s$ is a partial isometry with initial space $H^X_s = (A_s \cdot X) \otimes_B H = \pi^X(A_s)H^X_s$. It follows that the final space of $V^X_s$ is $\pi^X(A_s)H^X_s$.

We can check the covariance condition for elementary tensors. Let $a \in A_s$ and $x \otimes \xi \in X \otimes H$. Since $H = H_s \oplus H^+_s$, we only need to consider the two cases $\xi \in H_s$ and $\xi \in H^+_s$. If $\xi \in H_s$ then $\xi = \pi(ab)\eta$ for some $a, b \in A_s$ and $\eta \in H$. Hence $x \otimes \xi = x \cdot a \otimes \pi(b)\eta$ and so we can assume that $x \in X_s$. Thus,

\[
V^X_s \pi^X(a)(V^X_s)^*(x \otimes \xi) = \phi_s(a \cdot \phi_s^{-1}(x)) \otimes V^*_s V^*_s(x \otimes \xi).\]

On the other hand if $\xi \in (H_s)^\perp$ then for all $y \in X_s$ and $\eta \in H$ we have

\[
(x \otimes \xi | y \otimes_B \eta)_{H} = (\xi | \pi((x, y)_B)\eta)_{H} = 0
\]

and so $x \otimes \xi \in (H^+_s)^\perp$. This means $(V^X_s)^*(x \otimes \xi) = 0$. Since $\alpha_s(a) \cdot x$ is in $X_s$ it is of the form $y \cdot b$ for some $y \in X$ and $b \in B_s$. Thus,

\[
\pi^X(\alpha_s(a))(x \otimes \xi) = (\alpha_s(a) \cdot x) \otimes \xi = y \otimes \pi(b)\xi = 0.
\]

as well. \qed

Of course the inducing process works the other way too, that is, every covariant representation of $\alpha$ induces a covariant representation of $\beta$.

Recall [19] that the crossed product $A \times_{\alpha, u} S$ of a Busby-Smith twisted action $(A, S, \alpha, u)$ is the Hausdorff completion of the Banach $*$-algebra

\[
L_\alpha = \{ x \in l^1(S, A) : x(s) \in A_s \text{ for all } s \in S \}.
\]
with operations

\[(x * y)(s) = \sum_{rt=s} \alpha_r (\alpha_r^{-1}(x(r))y(t))u_{r,t}\]

and

\[x^*(s) = u_{s,s^*} \alpha_s(x(s)^*)\]

in the \(C^\ast\)-seminorm \(\| \cdot \|_\alpha\) defined by

\[\|x\|_\alpha = \sup\{\|\pi \times V(x)\| : (\pi, V) \text{ is a covariant representation of } (A, S, \alpha, u)\}.

Alternatively, generalizing Paterson’s approach [14] to the twisted case, we could define

\[\|x\|_\alpha = \sup\{\|\phi(x)\| : \phi \text{ is a coherent representation of } L_\alpha\}\]

where a representation \(\phi\) of \(L_\alpha\) is coherent if it satisfies \(\phi(a\chi_{ss^*}) = \phi(a\chi_s)\) for all \(s \in S\). So if \(I_\alpha\) is the closed ideal generated by elements of the form \(a\chi_{ss^*} - a\chi_e\), then the crossed product \(A \times_\alpha S\) is the enveloping \(C^\ast\)-algebra of \(L_\alpha/I_\alpha\).

If \(\chi_s\) denotes the characteristic function of \(\{s\}\), then \(a\chi_s\) is an element of \(L_\alpha\) for all \(a \in A_s\). The canonical image of \(a\chi_s\) in \(A \times_\alpha S\) will be denoted by \(a_\delta s\). Then \(A \times_\alpha S\) is the closed span of \(\{a_\delta s : a \in A_s, s \in S\}\). Note that we have the following formulas:

\[a_\delta s * a_\delta t = \alpha_s(\alpha_s^{-1}(a_s)a_t)u_{s,t} \delta_{st}\]

\[(a_\delta s)^* = \alpha_s^{-1}(a^*)u_{s^*,s} \delta_{s^*}\].

The idea of the proof of the following theorem comes from [3, 4] and [11].

**Theorem 3.8.** If \((A, S, \alpha, u)\) and \((B, S, \beta, v)\) are Morita equivalent actions, then the crossed products \(A \times_\alpha S\) and \(B \times_\beta S\) are also Morita equivalent.

**Proof.** Let \((X, \phi)\) be a Morita equivalence, and let \((\gamma, w)\) be the Busby-Smith twisted action of \(S\) on the linking algebra \(C\) of \(A XB\) as
in Proposition 3.5. It suffices to show that \( A \times_\alpha u_s S \) and \( B \times_\beta v_s S \) are complementary full corners of \( C \times_\gamma w_s S \). Let
\[
P = \begin{pmatrix} 1_{M(A)} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1_{M(B)} \end{pmatrix}.
\]

It is clear that \( p \delta_e \) and \( q \delta_e \) are complementary projections in \( M(C \times_\gamma w_s S) \). We show that \( q \delta_e \) is a full projection. If
\[
c = \begin{pmatrix} a_s & x_s \\ y_s & b_s \end{pmatrix} \in C_s \quad \text{and} \quad d = \begin{pmatrix} a_t & x_t \\ y_t & b_t \end{pmatrix} \in C_t
\]
then
\[
c_\delta_e * q \delta_e * d_\delta_e = \begin{pmatrix} u_{s,t} \alpha_s (a_s (\phi_s^{-1}(x_s), y_t)) & \phi_s (\phi_s^{-1}(x_s) \cdot b_t) \cdot v_{s,t} \\ \phi_s (\beta_s^{-1}(b_s) \cdot y_t) \cdot u_{s,t} & \beta_s (\beta_s^{-1}(b_s) b_t) v_{s,t} \end{pmatrix} \delta_{st}.
\]

We can check fullness on the four corners, and this can be done easily using Lemma 3.3. A similar calculation shows that \( p \delta_e \) is also full.

Now we show that \( B \times_\beta v_s S = q \delta_e * (C \times_\gamma w_s S) \) * \( q \delta_e \). We use the fact that \( B \times_\beta v_s S \) is the Hausdorff completion \( L_\beta^{\| \cdot \|_\beta} \) of \( L_\beta \) in the greatest \( C^* \)-seminorm \( \| \cdot \|_\beta \) coming from covariant representations of \( (\beta, v) \), while \( C \times_\gamma w_s S \) is the Hausdorff completion \( L_\gamma^{\| \cdot \|_\gamma} \) of \( L_\gamma \) in the greatest \( C^* \)-seminorm \( \| \cdot \|_\gamma \) coming from covariant representations of \( (\gamma, w) \). Since
\[
q \delta_e (C \times_\gamma w_s S) q \delta_e = q \delta_e (L_\gamma^{\| \cdot \|_\gamma}) q \delta_e = q \chi_e * L_\gamma * q \chi_e^{\| \cdot \|_\gamma} = L_\beta^{\| \cdot \|_\beta},
\]
it suffices to show that the seminorms \( \| \cdot \|_\beta \) and \( \| \cdot \|_\gamma \) are the same on \( L_\beta \), where we regard \( L_\beta \) as a subspace of \( L_\gamma \). If \( (\pi, V) \) is a covariant representation of \( (\gamma, w) \) then \( (\pi|B, \pi(q)V) \) is a covariant representation of \( (\beta, v) \) and so \( \| \cdot \|_\gamma \leq \| \cdot \|_\beta \) on \( L_\beta \). On the other hand, a covariant representation \( (\pi, V, H) \) of \( (\beta, v) \) induces a covariant representation \( (\pi^Y, V^Y, H^Y) \) of \( (\gamma, w) \), where \( Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \), \( H^Y = Y \otimes_B H \) and
\[
\pi^Y \begin{pmatrix} a & x \\ \tilde{y} & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & z \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \cdot z + x \cdot d \\ 0 & (y, z)|B + bd \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi,
\]
\[
V_s^Y \begin{pmatrix} 0 & z \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \phi_s(z) \\ 0 & \beta_s(d) \end{pmatrix} \otimes V_s \xi.
\]
The image of $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \chi_s \in L_\beta$ under $\pi^Y \times V^Y$ evaluated at an elementary tensor $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & z \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi$ of $H^Y$ is

$$
\pi^Y \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} V^Y_s \left( \begin{pmatrix} 0 & z \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi \right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \otimes \pi(\beta_s(d)) V_s \xi
= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \otimes V_s \pi(d) \xi.
$$

If $d \in B$ and $\xi \in H$, then

$$
\left\| \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi \right\|_{H^Y}^2 = \left( \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi \mid \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi \right)_{H^Y} = \left( \pi \left( \frac{0}{0} \right) \right|_{B} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi \mid \xi \right)_{H} = \left( \pi(\beta_s(d)) \xi \mid \xi \right)_{H} = \|\pi(d)\xi\|_H^2.
$$

Hence, if $b_i \in B_s$ for all $i = 1, \ldots, n$ and $f = \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i \chi_s \in L_\beta$, then

$$
\left\| \pi^Y \times V^Y(f) \left( \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi \right) \right\|_{H^Y} = \left\| \pi \times V(f) \pi(d) \xi \right\|_H.
$$

On the other hand,

$$
\|\pi \times V(f)\| = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|\pi \times V(f) \pi(d) \xi\|_H}{\|\pi(d)\xi\|_H} : d \in B, \xi \in H \right\} = \sup \left\{ \left\| \pi^Y \times V^Y(f) \left( \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \otimes \xi \right) \right\|_{H^Y} : d \in B, \xi \in H \right\} \leq \|\pi^Y \times V^Y(f)\|
$$

which implies that $\|\cdot\|_\gamma \geq \|\cdot\|_\beta$ on $L_\beta$. A similar argument shows that $A \times_{\alpha,u} S = p_{\delta_e} \ast (C \times_{\gamma,w} S) \ast p_{\delta_e}$. \qed
The proof also shows that if we use the notation \( X \times_{u,\phi,v} S := p\delta_e(C \times_{\gamma,w} S)q\delta_e \) or simply \( X \times S \), then
\[
A \times_{\alpha,u} S \sim_{X \times S} B \times_{\beta,v} S.
\]

We now have two different ways to induce representations of \( A \times_{\alpha} S \) from representations of \( B \times_{\beta} S \). The next result shows that they are essentially the same. For simplicity we only state the untwisted version of the result because that is all we need later. The proof closely follows that of similar results in [5] and [11], and goes back ultimately to [3].

**Proposition 3.9.** If \((A,S,\alpha) \sim_{X,\phi} (B,S,\beta)\) and \(\pi \times V\) is a representation of \( B \times_{\beta} S \) on \( H \), then the induced representations \(\pi X \times V\) and \((\pi \times V)_{X \times S}\) are unitarily equivalent.

**Proof.** Let \( Y = X \times_{\phi} S \). The map
\[
T' : X \times H \rightarrow H^Y
\]
defined by
\[
T'(x,\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \delta_e \otimes \xi
\]
is bilinear and so there is a unique linear map \( T'' : X \otimes H \rightarrow H^Y \) such that \( T''(x \otimes \xi) = T'(x,\xi) \). We check that \( T'' \) is isometric. For \( x, y \in X \) and \( \xi, \eta \in H \) we have
\[
(T''(x \otimes \xi) \mid T''(y \otimes \eta))_{H^Y}
= \left( \left( \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ x \end{array} \right) \delta_e \otimes \xi \mid \left( \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ y \end{array} \right) \delta_e \otimes \eta \right)_{H^Y}
= \left( \pi \times V \right) \left( \left( \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ y \end{array} \right) \delta_e, \left( \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ x \end{array} \right) \delta_e \right)_{B \times_{\beta} S} \xi \mid \eta \right)_H
= \left( \left( \pi \times V \right)(y, x)_{B \delta_e} \xi \mid \eta \right)_H = \left( \pi((y, x)_{B})\xi \mid \eta \right)_H
= (x \otimes \xi \mid y \otimes \eta)_{H^X}.
\]
So we have an isometry \( T : H^X \rightarrow H^Y \) such that \( T(x \otimes \xi) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \delta_e \otimes \xi \). \( T \) is onto since if \( x_s \in X_s \) and \( \xi \in H \) then there are
Let $A$ be a $C^*$-algebra, let $S$ be a unital inverse semigroup with idempotent semilattice $E$ and let $N$ be a normal Clifford subsemigroup
of $S$. Recall from [19] that a subsemigroup $N$ of $S$ is a normal Clifford subsemigroup if it is normal, that is, $E \subset N$ and $sNs^* \subset N$, and it is also Clifford, that is, $n^*n = nn^*$ for all $n \in N$. Also recall from [19] that a Green twisted action of $(S, N)$ on $A$ is a pair $(\gamma, \tau)$, where $\gamma$ is an inverse semigroup action of $S$ on $A$ (that is, a semigroup homomorphism $s \mapsto (\gamma_s, A_s, A_s^*): S \rightarrow \text{PAut}(A)$ with $A_e = A$) and $\tau_n$ is a unitary multiplier of $A_n$ for all $n \in N$, such that for all $n, l \in N$ we have

(a) $\gamma_n = \text{Ad } \tau_n$;
(b) $\gamma_s(\tau_n) = \tau_s n s^*$ for all $s \in S$ with $n^* n \leq s^* s$;
(c) $\tau_n \tau_l = \tau_{nl}$.

The following is the semigroup version of [5, Definition 1].

**Definition 3.10.** The Green twisted actions $(A, S, N, \alpha, \tau)$ and $(B, S, N, \beta, \rho)$ are **Morita equivalent** if there is a Morita equivalence $(X, \phi)$ between the untwisted actions $(A, S, \alpha)$ and $(B, S, \beta)$ such that $\tau_n \cdot x = \phi_n(x) \cdot \rho_n$ for all $n \in N$ and $x \in X_n$. We say that $(X, \phi)$ is a **Morita equivalence** between $(A, S, N, \alpha, \tau)$ and $(B, S, N, \beta, \rho)$, and we write $(A, S, N, \alpha, \tau) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, S, N, \beta, \rho)$.

The proof of the following theorem is modeled on Echterhoff’s proof [5] in the group case.

**Theorem 3.11.** If $(A, S, N, \alpha, \tau)$ and $(B, S, N, \beta, \rho)$ are Morita equivalent Green twisted actions, then the crossed products $A \times_{\alpha, \tau} S$ and $A \times_{\beta, \rho} S$ are also Morita equivalent.

**Proof.** Let $(X, \phi)$ be a Morita equivalence. Suppose $(\pi, V, H)$ is a covariant representation of $\beta$ which preserves the twist, that is, $\pi(\rho_n) = V_n$ for all $n \in N$. The induced representation $(\pi^X, V^X, H^X)$ of $\alpha$ also preserves the twist, since if $x, y \in X_n$ and $\xi, \eta \in H_n$ then

\[
(\pi^X(\tau_n)(x \otimes \xi) | y \otimes \eta)_{H^X} = (\tau_n \cdot x \otimes \xi | y \otimes \eta)_{H^X} \\
= (\pi(\langle y, \tau_n \cdot x \rangle_B)\xi | \eta)_{H^X} \\
= (\pi(\langle y, \phi_n(x) \rangle_B \rho_n)\xi | \eta)_{H^X} \\
= (\pi(\langle y, \phi_n(x) \rangle_B) V_n \xi | \eta)_{H^X} \\
= (V_n^X(x \otimes \xi) | y \otimes \eta)_{H^X}
\]
and so $\pi^X(\tau_n) = V_n^X$. A similar calculation shows that if $(\pi^X, V^X)$ preserves the twist then so does $(\pi, V)$. By [17, Proposition 3.3] the kernels of $\pi \times V$ and $(\pi \times V)^{X \times \sigma S}$ are in Rieffel correspondence. By Proposition 3.9, $\pi^X \times V^X$ and $(\pi \times V)^{X \times S}$ have the same kernel. Hence the twisting ideals of $I_\tau$ and $I_\rho$ are in Rieffel correspondence and so the quotients are Morita equivalent by [17, Corollary 3.2].

4. Connection with twisted partial actions. The close connection between partial actions and inverse semigroup actions [18], [9], [19] makes it possible to get quick results about the Morita equivalence of crossed products of twisted partial actions. First recall the definition of a twisted partial action from [8].

**Definition 4.1.** A (discrete) twisted partial action of a group $G$ on a $C^*$-algebra $A$ is a pair $(\alpha, u)$, where for all $s \in G$, $\alpha_s : A_{s^{-1}} \to A_s$ is a partial automorphism of $A$, and for all $r, s \in G$, $u_{r,s}$ is a unitary multiplier of $A_r A_{rs}$, such that for all $r, s, t \in G$ we have

(a) $A_e = A$, and $\alpha_e$ is the identity automorphism of $A$;

(b) $\alpha_r(A_{r^{-1}} A_s) = A_r A_{rs}$;

(c) $\alpha_r(\alpha_s(a)) = u_{r,s} \alpha_{rs}(a) u_{r,s}^*$ for all $a \in A_{s^{-1}} A_{rs}$;

(d) $u_{e,t} = u_{t,e} = 1_{M(A)}$;

(e) $\alpha_r(au_{s,t}) u_{r,st} = \alpha_r(a) u_{r,s} u_{rs,t}$ for all $a \in A_{s^{-1}} A_{st}$.

**Definition 4.2.** The twisted partial actions $(A, G, \alpha, u)$ and $(B, G, \mu, w)$ are Morita equivalent if there is an imprimitivity bimodule $A X_B$ and a map $s \mapsto (\alpha_s, \phi_s, \mu_s) : G \to \text{PAut}(X)$, such that $\phi_s : X_{s^{-1}} \to X_s$ where $X_s = A_{s^{-1}} X = X \cdot B_s$ and for all $s, t \in G$ and $x \in X \cdot B_{t^{-1}s^{-1}} B_{t^{-1}}$, we have

$$\phi_s \phi_t(x) = u_{s,t} \cdot \phi_{st}(x) \cdot w_{s,t}^*.$$

We say that $(X, \phi)$ is a Morita equivalence between $(A, G, \alpha, u)$ and $(B, G, \theta, w)$, and we write

$$(A, G, \alpha, u) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, G, \mu, w).$$

Recall from [9] that, for a group $G$, the associated inverse semigroup $S(G)$ has elements written in canonical form $[g_1][g_1^{-1}] \cdots [g_m][g_m^{-1}]$, where
where \( g_1, \ldots, g_n, s \in G \), and the order of the \([g_i][g_i^{-1}]\) terms is irrelevant. Multiplication and inverses are defined by

\[
[g_1][g_1^{-1}] \cdots [g_m][g_m^{-1}][s] \cdot [h_1][h_1^{-1}] \cdots [h_m][h_m^{-1}][t] = [g_1][g_1^{-1}] \cdots [g_m][g_m^{-1}][s][s^{-1}][s_1][(s_1h_1^{-1})] \cdots [s_1h_m^{-1}][(s_1h_m)^{-1}][st]
\]

and

\[
([g_1][g_1^{-1}] \cdots [g_m][g_m^{-1}][s])^* = [s^{-1}g_1][g_1^{-1}] \cdots [s^{-1}g_m][g_m^{-1}][s^{-1}].
\]

Thus \([e]\) is an identity element for \( S(G) \) if \( e \) is the identity of \( G \), so we can write \([g_1][g_1^{-1}] \cdots [g_m][g_m^{-1}] \) for \([g_1][g_1^{-1}] \cdots [g_m][g_m^{-1}][e] \), and these are the idempotents of \( S(G) \). Recall from [19, Section 4] that if \((A, G, \alpha, u)\) is a twisted partial action, then the corresponding Busby-Smith twisted action \((A, S(G), \beta, v)\) is defined by

\[
A_p = A_{g_1} \cdots A_{g_m} A_s \\
\beta_p = \alpha_{g_1} \alpha_{g_1^{-1}} \cdots \alpha_{g_m} \alpha_{g_m^{-1}} a_s \\
v_{p,q} = 1_{M(A_pq)} u_{s,t},
\]

where

\[
p = [g_1][g_1^{-1}] \cdots [g_m][g_m^{-1}][s], \quad q = [h_1][h_1^{-1}] \cdots [h_n][h_n^{-1}][t].
\]

**Theorem 4.3.** The twisted partial actions \((A, G, \alpha, u)\) and \((B, G, \mu, w)\) are Morita equivalent if and only if the corresponding Busby-Smith twisted actions \((A, S(G), \beta, v)\) and \((B, S(G), \nu, z)\) are Morita equivalent.

**Proof.** Suppose \((A, S(G), \beta, v) \sim_{X, \phi} (A, S(G), \nu, z)\). If we identify the element \( s \in G \) with \([s] \in S(G)\), then \( \phi : G \rightarrow \text{PAut}(X) \). For \( s, t \in G \) and \( x \in X \cdot B_{t-1} \cdot B_{t-1} \), we have

\[
\phi_s \phi_t(x) = \phi_{[s]} \phi_{[t]}(x) = v_{[s][t]} \cdot \phi_{[s][t]}(x) \cdot z_{[s][t]}^{-1} = v_{[s][t]} \cdot \phi_{[st][t^{-1}[t]]}(x) \cdot z_{[s][t]}^{-1} = u_{s,t} \cdot \phi_{[st]}(x) \cdot w_{s,t}^{-1}
\]

since, e.g., \( v_{[st][t^{-1}[t]]} = 1_{M(A_{[st][t^{-1}][t]})} \).
Now suppose \((A, G, \alpha, u) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, G, \mu, w)\). We can extend \(\phi\) to \(S(G)\) by defining
\[
\phi_p = \phi_{g_1} \phi_{g_2}^{-1} \cdots \phi_{g_m} \phi_{g_m}^{-1} \phi_s
\]
for \(p = [g_1][g_2]^{-1} \cdots [g_m][g_m]^{-1} = s \in S(G)\). We verify Definition 2.1(d). If \(x, y \in X_p = X \cdot B_p = B_s B_{g_m^{-1}} B_{g_m^{-1} \cdots g_m^{-1}} \cdots B_{g_1^{-1}}\),
then
\[
\beta_p(x, y) = a_1 \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_m \alpha_s (A \langle x, y \rangle)
\]
\[
= A \langle \phi_{g_1} \phi_{g_2}^{-1} \cdots \phi_{g_m} \phi_{g_m}^{-1} \phi_s (x), \phi_{g_1} \phi_{g_2}^{-1} \cdots \phi_{g_m} \phi_{g_m}^{-1} \phi_s (y) \rangle
\]
\[
= A \langle \phi_p (x), \phi_p (y) \rangle.
\]
Similar calculations show that Definition 2.1(a) is also satisfied, which is enough by Lemma 2.2.

Starting with a twisted partial action \((A, G, \alpha, u)\), Exel [9] builds a semidirect product \(C^*\)-algebraic bundle \(B\) over \(G\) in the sense of Fell. He defines [9] the crossed product \(A \times_{\alpha,u} G\) as the enveloping \(C^*\)-algebra of the cross sectional algebra \(L^1(B)\). We show that the corresponding Busby-Smith twisted action has an isomorphic crossed product:

**Proposition 4.4.** If the Busby-Smith twisted action \((A, S(G), \beta, w)\) corresponds to the twisted partial action \((A, G, \alpha, u)\), then the crossed products \(A \times_{\alpha,u} G\) and \(A \times_{\beta,w} S(G)\) are isomorphic.

**Proof.** We are going to show that the Banach *-algebras \(L_\beta/I_\beta\) and \(L^1(B)\) are isomorphic, which suffices since the crossed products are the enveloping \(C^*\)-algebras. The formula
\[
\phi'(a \chi_{[g_1] \cdots [g_m]^{-1}][s]} := a \chi_s
\]
defines a bounded *-homomorphism \(\phi' : L_\beta \to L^1(B)\). Since
\[
\phi'(a \chi_{[g_1] \cdots [g_m]^{-1}][e]} - a \chi_e) = a \chi_e - a \chi_e = 0,
\]
\(\phi'\) takes \(I_\beta\) to 0 and hence determines a bounded *-homomorphism \(\phi : L_\beta/I_\beta \to L^1(B)\). Going the other way, the formula
\[
\psi(a \chi_s) := a \chi_s + I_\beta
\]
defines a bounded \( \ast \)-homomorphism \( \psi : L^1(B) \to L_\beta \). It is clear that \( \psi \circ \phi \) is the identity map. To show that \( \psi \circ \phi \) is also the identity map, consider \( \psi \circ \phi (a \chi_{[g_1] \cdots [g_n^{-1}][s]} + I_\beta) = a \chi_{[s]} + I_\beta \). We can choose elements \( b, c \in A_{[g_1] \cdots [g_n^{-1}][s]} \) such that \( a = bc \). Hence
\[
\chi_{[g_1] \cdots [g_n^{-1}][s]} - \chi_{[s]} = (b \chi_{[g_1] \cdots [g_n^{-1}]} - b \chi_{[e]}) \ast c \chi_{[s]} \in I_\beta. \quad \square
\]

Using Theorems 3.8 and 4.3 we now have:

**Corollary 4.5.** Morita equivalent twisted partial actions have Morita equivalent crossed products.

We now develop the basic theory of covariant representations for twisted partial actions, generalizing [13, Proposition 2.8] and [15, Section 3].

**Definition 4.6.** A **covariant representation** of a twisted partial action \( (A, G, \alpha, u) \) is a triple \((\pi, U, H)\), where \( \pi \) is a nondegenerate representation of \( A \) on the Hilbert space \( H \) and for all \( s \in G \), \( U_s \) is a partial isometry on \( H \) such that

(a) \( U_s \) has initial space \( \pi(A_{s^{-1}})H \) and final space \( \pi(A_s)H \);
(b) \( U_s U_t = \pi(u_{s,t})U_{st} \) for all \( s, t \in G \);
(c) \( \pi(\alpha_s(a)) = U_s \pi(a) U_s^* \) for all \( a \in A_{s^{-1}} \).

Note that we have \( U_s^* = \pi(u_{s^{-1},s})U_s^* \) for all \( s \in G \). Every covariant representation gives a representation of the cross-sectional algebra.

**Definition 4.7.** The **integrated form** \( \pi \times U : L^1(B) \to B(H) \) of the covariant representation \( (\pi, U) \) is defined by
\[
(\pi \times U)(x) = \sum_{s \in G} \pi(x(s))U_s,
\]
where the series converges in norm.

The proof of the following proposition is essentially the same as that of [19, Proposition 3.5].
Proposition 4.8. $\pi \times U$ is a nondegenerate representation of $L_1(B)$.

Lemma 4.9. Let $(A, S(G), \beta, v)$ be a Busby-Smith twisted action corresponding to the twisted partial action $(A, G, \alpha, u)$. If $(\pi, V)$ is a covariant representation of $(\beta, v)$ then $(\pi, U)$ is a covariant representation of $(\alpha, u)$, where $U_s := V_s$ for all $s \in G$. Conversely, if $(\pi, U)$ is a covariant representation of $(\alpha, U)$, then $(\pi, V)$ is a covariant representation of $(\beta, v)$, where

$$V_{[g_1],[g_1^{-1}],[g_n],[g_n^{-1}]}[s] := P_{g_1} \cdots P_{g_n} U_s$$

and $P_t$ denotes $\pi(1_{M(A_t)})$ for all $t \in G$. Moreover, this correspondence between covariant representations of $(\alpha, u)$ and $(\beta, v)$ is bijective.

Proof. The only nontrivial condition to check for the first part is Definition 4.6(b):

$$U_s U_t = V_s V_t = \pi(v_{[s],[t]} V_s V_t) = \pi(1_{M(A_{[s],[t]})}) U_s U_t = \pi(u_{s,t}) \pi(1_{M(A_{[s],[t]})}) V_s V_t = \pi(u_{s,t}) V_s V_t.$$  

To show the second part, first notice that the $P_t$’s commute since the $1_{M(A_t)}$’s are central projections in the double dual of $A$. Therefore $V_{[g_1],[g_n^{-1}]}[s]$ is well defined since $P_{g_1} \cdots P_{g_n}$ does not depend on the order of the idempotents $[g_1],[g_1^{-1}], \ldots, [g_n],[g_n^{-1}]$. It is clear that $V_{[g_1],[g_n^{-1}]}[s]$ is a partial isometry. This partial isometry has the required final space since

$$\pi(V_{[g_1],[g_n^{-1}]}[s]) = P_{g_1} \cdots P_{g_n} U_s = P_{g_1} \cdots P_{g_n} \pi(A_s) = P_{g_1} \cdots P_{g_n} P_{s} = \pi(A_{g_1} \cdots A_{g_n} A_s) = \pi(A_{[g_1],[g_n^{-1}]}[s]).$$

We can show that it also has the required initial space by taking conjugates. To check multiplicativity, let $p = [g_1] \cdots [g_m^{-1}][s]$ and $q = [h_1] \cdots [h_n^{-1}][t]$. Then we have

$$V_p V_q = P_{g_1} \cdots P_{g_n} U_s P_{h_1} \cdots P_{h_n} U_t.$$
We first simplify a piece of this expression:

\[
\begin{align*}
U_s P_{h_1} &= U_s U_s^* U_s h_1 U_s^* \\
&= P_s \pi(u_{s,h_1}) U_{sh_1} U_{h_1}^* \\
&= P_s \pi(u_{s,h_1}) P_{sh_1} U_{sh_1} U_{h_1}^* \pi(u_{h_1,h_1}^{-1})^* \\
&= P_s P_{sh_1} \pi(u_{s,h_1}) \pi(u_{sh_1,h_1}^{-1}) U_s \pi(u_{h_1,h_1}^{-1})^* \\
&= \lim_{\lambda} P_s P_{sh_1} \pi(u_{s,h_1}) U_s \pi(\alpha_s^{-1}(\epsilon_{\lambda} u_{sh_1,h_1}^{-1})) \pi(u_{h_1,h_1}^{-1})^*, \\
\end{align*}
\]

where \( e_{\lambda} \) is an approximate identity for \( A_s A_{sh_1} \).

\[
\begin{align*}
&= \lim_{\lambda} P_s P_{sh_1} \pi(u_{s,h_1}) U_s \pi(u_{s-1,s} \alpha_{s-1}(\epsilon_{\lambda} u_{sh_1,h_1}^{-1}) u_{s-1,s}) \pi(u_{h_1,h_1}^{-1})^* \\
&= \lim_{\lambda} P_s P_{sh_1} \pi(u_{s,h_1}) U_s \pi(u_{s-1,s} \alpha_{s-1}(\epsilon_{\lambda}) u_{s-1,s} u_{h_1,h_1}^{-1}) \pi(u_{h_1,h_1}^{-1})^* \\
&= P_s P_{sh_1} \pi(u_{s,h_1}) U_s \pi(u_{s-1,s} u_{s-1,s}) \pi(u_{h_1,h_1}^{-1}) \\
&= \lim_{\mu} P_s P_{sh_1} U_s \pi(\alpha_s^{-1}(\epsilon_{\mu} u_{s,h_1})) \pi(u_{s-1,s} u_{s-1,s}) \\
&= \lim_{\mu} P_s P_{sh_1} U_s \pi(u_{s-1,s} \alpha_{s-1}(\epsilon_{\mu} u_{s,h_1}) u_{s-1,s}) \pi(u_{s-1,s}) \\
&= \lim_{\mu} P_s P_{sh_1} U_s \pi(u_{s-1,s} \alpha_{s-1}(\epsilon_{\mu}) u_{s-1,s} u_{h_1,h_1} u_{s-1,s}) \pi(u_{s-1,s}) \\
&= P_s P_{sh_1} U_s.
\end{align*}
\]

Repeating this calculation \( n - 1 \) times we have

\[
V_p V_q = P_{g_1} \cdots P_{g_m} P_{g_1} P_{sh_1} P_{sh_2} \cdots P_{sh_m} U_s U_t \\
= P_{g_1} \cdots P_{g_m} P_{sh_1} \cdots P_{sh_m} \pi(u_{s,t}) U_{st} \\
= \pi(v_{p,q}) [g_1] \cdots [g_m] [s] [s^{-1}] [sh_1] \cdots [sh_m] [st] \\
= \pi(v_{p,q}) V_{pq}.
\]

Finally we check the covariance condition. If \( p = [g_1] \cdots [g_m^{-1}] [s] \) and \( a \in A_p^* \), then

\[
\pi(\beta_p(a)) = \pi(\alpha_s(a)) \\
= \pi(\alpha_{g_1} \alpha_{g_1^{-1}} \cdots \alpha_{g_m} \alpha_{g_m^{-1}} \alpha_s(a))
\]
MORITA EQUIVALENCE OF C*-CROSSED PRODUCTS 683

\[ U_g \pi(u_{g_1^{-1}}^* \pi^{-1}(u_{g_1}^{-1} \alpha_{g_1}^{-1} \alpha_s(a) \pi_{g_1} \alpha_{g_1}^{-1} \alpha_s(a) U_{g_1}^* \pi(u_{g_1}^{-1} \alpha_{g_1}^{-1} \alpha_s(a) U_{g_1}^* \pi(u_{g_1}^{-1} \alpha_{g_1}^{-1} \alpha_s(a) U_{g_1}^*))) \]

It is clear from the construction that the correspondence is bijective.

**Proposition 4.10.** If \((A,G,\alpha,u)\) is a twisted partial action then \((\pi,U) \mapsto \pi \times U\) is a bijective correspondence between covariant representations of \((\alpha,u)\) and nondegenerate representations of the crossed product \(A \times_{\alpha,u} G\).

**Proof.** We know that there is an isomorphism \(\phi\) between \(A \times_{\beta,v} S(G)\) and \(A \times_{\alpha,u} G\) where \((A,S(G),\beta,v)\) is the corresponding semigroup action. We also know that there is a bijective correspondence \(\Psi \mapsto (\pi_\Psi,V_\Psi)\) between nondegenerate representations of \(A \times_{\beta,v} S(G)\) and covariant representations of \((\beta,v)\) such that \(\Psi = \pi_\Psi \times V_\Psi\). We define a bijective correspondence \(\Phi \mapsto (\pi_\Phi,U_\Phi)\) between nondegenerate representations of \(A \times_{\alpha,u} G\) and covariant representations of \((\alpha,u)\) satisfying \(\Phi = \pi_\Phi \times U_\Phi\) using the following diagram:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Rep}(A \times_{\alpha,u} G) & \longrightarrow & \text{Rep}(A \times_{\beta,v} S(G)) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\text{CovRep}(\alpha,u) & \longrightarrow & \text{CovRep}(\beta,v)
\end{array}
\]

If \(\Phi\) is a nondegenerate representation of \(A \times_{\alpha,u} G\), then \(\Psi = \Phi \circ \phi\) is a nondegenerate representation of \(A \times_{\beta,v} S(G)\) and so \(\Psi = \pi_\Psi \times V_\Psi\). Let \((\pi_\Phi,U_\Phi)\) be the covariant representation of \((\alpha,u)\) corresponding to \((\pi_\Psi,V_\Psi)\) as in Lemma 4.9. If \(a \in A_s\) then

\[
\pi_\Phi \times U_\Phi(a \delta_s) = \pi_\Phi(a) U_\Phi^s = \pi_\Psi(a) V_\Psi^s = \Psi(a \delta_s) = \Phi(a \delta_s)
\]

and so \(\pi_\Phi \times U_\Phi = \Phi\). □
5. Connection with crossed products by Hilbert bimodules.

Recall from [1] that the crossed product $A \times_\alpha Z$ of the partial action $(A,Z,\alpha)$ is isomorphic to the crossed product $A \times_X Z$ of $A$ by the Hilbert bimodule $AX_A$, where $X$ is the vector space $A_1$ with module structure

$$a \cdot j := aj, \quad j \cdot a := \alpha_1(\alpha_1^{-1}(j)a)$$

and inner products

$$A\langle j, k \rangle := jk^*, \quad \langle j, k \rangle_A := \alpha_1^{-1}(j^*k)$$

for $j, k \in A_1$ and $a \in A$. In other words, we can get $AX_A$ by converting the standard $A_1 - A_1$ imprimitivity bimodule $A_1$ into an $A_1 - A_{-1}$ imprimitivity bimodule via the isomorphism $\alpha_1$, then extending it canonically to a Hilbert $A - A$ bimodule.

**Definition 5.1.** The Hilbert bimodules $AX_A$ and $BY_B$ are called *Morita equivalent* if there is an isomorphism $(id, \phi, id)$ between the Hilbert bimodules $X \otimes_A M$ and $M \otimes_B Y$ for some imprimitivity bimodule $AM_B$.

Abadie, Eilers and Exel show that if $AX_A$ and $BY_B$ are Morita equivalent bimodules then the crossed products $A \times_X Z$ and $B \times_Y Z$ are Morita equivalent. They note that Hilbert bimodules corresponding to Morita equivalent actions of $Z$ are Morita equivalent. We show that the Morita equivalence of Hilbert bimodules corresponding to partial actions of $Z$ is equivalent to the Morita equivalence of the partial actions, in the sense of Definition 4.2.

Suppose we have two partial actions $(A,\alpha,Z)$ and $(B,\beta,Z)$ with corresponding Hilbert bimodules $AX_A$ and $BY_B$. We show that the two notions of Morita equivalence of the actions coincide.

**Proposition 5.2.** The partial actions $(A,\alpha,Z)$ and $(B,\beta,Z)$ are Morita equivalent if and only if the corresponding Hilbert bimodules $AX_A$ and $BY_B$ are Morita equivalent.

**Proof.** If $AM_B$ is an imprimitivity bimodule, then

$$\text{span} \langle M \otimes_B Y, M \otimes_B Y \rangle_B = \text{span} \langle Y, \langle M, M \rangle_B \cdot Y \rangle_B = \text{span} \beta_1^{-1}(B_1^* \langle M, M \rangle_B B_1) = B_{-1},$$
hence the imprimitivity bimodule corresponding to $M \otimes_B Y$ is of the form $D(M \otimes_B Y)_{B^{-1}}$ for some closed ideal $D$ of $A$. Similarly, the imprimitivity bimodule corresponding to $A(X \otimes_A M)_B$ is of the form $A_1(X \otimes_A M)_C$ for some closed ideal $C$ of $B$. It is routine to check that the map $m \otimes l \mapsto m \cdot l$ for $m \in M$ and $l \in B_1$ extends to a map $\nu : M \otimes_B Y \to M \cdot B_1$ such that $(\text{id}, \nu, \beta_1)$ is an isomorphism between $D(M \otimes_B Y)_{B^{-1}}$ and the imprimitivity submodule $D(M \cdot B_1)_{B_1}$ of $A_M B$. Similarly, the map $j \otimes m \mapsto \alpha^{-1}(j) \cdot m$ for $j \in A_1$ and $m \in M$ extends to a map $\mu : X \otimes_A M \to A^{-1} \cdot M$ such that $(\alpha^{-1}, \mu, \text{id})$ is an isomorphism between $A_1(X \otimes_A M)_C$ and the imprimitivity submodule $A^{-1}(A^{-1} \cdot M)_C$ of $A_M B$.

Suppose now that the Hilbert bimodules $X$ and $Y$ are Morita equivalent. Then by Lemma 2.3 and the above an imprimitivity bimodule $A_M B$ and an isomorphism $(\text{id}, \psi, \text{id})$ exist between the imprimitivity bimodules $A_1(X \otimes_A M)_C$ and $D(M \otimes_B Y)_{B^{-1}}$. Then $A_1 = D$ and $C = B^{-1}$ and so $(\alpha_1, \nu \circ \psi \circ \mu^{-1}, \beta_1)$ is an isomorphism between $A^{-1}(A^{-1} \cdot M)_{B^{-1}}$ and $A_1(M \cdot B_1)_{B_1}$. This implies that $(A, X, Z) \sim_{X, \phi} (B, Y, Z)$, where $\phi_n := (\nu \circ \psi \circ \mu^{-1})^n$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$. The situation can be visualized by the following diagram:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A_1(X \otimes_A M)_B & \xrightarrow{(\alpha_1, \nu, \beta_1)} & A^{-1}(A^{-1} \cdot M)_C \\
\downarrow{(\text{id}, \psi, \text{id})} & & \downarrow{(\alpha_1, \nu, \beta_1)} \\
A(M \otimes_B Y)_B & \xrightarrow{(\text{id}, \psi, \text{id})} & D(M \otimes_B Y)_{B^{-1}} \\
\end{array}
\]

Going the other way, if $(A, \alpha, Z) \sim_{M, \phi} (B, \beta, Z)$, then $\phi_1$ is an isomorphism between $A^{-1}(A^{-1} \cdot M)_{B^{-1}}$ and $A_1(M \cdot B_1)_{B_1}$. So $C = B^{-1}$, $D = A_1$ and $(\text{id}, \nu^{-1} \circ \phi_1 \circ \mu, \text{id})$ is an isomorphism between $A_1(X \otimes_A M)_C$ and $D(M \otimes_B Y)_{B^{-1}}$ and so the Hilbert bimodules $X$ and $Y$ are Morita equivalent by Lemma 2.3.

\[\blacksquare\]

**Acknowledgments.** The research for this paper was carried out while the author was a student at Arizona State University under the supervision of John Quigg. I thank Professor Quigg for his help during the writing of this paper.
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