

## NOTATION

For a locally compact space with a countable base,  $T$ , we shall denote by  $C(T)$  the space of all real continuous functions and by  $C_0(T)$ ,  $C_c(T)$ ,  $C_b(T)$  the subspaces of functions vanishing to infinity, of functions of compact support, of bounded functions. The space of all real Borel functions on  $T$  will be denoted by  $\mathcal{B}(T)$  and the subspace of bounded Borel functions by  $\mathcal{B}_b(T)$ .

A kernel on  $T$  will be a positive linear operator  $V$  from  $\mathcal{B}_b(T)$  into  $\mathcal{B}(T)$  such that for each  $x \in T$  the map  $f \rightarrow Vf(x)$  defines a Radon measure. The measure associated to  $x$  is denoted by  $V^x$ , i.e.  $V^x(f) = Vf(x)$ .

All terminology and notation on Markov processes will be that of [6]. Particularly if  $(\Omega, M, M_t, X_t, \theta_t, P^x)$  is a standard process with state space  $(E, E)$ ,  $f$  is a nearly Borel positive function and  $A$  is a nearly Borel set we use the notation  $T_A = \inf\{t > 0 / X_t \in A\}$ ,  $P_A^\lambda f(x) = E^x[\exp(-\lambda T_A) \cdot f(X_{T_A})]$ ,  $T_A < \infty$  and  $P_A = P_A^0$ .

We say that a standard process is continuous if  $t \rightarrow X_t$  is a.s. continuous on  $[0, \infty)$ .

For the terminology and notation from the theory of harmonic spaces which is not specifically explained here we refer to [13].

### I. LOCAL OPERATORS

#### 1. General Properties

1.1. A sheaf of vector spaces of real continuous functions on a locally compact space,  $X$ , is a family  $\{A(U)/U \text{ open set}\}$  such that:

- 1<sup>o</sup> For each open set  $U$ ,  $A(U)$  is a vector space of real continuous functions on  $U$ ;
- 2<sup>o</sup> If  $U_1 \subset U_2$  are open sets and  $f \in A(U_2)$  then  $f|_{U_1} \in A(U_1)$ ;
- 3<sup>o</sup> If  $\{U_i / i \in I\}$  is a family of open sets,  $U = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  and  $f \in C(U)$  satisfies  $f|_{U_i} \in A(U_i)$ , then  $f \in A(U)$ .

1.2. A local operator,  $L$ , on a locally compact space,  $X$ , is a pair  $(\{D(U, L)/U \text{ open set}\}, \{(L, U)/U \text{ open set}\})$ , where  $\{D(U, L)/U \text{ open set}\}$  is a sheaf of vector spaces of real continuous functions on  $X$  and  $\{(L, U)/U \text{ open set}\}$  is a family of linear operators such that:

- 1<sup>o</sup>  $(L, U) : D(U, L) \rightarrow C(U)$  is a linear operator.