THE CONVOLUTION-INDUCED TOPOLOGY ON $L_\infty(G)$ AND LINEARLY DEPENDENT TRANSLATES IN $L_1(G)$

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ABSTRACT. Given a locally compact Hausdorff group G , we consider on $L_\infty(G)$ the τ_c -topology, i.e. the weak topology under all convolution operators induced by functions in $L_1(G)$. As a major result we characterize the trigonometric polynomials on a compact group as those functions in $L_1(G)$ whose left translates are contained in a finite-dimensional set. From this, we deduce that τ_c is different from the w^* -topology on $L_\infty(G)$ whenever G is infinite. As another result, we show that τ_c coincides with the norm-topology if and only if G is discrete. The properties of τ_c are then studied further and we pay attention to the τ_c -almost periodic elements of $L_\infty(G)$.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES. *Locally compact group, convolution operator, topology induced by convolution, linearly dependent translates, almost periodic functions.*

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1. INTRODUCTION.

The reader intending to read the following paper should have some familiarity with such basic texts as Hewitt and Ross or Dunford and Schwartz.

For a locally compact Abelian group G , Argabright and Gil de Lamadrid [1] considered almost periodicity of measures with respect to several topologies. A special case of this general notion, namely almost periodicity with respect to the τ_c -topology on $L_\infty(G)$, has been used in Crombez and Govaerts [2] in order to characterize those multipliers from $L_1(G)$ to $L_\infty(G)$ which are almost periodic in the strong

operator topology. Throughout this paper, unless explicitly stated otherwise, G will denote a locally compact Hausdorff group with left Haar measure. For such an arbitrary G the τ_c -topology is not weaker than the w^* -topology and not stronger than the norm topology on $L_\infty(G)$. The question as to whether there are neighborhoods in the τ_c -topology which are also neighborhoods in the w^* -topology leads us to consider the apparently completely different problem of determining those functions $f \neq 0$ in $L_1(G)$ such that all left translates of f are in a finite-dimensional subspace of $L_1(G)$ (a related problem was recently investigated in Edgar and Rosenblatt [3] for Abelian groups). We prove that such functions only exist for compact G , and then they are exactly the trigonometric polynomials. From this result we derive that the τ_c -topology is always different from the w^* -topology whenever G is infinite. However, a further investigation shows that for compact G these two topologies coincide on every norm-bounded subset of $L_\infty(G)$, and so we may conclude that for compact G $L_1(G)$ is the dual of $(L_\infty(G), \tau_c)$. Among the other results we mention that except for discrete G the τ_c -topology is always different from the norm-topology (section 3), and that for fixed g in $L_\infty(G)$ the map $s \mapsto sg$ from G to $(L_\infty(G), \tau_c)$ is continuous (section 4). In section 5 we give some further results about τ_c -almost periodic functions.

For complex-valued functions f and g on G and $a \in G$, we define the left translate ${}_a f$ and the convolution $f * g$ by means of ${}_a f(x) = f(ax)$ and $(f * g)(x) = \int_G (xy)g(y^{-1})dy$ (we warn the reader that in some of the references, e.g. [4] and [5], different conventions are used). Each function f in $L_1(G)$ induces by convolution an operator T_f on $L_\infty(G)$; the weak topology on $L_\infty(G)$ under all convolution operators $T_f: L_\infty(G) \rightarrow (L_\infty(G), || \cdot ||_\infty)$ is denoted by τ_c . By w^* and $|| \cdot ||_\infty$ we denote the $(L_\infty(G), L_1(G))$, i.e., weak $*$ topology, and the essential supremum norm topology respectively, on $L_\infty(G)$. All other nonexplained notation is taken from Hewitt and Ross [6].

2. FUNCTIONS IN $L_1(G)$ WITH FINITE-DIMENSIONAL SPAN OF TRANSLATES.

From the definitions we immediately derive $w^* \leq \tau_c \leq || \cdot ||_\infty$. Investigation of the possibility that some τ_c -neighborhood is also a w^* -neighborhood leads to a special class of functions in $L_1(G)$, as Proposition 1 shows. For convenience we take as a subbase at 0 for w^* the sets

$\{h \in L_\infty(G) : \left| \int_G f(x)h(x^{-1})dx \right| < \varepsilon\}$, where $f \in L_1(G)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$; we write $\langle f, h \rangle$ for $\int_G f(x)h(x^{-1})dx$.

PROPOSITION 1. For $0 \neq f \in L_1(G)$ the following are equivalent:

- (i) There exists an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that the τ_c -neighborhood determined by f and ε is a w^* -neighborhood.
- (ii) The set of left translates of f is part of a finite-dimensional subspace of $L_1(G)$.
- (iii) There exist $a_1, \dots, a_n$ in G such that, for each a in G , scalars $c_1, \dots, c_n$ may be found such that $a f = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i f$.
- (iv) Given $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $a_1, \dots, a_n$ in G and $\delta > 0$ such that, for $g \in L_\infty(G)$,

the inequality $|\langle a_i f, g \rangle| < \delta$ for all $i=1, \dots, n$ implies $\|f \rtimes g\|_\infty < \varepsilon$.

PROOF (i) $\rightarrow$ (ii). Suppose that the set $\{g \in L_\infty(G) : \|f \rtimes g\|_\infty < \varepsilon\}$ is a w^* -neighborhood of zero. Then we may find functions f_i ($i=1, \dots, r$) in $L_1(G)$ and $\delta > 0$ such that, whenever $g \in L_\infty(G)$ and $|\int_G f_i(x)g(x^{-1})dx| < \delta$ for all i , then $\|f \rtimes g\|_\infty < \varepsilon$. Each f_i determines a linear functional on $L_\infty(G)$; call N the intersection of their kernels. Since for any scalar c , $cg \in N$ whenever $g \in N$, there results that $|c| \|f \rtimes g\|_\infty < \varepsilon$ for $g \in N$ and for any scalar c ; hence $f \rtimes g = 0$ for g in N , or $\int_a f(y)g(y^{-1})dy = 0$ for any a in G and g in N . This means that, for given a in G , the linear functional determined by $a f$ may be written as a linear combination of the ones determined by the f_i ($i=1, \dots, r$). So, given a in G , there exist scalars $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$ such that $a f = \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i f_i$.

(ii) $\rightarrow$ (iii). Obvious. We may choose $a_1, \dots, a_n$ in G such that the set $\{a_i f\}_{i=1}^n$

is also a linearly independent set.

(iii) $\rightarrow$ (iv). We first remark that the assumption of (iii) implies that G is necessarily compact. Indeed, whenever (iii) is true the set $\{a f : a \in G\}$ of left translates of f is a norm-bounded subset of a finite-dimensional subspace of $L_1(G)$, and so this set is relatively compact with respect to the norm-topology of $L_1(G)$. However, it was shown in Crombez and Govaerts [4] that for non-compact G only $f=0$ has this property.

From this it also follows that there exists $B > 0$ such that for all $a \in G$ $\sum_{i=1}^n |c_i| < B$

for the scalars figuring in (iii). Indeed, the function $a \mapsto f$ from G to $L_1(G)$ is continuous, and its range is part of a finite-dimensional subspace M of $L_1(G)$; assuming, as we may, that $\{a_i f\}_{i=1}^n$ is linearly independent, the function $a \mapsto f = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i f(c_1, \dots, c_n)$ from M to the n -dimensional complex space C^n is (well-defined and) linear, and hence continuous; so the composition of these two functions is continuous on the compact group G , from which the result follows.

Suppose then that (iii) is true, and let $\epsilon > 0$ be given. Choose $\delta > 0$ such that $B\delta < \epsilon$, with B as mentioned above. If $a_1, \dots, a_n$ are as in (iii) and $|\langle a_i f, g \rangle| < \delta$ for all $i=1, \dots, n$, then for $a \in G$ we have

$$|(f \otimes g)(a)| = \left| \int_G \left(\sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i f \right)(y) g(y^{-1}) dy \right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |c_i| |\langle a_i f, g \rangle| < \epsilon.$$

(iv) $\Rightarrow$ (i). Obvious. ■

Statement (iii) in Proposition 1 leads to the following problem: determine those $f \in L_1(G)$ for which all left translates are contained in a finite-dimensional subset of $L_1(G)$. As remarked in the proof of the proposition such nonzero functions can exist only for compact G . To solve this problem, we use the theory of representations of compact groups as explained in Hewitt and Ross [6]. It is readily verified that the set of functions with the mentioned property is a linear subspace V of $L_1(G)$ containing all trigonometric polynomials. Proposition 2 shows that there are no other functions in V . (For related results in the abelian case, we refer to Schwartz [7], and to the recent paper of Laird [8] and the references mentioned there.)

PROPOSITION 2. Let $0 \neq f \in L_1(G)$ with G compact. The set $\{a f : a \in G\}$ of left translates of f is contained in a finite-dimensional space iff f is a trigonometric polynomial on G .

PROOF. We first remark that f is a trigonometric polynomial iff the Fourier transform $\hat{f}$ of f is such that $\hat{f}(\sigma) = 0$ except for a finite number of elements σ in the dual object $\hat{G}$ of G (see Hewitt and Ross [6], 28.39).

Let then $f \in L_1(G)$ be such that statement (iii) of Proposition 1 is true, i.e., $a f = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i(a) a_i f$ (for fixed n) and $\sum_{i=1}^n |c_i(a)| \leq B$ (this was shown in the proof of (iii) $\Rightarrow$ (iv) above). Taking the Fourier transform we obtain

$[\bar{U}_a^{(\sigma)} - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i(a) \bar{U}_{a_i}^{(\sigma)}] \hat{f}(\sigma) = 0$. Let D be the set of those $\sigma \in \hat{G}$ for which $\hat{f}(\sigma)$ is

different from zero. Then for each $\sigma \in D$ there is a subspace $M_\sigma \neq \{0\}$ in the representation space H_σ of $U^{(\sigma)}$ such that $\bar{U}_a^{(\sigma)} - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i(a) \bar{U}_{a_i}^{(\sigma)} = 0$ on M_σ , $\forall a \in G$. We

choose an element $\xi^{(\sigma)}$ in M_σ with $\|\xi^{(\sigma)}\| = 1$. Since $\bar{U}^{(\sigma)}$ is irreducible, the non-zero vector $\xi^{(\sigma)}$ is a cyclic vector for $\bar{U}^{(\sigma)}$, which means that the set of all finite linear combinations of elements from $\{\bar{U}_a^{(\sigma)} \xi^{(\sigma)} : a \in G\}$ is all of H_σ ; but the set $\{\bar{U}_a^{(\sigma)} \xi^{(\sigma)} : a \in G\}$ is spanned by the finitely many vectors $\bar{U}_{a_1}^{(\sigma)} \xi^{(\sigma)}, \dots, \bar{U}_{a_n}^{(\sigma)} \xi^{(\sigma)}$; hence, if d_σ denotes the dimension of H_σ we always have $d_\sigma \leq n$, for each σ in D .

With the choice of $\xi^{(\sigma)}$ we have $|\langle \bar{U}_{a_i}^{(\sigma)} \xi^{(\sigma)}, \xi^{(\sigma)} \rangle| \leq 1$ for all $\sigma \in D$ and all $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, where now $\langle, \rangle$ denotes the inner product on H_σ . If D is infinite, we obtain an infinite family $\{(\langle \bar{U}_{a_1}^{(\sigma)} \xi^{(\sigma)}, \xi^{(\sigma)} \rangle, \dots, \langle \bar{U}_{a_n}^{(\sigma)} \xi^{(\sigma)}, \xi^{(\sigma)} \rangle)\}_{\sigma \in D}$ in a compact set in the

n -dimensional complex space, and so it has a cluster point; this means that, given

$0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{n}$, there exist different σ_1 and σ_2 in D such that

$$|\langle \bar{U}_{a_i}^{(\sigma_1)} \xi^{(\sigma_1)}, \xi^{(\sigma_1)} \rangle - \langle \bar{U}_{a_i}^{(\sigma_2)} \xi^{(\sigma_2)}, \xi^{(\sigma_2)} \rangle| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{B} \quad \text{for all } i.$$

For each a in G we then have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\langle \bar{U}_a^{(\sigma_1)} \xi^{(\sigma_1)}, \xi^{(\sigma_1)} \rangle - \langle \bar{U}_a^{(\sigma_2)} \xi^{(\sigma_2)}, \xi^{(\sigma_2)} \rangle| = \\ & = \left| \sum_{i=1}^n c_i(a) (\langle \bar{U}_{a_i}^{(\sigma_1)} \xi^{(\sigma_1)}, \xi^{(\sigma_1)} \rangle - \langle \bar{U}_{a_i}^{(\sigma_2)} \xi^{(\sigma_2)}, \xi^{(\sigma_2)} \rangle) \right| \leq \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Assuming that the Haar measure of the compact group G is normalised, it follows that

$$\left| \int_G (\langle \bar{U}_a^{(\sigma_1)} \xi^{(\sigma_1)}, \xi^{(\sigma_1)} \rangle - \langle \bar{U}_a^{(\sigma_2)} \xi^{(\sigma_2)}, \xi^{(\sigma_2)} \rangle) U_a^{(\sigma_1)} \xi^{(\sigma_1)}, \xi^{(\sigma_1)} \rangle da \right| \leq \varepsilon,$$

while the first member has the value $\frac{1}{d_{\sigma_1}}$. Since $d_{\sigma_1} \leq n$ (fixed), we arrive at a contradiction by our choice of ε . ■

3. CONNECTION OF τ_c WITH OTHER TOPOLOGIES ON $L_\infty(G)$.

From Proposition 1 we immediately conclude that for non-compact G the w^* -topology is always strictly weaker than the τ_c -topology. But taking Proposition 2 into account, we infer that also for infinite compact G these two topologies are different. Indeed, it suffices to remark that there always exists a function f

in $L_1(G)$ which is not a trigonometric polynomial (e.g., choose in $\sum$ a countable infinite set $\{\sigma_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ of different elements; let χ_{σ_n} be the corresponding character, and put $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{\chi_{\sigma_n}(x)}{n^2 d_{\sigma_n}^2}$ for x in G ; then $f \in L_1(G)$, and $\hat{f}(\sigma_n) = \frac{1}{n^2 d_{\sigma_n}^2} I_{H_{\sigma_n}}$, where $I_{H_{\sigma_n}}$ is the identity operator on H_{σ_n}).

Although τ_c and w^* are different for infinite compact G , they induce the same topology on every norm-bounded subset of $L_\infty(G)$, as the following proposition shows.

PROPOSITION 3. If G is compact, and B is a norm-bounded subset of $L_\infty(G)$, then τ_c and w^* coincide on B .

PROOF. It is sufficient to prove that for any τ_c -neighborhood V of 0 there exists a w^* -neighborhood W of 0 such that $W \cap B \subset V$. Suppose that $\|h\|_\infty \leq M$, $\forall h \in B$, and let $V = \{h \in L_\infty(G) : \|f_i * h\|_\infty < \varepsilon \text{ for } i=1, \dots, n\}$ with given $f_i \in L_1(G)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. From compactness of G and continuity of $a \mapsto f * a$ from G to $(L_1(G), \|\cdot\|_1)$ it follows that each f_i is almost periodic in $(L_1(G), \|\cdot\|_1)$; this means that there exists elements $a_1, \dots, a_m$ in G such that, for each a in G and each $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ a point a_j may be found ($1 \leq j \leq m$) such that $\|a f_i - a_j f_i\|_1 < \frac{\varepsilon}{2M}$. With this choice of a_j and for $g \in L_\infty(G)$ we have

$$|(f_i * g)(a) - (f_i * g)(a_j)| \leq \|a f_i - a_j f_i\|_1 \|g\|_\infty, \text{ or for } g \text{ in } B, |(f_i * g)(a)| \leq |<a_j f_i, g>| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Put $W = \{h \in L_\infty(G) : |<a_j f_i, h>| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \text{ for all } i, j\}$. Then W is a w^* -neighborhood of 0, and for h in $W \cap B$ we obtain $\|f_i * h\|_\infty < \varepsilon$. ■

COROLLARY 1. For compact G , any w^* -convergent sequence is τ_c -convergent. Indeed, the set consisting of the elements in the sequence together with its limit is w^* -compact, and hence also norm bounded. ■

COROLLARY 2. For compact G , $L_1(G)$ is the dual of $(L_\infty(G), \tau_c)$.

PROOF. For a compact group G there is a connection between the τ_c -topology and the so-called bounded weak*-topology bw^* (see Holmes [9], p. 150; this topology is called the bounded X -topology in Dunford and Schwartz [10], p. 427); indeed, we have $\tau_c \leq bw^*$. The result then follows from the fact that $L_1(G)$ is the dual of $(L_\infty(G), bw^*)$. ■

The following proposition characterizes those groups for which τ_c and $\|\cdot\|_\infty$

coincide.

PROPOSITION 4. τ_c coincides with $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ iff G is discrete.

PROOF. For discrete G we have that the τ_c -topology and the $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -topology are equal. For if e is the identity of G , then δ_e is a convolution identity for $L_1(G)$, and the convolution operator T_{δ_e} induced by δ_e is the identity map on $L_\infty(G)$.

Let then G be non-discrete. Given $\varepsilon > 0$ and $f_1, \dots, f_n$ in $L_1(G)$, choose a compact subset K in G such that $\int_{G/K} |f_i(x)| dx < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, for each $i=1, \dots, n$. Let $\eta > 0$ be such that

$\int_A |f_i(x)| dx < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ for all $i=1, \dots, n$ and all measurable $A \subset G$ with $\mu(A) < \eta$, where μ denotes

left Haar measure. Further, let U be a compact symmetric neighborhood of the identity e of G with $0 < \mu(U) < \eta$. Let g be the function defined by $g(x)=1$ for $x \in U$, and $g(x) = 0$ on $G \setminus U$. For $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $x \in G$ we obtain

$$|(f_i * g)(x)| \leq \int_{G \setminus K} |f_i(y)| dy + \left| \int_K f_i(y) g(y^{-1}x) dy \right|.$$

Both terms on the right-hand side are dominated by $\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, since $g(y^{-1}x)$ is zero except when $y \in xU^{-1}$, and since $\mu(xU^{-1}) < \eta$. Hence $\|f_i * g\|_\infty < \varepsilon$, although $\|g\|_\infty = 1$. This shows that no τ_c -neighborhood of 0 lies wholly in any $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -ball of radius less than 1. Hence τ_c is coarser than $\|\cdot\|_\infty$. ■

4. FURTHER PROPERTIES OF THE τ_c -TOPOLOGY.

The proofs of Propositions 5 and 8 that follow were kindly suggested to us by Robert B. Burckel. Both results also appear in Crombez and Govaerts[2].

PROPOSITION 5. Any norm-closed ball in $L_\infty(G)$ is τ_c -complete.

PROOF. Let $\{g_\alpha\}$ be a τ_c -Cauchy net in a ball in $L_\infty(G)$. Let g be a w^* -cluster point of this net, such that a subnet $\{g_\beta\}$ w^* -converges to g . Then $\{(f * g_\beta)(x)\}$ converges to $(f * g)(x)$ for all x in G and all f in $L_1(G)$. Given $\varepsilon > 0$ and $f \in L_1(G)$, there exists α_ε such that $\|f * g_\alpha - f * g_{\alpha'}\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon$ for all $\alpha, \alpha' \geq \alpha_\varepsilon$. Since all these functions are continuous and $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ here is genuine supremum, we derive $|(f * g_\alpha)(x) - (f * g_{\alpha'})(x)| \leq \varepsilon$ for all $\alpha, \alpha' \geq \alpha_\varepsilon$, for all $x \in G$. In this last inequality

we take $\alpha' = \beta$ and let β recede to infinity; then this leads to

$$|(f \star g_\alpha)(x) - (f \star g)(x)| \leq \varepsilon \text{ for all } \alpha \geq \alpha_\varepsilon \text{ and all } x \in G, \text{ i.e.,}$$

$$\|f \star g_\alpha - f \star g\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon \text{ for all } \alpha \geq \alpha_\varepsilon. \blacksquare$$

In particular, we derive from Proposition 5 that a set in $L_\infty(G)$ is τ_c -relatively compact iff it is τ_c -totally bounded. We also have that the closed absolutely convex hull of a τ_c -compact set is again τ_c -compact. Denoting by cl_{τ_c} the closure in the τ_c -topology, we have

PROPOSITION 6. If $g \in L_\infty(G)$, then $g \in \text{cl}_{\tau_c}(L_1 \star g)$.

PROOF. Given $\varepsilon > 0$ and n functions k_i in $L_1(G)$ determining a τ_c -neighborhood V of g in $L_\infty(G)$, and denoting by $\{e_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ an approximate identity in $L_1(G)$, we see that $\|k_i \star (e_\lambda \star g) - k_i \star g\|_\infty$ may be made arbitrarily small. Hence V contains elements of the form $e_\lambda \star g$. $\blacksquare$

COROLLARY 3. Let S be a τ_c -closed L_1 -submodule of $L_\infty(G)$. Then $S = \text{cl}_{\tau_c}(L_1 \star S)$.

COROLLARY 4. Let S be a τ_c -closed L_1 -submodule of $L_\infty(G)$. Then S is left translation invariant.

PROOF. Given g in S and $a \in G$ we show that any τ_c -neighborhood of ${}_a g$ contains a function in $L_1 \star S$, from which the result will follow. Denote by Δ the modular function of G . Let V be the τ_c -neighborhood of ${}_a g$ determined by $f_1, \dots, f_n$ in $L_1(G)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. There always exist $k \in L_1(G)$ and $h \in S$ such that

$$\|(f_i)_a \star g - (f_i)_a \star (k \star h)\|_\infty < \frac{\varepsilon}{\Delta(a)}. \text{ Then } \|f_i \star g - f_i \star (k \star h)\|_\infty < \varepsilon. \text{ Hence } V \text{ contains}$$

the function ${}_a k \star h \in L_1 \star S$. $\blacksquare$

Since $w^\star < \tau_c$, Proposition 6 and its corollaries are stronger than the corresponding results in Crombez and Govaerts [5].

Given $g \in L_\infty(G)$, the map $s \mapsto {}_s g$ from G to $(L_\infty(G), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ is continuous iff g is locally a.e. equal to a function in $C_{\text{ru}}(G)$. (Here, as in [11], $C_{\text{ru}}(G)$ is the set of all right uniformly continuous, bounded, complex-valued functions on G). However, using the τ_c -topology on $L(G)$ we obtain continuity for any $g \in L_\infty(G)$.

PROPOSITION 7. Let g be a function in $L_\infty(G)$. Then the maps $s \mapsto g_s$ and $s \mapsto g$ from G to $(L_\infty(G), \tau_c)$ are continuous.

PROOF. That the map $s \mapsto g_s$ is continuous is trivial, since for any f in $L_1(G)$ $f \star g \in C_{ru}(G)$ and $f \star g_s = (f \star g)_s$. To prove that $s \mapsto g$ is continuous, consider the composition of the maps $G \rightarrow L_1(G) \times C \rightarrow L_\infty(G)$ given by $s \mapsto (f_s, \Delta(s)) \mapsto \Delta(s) f_s \star g = f \star g_s$.

Each map is continuous, and so the result follows. ■

5. SOME MORE RESULTS ON τ_c -ALMOST PERIODIC FUNCTIONS.

In this final section we always suppose G to be Abelian. The notion of τ_c -almost periodic (τ_c -AP) function in $L_\infty(G)$ was introduced in [2] in order to characterize those multipliers which are strongly almost periodic.

PROPOSITION 8. A function g in $L_\infty(G)$ is τ_c -AP iff $f \star g$ is $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -almost periodic for each f in $L_1(G)$.

PROOF. We first notice that $f \star g_a = (f \star g)_a$ for any a in G ; so if we set $0_g = \{g_a : a \in G\}$, then $f \star 0_g = 0_{f \star g}$.

If 0_g is relatively τ_c -compact, then its continuous image $f \star 0_g = 0_{f \star g}$ in $(C_{ru}(G), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ is relatively compact, so $f \star g$ is norm almost periodic. Conversely, by definition of τ_c the map

$$g \mapsto (f \star g)_{f \in L_1(G)} \in \prod_{f \in L_1(G)} f \star L_\infty(G)$$

is a homeomorphism from τ_c into the product of the norm topologies on the right.

Evidently the image of 0_g lies in the subspace $\prod_{f \in L_1(G)} 0_{f \star g}$. If each $f \star g$ is norm

almost periodic, then this last product is relatively compact, and so 0_g is relatively τ_c -compact. ■

Denoting by AP the $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -almost periodic functions in $L_\infty(G)$, we obtained in [2] that τ_c -AP = AP for G discrete, and τ_c -AP = $L_\infty(G)$ for G compact (both results are of course clear now by Proposition 4 and Proposition 3, respectively). We always have that $AP \subseteq \tau_c$ -AP. From Proposition 8 we derive: $L_1(G) \star \tau_c$ -AP $\subseteq$ AP. Since $L_1(G) \star AP = AP$ (see Crombez and Govaerts [4]), we also get $L_1(G) \star \tau_c$ -AP = AP. Hence we obtain from Proposition 8 that τ_c -AP is the largest linear subspace S of $L_\infty(G)$

such that $L_1(G) \rtimes S = AP$. The set τ_c^{-AP} is an L_1 -submodule of $L_\infty(G)$ which is obviously τ_c -closed. From Corollary 3 we may conclude that $\tau_c^{-AP} = \text{cl}_{\tau_c} AP$. In particular, for compact G we have that $L_\infty(G) = \text{cl}_{\tau_c} C(G)$, where $C(G)$ denotes the set of continuous functions on G .

PROPOSITION 9. G is compact iff $\tau_c^{-AP} = L_\infty(G)$.

PROOF. Suppose that $\tau_c^{-AP} = L_\infty(G)$. Then $AP = L_1(G) \rtimes \tau_c^{-AP} = L_1(G) \rtimes L_\infty(G) = C_{ru}(G)$, the last equality coming from Hewitt and Ross [6], 32.45(b). Pick $0 \neq f \in C_{ru}(G)$ with compact support K . If G is not compact there exist infinitely many disjoint translates $a_j K$ of K . Clearly the subset $\{ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} -1 f(a_j \cdot) \}$ of the left orbit of f is not totally bounded. ■

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