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SUBSPACES OF $L_\infty(G)$ WITH UNIQUE TOPOLOGICAL
LEFT INVARIANT MEAN

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1. INTRODUCTION

In what follows we denote by G always a locally compact Hausdorff group with left invariant Haar measure. Let A be an $L_1(G)$ -submodule of $L_\infty(G)$ which is left invariant and containing the constant functions. A mean on A is a linear functional m on A such that $m(\bar{g}) = \overline{m(g)}$ for all $g \in A$ (the bar denoting complex conjugation), $m(1) = 1$, and $m(g) \geq 0$ if $g \geq 0$ locally almost everywhere. A mean m on A is called *left invariant* (LIM) if $m_a(g) = m(g)$ for all a in G and all g in A . A *topologically left invariant* mean (TLIM) on A is a mean m such that $m(\varphi * g) = m(g)$ for all $g \in A$ and all $\varphi \in P(G) = \{\varphi \in L_1(G) : \varphi \geq 0, \|\varphi\|_1 = 1\}$.

It is well known (see e.g. [1], [6] and [8]) that on each of the spaces $AP(G)$ and $W(G)$, being respectively the sets of almost periodic and weakly almost periodic functions in $L_\infty(G)$ there exists a unique LIM; and it is also the unique TLIM. In section 2 we construct two new subspaces of $L_\infty(G)$, one of them containing properly $AP(G)$ and the other $W(G)$, such that on each of these new spaces there exists a unique TLIM. For Abelian G with dual \hat{G} the first space coincides precisely with the space of those functions which are almost periodic at every point of \hat{G} , as introduced by Loomis in [7].

All of these results are shown by use of the so-called τ_c - and τ_w -topologies, which have been introduced in [2] and [3]. For convenience we repeat here their definitions. The space $L_\infty(G)$ may be embedded into $B(L_1(G), L_\infty(G))$ by the operator Φ such that $\Phi(g)(f) = f * g$ ($f \in L_1(G)$, $g \in L_\infty(G)$, $*$ the convolution product). Since $B(L_1(G), L_\infty(G))$ carries naturally the strong and the weak operator topology, Φ allows us to consider their induced topologies on $L_\infty(G)$, which we denote by τ_c and τ_w respectively. These topologies may also be introduced in another manner; indeed, each $f \in L_1(G)$ induces by convolution an operator C_f on $L_\infty(G)$ which is continuous when $L_\infty(G)$ carries its norm topology $\|\cdot\|_\infty$; the weak topology on $L_\infty(G)$ under the convolution operators $C_f : L_\infty(G) \rightarrow (L_\infty(G), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ then coincides with τ_c , while τ_w is the weak topology on $L_\infty(G)$ under the same set of operators $C_f : L_\infty(G) \rightarrow (L_\infty(G), w)$, where w denotes the weak topology on $L_\infty(G)$. So we

immediately obtain $w^* \leq \tau_w \leq \tau_c \leq \|\cdot\|$, and $w^* \leq \tau_w \leq w \leq \|\cdot\|_\infty$. Moreover, $\tau_c \equiv \|\cdot\|_\infty$ iff G is discrete.

All other nonexplained notations and definitions are taken from [8].

2. SUBSPACES OF $L_\infty(G)$ WITH UNIQUE TLIM

We start with the following lemma.

Lemma 2.1. *Let A be an $L_1(G)$ -submodule of $L_\infty(G)$. A LIM m on A is a TLIM iff m is continuous for the induced τ_c -topology.*

Proof. Let m be a TLIM on A . If g is a fixed function in A and $(g_\lambda)_{\lambda \in A}$ is a net in A that τ_c -converges to g , then the net $(\varphi * g_\lambda)_{\lambda \in A}$ is $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -convergent to $\varphi * g$, for each $\varphi \in P(G)$.

Since m is always continuous for the $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -topology, the result follows from the fact that $m(\varphi * h) = m(h)$ for all $\varphi \in P(G)$ and all $h \in A$.

Conversely, let m be a LIM on A which is τ_c -continuous. Using the left invariance of m we obtain that $m(a * f * g) = m(f * g)$ for all $a \in G, f \in L_1(G), g \in A$. In particular, the functional $f \rightarrow m(f * g)$ on $L_1(G)$ is linear, bounded, and left invariant, and so there exists a constant (depending on g), say $c(g)$, such that $m(f * g) = c(g) \int_G f(t) dt$ for all $f \in L_1(G)$; this leads to $m(\varphi * g) = c(g)$ for $\varphi \in P(G)$. Let then $(e_\lambda)_{\lambda \in A}$ be an approximate identity in $L_1(G)$ such that each e_λ belongs to $P(G)$. For g in A , the net $(e_\lambda * g)_{\lambda \in A}$ is τ_c -convergent to g . So, due to the τ_c -continuity of m we obtain $c(g) = m(e_\lambda * g) \rightarrow m(g)$, while due to the $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -continuity of m we also have $c(g) = m((\varphi * e_\lambda) * g) \rightarrow m(\varphi * g)$, for all $\varphi \in P(G)$. Hence m is a TLIM on A . ■

We now construct Banach subspaces of $L_\infty(G)$ on which there exists a unique TLIM.

To this end, call a function g in $L_\infty(G)$ *right almost periodic with respect to τ_c* ($r - \tau_c - \text{a.p.}$) iff the set $\{g_a : a \in G\}$ of right translates of g is relatively compact with respect to τ_c . We denote the set of these functions by $R - \tau_c - \text{AP}$. Analogously, using the τ_w -topology we may define the set $R - \tau_w - \text{AP}$. Since the spaces $(L_\infty(G), \tau_c)$ and $(L_\infty(G), \tau_w)$ are Hausdorff topological vector spaces, it may be verified that both sets are right invariant linear subspaces of $L_\infty(G)$.

Lemma 2.2.

$$\begin{aligned} g \in R - \tau_c - \text{AP} &\Leftrightarrow f * g \in AP(G), \quad \forall f \in L_1(G), \\ g \in R - \tau_w - \text{AP} &\Leftrightarrow f * g \in W(G), \quad \forall f \in L_1(G). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We only give the proof of the first equivalence. Since for any $f \in L_1(G)$, each operator $C_f : (L_\infty(G), \tau_c) \rightarrow (L_\infty(G), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ with $C_f(g) = f * g$ is continuous, one implication is quickly verified using the fact that $(f * g)_a = f * g_a$.

To prove the inverse implication, let $\Phi : L_\infty(G) \rightarrow B(L_1(G), L_\infty(G))$ be the operator defined in the introduction, and put $A = \{(\Phi(g))_a : a \in G\}$, where we define

$(\Phi(g))_a(f) = (f * g)_a = \Phi(g_a)(f)$. Then $A \subset B(L_1(G), L_\infty(G))$, and an adaptation of exercise VI.9.2 in [4] shows that A is relatively compact in the strong operator topology. The result then follows from the definition of τ_c .

The proof of the second equivalence is analogous. ■

From lemma 2.2 we derive that both sets $R - \tau_c - AP$ and $R - \tau_w - AP$ are τ_c -closed. Indeed, if $(g_\lambda)_{\lambda \in A}$ is a net in one of these sets such that $(g_\lambda)_{\lambda \in A}$ τ_c -converges to g , then the net $(f * g_\lambda)_{\lambda \in A}$, which is in either $AP(G)$ or $W(G)$, is $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -convergent to $f * g$, for each f in $L_1(G)$. Since both sets $AP(G)$ and $W(G)$ are $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -closed, the limit function g also belongs to either $R - \tau_c - AP$ or $R - \tau_w - AP$.

Of course $R - \tau_c - AP$ and $R - \tau_w - AP$ are also $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ -closed (hence they are Banach subspaces) since $\tau_c \leq \|\cdot\|_\infty$; being convex sets, they are also τ_w -closed.

In order to obtain our next result, we state [2, coroll. 3 and 4] in the form of the following lemma; $\text{cl}_\tau B$ denotes the closure of a set A in the topology τ .

Lemma 2.3. *Let S be a τ_c -closed $L_1(G)$ submodule of $L_\infty(G)$. Then $S = \text{cl}_{\tau_c}(L_1(G) * S)$, and S is left translation invariant.*

Since $AP(G) \subset R - \tau_c - AP$, and due to the fact that $L_1(G) * AP(G) = AP(G)$, we have from lemma 2.2 $AP(G) = L_1(G) * AP(G) \subset L_1(G) * R - \tau_c - AP \subset AP(G)$. Hence $L_1(G) * R - \tau_c - AP = AP(G)$, and from lemma 2.2 we derive that $R - \tau_c - AP = \text{cl}_{\tau_c}(AP(G))$. Analogously, $L_1(G) * R - \tau_w - AP = W(G)$, and $R - \tau_w - AP = \text{cl}_{\tau_c}(W(G))$. Moreover, both sets $R - \tau_c - AP$ and $R - \tau_w - AP$ are left invariant.

Theorem 2.4. *There exists a unique TLIM on $R - \tau_c - AP$.*

Proof. There exists a unique LIM m on $AP(G)$, and it is also a TLIM; hence m is also continuous for the induced τ_c -topology. Since $R - \tau_c - AP = \text{cl}_{\tau_c}(AP(G))$, there exists an extension of m to a linear functional M on $R - \tau_c - AP$ which is τ_c -continuous; this extension is then necessarily unique. It remains to show that this extension M is a left invariant mean on $R - \tau_c - AP$. That $M(1) = 1$, $M(\bar{g}) = \overline{M(g)}$, and $M(ag) = M(g)$ for $g \in R - \tau_c - AP$ is readily verified using the definition of the τ_c -topology and the properties of m . If $g \in R - \tau_c - AP$ and $g \geq 0$ locally almost everywhere, choose an approximate identity $(e_\lambda)_{\lambda \in A}$ in $L_1(G)$ consisting of positive functions, and put $g_\lambda = e_\lambda * g$. Then each g_λ belongs to $AP(G)$, $g_\lambda \geq 0$, and (g_λ) τ_c -converges to g . Hence $M(g) \geq 0$. Due to lemma 2.1, M is a TLIM on $R - \tau_c - AP$. ■

Completely analogous to theorem 2.4 we may prove

Theorem 2.5. *There exists a unique TLIM on $R - \tau_w - AP$.*

Corollary 2.6. *If G is compact, there exists a unique TLIM on $L_\infty(G)$.*

Proof. Since for given g in $L_\infty(G)$ the function $s \rightarrow g_s$ from G to $L_\infty(G)$ is con-

tinuous for the τ_c -topology on $L_\infty(G)$, any $g \in L_\infty(G)$ is $R - \tau_c$ -a.p. when G is compact, i.e. $R - \tau_c - \text{AP} = L_\infty(G)$. The result then follows from theorem 2.4. ■

Remark 1. Since the LIM on $AP(G)$ or $W(G)$ is also right invariant, the same is true for the TLIM on $R - \tau_c - \text{AP}$ and $R - \tau_w - \text{AP}$.

Let G be an Abelian group with dual \hat{G} . A bounded measurable function g on G is called *almost periodic at the point* $\gamma_0 \in \hat{G}$ iff there exists a function f in $L_1(G)$ such that $f * g$ is ($\| \cdot \|_\infty$ -)almost periodic and $\hat{f}(\gamma_0) \neq 0$ (see Loomis [7], p. 364).

Theorem 2.7. *For Abelian G and $g \in L_\infty(G)$ we have
 $g \in R - \tau_c - \text{AP}$ iff g is almost periodic at each point of \hat{G} .*

Proof. By lemma 2.2 it is clear that any g in $R - \tau_c - \text{AP}$ is almost periodic at each point of \hat{G} .

To prove the converse implication we have to show that, given g in $L_\infty(G)$ which is almost periodic at each point of \hat{G} , the function $f * g$ belongs to $AP(G)$ for each f in $L_1(G)$. We use the notation of [7]; in particular, we denote by spg the spectrum of a bounded function g . Given $\varepsilon > 0$ and f in $L_1(G)$, there exists a function v in $L_1(G)$ such that \hat{v} has compact support, and $\|f - v * f\|_1 < \varepsilon$; also $\text{sp}(v * f) \subset \subset \text{sp}v = \text{supp } \hat{v}$. This means that there exists a net $(h_\lambda)_{\lambda \in A}$ in $L_1(G)$ such that $(h_\lambda) \| \cdot \|_1$ -converges to f , while each h_λ has compact spectrum.

Since $(h_\lambda * g)$ is $\| \cdot \|_\infty$ -convergent to $f * g$, this function will belong to $AP(G)$ as soon as each $h_\lambda * g$ is almost periodic. So it suffices to prove : given f in $L_1(G)$ with compact spectrum, then the function $h = f * g$ is almost periodic. By [7] theorem 1, this will be the case iff h is almost periodic at each point of \hat{G} . Given $\gamma_0 \in \hat{G}$, there exists a function f_0 in $L_1(G)$ such that $f_0 * g$ is almost periodic and $\hat{f}_0(\gamma_0) \neq 0$; then $f_0 * h = f * (f_0 * g)$, and this is almost periodic since $L_1(G) * AP(G) = AP(G)$. ■

3. THE EXTENT OF $R - \tau_w - \text{AP}$

Theorem 3.1. *Let G be a non-compact σ -compact amenable group. Then the quotient space $L_\infty(G) /_{R - \tau_w - \text{AP}}$ is nonseparable.*

Proof. Put $R - \tau_w - \text{AP} \equiv A$ for short, and suppose that $L_\infty(G) /_A$ is separable. Then there exists a countable dense subset $\{[g_n]\}_{n=1}^\infty$ in $L_\infty(G) /_A$, where $[g_n] = g_n + A$, and $g_n \in L_\infty(G)$. Let B be the linear span in $L_\infty(G)$ of the sequence $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$; then $A + B$ is dense in $L_\infty(G)$. Let m be a TLIM on $L_\infty(G)$, and put $m(g_n) = \alpha_n$. If M is also a TLIM on $L_\infty(G)$ such that $M(g_n) = \alpha_n$, then $M = m$; indeed, $M = m$ on B by assumption, and $M = m$ on A since A has a unique TLIM; the result then follows from the denseness of $A + B$ in $L_\infty(G)$. Putting $C = \text{cl}_w * P(G) \cap \{ \mathcal{M} \in \text{TLIM} : \mathcal{M}(g_n) = \alpha_n \}$, we derive that C is norm separable. According to [5, theorem 5], this is sufficient to conclude that G would be compact. ■

Corollary. *If G is σ -compact and $R - \tau_w - \text{AP} = L_\infty(G)$, then G is compact.*

Remark. The result of this last corollary is also true without the assumption that G is σ -compact. Indeed, if $R - \tau_w - \text{AP} = L_\infty(G)$, then $W(G) = L_1(G) * R - \tau_w - \text{AP} = L_1(G) * L_\infty(G) = C_{ru}(G)$, where $C_{ru}(G)$ denotes the set of right uniformly continuous functions on G ; hence $W(G)$ contains the set of functions on G which are both left and right uniformly continuous. This is known to be a sufficient condition for the compactness of G .

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