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## Generalized notions of amenability for a class of matrix algebras

AMIR SAHAMI

*Abstract.* We investigate the amenability and its related homological notions for a class of  $I \times I$ -upper triangular matrix algebra, say  $UP(I, A)$ , where  $A$  is a Banach algebra equipped with a nonzero character. We show that  $UP(I, A)$  is pseudo-contractible (amenable) if and only if  $I$  is singleton and  $A$  is pseudo-contractible (amenable), respectively. We also study pseudo-amenability and approximate biprojectivity of  $UP(I, A)$ .

*Keywords:* upper triangular Banach algebra; amenability; left  $\varphi$ -amenability; approximate biprojectivity

*Classification:* 46M10, 43A07, 43A20

### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

B. E. Johnson studied the class of amenable Banach algebras. Indeed a Banach algebra  $A$  is amenable if every continuous derivation  $D: A \rightarrow X^*$  is inner for every Banach  $A$ -bimodule  $X$ , that is, there exists  $x_0 \in X^*$  such that

$$D(a) = a \cdot x_0 - x_0 \cdot a, \quad a \in A.$$

B. E. Johnson also showed that  $A$  is amenable if and only if there exists a bounded net  $(m_\alpha)$  in  $A \otimes_p A$  such that

$$a \cdot m_\alpha - m_\alpha \cdot a \rightarrow 0, \quad \pi_A(m_\alpha)a \rightarrow a, \quad a \in A,$$

where  $\pi_A: A \otimes_p A \rightarrow A$  is given by  $\pi_A(a \otimes b) = ab$  for every  $a, b \in A$ . About the same time A. Y. Helemskii defined the homological notions of biflatness and biprojectivity for Banach algebras. In fact a Banach algebra  $A$  is called biflat (biprojective), if there exists a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism  $\varrho: A \rightarrow (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  ( $\varrho: A \rightarrow A \otimes_p A$ ) such that  $\pi_A^{**} \circ \varrho$  is the canonical embedding of  $A$  into  $A^{**}$  ( $\varrho$  is a right inverse for  $\pi_A$ ), respectively. Note that a Banach algebra  $A$  is amenable if and only if  $A$  is biflat and  $A$  has a bounded approximate identity. It is known that for a locally compact group  $G$ ,  $L^1(G)$  is biflat (biprojective) if and only if  $G$  is amenable (compact), respectively. For more information about amenability and homological properties of Banach algebras, see [17].

Upper triangular Banach algebras are  $2 \times 2$ -matrix algebras. B. E. Forrest and L. W. Marcoux studied this class of Banach algebras in [8]. Also they investigated some notions of amenability and homological properties of triangular Banach algebras, see [9]. The  $l^1$ -Munn algebras are another matrix algebra. G. H. Esslamzadeh studied amenability and some homological properties of these matrix algebras, for more information see [7].

In this paper, we investigate amenability and its related homological notions for a class of matrix algebras which is a generalization for  $2 \times 2$ -upper triangular Banach algebras. We show that for a Banach algebra  $A$  with a nonzero character,  $I \times I$ -upper triangular Banach algebra  $UP(I, A)$  is amenable (pseudo-contractible) if and only if  $I$  is singleton and  $A$  is amenable (pseudo-contractible), respectively. Also we characterize whether  $UP(I, A)$  is approximate amenable, pseudo-amenable and approximate biprojective. The paper concludes by studying amenability and approximate biprojectivity of some semigroup algebras related to a matrix algebra.

We remark some standard notations and definitions that we shall need in this paper. Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra. Throughout this paper the character space of  $A$  is denoted by  $\Delta(A)$ , that is, all nonzero multiplicative linear functionals on  $A$ . The projective tensor product  $A \otimes_p A$  is a Banach  $A$ -bimodule via the following actions

$$a \cdot (b \otimes c) = ab \otimes c, \quad (b \otimes c) \cdot a = b \otimes ca, \quad a, b, c \in A.$$

Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $I$  be a nonempty totally ordered set. Let  $UP(I, A)$  be denoted for the set of all  $I \times I$  upper triangular matrices which entries come from  $A$  and

$$\|(a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I}\| = \sum_{i,j \in I} \|a_{i,j}\| < \infty.$$

With the usual matrix operations and  $\|\cdot\|$  as a norm,  $UP(I, A)$  becomes a Banach algebra.

## 2. A class of matrix algebras and generalized notions of amenability

In this section, we study generalized notions of amenability for upper triangular Banach algebras.

We remind that a Banach algebra  $A$  with  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$  is called left (right)  $\varphi$ -contractible, if there exists  $m \in A$  such that  $am = \varphi(a)m$  ( $ma = \varphi(a)m$ ) and  $\varphi(m) = 1$  for every  $a \in A$ , respectively. For more information the reader is referred to [16].

A Banach algebra  $A$  is called pseudo-amenable (pseudo-contractible) if there exists a not necessarily bounded net  $(m_\alpha)$  in  $A \otimes_p A$  such that

$$a \cdot m_\alpha - m_\alpha \cdot a \rightarrow 0, \quad (a \cdot m_\alpha = m_\alpha \cdot a), \quad \pi_A(m_\alpha)a \rightarrow a, \quad a \in A.$$

For more information about these new concepts the reader is referred to [12] and [3].

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $I$  be a nonempty totally ordered set and  $A$  be a unital Banach algebra with  $\Delta(A) \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  is pseudo-contractible if and only if  $I$  is singleton and  $A$  is pseudo-contractible.*

PROOF: We will prove this theorem in two steps:

*Step 1:* We show that if  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  is pseudo-contractible, then  $I$  must be finite.

Let  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  be pseudo-contractible. Then  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  has a central approximate identity, say  $(e_\alpha)$ . Put  $F_{i,j}$  for a matrix belongs to  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  whose  $(i, j)$ th entry is  $e_A$  and others are zero, where  $e_A$  is the identity of  $A$ . Thus  $F_{i,j}e_\alpha = e_\alpha F_{i,j}$  for every  $i, j \in I$ . This equation implies that the entries on main diagonal of  $e_\alpha$  is equal. We go towards a contradiction and suppose that  $I$  is infinite. Since the entries on main diagonal of  $e_\alpha$  are equal, it implies that  $\|e_\alpha\| = \infty$  or the main diagonal of  $e_\alpha$  is zero. In the case  $\|e_\alpha\| = \infty$ ,  $e_\alpha$  does not belong to  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  which is impossible. Otherwise if the main diagonal of  $e_\alpha$  is zero, then  $e_\alpha F_{i,i} = 0$ . Thus  $0 = e_\alpha F_{i,i} \rightarrow F_{i,i}$  which is impossible, hence  $I$  must be finite.

*Step 2:* In this step, we show that if  $I$  is a finite subset and  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  is pseudo-contractible, then  $I$  is singleton and  $A$  is pseudo-contractible.

To see this, suppose that  $I = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n\}$  and  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$ . Define  $\psi \in \Delta(\text{UP}(I, A))$  by  $\psi((a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I}) = \varphi(a_{i_n, i_n})$  for every  $(a_{i,j}) \in \text{UP}(I, A)$ . Since  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  is pseudo-contractible, by [2, Theorem 1.1]  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  is left and right  $\psi$ -contractible. Set

$$J = \{(a_{i,j}) \in \text{UP}(I, A) : a_{i,j} = 0 \text{ for all } j \neq i_n\}.$$

It is clear that  $J$  is a closed ideal of  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  and  $\psi|_J \neq 0$ , hence by [16, Proposition 3.8]  $J$  is left and right  $\psi$ -contractible. So there exist  $m_1, m_2 \in J$  such that  $jm_1 = \psi(j)m_1$  and  $m_2j = \psi(j)m_2$  and also  $\psi(m_1) = \psi(m_2) = 1$  for each  $j \in J$ . Set  $m = m_1m_2 \in J$ . Clearly we have

$$(2.1) \quad jm = mj = \psi(j)m, \quad \psi(m) = \psi(m_1m_2) = \psi(m_1)\psi(m_2) = 1, \quad j \in J.$$

Proceeding by contradiction, suppose that  $|I| > 1$ . Since  $m \in J$ , there exist

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in A \text{ such that } m = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & x_1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & x_{n-1} \\ 0 & \cdots & x_n \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Let } a = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & a_n \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $a_n$  is an arbitrary element of  $A$ . Applying (2.1) we have

$$x_1a_n = x_2a_n = \cdots = x_{n-1}a_n = 0, \quad \varphi(a_n)x_1 = \varphi(a_n)x_2 = \cdots = \varphi(a_n)x_{n-1} = 0,$$

and also

$$a_n x_n = x_n a_n = \varphi(a_n) x_n, \quad \varphi(x_n) = 1.$$

Pick an element  $a_n \in A$  such that  $\varphi(a_n) = 1$ . Applying (2.1) it follows that  $x_1 =$

$$x_2 = \cdots = x_{n-1} = 0. \text{ Then } m = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & x_n \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Put } b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & b_1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & b_{n-1} \\ 0 & \cdots & b_n \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $b_2 = \cdots = b_n = 0$  and  $\varphi(b_1) = 1$ . By (2.1) we have  $b_1 x_n = 0$ . Applying  $\varphi$  on this equation, we have  $0 = \varphi(b_1 x_n) = \varphi(b_1) \varphi(x_n) = 1$  which is a contradiction. Therefore  $I$  must be singleton. So  $A$  is pseudo-contractible.

Converse is clear. □

A Banach algebra  $A$  is said to be approximately amenable, if for every continuous derivation  $D: A \rightarrow X^*$ , there exists a net  $(x_\alpha)$  in  $X^*$  such that

$$D(a) = \lim_{\alpha} (a \cdot x_\alpha - x_\alpha \cdot a), \quad a \in A,$$

see [10] and [11].

Suppose that  $A$  is a Banach algebra and  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$ . Then  $A$  is called (approximately) left  $\varphi$ -amenable if there exists (a not necessarily) bounded net  $(m_\alpha)$  in  $A$  such that

$$a m_\alpha - \varphi(a) m_\alpha \rightarrow 0, \quad \varphi(m_\alpha) \rightarrow 1, \quad a \in A,$$

respectively. Right case is defined similarly. For more information about these concepts of amenability and its related homological notions see [1], [15], [13] and [20].

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $I$  be a nonempty totally ordered set with a smallest element. Also let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a left unit such that  $\Delta(A) \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $UP(I, A)$  is pseudo-amenable (approximately amenable) if and only if  $I$  is singleton and  $A$  is pseudo-amenable (approximately amenable), respectively.*

PROOF: Here we proof the pseudo-amenable case, the approximate amenability is similar. Suppose that  $UP(I, A)$  is pseudo-amenable. Then there exists a net  $(m_\alpha)$  in  $UP(I, A) \otimes_p UP(I, A)$  such that

$$a \cdot m_\alpha - m_\alpha \cdot a \rightarrow 0, \quad \pi_{UP(I,A)}(m_\alpha) a \rightarrow a, \quad a \in UP(I, A).$$

Let  $i_0$  be a smallest element of  $I$ . It is easy to see that the map  $\psi$ , given by  $\psi(a) = \varphi(a_{i_0, i_0})$  is a character on  $UP(I, A)$  for each  $a = (a_{i,j}) \in UP(I, A)$ . Define

$$T: UP(I, A) \otimes_p UP(I, A) \rightarrow UP(I, A)$$

by  $T(a \otimes b) = \psi(a)b$  for each  $a, b \in UP(I, A)$ . It is easy to see that  $T$  is a bounded linear map which satisfies the following:

$$T(a \cdot x) = \psi(a)T(x), \quad T(x \cdot a) = T(x)a, \quad \psi \circ T(x) = \psi \circ \pi_{UP(I,A)}(x)$$

for each  $a, b \in \text{UP}(I, A)$  and  $x \in \text{UP}(I, A) \otimes_p \text{UP}(I, A)$ . Thus we have

$$\psi(a)T(m_\alpha) - T(m_\alpha)a = T(a \cdot m_\alpha - m_\alpha \cdot a) \rightarrow 0$$

and  $\psi \circ T(m_\alpha) = \psi \circ \pi_{\text{UP}(I,A)}(m_\alpha) \rightarrow 1$ . Hence  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  is approximately right  $\psi$ -amenable. Define

$$J = \{(a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I} \in \text{UP}(I, A) : a_{i,j} = 0, i \neq i_0\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $J$  is a closed ideal of  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  and  $\psi|_J \neq 0$ . Then by [19, Proposition 5.1],  $J$  is approximately right  $\psi$ -amenable. Now, if we proceed similar to the arguments as in the proof of [19, Theorem 5.1], we can see that  $|I| = 1$ . Therefore  $A$  is pseudo-amenable (approximately amenable), respectively.

Converse is clear. □

Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $a \in A$ . By  $a\varepsilon_{i,j}$  we mean a matrix belonging to  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  with  $(i, j)$ th entry  $a$  and zero elsewhere.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $I$  be a nonempty totally ordered set and let  $A$  be a Banach algebra such that  $\Delta(A) \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  is amenable if and only if  $I$  is singleton and  $A$  is amenable.*

PROOF: Let  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  be amenable. Then  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  has a bounded approximate identity, say  $(E^\alpha)$ . Let  $M > 0$  be a bound for  $(E^\alpha)$ . We claim that  $A$  has a bounded left approximate identity. To see this, fix  $k, l \in I$ . Then for each  $a \in A$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lim_\alpha \|E^\alpha a\varepsilon_{k,l} - a\varepsilon_{k,l}\| = \lim_\alpha \left\| \left( \sum_{i,j} E_{i,j}^\alpha \varepsilon_{i,j} \right) a\varepsilon_{k,l} - a\varepsilon_{k,l} \right\| \\ (2.2) \quad &= \lim_\alpha \left\| \sum_i E_{i,l}^\alpha a\varepsilon_{i,l} - a\varepsilon_{k,l} \right\| = \lim_\alpha \left( \left\| \sum_{i \neq k} E_{i,l}^\alpha a \right\| + \|E_{k,l}^\alpha a - a\| \right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $e_\alpha = E_{k,l}^\alpha$  is a left approximate identity of  $A$ . It is easy to see that  $\|e_\alpha\| \leq \|E^\alpha\| \leq M$ . So  $(e_\alpha)$  is a bounded left approximate identity for  $A$ . We claim that  $I$  is finite. Suppose conversely that  $I$  is infinite. Pick  $a \in A$  such that  $\|a\| = 1$ . Since  $(e_\alpha)$  is a bounded left approximate identity for  $A$ , then  $\lim_\alpha e_\alpha a = a$  for each  $a \in A$ . Thus there exists an  $\alpha_{l,k}$  such that  $\alpha \geq \alpha_{k,l}$  with  $1/2 < \|e_\alpha a\|$ . Hence for  $\alpha \geq \alpha_{k,l}$  we have

$$(2.3) \quad \frac{1}{2} < \|e_\alpha a\| \leq \|e_\alpha\| = \|E_{k,l}^\alpha\|.$$

Since  $I$  is infinite we can choose  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $N > 2M$ . Then choose distinct  $k_1, l_1, k_2, l_2, \dots, k_N, l_N$  in  $I$  and  $\alpha \geq \alpha_{k_i, l_i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ . Using (2.3) one can see that

$$M < \frac{1}{2}N = \sum_{i=1}^N \|E_{k_i, l_i}^\alpha\| \leq \sum_{i,j \in I} \|E_{i,j}^\alpha\| \leq M,$$

which is a contradiction. So  $I$  is finite.

Applying the same method as in the proof of previous theorem, it is easy to see that  $I$  must be singleton, then  $A$  is amenable. □

### 3. A class of matrix algebra and approximate bijectivity

Recently approximate versions of homological notions of Banach algebras have been under more observations, see [21]. In fact a Banach algebra  $A$  is said to be approximately bijective, if there exists a net of  $A$ -bimodule morphisms  $\varrho_\alpha : A \rightarrow A \otimes_p A$  such that

$$\pi_A \circ \varrho_\alpha(a) \rightarrow a, \quad a \in A.$$

Note that  $A$  is a pseudo-contractible Banach algebra if and only if  $A$  is approximately bijective and has a central approximate identity.

In this section we study the approximate bijectivity of some matrix algebras. We also investigate the relation of approximate bijectivity and discreteness of maximal ideal space of a Banach algebra.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $I$  be a totally ordered set with a smallest element. Also let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a right identity such that  $\Delta(A) \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $UP(I, A)$  is approximately bijective if and only if  $I$  is singleton and  $A$  is approximately bijective.*

PROOF: Let  $i_0$  be smallest element of  $I$ . Define  $\psi \in \Delta(UP(I, A))$  by  $\psi(a) = \varphi(a_{i_0, i_0})$ , where  $a = (a_{i,j}) \in UP(I, A)$ . Suppose that  $UP(I, A)$  is approximately bijective. Since  $A$  has a right identity, by [19, Lemma 5.1],  $UP(I, A)$  has a right approximate identity. Applying [18, Theorem 3.9],  $UP(I, A)$  is right  $\psi$ -contractible. Using the same arguments as in the proof of the Theorem 2.2,  $I$  is singleton and  $A$  is approximately bijective.

Converse is clear. □

**Remark 3.2.** Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a left approximate identity and  $I$  be a finite set which has at least two elements. Then  $UP(I, A)$  is never approximately bijective. To see this, since  $I = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n\}$  is finite then left approximate identity of  $A$  gives a left approximate identity for  $UP(I, A)$ . Define  $\psi \in \Delta(UP(I, A))$  by  $\psi(a) = \varphi(a_{i_n, i_n})$  for every  $a = (a_{i,j}) \in UP(I, A)$ . By [18, Theorem 3.9] approximate bijectivity of  $UP(I, A)$  implies that  $UP(I, A)$  is left  $\psi$ -contractible, then the rest is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.2.

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a left approximate identity and  $\Delta(A)$  be a nonempty set. If  $A$  is approximately biprojective, then  $\Delta(A)$  is discrete with respect to the  $w^*$ -topology.*

PROOF: Since  $A$  is an approximately biprojective Banach algebra with a left approximate identity, by [18, Theorem 3.9]  $A$  is left  $\varphi$ -contractible for every  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$ . Applying [4, Corollary 2.2] one can see that  $\Delta(A)$  is discrete.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a left identity,  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$  and let  $I$  be a totally ordered set. If  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  is approximate biprojective, then  $\Delta(\text{UP}(I, A))$  is discrete with respect to the  $w^*$ -topology.*

PROOF: Note that, since  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$ ,  $\Delta(\text{UP}(I, A))$  is a nonempty set. The existence of left identity for  $A$  implies that  $\text{UP}(I, A)$  has a left approximate identity. Applying previous proposition one can see that  $\Delta(\text{UP}(I, A))$  is discrete with respect to the  $w^*$ -topology.  $\square$

Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$ ,  $A$  is  $\varphi$ -inner amenable if there exists a bounded net  $(a_\alpha)$  in  $A$  such that

$$aa_\alpha - a_\alpha a \rightarrow 0, \quad \varphi(a_\alpha) \rightarrow 1, \quad a \in A.$$

For more information about  $\varphi$ -inner amenability, see [14].

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$ . Suppose that  $A$  has an approximate identity. Then approximate biprojectivity of  $A$  implies that  $A$  is  $\varphi$ -inner amenable.*

PROOF: Suppose that  $A$  is approximately biprojective. Using [18, Theorem 3.9], the existence of approximate identity implies that  $A$  is left and right  $\varphi$ -contractible. Then there exist  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  in  $A$  such that

$$am_1 = \varphi(a)m_1(m_2a = \varphi(a)m_2), \quad \varphi(m_1) = \varphi(m_2) = 1, \quad a \in A,$$

respectively. Since

$$m_1 = \varphi(m_2)m_1 = m_2m_1 = \varphi(m_1)m_2 = m_2,$$

one can see that

$$am_1 = m_1a = \varphi(a)m_1, \quad \varphi(m_1) = 1, \quad a \in A.$$

It follows that  $A$  is  $\varphi$ -inner amenable.  $\square$

**Remark 3.6.** We can not drop the assumption of the existence of an approximate identity in Lemma 3.5. In fact, there exists a matrix algebra which is approximately biprojective but it is not  $\varphi$ -inner amenable.

To see this, let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{C} \\ 0 & \mathbb{C} \end{pmatrix}$  and also let  $a_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Define  $\varrho: A \rightarrow$



$A \otimes_p A$  by  $\varrho(a) = a \otimes a_0$  for every  $a \in A$ . It is easy to see that  $\varrho$  is a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism and

$$\pi_A \circ \varrho(a) = a, \quad a \in A.$$

Then  $A$  is biprojective and it follows that  $A$  is approximately biprojective. Set  $\varphi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}\right) = b$  for every  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ . It is easy to see that  $\varphi \in \Delta(A)$ . We claim that  $A$  is not  $\varphi$ -inner amenable. Suppose, for contradiction, that  $A$  is  $\varphi$ -inner amenable. Then there exists a bounded net  $(a_\alpha)$  in  $A$  such that

$$aa_\alpha - a_\alpha a \rightarrow 0, \quad \varphi(a_\alpha) \rightarrow 1, \quad a \in A.$$

It is easy to see that  $ab = \varphi(b)a$  for every  $a \in A$ . Hence we have

$$0 = \lim_\alpha a_0 a_\alpha - a_\alpha a_0 = \lim_\alpha \varphi(a_\alpha) a_0 - \varphi(a_0) a_\alpha = \lim_\alpha a_0 - a_\alpha.$$

It follows that  $a_0 = \lim_\alpha a_\alpha$ . Hence for each  $a \in A$ , we have

$$aa_0 = a_0 a, \quad \varphi(a_0) = 1.$$

It implies that  $a = \varphi(a)a_0$ . Thus  $\dim A = 1$  which is a contradiction.

#### 4. Examples of semigroup algebras related to the matrix algebras

**Example 4.1.** Suppose that  $A$  is a Banach algebra and  $I$  is a nonempty totally ordered set. Put  $B = \text{UP}(I, A)$ . It is obvious that  $B$  with matrix multiplication can be observed as a semigroup. Equip this semigroup with the discrete topology and denote it with  $S_B$ . Suppose that  $A$  has a nonzero idempotent. We claim that  $l^1(S_B)$  is not amenable, whenever  $I$  is an infinite set. Suppose, for contradiction, that  $l^1(S_B)$  is amenable. Let  $e$  be an idempotent for  $A$  and let  $E_{i,i}$  denotes for a matrix belonging to  $B$  whose  $(i, i)$ th entry is  $e$ , otherwise is 0. It is easy to see that  $E_{i,i}$  is an idempotent for the semigroup  $S_B$  for every  $i \in I$ . So the set of idempotents of  $S_B$  is infinite, whenever  $I$  is infinite. Thus by [6, Theorem 2]  $l^1(S_B)$  is not amenable which is a contradiction.

Suppose that  $A$  is a nonzero Banach algebra with a left identity, also suppose that  $I$  is an infinite totally ordered set with smallest element. We also claim that  $l^1(S_B)$  is not approximately biprojective. To see this, proceeding by contradiction, suppose that  $l^1(S_B)$  is approximately biprojective. We denote the augmentation character on  $l^1(S_B)$  by  $\varphi_{S_B}$ . It is easy to see that  $\delta_{\hat{0}} \in S_B$  and  $\varphi_{S_B}(\delta_{\hat{0}}) = 1$ , where  $\hat{0}$  is denoted for the zero matrix belonging to  $S_B$ . One can see that the center of  $S_B$ ,  $Z(S_B)$ , is nonempty, because  $\hat{0}$  belongs to  $Z(S_B)$ . So we can show that  $l^1(S_B)$  is left  $\varphi_{S_B}$ -contractible. Let  $i_0$  be smallest element of  $I$ . Define

$$J = \{(a_{i,j}) \in S_B : a_{i,j} = 0 \text{ for all } i \neq i_0\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $J$  is an infinite ideal of  $S_B$ , then by [5, page 50]  $l^1(J)$  is a closed ideal of  $l^1(S_B)$ . Since  $\varphi_{S_B}|_{l^1(J)}$  is nonzero,  $l^1(J)$  is left  $\varphi_{S_B}$ -contractible. Thus there exists  $m \in l^1(J)$  such that  $am = \varphi_{S_B}(a)m$  and  $\varphi_{S_B}(m) = 1$  for every  $a \in l^1(J)$ . On the other hand since  $A$  has a left identity, then  $J$  has a left identity. So we have

$$m(j) = m(e_l j) = \delta_j m(e_l) = \varphi_{S_B}(\delta_j) m(e_l) = m(e_l), \quad j \in J,$$

where  $e_l$  is a left unit for  $J$ . It follows that  $m$  is a constant function belonging to  $l^1(J)$ . Since  $\varphi_{S_B}(m) = 1$ , we have  $m \neq 0$ . Then  $J$  is finite which is impossible.

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