

$L^1(I, X)$ WITH ORDER CONVOLUTION

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ABSTRACT. It is shown that the maximal ideal space of $L^1(I, X)$ is $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$, where $\mathfrak{M}(X)$ denotes the maximal ideal space of the Banach algebra X . The Gelfand topology on the Carrier space $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$ coincides with the topology which is the product of the interval topology in $(0, 1]$ and the Gelfand topology on $\mathfrak{M}(X)$. Moreover, the Gelfand transform has the form of an indefinite integral.

Let I denote the interval $[0, 1]$ of real numbers. I is a totally ordered set with the semigroup structure obtained by defining $xy = \max\{x, y\}$. When I is provided with the usual interval topology, I is a compact topological semigroup. Let $C(I)$ denote the linear space of all complex-valued continuous functions on I . We give $C(I)$ the usual norm

$$\|f\| = \max_{x \in I} |f(x)|$$

for f in $C(I)$. Let $C(I)^*$ denote the conjugate space of $C(I)$, that is, the linear space of all continuous complex-valued linear functionals L on $C(I)$. It is well known that each $L \in C(I)^*$ has a unique representation as an integral with respect to a complex-valued, countably additive, regular measure λ defined on all Borel subsets of I [10, p. 364]. That is,

$$L(f) = \int_I f(x) d\lambda(x)$$

for all f in $C(I)$.

Let X be a commutative Banach algebra with identity e , $\|e\| = 1$. Denote by $M(I, X)$ the set of all countably additive, regular vector-valued measures defined on the σ -algebra $\mathfrak{B}(I)$ of Borel sets in I with values in X , which have finite total variation [3]. With the total variation as norm, $\|m\| = |m|(I)$, $m \in M(I, X)$, $M(I, X)$ is a Banach space ([6, p. 161] or [8, p. 103]).

Following [3, p. 379] a linear operation $U: C(I) \rightarrow X$ is said to be dominated if there exists a regular positive Borel measure ν such that

$$\|U(f)\| < \int_I |f| d\nu$$

for every $f \in C(I)$; one says that U is dominated by ν or that ν dominates U . Then there exists a least positive regular Borel measure dominating U , denoted by μ_U .

Put

$$\|U\| = \sup \left\| \sum U(f_i) \right\| \quad \text{and} \quad \| \|U\| \| = \sup \sum \|U(f_i)\|$$

where the supremum is taken over all finite families $\{f_i\}$ of $C(I)$ with $\sum \|f_i\| < 1$.

Received by the editors June 25, 1980.
1980 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 43A20.

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0002-9939/81/0000-0513/\$02.75

We shall make use of the following result proved in [3, p. 380].

THEOREM 1. *There exists an isomorphism $U \leftrightarrow m$ between the set of the dominated linear operations $U: C(I) \rightarrow X$ and the set of the regular Borel measures $m: \mathfrak{B}(I) \rightarrow X$ with finite variation μ , given by the equality*

$$U(f) = \int_I f \, dm \quad \text{for every } f \in C(I).$$

Moreover, if U and m are in correspondence, we have

$$\mu_U = \mu, \quad \|U\| = \|m\|(I) \quad \text{and} \quad \|U\| = \|m\|(I) = \mu(I).$$

Recall that $\|m\|(I)$ is the semivariation of m on I , that is,

$$\|m\|(I) = \sup \left\| \sum a_i m(E_i) \right\|$$

where the supremum is taken over all finite families $\{E_i\}$ of disjoint sets of $\mathfrak{B}(I)$ with $\cup_i E_i = I$ and for all the finite families $\{a_i\}$ of complex numbers such that $|a_i| < 1$ for each i .

Duchon [4] has introduced the convolution algebra $M(I, X)$ as follows: Let f be in $C(I)$. Then the function of two variables $f(xy)$ is continuous in $I \times I$. Let m, n be in $M(I, X)$. Let $m \otimes n$ be a regular Borel vector-valued measure with finite variation on $\mathfrak{B}(I \times I)$ that is an extended product of m and n (see [5, p. 1469]). Then $m * n$ is the measure determined by the dominated operation $W: C(I) \rightarrow X$ given by the equality

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad W(f) &= \int_{I \times I} f(xy) \, d(m \otimes n)(x, y) \\ &= \int_I \left\{ \int_I f(xy) \, dm(y) \right\} dn(x) = \int_I f \, d(m * n) \end{aligned}$$

for every f in $C(I)$. Moreover,

$$\|m * n\| \leq \|m\| \|n\|, \quad m, n \in M(I, X).$$

With this product, $M(I, X)$ is a Banach algebra, which is commutative if X is. The structure of measure algebras $M(G, X)$, where G is a totally ordered compact topological semigroup with multiplication in G defined by $xy = \max\{x, y\}$, is discussed in [5]. If $\mathfrak{M}(X)$ denotes the space (in the usual weak topology) of regular maximal ideals in X and F_M represents the canonical homomorphism from X onto the complex numbers \mathbb{C} associated with an $M \in \mathfrak{M}(X)$, then for every homomorphism π of $M(I, X)$ onto \mathbb{C} , there exist a $b \in I$ and $M \in \mathfrak{M}(X)$ such that $\pi(m) = F_M m([0, b])$ for all $m \in M(I, X)$ or there exist a $b \in (0, 1]$ and $M \in \mathfrak{M}(X)$ such that $\pi(m) = F_M m([0, b])$ for all $m \in M(I, X)$. Conversely, if $a \in [0, 1]$ ($a \in (0, 1]$), $M \in \mathfrak{M}(X)$, then the mapping $m \rightarrow F_M m([0, a])$ ($m \rightarrow F_M m([0, a])$) is a homomorphism of $M(I, X)$ onto \mathbb{C} .

In what follows we show that $L^1(I, X)$ is a subalgebra of $M(I, X)$ and study the structure of this algebra. The maximal ideal space of $L^1(I, X)$ corresponds to $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$. The Gelfand topology coincides with the topology which is the

product of the interval topology on $(0, 1]$ and the weak topology on $\mathfrak{M}(X)$ and the Gelfand transform has the form of the indefinite integral.

For terms pertaining to vector measures and Bochner integral, the general reference is [2]. We list the following definition:

DEFINITION 2. Let (Ω, Σ, μ) be a finite measure space. A Banach space X has the Radon-Nikodym property with respect to (Ω, Σ, μ) if for each μ -continuous vector measure $m: \Sigma \rightarrow X$ of bounded variation there exists g in $L^1(\mu, X)$ such that $m(E) = \int_E g \, d\mu$ for all $E \in \Sigma$.

Throughout the discussion we shall assume that the Banach algebra X has the Radon-Nikodym property with respect to the Lebesgue measure on $[0, 1]$.

1. $L^1(I, X)$ as a subalgebra of $M(I, X)$. Every function $f \in L^1(I, X)$ determines a measure $\mu_f \in M(I, X)$ where

$$\mu_f(E) = \int_E f(x) \, dx.$$

The measure μ_f is absolutely continuous with respect to Lebesgue measure and, in view of the Radon-Nikodym property of X with respect to Lebesgue measure, every measure which is absolutely continuous with respect to Lebesgue measure is of this form. Since functions in $L^1(I, X)$ which are equal almost everywhere are identified, different functions determine different measures. Moreover, we have $\|\mu_f\| = \|f\|_1$. We can thus view $L^1(I, X)$ as a linear subspace of $M(I, X)$. Our first result is that this linear subspace is in fact a subalgebra.

We shall need a notation for certain subsets of I . We put $A_1 = \{x, y \in I: x < y\}$ and $A_2 = \{x, y \in I: x > y\}$.

THEOREM 3. If $f, g \in L^1(I, X)$, then $f * g \in L^1(I, X)$ and

$$(2) \quad (f * g)(x) = f(x) \int_0^x g(y) \, dy + g(x) \int_0^x f(y) \, dy \quad a.e.$$

PROOF. We will show that the function defined on the right side of (2) belongs to $L^1(I, X)$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^1 \left\| f(x) \int_0^x g(y) \, dy + g(x) \int_0^x f(y) \, dy \right\| dx \\ & < \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \|f(x)\| \|g(y)\| \chi_{A_2} \, dy \, dx + \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \|g(x)\| \|f(y)\| \chi_{A_2} \, dy \, dx \\ & = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \|f(x)\| \|g(y)\| \chi_{A_2} \, dy \, dx + \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \|f(x)\| \|g(y)\| \chi_{A_1} \, dy \, dx \\ & = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \|f(x)\| \|g(y)\| (\chi_{A_1} + \chi_{A_2}) \, dy \, dx \\ & = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \|f(x)\| \|g(y)\| \, dy \, dx = \|f\|_1 \|g\|_1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$f(x) \int_0^x g(y) \, dy + g(x) \int_0^x f(y) \, dy \in L^1(I, X).$$

To determine the convolution product of f and g , let h be an arbitrary function in $C(I)$. Then according to (1),

$$\begin{aligned} \int_I h(z) d(\mu_f * \mu_g)(z) &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 h(xy) f(x) g(y) dx dy \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 [\chi_{A_1} h(y) + \chi_{A_2} h(x)] f(x) g(y) dx dy \\ &= \int_0^1 h(y) g(y) \left[\int_0^1 \chi_{A_1} f(x) dx \right] dy + \int_0^1 h(x) f(x) \left[\int_0^1 \chi_{A_2} g(y) dy \right] dx \\ &\quad \text{(using Fubini's theorem [3, Theorem 4, p. 1469])} \\ &= \int_0^1 h(y) \left[g(y) \int_0^y f(x) dx \right] dy + \int_0^1 h(y) \left[f(y) \int_0^y g(x) dx \right] dy \\ &= \int_0^1 h(y) \left[g(y) \int_0^y f(x) dx + f(y) \int_0^y g(x) dx \right] dy. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, in view of Theorem 1, the measure $\mu_f * \mu_g$ agrees with the measure determined by the function $f(x) \int_0^x g(y) dy + g(x) \int_0^x f(y) dy$.

From the above theorem we have that $L^1(I, X)$ is a subalgebra of $M(I, X)$ and, from the results of [4], $M(I, X)$ is semisimple if and only if X is semisimple. Thus we have the following result:

COROLLARY 4. $L^1(I, X)$ with order convolution is a commutative semisimple Banach algebra iff X is semisimple.

REMARK. $L^1(I, X)$ is not an ideal in $M(I, X)$. In fact, the function $e\chi_{[c,d]}$, where c and d are distinct interior points of I , when convolved with the mass e at d gives the mass $(d - c)e$ at the point d . Of course the set of discrete measures in $M(I, X)$, $l_1(I, X)$, is a subalgebra of $M(I, X)$. It is easy to check that $l_1(I, X) \oplus L^1(I, X)$, that is those measures in $M(I, X)$ of the form $\mu_d + \mu_f$ where μ_d is discrete with values in X and $f \in L^1(I, X)$, is also a subalgebra of $M(I, X)$.

2. The Gelfand representation. The Gelfand theory for commutative Banach algebras provides a representation of these algebras as algebras of continuous functions on a locally compact space. We show that this representation for $L^1(I, X)$ with order convolution is given by the indefinite integral.

Since $L^1(I, X)$ is a subalgebra of $M(I, X)$ each homomorphism of $M(I, X)$ into the complex numbers will be a homomorphism of $L^1(I, X)$ into the complex numbers. Thus for each $b \in I$ ($b \in (0, 1]$) and $M \in \mathfrak{M}(X)$ the mappings

$$f \rightarrow F_M \int \chi_{[0,b]}(x) f(x) dx \quad \text{and} \quad f \rightarrow F_M \int \chi_{(0,b]}(x) f(x) dx$$

are homomorphisms of $L^1(I, X)$ into the complex numbers. However, since $\chi_{[0,b]} = \chi_{(0,b]}$ almost everywhere, they define the same homomorphism of $L^1(I, X)$ into \mathbb{C} . There is the possibility too that there are homomorphisms on $L^1(I, X)$ which are not of this form. The following theorem combined with the above remarks gives a complete characterisation of nonzero homomorphisms of $L^1(I, X)$ into complex numbers.

THEOREM 5. Every homomorphism ϕ of $L^1(I, X)$ onto the complex numbers is of the form

$$(3) \quad \phi(f) = F_M \int_0^\alpha f(x) dx$$

for some $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ and F_M , where F_M represents the canonical homomorphism from X onto \mathbb{C} associated with an $M \in \mathfrak{M}(X)$.

PROOF. Since simple functions are dense in $L^1(I, X)$ and ϕ is not a zero homomorphism of $L^1(I, X)$, there exists $\chi_{E_0}x$ such that $\phi(\chi_{E_0}x) \neq 0$. Define

$$h(fe) = \phi(fe * \chi_{E_0}x) / \phi(\chi_{E_0}x), \quad f \in L^1(I).$$

If $\chi_{E}y$ is such that $\phi(\chi_{E}y) \neq 0$, then

$$\phi(fe * \chi_{E_0}x) / \phi(\chi_{E_0}x) = \phi(fe * \chi_{E}y) / \phi(\chi_{E}y).$$

One need only cross multiply and observe that ϕ is multiplicative and the algebra is commutative. Moreover, h is a homomorphism. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} h(fe * ge) &= \frac{\phi(fe * ge * \chi_{E_0}x)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)} = \frac{\phi(fe * ge * \chi_{E_0}x)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)} \cdot \frac{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)} \\ &= \frac{\phi(fe * ge * \chi_{E_0}x * \chi_{E_0}x)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)} = \frac{\phi(fe * \chi_{E_0}x)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)} \cdot \frac{\phi(ge * \chi_{E_0}x)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)} = h(fe)h(ge). \end{aligned}$$

Since $L^1(I)e$ is isometrically isomorphic to $L^1(I)$, it follows, in view of [12], that there exists α , $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, such that $h(fe) = \int_0^\alpha f(x) dx$. Define

$$k(y) = \phi(\chi_{E_0}xy) / \phi(\chi_{E_0}x), \quad y \in X.$$

It may be easily checked that k is well defined and is a multiplicative linear homomorphism of X . So there exists $M \in \mathfrak{M}(X)$ such that $k(y) = F_M(y)$ for all $y \in X$.

$$\begin{aligned} h(\chi_{E}e)k(y) &= \frac{\phi(\chi_{E_0}e * \chi_{E_0}x)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)} \cdot \frac{\phi(\chi_{E_0}xy)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x)} \\ &= \frac{\phi(\chi_{E}y * \chi_{E_0}x * \chi_{E_0}x)}{\phi(\chi_{E_0}x * \chi_{E_0}x)} = \phi(\chi_{E}y). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\phi(\chi_{E}y) = F_M(y) \int_0^\alpha \chi_E(t) dt = F_M \left(\int_0^\alpha y \chi_E(t) dt \right).$$

Suppose now f is an arbitrary function in $L^1(I, X)$. There exists a sequence of simple functions $\{f_n\}$ such that $\text{Lim}_n \|f_n - f\| = 0$ and $\text{Lim}_n \int_0^\alpha \|f_n - f\| dx = 0$. Moreover, $\phi(f_n) = F_M \int_0^\alpha f_n(t) dt$. By the dominated convergence theorem and the continuity of F_M , we have

$$\phi(f) = F_M \int_0^\alpha f(t) dt.$$

We can thus identify the Carrier space of $L^1(I, X)$ with $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$, and the Gelfand transform of f in $L^1(I, X)$ is the indefinite integral. The following theorem

shows that the Gelfand topology in the Carrier space $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$ of $L^1(I, X)$ is the product of the interval topology on $(0, 1]$ and the weak topology on $\mathfrak{M}(X)$.

THEOREM 6. *The Gelfand topology, τ , on $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$ coincides with the topology τ' , which is the product of the interval topology on $(0, 1]$ and the weak topology on $\mathfrak{M}(X)$.*

PROOF. The Gelfand topology, τ , is the weakest topology for which the functions

$$\hat{f}(\alpha, M) = \int_0^\alpha F_M(f(x)) \, dx$$

are continuous. Since these functions are continuous with respect to τ' , τ is weaker than τ' . The functions $\hat{f}(\alpha, M)$ clearly separate the points of $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$, vanish at infinity, and do not all vanish at a particular point in $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$. Thus the weak topology τ induced on $(0, 1] \times \mathfrak{M}(X)$ by these functions coincides with τ' [13, p. 12].

REMARK. The result about the Carrier space of $L^1(I, X)$ can also be obtained by using a theorem of Grothendieck [9, Chapter 1, p. 58] and a theorem of Gelbaum [7]. However, our method is very simple and straightforward.

It follows from the above results that $L^1(I, X)$ has no identity. It is clear that the adjunction of an identity to L^1 is equivalent to the adjunction of the mass e at the point 0 to the algebra $L^1(I, X)$. However, there are approximate identities in $L^1(I, X)$.

THEOREM 7. *Given $f \in L^1(I, X)$ and $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $t \in I$ such that if $\nu(x) = u(x)e$, where $u(x)$ is any nonnegative function in $L^1(I)$ which vanishes to the right of t , and $\int_0^1 \nu(x) \, dx = e$, then $\|f - \nu * f\|_1 < \epsilon$.*

PROOF. Choose $t > 0$ such that $\int_0^t \|f(x)\| \, dx < \epsilon/3$. If ν satisfies the conditions of the theorem, then for $x > t$, $(\nu * f)(x) = f(x)$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nu * f - f\| &= \int_0^t \left\| \nu(x) \int_0^x f(y) \, dy + f(x) \int_0^x \nu(y) \, dy - f(x) \right\| \, dx \\ &\leq \int_0^t \left[u(x) \int_0^x \|f(y)\| \, dy + \|f(x)\| \int_0^x u(y) \, dy + \|f(x)\| \right] \, dx \\ &\leq \int_0^t u(x) \left[\int_0^x \|f(y)\| \, dy \right] \, dx + \int_0^t \|f(x)\| \, dx + \int_0^t \|f(x)\| \, dx \\ &< \int_0^t \frac{\epsilon}{3} u(x) \, dx + \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} < \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

REMARKS. (i) If $X = \mathbb{C}$, the field of complex numbers, then $L^1(I, X)$ is the algebra studied in [12].

(ii) If $X = L^1(I)$, then it can be shown, using an argument similar to the one given in [11], that $L^1(I, L^1(I))$ is isometrically isomorphic to the algebra $L^1(I \times I)$ studied in [1].

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. H. L. Vasudeva would like to thank Dr. J. W. Baker for useful discussions and the Science Research Council for enabling him to visit the University of Sheffield while this work was done.

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