

16. On Group Rings of Topological Groups.

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§ 1. Let G be a locally compact topological group, satisfying the second axiom of countability and μ a left invariant Haar measure on G . We denote as usual by $L^p(G)$ ($p \geq 1$) the set of all μ -measurable functions $x(g)$ of G with finite

$$\|x(g)\|_p = \left\{ \int_G |x(g)|^p \mu(dg) \right\}^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

For arbitrary $x(g) \in L^1(G)$, $y(g) \in L^p(G)$ and

$$(1) \quad z(g) = x \times y(g) = \int_G x(h)y(h^{-1}g)\mu(dh),$$

we have

$$(2) \quad \|z\|_p = \|x \times y\|_p \leq \|x\|_1 \|y\|_p.$$

Defining the multiplication by (1) and putting

$$(3) \quad \|x\| = \text{Max.} (\|x\|_1, \|x\|_p),$$

the intersection $L^{(1,p)}(G)$ of $L^1(G)$ and $L^p(G)$ thus becomes a non-commutative normed ring¹⁾. But, generally speaking, $L^{(1,p)}(G)$ has not a unit element. Adjoining therefore formally the unit e , I. E. Segal considered the set of all

$$z = \lambda e + x(g); \quad \lambda = \text{complex number, } x(g) \in L^{(1,p)}(G),$$

and called it the group ring $R^{(1,p)}(G)$ of G ²⁾. But we would rather prefer to call $L^{(1,p)}(G)$ itself the group ring of G . We shall give in this paper certain close relations between G and $L^{(1,p)}(G)$, some of which are generalizations of the results of I. E. Segal.

§ 2. We consider representations of G and $L^{(1,p)}(G)$, i. e. homomorphic mappings of G and $L^{(1,p)}(G)$ into matrices, whose components are complex numbers³⁾.

Our main theorem is then :

Theorem 1. There is a one-to-one correspondence between continuous⁴⁾ representations of $L^{(1,p)}(G)$ and bounded continuous representations of G in the following sense :

i) For a given continuous representation $x(g) \rightarrow T(x)$ of $L^{(1,p)}(G)$, there corresponds uniquely a bounded continuous representation $a \rightarrow D(a)$ of G , so that it holds

1) For normed rings cf. I. Gelfand: Normierte Ringe, Rec. Math., **51** (1941), 37-58.

2) I. E. Segal: The group ring of a locally compact group, I, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci., U. S. A. **27** (1940).

3) For the representation of G , we do not require that the unit of G corresponds to the unit matrix.

4) The topology in $L^{(1,p)}(G)$ is of course given by the norm $\|x\|$ in (3).