

INDEX THEORY AND TOEPLITZ ALGEBRAS ON ONE-PARAMETER SUBGROUPS OF LIE GROUPS

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We form the Toeplitz C^* -algebra $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ associated to the one-parameter subgroup $\exp(tX)$ defined by a left-invariant vector field X on a compact Lie group G . We compute the K -theory of $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ and its commutator ideal $\mathcal{E}(G; X)$. We also define an abstract analytical index for $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ and show that this analytical index can be computed in terms of topological data.

Introduction. Let G be a compact Lie group, let X be a non-zero left-invariant vector field on G , and let $\frac{1}{i}L_X$ denote the Lie derivative with respect to X . The operator $\frac{1}{i}L_X$ extends to an unbounded self-adjoint operator on $L^2(G)$; let P denote the positive spectral projection of $\frac{1}{i}L_X$. Next, each continuous complex-valued function ϕ on G gives rise to a bounded operator M_ϕ on $L^2(G)$ via multiplication. We form a C^* -algebra $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ that is generated by the set $\{PM_\phi : \phi \in C(G)\}$, and we call this algebra the *Toeplitz algebra* of X . In this paper we study $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$, and in particular, we look at how $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ depends on the geometry and topology of G and the choice of X .

Our interest in $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ stems from two sources. First, several authors have recently obtained very nice results relating Toeplitz algebras on flows to the topology of the flows [2, 8]. In our case, the vector field X determines a flow on G , and $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ is the Toeplitz algebra of this flow.

Another important reason for studying $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ is that this algebra contains information about the self-adjoint operator $\frac{1}{i}L_X$. In [4], the authors used Toeplitz algebra techniques to study self-adjoint operators that are elliptic along the leaves of a foliation. In our case, the cosets of $\exp(tX)$ foliate G , and $\frac{1}{i}L_X$ is elliptic along the leaves of this foliation.

In all of the work mentioned above, the authors required their flows and foliations to be minimal. Our foliations are typically not minimal, and in fact can be very far from being minimal. Thus, we must develop techniques for studying $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ that do not require minimality.

To see how to proceed, let us consider a simple example. Let $H = \exp(tX)$ be the one-parameter subgroup generated by X , and let \overline{H} be its closure. Suppose that G is topologically the product of \overline{H} and a compact space B . Then $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$ is isomorphic to $C(B) \otimes \mathcal{S}(\overline{H}; X)$. Moreover, since H is a connected abelian Lie group, so is \overline{H} , and therefore \overline{H} is isomorphic to some torus \mathbb{T}^n . The structure of the algebra $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{T}^n; X)$ was worked out in [5] and [6], and hence we know the structure of $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$ when G is a product. Of course, G cannot always be written as a product. However, G is *locally* a product. More precisely, let B be the homogeneous space G/\overline{H} . Then G is a fiber bundle over B with fiber \overline{H} . It is this local product structure that we use to analyze $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$. We will show that $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$ is isomorphic to the C^* -algebra of sections of a continuous field of Toeplitz algebras for which the subgroup is dense. Using this approach, we can say a great deal about $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$ in the general case.

This paper is organized as follows. In §1, we define the Toeplitz algebra $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$ and show that it is isomorphic to the C^* -algebra of sections of a continuous field of Toeplitz algebras. In §2, we compute the K -theory of $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$. In §3, we prove that the quotient of $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$ by its commutator ideal $\mathcal{E}(G; X)$ is isomorphic to $C(G)$, and we apply K -theory to the corresponding exact sequence to obtain a homomorphism from the K -theory of $C(G)$ to that of $\mathcal{E}(G; X)$; we call this homomorphism the *analytical index*. In §4 we consider the Lie group G as a fiber bundle over $G/\exp(tX)$, and we define a *topological index*. In §5 we compute the K -theory of $\mathcal{E}(G; X)$ and show that the analytical index and the topological index can be identified. Finally, in §6 we consider a “smoothed” version $\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(G; X)$ of the Toeplitz algebra and state some results for $\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(G; X)$.

1. The Toeplitz algebra $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$. Let G be a compact Lie group, let X be a nonzero left-invariant vector field on G , and let L_X denote the Lie derivative with respect to X . It is well-known that $\frac{1}{i}L_X$ defines an unbounded self-adjoint differential operator on $L^2(G)$, where G is endowed with (left) Haar measure. Let P be the positive spectral projection of $\frac{1}{i}L_X$; that is, use the functional calculus for self-adjoint operators to define $P = \chi_{[0, \infty)}(\frac{1}{i}L_X)$, where $\chi_{[0, \infty)}$ denotes the characteristic function of the positive real numbers. Now, a continuous complex-valued function ϕ on G defines a bounded operator M_ϕ on $L^2(G)$ via multiplication: $M_\phi(f) = \phi f$. With this in mind, we make the following definition:

DEFINITION. The Toeplitz algebra of X , denoted $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$, is the C^* -subalgebra of $\mathcal{L}(L^2(G))$ generated by $\{PM_\phi : \phi \in C(G)\}$.

We now wish to show that $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ is isomorphic to the C^* -algebra of sections of a certain continuous field of C^* -algebras. We refer the reader to [3] for the definition and properties of continuous fields of C^* -algebras.

Associated to the vector field X is the one-parameter subgroup $H = \exp(tX)$ of G . Its closure \overline{H} is also a subgroup; let B be the quotient space G/\overline{H} , and let π denote the natural quotient map from G to B . With this map, G is a fiber bundle over B with fiber \overline{H} .

The group \overline{H} is itself a Lie group, so we can endow \overline{H} with its own Haar measure. Moreover, we can translate this measure to put a measure on each coset $\pi^{-1}(b)$ of \overline{H} . The Lie derivative with respect to X acts on each Hilbert space $L^2(\pi^{-1}(b))$, and we will denote this operator by $\frac{1}{i}L_X^b$. Also, define $P^b = \chi_{[0, \infty)}(\frac{1}{i}L_X^b)$ on $L^2(\pi^{-1}(b))$ for each b in B . Next, for each $b \in B$, let $\mathcal{T}(\pi^{-1}(b); X)$ denote the C^* -subalgebra of $\mathcal{L}(L^2(\pi^{-1}(b)))$ generated by $\{P^b M_\psi : \psi \in C(\pi^{-1}(b))\}$.

Define a continuous field of C^* -algebras over B in the following manner. Form the direct product $\prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{T}(\pi^{-1}(b); X)$, and for each $\phi \in C(G)$, let $\gamma_\phi \in \prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{T}(\pi^{-1}(b); X)$ be defined by $\gamma_\phi(b) = P^b M_{\phi^b}$, where ϕ^b is the restriction of $\phi \in C(G)$ to $\pi^{-1}(b)$. Let Γ be the algebra of continuous sections of $\prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{T}(\pi^{-1}(b); X)$ generated by $\{\gamma_\phi : \phi \in C(G)\}$.

PROPOSITION 1.1. $(\prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{T}(\pi^{-1}(b); X), \Gamma)$ is a continuous field of C^* -algebras over B .

Proof. The only nonobvious point to check is that for each γ in Γ , the function $b \mapsto \|\gamma(b)\|$ is continuous. Since every $\gamma \in \Gamma$ can be uniformly approximated by finite products and sums of the sections γ_ϕ , it suffices to show that for each $\phi \in C(G)$, the function $b \mapsto \|\gamma_\phi(b)\|$ is continuous. But $\|\gamma_\phi(b)\| = \|\phi^b\|$ [7], from which continuity follows immediately. \square

PROPOSITION 1.2. The Toeplitz algebra $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$ is isomorphic to the C^* -algebra of sections of the continuous field

$$\left(\prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{T}(\pi^{-1}(b); X), \Gamma \right).$$

Proof. Push forward Haar measure on G via π to obtain a measure μ on B . For each continuous function ϕ in $L^2(G)$, there corresponds an element $(\phi^b)_{b \in B}$ of $\prod_{b \in B} L^2(\pi^{-1}(b))$, and this correspondence extends to an isometric isomorphism from $L^2(G)$ to a direct integral $\int L^2(\pi^{-1}(b)) d\mu$ of Hilbert spaces. Let U be a unitary implementing this isomorphism. Then $U^*PU = (P^b)_{b \in B}$ and $U^*M_\phi U = (M_{\phi^b})_{b \in B}$ for every ϕ in $C(G)$, so U implements an isomorphism from $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$ to the C^* -algebra of sections of $(\prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(b); X), \Gamma)$. \square

DEFINITION. Let Y be a closed subset of B , and let

$$\left(\prod_{b \in Y} \mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(b); X), \Gamma|_Y \right)$$

be the continuous field over Y that is the restriction of

$$\left(\prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(b); X), \Gamma \right)$$

to Y . Then $\mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(Y); X)$ is the C^* -algebra of sections of

$$\left(\prod_{b \in Y} \mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(b); X), \Gamma|_Y \right).$$

With the definition above, the following two corollaries are immediate.

COROLLARY 1.3. *The correspondence $A \mapsto \mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(A); X)$ is a contravariant functor from the category of closed subsets of B and inclusion maps to the category of Toeplitz algebras over closed subsets of B and homomorphisms.* \square

COROLLARY 1.4. *Let A_1 and A_2 be closed subsets of B . Then $\mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(A_1 \cup A_2); X)$ is isomorphic to the C^* -algebra*

$$\{(T_1, T_2) \in \mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(A_1); X) \oplus \mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(A_2); X) : r_1(T_1) = r_2(T_2)\},$$

where r_1 and r_2 are the restriction homomorphisms from $\mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(A_1); X)$ and $\mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(A_2); X)$ to $\mathcal{S}(\pi^{-1}(A_1 \cap A_2); X)$. \square

2. The K -theory of $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$. In this section, we compute the K -theory of $\mathcal{S}(G; X)$. We begin by considering the Toeplitz algebra in the special case where the one-parameter group $H = \exp(tX)$ is dense in G , so $G = \overline{H}$ and $\mathcal{S}(G; X) = \mathcal{S}(\overline{H}; X)$. In this case G is the

closure of a connected abelian group and is therefore an n -torus \mathbb{T}^n for some n . This situation was studied in [5] and [6], and it is shown there that $K_0(\mathcal{F}(G; X)) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ and $K_1(\mathcal{F}(G; X)) \cong 0$.

We now consider the general case. Let π^* be the natural homomorphism from $C(B)$ to $C(G)$. Then for a closed subset A of B , define $\alpha: C(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A); X)$ by $\alpha(\phi) = PM_{\pi^*(\phi)}$. Note that since $\pi^*(\phi)$ is constant when restricted to sets of the form $\pi^{-1}(b)$, $\frac{1}{i}L_X$, and hence P , commutes with $M_{\pi^*(\phi)}$ for all $\phi \in C(A)$. Thus α is a homomorphism.

THEOREM 2.1. *The map $\alpha : C(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(G; X)$ induces an isomorphism $\alpha_* : K_*(C(B)) \rightarrow K_*(\mathcal{F}(G; X))$, whence $K_*(\mathcal{F}(G; X)) \cong K^*(B)$.*

Proof. Let $H = \exp(tX)$, and let A be a closed subset over which G is trivial. Then $\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A); X) \cong C(A) \otimes \mathcal{F}(\overline{H}; X)$, and under this isomorphism, $\alpha(\phi) = \phi \otimes I$. The natural inclusion of \mathbb{C} into $\mathcal{F}(\overline{H}; X)$ induces an isomorphism in K -theory [5, 6], so α also induces an isomorphism in K -theory.

Suppose that A_1 and A_2 are closed subsets of B such that α induces isomorphisms $K_*(C(A_1)) \cong K_*(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_1)); X)$ and $K_*(C(A_2)) \cong K_*(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_2)); X)$. Then we also have an isomorphism from $K_*(C(A_1 \cap A_2))$ to $K_*(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_1 \cap A_2)); X)$. By Corollary 1.4, we can apply the Mayer-Vietoris sequence in K -theory [10], and for $i = 0, 1$, we have the following commutative diagram with exact columns:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K_{1-i}(C(A_1) \oplus C(A_2)) & \longrightarrow & K_{1-i}(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_1); X) \oplus \mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_2); X)) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 K_{1-i}(C(A_1 \cap A_2)) & \longrightarrow & K_{1-i}(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_1 \cap A_2); X)) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 K_i(C(A_1 \cup A_2)) & \longrightarrow & K_i(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_1 \cup A_2); X)) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 K_i(C(A_1) \oplus C(A_2)) & \longrightarrow & K_i(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_1); X) \oplus \mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_2); X)) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 K_i(C(A_1 \cap A_2)) & \longrightarrow & K_i(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_1 \cap A_2); X)).
 \end{array}$$

An application of the five lemma shows that

$$\alpha_* : K_*(C(A_1 \cup A_2)) \longrightarrow K_*(\mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(A_1 \cup A_2); X))$$

is an isomorphism, and since B can be written as the union of a finite number of closed sets over which G is trivial, an induction argument shows that

$$\alpha_* : K_*(C(B)) \longrightarrow K_*(\mathcal{F}(G; X))$$

is an isomorphism. Finally, composition with the natural isomorphism $K_*(C(B)) \cong K^*(B)$ gives the desired result. \square

3. The analytical index. In this section, we construct a short exact sequence that involves the Toeplitz algebra, and we use this short exact sequence to define an abstract analytical index for $\mathcal{F}(G; X)$.

LEMMA 3.1. *Let $(\prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(b); X), \Gamma)$ be the continuous field of C^* -algebras from §1, and identify $\mathcal{F}(G; X)$ with the C^* -algebra of sections of $(\prod_{b \in B} \mathcal{F}(\pi^{-1}(b); X), \Gamma)$. Then under this identification, the commutator ideal $\mathcal{E}(G; X)$ of $\mathcal{F}(G; X)$ corresponds to the ideal of sections that map b into $\mathcal{E}(\pi^{-1}(b); X)$ for every $b \in B$.*

Proof. This follows immediately from [3, Lemma 10.4.2]. \square

PROPOSITION 3.2. *There exists a short exact sequence*

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{E}(G; X) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(G; X) \xrightarrow{\sigma} C(G) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where σ has the property that $\sigma(PM_\phi) = \phi$ for all ϕ in $C(G)$.

Proof. Define $\xi: C(G) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(G; X)/\mathcal{E}(G; X)$ by $\xi(\phi) = PM_\phi + \mathcal{E}(G; X)$. For all ϕ, ψ in $C(G)$, $\xi(\phi\psi) - \xi(\phi)\xi(\psi) = (PM_{\phi\psi} - PM_\phi PM_\psi) + \mathcal{E}(G; X)$. Since $P^b M_{\phi^b \psi^b} - P^b M_{\phi^b} P^b M_{\psi^b} \in \mathcal{E}(\pi^{-1}(b); X)$ for each $b \in B$ ([7]), $PM_{\phi\psi} - PM_\phi PM_\psi \in \mathcal{E}(G; X)$ by Lemma 3.1, and thus ξ is a homomorphism. Clearly ξ is onto; I claim that ξ is actually an isomorphism.

Choose $\phi \in \ker \xi$. Then $PM_\phi \in \mathcal{E}(G; X)$ and $P^b M_{\phi^b}$ is in $\mathcal{E}(\pi^{-1}(b); X)$ for every b in B . The results of [7] imply that ϕ^b is identically zero for all b , whence ϕ itself is zero. Our choice of ϕ in $\ker \xi$ was arbitrary, so $\ker \xi = 0$ and ξ is an isomorphism. If we define σ to be the composition of ξ^{-1} and the quotient map from $\mathcal{F}(G; X)$ to $\mathcal{F}(G; X)/\mathcal{E}(G; X)$, the result follows. \square

We apply the six-term exact sequence in K -theory to the short exact sequence in Proposition 3.2 to obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_0(\mathcal{E}(G; X)) & \longrightarrow & K_0(\mathcal{F}(G; X)) & \longrightarrow & K_0(C(G)) \\
 \partial_1^a \uparrow & & & & \downarrow \partial_0^a \\
 K_1(C(G)) & \longleftarrow & K_1(\mathcal{F}(G; X)) & \longleftarrow & K_1(\mathcal{E}(G; X)).
 \end{array}$$

DEFINITION. The analytical index of $\mathcal{F}(G; X)$ is the \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded homomorphism

$$\partial_*^a : K_*(C(G)) \longrightarrow K_{1-*}(\mathcal{E}(G; X)).$$

4. The topological index. In this section we define a topological index for the Toeplitz algebra $\mathcal{F}(G; X)$. We adopt [1] and [7] as references for the facts about K -theory that we need.

The continuous map $\pi : G \longrightarrow B$ gives rise to a six-term exact sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \tilde{K}^0(C_\pi) & \longrightarrow & K^0(B) & \xrightarrow{\pi^*} & K^0(G) \\
 \partial_i^1 \uparrow & & & & \downarrow \partial_i^0 \\
 K^1(G) & \xleftarrow{\pi^*} & K^1(B) & \longleftarrow & \tilde{K}^1(C_\pi),
 \end{array}$$

where $\tilde{K}^*(C_\pi)$ denotes the reduced K -theory of the mapping cone C_π of π .

DEFINITION. The topological index is the \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded homomorphism

$$\partial_i^* : K^*(G) \longrightarrow \tilde{K}^{1-*}(C_\pi).$$

We end this section by reinterpreting the topological index so that in the next section we can identify the topological index and the analytical index.

Let Z_π denote the mapping cylinder of π . The inclusion map from B to Z_π is a homotopy equivalence, so $K^*(Z_\pi)$ is isomorphic to $K^*(B)$. Also, $\tilde{K}^*(C_\pi) \cong K^*(Z_\pi \setminus G)$. Finally, using the natural isomorphism between the K -theory of topological spaces and the K -theory of commutative C^* -algebras, the six-term exact sequence that defines the topological index can be identified with the following sequence:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_0(C_0(Z_\pi \setminus G)) & \longrightarrow & K_0(C(Z_\pi)) & \longrightarrow & K_0(C(G)) \\
 \partial_1 \uparrow & & & & \downarrow \partial_0 \\
 K_1(C(G)) & \longleftarrow & K_1(C(Z_\pi)) & \longleftarrow & K_1(C_0(Z_\pi \setminus G)).
 \end{array}$$

5. An index theorem. In this section, we identify the analytical index and the topological index. We also compute the K -theory of $\mathcal{E}(G; X)$.

For any C^* -algebra \mathcal{B} , let $I\mathcal{B}$ denote the C^* -algebra of continuous functions from the unit interval into \mathcal{B} . Define

$$\mathcal{A}(G; X) = \{(\phi, F) \in C(B) \oplus I\mathcal{F}(G; X) : \alpha(\phi) = F(0)\}.$$

Note that $\mathcal{A}(G; X)$ is a pullback of $C(B)$ and $I\mathcal{F}(G; X)$; this algebra provides the link between the analytical index and the topological index.

It follows immediately from the definition of the mapping cylinder Z_π that $C(Z_\pi)$ is a pullback of $C(B)$ and $IC(G)$; specifically,

$$C(Z_\pi) \cong \{(\phi, f) \in C(B) \oplus IC(G) : \pi^*(\phi) = f(0)\}.$$

Via this isomorphism, we define a homomorphism $\kappa: \mathcal{A}(G; X) \rightarrow C(Z_\pi)$ by $\kappa(\phi, F) = (\phi, \hat{\sigma}(F))$, where $\hat{\sigma}$ is defined by the formula $\hat{\sigma}(F)(t) = \sigma(F(t))$.

PROPOSITION 5.1. *The homomorphism κ induces an isomorphism $\kappa_*: K_*(\mathcal{A}(G; X)) \rightarrow K_*(C(Z_\pi))$.*

Proof. Let π_1 be the natural projection map from $\mathcal{A}(G; X)$ to $C(B)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \ker \pi_1 &= \{(\phi, F) \in C(B) \oplus I\mathcal{F}(G; X) : F(0) = \phi = 0\} \\
 &\cong C_0((0, 1], \mathcal{F}(G; X)).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus $K_*(\ker \pi_1)$ is identically zero, whence $(\pi_1)_*: K_*(\mathcal{A}(G; X)) \rightarrow K_*(C(B))$ is an isomorphism. Next, the inclusion of B into Z_π is a homotopy equivalence, so the restriction map $r: C(Z_\pi) \rightarrow C(B)$ induces an isomorphism in K -theory. Since π_1 is the composition of κ and r , and since π_1 and r induce isomorphisms in K -theory, so does κ . □

PROPOSITION 5.2. *Define $\tau: \mathcal{A}(G; X) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(G; X)$ by $\tau(\phi, F) = F(1)$. Then τ induces an isomorphism in K -theory.*

Proof. We proved in Proposition 5.1 that π_1 induces an isomorphism in K -theory. We know from §2 that α also induces an isomorphism in K -theory. Thus the composition $\alpha\pi_1$ gives rise to an isomorphism from $K_*(\mathcal{A}(G; X))$ to $K_*(\mathcal{F}(G; X))$. Now, $(\alpha\pi_1)(\phi, F) = F(0) \neq \tau(\phi, F)$. However, $\alpha\pi_1$ is homotopic to τ , so τ_* is also an isomorphism. \square

Define $\sigma_1 : \mathcal{A}(G; X) \rightarrow C(G)$ by $\sigma_1(\phi, F) = \sigma(F(1))$. We then have the following commutative diagram with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & C_0(Z_\pi \setminus G) & \longrightarrow & C(Z_\pi) & \longrightarrow & C(G) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 & & \uparrow & & \kappa \uparrow & & \text{id} \uparrow & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & \ker \sigma_1 & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{A}(G; X) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_1} & C(G) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \tau \downarrow & & \text{id} \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{E}(G; X) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F}(G; X) & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & C(G) & \longrightarrow & 0.
 \end{array}$$

The homomorphisms κ and τ induce isomorphisms in K -theory, so the six-term exact sequence in K -theory and the five lemma imply that the vertical maps on the left induce isomorphisms in K -theory. Thus we have an isomorphism from $K_*(\mathcal{E}(G; X))$ to $K_*(C_0(Z_\pi \setminus G)) \cong \tilde{K}^*(C_\pi)$, and hence we have computed the K -theory of $\mathcal{E}(G; X)$:

THEOREM 5.3. $K_*(\mathcal{E}(G; X)) \cong \tilde{K}^*(C_\pi)$. \square

The naturality of the connecting maps in K -theory allows us to use the diagram above to identify the analytical and topological indices.

THEOREM 5.4. *The following diagram commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K_*(C(G)) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & K^*(G) \\
 \partial_* \downarrow & & \downarrow \partial_t^* \\
 K_{1-*}(\mathcal{E}(G; X)) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \tilde{K}^{1-*}(C_\pi),
 \end{array}$$

where the lower horizontal map is the isomorphism in Theorem 5.3 and the upper horizontal map is the natural isomorphism. \square

6. The smoothed Toeplitz algebra. In this section, we consider a “smoothed” version $\mathcal{F}_\varepsilon(G; X)$ of the Toeplitz algebra $\mathcal{F}(G; X)$. There are several reasons for doing this; we refer the reader to [4] for more information.

DEFINITION. Let $\varepsilon > 0$. The smoothed Toeplitz algebra, denoted $\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(G; X)$, is the C^* -subalgebra of $\mathcal{L}(L^2(G))$ generated by $\{P_\varepsilon M_\phi : \phi \in C(G)\}$, where $P_\varepsilon = f_\varepsilon(\frac{1}{i}L_X)$ and $f_\varepsilon: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by $f_\varepsilon(t) = \frac{1}{2}[1 + t(\varepsilon + t^2)^{-1/2}]$.

We remark that the actual choice of $\varepsilon > 0$ and function f_ε is not crucial for most purposes; see [4] for a discussion of this matter.

We begin by assuming that $\exp(tX)$ is a closed subgroup of G . In this case the index theory of the smoothed Toeplitz algebra $\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(G; X)$ will be no different from that of $\mathcal{T}(G; X)$. This is because the spectrum of $\frac{1}{i}L_X$ is discrete when $\exp(tX)$ is closed and therefore has a gap about zero.

When $\exp(tX)$ is not closed, the situation is quite different. The algebra $\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(\mathbb{T}^n; X)$ was studied in [5] for the case $n > 1$ and $\exp(tX)$ a dense subgroup of \mathbb{T}^n . The authors of [5] proved that there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_\varepsilon(\mathbb{T}^n; X) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(\mathbb{T}^n; X) \rightarrow C(\mathbb{T}^n) \rightarrow 0,$$

where $\mathcal{E}_\varepsilon(\mathbb{T}^n; X)$ denotes the commutator ideal of $\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(\mathbb{T}^n; X)$. They also proved that the connecting maps in the associated six-term K -theory exact sequence are isomorphisms. Thus $K_*(\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(\mathbb{T}^n; X)) = 0$.

More generally, let G be an arbitrary compact Lie group, and suppose that $\exp(tX)$ is not closed. The results of §1 apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to $\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(G; X)$. In particular, Corollary 1.4 is true. We use the Künneth formula and the Mayer-Vietoris sequence to conclude

THEOREM 6.1. *Let G be a compact Lie group, let X be a nonzero left-invariant vector field on G , and suppose that $\exp(tX)$ is not closed. Then $K_*(\mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(G; X)) = 0$. \square*

Furthermore, the proof of Proposition 3.2 adapts to give a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_\varepsilon(G; X) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_\varepsilon(G; X) \rightarrow C(G) \rightarrow 0,$$

so we have

COROLLARY 6.2. *Under the hypotheses of Theorem 6.1,*

$$K_*(\mathcal{E}_\varepsilon(G; X)) \cong K^{1-*}(G).$$

Proof. Apply the six-term exact sequence in K -theory to the short exact sequence above to get $K_*(\mathcal{E}_\varepsilon(G; X)) \cong K_{1-*}(C(G))$, and then use the isomorphism $K_*(C(G)) \cong K^*(G)$. \square

We conclude by remarking that one can say more about the commutator ideal $\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon(G; X)$. It is shown in [5] and [6] that $\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon(\mathbb{T}^n; X)$ is isomorphic to the crossed-product C^* -algebra $C(\mathbb{T}^n) \rtimes \mathbb{R}$, where the flow that X defines on \mathbb{T}^n gives the action of \mathbb{R} . A straightforward argument using continuous fields shows that $\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon(G; X)$ is isomorphic to a crossed product $C(G) \rtimes \mathbb{R}$.

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