

CHARACTERIZATION OF GROUP ALGEBRAS IN TERMS OF THEIR TRANSLATION OPERATORS

F. P. GREENLEAF

In this paper we will characterize those Banach algebras A which are isometric and isomorphic to the group algebra of some (possibly nonabelian) compact group. The central idea of this characterization is to study the group $G_{\neq}(A)$ of translation operators which act on A ; here a translation is any linear isometric map of A onto A such that $T(xy) = (Tx)y$ for all $x, y \in A$.

We first give a simple characterization of an intermediate class of Banach algebra which includes all group algebras of compact groups and many other closely related algebras. This is the class of QCG algebras: those A isometric and isomorphic to an algebra of the form $A = \overline{\varphi(L^1(H))} \subset M(H)/N$, where H is a compact group, N a weak $*$ closed two-sided ideal in $M(H) = C(H)^*$, and $\varphi: M(H) \rightarrow M(H)/N$ is the canonical homomorphism ($M(H)/N$ is given the quotient norm). This characterization involves the following axiom on A .

Axiom (CA) If $\|a\| \leq 1$ then L_a ($L_a: x \rightarrow ax$) is a strong operator limit of convex sums of translations.

Any QCG algebra has a great number of finite dimensional two-sided ideals; those QCG algebras A which are group algebras are singled out by studying the representations gotten by letting $G_{\neq}(A)$ act on these ideals. Examples are given of QCG algebras which are not the group algebra of any compact group.

In this discussion we assume a knowledge of topological groups as in Weil [16], Chevalley [6], and Pontryagin [13], and of related Banach algebras as found in Loomis [11] and Rickart [14]. All groups will be either compact or locally compact Hausdorff topological groups. If H is such a group, $C_0(H)$ is the sup norm algebra of continuous functions vanishing at infinity, and $M(H) = C_0(H)^*$ is the convolution algebra of bounded regular Borel measures with

$$\langle \mu * \lambda, \psi \rangle = \int_H \left[\int_H \psi(st) d\mu(s) \right] d\lambda(t)$$

for $\mu, \lambda \in M(H)$ and $\psi \in C_0(H)$. As usual, the group algebra $L^1(H)$ is the two-sided ideal in $M(H)$ consisting of all measures which are absolutely continuous with respect to left (or right) Haar measure on H .

In principle one would expect a characterization of group algebras to be possible, in view of the following result presented in Wendel [17].

THEOREM 1.1.1. *Two locally compact groups G and H have isometric and isomorphic group algebras $\langle = \rangle$ G is topologically isomorphic to H .*

However, examples of nonisomorphic finite groups with isomorphic group algebras are easy to construct (the algebras cannot be isometrically isomorphic); thus, any characterization of group algebras as Banach algebras must rest, in part, on properties which are preserved by isometric isomorphisms but not necessarily under topological isomorphisms. Notice that the translation operators may differ on Banach algebras which are only topologically isomorphic. It is interesting that Wendel makes no use of the natural involution on a group algebra in [17], which suggests that it should be possible to solve the characterization problem without using the additional symmetry provided by an involution.

In order to analyze the characterization problem it has been necessary to introduce auxiliary conditions, such as axioms on the translations, which, while ultimately determined by the norm properties of the algebra, are not easily derived as consequences of a few relations on the algebra and its norm. This is an unfortunate concession to the difficulty of the characterization problem; however, the more direct program has never been carried to a successful conclusion, except in the case of finite or discrete groups. The solutions in these cases will be reviewed later; unfortunately, they cannot be generalized. Recently Rieffel [15] has succeeded in characterizing the group algebras of locally compact *abelian* groups using auxiliary concepts quite unrelated to the translations studied here.

1.2. Special notation. If X, Y are Banach spaces we denote the strong operator topology on the bounded linear operators $B(X, Y)$ by (so) , and the weak $*$ topology of X^* by $(\sigma) = \sigma(X^*, X)$. If H is a locally compact group we can define strong operator topologies $(so)_\ell$ and $(so)_r$ in $M(H)$ by letting $M(H)$ act on the two-sided ideal $L^1(H)$ by left or right convolution. We will always set $\Sigma_x = \{x \in X; \|x\| \leq 1\}$ and let \mathcal{E}_x denote the extreme points in Σ_x . If X is just a vector space and E a subset, its linear span is $\text{l.s.}[E]$ and its convex span is $\text{co}[E]$. If (X, τ) is a topological vector space, write $\text{co}[E; (\tau)]$ for the (τ) closed convex span of $E \subset X$. We indicate (τ) convergence of a net $\{x_j; j \in J\}$ to $x \in X$ by writing $x_j \xrightarrow{\tau} x$ or $x \xleftarrow{\tau} x_j$, interchangeably. If X, Y are isometric, isomorphic normed algebras, we will often write this as $X \sim Y$.

1.3. Properties of group algebras and their translations.

DEFINITION 1.3.1. If A is a normed algebra, any bounded linear operator T on A with the property $T(xy) = (Tx)y$ ($T(xy) = x(Ty)$) for $x, y \in A$ is called a *left (right) multiplier* of A . The algebra of all left multipliers on A is denoted by A_{ℓ}^m and obviously contains, as a left ideal, the algebra of *inner left multipliers*: $A_{\ell} = \{L_a: a \in A\}$ which arise in the left regular representation of A . Similarly define A_r^m and the left ideal A_r of *inner right multipliers* on A . The *left (right) translations* of A are the groups of all isometric onto left (right) multipliers of A respectively. We denote these groups by G_{ℓ} (G_r) and define $G = G_{\ell} \cap G_r$.

Since the commutation relation $T(xy) = (Tx)y$ is preserved under uniform convergence in $B(A, A)$, A_{ℓ}^m is a Banach algebra under the operator norm if A itself is a Banach algebra. Similar comments hold for A_r^m .

DEFINITION 1.3.2. An element $x \in A$ in a normed algebra A is *left almost invariant* if the orbit of x under the action of G_{ℓ} lies in a finite dimensional subspace of A . Define *right almost invariance* of $x \in A$ similarly and denote the subalgebras of left (right) almost invariant elements in A by $\mathcal{A}_{\ell}(A)$ ($\mathcal{A}_r(A)$). Then write $\mathcal{A}(A) = \mathcal{A}_{\ell}(A) \cap \mathcal{A}_r(A)$ for the algebra of *two-sided almost invariant* elements.

In any normed algebra A a left approximate identity is any net $\{e_j: j \in J\}$ such that $\|e_j a - a\| \rightarrow 0$ for any $a \in A$; right approximate identities are defined similarly. An approximate identity is *minimal* if $\sup\{\|e_j\|: j \in J\} < \infty$ and $\|e_j\| \rightarrow 1$; we always have $\liminf\{\|e_j\|: j \in J\} \geq 1$ for an approximate identity. If A has a two-sided minimal approximate identity then $\|L_a\| = \|a\| = \|R_a\|$ for $a \in A$ and the left regular representation is an isometric isomorphism so that $A \sim A_{\ell}$; we will frequently identify A with its inner left multipliers. Notice that $R: A \rightarrow A_r \subset A_r^m$ is an isometric anti-isomorphism in this context. If A has a unit I of norm one, then we actually have $A_{\ell} = A_{\ell}^m$ and $A_r = A_r^m$.

If H is a locally compact group the relation between $A = L^1(H)$, its algebra of multipliers A_{ℓ}^m , and the associated group G_{ℓ} of translations has been described in Wendel [18]. We define the homomorphism $L: M(H) \rightarrow A_{\ell}^m$ by taking $L(\mu) = L_{\mu}$ where $L_{\mu}(f) = \mu * f$; similarly define anti-homomorphism $R: M(H) \rightarrow A_r^m$ by taking $R(\mu) = R_{\mu}$ where $R_{\mu}(f) = f * \mu$. These operators include the usual left and right translation operators $L(\alpha \delta_h)$ and $R(\alpha \delta_h)$, where $|\alpha| = 1$ and δ_h is the point mass of norm one at $h \in H$. Since there is a two-sided approximate identity of norm one $\{f_j: j \in J\}$ in $L^1(H)$ we conclude that $\|L_{\mu}\| = \|\mu\| = \|R_{\mu}\|$ so L and R are isometric; in fact we have $f_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \delta_e$ which $\Rightarrow \mu * f_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu$ in $M(H)$, hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mu\| &\geq \|L_\mu\| \geq \sup \{\|\mu * f_j\| : j \in J\} \\ &\geq \limsup \{\|\mu * f_j\| : j \in J\} \geq \|\mu\|, \end{aligned}$$

with similar arguments for $\|R_\mu\| = \|\mu\|$.

THEOREM 1.3.3. *Let H be a locally compact group and $A = L^1(H)$. Then $A_\mathcal{L}^m = \{L_\mu : \mu \in M(H)\}$ and $\|L_\mu\| = \|\mu\|$ for all $\mu \in M(H)$ so that $A_\mathcal{L}^m$ can be realized (isometrically and isomorphically) as $M(H)$. In this realization, $G_\mathcal{L} = \{L(\alpha\delta_h) : |\alpha| = 1, h \in H\}$; furthermore, if $G_\mathcal{L}$ is given the (so) topology, $G_\mathcal{L}$ is topologically isomorphic to the direct product $S \times H$ (S is the circle group) under the map $\pi: (\alpha, h) \rightarrow L(\alpha\delta_h)$. In fact we have an internal direct product factorization of $G_\mathcal{L} = SI \times \Gamma$, where I is the identity operator, $SI = \{\alpha I : |\alpha| = 1\}$, and $\Gamma = \{L(\delta_h) : h \in H\}$ (both Γ and SI are (so) closed normal subgroups). The convex span $\text{co}[G_\mathcal{L}]$ is dense in the unit ball $\Sigma_{A_\mathcal{L}^m}$ in the (so) topology.*

Similar results hold for the right multipliers A_r^m , which are realized as $M(H)$ except for the anti-multiplicativity of $R: \mu \rightarrow R_\mu$. These facts were either proved by Wendel or follow easily from his results. Notice that $G_\mathcal{L}$ coincides with the usual group of translation operators. In this example, as in any normed algebra, the existence of a minimal two-sided approximate identity implies that each $F \in A_\mathcal{L}^m$ is a (so) limit of inner left multipliers, since $\|F(e_j a) - F(a)\| = \|L_{F e_j}(a) - F(a)\| \rightarrow 0$.

We will make use of the following properties of a group algebra A of a compact group. There is a two-sided minimal approximate identity in A ; in fact, since the group is compact, we can find such approximate identities in the center of A (this is proved in the appendix A.1.3). A is a semi-simple algebra (see Rickart [14], Section 2.3 and A.3); indeed, compactness of the group insures that A is a dual Banach algebra with finite dimensional minimal two-sided ideals. Finally, A has at least one nonzero multiplicative linear functional.

REMARK. Dual algebras are defined as in Kaplansky [10]. Later we will use the fact that in a dual algebra with a central minimal approximate identity all the minimal two-sided ideals are finite dimensional; this is proved in the appendix (A.2.1).

The following relations between the group algebra A of a compact group and its group $G_\mathcal{L}$ of left translations will be used as axioms in our program of characterizing group algebras. Each has a left and right handed version.

Axiom ($W_{\mathcal{L}}$) A closed subspace of A is a left ideal \Leftrightarrow the subspace is $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ invariant.

This property, first proved by Wiener for the group algebra $L^1(-\infty, \infty)$, on a normed algebra insures existence of enough translations to distinguish closed left ideals from other closed subspaces in A ,

Axiom ($AI_{\mathcal{L}}$) The left almost invariant elements $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{L}}(A)$ are norm dense in A .

The two-sided version of this axiom says that $\mathcal{A}(A)$ is norm dense in A . In a compact group algebra A the subalgebras of left, right, and two-sided almost invariant elements coincide and are isomorphic to a direct sum of (possibly infinitely many) full finite dimensional matrix algebras over the complex numbers (see Loomis [11], 39D for a detailed study). This axiom limits the size of $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ (if $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ is large it is difficult for $a \in A$ to be left almost invariant); for example if R^1 is the real line and $A=C_0(R^1)$, then $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ is identified with all continuous unimodular functions on R^1 and $f(x) \equiv 0$ is the only almost invariant element in A .

These axioms will eventually be replaced in our discussion by requiring that the algebra A under consideration be a dual Banach algebra with central minimal approximate identity. The following convex approximation property, implicit in Wendel [18], cannot be replaced by such conditions and is really the axiom on which our characterization rests. Clearly it is suggested by the Krein-Milman Theorem; these approximation properties in the (so) topology are also discussed in Section 1 of Greenleaf [8].

Axiom ($CA_{\mathcal{L}}$) Every inner left multiplier L_a , for $\|a\| \leq 1$ in A , is the strong operator limit of convex sums of left translations.

Here is another formulation of this axiom.

LEMMA 1.3.4. *If A is a normed algebra with minimal two-sided approximate identity, then $(CA_{\mathcal{L}})$ holds \Leftrightarrow the convex span $\text{co}[G_{\mathcal{L}}(A)]$ is (so) dense in the unit ball $\Sigma_{A_{\mathcal{L}}}^m$.*

Proof. Since $\|L_a\| = \|a\|$ for $a \in A$ (use the approximate identity) the implication (\Leftarrow) is clear. Conversely if the (so) closure of $\text{co}[G_{\mathcal{L}}]$ includes $\{L_x: x \leq 1\}$, which is (so) dense in $\Sigma_{A_{\mathcal{L}}}^m$ due to minimality of our approximate identity, it follows that $\text{co}[G_{\mathcal{L}} : (so)] = \Sigma_{A_{\mathcal{L}}}^m$.

REMARK. When H is compact we will sacrifice grammar for conciseness and refer to $L^1(H)$ as a "compact group algebra".

1.4. QCG algebras and their significance. If A is a Banach algebra, we will show axiom $(AI_{\mathcal{L}})$ insures that $(G_{\mathcal{L}}, (so))$ is a compact topological group; since $(AI_{\mathcal{L}})$ holds in any semi-simple dual Banach algebra with finite dimensional minimal two-sided, this is not an uncommon state of affairs. It is then natural to try to represent A in terms of $L^1(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ or $M(G_{\mathcal{L}})$. If A has a minimal two-sided approximate identity, satisfies axiom $(AI_{\mathcal{L}})$, and has the convex approximation property: Axiom $(CA_{\mathcal{L}})$, then we will show that $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m \sim M(G_{\mathcal{L}})/N$, where N is a (σ) closed two-sided ideal, and that $A \sim \overline{\varphi(L^1(G_{\mathcal{L}}))} \subset M(G_{\mathcal{L}})/N$ in this representation, where $\varphi: M(G_{\mathcal{L}}) \rightarrow M(G_{\mathcal{L}})/N$ is the canonical homomorphism and $M(G_{\mathcal{L}})/N$ is given the quotient norm. This gives half of the characterization of QCG algebras.

DEFINITION 1.4.1. Let H be a compact group, $N \subset M(H)$ any (σ) closed two-sided ideal, and $\varphi: M(H) \rightarrow M(H)/N$ the canonical homomorphism. If $M(H)/N$ is given the quotient norm, then $A = \overline{\varphi(L^1(H))}$ is a Banach algebra; an abstract Banach algebra is called a QCG algebra if it is isometric and isomorphic to an algebra of this type for some compact group H and some (σ) closed two-sided ideal $N \subset M(H)$.

If A is a QCG algebra, we will see that most properties of compact group algebras also hold for A . On the other hand we will exhibit QCG algebras which satisfy all properties set forth in Section 1.3 and still fail to be group algebras. The QCG algebras are plentiful and their many similarities with group algebras may account for some of the difficulty of the group algebra characterization problem.

1.5. The finite characterization problem. The characterization problem for finite groups is solved below. Here $A = L^1(H) = M(H)$, there exists a unit of norm one, and there is no difficulty introducing the correct topology on $G_{\mathcal{L}}(A)$. With a little effort the first characterization can be adapted to identify the group algebra of any discrete group; we leave this to the reader.

THEOREM 1.5.1. A finite dimensional normed algebra A with identity of norm one is a group algebra \Leftrightarrow

- (1) The extreme points \mathcal{E}_A in Σ_A form a group.
- (2) The algebra has a nonzero multiplicative linear functional.
- (3) If $\{g_1 \cdots g_n\}$ are pair wise linearly independent points in \mathcal{E}_A , then $\|\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i g_i\| = \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|$.

Proof. It suffices to prove (\Leftarrow) . Notice $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m \sim A$ under the left regular representation. For any normed algebra A , $G_{\mathcal{L}}(A) = \mathcal{E}_{A_{\mathcal{L}}^m}$ if the extreme points $\mathcal{E}_{A_{\mathcal{L}}^m}$ form a group (see A.3.1 for verification) so we identify $G_{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{E}_A$. If Ψ is the functional in (2) and $\Gamma = \{g \in G_{\mathcal{L}} : \Psi(g) = 1\}$, then Γ is a normal subgroup in $G_{\mathcal{L}}$, as is $SI = \{\alpha I : |\alpha| = 1\}$, and we have an internal direct product factorization $G_{\mathcal{L}} = SI \times \Gamma$. Give Γ the discrete topology and define $T: M(\Gamma) \rightarrow A$ such that $T(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \delta_{\gamma_i}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \gamma_i$ (notice that the $\gamma \in \Gamma$ are pairwise linearly independent, and (3) \Rightarrow the elements of Γ are linearly independent; hence Γ is finite). This is an isometric onto mapping; in fact, $\|\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \delta_{\gamma_i}\| = \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i| = \|\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \gamma_i\|$ from (3), and clearly

$$\Sigma_A = \text{co}[\mathcal{E}_A] = \text{co}[T(\mathcal{E}_{M(\Gamma)})] = T(\text{co}[\mathcal{E}_{M(\Gamma)}]) = T(\Sigma_{M(\Gamma)})$$

from finite dimensionality. Direct computation shows that $T(\mu * \lambda) = T(\mu) \cdot T(\lambda)$.

COROLLARY 1.5.2. *A finite dimensional algebra A can be given a group algebra norm \Leftrightarrow it has at least one linear basis $\mathcal{L} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ which forms a group under multiplication. If \mathcal{L} is any such basis the (unique) group algebra norm associated with it is such that $S\mathcal{L} = \{\alpha x : |\alpha| = 1, x \in \mathcal{L}\}$ coincides with the extreme points \mathcal{E}_A , and $\Sigma_A = \text{co}[S\mathcal{L}]$ in A .*

Proof. If $x = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i x_i$ in A , take $\|x\| = \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|$.

2. Characterization of QCG algebras.

2.1. Concrete representation theorems for Banach algebras.

First we display various conditions which insure that $(G_{\mathcal{L}}(A), (so))$ is a compact topological group.

THEOREM 2.1.1. *If A is a Banach algebra and the left almost invariant elements are norm dense in A then $(G_{\mathcal{L}}(A), (so))$ is a compact topological group. A similar result holds for $(G_r(A), (so))$ if axiom (AI_r) holds.*

Proof. We present the left-handed case. For a Banach algebra A , $(G_{\mathcal{L}}(A), (so))$ is always a Hausdorff topological group (see verification in appendix (A.3.1)). The rest of the proof is given in two lemmas.

LEMMA 2.1.2. *If A is a Banach algebra, let $O_a = \{g(a) : g \in G_{\mathcal{L}}\}$ for $a \in A$, and consider the conditions:*

- (1) $(G_{\mathcal{L}}(A), (so))$ is compact

- (2) O_a has compact norm closure in A for any $a \in A$.
- (3) The right multiplication R_a is a compact operator for any $a \in A$.

Then (2) \Rightarrow (1), and if A has a minimal two-sided approximate identity we also have (3) \Rightarrow (2).

Proof. If $\{e_j : j \in J\}$ is the approximate identity, then $F \in A_{\mathcal{L}}^m \Rightarrow \|F(e_j)a - F(a)\| \rightarrow 0$, so that $O_a \subset \Sigma_{A_{\mathcal{L}}^m}(a) \subset \overline{\Sigma_A \cdot a}$, which is norm compact; hence (3) \Rightarrow (2). For (2) \Rightarrow (1) we consider the product space $Q = \prod\{(O_a)^- : a \in A\}$ with the Cartesian product topology (hence Q is compact). Define maps τ and ω mapping $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ into Q by requiring that $\pi_a(\tau(g)) = g(a)$ and $\pi_a(\omega(g)) = g^{-1}(a)$ in O_a for $g \in G_{\mathcal{L}}, a \in A$ (π_a is the projection of Q onto $(O_a)^-$). If $\{g_j : j \in J\}$ is a net in $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ there must exist a subnet $\{g_{j(k)} : k \in K\}$ such that both $\{\tau(g_{j(k)}) : k \in K\}$ and $\{\omega(g_{j(k)}) : k \in K\}$ are convergent in Q . This happens \Rightarrow we have $\|g_{j(k)}(a) - \pi_a(x)\| = \|\pi_a(\tau(g_{j(k)})) - \tau_a(x)\| \rightarrow 0$ and $\|g_{j(k)}^{-1}(a) - \pi_a(y)\| = \|\pi_a(\omega(g_{j(k)})) - \pi_a(y)\| \rightarrow 0$ for $a \in A$, where x and y in Q are the respective limits of these nets.

Define maps $g_{\infty}(a) = \pi_a(x) = \lim\{g_{j(k)}(a) : k \in K\}$ and $h_{\infty}(a) = \pi_a(y) = \lim\{g_{j(k)}^{-1}(a) : k \in K\}$ for all $a \in A$. We assert that g_{∞}, h_{∞} are isometries in $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$; it suffices to prove this for g_{∞} . Linearity of g_{∞} is easy to check; furthermore, $g_{\infty}(ab) = \lim\{g_{j(k)}(ab) : k \in K\} = \lim\{g_{j(k)}(a) \cdot b\} = \lim\{g_{j(k)}(a)\} \cdot b = g_{\infty}(a) \cdot b$, and $\|g_{\infty}(a)\| = \lim\{\|g_{j(k)}(a)\| : k \in K\} = \|a\|$. The maps g_{∞}, h_{∞} are onto if $g_{\infty} \circ h_{\infty} = h_{\infty} \circ g_{\infty} = I$ (identity map on A), and this follows since $\|g_{\infty}(h_{\infty}(a)) - a\| = \|g_{\infty}(h_{\infty}(a)) - g_{j(k)}(h_{\infty}(a))\| + \|g_{j(k)}(h_{\infty}(a)) - g_{j(k)}(g_{j(k)}^{-1}(a))\| = \|g_{\infty}(h_{\infty}(a)) - g_{j(k)}(h_{\infty}(a))\| + \|h_{\infty}(a) - g_{j(k)}^{-1}(a)\| \rightarrow 0$ for $a \in A$, with a similar argument for $h_{\infty} \circ g_{\infty} = I$. Thus $g_{j(k)} \xrightarrow{(so)} g_{\infty}$ in G_l and we have demonstrated (2) \Rightarrow (1).

LEMMA 2.1.3. *If A is a Banach algebra such that $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{L}}(A)$ is norm dense in A , then the norm closure $(O_a)^-$ of $O_a = \{g(a) : g \in G_{\mathcal{L}}\}$ is always norm compact in A . A similar right-handed result holds.*

Proof. If $a \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{L}}$, clearly $(O_a)^-$ is norm compact. If $a \in A$ select $\{a_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\} \subset \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{L}}$ such that $\|a - a_n\| < 1/2^n$ and give $Q = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (O_{a_n})^-$ the product topology (so Q is compact). Define $\tau : g \rightarrow \{g(a_n)\} \in Q$; it is easy to see that O_a^- is norm compact \Leftrightarrow corresponding to any net $\{g_j(a) = z_j : j \in J\}$ in O_a , there exists a subnet $\{g_{j(k)}(a) : k \in K\}$ which is norm convergent in A (its limit is in $(O_a)^-$). There is a subnet $\{g_{j(k)}\}$ such that $\tau(g_{j(k)}) \rightarrow x \in Q$ in the product topology; this means that $g_{j(k)}(a_n) \xrightarrow{(norm)} x_n = \pi_n(x)$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Now $\|\pi_{n+1}(x) - \pi_n(x)\| \leftarrow \|g_{j(k)}(a_{n+1}) - g_{j(k)}(a_n)\| = \|a_{n+1} - a_n\| \leq 1/2^n$, so $\{\pi_n(x)\}$ is Cauchy and converges in norm to some $x^* \in A$. This means that

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_{j(k)}(a) - x^*\| &\leq \|g_{j(k)}(a) - g_{j(k)}(a_n)\| + \|g_{j(k)}(a_n) - x_n\| + \|x_n - x^*\| \\ &\leq 1/2^{n-1} + \|g_{j(k)}(a_n) - x_n\| + \|x_n - x^*\| \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2 \dots ; \end{aligned}$$

clearly then $\|g_{j(k)}(a) - x^*\| \rightarrow 0$ as required.

THEOREM 2.1.4. *Let A be a Banach algebra with minimal two-sided approximate identity, and assume that A satisfies axioms $(AI_{\mathcal{L}})$ and $(CA_{\mathcal{L}})$. Then there exists a compact topological group H and (σ) closed two-sided ideal $N \subset M(H)$ such that $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ is isometric and isomorphic to $M(H)/N$ and A is isometric and isomorphic to the algebra $\overline{\varphi(L^1(H))}$ in $M(H)/N$, where $\varphi: M(H) \rightarrow M(H)/N$ is the canonical homomorphism and $M(H)/N$ is given the quotient norm.*

Proof. From 2.1.1, $(G_{\mathcal{L}}, (so))$ is compact. Because the functions $g \rightarrow g(a)$ are (so) continuous on $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ for $a \in A$, we can define the vector valued integrals $T\mu(a) = \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} g(a)d\mu(g)$ such that

$$\langle T\mu(a), a^* \rangle = \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle g(a), a^* \rangle d\mu(g)$$

for $\mu \in M(G_{\mathcal{L}})$, $a \in A$, $a^* \in A^*$. As indicated in Bourbaki [5], p. 80-82, each functional on A^* defined by this relation corresponds to an element of A . Thus we have defined an operator $T\mu: A \rightarrow A$ such that $\|T\mu\| \leq \|\mu\|$. To see that $T\mu \in A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$, let R_b be the right multiplication by $b \in A$; then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T\mu(ab), a^* \rangle &= \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle g(ab), a^* \rangle d\mu(g) \\ &= \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle (g(a))b, a^* \rangle d\mu(g) \\ &= \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle g(a), R_b^* a^* \rangle d\mu(g) \\ &= \langle T\mu(a), R_b^* a^* \rangle = \langle R_b T\mu(a), a^* \rangle = \langle T\mu(a) \cdot b, a^* \rangle \end{aligned}$$

as required. Furthermore, $T: M(G_{\mathcal{L}}) \rightarrow A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ is a homomorphism since

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T\mu(T\lambda(a)), a^* \rangle &= \langle T\lambda(a), (T\mu)^* a^* \rangle \\ &= \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle g(a), (T\mu)^* a^* \rangle d\lambda(g) \\ &= \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle T\mu g(a), a^* \rangle d\lambda(g) \\ &= \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \left[\int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle hg(a), a^* \rangle d\mu(h) \right] d\lambda(g) \\ &= \int_{G_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle t(a), a^* \rangle d\mu * \lambda(t) = \langle T(\mu * \lambda)a, a^* \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

If $N = \text{Ker } T$, then N is a two-sided ideal in $M(G_\mathcal{L})$.

The map $T: (M(G_\mathcal{L}), (\sigma)) \rightarrow (A_\mathcal{L}^m, (so))$ is continuous on norm bounded sets; it suffices to verify this on $\Sigma_{M(G_\mathcal{L})}$. Let $\mu_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu$ in $\Sigma_{M(G_\mathcal{L})}$. First notice that $\Omega = \text{co}[G_\mathcal{L} : (so)]$ is compact in $(A_\mathcal{L}^m, (so))$, since the (so) convex closure of an (so) compact set in $B(A, A)$ is again (so) compact (see A.4.2 in appendix); then $T\mu \in \Omega$ whenever $\mu \in \Sigma_{M(G_\mathcal{L})}$. Indeed, if $\lambda_j \in \text{co}[\mathcal{E}_{M(G_\mathcal{L})}]$ is a net such that $\lambda_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu$, then $T\lambda_j \in \Omega$ and there is an (so) convergent subnet $T\lambda_{j(k)} \xrightarrow{(so)} F \in \Omega$. This subnet is such that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle F(a), a^* \rangle &\longleftarrow \langle T\lambda_{j(k)}(a), a^* \rangle = \int_{G_\mathcal{L}} \langle g(a), a^* \rangle d\lambda_j(g) \\ &\longrightarrow \int_{G_\mathcal{L}} \langle g(a), a^* \rangle d\mu(g) = \langle T\mu(a), a^* \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

so that $T\mu = F$. Hence $T\mu$ is the only (so) limit point in Ω of $\{T\lambda_j\}$; since there exists at least one such limit point we conclude that $T\lambda_j \xrightarrow{(so)} T\mu$ (and in particular $T\mu \in \Omega$). Once we know that $T\mu_j \in \Omega$ for all $j \in J$ the same limit point argument applies to show that $T\mu_j \xrightarrow{(so)} T\mu$, as required for continuity. In particular, if $\{\mu_j : j \in J\}$ is a net in $N \cap \Sigma_{M(G_\mathcal{L})}$ such that $\mu_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu \in M(G_\mathcal{L})$, then $0 \equiv T\mu_j \xrightarrow{(so)} T\mu$, so that $\mu \in N$. The Krein-Smulian theorem ([7], V.5.7) applies to show that N is a (σ) closed subspace in $M(G_\mathcal{L})$.

If $g_0 \in G_\mathcal{L}$ we have $T(\delta_{g_0}) = g_0$, so $T(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \delta_{g_i}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i g_i$. If $F \in \Sigma_{A_\mathcal{L}^m}$ there exists a net $\{E_j = \sum \alpha(j, g)g\}$ in $\text{co}[G_\mathcal{L}]$ such that $E_j \xrightarrow{(so)} F$; thus, if we define $\lambda_j = \sum \alpha(j, g)\delta_g$ in $\Sigma_{M(G_\mathcal{L})}$, and if we pick any (σ) convergent subnet $\lambda_{j(k)} \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu$, we get $\mu \in \Sigma_{M(G_\mathcal{L})}$ and

$$F \xleftarrow{(so)} E_{j(k)} = T(\lambda_{j(k)}) \xrightarrow{(so)} T\mu$$

because T is continuous. Hence $F = T\mu$ and we have $T(\Sigma_{M(G_\mathcal{L})}) = \Sigma_{A_\mathcal{L}^m}$. Another way of viewing this fact is to say that, given any $F \in A_\mathcal{L}^m$, there is some $\mu \in M(G_\mathcal{L})$ with $\|\mu\| = \|F\|$ and $T\mu = F$.

In the above representation scheme we actually have $T(L^1(G_\mathcal{L})) \subset A_\mathcal{L}$ (inner multipliers). To prove this, recall that $A_\mathcal{L}$ is (trivially) a left ideal in $A_\mathcal{L}^m$ and that $f \in \mathcal{A}(L^1(G_\mathcal{L})) \Rightarrow \{Tf \circ g = T(f * \delta_g) : g \in G_\mathcal{L}\}$ lies within some finite dimensional subspace $X = X(f)$ in $A_\mathcal{L}$. If $\{\lambda_j\} \subset \text{co}[G_\mathcal{L}]$ is chosen so $\lambda_j \xrightarrow{(so)} L_a$, then $Tf \circ \lambda_j \xrightarrow{(so)} Tf \circ L_a$; this means $Tf \circ L_a \in X$ for all $a \in A$ and clearly $Tf \circ L_a \in A_\mathcal{L}$ too. If $\{e_j\}$ is the approximate identity in A then $Tf \circ L_{e_j} \xrightarrow{(so)} Tf$, but $Tf \circ L_{e_j} \in X \subset A_\mathcal{L}$ and the space X is (so) closed since it is finite dimensional. Hence $Tf \in A_\mathcal{L}$. If

$f \in L^1(G_\mathcal{L})$ we can use the fact that $\|T\| \leq 1$ and $\mathcal{A}(L^1)$ is norm dense in $L^1(G_\mathcal{L})$ to show that $Tf \in A_\mathcal{L}$. It is now easy to show $T(L^1(G_\mathcal{L}))$ is norm dense in $A_\mathcal{L}$, so that $A_\mathcal{L} = \overline{T(L^1(G_\mathcal{L}))}$: if $\{e_j\}$ is the approximate identity in $L^1(G_\mathcal{L})$ we have $e_j \xrightarrow{(s)} \delta_e$ which $\Rightarrow F_j = T(e_j) \xrightarrow{(so)} I$ in $A_\mathcal{L}^m$; thus $\|F_j(a) - a\| = \|Te_j(a) - a\| \rightarrow 0$ for $a \in A$. But $L_{Te_j(a)} \in T(L^1(G_\mathcal{L}))$, because if $\mu \in M(G_\mathcal{L})$ is chosen such that $T\mu = L_a$ we have $L_{Te_j(a)} = Te_j \circ T\mu = T(e_j * \mu)$. Clearly $\|L_{Te_j(a)} - L_a\| = \|Te_j(a) - a\| \rightarrow 0$, since $L: A \rightarrow A_l$ is an isometry.

Finally, if $\varphi: M(G_\mathcal{L}) \rightarrow M(G_\mathcal{L})/N$ is the canonical homomorphism, consider the mappings displayed in Figure 1 (here $A = T \circ \varphi^{-1}$ is obviously an isomorphism from $M(G_\mathcal{L})/N$ onto $A_\mathcal{L}^m$).

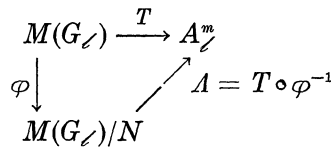


FIGURE 1

From the definition of quotient norm we see that, if $F \in A_\mathcal{L}^m$ and if $\mu \in M(G_\mathcal{L})$ is chosen so that $\|\mu\| = \|F\|$ and $T\mu = F$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\mu\| &= \|F\| = \|T\mu\| = \inf \{ \|T(\mu + n)\| : n \in N \} \\
 &\leq \inf \{ \|\mu + n\| : n \in N \} = \|\varphi\mu\| \leq \|\mu\| ;
 \end{aligned}$$

hence, A is an isometric isomorphism. It is clear that A maps $\overline{\varphi(L^1(G_\mathcal{L}))}$ isometrically and isomorphically onto $A_\mathcal{L}$, which in turn is isometric and isomorphic to A .

In the above proof we have derived a considerable amount of information not mentioned explicitly in 2.1.4. In particular we can take $H = (G_\mathcal{L}, (so))$ there. By applying the structure theory of semi-simple dual algebras, we can obtain the following representation.

THEOREM 2.1.5. *Let A be a semi-simple dual Banach algebra with central minimal approximate identity and assume that A satisfies axiom $(CA_\mathcal{L})$. Then all the conclusions of 2.1.4 are valid.*

Proof. The discussion of Kaplansky [10] applies, and the existence of a central minimal approximate identity insures that all minimal closed two-sided ideals in A are finite dimensional (see A.2.1). The linear span of these ideals is norm dense in A (see [10], Theorem 5) and any finite dimensional two-sided ideal lies in $\mathcal{A}(A)$, so that $\mathcal{A}(A)$ is norm dense in A and in particular axiom $(AI_\mathcal{L})$ is satisfied.

In later discussions concerning algebras with a nonzero multiplicative linear functional it will be essential to know that, if there exists

an internal direct product factorization $G_{\mathcal{L}} = SI \times \Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$, where $\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$ is some (so) closed normal subgroup of $G_{\mathcal{L}}$, we can reproduce the above representation theorems using $\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$ instead of $G_{\mathcal{L}}$.

THEOREM 2.1.6. *Let A be a Banach algebra with minimal two-sided approximate identity and assume that A satisfies axioms $(AI_{\mathcal{L}})$ and $(CA_{\mathcal{L}})$. Suppose there is an internal direct product factorization of $G_{\mathcal{L}} = SI \times \Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$ where $SI = \{\alpha I : |\alpha| = 1\}$ and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$ is some (so) closed normal subgroup of $G_{\mathcal{L}}$. Then there exists a (σ) closed two-sided ideal N in $M(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})$ such that $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ is isometric and isomorphic to $M(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})/N$ and in this realization of $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ we have $A_{\mathcal{L}}$ identified with the norm closed subalgebra $\overline{\varphi(L^1(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}))}$, where $\varphi: M(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}) \rightarrow M(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})/N$ is the canonical homomorphism and $M(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})/N$ is given the quotient norm.*

Proof. If we define $T: M(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}) \rightarrow A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ such that

$$\langle T\mu(a), a^* \rangle = \int_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}} \langle \gamma(a), a^* \rangle d\mu(\gamma)$$

for $a \in A$, $a^* \in A^*$, and $\mu \in M(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})$, the details of the proof are practically the same as in 2.1.4.

REMARK. If a Banach algebra A has a nonzero multiplicative functional, we are guaranteed that the sort of internal direct product factorization discussed in 2.1.6 exists. Furthermore, all such factorizations of $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ are essentially the same ($\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$ is unique up to a topological isomorphism). These facts are discussed in A.3.3. The significance of such factorizations when A is a group algebra can be seen from 1.3.3.

2.2. Characterization of QCG algebras. We digress to study QCG algebras and prove the characterization stated in the summary. It will be convenient to call an algebra A an *SMA algebra* (sum of matrix algebras) if it is an internal algebraic direct sum of its nonzero finite dimensional minimal two-sided ideals. We will deal with algebras over the complex numbers, so each of these ideals is isomorphic to the full algebra $M(m, C)$ of complex $m \times m$ matrices for some $m = 1, 2, \dots$; whenever we speak of a *matrix algebra* in the remaining discussion, we will mean an algebra of the form $M(m, C)$ for some $m \geq 1$. An idempotent $e \neq 0$ in an algebra A is a *minimal idempotent* if eAe is a division ring, and is a *minimal central idempotent* if e is central in A and if $ee' = e'e = e$ for any central idempotent $e' \in A$ such that $ee' \neq 0$. It is well known that, if A contains no proper ideal I with $I^2 = (0)$, then Ae (eA) are minimal left (right) ideals if e is a minimal

idempotent, and the two-sided ideal $eA = Ae$ is minimal if e is a minimal central idempotent in A (see Rickart [14], p. 45–46).

THEOREM 2.2.1. *Let A be a QCG algebra represented as $A = \overline{\varphi(L^1(H))}$, where H is a compact group, N is a (σ) closed two-sided ideal in $M(H)$, and $\varphi: M(H) \rightarrow M(H)/N$ is the canonical homomorphism. Then A has the following general properties.*

- (1) A is a semi-simple dual Banach algebra.
- (2) If $\{E_\alpha : \alpha \in Q\}$ is the set of minimal closed two-sided ideals in A , these are all finite dimensional and their sum (obviously an SMA algebra) is a norm dense two-sided ideal in A . Axioms (AI_σ) and (AI_r) are satisfied.
- (3) The sets of almost invariant elements coincide so that $\mathcal{A}_\sigma(A) = \mathcal{A}_r(A) = \mathcal{A}(A)$, and if $\mathcal{A}_0(L^1) = \{f \in \mathcal{A}(L^1(H)) : f * N = N * f = (0)\}$, then φ is an isomorphism of $\mathcal{A}_0(L^1)$ onto $\mathcal{A}(A)$.
- (4) A has a central minimal approximate identity.

The translations and multipliers of A have the following properties.

- (5) A is a two-sided ideal in $M(H)/N$ and A_σ^m is isometric and isomorphic with $M(H)/N$ under the map $L: x \rightarrow L_x$ for $x \in M(H)/N$. Similarly A_r^m is isometric and linearly anti-isomorphic with $M(H)/N$ under the right multiplication map $R: x \rightarrow R_x$ for $x \in M(H)/N$.
- (6) In this realization of A_σ^m we have $G_\sigma(A) = \varphi(\mathcal{E}_{M(H)}) = \mathcal{E}_{M(H)/N}$. Similarly $G_r(A) = \varphi(\mathcal{E}_{M(H)}) = \mathcal{E}_{M(H)/N}$ in this realization of A_r^m .
- (7) The convex span of $G_\sigma(A)$ is (so) dense in $\Sigma_{A_\sigma^m}$, so axiom (CA_σ) is satisfied by A . Similarly axiom (CA_r) is satisfied.
- (8) The norm closed left (right) ideals in A are precisely the closed $G_\sigma(A)$ invariant ($G_r(A)$ invariant) linear subspaces of A , so axioms (W_σ) and (W_r) are satisfied.
- (9) The representation map $L \circ \varphi : (M(H), (\sigma)) \rightarrow (A_\sigma^m, (so))$ is continuous on norm bounded sets, and similarly for $R \circ \varphi : (M(H), (\sigma)) \rightarrow (A_r^m, (so))$.

Proof. Since $M(H) * L^1(H) * M(H) \subset L^1(H)$, which implies $M(H)/N \cdot \varphi(L^1(H)) \cdot M(H)/N \subset \overline{\varphi(L^1(H))}$, we conclude that $A = \overline{\varphi(L^1(H))}$ is a two-sided ideal in $M(H)/N$ (multiplication is jointly norm continuous). Thus L_x and R_x are well defined operators (in A_σ^m and A_r^m respectively) for $x \in M(H)/N$. If $\{f_j : j \in J\}$ is a central minimal approximate identity in $L^1(H)$ (see A.1.3) then $\varphi(f_j) \in A$, $\limsup \{\|\varphi f_j\| : j \in J\} \leq 1$, and the elements φf_j are central in A . We have $\|f_j * f - f\| \rightarrow 0$ for $f \in L^1(H)$, so that $\|\varphi f_j \cdot \varphi f - \varphi f\| \rightarrow 0$ for $f \in L^1(H)$ and because $\varphi(L^1(H))$ is norm dense in A it follows that $\{\varphi f_j\}$ is an approximate identity in A . In particular we must have $\lim \{\|\varphi f_j\| : j \in J\} = 1$, and part (4)

is proved.

To prove the left-handed form of (9) we consider the $(so)_\ell$ topology gotten by letting $M(H)$ act on $L^1(H)$ by left convolution. In the appendix we show that $(so)_\ell$ coincides with the (σ) topology on norm bounded sets in $M(H)$ (see A.1.1 for a self contained exposition); thus if $\mu_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu$ is a norm bounded net, it follows that

$$\|\varphi(\mu_j)\varphi f - \varphi(\mu)\varphi f\| = \|\varphi(\mu_j * f) - \varphi(\mu * f)\| \leq \|\mu_j * f - \mu * f\| \rightarrow 0$$

for $f \in L^1(H)$. Density of $\varphi(L^1(H))$ in A insures that $\|\varphi(\mu_j)a - \varphi(\mu)a\| \rightarrow 0$ for $a \in A$, as required. A similar argument gives the right-handed version of (9).

To prove (5) we first observe that $\varphi(\Sigma_{M(H)}) = \Sigma_{M(H)/N}$; this simple fact is verified in A.1.2 as part of a general discussion of measure algebras on compact groups. Now consider the left multiplications $\{L_x : x \in M(H)/N\}$ on A ; we will prove that $L : M(H)/N \rightarrow A_\mathcal{L}^\mathcal{M}$ is an isometric isomorphism. It is clear that L is an isomorphism if we can show that for $x \neq 0$ in $M(H)/N$, there exists $b \in A$ such that $xb \neq 0$. Consider $\{e_j = \varphi f_j\}$ where $\{f_j : j \in J\}$ is the approximate identity in $L^1(H)$; if $\varphi\mu = x$ and if $xe_j = 0$ for all $j \in J$, then $\mu * f_j \in N$ and $\mu * f_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu$, so that $\mu \in N$ and $\varphi\mu = x = 0$. Next we show L is isometric. If $\mu \in M(H)$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mu\| &\geq \|\varphi\mu\| \geq \|L_{\varphi\mu}\| \\ &= \sup \left\{ \frac{\|\varphi(\mu) \cdot a\|}{\|a\|} : a \in A, a \neq 0 \right\} \\ &\geq \sup \left\{ \frac{\|\varphi(\mu) \cdot a\|}{\|a\|} : a \in \varphi(L^1(H)), a \neq 0 \right\} \\ (*) \quad &= \sup \left\{ \frac{\|\varphi(\mu * f)\|}{\|\varphi f\|} : f \in L^1(H) \setminus N \right\} \\ &\geq \limsup \left\{ \frac{\|\varphi(\mu * f_j)\|}{\|\varphi f_j\|} : j \in J \right\} \\ &= \limsup \{ \|\varphi(\mu * f_j)\| : j \in J \} \end{aligned}$$

since $\|e_j\| = \|\varphi f_j\| \rightarrow 1$. Now observe that

$$\|\varphi(\mu * f_j)\| = \inf \{ \|\mu * f_j + n\| : n \in N \} = \|\mu * f_j + n_j\|$$

for some $n_j \in N$, since we have $\varphi(\Sigma_{M(H)}) = \Sigma_{M(H)/N}$. Furthermore,

$$\| \|n_j\| - \|\mu * f_j\| \| \leq \|\mu * f_j + n_j\| = \|\varphi(\mu * f_j)\| \leq \|\mu\|$$

for $j \in J$, so that $\|n_j\| \leq 2\|\mu\|$. Hence there is a (σ) convergent subnet $n_{j(k)} \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} n_0 \in N$. Now $f_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \delta_e$ in $M(H)$, so we have

$$n_{j(k)} + \mu * f_{j(k)} \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} n_0 + \mu$$

(multiplication is separately (σ) continuous in $(M(H))$). These remarks show that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi\mu\| &\leq \|\mu + n_0\| \\ &\leq \limsup \{\|\mu * f_{j(k)} + n_{j(k)}\| : k \in K\} \\ &\leq \limsup \{\|\mu * f_j + n_j\| : j \in J\} \\ &= \limsup \{\|\varphi(\mu * f_j)\| : j \in J\}. \end{aligned}$$

Combining this with (*) we get $\|\varphi\mu\| = \|L_{\varphi\mu}\|$ for all $\mu \in M(H)$, as required. Finally, we must show L is onto (so $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m = \{L_x : x \in M(H)/N\}$). If $F \in A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$, $a \in A$, and if $e_j = \varphi f_j$, then we have $\|\varphi f_j \cdot a - a\| \rightarrow 0$, which $\Rightarrow \|F(e_j a) - F(a)\| = \|F(e_j)a - F(a)\| \rightarrow 0$; this means that $L_{F(e_j)} \xrightarrow{(so)} F$. But there exist $\lambda_j \in M(H)$ with $\|\lambda_j\| = \|F(e_j)\|$ and $\varphi(\lambda_j) = F(e_j)$, and there is a convergent subnet $\lambda_{j(k)} \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu \in M(H)$ since $\|\lambda_j\| \leq \|F\| < \infty$. From (9) it follows that $L_{\varphi\lambda_{j(k)}} \xrightarrow{(so)} L_{\varphi\mu}$, which $\Rightarrow \|F(e_{j(k)}) \cdot a - \varphi\mu \cdot a\| \rightarrow 0$ for $a \in A$, while $\|F(e_j) \cdot a - F(a)\| \rightarrow 0$; thus $L_{\varphi\mu} = F$, proving (5). The modifications needed to identify $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ with $M(H)/N$ are trivial.

In the above realization of $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ we will show that

$$\mathcal{E}_{M(H)/N} \subset \varphi(\mathcal{E}_{M(H)}) \subset G_{\mathcal{L}}(A) \subset \mathcal{E}_{M(H)/N},$$

to prove (6). We have $\varphi(\mathcal{E}_{M(H)}) \subset G_{\mathcal{L}}$ because $\|L_{\varphi(\delta_h)}\| = \|\varphi(\delta_h)\| \leq 1$, $\|L_{\varphi(\delta_{h^{-1}})}\| = \|\varphi(\delta_{h^{-1}})\| \leq 1$, and if $a \in A$ we have $L_{\varphi(\delta_h)}L_{\varphi(\delta_{h^{-1}})}(a) = L_{\varphi(\delta_{h^{-1}})}L_{\varphi(\delta_h)}(a) = a$ so $L_{\varphi(\delta_{h^{-1}})} = (L_{\varphi(\delta_h)})^{-1}$; hence these are isometric onto multipliers of A . Next observe that $\mathcal{E}_{M(H)/N} \subset \varphi(\mathcal{E}_{M(H)})$; in fact if $x \in \mathcal{E}_{M(H)/N}$, let us select some $\mu \in M(H)$ with $\varphi\mu = x$ and $\|\mu\| = \|x\| = 1$. Then if $0 < \alpha < 1$ and measures μ_1, μ_2 with $\|\mu_i\| \leq 1$ are such that $\mu = \alpha\mu_1 + (1 - \alpha)\mu_2$, this $\Rightarrow x = \alpha\varphi(\mu_1) + (1 - \alpha)\varphi(\mu_2)$, which $\Rightarrow \varphi\mu_1 = \varphi\mu_2$. If $\text{supp}(\mu)$ is not a single point, there exist measurable sets A, B with $|\mu|(A) \neq 0, |\mu|(B) \neq 0, A \cup B = \text{supp}(\mu)$, and $A \cap B = \emptyset$. Define $\lambda_A = (\mu|_A)/|\mu|(A)$ and $\lambda_B = (\mu|_B)/|\mu|(B)$, we have $\mu = |\mu|(A)\lambda_A + |\mu|(B)\lambda_B$ with $|\mu|(A) + |\mu|(B) = \|\mu\| = 1$; hence $\varphi(\lambda_A) = \varphi(\lambda_B) = x$. In particular, $\lambda_A(\mu) = (\mu|_A)/|\mu|(A)$ is in $\mathcal{E}_{M(H)} \cap \varphi^{-1}(x)$ if $\mu \in \mathcal{E}_{M(H)} \cap \varphi^{-1}(x)$, ($\mathcal{E}_{M(H)} = \{\lambda \in M(H) : \|\lambda\| = 1\} \subset \Sigma_{M(H)}$) and if A is any measurable set in $\text{supp}(\mu)$ such that $|\mu|(A) \neq 0$.

Let $\{U_j : j \in J\}$ be a base of neighborhoods for some $h_0 \in \text{supp}(\mu)$, with J partially ordered so that $j_1 > j_2 \Leftrightarrow U_{j_1} \subset U_{j_2}$. Define $A_j = \text{supp}(\mu) \cap U_j$; we have $|\mu|(A_j) > 0$ for each $j \in J$. If $|\mu|(h_0) \neq 0$, then by taking $A = \{h_0\}$ above, we see that $\delta_{h_0} \in \mathcal{E}_{M(H)} \cap \varphi^{-1}(x)$, so $x \in \varphi(\mathcal{E}_{M(H)})$, as desired. Otherwise we have $|\mu|(h_0) = 0$ for all $h_0 \in \text{supp}(\mu)$ and all $\mu \in \mathcal{E}_{M(H)} \cap \varphi^{-1}(x)$, so that these measures are all

continuous on H . But this means that $|\mu|(A_j) \rightarrow 0$ since μ is a regular Borel measure. Now form the net $\{\lambda_j = (\mu|_{A_j})/|\mu|(A_j) : j \in J\}$ in $\mathfrak{S}_{M(H)} \cap \varphi^{-1}(x)$. The latter set is (σ) compact since $\varphi^{-1}(x)$ is (σ) closed in $M(H)$ and $\mathfrak{S}_{M(H)} \cap \varphi^{-1}(x) = \Sigma_{M(H)} \cap \varphi^{-1}(x)$; indeed, $\|x\| = 1 \Rightarrow \|\mu\| \geq 1$ for any $\mu \in \varphi^{-1}(x)$. Thus there is a (σ) convergent subnet with limit $\lambda_0 \in \mathfrak{S}_{M(H)} \cap \varphi^{-1}(x)$, and from the nature of $\text{supp}(\lambda_j)$ it is clear that we must have $\text{supp}(\lambda_0) = \{h_0\}$, a contradiction. In discussing the translations of general Banach algebras in the appendix (see A.3.1) we show that translations are always extreme points in Σ_{A^m} ; thus $G_{\mathcal{L}}(A) \subset \mathfrak{E}_{M(H)/N}$ here and the proof of (6) is complete. It is well known that $\text{co}[\mathfrak{E}_{M(H)}]$ is (σ) dense in $\Sigma_{M(H)}$, and we have shown $L \circ \varphi(\Sigma_{M(H)}) = \Sigma_{A^m}$, thus $L \circ \varphi(\text{co}[\mathfrak{E}_{M(H)}]) = \text{co}[G_{\mathcal{L}}(A)]$ is (so) dense in Σ_{A^m} from the continuity of $L \circ \varphi$. The righthanded situation is treated similarly to prove (7). For (8), notice that existence of a minimal approximate identity in A implies that any closed left (right) ideal in A is left (right) translation invariant. Conversely, translation invariance of a closed subspace E implies $\lambda(E) \subset E$ for all $\lambda \in \text{co}[G_{\mathcal{L}}]$; but if $a \in \Sigma_A$ there is a net $\{\lambda_j\}$ in $\text{co}[G_{\mathcal{L}}]$ such that $\lambda_j \xrightarrow{(so)} L_a$, and hence $L_a(E) = a \cdot E \subset E$.

We are ready to deal with (2) and (3), which prove axioms $(AI_{\mathcal{L}})$ and (AI_r) for A . Let $\mathcal{F} = \{f_{\beta} : \beta \in J\}$ be the minimal central idempotents in $L^1(H)$ and set $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(L^1(H))$. Then the minimal two-sided of $L^1(H)$ are finite dimensional, are precisely $\{F_{\beta} = L^1 * f_{\beta} : f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F}\}$, and we have $\mathcal{A} = \sum \oplus \{F_{\beta} : f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F}\}$ (internal direct sum of ideals). Let

$$\mathcal{F}' = \{f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F} : f_{\beta} * N = N * f_{\beta} = (0)\}, \mathcal{F}'' = \{f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F} : f_{\beta} * L^1 \subset N\}$$

and form the internal direct sums

$$E' = \sum \oplus \{L^1 * f_{\beta} : f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F}'\}, E'' = \sum \oplus \{L^1 * f_{\beta} : f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F}''\};$$

these are two-sided ideals and $\mathcal{A} = E' \oplus E''$. Notice that minimality of F_{β} as a two-sided ideal implies that either $F_{\beta} \cap N = (0)$ or $F_{\beta} \subset N$. The homomorphism φ is faithful in E' and annihilates E'' , so $\varphi(E') = \varphi(\mathcal{A}(L^1))$ is norm dense on A . We assert that $\mathcal{A}_0 = \varphi(E')$ is precisely $\mathcal{A}(A)$. The density of $\varphi(L^1(H))$ in A insures that $e_{\beta} = \varphi(f_{\beta})$ is a nonzero central idempotent in A for each $f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F}'$; furthermore, if $E_{\beta} = \varphi(F_{\beta})$, where $F_{\beta} = L^1 * f_{\beta}$ for some $f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F}'$, then $E_{\beta} = \varphi(F_{\beta}) = \varphi(L^1(H)) \cdot \varphi f_{\beta} = A e_{\beta} = e_{\beta} A$ (the last steps, because E_{β} is finite dimensional) and E_{β} is a nonzero two-sided ideal. It is actually minimal because E_{β} is isomorphic to the (simple) complex matrix algebra $F_{\beta} \subset L^1(H)$. It follows that the idempotents $\mathcal{E} = \{e_{\beta} = \varphi(f_{\beta}) : f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F}'\}$ are minimal central idempotents in A and it is easy to see that there are no other such idempotents in A because $\mathcal{A}_0 = \sum \oplus \{E_{\beta} : f_{\beta} \in \mathcal{F}'\}$

is norm dense in A .

It is obvious from finite dimensionality of each two-sided ideal E_β (and existence of an approximate identity in A) that $\mathcal{A}_0 \subset \mathcal{A}(A)$, since closed two-sided ideals of A are $G_\ell(A)$ and $G_r(A)$ invariant. On the other hand, if $a \in \mathcal{A}(A)$ then $E_a = \text{l.s.}[G_\ell(G_r(a))] = \text{l.s.}[G_r(G_\ell(a))]$ is a left and right translation invariant finite dimensional subspace, which means E_a is a two-sided ideal (see (8)). However, if M is any finite dimensional two-sided ideal, then $M \cap E_\beta = Me_\beta = e_\beta M$ and this can be nonzero for only finitely many of the E_β (recall $E_\alpha E_\beta = E_\beta E_\alpha = (0)$ unless $\alpha = \beta$). Let $E_1 = \sum \bigoplus \{E_\beta \cap E_a : e_\beta \in \mathcal{J}\}$. Then this sum is finite and E_1 is a two-sided ideal of A lying within E_a ; if $E_1 = E_a$ then clearly $E_a \subset \mathcal{A}_0$ and we conclude $E_a \subset \mathcal{A}_0$ for each $a \in \mathcal{A}(A)$, which means that $\mathcal{A}(A) \subset \mathcal{A}_0$. But if $E_1 \neq E_a$ there exists some nonzero $x \in E_a$ such that $xe_\beta = 0$ for all $e_\beta \in \mathcal{J}$, so that $x \cdot \mathcal{A}_0 = (0)$; however, norm density of \mathcal{A}_0 in A gives us $x \cdot A = (0)$ which contradicts the existence of an approximate identity in A . Notice that, in proving (2) and (3), we have also demonstrated that $\mathcal{A}(A)$ is an SMA algebra norm dense in A .

Only (1) is left to prove. If $x \in A$ then the norm closures of xA and Ax both contain x since there is a two-sided approximate identity, and A contains a norm dense subalgebra which is a dual algebra (all SMA algebras, such as $\mathcal{A}(A)$, are dual: see [10], Theorem 6, p. 693). But these conditions insure that A is a dual algebra (see [10], Theorem 7, p. 694 for this). Since A is a Banach algebra its radical is a closed two-sided ideal, so its radical is either zero or contains one of the minimal two-sided ideals in E_β (due to density of \mathcal{A}_0 in A); the latter situation is impossible, since it would imply that there is a nonzero idempotent in the radical (see Rickart [14], p. 56).

Parts (2), (3), (4), and (7) of 2.2.1 give the converse of 2.1.4. The following characterization of QCG algebras is immediate.

THEOREM 2.2.2. *A Banach algebra A with minimal two-sided approximate identity is a QCG algebra $\Leftrightarrow A$ satisfies axioms (AI_ℓ) and (CA_ℓ) .*

THEOREM 2.2.3. *A Banach algebra A is a QCG algebra \Leftrightarrow it is a semi-simple dual algebra, with central minimal approximate identity, which satisfies axiom (CA_ℓ) .*

Proof. The verification (\Rightarrow) is in 2.2.1, while (\Leftarrow) is given in 2.1.7.

The following observations are also clear from 2.2.1.

COROLLARY 2.2.4. *If A is a QCG algebra then A can be represented as $A = \overline{\varphi(L^1(G_\rho))}$ in $M(G_\rho)/N$, where $G_\rho(A)$ is taken with the (so) topology, N is some (σ) closed two-sided ideal in $M(G_\rho)$, and $\varphi: M(G_\rho) \rightarrow M(G_\rho)/N$ is the canonical homomorphism.*

REMARK. If H is a compact group and N is a (σ) closed two-sided ideal in $M(H)$, then the norm closed subalgebra $A = \overline{\varphi(L^1(H))}$ in $M(H)/N$, where $\varphi: M(H) \rightarrow M(H)/N$ is the canonical homomorphism, is a typical QCG algebra. Generally $N \not\subset L^1(H)$, so it is somewhat surprising that $\varphi(L^1(H))$ itself is actually norm closed in $M(H)/N$, so that $A = \varphi(L^1(H))$. In 2.1.4 this means that every QCG algebra can actually be represented as $A = \varphi(L^1(G_\rho))$ in $M(G_\rho)/N$ for some (σ) closed two-sided ideal $N \subset M(G_\rho)$; in the definition of QCG algebras (1.4.1) we can replace $\overline{\varphi(L^1(H))}$ with $\varphi(L^1(H))$.

PROPOSITION 2.2.5. In the above scheme, the norm closure of $\varphi(\Sigma_{L^1(H)})$ coincides with Σ_A and if $\varepsilon > 0$ then $\varphi((1 + \varepsilon) \cdot \Sigma_{L^1(H)}) \supset \Sigma_A$. Thus $\varphi(L^1(H))$ is norm closed in $M(H)/N$.

Proof. We have remarked in proving part (4) of 2.2.1, that $\{\varphi e_j : j \in J\}$ is a minimal two-sided approximate identity in A if $\{e_j\}$ is one in $L^1(H)$; we also showed that $\varphi(\Sigma_{M(H)}) = \Sigma_{M(H)/N}$, and clearly $\varphi(L^1(H))$ is a norm dense subalgebra in A . Given $a \in A$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $f \in L^1(H)$ such that $\|f\| \leq \|a\|$ and $\|\varphi f - a\| < \varepsilon$; in fact, we can write $a = \varphi \mu$ for some $\mu \in M(H)$ with $\|\mu\| = \|a\|$ and we have $\varphi(e_j * \mu) = \varphi(e_j)\varphi(\mu) = \varphi(e_j) \cdot a \xrightarrow{\text{norm}} a$, while $\|e_j * \mu\| \leq \|\mu\| = \|a\|$, so we can take $f = e_j * \mu$ for some index $j \in J$. Now for $\varepsilon > 0$, $a \in A$, $\|a\| = 1$ take $f_1 \in L^1(H)$ such that $\|f_1\| \leq 1$ and $\|\varphi f_1 - a\| < \varepsilon/2$. Then $(\varphi f_1 - a) \in A$ and there exists $f_2 \in L^1(H)$ such that $\|f_2\| \leq \|\varphi f_1 - a\| < \varepsilon/2$ and $\|\varphi f_2 - (a - \varphi f_1)\| < \varepsilon/4$. Continuing, we see that $(a - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \varphi f_i) \in A$ and there exists $f_n \in L^1(H)$ such that $\|f_n\| \leq \|a - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \varphi f_i\| < \varepsilon/2^{n-1}$ and $\|\varphi f_n - (a - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \varphi f_i)\| < \varepsilon/2^n$. Hence $f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n \in L^1(H)$, $\|f\| < 1 + \varepsilon$, and $\varphi f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi f_n = a$ is uniformly convergent in A .

2.3. QCG algebras which are not group algebras. As an example we construct a class of commutative, semi-simple QCG algebras which have all properties of a group algebra listed in Section 1 and nevertheless fail to be group algebras.

EXAMPLE 1. Noncommutative QCG algebras which are not group algebras. If H is a finite, noncommutative group and $N \subset M(H)$ is any proper two-sided ideal which includes all one dimensional two-sided

ideals, then $A = M(H)/N$ is a QCG algebra without multiplicative linear functionals and cannot be a group algebra.

EXAMPLE 2. Let S be the circle group and Z the additive integers (the character group of S if we take $\langle n, s \rangle = s^n$), and define $H^1(S) = \{ \mu \in M(S) : \mu^\wedge(n) = \int e^{-in\theta} d\mu(\theta) = 0 \text{ for all } n > 0 \}$. Then $K = H^1(S)$ is clearly a (σ) -closed two-sided ideal in $M(S)$ which actually lies within $L^1(S)$ (see Hoffman [9], p. 47).

If K is any (σ) closed two-sided ideal in $M(S)$ such that $K \subset L^1(S)$, then $A = L^1(S)/K$ is a commutative QCG algebra. But A is a group algebra only if K has the following very special properties, and is certainly not a group algebra when K is finite dimensional or $K = H^1(S)$.

PROPOSITION 2.3.1. A is a group algebra \Leftrightarrow the cospectrum $\text{cosp}(K) = \{n \in Z : \mu^\wedge(n) = 0, \text{ all } \mu \in K\}$ is a coset of some subgroup in Z .

Proof. Let \mathcal{M}_A be the maximal modular ideal space of A and let $a \rightarrow \langle a, M \rangle$ be the multiplicative linear functional associated with $M \in \mathcal{M}_A$. These extend uniquely to multiplicative functionals $F \rightarrow \langle F, M \rangle$ on A^m if we require $\langle L_a, M \rangle = \langle a, M \rangle$ for $a \in A$ (see Birtel [1]). Let $G \subset A^m$ be the group of translations on A ; it is clear that the functions $\alpha_M: g \rightarrow \langle g, M \rangle$ obtained by restricting these extended functionals to G are (so) continuous multiplicative characters on G . Let $R = \{ \alpha_M : M \in \mathcal{M}_A \}$, a subset of G^\wedge when G is given the (so) topology.

In the following we fix one $M_0 \in \mathcal{M}_A$ and make use of the internal direct product factorization $G = SI \times \Gamma_0$, where $SI = \{ \alpha I : |\alpha| = 1 \}$ and $\Gamma_0 = \{ g \in G : \langle g, M_0 \rangle = 1 \}$ (a (so) closed normal subgroup in G). Consider the functions in R restricted to Γ_0 : $R_0 = \{ \beta_M = \alpha_M | \Gamma_0 : M \in \mathcal{M}_A \} \subset \Gamma_0^\wedge$ and the subgroup $\Delta \subset \Gamma_0^\wedge$ generated by R_0 . In $C(\Gamma_0)$ the linear span $\text{l.s.}[\Delta]$ is a subalgebra of functions on Γ_0 which contains all constants ($\beta_{M_0} = 1$), is closed under complex conjugation, and separates points (since $\langle \gamma_1, M \rangle = \langle \gamma_2, M \rangle$ all $M \in \mathcal{M}_A \Leftrightarrow \gamma_1 = \gamma_2$ in Γ_0). If R_0 itself is a subgroup in Γ_0^\wedge , then $\Delta = R_0$ and $\alpha \in (\Gamma_0^\wedge) \setminus R_0 \Rightarrow \int \alpha(\gamma) \overline{\beta(\gamma)} d\gamma = 0$, all $\beta \in R_0 \Rightarrow \int \alpha(\gamma) \overline{\psi(\gamma)} d\gamma = 0$, all $\psi \in \text{l.s.}[\Delta] = \text{l.s.}[R_0]$ (sup norm dense in $C(\Gamma_0)$). This means $\alpha \equiv 0$, so $R_0 = \Gamma_0^\wedge$ if R_0 is a subgroup.

We assert: if R_0 is defined as above, A is a group algebra \Leftrightarrow there exists an $M_0 \in \mathcal{M}_A$ such that R_0 is a subgroup in Γ_0^\wedge . The implication (\Rightarrow) follows from the well known identification of \mathcal{M}_A for group algebras

(see also 1.3.3). Conversely we have M_0 such that $R_0 = \Gamma_0^\wedge$; as in 2.1.6 we can construct a representation $T: M(\Gamma_0) \rightarrow A^m$ which realizes $A^m \sim M(\Gamma_0)/N$ and $A \sim L^1(\Gamma_0)/N$. But

$$N = \text{Ker}(T) = \left\{ \mu \in M(\Gamma_0) : T\mu(a) = \int_{\Gamma_0} \gamma(a) d\mu(\gamma) = 0, \text{ all } a \in A \right\},$$

so $\mu \in N \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle T\mu(a), M \rangle \\ &= \int_{\Gamma_0} \langle \gamma(a), M \rangle d\mu(\gamma) \\ &= \langle a, M \rangle \int_{\Gamma_0} \langle \gamma, M \rangle d\mu(\gamma) \\ &= \langle a, M \rangle \mu^\wedge(\overline{\beta_M}) \end{aligned}$$

for $M \in \mathcal{M}_A, a \in A$; i.e., $\mu^\wedge(\overline{\beta}) = 0$ for $\beta \in R_0 = \Gamma_0^\wedge$, so $\mu = 0$. Then $N = (0)$ and $A \sim L^1(\Gamma_0)$.

Let $\varphi: L^1(S) \rightarrow A = L^1(S)/K$ be the quotient map. The multiplicative functional $a \rightarrow \langle a, M \rangle$ induces a multiplicative functional $f \rightarrow \langle \varphi f, M \rangle$ on $L^1(S)$, so there is a unique $n \in \text{cosp}(K)$ such that $\langle \varphi f, M \rangle = f^\wedge(n)$; conversely if $n \in \text{cosp}(K)$ then $f \rightarrow f^\wedge(n)$ annihilates K and induces a nonzero multiplicative functional $a \rightarrow \langle a, M(n) \rangle$ for some $M(n) \in \mathcal{M}_A$. Clearly this correspondence $n \rightarrow M(n)$ maps $\text{cosp}(K)$ biuniquely onto \mathcal{M}_A .

Let $\tilde{\varphi}: M(S) \rightarrow M(S)/K$ be the quotient map and define $L \circ \tilde{\varphi}(\mu) \in A^m$ so $L \circ \tilde{\varphi}(\mu): a \rightarrow \tilde{\varphi}(\mu) \cdot a$. Then $L \circ \tilde{\varphi}: M(S) \rightarrow A^m$ and $L \circ \tilde{\varphi}: \mathcal{E}_{M(S)} \rightarrow G$ are onto homomorphisms (see 2.2.1). For $n \in \text{cosp}(K), M(n) \in \mathcal{M}_A$ gives a functional $F \rightarrow \langle F, M(n) \rangle$ on A^m such that $\langle L_a, M(n) \rangle = \langle a, M(n) \rangle$; it is evident that

$$\langle L \circ \tilde{\varphi}(f), M(n) \rangle = \langle \varphi(f), M(n) \rangle = f^\wedge(n) \quad \text{all } f \in L^1(S).$$

One can easily verify that we have:

$$\langle L \circ \tilde{\varphi}(\mu), M(n) \rangle = \mu^\wedge(n)$$

for $n \in \text{cosp}(K), \mu \in M(S)$. The characters $\alpha_M \in R$ induced on G by the $M \in \mathcal{M}_A$ are thus computed via the formula

$$\langle L \circ \tilde{\varphi}(\alpha \delta_z), M(n) \rangle = \alpha \delta_z^\wedge(n) = \alpha \overline{\langle n, z \rangle} = \alpha z^{-n},$$

for $\alpha, z \in S$.

If $M_0 = M(p) \in \mathcal{M}_A$ is fixed ($p \in \text{cosp}(K)$), it is clear from these computations that $\Gamma_0 = \{g \in G : \langle g, M_0 \rangle = 1\} = L \circ \tilde{\varphi}\{z^p \delta_z : z \in S\}$ and the characters $\beta_M \in R_0 \subset \Gamma_0^\wedge$ are given by

$$\beta_{M(n)}(L \circ \tilde{\varphi}(z^p \delta_z)) = \langle L \circ \tilde{\varphi}(z^p \delta_z), M(n) \rangle = z^{p-n}$$

for $n \in \text{cosp}(K), z \in S$. We have seen A is a group algebra \Leftrightarrow there exists an $M_0 \in \mathcal{M}_A$ for which the set of characters $R_0 \subset \Gamma_0^\wedge$ is a subgroup. It is easy to verify using the preceding computations, that R_0 is a subgroup for $M_0 = M(p), p \in \text{cosp}(K) \Leftrightarrow \{n - p : n \in \text{cosp}(K)\}$ is a subgroup in Z . Obviously there exists $p \in \text{cosp}(K)$ for which this happens $\Leftrightarrow \text{cosp}(K)$ is a coset of a subgroup in Z .

3. Characterization of QCG algebras which are group algebras.

3.1. The regular representations of $G_{\mathcal{L}}(A)$. The representation theory of a compact group H is assumed. Our notation conforms to Chevalley [6]. We consider the class $R(H)$ of continuous representations (V, E) on finite dimensional complex vector spaces E (continuous means $h \rightarrow \langle V_h(x), x^* \rangle$ is continuous for $x \in E, x^* \in E^*$). Given $(V, E), (W, F) \in R(H)$ we are interested in the related representations $(V \oplus W, E \oplus F), (V \otimes W, L(E, F))$ where $L(E, F)$ is the space of linear mappings, and (V^*, E^*) . If representations (V, E) and (W, F) in $R(H)$ are equivalent we write $(V, E) \sim (W, F)$.

REMARK. Recall that $(V, E), (W, F) \in R(H)$ are equivalent \Leftrightarrow the trace functions $\text{tr}_{(V, E)}(h) = \text{tr}_{(W, F)}(h)$ on H ; we also have (1) $\text{tr}_{V \oplus W}(h) = \text{tr}_V(h) + \text{tr}_W(h)$, (2) $\text{tr}_{V \otimes W}(h) = \text{tr}_V(h) \cdot \text{tr}_W(h)$, and (3) $\text{tr}_{V^*}(h) = \overline{\text{tr}_V(h)}$ on H .

If A is a normed algebra we consider the class $R(A)$ of finite dimensional representations (V, E) which are bounded ($\sup \{|\langle V_a(x), x^* \rangle| : \|a\| \leq 1\} < \infty$ for any $x \in E, x^* \in E^*$) and have dense range, so that $\{V_a(E) : a \in A\} = E$.

Let A be a QCG algebra. Consider the representation (V, E) of $G_{\mathcal{L}}(A)$ obtained by letting $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ act on a finite dimensional left ideal E in A (explicitly, $V_g : x \rightarrow g(x)$ for $x \in E$); we denote such representations as $(V, E) = (G_{\mathcal{L}}|E)$. Clearly $(G_{\mathcal{L}}|E)$ is (so) continuous on $G_{\mathcal{L}}$. Define $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ to be the smallest set in $R(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ which is closed under direct sums and equivalences and contains all representations $(G_{\mathcal{L}}|E)$ for finite dimensional left ideals E in A . Our characterization of group algebras among QCG algebras is based on the algebraic structure of $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$.

LEMMA 3.1.1. *The set $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ contains every irreducible representation in $R(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ which belongs to one of its representations. Each irreducible representation in $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ is equivalent to $(G_{\mathcal{L}}|E)$ for some (finite dimensional) minimal left ideal in A .*

Proof. Every $(V, E) \in R(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ is semi-simple, since $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ is compact;

thus if $(V, E) \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ there exist irreducible representations $\{(V^i, E_i): i = 1, 2 \dots n\}$ in $R(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ such that $(V, E) \sim (V^1, E_1) \oplus \dots \oplus (V^n, E_n)$. It suffices to consider representations of the form $(V, E) = (G_{\mathcal{L}}|E)$ for finite dimensional left ideals $E \subset A$, since any $(V, E) \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ is equivalent to a direct sum of these. If $S: E \rightarrow E_1 \oplus \dots \oplus E_n$ is the isomorphism which gives the equivalence, then $I_k = S^{-1}(E_k)$ is a finite dimensional $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ invariant subspace of A (indeed, $g(S^{-1}(y)) = V_g(S^{-1}(y)) = S^{-1}(V_g^k(y))$ for $y \in E_k$), so I_k is a left ideal; furthermore $I_j \cap I_k = (0)$ if $j \neq k$ because S is 1 : 1 and $I_j \cap I_k = S^{-1}(E_j) \cap S^{-1}(E_k) = S^{-1}(E_j \cap E_k) = (0)$. Clearly $S_k = S|I_k$ is an isomorphism of I_k onto E_k which gives the equivalence $(G_{\mathcal{L}}|I_k) \sim (V^k, E_k)$. If $(V, E) \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ is irreducible, then $(V, E) \sim (G_{\mathcal{L}}|J)$ for some finite dimensional left ideal $J \subset A$; but J must be minimal, because any proper subideal $J' \subset J$ corresponds to a proper $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ invariant subspace in E , contradicting irreducibility of (V, E) .

COROLLARY 3.1.2. *We obtain $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ by taking all representations in $R(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ equivalent to direct sums $(G_{\mathcal{L}}|E_1) \oplus \dots \oplus (G_{\mathcal{L}}|E_n)$ where the I_k are minimal left ideals in A .*

We can now state the characterization theorem; the rest of Section 3 is devoted to the proof of this result.

THEOREM 3.1.3. *If A is a QCG algebra then A is the group algebra of some compact group \Leftrightarrow there is a nonzero multiplicative linear functional on A and $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ contains $V_1 \otimes (V_2)^* \otimes V_2$ whenever V_1, \dots, V_3 are in $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$.*

COROLLARY 3.1.4. *If A is a QCG algebra then A is a group algebra \Leftrightarrow there exists a nonzero multiplicative linear functional on A and the collection of trace functions $T_0(G_{\mathcal{L}}) = \{\text{tr}_{(V,E)} : (V,E) \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})\}$ is closed under formation of the pointwise products $\text{tr}_{V_1} \cdot \overline{\text{tr}_{V_2}} \cdot \text{tr}_{V_3}$ whenever $\text{tr}_{V_1}, \dots, \text{tr}_{V_3}$ are in $T_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$.*

COROLLARY 3.1.5. *If A is a QCG algebra then A is a group algebra \Leftrightarrow there exists a nonzero multiplicative linear functional on A and every trace function $\text{tr}_{V_1} \cdot \overline{\text{tr}_{V_2}} \cdot \text{tr}_{V_3}$ is a sum, with positive integer coefficients, of the primitive trace functions $\text{tr}_{(G_{\mathcal{L}}|E)}$ where E are minimal left ideals in A .*

Proof of 3.1.3. First we develop some general facts, valid for all QCG algebras. If λ is a multiplicative linear functional on A we must have $\|\lambda\| = 1$. Let N_0 be the closed linear span of all minimal

two-sided ideals in A not contained in $\text{Ker } \lambda$; then $\dim N_0 = 1$ and $(V^0, E_0) = (G_\ell | N_0)$ is irreducible. Now λ has a unique extension to a multiplicative functional λ on A_m , in the sense that $\langle a, \lambda \rangle = \langle L_a, \lambda \rangle$ for $a \in A$ (see A.3.2), and this functional completely describes the action of the representation (V^0, E_0) on G_ℓ since we can easily verify that $V_g^0(x) = \langle g, \lambda \rangle \cdot x$ for $x \in E_0 = N_0$. If $(V, E) \in R(G_\ell)$ is equivalent to (V^0, E^0) under an isomorphism $S: E_0 \rightarrow E$, then $V_g^0 = S^{-1} \circ V_g \circ S$, which means $V_g^0(x) = \langle g, \lambda \rangle \cdot x = S^{-1}(V_g(Sx))$, so that $V_g^0(y) = \langle g, \lambda \rangle \cdot y$ for all $y \in E$. Notice in particular that any representation $(V, E) \sim (V^0, E_0)$ acts on the subgroup $\Gamma_\ell = \{g \in G_\ell : \langle g, \lambda \rangle = 1\}$ in G_ℓ as the one dimensional identity representation; this will be important later on.

If $\Gamma_\ell = \{g \in G_\ell : \langle g, \lambda \rangle = 1\}$ then Γ_ℓ is a (so) closed normal subgroup in G_ℓ and we have an internal direct product factorization $G_\ell = SI \times \Gamma_\ell$, where $SI = \{\alpha I : |\alpha| = 1\}$ and I is the identity map on A (see A.3.3 for detail). The behavior of $(V, E) \in R_0(G_\ell)$ when restricted to Γ_ℓ is of particular interest in proving 3.1.3. Denote the restriction of (V, E) to Γ_ℓ as $\rho(V, E) = (\rho V, E)$. It is easy to see that the restriction map ρ carries $R(G_\ell)$ into $R(\Gamma_\ell)$, preserving equivalences and the operations \oplus, \otimes , and $*$. Define $R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$ to be all representations in $R(\Gamma_\ell)$ equivalent to direct sums of representations $(\Gamma_\ell | E)$, where E is a finite dimensional left ideal in A . Since a subspace of A is G_ℓ invariant \Leftrightarrow it is Γ_ℓ invariant, the proofs of 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 apply verbatim if we substitute Γ_ℓ for G_ℓ there.

LEMMA 3.1.6. *On the set $R_1(G_\ell) = \{(V, E) \in R(G_\ell) : V_{(\alpha g)} = \alpha V_g$ for $|\alpha| = 1, g \in G_\ell\}$ the map ρ is 1 : 1 and carries $R_1(G_\ell)$ onto $R(\Gamma_\ell)$, and the inverse $(\rho | R_1(G_\ell))^{-1}$ preserves equivalences. Furthermore, $R_0(G_\ell) \subset R_1(G_\ell)$, and $R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$ has the properties*

(1) *Representation $(V, E) \in R(\Gamma_\ell)$ is in $R_0(\Gamma_\ell) \Leftrightarrow (V, E) = \rho(W, F)$ for some $(W, F) \in R_0(G_\ell)$; hence $\rho(R_0(G_\ell)) = R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$.*

(2) *$R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$ contains all representations equivalent to the n dimensional identity representation, for $n = 1, 2, \dots$.*

Proof. If $(V, E) \in R(\Gamma_\ell)$, define $(V', E) \in R(G_\ell)$ such that $V'_{(\alpha\gamma)} = \alpha V_\gamma$ for $|\alpha| = 1$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma_\ell$; then if $g = \alpha\gamma \in G_\ell$ and $|\beta| = 1$ we have $V'_{(\beta g)} = V'_{(\alpha\beta\gamma)} = \alpha\beta V_\gamma = \beta V'_g$, so $(V', E) \in R_1(G_\ell)$, and clearly $\rho(V', E) = (V, E)$. The map ρ is 1 : 1 because if $(\rho V)_\gamma = (\rho W)_\gamma$ for $\gamma \in \Gamma_\ell$ and $V, W \in R_1(G_\ell)$, then $V_{(\alpha\gamma)} = \alpha(\rho V)_\gamma = \alpha(\rho W)_\gamma = W_{(\alpha\gamma)}$ so that $V = W$. If (V, E) and (W, F) are equivalent in $R(\Gamma_\ell)$ under an isomorphism $S: E \rightarrow F$, their inverse images in $R_1(G_\ell)$ under ρ are just (V', E) and (W', F) as above. Then we have $(V', E) \sim (W', F)$ since $V'_{(\alpha\gamma)} = \alpha V_\gamma = \alpha(S^{-1} \circ W_\gamma \circ S) = S^{-1} \circ \alpha W_\gamma \circ S = S^{-1} \circ W'_{(\alpha\gamma)} \circ S$.

Consider $(V, E) = (G_\ell | E) \in R_0(G_\ell)$ for some left ideal E in A ;

clearly $V_{(\alpha g)}(x) = \alpha g(x) = \alpha V_g(x)$ for $g \in G_\ell$ and $|\alpha| = 1$, so that $(V, E) \in R_1(G_\ell)$. It is easy to see that the same is true for all representations equivalent to direct sums of these, so $R_0(G_\ell) \subset R_1(G_\ell)$. Since $\rho(G_\ell|E) = (\Gamma_\ell|E)$ for finite dimensional left ideals in A it is now obvious that $\rho(R_0(G_\ell)) \subset R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$. If (V, E) is irreducible in $R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$ then $(V, E) \sim (W, F) = (\Gamma_\ell|F)$ for some finite dimensional minimal left ideal $F \subset A$, in view of (modified) 3.1.1, and $(W, F) = \rho(G_\ell|F) \in \rho(R_0(G_\ell))$. But $(\rho|R_1(G_\ell))^{-1}$ preserves equivalences, so $\rho(R_0(G_\ell))$ is an equivalence closed subset of $R(\Gamma_\ell)$, and $(V, E) \in \rho(R_0(G_\ell))$. Any $(V, E) \in R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$ is equivalent to a sum of irreducible representations in $R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$, as shown in (modified) 3.1.1, so it is a trivial matter to verify that $R_0(\Gamma_\ell) \subset \rho(R_0(G_\ell))$; hence $R_0(\Gamma_\ell) = \rho(R_0(G_\ell))$. Finally, if $(U, N_0) = (\Gamma_\ell|N_0)$ (N_0 was defined earlier) then $U_\gamma(x) = x$ for all $x \in N_0$, so U is the one dimensional identity representation of Γ_ℓ and, clearly, $(U, N_0) \in R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$. This proves (2).

LEMMA 3.1.7. *If $R_0(G_\ell)$ is closed under the formation of $V_1 \otimes (V_2)^* \otimes V_3$ for V_1, \dots, V_3 in $R_0(G_\ell)$, then $R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$ is closed under the operations \oplus, \otimes , and $*$.*

Proof. Closure under \oplus is part of the definition of $R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$. Let $(U, N_0) = (\Gamma_\ell|N_0)$, the one dimensional identity representation, let $(V, E) \in R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$, and consider the inverse images in $R_0(G_\ell)$ under ρ : (U', N_0) and (V', E) . Then we have $W = U' \otimes (V')^* \otimes U' \in R_0(G_\ell)$, which $\Rightarrow \rho(W) = (\rho U') \otimes (\rho V')^* \otimes (\rho U') = U \otimes V^* \otimes U \in R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$; by looking at trace functions it is clear that $\rho W \sim V^*$, since $\text{tr}_{(U, N_0)} \equiv 1$, so that $(V^*, E^*) \in R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$. Similarly if $(S, F), (T, E) \in R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$, with inverse images $(S', F), (T', E) \in R_0(G_\ell)$, under ρ , we have

$$W = S' \otimes (U')^* \otimes T' \in R_0(G_\ell),$$

which $\Rightarrow \rho(W) = S \otimes U^* \otimes T \sim S \otimes T$ is in $R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$, so $S \otimes T \in R_0(\Gamma_\ell)$.

Now we resume the proof of 3.1.3, beginning with (\Leftarrow) , by showing that $R_0(\Gamma_\ell) = R(\Gamma_\ell)$, and that this implies triviality of $N = \text{Ker } T$ in the representation scheme for A_ℓ^m devised in 2.1.8 (recall $T: M(\Gamma_\ell) \rightarrow A_\ell^m$ was defined so $T\mu(a) = \int_{\Gamma_\ell} \gamma(a) d\mu(\gamma)$). Since $A \sim \varphi(L^1(\Gamma_\ell))$ in the quotient algebra $M(\Gamma_\ell)/N$, it will follow that $A \sim L^1(\Gamma_\ell)$, as required. A representation function on a compact group H is any function of the form $f_{(V, x, x^*)}(h) = \langle V_h(x), x^* \rangle$ where $x \in E, x^* \in E^*$, and $(V, E) \in R(H)$; we let $\mathcal{R}(H)$ indicate all representation functions and on Γ_ℓ we define $\mathcal{R}_0(\Gamma_\ell) = \{f_{(V, x, x^*)} : (V, E) \in R_0(\Gamma_\ell), x \in E, x^* \in E^*\}$ within $\mathcal{R}(\Gamma_\ell)$. If we can prove that $\mathcal{R}_0(\Gamma_\ell)$ is a sup norm dense subalgebra of $C(\Gamma_\ell)$,

it is not hard to show $R_0(\Gamma_\rho) = R(\Gamma_\rho)$ by using well-known orthogonality relations between functions in $\mathcal{R}(\Gamma_\rho)$. In fact if $R(\Gamma_\rho) \neq R_0(\Gamma_\rho)$ there is a nonzero irreducible $(V, E) \in R(\Gamma_\rho)$ which is not equivalent to any irreducible representation in $R_0(\Gamma_\rho)$ (see 3.1.1), and so if f is a representation function arising from (V, E) , we get $\int_{\Gamma_\rho} f(h)g(h)dh = 0$ for all $g \in \mathcal{R}_0(\Gamma_\rho)$, which contradicts density of $R_0(\Gamma_\rho)$.

LEMMA 3.1.8. $\mathcal{R}_0(\Gamma_\rho)$ is a sup norm dense subalgebra of $C(\Gamma_\rho)$.

Proof. By Stone-Weierstrass, we only have to show that $\mathcal{R}_0(\Gamma_\rho)$ separates points and is a conjugate closed subalgebra which contains all constant functions. But if $\Sigma \subset R(H)$ for a compact group H , then $\mathcal{R}_\Sigma(H) = \{f_{(V, E, x^*)} : (V, E) \in \Sigma\}$ is a conjugate closed subalgebra of $C(H)$ if Σ is closed under equivalences and the operations \oplus, \otimes , and $*$ (see Chevalley [6], Ch. 6.7 and 6.8). The constant functions are the representation functions arising from the one dimensional identity representation in $R_0(\Gamma_\rho)$ so we only have to show $\mathcal{R}_0(\Gamma_\rho)$ separates points. For this it is clearly sufficient to show that $\Delta = \{\gamma \in \Gamma_\rho : V_\gamma = I_E \text{ for all } (V, E) \in R_0(\Gamma_\rho)\}$ consists of just the unit $I \in \Gamma_\rho$. Suppose $\gamma \in \Delta$ then for every finite dimensional left ideal E in A we have $V_\gamma = I_E$ for $(V, E) = (\Gamma_\rho | E)$, which means $\gamma(x) = x$ for all $x \in E$, and hence for all $x \in \mathcal{A}(A)$. Since $\mathcal{A}(A)$ is norm dense we get $\gamma = I$, as required.

We show that $N = (0)$ if $R_0(\Gamma_\rho) = R(\Gamma_\rho)$ to complete the (\Leftarrow) part of 3.1.3. If H is a compact group and $(V, E) \in R(H)$, we can induce a representation (V, E) on $M(H)$ with the property $V_{(\delta_h)} = V_h$ by taking $\langle V_\mu(xV), x^* \rangle = \int_H \langle V_h(x), x^* \rangle d\mu(h)$ for $x \in E, x^* \in E^*$. The induced representation is bounded, has dense range, and is (σ) continuous on norm bounded sets in $M(H)$ in the sense that

$$\langle V_{\mu_j}(x), x^* \rangle \longrightarrow \langle V_\mu(x)x^* \rangle \text{ if } \mu_j \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \mu$$

and if $\|\mu_j\| \leq M < \infty$. (See Loomis [11], Section 32). Now if $N \neq (0)$ it must contain a nonzero minimal left ideal E_0 in $L^1(\Gamma_\rho)$ because it is (σ) closed. Consider $(V, E_0) = (\Gamma_\rho | E_0)$; this representation is irreducible, and is known to be faithful on E_0 , when extended to $M(\Gamma_\rho)$ (for this standard result see [11], 40 B and 40 C). Obviously $(V, E_0) \in R(\Gamma_\rho)$; however, if $(V, E_0) \in R_0(\Gamma_\rho)$ it is equivalent to $(W, J) = (\Gamma_\rho | J)$ for some finite dimensional minimal left ideal J in A . Thus there is a linear isomorphism $S: E_0 \rightarrow J$ such that $\gamma(a) = W_\gamma(a) = S \circ V_\gamma \circ S^{-1}(a)$ for $a \in J$. If $\mu \in N, a \in J$, and $x = S^{-1}(a)$ then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = T\mu(a) &= \int_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}} \gamma(a) d\mu(\gamma) \\ &= \int_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}} S(V_{\gamma}(x)) d\mu(\gamma) \\ &= S(V_{\mu}(x)), \end{aligned}$$

so that V annihilates N when extended to $M(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})$, a contradiction. Thus $N = (0)$ and (\Leftarrow) is proved.

For the converse proof we must show $V_1 \otimes (V_2)^* \otimes V_3 \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ whenever $V_1, \dots, V_3 \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$, if $A = L^1(H)$ for some compact group H . Let us identify $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m \sim M(H)$ and define the nonzero multiplicative functional λ on A (and $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$) by taking $\langle L_{\mu}, \lambda \rangle = \int_H d\mu$. Clearly $G_{\mathcal{L}} = \{\alpha L(\delta_h) : |\alpha| = 1, h \in H\}$ and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}} = \{g \in G_{\mathcal{L}} : \langle g, \lambda \rangle = 1\}$ is just $\{L(\delta_h) : h \in H\}$; thus $G_{\mathcal{L}} = SI \times \Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$ and the discussion which precedes the (\Leftarrow) proof applies to $R_0(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})$ and $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$. We assert that $R_0(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}) = R(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})$; the reader can easily verify this by using the well known fact that any continuous irreducible representation of H is equivalent to the action of H by left translation on some minimal left ideal in $A = L^1(H)$. Notice that $\tau: h \rightarrow L(\delta_h)$ is a topological isomorphism between H and $(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}, (so))$.

Applying 3.1.6 we see that $R(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}) = R_0(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}) = \rho(R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}}))$ where ρ is the map restricting representations of $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ to $\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$. In 3.1.6 we showed $R_1(G_{\mathcal{L}}) \supset R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ and that ρ carries $R_1(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ and $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ 1:1 onto $R(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})$ and $R_0(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})$ respectively; since $R_0(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}) = R(\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}})$ we see that $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}}) = R_1(G_{\mathcal{L}})$. Thus $(V, E) \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}}) \Leftrightarrow V_{(\alpha I)} = \alpha V_I = \alpha I_E$, all $|\alpha| = 1$.

It is easy to see that $V_{(\alpha I)} = \alpha V_I$ for $|\alpha| = 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{tr}_V(\alpha I) = \alpha \cdot \dim [E]$ for all $|\alpha| = 1$; hence this is necessary and sufficient condition for $(V, E) \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$. If $(W, E) \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ then we have $(W^*)_{(\alpha\gamma)} = \bar{\alpha}(W^*)_{\gamma}$ since

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x, (W^*)_{\alpha\gamma} x^* \rangle &= \langle x, (W_{(\alpha\gamma)^{-1}})^* x^* \rangle = \langle \bar{\alpha} W_{\gamma^{-1}}(x), x^* \rangle \\ &= \langle \bar{\alpha} x, (W_{\gamma^{-1}})^* x^* \rangle = \langle x, \bar{\alpha}(W_{\gamma^{-1}})^* x^* \rangle = \langle x, \bar{\alpha}(W^*)_{\gamma}(x) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

for all $x \in E, x^* \in E^*$. This implies that, in particular, $(W^*)_{\alpha I} = \bar{\alpha}(W^*)_I = \bar{\alpha} I_E$ whenever $|\alpha| = 1$, so that $\text{tr}_{(W^*)}(\alpha I) = \bar{\alpha} \dim [E]$. Now if (V^i, E_i) are in $R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$ and if $|\alpha| = 1$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}_{V^1 \otimes (V^2)^* \otimes V^3}(\alpha I) &= \text{tr}_{V^1}(\alpha I) \cdot \text{tr}_{(V^2)^*}(\alpha I) \cdot \text{tr}_{V^3}(\alpha I) \\ &= \alpha \cdot \dim [E_1] \cdot \bar{\alpha} \dim [E_2] \cdot \alpha \dim [E_3] \\ &= \alpha \dim [E_1] \dim [E_2] \dim [E_3] \end{aligned}$$

and $\dim [E_1] \cdot \dim [E_2] \cdot \dim [E_3]$ is just the dimension of the representation space of $V^1 \otimes (V^2)^* \otimes V^3$. Thus $V^1 \otimes (V^2)^* \otimes V^3 \in R_0(G_{\mathcal{L}})$, as required to prove (\Rightarrow) in 3.1.3.

If A is a commutative QCG algebra it has many nonzero multiplicative functionals (A is semi-simple) and all irreducible representations of $G(A)$ are one dimensional. It is easy to identify the traces of these representations in $R_0(G)$ with the set of (so) continuous multiplicative characters $\alpha_M(g) = \langle g, M \rangle$ obtained when we extend the nonzero multiplicative functionals on A , corresponding to $M \in \mathcal{M}_A$, to A^m . This proves:

COROLLARY 3.1.9. *A is a commutative QCG algebra then A is a group algebra \Leftrightarrow the set $R = \{\alpha_M : M \in \mathcal{M}_A\} \subset G^\wedge$ contains all functions $\lambda(g) = \alpha_{M_1}(g)\overline{\alpha_{M_2}(g)}\alpha_{M_3}(g)$ whenever $\alpha_{M_1}, \dots, \alpha_{M_3} \in R$.*

Evidently R has this property \Leftrightarrow it is a coset of some subgroup in G^\wedge . This should be compared with the results of Section 2.3.

3.2. Involutions in QCG algebras. Since group algebras are endowed with natural involutions, one might hope to reduce the complexity of the preceding identification by trying instead to identify group algebras as QCG algebras which have a “nice” involution. This hope is unfounded: although the notion of involution never appears in the definition and characterization of QCG algebras, every QCG algebra A has a natural symmetric involution ($-a^*a$ quasi-regular in A for every $a \in A$; see [14], 4.1 and 4.7). This involution has an abstract characterization. We will only state these results and indicate the general line of reasoning, since they are of secondary interest.

If A is QCG we have a concrete realization $A \sim \varphi(L^1(H))$ in $M(H)/N$ (and $A_\mathcal{I}^m \sim M(H)/N$), where H is a compact group and N a (σ) -closed two-sided ideal in $M(H)$. Then the natural involution $(*)$ on $M(H)$ gives an involution on A (and on $A_\mathcal{I}^m$) because, as is easily verified, N must be $*$ self adjoint. Let us define the “natural involution” $(*)$ on A and $A_\mathcal{I}^m$ to be the involution obtained by considering $H = (G_\mathcal{I}, (so))$ and the representation $T: M(G_\mathcal{I}) \rightarrow A_\mathcal{I}^m$ defined in 2.1.4; thus $(T\mu)^* = T(\mu^*)$ for $\mu \in M(G_\mathcal{I})$.

It is helpful to look into the relationship between involutions on A and on $A_\mathcal{I}^m$. Let us say that $(\#)$ on $A_\mathcal{I}^m$ is an extension of (\star) on A if $(L_a)^\# = L_{(a^\star)}$ for $a \in A$. If A is commutative we get at least one extension by taking $F^\#(a) = (F(a^\star))^\star$ for $F \in A_\mathcal{I}^m, a \in A$. Such extensions are not easily constructed if A is noncommutative; they do exist for QCG algebras because QCG algebras have the special property that $A_\mathcal{I} \subset A_\mathcal{I}^m$ is a two-sided ideal (rather than just a left ideal). This follows since $L^1(G_\mathcal{I})$ is two-sided in $M(G_\mathcal{I})$.

THEOREM 3.2.1. *If (\star) is an isometric involution on QCG algebra A , it has a unique isometric extension $(\#)$ to $A_\mathcal{I}^m$.*

The proof uses the concrete representation theory. Evidently the natural involutions $(*)$ on $A, A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ are isometric and $(*)$ on $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ is the unique extension of $(*)$ on A .

THEOREM 3.2.2. *An isometric involution (\star) on QCG algebra A is the natural involution on $A \iff$ its extension (\star) to $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ is such that $g^{\star} = g^{-1}$ for all $g \in G_{\mathcal{L}}$.*

Obviously the natural involution $(*)$ on $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ has this property. For (\Leftarrow) one first proves that any isometric involution (\star) such that $g^{\star} = g^{-1}$ must map $A_{\mathcal{L}}$ onto $A_{\mathcal{L}}$ (hence it is associated with an involution on $A \sim A_{\mathcal{L}}$). This fact can be used to show that any such involution on $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ is (so) bicontinuous; since $(\star) \equiv (*)$ on $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ the same is true for $\text{co}[G_{\mathcal{L}}]$, and (so) density gives $(\star) = (*)$ on $\Sigma_{A_{\mathcal{L}}^m}$ as required.

Now it is a fairly simple matter to prove:

THEOREM 3.2.3. *The natural involution in any QCG algebra is symmetric.*

It suffices to show $aa^* = 0 \implies a = 0$ (see [14], 4.10.11).

REMARK. If we realize $A \sim \varphi(L^1(H))$, $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m \sim M(H)/N$ where H is any compact group, $N \subset M(H)$ a (σ) -closed two-sided ideal, and $\varphi: M(H) \rightarrow M(H)/N$ the quotient map, then N is (\star) self-adjoint with respect to the involution (\star) in $M(H)$. It is a fairly straightforward matter to prove that the involution (\star) induced on $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m$ always has the property $g^{\star} = g^{-1}$; hence it coincides with the natural involution $(*)$ (which was defined in terms of a specific realization of $A_{\mathcal{L}}^m; A$). Thus the natural involution is canonical in that it does not depend on which concrete representation we look at.

Appendix

A.1. General facts about group and measure algebra. Let H be a compact group and define the operator topology $(so)_{\mathcal{L}}$ in $M(H)$ as indicated in 1.2. The following results are equally valid for the right-handed operator topology $(so)_r$, after a few simple alterations in the proofs.

THEOREM A.1.1. *Let (σ) be the weak $*$ topology on $M(H)$, then the topologies $(so)_{\mathcal{L}}$ and (σ) coincide on norm bounded sets in $M(H)$.*

Proof. Let $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{E}_{M(H)}$ and $\mathcal{H}_0 = \{\delta_h : h \in H\}$, then it is easy to see

that these topologies coincide on \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{H}_0 , making them topologically isomorphic to $S \times H$ and H respectively; in particular these sets are compact. From [7], p. 511 we see that $\text{co}[\mathcal{H} : (so)_\ell]$ must be $(so)_\ell$ compact, as is $\text{co}[\mathcal{H} : (\sigma)] = \Sigma_{M(H)}$ in the (σ) topology. The identity map $j: (M(H), (so)_\ell) \rightarrow (M(H), (\sigma))$ is continuous on norm bounded sets; in fact, if $\Psi \in C(H)$ then there exists $f \in L^1(H)$ corresponding to $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $\|f\| = 1$ and $\left| \int_H \Psi(st)f(t)dt - \Psi(s) \right| < \varepsilon/3$ for all $s \in H$. If $\{\mu_j : j \in J\}$ is a net in $\Sigma_{M(H)}$ with $\mu_j \xrightarrow{(so)} \mu$, then $|\langle \mu_j * f, \Psi \rangle - \langle \mu_j, \Psi \rangle| < \varepsilon/3$ for all $j \in J$, and likewise for μ , so that (for large j) $|\langle \mu_j, \Psi \rangle - \langle \mu, \Psi \rangle| < \varepsilon$, as required.

Now we see that $\text{co}[\mathcal{H} : (so)_\ell]$ is (σ) compact, and it obviously contains $\text{co}[\mathcal{H} : (\sigma)] = \Sigma_{M(H)}$; but clearly $\mu \in \text{co}[\mathcal{H} : (so)_\ell] \Rightarrow \|\mu\| \leq 1$, which gives reverse containment. It is obvious that the topologies coincide on $\Sigma_{M(H)}$ since they are comparable and since $\Sigma_{M(H)}$ is compact in each topology.

THEOREM A.1.2. *Let H be a locally compact group and let $N \subset M(H)$ be a (σ) closed subspace. If $\varphi: M(H) \rightarrow M(H)/N$ is the canonical linear map, and $M(H)/N$ is given the quotient norm, then $\varphi(\Sigma_{M(H)}) = \Sigma_{M(H)/N}$.*

Proof. Since $\alpha = \|\varphi\mu\| = \inf \{\|\mu + n\| : n \in N\}$ it is clear that, for $n = 1, 2 \dots$ there exist $\mu_n \in \mu + N$ such that $\|\mu_n\| \leq \alpha + 1/n$. Now $\{\|\mu_n\| : n = 1, 2 \dots\}$ is bounded, so there is a (σ) convergent subnet $\mu_{n(k)} \xrightarrow{(\sigma)} \lambda \in M(H)$; clearly $\lambda \in \mu + N$, since N is (σ) closed (hence $\varphi\lambda = \varphi\mu$), and $\|\lambda\| \leq \limsup \{\|\mu_{n(k)}\| : k \in K\} \leq \alpha$, which $\Rightarrow \|\lambda\| = \|\varphi\mu\|$ as required.

It is well known that every group algebra has a minimal two-sided approximate identity. The following stronger result holds for compact groups.

THEOREM A.1.3. *If A is the group algebra of a compact group H , then A has a minimal central approximate identity.*

Proof. Since H is compact there is a neighborhood basis $\{V_j : j \in J\}$ of the unit $e \in H$, such that $y^{-1}V_jy = V_j = V_j^{-1}$ for all $j \in J, y \in H$. If we take any basis $\{U_j : j \in J\}$ such that $U_j = U_j^{-1}$, we get the desired basis as $V_j = \bigcap \{y^{-1}U_jy : y \in H\}$ (see Montgomery-Zippin [12], Section 2.4). Take $e_j = \chi_{V_j}/m(V_j)$, where χ_E is the characteristic function of E ; it is easy to check that e_j is central in $L^1(H)$, so $\{e_j\}$ is the desired approximate identity.

A.2. Dual algebras with approximate identities. As is well known, a semisimple dual Banach algebra with an identity is finite dimensional.

THEOREM A.2.1. *If A is a semi-simple dual Banach algebra with a central minimal approximate identity then the structure theory of Kaplansky [10] applies and all minimal closed two-sided ideals are finite dimensional.*

Proof. If M is a minimal closed two-sided ideal in A and if $\{e_\alpha : \alpha \in Q\}$ is a maximal collection of minimal idempotents in M which are pairwise orthogonal ($e_\alpha e_\beta = e_\beta e_\alpha = 0$ if $\alpha \neq \beta$), then $e_\alpha A e_\beta$ is always a one dimensional subspace of A and we can find a collection of matrix units in M , $\{e_{\alpha\beta} \in e e_\alpha A e_\beta : \alpha, \beta \in Q\}$ such that $e_{\alpha\alpha} = e_\alpha$ and $e_{\alpha\beta} e_{\mu\lambda} = \delta_{\beta\mu} e_{\alpha\lambda}$. The algebra $M_0 = \{\sum \xi_{\alpha\beta} e_{\alpha\beta} \text{ (finite sums): } \xi_{\alpha\beta} \text{ complex}\}$ is a two-sided ideal of A , norm dense in M . If $x \in A$ is central then $xy = \lambda(x)y$ for all $y \in M$; in fact $x e_{\alpha\alpha} = e_{\alpha\alpha} x e_{\alpha\alpha} \in e_\alpha A e_\alpha$, which implies that $x e_{\alpha\alpha} = \lambda_\alpha(x) e_\alpha$, since $e_\alpha A e_\alpha$ is one dimensional. But $x e_{\alpha\beta} = x e_\alpha a_{\alpha\beta} e_\beta$ for some $a_{\alpha\beta} \in A$, so $x e_{\alpha\beta} = \lambda_\alpha(x) e_\alpha \cdot a_{\alpha\beta} \cdot e_\beta = \lambda_\alpha(x) e_{\alpha\beta}$ and also $x e_{\alpha\beta} = x e_\alpha a_{\alpha\beta} e_\beta = e_\alpha a_{\alpha\beta} x e_\beta = \lambda_\beta(x) e_{\alpha\beta}$; hence $\lambda_\alpha(x) = \lambda_\beta(x) = \lambda(x)$ for all $\alpha, \beta \in Q$ and this implies that $xy = \lambda(x)y$ whenever $y \in M$ (M_0 is dense in M). Now there is at least one $x \in Z(A)$ (center of A) such that $xM \neq (0)$, since $Z(A)$ contains an approximate identity for A . By properly scaling $x \in Z(A)$ we can insure that $xy = y$ for all $y \in M$.

According to Kaplansky [10], Theorem 5, if $\{M_\mu : \mu \in J\}$ are the minimal closed two-sided ideals in A , we have $M_\mu M_\lambda = M_\lambda M_\mu = (0)$ if $M_\mu \neq M_\lambda$ and the algebraic (direct) sum $\sum \oplus \{M_\mu : \mu \in J\}$ is a norm dense two-sided ideal in A . With $x \in Z(A)$ chosen for (fixed) ideal M , as above, we can find elements $x_n = f_n + \sum \{\xi_{\alpha\beta}(n) e_{\alpha\beta} : \alpha, \beta \in Q\}$ such that $\|x - x_n\| \rightarrow 0$, where $f_n \in \sum \oplus \{M_\mu : \mu \in J; M_\mu \neq M\}$ and $\sum \xi_{\alpha\beta}(n) e_{\alpha\beta}$ is a finite sum in M_0 . Let n be chosen such that $\|x - x_n\| < 1/2$. If $\dim[M] = \infty$ then $\dim[M_0] = \infty$ and there exist indices $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m\}$ in Q such that $\xi_{\alpha\beta}(n) = 0$ for all $\beta \in Q$ if $\alpha \neq \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$. For any such index $\alpha \in Q$ we have

$$\frac{1}{2} \|e_{\alpha\alpha}\| \geq \|e_{\alpha\alpha}(x - x_n)\| = \|e_{\alpha\alpha} - e_{\alpha\alpha} f_n - \sum \{\xi_{\alpha\beta}(n) e_{\alpha\beta} : \beta \in Q\}\|.$$

But clearly, $0 = \sum \{\xi_{\alpha\beta}(n) e_{\alpha\beta} : \beta \in Q\}$ and $e_{\alpha\alpha} f_n = 0$, so that $1/2 \|e_{\alpha\alpha}\| \geq \|e_{\alpha\alpha}\| \geq 1$, a contradiction. Thus $\dim[M] < \infty$ as required.

A.3. Elementary properties of multipliers and translations on Banach algebras. Consider an arbitrary Banach algebra A with group of left translations $G_\ell = G_\ell(A)$, given the (so) topology. All of the

following results have right-handed counterparts which we do not state explicitly.

THEOREM A.3.1. *The translations $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ form a Hausdorff topological group. The extreme points $\mathcal{E}_{A^m_{\mathcal{L}}}$ contain $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ and $\mathcal{E}_{A^m_{\mathcal{L}}} = G_{\mathcal{L}}$ if these extreme points form a group.*

REMARK. In [3] it is shown that, if a Banach algebra B has an identity I with $\|I\| = 1$, then I is an extreme point in Σ_B .

Proof. The Hausdorff property is obvious, and if $\{g_j : j \in J\}$ and $\{h_k : k \in K\}$ are nets in $G_{\mathcal{L}}$, both (so) convergent to I , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_j(h_k(a)) - a\| &\leq \|g_j(h_k(a)) - g_j(a)\| + \|g_j(a) - a\| \\ &= \|h_k(a) - a\| + \|g_j(a) - a\| \longrightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

for $a \in A$, proving joint (so) continuity of multiplication. Inversion is also (so) continuous since

$$\|g_j^{-1}(a) - a\| = \|g_j(g_j^{-1}(a)) - g_j(a)\| = \|a - g_j(a)\| \longrightarrow 0.$$

If $g \in G_{\mathcal{L}}$ it has an inverse $g^{-1} \in G_{\mathcal{L}}$, and if we can decompose $g = \alpha F_1 + (1 - \alpha)F_2$, with $0 < \alpha < 1$ and $F_1, F_2 \in \Sigma_{A^m_{\mathcal{L}}}$, then $I = \alpha g^{-1}F_1 + (1 - \alpha)g^{-1}F_2$; since $\|g^{-1}F_i\| \leq 1$ we get $g^{-1}F_1 = g^{-1}F_2$ and $F_1 = F_2$, so $G_{\mathcal{L}} \subset \mathcal{E}_{A^m_{\mathcal{L}}}$. If $\mathcal{E}_{A^m_{\mathcal{L}}}$ is a group (with unit I), then $T(A) = A$ if $T \in \mathcal{E}_{A^m_{\mathcal{L}}}$ and $\|Ta\| = \|a\|$ on A ; otherwise $\|Ta\| < \|a\|$ for some $a \in A$ and $\|a\| = \|T^{-1}(Ta)\| \leq \|T^{-1}\| \cdot \|Ta\| = \|Ta\| < \|a\|$.

If A is commutative and if ψ is a multiplicative linear functional on A , then ψ extends uniquely to Ψ on A^m in the sense that $\langle L_a, \Psi \rangle = \langle a, \psi \rangle$ for all $a \in A$; in fact if $F \in A^m$ we take $\langle F, \Psi \rangle = \langle F(a), \psi \rangle / \langle a, \psi \rangle$ for any $a \in A$ such that $\psi(a) \neq 0$ ($\psi = 0$ extends trivially). Things are not so easy if A fails to be commutative.

THEOREM A.3.2. *If A has a two-sided approximate identity $\{e_j : j \in J\}$ then any multiplicative linear functional ψ on A extends uniquely to $A^m_{\mathcal{L}}$. The extension is given by the formula $\langle F, \Psi \rangle = \langle F(a), \psi \rangle / \langle a, \psi \rangle$, where $a \in A$ is any element such that $\psi(a) \neq 0$.*

Proof. Since

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(b)\psi(Fa) &= \psi(F(a) \cdot b) = \psi(F(ab)) \longleftarrow \psi(F(e_j ab)) = \psi((Fe_j)ab) \\ &= \psi((Fe_j)ba) = \psi(F(e_j ba)) \longrightarrow \psi(F(ba)) = \psi(Fb)\psi(a) \end{aligned}$$

we see that Ψ is well defined. Now let $F_1, F_2 \in A^m_{\mathcal{L}}$; if for some $a \in A$

we have $\langle a, \psi \rangle \neq 0$ and $\langle F_2(a), \psi \rangle \neq 0$, then

$$\langle F_1 F_2, \Psi \rangle = [\langle F_1 F_2(a), \psi \rangle / \langle F_2 a, \psi \rangle] [\langle F_2 a, \psi \rangle / \langle a, \psi \rangle] = \langle F_2, \Psi \rangle \cdot \langle F_1, \Psi \rangle.$$

However, if $\langle F_2 a, \psi \rangle = 0$ whenever $\langle a, \psi \rangle \neq 0$ then $\langle F_2, \Psi \rangle = 0$ and, for any such $a \in A$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle F_1 F_2(a), \psi \rangle &\longleftarrow \langle F_1(e_j F_2(a)), \psi \rangle = \langle (F_1 e_j)(F_2 a), \psi \rangle \\ &= \langle F_1(e_j), \psi \rangle \cdot \langle F_2(a), \psi \rangle = 0; \end{aligned}$$

hence, $\langle F_1 F_2, \Psi \rangle = 0 = \langle F_1, \Psi \rangle \cdot \langle F_2, \Psi \rangle$, and Ψ is multiplicative, as well as linear. Clearly $\langle L_a, \Psi \rangle = \langle a, \psi \rangle$ if $a \in A$. Uniqueness follows since we must have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle F(a), \psi \rangle &= \langle L_{F(a)}, \Psi \rangle = \langle F \circ L_a, \Psi \rangle \\ &= \langle F, \Psi \rangle \cdot \langle L_a, \Psi \rangle = \langle F, \Psi \rangle \cdot \langle a, \Psi \rangle \end{aligned}$$

for all $a \in A, f \in A^m$.

The usefulness of A.3.2 stems from the fact that existence of a multiplicative functional in A^m which does not vanish on A_ℓ implies the existence of an internal direct product factorization of $G_\ell = SI \times \Gamma_\ell$, where Γ_ℓ is some (so) closed normal subgroup.

THEOREM A.3.3. *Let ψ be a multiplicative functional on A^m which does not vanish on A_ℓ , and define $\alpha_\psi(g) = \langle g, \psi \rangle$ on G_ℓ . Then α_ψ is a (so) continuous multiplicative character on G_ℓ , the subgroups $\Gamma_\ell = \{g \in G_\ell : \langle g, \psi \rangle = 1\}$ and $SI = \{\alpha I : |\alpha| = 1\}$ are (so) closed normal subgroups which generate G_ℓ , and $SI \cap \Gamma_\ell = \{I\}$ so that $G_\ell = SI \times \Gamma_\ell$. If G_ℓ can be factored as an internal direct product $G_\ell = SI \times \Gamma$ for some (so) closed normal subgroup Γ , then the natural projections $\pi_\Gamma: g \rightarrow \gamma$ and $\pi_{SI}: g \rightarrow \alpha I$ (if $g = (\alpha I, \gamma)$ in the direct product) are (so) continuous homomorphisms, and the elements of Γ are pairwise linearly independent in A^m . Furthermore if $G_\ell = SI \times \Gamma_i$ ($i = 1, 2$) are two such factorizations then the map $g \rightarrow \overline{\pi_{(SI)_2}(g)} \cdot g$ is a topological automorphism of G_ℓ which maps Γ_1 onto Γ_2 ; hence the decomposition $G_\ell = SI \times \Gamma$ is essentially unique.*

Proof. The function α_ψ is clearly unimodular and multlicative on G_ℓ . If $a \in A$ with $\langle L_a, \psi \rangle \neq 0$, and if $g_j \xrightarrow{(so)} g$ in G_ℓ , then

$$\|g_j \circ L_a - g \circ L_a\| = \|g_j(a) - g(a)\| \longrightarrow 0,$$

so that $\langle g_j, \psi \rangle \cdot \langle L_a, \psi \rangle = \langle g_j L_a, \psi \rangle \rightarrow \langle g L_a, \psi \rangle = \langle g, \psi \rangle \cdot \langle L_a, \psi \rangle$, and this in turn implies that $\langle g_j, \psi \rangle \rightarrow \langle g, \psi \rangle$. Thus it is clear that SI

and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{L}}$ are (so) closed normal subgroups in $G_{\mathcal{L}}$. Furthermore, $SI \cap \Gamma_{\mathcal{L}} = \{I\}$, since $\langle \alpha I, \psi \rangle = \alpha \langle I, \Psi \rangle = \alpha$, and it is clear that $\{SI\} \cdot \Gamma_{\mathcal{L}} = G_{\mathcal{L}}$.

If $G_{\mathcal{L}} = SI \times \Gamma$, let $\{g_j = \alpha_j \gamma_j : j \in J\}$ be a net in $G_{\mathcal{L}}$ such that $g_j \xrightarrow{(so)} g = \alpha \gamma$. If β is any limit point of the net of scalars $\{\alpha_j\}$ in the circle, there is a subnet $\{\alpha_{j(k)}\}$ such that $|\alpha_{j(k)} - \beta| \rightarrow 0$ while $\alpha_{j(k)} \gamma_{j(k)} \xrightarrow{(so)} \alpha \gamma$; hence $\gamma_{j(k)} \xrightarrow{(so)} (\alpha/\beta) \gamma \in \Gamma$. But if $(\alpha/\beta) \gamma \in \Gamma$ then we must have $\alpha = \beta$, so $\alpha_j \rightarrow \alpha$ and $\gamma_j \xrightarrow{(so)} \gamma$, as required for continuity of the projection homomorphisms in $G_{\mathcal{L}} = SI \times \Gamma$. If, in such a factorization, we should have $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma$ linearly dependent in A_m^m , then $\alpha \gamma_1 = \gamma_2$ for (unimodular) complex scalar α . Since $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma$ this means $\alpha = 1$. The verifications in the last part of A.3.3 are straightforward.

A.4. Strong operator topologies. Let A be a Banach space and (so) the strong operator topology in $B(A, A)$.

LEMMA A.4.1. *With respect to the (so) topology, any closed bounded subset $E \subset B(A, A)$ is complete.*

Proof. Set E is bounded in the (so) topology $\Leftrightarrow \{T(x) : T \in E\}$ is norm bounded in A for each $x \in A$. If $\{T_j : j \in J\}$ is any (so)-Cauchy net in E and $x \in A$, then $\{T_j(x) : j \in J\}$ is a bounded Cauchy net in the Banach space A , so there exists $T(x) \in A$ such that $T_j(x) \xrightarrow{\text{norm}} T(x)$. Obviously $T : A \rightarrow A$ is linear; since $\{T_j(x) : j \in J\}$ is norm bounded for each $x \in A$ we have $\|T\| < \infty$ by uniform boundedness. Hence $T_j \xrightarrow{(so)} T$ and $T \in E$.

THEOREM A.4.2. *The (so) closed convex hull of any (so) compact set $E \subset B(A, A)$ is (so) compact.*

Proof. In the (so) topology we have: E compact $\Rightarrow E$ bounded $\Rightarrow \text{co}[E]$ bounded $\Rightarrow \text{co}[E : (so)]$ bounded. Hence, by A.4.1, $\text{co}[E : (so)]$ is complete. But in any locally convex space, closed convex spans of compact sets are totally bounded (precompact), as shown in [4], p. 80-81. Hence $\text{co}[E : (so)]$ is compact.

An alternative proof is sketched in [7], p. 511, exercises 1-3.

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Received November 13, 1964. This paper is a portion of the author's doctoral dissertation submitted to Yale University in 1963. The author is indebted to Professor C. E. Rickart, who directed this dissertation, and also to Professors S. Sakai and F. Birtel, for their advice and encouragement. This research was carried out while the author held an NSF Cooperative Fellowship at Yale University; it was prepared for publication with the assistance of Air Force research grant: AFOSR-407-63, and with the partial support of NSF grant: NSF-GP 4020.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY