

## THE LOCAL STRUCTURE OF SOME MEASURE-ALGEBRA HOMOMORPHISMS

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**Extending classical theorems, we obtain representations for bounded linear transformations from  $L$ -spaces to Banach spaces with a separable predual. In the case of homomorphisms from a convolution measure algebra to a Banach algebra, we obtain a generalization of Šreider's representation of the Gelfand spectrum via generalized characters. The homomorphisms from the measure algebra on a LCA group,  $G$ , to that on the circle are analyzed in detail. If the torsion subgroup of  $G$  is denumerable, one consequence is the following necessary and sufficient condition that a positive finite Borel measure on  $G$  be continuous:  $\exists \gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  in  $\widehat{G}$  such that  $\forall n \neq 0 \hat{\mu}(\gamma_\alpha^n) \rightarrow 0$ .**

**1. Introduction.** Given a measurable space  $X$  and a (bounded) complex measure  $\mu$  on  $X$ , the Banach space dual of  $L^1(\mu)$  is commonly represented as  $L^\infty(\mu)$ . We shall call  $M$  an  $L$ -space on  $X$  if  $M$  is a Banach space of complex measures on  $X$  (under the measure norm) such that  $\nu \ll \mu \in M \Rightarrow \nu \in M$  [Sc]. Šreider [Šr] gave a representation of the dual  $M^*$  of  $M$  as a space of so-called generalized functions, i.e., families of functions  $f_\mu \in L^\infty(\mu)$  satisfying

$$(1.1) \quad \nu \ll \mu \Rightarrow f_\nu = f_\mu \quad \nu\text{-a.e.},$$

$$(1.2) \quad \sup_{\mu \in M} \|f_\mu\|_{L^\infty(\mu)} < \infty.$$

The representation of  $M^*$ , like that of  $L^1(\mu)^*$ , is by integration:

$$\mu \mapsto \int f_\mu d\mu.$$

Now, given two Banach spaces,  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ , we denote by  $L(B_1, B_2)$  the Banach space of bounded linear transformations from  $B_1$  to  $B_2$ . Since  $M^* = L(M, \mathbb{C})$ , we may ask, in generalizing the above, for a representation of  $L(M, B)$ , where  $B$  is an arbitrary Banach space. Again, the case where  $M = L^1(\mu)$  is classical [DS]; here, the hypothesis that  $B$  has a separable predual is made. In §2, we extend this theorem to general  $L$ -spaces  $M$  in a manner similar to Šreider's representation above. In essence, functions are replaced by

$B$ -valued functions. Our treatment will be entirely self contained, thus giving an apparently new proof of [DS, Theorem VI.8.6]. However, another point of view could be adopted. Namely, if we use the Radon-Nikodym theorem to identify  $L(\mu) = \{\nu \ll \mu : \nu \text{ bounded}\}$  with  $L^1(\mu)$ , then we may regard an  $L$ -space  $M$  as the direct limit  $\lim_{\mu \in M} L^1(\mu)$ , where  $M$  is directed by  $\ll$  and for  $\nu \ll \mu$ ,  $L^1(\nu)$  is included in  $L^1(\mu)$ . Now  $L(\cdot, B)$  is a functor from the category of Banach spaces to its opposite category and, furthermore, is easily checked to be a left adjoint. Since left adjoints preserve direct limits and inverse limits are dual to direct limits, it follows that  $L(M, B)$  is the inverse limit  $\lim_{\mu \in M} L(L^1(\mu), B)$ , where, for  $\nu \ll \mu$ ,  $L(L^1(\mu), B)$  is mapped by restriction to  $L(L^1(\nu), B)$ . Hence, given a representation of  $L(L^1(\mu), B)$  (as in [DS]) and a construction of inverse limits, we may obtain a representation of  $L(M, B)$ . This amounts to the same as our Theorem 2.1.

Now Šreider was actually interested in representing  $\Delta M$ , the multiplicative linear functionals on  $M$ , when  $M$  was a convolution measure algebra on a locally compact abelian group. He showed that in addition to (1.1) and (1.2), the following property was necessary and sufficient for  $f_\mu$  to define an element of  $\Delta M$ :

$$(1.3) \quad \forall \mu, \nu \geq 0 \quad f_{\mu * \nu}(xy) = f_\mu(x)f_\nu(y) \quad \mu \times \nu\text{-a.e. } [(x, y)].$$

We, too, are mainly interested in the subset of homomorphisms  $\text{Hom}(M, B) \subseteq L(M, B)$  when  $B$  is a Banach algebra. A similar condition to (1.3) is found in Theorem 3.2. In particular, when  $M = M(G)$ , the complex Borel measures on a locally compact abelian group,  $G$ , and  $B = M(\mathbb{T})$ ,  $\mathbb{T}$  the circle,  $\text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbb{T}))$  contains in a natural way  $\text{Hom}(G, \mathbb{T}) = \widehat{G}$ . The closure of  $\widehat{G}$  in a certain weak topology is related to the behavior of Fourier transforms at infinity and contains much information about a measure  $\mu$  when regarded locally, i.e., when restricted to  $L(\mu)$ , or, what is the same, when viewed via the Šreider representation. For example, this analysis will lead to the following surprising result: if the torsion subgroup of  $G$  is denumerable, then a positive measure  $\mu \in M(G)$  is continuous iff there is a net  $\{\gamma_\alpha\} \subseteq \widehat{G}$  tending to infinity such that for all  $n \neq 0$ ,  $\lim_\alpha \hat{\mu}(\gamma_\alpha^n) = 0$ . Characterizations of certain other classes of measures are found in §4; these have proved useful in [KL] and [L4]. Other analyses of the local structure of the closure of  $\widehat{G}$  for certain  $\mu$  can be found in [L3], [L4], and [L5]. The local structure of  $\widehat{G}$  is also related to asymptotic distribution; this relationship, described here, has been used in [KL] and [L4].

The Šreider representation, Theorem 3.2, has been given before in [IgK] for the case  $\text{Hom}(M, M(\mathbb{T}))$ ,  $M$  being an  $L$ -subalgebra of  $M(\mathbb{T})$ , though in slightly different notation. An alternative representation for  $\text{Hom}(M, M(G))$ , where  $M$  is a semisimple commutative convolution measure algebra in the sense of Taylor and  $G$  is a compact abelian group, analogous to Taylor's representation of  $\Delta M$  via a structure semigroup, has been given in [InK].

**2. The Šreider representation of linear transformations.** Suppose that  $M$  is an  $L$ -space on a measurable space  $X$  and that  $B$  is a Banach space with a separable predual,  $B_*$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}(X, B)$  denote the set of maps  $f: X \rightarrow B$  which are bounded in  $B$ -norm and measurable when  $B$  is given the weak\* topology from  $B_*$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{B}(X, B)$  and  $\mu \in M$ , there is a unique element  $\int f d\mu \in B$  defined by the relation

$$\forall b_* \in B_* \left\langle b_*, \int f d\mu \right\rangle = \int_X \langle b_*, f(x) \rangle d\mu(x).$$

If  $D$  is a countable dense set in the unit ball of  $B_*$ , then the equation

$$\|f(x)\|_B = \sup_{b_* \in D} |\langle b_*, f(x) \rangle|$$

shows that  $\|f(\cdot)\|_B$  is measurable. It is clear that

$$\left\| \int f d\mu \right\|_B \leq \int \|f\|_B d|\mu|.$$

The set of equivalence classes of  $\mathcal{B}(X, B)$  under equality  $\mu$ -a.e. will be denoted  $\mathcal{B}(X, B)_\mu$ , although this distinction will often be ignored.

The following theorem, which we shall term the *Šreider representation*, associates to each element of  $L(M, B)$  a certain family of maps in  $\mathcal{B}(X, B)$ . We denote the image of  $\mu \in M$  under  $\Sigma \in L(M, B)$  by  $\Sigma_\mu$ .

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $M$  be an  $L$ -space and  $B$  a Banach space with a separable predual. There is a bijection between  $L(M, B)$  and the set of elements  $\{b_{\cdot, \mu}\}_{\mu \in M} \in \prod_{\mu \in M} \mathcal{B}(X, B)_\mu$  which satisfy*

$$(i) \quad \sup_{\mu \in M} \| \|b_{x, \mu}\|_B \|_{L^\infty(\mu)} < \infty$$

and

$$(ii) \quad \forall \nu \ll \mu \in M \quad b_{x, \nu} = b_{x, \mu} \quad \nu\text{-a.e. } [x]$$

such that if  $\Sigma$  corresponds to  $\{b_{\cdot, \mu}\}_{\mu \in M}$  (written  $\Sigma \sim b_{\cdot, \cdot}$ ), then

$$(iii) \quad \forall \mu \in M \quad \Sigma_\mu = \int b_{x, \mu} d\mu(x)$$

and

$$(iv) \quad \|\Sigma\|_{L(M, B)} = \sup_{\mu \in M} \| \|b_{x, \mu}\|_B \|_{L^\infty(\mu)}.$$

*Proof.* Given  $\{b_{\cdot, \mu}\}$  satisfying (i) and (ii), define  $\Sigma$  by (iii). If  $\mu, \nu \in M$ , then by (ii), we have  $b_{x, \mu} = b_{x, |\mu|+|\nu|}$   $\mu$ -a.e., whence  $\Sigma_\mu = \int b_{x, |\mu|+|\nu|} d\mu(x)$ . In conjunction with similar equations for  $\Sigma_\nu$  and  $\Sigma_{\mu+\nu}$ , this equation shows that  $\Sigma_\mu + \Sigma_\nu = \Sigma_{\mu+\nu}$ . Similarly, for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\Sigma_{\alpha\mu} = \alpha\Sigma_\mu$ , whence  $\Sigma$  is linear. Let  $K$  denote the quantity in (i). Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Sigma\| &= \sup_{\|\mu\| \leq 1} \|\Sigma_\mu\| = \sup_{\|\mu\| \leq 1} \left\| \int b_{x, \mu} d\mu(x) \right\| \\ &\leq \sup_{\|\mu\| \leq 1} \int \|b_{x, \mu}\| d|\mu|(x) \leq K. \end{aligned}$$

To show that  $\|\Sigma\| = K$ , choose any nonzero  $\mu \in M$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $0 \neq \nu \in L(\mu)$  be such that  $\| \|b_{\cdot, \mu}\|_B - \| \|b_{\cdot, \mu}\|_B \|_{L^\infty(\mu)} \|_{L^\infty(\nu)} < \varepsilon$ . Let  $S$  be the unit sphere of  $B$ . Since the unit ball of  $B$  is weak\* compact, there exists a finite number of elements,  $b_*^1, \dots, b_*^n$ , of the unit ball of  $B_*$  such that

$$S = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \{b \in S : |\langle b_*^i, b \rangle - 1| < \varepsilon\}.$$

Therefore  $\exists 0 < \omega \in L(\nu) \exists i \|\langle b_*^i, b_{x, \mu} / \|b_{x, \mu}\|_B \rangle - 1\|_{L^\infty(\omega)} < \varepsilon$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Sigma\| &\geq \frac{\|\Sigma_\omega\|}{\|\omega\|} \geq \frac{1}{\|\omega\|} |\langle b_*^i, \Sigma_\omega \rangle| = \frac{1}{\|\omega\|} \left| \int \langle b_*^i, b_{x, \mu} \rangle d\omega(x) \right| \\ &\geq \frac{1}{\|\omega\|} \int \|b_{x, \mu}\|_B d\omega(x) - \varepsilon K \geq \| \|b_{\cdot, \mu}\|_B \|_{L^\infty(\mu)} - \varepsilon(K+1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\|\Sigma\| = K$ .

Conversely, let  $\Sigma \in L(M, B)$ . Fix  $\mu \in M$ . For  $b_* \in B_*$ , we denote by  $b_* \circ \Sigma$  the map  $\nu \mapsto \langle b_*, \Sigma_\nu \rangle$ . Restricted to  $L(\mu)$ , this map is a bounded linear functional and hence can be represented by a function  $g_{b_*} \in L^\infty(\mu)$ . Choose a countable linearly independent set  $D$  whose

linear span over  $\mathbf{Q}$ ,  $D'$ , is dense in  $B_*$ . If  $b_* = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i d_*^i$ ,  $d_*^i \in D$ ,  $\alpha_i \in \mathbf{Q}$ , define

$$h_{b_*} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i g_{d_*^i}.$$

Then  $b_* \mapsto h_{b_*}(x)$  is rational-linear on  $D'$  for every  $x \in X$ . Furthermore,  $h_{b_*} = g_{b_*}$   $\mu$ -a.e., whence by countability of  $D'$ ,

$$(2.1) \quad \forall b_* \in D' \quad |h_{b_*}(x)| \leq \|b_* \circ \Sigma\| \leq \|b_*\| \cdot \|\Sigma\|$$

for  $\mu$ -a.e.  $x$ . Now for every  $x$  such that (2.1) holds,  $b_* \mapsto h_{b_*}(x)$  extends from  $D'$  to all of  $B_*$  as a bounded linear functional, hence element of  $B$ , call it  $f(x)$ . This defines  $f(x)$   $\mu$ -a.e. and shows that, given any  $b_* \in B_*$ , if  $b_* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_*^n$  ( $b_*^n \in D'$ ), then

$$(2.2) \quad \langle b_*, f(x) \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle b_*^n, f(x) \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_{b_*^n}(x)$$

for every  $x$  where  $f$  is defined. Write  $b_{*,\mu}$  for the equivalence class of  $f$ . From Equation (2.1), we see that  $\|f(x)\| \leq \|\Sigma\|$  for every  $x$  where  $f$  is defined. Together with (2.2), this shows that  $b_{*,\mu} \in \mathcal{B}(X, B)_\mu$  and gives (i). Now for  $\nu \in L(\mu)$  and  $b_* \in D'$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle b_*, \int f d\nu \right\rangle &= \int \langle b_*, f(x) \rangle d\nu(x) = \int h_{b_*}(x) d\nu(x) \\ &= \int g_{b_*}(x) d\nu(x) = \langle b_*, \Sigma_\nu \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $D'$  is dense, (iii) follows. We claim that  $b_{*,\mu}$  is uniquely determined by the property just established:

$$\forall \nu \in L(\mu) \quad \Sigma_\nu = \int b_{x,\mu} d\nu(x).$$

Indeed, if we also have that  $\forall \nu \in L(\mu) \quad \Sigma_\nu = \int b'_{x,\mu} d\nu(x)$  for some  $b'_{x,\mu} \in \mathcal{B}(X, B)_\mu$ , then

$$\forall b_* \in D' \quad \forall \nu \in L(\mu) \quad \int \langle b_*, b_{x,\mu} \rangle d\nu(x) = \int \langle b_*, b'_{x,\mu} \rangle d\nu(x),$$

whence for  $\mu$ -a.e.  $x \quad \forall b_* \in D' \quad \langle b_*, b_{x,\mu} \rangle = \langle b_*, b'_{x,\mu} \rangle$ , i.e.,  $b_{x,\mu} = b'_{x,\mu}$   $\mu$ -a.e. Thus (ii) follows. The same argument shows that if  $\Sigma \sim b_{*,\cdot}$  and  $\Sigma \sim b'_{*,\cdot}$ , then  $b_{*,\cdot} = b'_{*,\cdot}$ .  $\square$

We define the *weak\* operator topology* ( $W^*OT$ ) on  $L(M, B)$  as the weakest topology such that  $\forall \mu \in M \quad \forall b_* \in B_* \quad \Sigma \mapsto \langle b_*, \Sigma_\mu \rangle$  is continuous. It is an elementary exercise to show that the unit ball of  $L(M, B)$  is  $W^*OT$  compact.

For  $\mu \in M$ , let  $L(M, B)_\mu$  denote the set of Šreider representations  $b_{\cdot, \mu}$  of elements of  $L(M, B)$ . We give  $L(M, B)_\mu$  the weak topology generated by the maps  $b_{\cdot, \mu} \mapsto \int \langle b_*, b_{x, \nu} \rangle d\nu(x)$  ( $b_* \in B_*$ ,  $\nu \in L(\mu)$ ). Thus, the  $W^*$  OT is the inverse limit of these topologies, i.e., it is the weak topology generated by the maps  $\Sigma \mapsto b_{\cdot, \mu}$  ( $\mu \in M$ ) from  $L(M, B) \rightarrow L(M, B)_\mu$ , where  $\Sigma \sim b_{\cdot, \cdot}$ .

Every decomposition  $M = I \oplus J$  of  $M$  as a direct sum of closed subspaces yields an addition on  $L(M, B)$  as follows: if  $\Pi^1, \Pi^2 \in L(M, B)$ , then we may define

$$(2.3) \quad \Sigma_\mu = \Pi_{\mu_I}^1 + \Pi_{\mu_J}^2,$$

where  $\mu = \mu_I + \mu_J$ ,  $\mu_I \in I$ ,  $\mu_J \in J$ . If  $\Sigma \sim b_{\cdot, \cdot}$ ,  $\Pi^i \sim b^i_{\cdot, \cdot}$ , and  $I \perp J$ , then  $b_{x, \mu} = b^1_{x, \mu_I} + b^2_{x, \mu_J}$   $\mu$ -a.e.

The case where  $B = M(Y)$ , the space of complex regular Borel measures on a locally compact metric space,  $Y$ , is of interest. A predual of  $B$  is the separable space  $C_0(Y)$  of continuous functions vanishing at infinity. We shall denote the Šreider representation of  $\Sigma$  by  $\sigma_{x, \mu}$  in this case; thus, if  $f \in C_0(Y)$  and  $\mu \in M$ ,

$$(2.4) \quad \int_Y f d\Sigma_\mu = \int_X \left( \int_Y f d\sigma_{x, \mu} \right) d\mu(x).$$

(If  $Y$  is separable and a countable union of complete subspaces, then (2.4) holds for  $f \in \mathcal{B}(Y, \mathbb{C})$  since it is preserved under bounded pointwise limits. In particular, for Borel sets  $E \subseteq Y$ ,

$$\Sigma_\mu(E) = \int_X \sigma_{x, \mu}(E) d\mu(x).$$

Let  $M^+$  denote the nonnegative elements of  $M$  and likewise for  $M^+(Y)$ . We say that  $\Sigma \in L(M, M(Y))$  is *positive* if it carries  $M^+$  into  $M^+(Y)$ . It is easy to see from (2.4) applied to  $|\mu|$  that  $\Sigma \geq 0$  iff  $\forall \mu \in M \quad \forall^e x[\mu] \quad \sigma_{x, \mu} \geq 0$  (“ $\forall^e x[\mu]$ ” means “for  $\mu$ -a.e.  $x$ ”—see [L1]). It is also easy to show that if  $\Sigma \geq 0$ , then  $\nu \ll \mu \Rightarrow \Sigma_\nu \ll \Sigma_{|\mu|}$  and  $|\Sigma_\mu| \leq \Sigma_{|\mu|}$ .

**3. The Šreider representation of homomorphisms.** Let  $G$  be a locally compact semigroup with separately continuous multiplication. Then  $M(G)$  is a Banach algebra under convolution [W]. Let  $M$  be an  $L$ -subalgebra of  $M(G)$ , i.e., a subalgebra which is also an  $L$ -subspace, and let  $B$  be a Banach algebra with a separable predual such that

multiplication is separately weak\* measurable and

$$(3.1) \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{B}(G, B) \quad \forall b \in B \quad \forall \mu \in M$$

$$\int f(x) \cdot b \, d\mu(x) = \left( \int f \, d\mu \right) \cdot b$$

$$\& \int b \cdot f(x) \, d\mu(x) = b \cdot \int f \, d\mu.$$

In order to state some sufficient conditions that (3.1) be true, we define the following multiplication on  $B^* \times B$ . If  $b \in B$  and  $b^* \in B^*$ , then  $b' \mapsto \langle b' \cdot b, b^* \rangle$  is a bounded linear functional on  $B$ ; we denote it by  $b^* \cdot b$ . Let  $\overline{B_*}^{sw^*}$  be the smallest subspace of  $B^*$  containing (canonically)  $B_*$  which is closed under weak\* sequential limits. Let  $\Delta B$  be the subset of  $B^*$  consisting of the multiplicative linear functionals.

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *Let  $B$  be a Banach algebra with a separable predual. Right multiplication on  $B$  is weak\* measurable and the first equation of (3.1) holds if any of the following conditions is satisfied:*

- (i)  $B_* \cdot B \subseteq \overline{B_*}^{sw^*}$ .
- (ii) Right multiplication is weak\* continuous.
- (iii) Right multiplication is weak\* measurable and  $\overline{B_*}^{sw^*} \cap \Delta B$  separates points in  $B$ .

*Proof.* The class of  $b^* \in B^*$  such that  $b \mapsto \langle b, b^* \rangle$  is weak\* measurable contains  $B_*$  and is closed under weak\* sequential limits. Thus, all elements of  $\overline{B_*}^{sw^*}$  are weak\* measurable. Now right multiplication is weak\* measurable iff  $\forall b \in B \quad \forall b_* \in B_* \quad b' \mapsto \langle b_*, b' \cdot b \rangle$  is weak\* measurable. But  $\langle b_*, b' \cdot b \rangle = \langle b', b_* \cdot b \rangle$ , whence this condition is equivalent to all elements of  $B_* \cdot B$  being weak\* measurable. The sufficiency of (i) for measurability is now obvious. Also, the class of weak\* measurable  $b^* \in B^*$  such that

$$\left\langle \int f \, d\mu, b^* \right\rangle = \int \langle f, b^* \rangle \, d\mu$$

is closed under weak\* sequential limits by the bounded convergence theorem, hence contains  $\overline{B_*}^{sw^*}$ . Thus, if (i) holds, then  $\forall b_* \in B_* \quad \forall b \in B$

$$\left\langle b_*, \int f \cdot b \, d\mu \right\rangle = \int \langle b_*, f \cdot b \rangle \, d\mu = \int \langle f, b_* \cdot b \rangle \, d\mu$$

$$= \left\langle \int f \, d\mu, b_* \cdot b \right\rangle = \left\langle b_*, \left( \int f \, d\mu \right) \cdot b \right\rangle,$$

whence the first equation of (3.1).

Now (ii) is equivalent to  $B_* \cdot B \subseteq B_*$  since  $B_*$  is the set of weak\* continuous linear functionals on  $B$ . Thus, sufficiency follows from that of (i). Finally, if (iii) holds, then for  $f \in \mathcal{B}(G, B)$ ,  $b \in B$ ,  $\mu \in M$ , and  $b^* \in \overline{B_*}^{sw*} \cap \Delta B$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \int f \cdot b \, d\mu, b^* \right\rangle &= \int \langle f \cdot b, b^* \rangle \, d\mu = \int \langle f, b^* \rangle \langle b, b^* \rangle \, d\mu \\ &= \int \langle f, b^* \rangle \, d\mu \cdot \langle b, b^* \rangle = \left\langle \int f \, d\mu, b^* \right\rangle \cdot \langle b, b^* \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \left( \int f \, d\mu \right) \cdot b, b^* \right\rangle, \end{aligned}$$

from which the first equation of (3.1) follows.  $\square$

Let  $\mathcal{B}_0(G, B)$  denote the Baire-measurable functions from  $G$  to  $B$ , where  $B$  is given the weak\* topology. For  $\mu, \nu \in M(G)$ , let  $\mu \times \nu$  denote, besides the usual product measure, also its unique extension to a regular Borel measure in  $M(G \times G)$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{B}_0(G, B)$  and  $\mu, \nu \in M(G)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \int f \, d\mu * \nu &= \int f(xy) \, d\mu \times \nu(x, y) \\ &= \iint f(xy) \, d\mu(x) \, d\nu(y), \end{aligned}$$

as can be seen by applying any  $b_* \in B_*$  [W].

The Šreider representation of  $\text{Hom}(M, B)$ , the continuous homomorphisms from  $M$  to  $B$ , satisfies one property additional to those in Theorem 2.1.

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $G$  be a locally compact semigroup with separately continuous multiplication and  $M$  an  $L$ -subalgebra of  $M(G)$ . Let  $B$  be a Banach algebra with a separable predual and separately weak\* measurable multiplication satisfying (3.1). Let  $\Sigma \in L(M, B)$  and choose  $b_{\cdot, \mu} \in \mathcal{B}_0(G, B)$  ( $\mu \in M$ ) so that  $\Sigma \sim b_{\cdot, \cdot}$ . Then  $\Sigma \in \text{Hom}(M, B)$  iff*

$$(3.2) \quad \forall \mu, \nu \in M^+ \quad b_{xy, \mu * \nu} = b_{x, \mu} \cdot b_{y, \nu} \quad \text{for } \mu \times \nu\text{-a.e. } (x, y).$$

*Proof.* Suppose first that (3.2) is satisfied. Then for  $\mu, \nu \in M$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_{\mu*\nu} &= \int b_{t,|\mu|*|\nu|} d\mu * \nu(t) = \iint b_{xy,|\mu|*|\nu|} d\mu(x) d\nu(y) \\ &= \iint b_{x,|\mu|} \cdot b_{y,|\nu|} d\mu(x) d\nu(y) \\ &= \int \left( \int b_{x,|\mu|} d\mu(x) \right) \cdot b_{y,|\nu|} d\nu(y) \\ &= \int b_{x,|\mu|} d\mu(x) \cdot \int b_{y,|\nu|} d\nu(y) = \Sigma_\mu \cdot \Sigma_\nu.\end{aligned}$$

Conversely, if  $\Sigma \in \text{Hom}(M, B)$ , then given  $\mu, \nu \in M^+$ , we have for all  $\mu' \in L(\mu)$  and  $\nu' \in L(\nu)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\int b_{xy, \mu*\nu} d\mu' \times \nu'(x, y) &= \int b_{t, \mu*\nu} d\mu' * \nu'(t) = \Sigma_{\mu'*\nu'} \\ &= \Sigma_{\mu'} \cdot \Sigma_{\nu'} = \int b_{x, \mu} d\mu'(x) \cdot \int b_{y, \nu} d\nu'(y) \\ &= \iint b_{x, \mu} \cdot b_{y, \nu} d\mu'(x) d\nu'(y) \\ &= \int b_{x, \mu} \cdot b_{y, \nu} d\mu' \times \nu'(x, y).\end{aligned}$$

Since the span of  $L(\mu) \times L(\nu)$  is dense in  $L(\mu \times \nu)$ , (3.2) follows.  $\square$

If multiplication in  $B$  is jointly weak\* continuous (for example, if  $B_* \cap \Delta B$  separates points in  $B$ ), then the unit ball in  $\text{Hom}(M, B)$  is easily shown to be  $W^*$  OT compact. An example where compactness fails is  $\text{Hom}(M(\mathbf{R}), M(\mathbf{R}))$ : define  $T_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) in the unit ball by

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}} f(x) d(T_n)_\mu(x) = \int_{\mathbf{R}} f(nx) d\mu(x) \quad (f \in C_0(\mathbf{R}))$$

and let  $\Sigma: \mu \mapsto \mu(\{0\})\delta(0)$ , where  $\delta(0)$  is the Dirac measure at 0. Then  $T_n \rightarrow \Sigma$  in  $W^*$  OT, but

$$\Sigma \in L(M(\mathbf{R}), M(\mathbf{R})) \setminus \text{Hom}(M(\mathbf{R}), M(\mathbf{R})).$$

We define the following multiplication on  $L(M, B)$ : if  $\Sigma \sim b_{\cdot, \cdot}$  and  $\Pi \sim b_{\cdot, \cdot}$ , then  $\Sigma \cdot \Pi$  is defined by its Šreider representation  $b_{x, \mu} \cdot b'_{x, \mu}$ . When  $B$  is commutative,  $\text{Hom}(M, B)$  is closed under multiplication. It is easily verified that if multiplication in  $B$  is separately weak\* continuous, then multiplication in  $L(M, B)$  is separately  $W^*$  OT continuous.

Suppose that  $M = I \oplus J$ , where  $I$  is a closed ideal and  $J$  is a closed subalgebra. If  $\Pi^1, \Pi^2 \in \text{Hom}(M, B)$  satisfy

$$(3.3) \quad \forall \mu \in I \forall \nu \in J \Pi_{\mu*\nu}^1 = \Pi_\mu^1 \cdot \Pi_\nu^2 \quad \& \quad \Pi_{\nu*\mu}^1 = \Pi_\mu^2 \cdot \Pi_\nu^1,$$

then the “sum”  $\Sigma$  of  $\Pi^1$  and  $\Pi^2$  defined in (2.3) is a homomorphism.

**4. Limit points of group homomorphisms.** If  $H$  is a locally compact group, then convolution is separately weak\* continuous in  $M(H)$ . Indeed, if  $\mu_\alpha, \mu, \nu \in M(H)$  with  $\mu_\alpha \xrightarrow{w^*} \mu$ , then for  $f \in C_0(H)$ , the map  $x \mapsto \int f(xy) d\nu(y)$  lies in  $C_0(H)$ , whence

$$\begin{aligned} \int f d\mu_\alpha * \nu &= \iint f(xy) d\nu(y) d\mu_\alpha(x) \\ &\rightarrow \iint f(xy) d\nu(y) d\mu(x) = \int f d\mu * \nu, \end{aligned}$$

which is to say that  $\mu_\alpha * \nu \xrightarrow{w^*} \mu * \nu$ . A similar argument applies to  $\nu * \mu_\alpha$ . Thus, if  $G$  is a locally compact semigroup with separately continuous multiplication and  $H$  is a locally compact metrizable group, then the preceding section applied to  $\text{Hom}(M, M(H))$  for any  $L$ -subalgebra  $M$  of  $M(G)$ . Every continuous homomorphism  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  yields an element of  $\text{Hom}(M, M(H))$ , which we also denote by  $\varphi$ , defined by  $\langle f, \varphi_\mu \rangle = \langle f \circ \varphi, \mu \rangle$  for  $f \in C_0(H)$ . The Šreider representation of such a  $\varphi$  is particularly simple:  $\varphi \sim \delta(\varphi(x))$  (independent of  $\mu$ ), where  $\delta(t)$  denotes the Dirac measure at  $t$ .

We identify  $\text{Hom}(G, H)$  with a subset of  $\text{Hom}(M(G), M(H))$  in the above manner. Our aim is to study the set

$$\Lambda = \overline{\text{Hom}(G, H)} \setminus \text{Hom}(G, H)$$

and its local structure

$$\Lambda(\mu) = \{\Sigma_\mu : \Sigma \in \Lambda\}, \quad \check{\Lambda}(\mu) = \{\check{\sigma}, \mu : \check{\sigma}, \cdot \in \check{\Lambda}\},$$

where  $\check{\Lambda}$  consists of the Šreider representations of elements of  $\Lambda$ . Since all elements of  $\text{Hom}(G, H)$  are positive and lie in the unit ball, the same holds for  $\Lambda$ . (In fact, every positive homomorphism lies in the unit ball: if  $0 \leq \Sigma \in \text{Hom}(M(G), M(H))$ , then for  $\mu \in M(G)$  and  $n \geq 1$ , we have

$$\|\Sigma_\mu\|^n \leq \|\Sigma_{|\mu}\|^n = \|\Sigma_{|\mu}^n\| = \|\Sigma_{|\mu|^n}\| \leq \|\Sigma\| \cdot \|\mu\|^n = \|\Sigma\| \cdot \|\mu\|^n,$$

whence  $\|\Sigma\| \leq 1$ .)

We are particularly interested in the case where  $G$  is a locally compact abelian group and  $H$  is a circle group,  $\mathbf{T}$ . In this case,

$\text{Hom}(G, \mathbf{T}) = \widehat{G}$ , the dual of  $G$ , and the identification of  $\widehat{G}$  as a subset of  $\text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$  preserves the usual topology of  $\widehat{G}$  (of uniform convergence on compact subsets). Furthermore, as  $\widehat{G}$  lies in the unit ball of  $\text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$ , it follows that  $\widetilde{\widehat{G}} = \widehat{G} \cup \Lambda$  is a compactification of  $\widehat{G}$ .

Recall that a sequence  $\{x_k\}_{k=1}^\infty \subseteq G$  is said to have an *asymptotic distribution*  $\sigma$ , written  $\{x_k\} \sim \sigma$ , if

$$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \delta(x_k) \xrightarrow{w^*} \sigma \quad \text{as } K \rightarrow \infty.$$

For  $n \in \mathbf{Z}$  and  $\Sigma \in \text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$ , define  $\widehat{\Sigma}(n) \in \Delta M(G)$  by  $\langle \mu, \widehat{\Sigma}(n) \rangle = \widehat{\Sigma}_\mu(n)$ . We write the Šreider representation of  $\chi \in \Delta M(G)$  as  $\chi_\mu(x)$ . Thus, if  $\Sigma \sim \sigma$ , and  $\chi = \widehat{\Sigma}(n)$ , then

$$\chi_\mu(x) = \widehat{\sigma}_{x, \mu}(n).$$

Note that for all  $n$ , the map  $\Sigma \mapsto \widehat{\Sigma}(n)$  from  $(\text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T})), W^* \text{OT})$  to  $\Delta M(G)$  (with its usual Gelfand topology) is continuous. We regard the Fourier transform as a restriction of the Gelfand transform; thus, in accordance with the Šreider representation, we have  $\widehat{\mu}(\gamma) = \int \gamma d\mu$  for  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}$ .

**PROPOSITION 4.1.** *Let  $G$  be a locally compact abelian group and  $\Lambda = \widetilde{\widehat{G}} \setminus \widehat{G}$  in  $\text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$ . Then*

(i)  $\Lambda$  is closed topologically and under multiplication by elements of  $\widetilde{\widehat{G}}$ ;

(ii) if  $\sigma_x, \tau_x \in \widetilde{\Lambda}(\mu)$ , then  $\sigma_x * \tau_x \in \widetilde{\Lambda}(\mu)$ ;

(iii)  $\Lambda(\mu) = \{\nu \in M(\mathbf{T}) : \exists \text{ net } \{\gamma_\alpha\} \subseteq \widehat{G} \ (\gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty \ \& \ \forall n \in \mathbf{Z} \ \widehat{\mu}(\gamma_\alpha^n) \rightarrow \widehat{\nu}(n))\}$ ;

(iv)  $\Lambda(\mu) = \{\sigma \in \mathcal{B}(G, M(\mathbf{T}))_\mu : \exists \text{ net } \{\gamma_\alpha\} \subseteq \widehat{G} \ (\gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty \ \& \ \forall n \in \mathbf{Z} \ \gamma_\alpha^n \rightarrow \widehat{\sigma}(n) \text{ weak* in } L^\infty(\mu))\}$ ;

(v) if  $G$  is metrizable, then the nets in (iii) and (iv) can be replaced by sequences and  $\Lambda(\mu) = \{\sigma \in \mathcal{B}(G, M(\mathbf{T}))_\mu : \exists \gamma_j \in \widehat{G} \ (\gamma_j \rightarrow \infty \ \& \ \text{for every subsequence } \gamma_{j_k}, \forall^e x[\mu] \ \{\gamma_{j_k}(x)\}_{k=1}^\infty \sim \sigma_x)\}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\Sigma \in \Lambda$  is the limit of a net  $\{\gamma_\alpha\} \subseteq \widehat{G}$ . Then  $\widehat{\Sigma}(n) = \lim \gamma_\alpha^n$  in  $\Delta M(G)$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Now if  $\gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \gamma \in \widehat{G}$ , then  $\gamma_\alpha^n \rightarrow \gamma^n$ , whence  $\Sigma = \gamma$ . But since  $\Lambda \cap \widehat{G} = \emptyset$ , this is impossible, and so  $\gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  in  $\widehat{G}$ . In particular,  $\widehat{\Sigma}(1)$  is 0 on  $L^1(G)$  [HMP,

p. 136, Proposition 4] and consequently  $\Lambda$  is closed. It is clear that  $\Lambda \cdot \widehat{G} \subseteq \Lambda$ , from which (i) now follows. Statement (ii) ensues as well. Now if  $\nu \in \Lambda(\mu)$ , then let  $\widehat{G} \ni \gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \Sigma \in \Lambda$  be such that  $\nu = \Sigma_\mu$ . Then  $\gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  and  $(\gamma_\alpha)_\mu \xrightarrow{w^*} \Sigma_\mu = \nu$ , which gives the inclusion  $\subseteq$  of (iii). On the other hand, if  $\gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\forall n \ \widehat{\mu}(\gamma_\alpha^n) \rightarrow \widehat{\nu}(n)$ , then by compactness of  $\widehat{G}$ , we can choose a subnet  $\{\gamma'_\beta\}$  of  $\{\gamma_\alpha\}$  converging to some  $\Sigma$ . Since  $\gamma'_\beta \rightarrow \infty$ , it follows that  $\Sigma \in \Lambda$  and  $\nu = \Sigma_\mu \in \Lambda(\mu)$ . This completes the proof of (iii). The proof of (iv) is analogous. Finally, if  $G$  is metrizable, then  $L^1(\mu)$  is separable for  $\mu \in M(G)$  and so  $L(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))_\mu$  is metrizable. Thus, if  $\mu \in M(G)$  and  $\gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \Sigma \sim \sigma, \dots$ , pick any non-zero  $\rho \in L^1(G)$  and a subsequence  $\{\delta(\gamma_{\alpha_j}(\cdot))\}$  converging to  $\sigma_{\cdot, |\mu|+|\rho|}$  in  $L(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))_{|\mu|+|\rho|}$ . Then  $\gamma_{\alpha_j} = \delta(\gamma_{\alpha_j}(\cdot)) \wedge (1) \xrightarrow{w^*} (\widehat{\Sigma}(1))_\rho = 0$  in  $L^\infty(\rho)$ , whence  $\gamma_{\alpha_j} \rightarrow \infty$  in  $\widehat{G}$ , and  $\gamma_{\alpha_j}^n \xrightarrow{w^*} (\widehat{\Sigma}(n))_\mu = \widehat{\sigma}_{\cdot, \mu}(n)$  in  $L^\infty(\mu)$ . This shows the sufficiency of sequences for (iii) and (iv). Furthermore, if  $\forall n \ \gamma_j^n \rightarrow \widehat{\sigma}_{\cdot}(n)$  weak\* in  $L^\infty(\mu)$ , then by [L2, Lemma 5], there is a subsequence  $\{\gamma'_j\}$  of  $\{\gamma_j\}$  such that every further subsequence  $\{\gamma'_{j_k}\}$  satisfies

$$(4.1) \quad \forall^e x[\mu] \ \{\gamma'_{j_k}(x)\}_{k=1}^\infty \sim \sigma_x.$$

Conversely, if  $\{\gamma_j\}$  is a sequence, every subsequence of which satisfies (4.1), then we claim  $\gamma_j^n \rightarrow \widehat{\sigma}_{\cdot}(n)$  weak\* for every  $n$ . If not, then for some  $n$  there would be a subsequence  $\{\gamma'_{j_k}\}$  converging to a different limit  $\chi$ . Then also

$$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma'_{j_k} \xrightarrow{w^*} \chi$$

and by (4.1),

$$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma'_{j_k} \xrightarrow{w^*} \widehat{\sigma}_{\cdot}(n).$$

Therefore  $\chi = \widehat{\sigma}_{\cdot}(n)$ , a contradiction. Thus (v) follows from (iv).  $\square$

When  $\widehat{G}$  is regarded as a subset of  $\Delta M(G)$ , we shall use the notation  $\Gamma$  rather than  $\widehat{G}$  to avoid confusion. Let  $T_n \in \text{Hom}(G, G)$  denote the map  $x \mapsto x^n$  ( $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ ), as well as the corresponding map induced in  $\text{Hom}(M(G), M(G))$ . Thus, for  $\Sigma \in \text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$ , we obtain  $\Sigma \circ T_n \in \text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$ ; note that if  $\Sigma = \gamma \in \widehat{G}$ , then  $\gamma \circ T_n = \gamma^n$ .

**PROPOSITION 4.2.** *Let  $G$  be a LCA group and*

$$\Sigma \in \text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T})).$$

*Then  $\Sigma \in \widehat{G}$  iff  $\widehat{\Sigma}(1) \in \overline{\Gamma}$  and  $\forall n \in \mathbf{Z}$   $\widehat{\Sigma}(n) = \widehat{\Sigma}(1) \circ T_n$ . The map  $\Sigma \mapsto \widehat{\Sigma}(1)$  is an isomorphism from  $\widehat{G}$  onto  $\overline{\Gamma}$  sending  $\widehat{G}$  to  $\Gamma$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\Sigma \in \widehat{G}$ , let  $\widehat{G} \ni \gamma_\alpha \xrightarrow{W^*OT} \Sigma$ . Since  $\hat{\gamma}_\alpha(n) = \gamma_\alpha^n$ , we have  $\gamma_\alpha^n \rightarrow \widehat{\Sigma}(n)$  for all  $n$ . In particular,  $\widehat{\Sigma}(1) \in \overline{\Gamma}$ . Also,  $\widehat{\Sigma}(n) = \lim \gamma_\alpha^n = \lim \gamma_\alpha \circ T_n = (\lim \gamma_\alpha) \circ T_n = \widehat{\Sigma}(1) \circ T_n$ . Conversely, if  $\widehat{\Sigma}(1) \in \overline{\Gamma}$  and  $\forall n$   $\widehat{\Sigma}(n) = \widehat{\Sigma}(1) \circ T_n$ , then let  $\gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \widehat{\Sigma}(1)$ . Choose a convergent subnet  $\gamma'_\beta \rightarrow \Pi$  in  $\text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$ . Then from the above,  $\widehat{\Pi}(n) = \widehat{\Pi}(1) \circ T_n = \widehat{\Sigma}(1) \circ T_n = \widehat{\Sigma}(n)$  for all  $n$ , whence  $\Sigma = \Pi \in \widehat{G}$ .

It follows from this that the map  $\Sigma \mapsto \widehat{\Sigma}(1)$  is injective. Surjectivity onto  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is proved by a compactness argument similar to the above.  $\square$

We write  $M(G) = M_c(G) \oplus M_d(G)$  for the decomposition of a measure into its continuous and discrete parts. Then  $h_d: \mu \mapsto \int_G d\mu_d = \hat{\mu}_d(0)$  is in  $\overline{\Gamma} \setminus \Gamma$  [HMP, pp. 136–7, (4.1.4)]. We denote the element of  $\Lambda$  corresponding to  $h_d$  by  $\Pi^d$ . If  $G$  has at most countably many torsion elements, then we claim that

$$\widehat{\Pi}^d(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 0, \\ h_d & \text{if } n \neq 0, \end{cases}$$

whence

$$\Pi_\mu^d = \hat{\mu}_c(0)\lambda + \hat{\mu}_d(0)\delta(0),$$

where  $\lambda$  is Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbf{T}$ . To see this, note first that

$$\widehat{\Pi}^d(0): \mu \mapsto (\mu \circ T_0^{-1}) \wedge (0) = \hat{\mu}(0).$$

Second, if  $n \neq 0$ , then for all  $g \in G$ , there are, by the supposition, denumerably many  $x \in G$  such that  $x^n = g$ . Therefore

$$(\mu \circ T_n^{-1})(\{g\}) = \sum_{x^n=g} \mu(\{x\}),$$

whence

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\Pi}^d(n): \mu &\mapsto \sum_{g \in G} (\mu \circ T_n^{-1})(\{g\}) \\ &= \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{x^n=g} \mu(\{x\}) = \sum_{x \in G} \mu(\{x\}) = \hat{\mu}_d(0). \end{aligned}$$

This proves the claim.

Related elements of  $\Lambda$  are  $\Sigma \cdot \Pi^d$  for  $\Sigma \in \widetilde{\widehat{G}}$ ; if, as above, the torsion subgroup of  $G$  is denumerable, then

$$(\Sigma \cdot \Pi^d)_\mu = \hat{\mu}_c(0)\lambda + \Sigma_{\mu_d}.$$

Thus, if we set  $\Pi: \mu \mapsto \hat{\mu}(0)\lambda$ , then  $\Sigma \cdot \Pi^d$  is the sum of  $\Pi$  and  $\Sigma$  defined by (2.3) and (3.3) from the decomposition  $M = M_c \oplus M_d$ . An interesting example is  $G = \mathbf{T}$  and  $\Sigma: \mu \mapsto \mu$ ; in this case,  $(\Sigma \cdot \Pi^d)_\mu = \hat{\mu}_c(0)\lambda + \mu_d$ .

Provided still that  $G$  has a denumerable torsion subgroup, the Šreider representation  $\pi_{x,\mu}^d$  of  $\Pi^d$  is given by

$$(4.2) \quad \pi_{x,\mu}^d = \begin{cases} \lambda & \text{if } \mu(\{x\}) = 0, \\ \delta(0) & \text{if } \mu(\{x\}) \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\lambda \in \mathcal{B}(G, M(\mathbf{T}))_\mu$  be defined by  $\lambda(x) \equiv \lambda$ . Then from [HMP, p. 70, Corollaire 2] and Proposition 4.2 (or from (4.2) and the following proposition),

$$(4.3) \quad \mu \in M_c(G) \Leftrightarrow \lambda \in \widetilde{\Lambda}(\mu).$$

This yields other characterizations of  $M_c(G)$  when combined with Proposition 4.1 (iv), (v). For example,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu \in M_c(G) &\Leftrightarrow \exists \gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty \forall \nu \in L(\mu) \forall n \neq 0 \hat{\nu}(\gamma_\alpha^n) \rightarrow 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \exists \gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty \forall \gamma \in \widehat{G} \forall n \neq 0 \hat{\mu}(\gamma \gamma_\alpha^n) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Our next proposition describes  $\widetilde{\Lambda}(\mu)$  completely when  $\mu$  is discrete (cf. [HMP, pp. 67–68]).

**PROPOSITION 4.3.** *Let  $G$  be a LCA group. Let  $\widetilde{\widehat{G}}$  denote the Šreider representations of  $\widehat{\widehat{G}} \subseteq \text{Hom}(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$  and, for  $\mu \in M(G)$ ,  $\widetilde{\widehat{G}}(\mu) = \{\sigma_{\cdot,\mu} : \sigma_{\cdot,\cdot} \in \widetilde{\widehat{G}}\}$ . Let  $G_d$  denote  $G$  with the discrete topology and, for  $\mu \in M_d(G)$ , let  $G_d^\mu$  denote the discrete subgroup generated by the mass-points of  $\mu$ .*

(i)  $\forall \Sigma \in \widetilde{\widehat{G}} \exists \varphi \in \widehat{G}_d \forall \mu \in M_d(G) \Sigma_\mu = \sum_{x \in G} \mu(\{x\})\delta(\varphi(x))$  and  $\sigma_{x,\mu} = \delta(\varphi(x))$ , where  $\Sigma \sim \sigma_{\cdot,\cdot}$ .

(ii)  $\forall \mu \in M_d(G) \widetilde{\widehat{G}}(\mu) \simeq \widehat{G}_d^\mu$ .

(iii)  $\mu \in M_d(G) \Leftrightarrow \widetilde{\widehat{G}}(\mu)$  is a group (under the multiplication in  $L(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))$ ).

*Proof.* (i) Let  $\widehat{G} \ni \gamma_\alpha \xrightarrow{W^* \text{OT}} \Sigma$ . Then for  $x \in G$ ,

$$\delta(\gamma_\alpha(\cdot)) \rightarrow \sigma_{\cdot, \delta(x)} \in L(M(G), M(\mathbf{T}))_{\delta(x)},$$

i.e.,  $\delta(\gamma_\alpha(x)) = \sigma_{x, \delta(x)}$  eventually. Thus,  $\gamma_\alpha(x)$  stabilizes at some point  $\varphi(x)$  and  $\sigma_{x, \delta(x)} = \delta(\varphi(x))$ . The assertions now follow from linearity and properties of the Šreider representation.

(ii) The fact that  $\widehat{\overline{G}}(\mu)$  can be identified as a compact subgroup of  $\widehat{G}_d^\mu$  follows from (i). If it were not the whole group, then there would be a nonzero  $x \in G_d^\mu$  such that  $\varphi(x) = 1$  for all  $\varphi \in \widehat{\overline{G}}(\mu)$ . In particular,  $\gamma(x) = 1$  for all  $\gamma \in \widehat{G}$ , whence  $x = 0$ , a contradiction.

(iii) This follows from [HMP, p. 68, Proposition 10] and (ii).  $\square$

We now arrive at the characterization of positive continuous measures mentioned in the introduction.

**THEOREM 4.4.** *Let  $G$  be a LCA group whose torsion subgroup is denumerable and let  $\mu \in M^+(G)$  be positive. Then  $\mu \in M_c^+(G)$  iff there is a net  $\widehat{G} \ni \gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  such that for all  $n \neq 0$ ,  $\hat{\mu}(\gamma_\alpha^n) \rightarrow 0$ .*

*Proof.* By Proposition 4.1 (iii), this is equivalent to  $\mu \in M_c^+(G) \Leftrightarrow \hat{\mu}(0)\lambda \in \Lambda(\mu)$ . For  $\mu \in M_c^+(G)$ , this follows from  $\lambda \in \Lambda(\mu)$  (see (4.3)). If  $\mu \notin M_c^+(G)$  and  $\Sigma \in \Lambda$ , then  $\Sigma_\mu = \Sigma_{\mu_c} + \Sigma_{\mu_d} \geq \Sigma_{\mu_d}$  since  $\mu_c \geq 0$  and  $\Sigma \geq 0$ . However, by Proposition 4.3(i),  $\Sigma_{\mu_d}$  is nonzero and discrete; hence  $\Sigma_\mu$  cannot equal  $\hat{\mu}(0)\lambda$ .  $\square$

Because of the interest this theorem may present, we provide the following “elementary” proof and strengthening for the case  $G = \mathbf{T}$ . If  $\mu \in M_c(\mathbf{T})$ , then by Wiener’s theorem [K, p. 42], there is a sequence  $\{m_k^{(1)}\}$  of density one in  $\mathbf{N}$  such that  $\hat{\mu}(m_k^{(1)}) \rightarrow 0$ . Likewise, there is a sequence  $\{m_k^{(n)}\}$  of density one such that  $\hat{\mu}(nm_k^{(n)}) = (\widehat{T_n})_\mu(m_k^{(n)}) \rightarrow 0$  since  $(T_n)_\mu \in M_c$ , for  $n \neq 0$ . By an elementary intersection argument, we obtain a sequence  $\{m_k\}$ , still of density one, such that for all  $n \neq 0$ ,  $\hat{\mu}(nm_k) \rightarrow 0$ . (A similar argument produces a sequence  $\{m_k\}$  of density one such that for  $n \neq 0$  and all  $r$ ,  $\hat{\mu}(r + nm_k) \rightarrow 0$ , i.e.,  $\delta(m_k x) \rightarrow \lambda$  in  $L(M(\mathbf{T}), M(\mathbf{T}))_\mu$ , thereby strengthening (4.3).) For the converse, we use the following proof due to Jean-François Méla. Let  $K_l(x)$  be the Fejér kernel of order  $l$ . Then if  $\mu \geq 0$  and if for

all  $n \neq 0$ ,  $\hat{\mu}(nm_k) \rightarrow 0$ , then

$$\mu(\{0\}) \leq \int_{\mathbf{T}} \frac{1}{2l+1} K_l(m_k x) d\mu(x) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2l+1} \hat{\mu}(0) \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty$$

by hypothesis. Since this is true for all  $l$ , it follows that  $\mu(\{0\}) = 0$ . Now apply this result to  $\mu * \tilde{\mu}$ , where  $\tilde{\mu}(E) = \mu(-E)$ .

The local structure of  $\Lambda$  can be used to characterize other classes of measures besides  $M_c$  and  $M_d$ . If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a class of subsets of  $G$ , let

$$\mathcal{E}^\perp = \{\mu \in M(G) : \forall E \in \mathcal{E} \ |\mu|(E) = 0\}.$$

Thus, if  $\mathcal{S}$  is the class of singletons,  $\mathcal{S}^\perp = M_c(G)$ .

**DEFINITION.** A set  $E \subseteq G$  is called an *H-set* if there is a sequence  $\hat{G} \ni \gamma_k \rightarrow \infty$  such that  $\{\gamma_k(x) : k \geq 1, x \in E\}$  is not dense in  $\mathbf{T}$ . A set  $E \subseteq G$  is called a *Dirichlet set* if there is a sequence  $\hat{G} \ni \gamma_k \rightarrow \infty$  such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{x \in E} |\gamma_k(x) - 1| = 0$ . A measure  $\mu \in M(G)$  is called a *Dirichlet measure* if  $\overline{\lim}_{\gamma \rightarrow \infty} |\widehat{|\mu|}(\gamma)| = \|\mu\|$ .

For background on *H-sets*, see [Z, Chapters IX, XII]; on Dirichlet sets and measures, see [HMP, pp. 34–35, 240–247]. The following proposition is used in [KL].

**PROPOSITION 4.5.** *Let  $G$  be a LCA group.*

(i) *If  $G$  is metrizable, then*

$$\begin{aligned} H^\perp &= \{\mu : \forall \sigma. \in \widetilde{\Lambda}(\mu) \ \forall^e x[\mu] \ \text{supp } \sigma_x = \mathbf{T}\} \\ &= \{\mu : \forall \Sigma \in \Lambda \ \forall \nu \in L(\mu) \ \text{supp } \Sigma_\nu = \mathbf{T}\}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii)  *$\mu$  is a Dirichlet measure iff the constant function  $\delta(\mathbf{0}) \in \Lambda(\mu)$ .*

(iii)  *$D^\perp = \{\mu : \forall \sigma. \in \widetilde{\Lambda}(\mu) \ \forall^e x[\mu] \ \sigma_x \neq \delta(0)\}$*

*Proof.* Part (i) follows from Proposition 4.1(v) and a straightforward generalization of [L4, Theorem 13]. Part (ii) follows from Proposition 4.2 and the fact that  $\mu$  is a Dirichlet measure iff the constant function  $\mathbf{1} \in (\overline{\Gamma \setminus \Gamma})(\mu)$  [HMP, p. 34, Lemma 6]. Part (iii) follows from part (ii) and the fact that  $D^\perp$  consists of the measures orthogonal to the Dirichlet measures [HMP, p. 243, Proposition 9].  $\square$

Our final remarks concern the circle group.

**DEFINITION.** A positive measure  $\mu \in M^+(\mathbf{T})$  is called *C-quasi-symmetric* if for all pairs of adjacent arcs,  $I$  and  $J$ , on  $\mathbf{T}$  of equal

length,  $\mu I \leq C \cdot \mu J$ . We denote the class of  $C$ -quasisymmetric measures by  $QS(C)$ .

Note that quasisymmetric measures are continuous.

**PROPOSITION 4.6.** *The class  $QS(C)$  is weak\* closed. If  $\mu \in QS(C)$ , then  $\Lambda(\mu) \subseteq QS(C)$ ,  $\Lambda(\mu) \subseteq QS(C)$  in the sense that if  $\sigma \in \Lambda(\mu)$ , then  $\forall^\varepsilon x[\mu] \sigma_x \in QS(C)$ , and  $\Lambda(\nu) \subseteq QS(C)$  for all  $0 \leq \nu \in L(\mu)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $QS(C) \ni \mu_\alpha \xrightarrow{w^*} \nu$ . Given adjacent arcs  $I, J$  of equal length and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , pick  $f, g \in C(\mathbb{T})$  such that  $f \leq \mathbf{1}_I, \mathbf{1}_J \leq g$ ,  $\int (\mathbf{1}_I - f) d\nu \leq \varepsilon$ , and  $\int (g - \mathbf{1}_J) d\nu \leq \varepsilon$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \nu I &\leq \int f d\nu + \varepsilon = \lim \int f d\mu_\alpha + \varepsilon \leq \overline{\lim} \mu_\alpha I + \varepsilon \\ &\leq C \cdot \overline{\lim} \mu_\alpha J + \varepsilon \leq C \cdot \lim \int g d\mu_\alpha + \varepsilon = C \int g d\nu + \varepsilon \\ &\leq C \cdot \nu J + (C + 1)\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  was arbitrary, we see that  $\nu I \leq C \cdot \nu J$ , whence  $\nu \in QS(C)$ .

Choose  $\mu \in QS(C)$ . Then  $\gamma_\mu \in QS(C)$  for any  $\gamma \in \widehat{\mathbb{T}}$ . Since  $\Lambda(\mu)$  is contained in the weak\* closure of  $\{\gamma_\mu\}_{\gamma \in \widehat{\mathbb{T}}}$ , it follows that  $\Lambda(\mu) \subseteq QS(C)$ . Suppose that  $E \subseteq \mathbb{T}$  and  $\mu E > 0$ . If  $I$  and  $J$  are adjacent arcs of equal length and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , then choose  $U$ , a finite union of arcs, such that  $\mu(U \Delta E) \leq \varepsilon$ . By continuity of  $\mu$ , we have for all large  $\gamma$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(E \cap \gamma^{-1}[I]) &\leq \mu(U \cap \gamma^{-1}[I]) + \varepsilon \leq C \cdot \mu(U \cap \gamma^{-1}[J]) + 2\varepsilon \\ &\leq C \cdot \mu(E \cap \gamma^{-1}[J]) + (C + 2)\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  was arbitrary, it follows that  $\Lambda(\mu|_E) \subseteq QS(C)$ . As  $QS(C)$  is a positive cone, we deduce that  $\Lambda(\nu) \subseteq QS(C)$  for  $0 \leq \nu \in L(\mu)$ .

Finally, let  $\sigma \in \Lambda(\mu)$ . Let  $P$  be the essential range of  $\sigma$ , i.e., the smallest weak\* closed set  $P$  such that  $\sigma_x \in P$   $\mu$ -a.e. Then  $P$  is contained in the weak\* closure of  $\{\int \sigma_x d\nu(x) : 0 \leq \nu \in L(\mu), \|\nu\| = 1\} = \bigcup \{\Lambda(\nu) : 0 \leq \nu \in L(\mu), \|\nu\| = 1\}$ , which, by the above, is contained in  $QS(C)$ .  $\square$

As an example of the pathology possible for  $\Lambda(\mu)$ , we present the following observation.

**PROPOSITION 4.7.** *There is a measure  $\mu \in M(\mathbb{T})$  such that for any probability measure  $\nu \in M(\mathbb{T})$ , there exists  $\sigma \in \Lambda(\mu)$  such that  $\sigma_x = \nu$   $\mu$ -a.e.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{P_k\}_{k \geq 1}$  be a set of trigonometric polynomials such that  $\{P_k \cdot \lambda\}$  is weak\* dense in the set of probability measures. Let  $\{n_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  satisfy  $n_{k+1} \geq 3n_k \cdot \deg P_k$ . Form the generalized Riesz product [HMP, Chapitre 5]  $\mu = \prod_{k \geq 1} P_k(n_k x)$ . Then given a probability  $\nu$ , let  $P_{k_l} \lambda \xrightarrow{w^*} \nu$ . For any  $r, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , it is easy to see that  $\hat{\mu}(r + mn_{k_l}) \rightarrow \hat{\mu}(r)\hat{\nu}(m)$ , i.e.,  $\delta(n_{k_l} x) \rightarrow \nu$  in  $L(M(\mathbb{T}), M(\mathbb{T}))_\mu$ .  $\square$

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