

QUANTUM SEMIGROUP COMPACTIFICATIONS AND UNIFORM CONTINUITY ON LOCALLY COMPACT QUANTUM GROUPS

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ABSTRACT. We introduce quantum semigroup compactifications and study the universal quantum semigroup compactification of a coamenable locally compact quantum group. If G is a classical locally compact group, the universal semigroup compactification corresponds to the C^* -algebra of the bounded left uniformly continuous functions on G , so we study the analogous C^* -algebra associated with a locally compact quantum group.

1. Introduction

In topology, a compactification of a locally compact space X is a compact space that includes a dense homeomorphic copy of X . If we replace X by a locally compact group G , then we naturally expect that the group structure on G is somehow represented in the compactification. As the classical Bohr compactification shows, if we want that a compactification is also a topological group, we cannot require that the compactification includes a topologically isomorphic copy of G , that is, we have to loosen the topological requirements of compactification. On the other hand, the multiplication of G can be extended to a compact space in such a way that G keeps both its topological and algebraic structure. However, the compact space itself is not a group anymore—just a semigroup. Such an object is called a semigroup compactification; we define them properly in Section 3, but, for a thorough treatment of the theory, the reader is referred to [5].

The aim of this paper is to define the notion of semigroup compactification for locally compact quantum groups and give a description of the universal quantum semigroup compactification. The latter object corresponds, in the

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case of a classical locally compact group G , to the C^* -algebra $LUC(G)$ of the bounded left uniformly continuous functions. So our attempt is to define the C^* -algebra $LUC(\mathbb{G})$ of the left uniformly continuous functions, so to speak, for a locally compact quantum group \mathbb{G} . The definition is based on the work of Ng [23]. On the dual side, Granirer [11] has defined the so-called bounded uniformly continuous functionals, which form a C^* -subalgebra $UCB(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$ of the group von Neumann algebra $VN(G)$. We shall show that if \mathbb{G} is the dual \widehat{G} of an amenable locally compact group G , then $LUC(\mathbb{G})$ agrees with $UCB(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$. More generally, we shall compare $LUC(\mathbb{G})$ with the space $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$, which is defined through the standard action of $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ on its dual $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$. Along the way, we develop some basic results about the completely contractive Banach algebra $LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$. For example, it includes an isomorphic copy of $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$, the dual of the reduced C^* -algebra associated with the locally compact quantum group \mathbb{G} . The definition of the quantum semigroup compactification encompasses the quantum Bohr compactification defined recently by Sołtan [28].

Using a different approach, also Runde [27] has studied uniform continuity on locally compact quantum groups (which I found out after this work was completed). Theorem 5.3 of the present paper should be compared with Theorem 5.2 of [27]: in both results the spaces $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$ and $LUC(\mathbb{G})$ are compared, but the conditions put on \mathbb{G} are very different. (It should be noted that the space which we denote by $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$ is denoted by $LUC(\mathbb{G})$ in [27].)

2. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, \mathbb{G} denotes a locally compact quantum group in the sense of Kustermans and Vaes [16]. That is to say that \mathbb{G} consists of a von Neumann algebra $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ with the following additional structure. There is a unital normal $*$ -homomorphism $\Gamma : L^\infty(\mathbb{G}) \rightarrow L^\infty(\mathbb{G}) \overline{\otimes} L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ that is *coassociative* in the sense that

$$(\Gamma \otimes \text{id})\Gamma = (\text{id} \otimes \Gamma)\Gamma$$

(here, as elsewhere, $\overline{\otimes}$ denotes the von Neumann algebra tensor product and id denotes the identity map). The map Γ is called the *comultiplication* of \mathbb{G} . We require also that there exist a left and a right Haar weight, ϕ and ψ , on $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$. The reader is referred to [31, 16] for details.

Every locally compact group G induces, of course, a locally compact quantum group. It consists of the usual $L^\infty(G)$, the comultiplication

$$\Gamma(f)(g_1, g_2) = f(g_1 g_2) \quad (f \in L^\infty(G), g_1, g_2 \in G),$$

and the left and the right Haar measures on G . We say that such a locally compact quantum group is a *classical group*. The *dual of a classical group* is

formed by the von Neumann algebra $VN(G)$ generated by the the left regular representation λ of G , the comultiplication

$$\Gamma(\lambda(g)) = \lambda(g) \otimes \lambda(g) \quad (g \in G),$$

and the Plancherel weight [30, Section VII.3], which acts as both the left and the right Haar weight.

Let $L^2(\mathbb{G})$ be the Hilbert space that is obtained by applying the GNS-construction to the pair $(L^\infty(\mathbb{G}), \phi)$. This Hilbert space is isomorphic with the one coming from $(L^\infty(\mathbb{G}), \psi)$, and we make no distinction between the two. We identify $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ with its isomorphic image in $B(L^2(\mathbb{G}))$, the bounded operators on $L^2(\mathbb{G})$. There is a unitary operator V on the Hilbert space tensor product $L^2(\mathbb{G}) \otimes L^2(\mathbb{G})$ such that V satisfies the *pentagonal relation*

$$(2.1) \quad V_{12}V_{13}V_{23} = V_{23}V_{12}$$

(where we use the standard leg numbering notation: for example V_{13} is V acting on the first and the third component of $L^2(\mathbb{G}) \otimes L^2(\mathbb{G}) \otimes L^2(\mathbb{G})$) and determines the comultiplication via

$$\Gamma(x) = V(x \otimes 1)V^* \quad (x \in L^\infty(\mathbb{G})).$$

The norm closure of

$$\{(\omega \otimes \text{id})V; \omega \in B(L^2(\mathbb{G}))_*\}$$

is a C^* -algebra, which we denote by $C_0(\mathbb{G})$. The C^* -algebra $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ is the reduced C^* -algebraic version of the locally compact quantum group \mathbb{G} introduced in [15]. The weak* closure of $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ is $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ and the comultiplication Γ maps $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ to $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G}))$ —the multiplier algebra of the spatial C^* -algebra tensor product $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})$. In general, we denote the multiplier algebra of a C^* -algebra A by $M(A)$, but in the special case of $A = C_0(\mathbb{G})$ we shall write $C_b(\mathbb{G})$ for $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}))$. If $\mathbb{G} = G$ is a classical group, then, of course, $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ is the C^* -algebra $C_0(G)$ of the continuous functions on G vanishing at infinity, and $C_b(\mathbb{G})$ is the C^* -algebra $C_b(G)$ of the bounded continuous functions on G .

Next we consider the extension of functions to multiplier algebras. Let A and B be C^* -algebras. A $*$ -homomorphism $\phi : A \rightarrow M(B)$ is said to be *nondegenerate* if the linear span of $\phi(A)B$ is dense in B (note that if A has a unit, then ϕ is nondegenerate if and only if it is unital). If ϕ is nondegenerate, it can be extended uniquely to a function $\phi : M(A) \rightarrow M(B)$ that is strictly continuous on bounded sets. Recall that the strict topology on $M(A)$ is induced by the seminorms $x \mapsto \|ax\| + \|xa\|$ where a runs through the elements of A . Also bounded linear functionals and their slices (such as $\mu \otimes \text{id}$ where $\mu \in A^*$) admit unique extensions that are strictly continuous on bounded sets. We shall often use these extensions without explicit mention. See [14, Section 7], [22, Appendix A], or [17, Chapter 2] for further details on these matters.

The dual $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$ is a completely contractive Banach algebra with respect to the multiplication

$$\mu * \nu = (\mu \otimes \nu)\Gamma \quad (\mu, \nu \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^*),$$

where $\mu \otimes \nu \in M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G}))^*$. We denote the predual of $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ by $L^1(\mathbb{G})$, which is a closed ideal in $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$.

The action of $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ on its dual, defined by

$$\langle \mu \cdot a, b \rangle = \langle \mu, ab \rangle \quad (\mu \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^*, a, b \in C_0(\mathbb{G})),$$

can be restricted to $L^1(\mathbb{G})$. We see that every f in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ admits a decomposition $f = g \cdot a$ with g in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ and a in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ (by Cohen’s factorization theorem [6, Theorem I.11.10]). By taking weak* limits, it follows that

$$\langle f, x \rangle = \langle g, ax \rangle \quad (x \in L^\infty(\mathbb{G})),$$

which implies that f is strictly continuous when restricted to $C_b(\mathbb{G})$. Similarly, the weak*-continuous slice map $f \otimes \text{id} : L^\infty(\mathbb{G}) \overline{\otimes} L^\infty(\mathbb{G}) \rightarrow L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ is strictly continuous on $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})) \subseteq L^\infty(\mathbb{G}) \overline{\otimes} L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$.

We shall use some language from operator space theory; the reader is referred to [8, 24] for details on operator spaces.

The spatial tensor product of C*-algebras, or operator spaces, is denoted just by \otimes . Also the Hilbert space tensor product is denoted with the same symbol, but that should not lead to any confusion. The von Neumann algebra tensor product is denoted by $\overline{\otimes}$.

3. Quantum semigroup compactifications

Let G be a locally compact group. A *semigroup compactification* of G is a pair (S, ϕ) such that:

- S is a semigroup and is equipped with a compact topology,
- $\phi : G \rightarrow S$ is a continuous homomorphism,
- $\phi(G)$ is dense in S ,
- the maps $s \mapsto st$ and $s \mapsto \phi(g)s$ are continuous on S for every fixed t in S and g in G .

There is a one-to-one correspondence between the semigroup compactifications of G and the so-called m-admissible C*-subalgebras of $C_b(G)$ [5, Theorem 3.1.7]. The C*-algebra corresponding to (S, ϕ) is just $\phi^*(C_b(S))$, where ϕ^* is the dual map $f \mapsto f \circ \phi$ from $C_b(S)$ to $C_b(G)$. A C*-subalgebra of $C_b(G)$ is m-admissible if it is unital, left translation invariant, and left m-introverted. Our approach is to define suitable notions of invariance and introversion for C*-subalgebras of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$. A starting point is to define a coaction of a locally compact quantum group on a C*-algebra.

It follows from the Ellis–Lawson joint continuity theorem [5, Theorem 1.4.2] that if (S, ϕ) is a semigroup compactification of G , then the function

$$(g, s) \mapsto \phi(g)s : G \times S \rightarrow S$$

is jointly continuous (this result depends on two things: that G is a group and that G is locally compact). In other words, G acts continuously on its compactification S .

Following [23], we define a *coaction* of a locally compact quantum group \mathbb{G} on an operator space X as a completely bounded map $\alpha : X \rightarrow M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X)$ such that $(\Gamma \otimes \text{id})\alpha = (\text{id} \otimes \alpha)\alpha$. There are only two special cases in which we need this concept. In the first case, X is a unital C^* -algebra, $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X)$ is the usual multiplier algebra, and α is a unital $*$ -homomorphism. In the second case, X is a closed subspace of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$,

$$(3.1) \quad M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X) = \{u \in M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})); \\ (a \otimes 1)u, u(a \otimes 1) \in C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X \ \forall a \in C_0(\mathbb{G})\},$$

and α is the restriction of the comultiplication Γ to X . So $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X$ is viewed as a $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ -bimodule and $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X)$ is defined with respect to the module actions. The slice maps of bounded functionals have unique extensions to $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X)$ that are strictly continuous with respect to the module actions of $C_0(\mathbb{G})$; this can be verified similarly as with the usual multiplier algebras. The reader is referred to [23, Section 1] for a proper treatment of coactions in a general setting.

We say that a closed subspace $X \subseteq C_b(\mathbb{G})$ is *left invariant* if the comultiplication Γ on $C_b(\mathbb{G})$ defines a coaction on X , that is, if $\Gamma(x) \in M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X)$ for every x in X . If $\mathbb{G} = G$ is a classical locally compact group, then $M(C_0(G) \otimes X) = C_b(G, X)$, and X is left invariant if and only if X is left translation invariant and consists of left uniformly continuous functions. That X consists of left uniformly continuous functions in the classical case is not a real restriction for us because the left uniformly continuous functions form the maximal left-introverted subspace of $C_b(G)$.

A left-invariant subspace $X \subseteq C_b(\mathbb{G})$ is said to be *left introverted* if

$$\nu x := (\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma(x)$$

is in X for every x in X and ν in X^* . Note that νx is well defined because X is left invariant and $\text{id} \otimes \nu : M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X) \rightarrow C_b(\mathbb{G})$. In the classical case $((\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma(x))(g) = \langle \nu, \ell_g x \rangle$, where ℓ_g denotes the left translation by g in G , so this definition really does agree with the classical definition of left introversion, which goes back to Day [7].

If X is a left-introverted subspace of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$, then X^* is a Banach algebra with respect to the multiplication defined by

$$\langle \mu\nu, x \rangle = \langle \mu, \nu x \rangle = \langle \mu, (\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma(x) \rangle \quad (\mu, \nu \in X^*, x \in X).$$

It is not difficult to show that the multiplication on X^* is actually completely contractive when X^* is equipped with the dual operator space structure. It is important to note that $\mu\nu$ defined above is *not* $(\mu \otimes \nu)\Gamma$ but rather $\mu(\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma$.

Every right translation $\mu \mapsto \mu\nu$ is weak*-continuous on X^* , but the same is not necessarily true for the left translations.

Finally, we define a *quantum semigroup compactification* of \mathbb{G} to be a left-invariant, left-introverted, unital C^* -subalgebra of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$. This definition is slightly stronger than in the classical case: “left m-introverted” has changed to “left introverted”. A left translation invariant subspace X of $C_b(G)$ is said to be left m-introverted if $\mu x \in X$ for every x in X and for every multiplicative mean μ on X . This is enough to give a semigroup structure to the spectrum of X , which is exactly the set of all multiplicative means on X , but is too restrictive in the noncommutative case. It should be mentioned that, for example, distal functions on the integers form a left-m-introverted C^* -algebra that is not left introverted [5, Exercise 4.6.15].

The quantum Bohr compactification defined by Sołtan [28] is an example of a quantum semigroup compactification. The quantum Bohr compactification $\text{AP}(\mathbb{G})$ is the norm closure in $C_b(\mathbb{G})$ of the matrix elements of admissible finite-dimensional representations of \mathbb{G} . The comultiplication of \mathbb{G} maps the unital C^* -algebra $\text{AP}(\mathbb{G})$ to $\text{AP}(\mathbb{G}) \otimes \text{AP}(\mathbb{G})$, and $\text{AP}(\mathbb{G})$ is a compact quantum group. It is immediate that $\text{AP}(\mathbb{G})$ is left invariant and left introverted, and so a quantum semigroup compactification of \mathbb{G} in our sense. As another example, we shall study the universal quantum semigroup compactification in the next section.

It is also possible to give a seemingly more general definition of a quantum semigroup compactification. Start with a coaction α of \mathbb{G} on a unital C^* -algebra X such that α is a unital $*$ -homomorphism. Define a *compactification map* θ from \mathbb{G} to X to be a unital $*$ -isomorphism $\theta : X \rightarrow C_b(\mathbb{G})$ such that

$$(3.2) \quad \Gamma\theta = (\text{id} \otimes \theta)\alpha$$

and

$$(3.3) \quad (\text{id} \otimes \nu)\alpha(x) \in \theta(X) \quad (x \in X, \nu \in X^*)$$

(since θ is unital, $\text{id} \otimes \theta$ is nondegenerate and can be extended to a map $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X) \rightarrow M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G}))$). Then the triple (X, α, θ) is an *abstract quantum semigroup compactification* of \mathbb{G} . Compared with the definition of a semigroup compactification (S, ϕ) of a classical group G , the C^* -algebra X corresponds to $C_b(S)$ and the map θ to ϕ^* . Condition (3.3) gives X^* a semigroup structure, and in the classical case it does so to the spectrum S of $C_b(S)$. Condition (3.2) corresponds to ϕ being a homomorphism. It might seem unnecessary to require that θ is a $*$ -isomorphism—and not a mere $*$ -homomorphism—but this property corresponds precisely with the requirement that $\phi(G)$ is dense in S . All in all, this abstract definition does not properly generalize the situation because the compactification map θ carries all the structure between X and $\theta(X) \subseteq C_b(\mathbb{G})$.

4. Left uniformly continuous elements

Let G be a locally compact group. A function x in $C_b(G)$ is *left uniformly continuous* if the map $g \mapsto \ell_g x : G \rightarrow C_b(G)$, where ℓ_g denotes the left translation by g , is norm-continuous. Noting that $M(C_0(G) \otimes C_b(G)) = C_b(G, C_b(G))$ and $\Gamma(x)(g) = \ell_g x$ for every g in G , it is natural to define that, for a locally compact quantum group \mathbb{G} ,

$$\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G}) = \{x \in C_b(\mathbb{G}); \Gamma(x) \in M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G}))\}.$$

A similar definition appears in the context of coactions in [23, Lemma A1]. In the next section we see that $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ agrees with Granirer’s $\text{UCB}(\widehat{G})$ when \mathbb{G} is the dual of an amenable locally compact group G .

In general, $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ is a unital C^* -subalgebra of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$. Moreover, $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ includes $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ because $(a \otimes 1)\Gamma(b)$ and $\Gamma(b)(a \otimes 1)$ are in $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})$ for every a and b in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ by [16, Proposition 1.6].

In order to prove that $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ is a quantum semigroup compactification, we need to assume that $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ has the following slice map property introduced by Wassermann [32] as property S. We say that a C^* -algebra A has the *slice map property* if, for every C^* -algebra B and its C^* -subalgebra C , we have that $x \in A \otimes C$ whenever $(\mu \otimes \text{id})(x) \in C$ for every μ in A^* . Every nuclear C^* -algebra has the slice map property by [33]. A locally compact quantum group \mathbb{G} is *coamenable* if $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ has a bounded approximate identity. A detailed study of coamenability can be found in [4], where it is shown in Theorems 3.2 and 3.3 that coamenability of \mathbb{G} implies that $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ is nuclear. So, in particular, if \mathbb{G} is coamenable, $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ has the slice map property. Note that every classical group is coamenable and the dual of a classical group is coamenable if and only if the group is amenable (by a famous result of Leptin [21]).

In the classical case, the LUC -compactification (that is, the spectrum of the left uniformly continuous functions) is the universal semigroup compactification of a given locally compact group. The following result shows that this universal property carries over to the quantum version of the LUC -compactification.

THEOREM 4.1. *Suppose that $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ has the slice map property. Then $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ is the universal quantum semigroup compactification of \mathbb{G} in the sense that every other quantum semigroup compactification of \mathbb{G} is included in $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$.*

Proof. The C^* -algebra $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ is left invariant because the comultiplication Γ maps $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ to $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G}))$ by [23, Lemma A1]. Let $\mu \in \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^*$ and $x \in \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$. For every a in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$,

$$\begin{aligned} (a \otimes 1)\Gamma(\mu x) &= (a \otimes 1)(\text{id} \otimes \text{id} \otimes \mu)((\Gamma \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x)) \\ &= (\text{id} \otimes \text{id} \otimes \mu)(\text{id} \otimes \Gamma)((a \otimes 1)\Gamma(x)) \end{aligned}$$

by coassociativity. Since $(a \otimes 1)\Gamma(x)$ is in $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$, the function $\text{id} \otimes \Gamma$ maps it to $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G}))$. Then applying $\text{id} \otimes \text{id} \otimes \mu$ gives an element of $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G})$. Hence, $(a \otimes 1)\Gamma(\mu x)$ is in $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G})$, and similarly $\Gamma(\mu x)(a \otimes 1)$ is in $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G})$. Therefore, $\mu x \in \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$, and so $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ is left introverted.

By the definition of $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$, any left-invariant subspace of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$ is included in $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$, which is therefore the universal quantum semigroup compactification of \mathbb{G} . □

Example. A locally compact quantum group \mathbb{G} is said to be *discrete* if the dual of \mathbb{G} is compact (i.e., $C_0(\widehat{\mathbb{G}})$ has an identity) or, equivalently, if $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ has an identity [26]. When \mathbb{G} is discrete, $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ is a direct sum (c_0 -direct sum to be precise) of full matrix algebras [34, 25]:

$$C_0(\mathbb{G}) = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in I} M_{n_\alpha}.$$

(This last condition is, in fact, equivalent with discreteness.) In this case, $C_b(\mathbb{G})$ is the direct product (ℓ^∞ -direct sum) of the same algebras:

$$C_b(\mathbb{G}) = \prod_{\alpha \in I} M_{n_\alpha}.$$

Next, we show that if \mathbb{G} is discrete, then $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G}) = C_b(\mathbb{G})$.

Note first that

$$M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})) = \prod_{\alpha, \beta \in I} M_{n_\alpha} \otimes M_{n_\beta},$$

and let $u = (u_{\alpha, \beta})$ be an element of $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G}))$. Fix $a = (a_\alpha)$ in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ such that $a_\alpha \neq 0$ for only finitely many α 's, and let $1 = (1_\beta)$ be the identity in $C_b(\mathbb{G})$. Then

$$(a \otimes 1)u = ((a_\alpha \otimes 1_\beta)u_{\alpha, \beta})$$

is such that $(a_\alpha \otimes 1_\beta)u_{\alpha, \beta} \neq 0$ for only finitely many α 's. It follows that $(a \otimes 1)u$ is in $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G})$, and by taking limits we see that this holds for any a in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$.

In particular, if $a \in C_0(\mathbb{G})$ and $x \in C_b(\mathbb{G})$, then $(a \otimes 1)\Gamma(x) \in C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G})$ and similarly $\Gamma(x)(a \otimes 1) \in C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G})$. This shows that $x \in \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$, and so $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G}) = C_b(\mathbb{G})$.

Another compactification of a discrete quantum group is presented in [29].

We record here a simple lemma for an easy reference. A variant of this lemma is well known and can be found, for example, in [3]. Recall that $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X)$ is defined by (3.1).

LEMMA 4.2. *Let X be a closed subspace of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$. If $\mu \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$ and $\nu \in X^*$, then*

$$\mu(\text{id} \otimes \nu) = \nu(\mu \otimes \text{id}) = \mu \otimes \nu$$

on $M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes X)$.

The following decomposition theorem is a generalization of results concerning classical groups [10, 9] and duals of classical groups [20]. In particular, it shows that $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$ can be considered as a subalgebra of $LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$, a fact we shall frequently use later on.

THEOREM 4.3. *Let X be a closed left-introverted subspace of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$ such that $C_0(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq X$. Then there is a completely isometric algebra isomorphism $\tau : C_0(\mathbb{G})^* \rightarrow X^*$ such that*

$$X^* = \tau(C_0(\mathbb{G})^*) \oplus C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp.$$

The annihilator $C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp$ is a weak*-closed ideal in X^* .

Proof. For any μ in $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$, let $\tau(\mu)$ be the unique extension of μ to X that is strictly continuous on bounded sets. Since μ can be written as $\mu' \cdot a$ where $\mu' \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$ and $a \in C_0(\mathbb{G})$, we have that

$$\langle \tau(\mu), x \rangle = \langle \mu', ax \rangle \quad (x \in X).$$

We begin by showing that τ is a homomorphism. First, we consider $\tau(\nu)x$ for ν in $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$ and x in X . Let $f \in L^1(\mathbb{G})$ and let (c_α) be a bounded net in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ that converges strictly to x . By Lemma 4.2,

$$\langle \tau(\nu)x, f \rangle = \langle \tau(\nu), (f \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x) \rangle = \lim \langle \nu, (f \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(c_\alpha) \rangle$$

because both Γ and $f \otimes \text{id}$ are strictly continuous on bounded sets. Continuing the calculation, we have that

$$\langle \tau(\nu)x, f \rangle = \lim \langle f, (\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma(c_\alpha) \rangle = \langle (\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma(x), f \rangle$$

where $\text{id} \otimes \nu : M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})) \rightarrow C_b(\mathbb{G})$.

Now let $\mu \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$. By the previous calculation,

$$\langle \tau(\mu)\tau(\nu), x \rangle = \langle \tau(\mu), (\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma(x) \rangle,$$

which shows that $\tau(\mu)\tau(\nu)$ is strictly continuous on bounded sets. Therefore, it suffices to prove that $\tau(\mu)\tau(\nu) = \mu * \nu$ on $C_0(\mathbb{G})$, but, for every a in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$,

$$\langle \tau(\mu)\tau(\nu), a \rangle = \langle \mu, (\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma(a) \rangle = \langle \mu * \nu, a \rangle.$$

To see that τ is a complete isometry, let $[\mu_{ij}] \in M_n(C_0(\mathbb{G})^*)$, that is, $[\mu_{ij}]$ is an $n \times n$ matrix with entries in $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$. Obviously $\|\tau^{(n)}[\mu_{ij}]\|_n \geq \|[\mu_{ij}]\|_n$, where $\tau^{(n)}$ denotes the n th amplification of τ , so we only need to show the converse. Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. By Smith's lemma [8, Proposition 2.2.2],

$$\|\tau^{(n)}[\mu_{ij}]\|_n = \|[\tau(\mu_{ij})]\|_{\text{CB}(X, M_n)} = \sup_{[x_{kl}]} \|[\langle \tau(\mu_{ij}), x_{kl} \rangle]\|_{M_{n^2}},$$

where the supremum runs through all $[x_{kl}]$ in $M_n(X)$ with norm less than or equal to 1. By Cohen's factorization theorem, we may choose a from

$C_0(\mathbb{G})$ and $[\nu_{ij}]$ from $M_n(C_0(\mathbb{G})^*)$ such that $\|a\| = 1$, $\|\mu_{ij} - \nu_{ij}\| < \varepsilon/n^4$, and $\mu_{ij} = \nu_{ij}.a$. Then, continuing the preceding calculation,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tau^{(n)}[\mu_{ij}]\|_n &= \sup_{[x_{kl}]} \|[\langle \nu_{ij}, ax_{kl} \rangle]\|_{M_{n^2}} \leq \sup_{[x_{kl}]} \|[\langle \nu_{ij}, x_{kl} \rangle]\|_{M_{n^2}} \\ &\leq \|[\mu_{ij}]\|_n + \sup_{[x_{kl}]} \sum_{i,j,k,l} |\langle \mu_{ij} - \nu_{ij}, x_{kl} \rangle| < \|[\mu_{ij}]\|_n + \sum_{i,j,k,l} \varepsilon/n^4 \\ &= \|[\mu_{ij}]\|_n + \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

as required.

For every μ in X^* , define $\mu_0 = \tau(\mu|_{C_0(\mathbb{G})})$ and $\mu_1 = \mu - \mu_0$. Then μ and μ_0 agree on $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ so $\mu_1 \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp$. It is clear that this procedure gives an algebraic direct sum decomposition

$$X^* = \tau(C_0(\mathbb{G})^*) \oplus C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp.$$

Obviously, $C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp$ is weak*-closed. Finally, we show that it is an ideal. Let $\nu \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp$ and let $\mu = \mu_0 + \mu_1$ be the decomposition of μ in X^* . For every a and b in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$,

$$b(\nu a) = (\text{id} \otimes \nu)((b \otimes 1)\Gamma(a)) = 0$$

because $(b \otimes 1)\Gamma(a) \in C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})$. Since b is arbitrary, it follows that $\nu a = 0$ and so $\mu\nu \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp$. On the other hand,

$$\langle \nu\mu_0, a \rangle = \langle \nu, (\text{id} \otimes \mu_0)\Gamma(a) \rangle = 0$$

because $\mu_0 \in \tau(C_0(\mathbb{G})^*)$. Since both $\nu\mu_0$ and $\nu\mu_1$ are in $C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp$, also $\nu\mu$ is in $C_0(\mathbb{G})^\perp$. □

From now on, we consider $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$ as a subalgebra of $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^*$ and suppress the isomorphism τ used in the preceding theorem.

The following lemma is a direct consequence of Lemma 4.2. Determining the topological center is a much harder task: see, for example, [18, 19].

LEMMA 4.4. *Suppose that $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ has the slice map property. Then $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$ is included in the topological center of $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^*$, that is, for every μ in $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$, the map $\nu \mapsto \mu\nu : \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^* \rightarrow \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^*$ is weak*-weak*-continuous.*

Proof. If $\mu \in C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$, $\nu \in \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^*$, and $x \in \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$, then

$$\langle \mu\nu, x \rangle = \langle \mu, (\text{id} \otimes \nu)\Gamma(x) \rangle = \langle \nu, (\mu \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x) \rangle$$

by Lemma 4.2. The statement follows immediately. □

5. Duals of classical groups and $LUC(\mathbb{G})$

In the classical setting when G is a locally compact group, $LUC(G) = L^\infty(G)L^1(G)$ where the action of $L^1(G)$ on $L^\infty(G)$ comes from the first Arens product (and shall be described soon). This result inspired Granirer [11] to define the space of bounded uniformly continuous functionals by setting $UCB(\widehat{G}) = A(G) \cdot VN(G)$, where $A(G)$ is the Fourier algebra of G , which is the predual of the group von Neumann algebra $VN(G)$. In this section, we study the relation between $LUC(\mathbb{G})$, as we defined in the previous section, and $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$.

Define an action of $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ on $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ by setting

$$\langle xf, g \rangle = \langle x, f * g \rangle = \langle (f \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x), g \rangle$$

whenever $x \in L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ and $f, g \in L^1(\mathbb{G})$. Then define $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$ to be the norm-closed linear span of elements of the form xf with x in $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ and f in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$. If \mathbb{G} is coamenable, every member of $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$ is of the form xf . In [13] the space $RUC(\mathbb{G})$, which is the right-hand side analogue of $LUC(\mathbb{G})$, is defined to be $L^1(\mathbb{G}) \cdot L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ (using the opposite side action). Our notation digresses in this regard and should not be confused with the notation of [13].

It should be noted that (topologically) left-invariant and (topologically) left-introverted subspaces X of $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ can be defined using the above action and the action defined by

$$\langle \nu x, f \rangle = \langle \nu, xf \rangle \quad (\nu \in X^*, x \in X, f \in L^1(\mathbb{G})).$$

These notions of invariance and introversion agree with the definitions in Section 3 if we consider only subspaces of $LUC(\mathbb{G})$. Theorem 4.3 holds true also for these topologically left-introverted subspaces of $C_b(\mathbb{G})$.

THEOREM 5.1. *Suppose that \mathbb{G} is a coamenable locally compact quantum group. Then $LUC(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$.*

Proof. We first show that $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ is weak*-dense in $LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$. Indeed, $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ is weak*-dense in its second dual $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})^*$ and restricting the functionals in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ to $LUC(\mathbb{G})$ gives a weak*-dense subspace of $LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$. Since each f in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ is strictly continuous when restricted to $LUC(\mathbb{G})$, it follows that this weak*-dense copy of $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ in $LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$ is the same one that is obtained in Theorem 4.3.

Since \mathbb{G} is coamenable, there is an identity ε in $C_0(\mathbb{G})^*$. Let $\mu \in LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$ and let (f_α) be a net in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ converging to μ in the weak* topology. The left translation by ε is weak*-continuous on $LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$ by Lemma 4.4, so $\varepsilon\mu = \lim \varepsilon * f_\alpha = \lim f_\alpha = \mu$. Similarly, $\mu\varepsilon = \mu$ because the right translations are always weak*-continuous on $LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$. Therefore, ε is an identity also in $LUC(\mathbb{G})^*$.

Let $x \in \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ and let (e_α) be a net in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$ that converges to ε in the weak* topology of $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^*$. For every μ in $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^*$,

$$\langle \mu, xe_\alpha \rangle = \langle e_\alpha, \mu x \rangle \rightarrow \langle \varepsilon, \mu x \rangle = \langle \mu, x \rangle$$

by Lemma 4.2. So xe_α converges weakly to x in $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$. Let K be the convex hull of $\{e_\alpha\}$. It follows from the Hahn–Banach separation theorem that x is in the norm closure of $xK \subseteq L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$. But $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G})$ is closed so we are done. □

As a by-product of the preceding proof, we get that $\text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})^*$ is unital when \mathbb{G} is coamenable.

The next lemma is proved for duals of classical groups in [12]. We denote the C*-algebra of compact operators on a Hilbert space H by $B_0(H)$.

LEMMA 5.2. $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq C_b(\mathbb{G})$.

Proof. Given x in $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ and f in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$, we should show that $a(xf)$ and $(xf)a$ are in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ for every a in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$. Write $f = g(K \cdot)$ where $g \in B(L^2(\mathbb{G}))_*$ and $K \in B_0(L^2(\mathbb{G}))$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} a(xf) &= (f \otimes \text{id})((1 \otimes a)\Gamma(x)) \\ &= (g \otimes \text{id})((K \otimes a)V(x \otimes 1)V^*). \end{aligned}$$

The operator V is in $M(B_0(L^2(\mathbb{G})) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G}))$ (perhaps the simplest reference for this fact is [35], knowing that V is manageable [15, Proposition 6.10]) and so $(K \otimes a)V$ is in $B_0(L^2(\mathbb{G})) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})$. It follows that $(K \otimes a)V(x \otimes 1)V^*$ is also in $B_0(L^2(\mathbb{G})) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G})$, and so $a(xf) \in C_0(\mathbb{G})$, as required. That also $(xf)a$ is in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$ can be proved similarly. □

Baaj and Skandalis defined and studied regular multiplicative unitaries in their fundamental paper [2]. Let H be a Hilbert space. A unitary operator W on $H \otimes H$ is said to be *multiplicative* if it satisfies the pentagonal relation (2.1). Then a multiplicative unitary W is *regular* if the norm-closed linear span of

$$\{(K \otimes 1)W(1 \otimes F); K, F \in B_0(H)\}$$

is $B_0(H \otimes H)$. As noted in [2], Kac algebras, and so locally compact groups and their duals, are determined by regular multiplicative unitaries. However, for example, the multiplicative unitary associated with the quantum group $E_\mu(2)$ is not regular [1], so regularity is truly a restrictive assumption for the following result. Unfortunately, even the notion of manageability introduced by Woronowicz [35] does not seem to help eliminate the regularity assumption.

THEOREM 5.3. *Suppose that \mathbb{G} is a locally compact quantum group such that the multiplicative unitary V is regular. Then $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$.*

Proof. By the preceding lemma $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq C_b(\mathbb{G})$, so it suffices to show that $\Gamma(xf) \in M(C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G}))$ for every x in $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$ and f in $L^1(\mathbb{G})$. Note first that

$$\Gamma(xf) = \Gamma((f \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x)) = (f \otimes \text{id} \otimes \text{id})((\Gamma \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x))$$

by coassociativity.

Write $f = g(K \cdot F)$ where $g \in B(L^2(\mathbb{G}))_*$ and $K, F \in B_0(L^2(\mathbb{G}))$. For every a in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$,

$$\begin{aligned} (a \otimes 1)\Gamma(xf) &= (f \otimes \text{id} \otimes \text{id})((1 \otimes a \otimes 1)(\Gamma \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x)) \\ &= (g \otimes \text{id} \otimes \text{id})((K \otimes a \otimes 1)V_{12}V_{13}(x \otimes 1 \otimes 1)V_{13}^*V_{12}^*(F \otimes 1 \otimes 1)). \end{aligned}$$

Since $V \in M(B_0(L^2(\mathbb{G})) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G}))$, we can replace $(K \otimes a \otimes 1)V_{12}$ in the above calculation by $K \otimes a \otimes 1$ with K still in $B_0(\mathbb{G})$ and a in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$. Then we can transfer $1 \otimes a \otimes 1$ to right so that we obtain the term

$$(1 \otimes a \otimes 1)V_{12}^*(F \otimes 1 \otimes 1),$$

which is in $B_0(L^2(\mathbb{G})) \otimes C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes 1$ by [2, Proposition 3.6] since V is regular. Again, replace this term by $F \otimes a \otimes 1$ with F in $B_0(\mathbb{G})$ and a in $C_0(\mathbb{G})$. Then, continuing the calculation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (g \otimes \text{id} \otimes \text{id})((K \otimes 1 \otimes 1)V_{13}(x \otimes 1 \otimes 1)V_{13}^*(F \otimes a \otimes 1)) \\ = a \otimes (h \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x) = a \otimes xh, \end{aligned}$$

where $h = g(K \cdot F)$ is in $B(L^2(\mathbb{G}))_*$ (the slight abuse of notation is not a problem here: $(h \otimes \text{id})\Gamma(x)$ is well defined and agrees with xh' when h' is the restriction of h to $L^\infty(\mathbb{G})$). But $xh \in C_b(\mathbb{G})$ by the preceding lemma, so we get that $(a \otimes 1)\Gamma(xf) \in C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G})$. Similarly, $\Gamma(xf)(a \otimes 1) \in C_0(\mathbb{G}) \otimes C_b(\mathbb{G})$, and so $xf \in \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$. \square

In particular, if $\mathbb{G} = \widehat{G}$ is a dual of a classical locally compact group G , then $\text{UCB}(\widehat{G}) = L^\infty(\mathbb{G})L^1(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq \text{LUC}(\mathbb{G})$ and the equality holds if G is amenable.

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