

INVARIANTLY COMPLEMENTED AND AMENABILITY IN BANACH ALGEBRAS RELATED TO LOCALLY COMPACT GROUPS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, among other things, we show that there is a close connection between the existence of a bounded projection on some Banach algebras associated to a locally compact group G and the existence of a left invariant mean on $L^\infty(G)$. A necessary and sufficient condition is found for a locally compact group to possess a left invariant mean.

1. Introduction. For a locally compact group G , $L^1(G)$ is its group algebra and $L^\infty(G)$ is the dual of $L^1(G)$. The theory of projections on group algebras has been extensively studied in such papers as [7, 9, 12, 21, 23]. Several authors have also studied the weak* closed left translation invariant complemented subspace of $L^\infty(G)$, see [4, 5, 7]. Recall that a subspace X of $L^\infty(G)$ is said to be *complemented* if there exists a bounded projection P from $L^\infty(G)$ onto X . A subspace X of $L^\infty(G)$ is called *invariantly complemented* if there exists a projection P from $L^\infty(G)$ onto X which commutes with the left translation, i.e., $P : L^\infty(G) \rightarrow X$ such that $P(L_x f) = L_x P(f)$ for all $x \in G$ and $f \in L^\infty(G)$ [7]. Rosenthal proved [17] that, if G is an abelian locally compact group and X is a weak* closed translation invariant complemented subspace of $L^\infty(G)$, then X is invariantly complemented in $L^\infty(G)$.

We say that X is *topologically invariantly complemented* in $L^\infty(G)$ if X is the range of a bounded projection P on $L^\infty(G)$ such that $P(\varphi * f) = \varphi * P(f)$ for all $f \in L^\infty(G)$ and $\varphi \in L^1(G)$. Note that this is a generalization of the notion of a topologically invariant mean on

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$L^\infty(G)$, since $\{c1_G; c \in \mathbb{C}\}$ is topologically invariantly complemented in $L^\infty(G)$ if and only if there exists a topologically invariant mean on $L^\infty(G)$ [15]. Bekka proved [1] that, if X is a weak* closed left translation invariant subspace of $L^\infty(G)$, then X is topologically invariantly complemented in $L^\infty(G)$ if and only if X is invariantly complemented in $L^\infty(G)$.

The closed ideals I of $L^1(G)$ for which I^\perp is complemented in $L^\infty(G)$ have been classified by Rosenthal [17] and Liu, van Rooij and Wong [14]. It turns out that these ideals are exactly those of $L^1(G)$, which possess bounded approximate identity [14]. Rudin [19] used an averaging argument to show that an ideal I of $L^1(G)$ is complemented if and only if there exists a projection $P : L^1(G) \rightarrow I$ which commutes with convolution, i.e., $P(\varphi * \psi) = \varphi * P(\psi)$ for all $\varphi, \psi \in L^1(G)$. Wood proved this fact for compact non-abelian groups (see [22, Theorem 4.6]).

The aim of this paper is to go further and generalize the above result to the collection of bounded linear maps on some Banach algebras associated to a locally compact group. We relate the amenability of a locally compact group G with the existence of projections in $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$. We also completely determined the weak* closed left translation invariant subspace X of $LUC(G)$ which is the range of a weak*-weak* continuous projection P on $LUC(G)$ commuting with left translations. Finally, we study the concept of approximately complemented subspaces of Banach algebras associated to a locally compact group.

2. Notation and preliminary results. Throughout this paper, G denotes a locally compact group with a fixed left Haar measure dx . For any subset A of G , 1_A denotes the characteristic function of A . Let $L^\infty(G)$ be the algebra of essentially bounded measurable complex-valued functions on G . The second dual $L^1(G)^{**}$ of $L^1(G)$ is a Banach algebra with the first Arens product [3]. G is *amenable* if there exists $m \in L^\infty(G)^*$ such that $m \geq 0$, $m(1_G) = 1$ and $m(L_x f) = m(f)$ for every $x \in G$, $f \in L^\infty(G)$, where $L_x f(y) = f(xy)$, $y \in G$. All abelian groups and all compact groups are amenable. The free group on two generators is not amenable [15].

A bounded linear operator T from $L^\infty(G)$ into $L^\infty(G)$ is said to commute with convolution if $T(\varphi * f) = \varphi * T(f)$ for all $\varphi \in L^1(G)$ and

$f \in L^\infty(G)$. In this case, T also commutes with left translations, i.e., $T(L_x f) = L_x T(f)$ for all $x \in G$ and $f \in L^\infty(G)$, see [8, Lemma 2]. Let $C_b(G)$ denote the Banach algebra of bounded continuous complex-valued functions on G , and let $C_0(G)$ be the closed subspace of $C_b(G)$ consisting of all functions in $C_b(G)$ which vanishes at infinity. Then its dual $C_0(G)^*$ identifies with all the complex regular Borel measures on G , denoted by $M(G)$. For $\mu \in M(G)$ and $f \in C_0(G)$, the formula

$$\langle \tilde{\mu}, f \rangle = \int f(x^{-1}) d\mu(x)$$

defines an element of $M(G)$ with $\|\tilde{\mu}\| = \|\mu\|$. Let $LUC(G)$ be the space of all $f \in C_b(G)$ such that the mapping $x \mapsto L_x f$ from G into $C_b(G)$ is continuous. Then $LUC(G)$ is a C^* -subalgebra of $C_b(G)$ invariant under translations. It is known that $L^\infty(G)L^1(G) = LUC(G)$ and that $f\varphi = \tilde{\varphi} * f$ for all $f \in L^\infty(G)$ and $\varphi \in L^1(G)$ [6]. Given $G \in LUC(G)^*$, $f \in LUC(G)$, let $Gf \in LUC(G)$ be given by $Gf(x) = \langle G, L_x f \rangle$. Given $F \in LUC(G)^*$, let FG (the Arens product of F, G) be defined by $\langle FG, f \rangle$. Then $LUC(G)^*$ with respect to this product becomes a Banach algebra.

Information about the Arens product and about $LUC(G)$ may be found in [6] (although the reader should be warned that $LUC(G)$ is defined as the space of right uniformly continuous functions). If $x \in G$, δ_x will denote either the point-measure at x in $M(G)$, or the point-evaluation linear functional in X^* when X is a subspace of $C_b(G)$.

Among the elements of $LUC(G)^*$ are the measures δ_x for $x \in G$. These do not appear in $L^1(G)^{**}$. Moreover, δ_e is an identity in $LUC(G)^*$, and $L^1(G)^{**}$ has a right identity [3].

A subspace $X \subseteq L^\infty(G)$ is called *left translation invariant* if $L_x f \in X$ for all $f \in X$ and $x \in G$. Let X be a left translation invariant subspace of $LUC(G)$. The collection of all bounded linear maps $T : LUC(G) \rightarrow X$ which commutes with left translations will be denoted by $\text{Hom}(LUC(G), X)$. If A is a Banach algebra, $\mathcal{B}(A)$ will denote the Banach algebra of all bounded linear operators from A to A .

3. Main results. Lau proved [7] that G is amenable if and only if every left translation invariant W^* -subalgebra of $L^\infty(G)$ is invariantly complemented. It was also shown by Lau and Losert [9] that G is amenable if and only if, whenever X is a non-degenerate left Banach

G -module and L is a weak* closed G -invariant subspace of X which is complemented in X , then there exists a projection P of X^* onto L such that $P(f \cdot x) = P(f) \cdot x$ for all $x \in G$ and $f \in X^*$ (see [10] for this terminology). In the next theorem, a necessary and sufficient condition is given for a locally compact group G to have a left invariant mean.

Theorem 3.1. *Let G be a locally compact group. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) G is amenable;
- (ii) $\text{Hom}(LUC(G))$ is the range of a bounded projection P on $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ such that $P(I) = I$, $\|P\| = 1$ and $P(TL_y) = P(L_yT)$ for all $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ and $y \in G$.

Proof.

(i) \Rightarrow (ii). Let m be an invariant mean on $L^\infty(G)$ [16]. Let $\langle \cdot \rangle$ denote the pairing between $L^\infty(G)$ and $L^1(G)$. For $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$, $f \in LUC(G)$ and $\psi \in L^1(G)$ the mapping $x \mapsto \langle L_{x^{-1}}TL_x(f), \psi \rangle$ is a bounded continuous function on G . Define an operator $P : \mathcal{B}(LUC(G)) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ by

$$\langle P(T)(f), \psi \rangle = m(x \mapsto \langle L_{x^{-1}}TL_x(f), \psi \rangle)$$

for $f \in LUC(G)$ and $\psi \in L^1(G)$. We claim that P is a bounded projection of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ onto $\text{Hom}(LUC(G))$ and that $P(L_yT) = P(TL_y)$ for all $y \in G$. It is easy to see that $\|P\| \leq 1$, $P(I) = I$, and so $\|P\| = 1$. To see that $P(\mathcal{B}(LUC(G))) \subseteq \text{Hom}(LUC(G))$, let $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ and $y \in G$. For every $f \in LUC(G)$ and $\psi \in L^1(G)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P(T)L_y(f), \psi \rangle &= \langle P(T)(L_yf), \psi \rangle \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle L_{x^{-1}}TL_x(L_yf), \psi \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle L_yL_{(yx)^{-1}}TL_{yx}(f), \psi \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle L_{(yx)^{-1}}TL_{yx}(f), L_{y^{-1}}\psi \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle L_{x^{-1}}TL_x(f), L_{y^{-1}}\psi \rangle) \\ &= \langle P(T)(f), L_{y^{-1}}\psi \rangle \\ &= \langle L_yP(T)(f), \psi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Since this holds for all $f \in LUC(G)$ and $\psi \in L^1(G)$, we conclude that $P(T)L_y = L_yP(T)$. This shows that $P(\mathcal{B}(LUC(G))) \subseteq \text{Hom}(LUC(G))$. To see that P is a bounded projection of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ onto $\text{Hom}(LUC(G))$, it suffices to show that $T \in \text{Hom}(LUC(G))$ implies $P(T) = T$. To see this, let $T \in \text{Hom}(LUC(G))$, $f \in LUC(G)$ and $\psi \in L^1(G)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P(T)(f), \psi \rangle &= m(x \mapsto \langle L_{x^{-1}}TL_x(f), \psi \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle T(f), \psi \rangle) \\ &= \langle T(f), \psi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, $P(T) = T$ for all $T \in \text{Hom}(LUC(G))$. Finally, to see $P(TL_y) = P(L_yT)$ for all $y \in G$ and $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$, let $y \in G$, $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$, $f \in LUC(G)$ and $\psi \in L^1(G)$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P(L_yT)(f), \psi \rangle &= m(x \mapsto \langle L_{x^{-1}}L_yTL_x(f), \psi \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle L_{(xy^{-1})^{-1}}TL_yL_{xy^{-1}}(f), \psi \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle L_{x^{-1}}TL_yL_x(f), \psi \rangle) \\ &= \langle P(TL_y)(f), \psi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that $P(L_yT) = P(TL_y)$ for all $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ and $y \in G$.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i). For $f \in LUC(G)$, we consider the mapping $\lambda_f : LUC(G) \rightarrow LUC(G)$ defined by $\lambda_f(g) = f \cdot g$, $g \in LUC(G)$. If $f \in LUC(G)$ and $x \in G$,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{L_x f}(g) &= L_x f \cdot g = L_x(f \cdot L_{x^{-1}}g) \\ &= L_x(\lambda_f(L_{x^{-1}}g)) = L_x\lambda_f L_{x^{-1}}(g) \end{aligned}$$

for all $g \in LUC(G)$. We conclude that $\lambda_{L_x f} = L_x\lambda_f L_{x^{-1}}$.

Let $\{e_\alpha\}$ be an approximate identity for $L^1(G)$ in $\{\psi \in L^1(G); \|\psi\|_1 = 1, \psi \geq 0\}$ [6]. For $f \in LUC(G)$, define $m(f) = \lim_\alpha \langle P(\lambda_f)(1_G), e_\alpha \rangle$. Since $P(I) = I$, we have

$$m(1_G) = \lim_\alpha \langle P(\lambda_{1_G})(1_G), e_\alpha \rangle = \lim_\alpha \langle I(1_G), e_\alpha \rangle = 1.$$

On the other hand, $\|P\| = 1$ and $\|\lambda_f\| \leq \|f\|$ for all $f \in LUC(G)$. It follows that $\|m\| = 1$. This shows that m is a mean on $LUC(G)$ [16]. To show that m is a left invariant mean on $LUC(G)$, let $f \in LUC(G)$ and $x \in G$. Since $P(TL_x) = L_xP(T)$ for all $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ and

$x \in G$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} m(L_x f) &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle P(\lambda_{L_x f})(1_G), e_{\alpha} \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle P(L_x \lambda_f L_{x^{-1}})(1_G), e_{\alpha} \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle P(L_{x^{-1}} L_x \lambda_f)(1_G), e_{\alpha} \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle P(\lambda_f)(1_G), e_{\alpha} \rangle = m(f). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, m is a left invariant mean on $LUC(G)$, and so G is amenable [16]. This completes the proof. \square

Recall that the Banach space $LUC(G)^*$ is a Banach algebra. Among the elements of $LUC(G)^*$ are the unit point masses δ_x for $x \in G$. Let X be a subspace of $LUC(G)^*$ such that $\delta_x F \in X$ for all $F \in X$ and $x \in G$. The collection of all bounded linear maps $T : LUC(G)^* \rightarrow X$ such that $T(\delta_x F) = \delta_x T(F)$ for all $F \in LUC(G)^*$ and $x \in G$, will be denoted by $\text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$.

Theorem 3.2. *Let G be a locally compact group. Assume that G is amenable as discrete. Let X be a weak* closed subspace of $LUC(G)^*$ such that $\delta_x F \in X$ for all $F \in X$ and $x \in G$. Let P be a bounded projection of $LUC(G)^*$ onto X . Then there exists a bounded projection P' of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ onto $\text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$.*

Proof. We first show that there exists a bounded projection P' of $LUC(G)^*$ onto X such that $P'(\delta_y F) = \delta_y P'(F)$ for all $F \in LUC(G)^*$ and $y \in G$. We can prove this part by using an argument similar to that of the proof of Theorem 1.1 in [17]. Let m be an invariant mean on $l^{\infty}(G)$. Now, consider a bounded linear operator P' of $LUC(G)^*$ into $LUC(G)^*$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P'(F), f \rangle &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(\delta_x F), \delta_x * f \rangle), \\ F &\in LUC(G)^*, \quad f \in LUC(G). \end{aligned}$$

Then, for any $y \in G$, $f \in LUC(G)$ and $F \in LUC(G)^*$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P'(\delta_y F), f \rangle &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(\delta_{xy} F), \delta_x * f \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(\delta_{xy} F), \delta_{xy} * \delta_{y^{-1}} * f \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(\delta_x F), \delta_x * \delta_{y^{-1}} * f \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \langle P'(F), \delta_{y^{-1}} * f \rangle \\ &= \langle \delta_y P'(F), f \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that $P'(\delta_y F) = \delta_y P'(F)$ for all $y \in G$ and $F \in LUC(G)^*$.

We next show that P' is a bounded projection of $LUC(G)^*$ onto X . Clearly, $\|P'\| \leq \|P\|$. Now fix $F \in LUC(G)^*$. If every weak* continuous linear functional \widehat{f} on $LUC(G)^*$ for which $\widehat{f}(X) = 0$, also satisfies

$$\langle P(\delta_x F), \delta_x * f \rangle = \langle \widehat{f}, \delta_{x^{-1}} P(\delta_x F) \rangle = 0, \quad x \in G.$$

Then, by the Hahn-Banach theorem, $P'(F)$ also belongs to X [18]. This shows that $P'(LUC(G)^*) \subseteq X$. It is easy to see that $P'(F) = F$ for all $F \in X$. We conclude that P' is a bounded projection of $LUC(G)^*$ onto X . Thus, without loss of generality, we may assume that P is a bounded projection of $LUC(G)^*$ onto X and $P(\delta_y F) = \delta_y P(F)$ for all $y \in G$ and $F \in LUC(G)^*$.

Define $\mathcal{P} : \mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ by

$$\langle \mathcal{P}(T)(F), f \rangle = m(x \mapsto \langle P(T(\delta_x F)), \delta_x * f \rangle),$$

where $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$, $F \in LUC(G)^*$ and $f \in LUC(G)$. Obviously \mathcal{P} is a bounded linear operator of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ into $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$.

To see that \mathcal{P} is a projection of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ onto $\text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$, it suffices to show that $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)) \subseteq \text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$ and that $T \in \text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$ implies that $\mathcal{P}(T) = T$. For the first assertion, let $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ and $y \in G$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{P}(T)(\delta_y F), f \rangle &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(T(\delta_{xy} F)), \delta_x * f \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(T(\delta_{xy} F)), \delta_{xy} * \delta_{y^{-1}} * f \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(T(\delta_x F)), \delta_x * \delta_{y^{-1}} * f \rangle) \\ &= \langle \delta_y \mathcal{P}(T)(F), f \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

where $F \in LUC(G)^*$ and $f \in LUC(G)$. Since this holds for all $F \in LUC(G)^*$ and $f \in LUC(G)$, we conclude that $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)) \subseteq \text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$. Note that, if $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$, $F \in LUC(G)^*$ and $\mathcal{P}(T)(F) \notin X$, there is an $f \in LUC(G)$ for which $\langle \mathcal{P}(T)(F), f \rangle \neq 0$ and

$$\langle P(T(\delta_x F)), \delta_x * f \rangle = \langle \delta_{x^{-1}} P(T(\delta_x F)), f \rangle = 0$$

for all $x \in G$ [18]. It follows that $\langle \mathcal{P}(T)(F), f \rangle = 0$, which is a contradiction. This shows that $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)) \subseteq \text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$. For the second assertion, suppose $T \in \text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$ and $F \in LUC(G)^*$. Then $T(F) \in X$, and so $P(T(F)) = T(F)$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{P}(T)(F), f \rangle &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(T(\delta_x F)), \delta_x * f \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(\delta_x T(F)), \delta_x * f \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle \delta_x P(T(F)), \delta_x * f \rangle) \\ &= m(x \mapsto \langle P(T(F)), f \rangle) \\ &= \langle P(T(F)), f \rangle \\ &= \langle T(F), f \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

for all $f \in LUC(G)$. Therefore, $\mathcal{P}(T) = T$. Consequently, \mathcal{P} is a bounded projection of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ onto $\text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*, X)$. \square

Theorem 3.3. *Let G be a locally compact group. Assume that G is amenable as discrete. Let X be a closed subspace of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ (in the weak* operator topology) such that $\lambda_x T \lambda_{x^{-1}} \in X$ for all $x \in G$ and $T \in X$; here, λ_x is the left translation operator in $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ defined by $\lambda_x(F) = \delta_x F$. Let P be a bounded projection of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ onto X . Then there exists a bounded projection from $\text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*)$ onto $\text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*) \cap X$.*

Proof. Let m be an invariant mean on $l^\infty(G)$ [15], and let P be a bounded projection of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G)^*)$ onto X . Define $P' : \text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*) \cap X$ by

$$\langle P'(T)(F), f \rangle = m(x \mapsto \langle P(T)(\delta_x F), \delta_x * f \rangle),$$

where $T \in \text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*)$, $F \in LUC(G)^*$ and $f \in LUC(G)$. It is not hard to see that P' is a bounded projection of $\text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*)$ onto $\text{Hom}(LUC(G)^*) \cap X$. \square

In [7], Lau studied conditions where a weak* closed left translation invariant subspace in $L^\infty(G)$ of a compact group G is the range of a weak*-weak* continuous projection on $L^\infty(G)$ commutes with left translation. In the next theorem, we characterize the weak* closed left translation invariant subspace X of $LUC(G)$ which is the range of a

weak*-weak* continuous projection P on $LUC(G)$ commuting with left translations.

Theorem 3.4. *Let G be a locally compact group. A $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ closed left translation invariant subspace X of $LUC(G)$ is the range of a $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G)) - \sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ continuous projection P on $LUC(G)$ commuting with left translations if and only if $X = \rho_\mu^*(LUC(G))$ for an idempotent $\mu \in M(G)$; here, ρ_μ is the right translation operator in $\mathcal{B}(L^1(G))$ defined by $\rho_\mu(\varphi) = \varphi * \mu$.*

Proof. Let X be a $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ closed left translation invariant subspace of $LUC(G)$. Let $P : LUC(G) \rightarrow X$ be a $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G)) - \sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ continuous projection onto X such that $P(L_x f) = L_x P(f)$ for all $x \in G$ and $f \in LUC(G)$. Let $\mathcal{P} : L^\infty(G) \rightarrow L^\infty(G)$ be defined as

$$\langle \mathcal{P}(f), \varphi \rangle = \langle \delta_e, P(\tilde{\varphi} * f) \rangle,$$

where $\tilde{\varphi}(x) = \Delta(x^{-1})\varphi(x^{-1})$; here, Δ is the modular function on G . Since P commutes with left translation, we have $P(\varphi * f) = \varphi * P(f)$ for all $\varphi \in L^1(G)$ and $f \in LUC(G)$ [16]. If $\varphi, \psi \in L^1(G)$ and $f \in L^\infty(G)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{P}(\varphi * f), \psi \rangle &= \langle \delta_e, P(\tilde{\psi} * (\varphi * f)) \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathcal{P}(f), \tilde{\varphi} * \psi \rangle \\ &= \langle \varphi * \mathcal{P}(f), \psi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Since this relation holds for all $\psi \in L^1(G)$, we conclude that $\mathcal{P}(\varphi * f) = \varphi * \mathcal{P}(f)$ for each $\varphi \in L^1(G)$ and each $f \in L^\infty(G)$.

Let $\{f_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be a net in $L^\infty(G)$ converging to $f \in L^\infty(G)$ in the weak* topology of $L^\infty(G)$. For $\psi \in L^1(G)$, $\tilde{\psi} * f_\alpha \rightarrow \tilde{\psi} * f$ in the $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ topology of $LUC(G)$. By assumption, $P(\tilde{\psi} * f_\alpha) \rightarrow P(\tilde{\psi} * f)$ in the $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ topology. Since $L^1(G)$ has a bounded approximate identity, Cohen's factorization theorem implies that each $\psi \in L^1(G)$ has the form $\psi_1 * \psi_2$ for $\psi_1, \psi_2 \in L^1(G)$. Hence, $P(f_\alpha) \rightarrow P(f)$ in the weak* topology of $L^\infty(G)$.

Let $\mathcal{P}^* : L^\infty(G)^* \rightarrow L^\infty(G)^*$ be the adjoint operator of \mathcal{P} , i.e., \mathcal{P}^* is the bounded linear operator of $L^\infty(G)^*$ into $L^\infty(G)^*$ which satisfies $\langle \mathcal{P}^*(F), f \rangle = \langle F, \mathcal{P}(f) \rangle$ for all $F \in L^\infty(G)^*$ and $f \in L^\infty(G)$.

We conclude that $\mathcal{P}^*(\varphi) \in L^\infty(G)^*$ is weak* continuous, and so $\mathcal{P}^*(\varphi) \in L^1(G)$ for all $\varphi \in L^1(G)$ [18].

It is easy to see that $\mathcal{P}^*(\varphi * \psi) = \varphi * \mathcal{P}^*(\psi)$ for all $\varphi, \psi \in L^1(G)$. By [3, Theorem 3.3.40], there exists a $\mu \in M(G)$ such that $\mathcal{P}^*(\varphi) = \varphi * \mu$ for all $\varphi \in L^1(G)$. If $f \in L^\infty(G)$ and $\varphi \in L^1(G)$, we have

$$\langle \mathcal{P}(f), \varphi \rangle = \langle f, \mathcal{P}^*(\varphi) \rangle = \langle f, \varphi * \mu \rangle = \langle \rho_\mu^*(f), \varphi \rangle.$$

This shows that $\mathcal{P}(f) = \rho_\mu^*(f)$ for all $f \in L^\infty(G)$. It is easily verified that $P(f) = \mu f$ for all $f \in LUC(G)$, that μ is idempotent and $X = \rho_\mu^*(LUC(G))$.

To prove the converse, let $X = \rho_\mu^*(LUC(G))$ for an idempotent $\mu \in M(G)$. Let $\{f_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be a net in $LUC(G)$, and let $\{\mu f_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ converge to $f \in LUC(G)$ in the $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ topology. It is not hard to see that $\mu * \mu f_\alpha = \mu f_\alpha \rightarrow \mu f$ in the $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ topology. We conclude that X is $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ closed. Let P be the bounded projection from $LUC(G)$ onto X defined by $P(f) = \mu f$. We easily see that P is $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ - $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ continuous and that $P(L_x f) = L_x P(f)$ for all $x \in G$ and $f \in LUC(G)$. □

Corollary 3.5. *Let G be a locally compact group. Let X be a weak* closed, left translation invariant, complemented subspace of $L^\infty(G)$. Then $X = \rho_\mu^*(L^\infty(G))$ for an idempotent $\mu \in M(G)$ if any one of the following conditions hold:*

- (i) *there exists a weak*-weak* continuous projection P from $L^\infty(G)$ onto X which commutes with convolution;*
- (ii) *G is compact.*

*Note that $\varphi * f \in X$ for all $\varphi \in L^1(G)$ and $f \in X$, see [10, Lemma 2].*

Proof.

(i) See Theorem 3.4 and its proof.

(ii) Let P be a bounded projection from $L^\infty(G)$ onto X commuting with left translation (see [19, Theorem 1]). By [1, Theorem 1], X is topologically invariantly complemented in $L^\infty(G)$. Since any bounded linear operator from $L^\infty(G)$ into $L^\infty(G)$ which commutes with convolution is weak*-weak* continuous (see [10, Lemma 4]), by (i), $X = \rho_\mu^*(L^\infty(G))$ for an idempotent $\mu \in M(G)$. □

Remark 3.6. Let G be a locally compact group. We denote by $L_0^\infty(G)$ the subspace of $L^\infty(G)$ consisting of all functions $f \in L^\infty(G)$ vanishing at infinity. For an extensive study of $L_0^\infty(G)$, see Lau and Pym [11]. As shown in [11], for any $F \in L_0^\infty(G)^*$ and $f \in L_0^\infty(G)$, $Ff \in L_0^\infty(G)$. We shall regard $L_0^\infty(G)^*$ as a Banach algebra with the first Arens multiplication. It is known that $L^1(G)$ is a closed ideal in $L_0^\infty(G)^*$, see [11, Theorem 2.11]. Let X be a subspace of $L_0^\infty(G)$ such that $Ff \in X$ for all $F \in L_0^\infty(G)^*$ and $f \in X$. Let P be a bounded projection from $L_0^\infty(G)$ onto X commuting with convolutions. Let $F \in L_0^\infty(G)^*$ and $\{e_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be a bounded approximate identity for $L^1(G)$ [6]. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P(Ff), \varphi \rangle &= \lim_\alpha \langle P(Ff), e_\alpha * \varphi \rangle = \lim_\alpha \langle \tilde{e}_\alpha * P(Ff), \varphi \rangle \\ &= \lim_\alpha \langle P(\tilde{e}_\alpha * Ff), \varphi \rangle = \lim_\alpha \langle \tilde{e}_\alpha FP(f), \varphi \rangle \\ &= \lim_\alpha \langle FP(f), e_\alpha * \varphi \rangle = \langle FP(f), \varphi \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

for all $\varphi \in L^1(G)$. This shows that $P(Ff) = FP(f)$ for all $F \in L_0^\infty(G)^*$ and $f \in L_0^\infty(G)$. Now, let G be a compact group, and let X be a weak* closed left translation invariantly complemented subspace of $L^\infty(G)$. Then there exists a bounded projection P from $L^\infty(G)$ onto X such that $P(Ff) = FP(f)$ for all $F \in L^\infty(G)^*$ and $f \in L^\infty(G)$.

Theorem 3.7. *Let G be a locally compact group. Assume that G is amenable as discrete. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) G is discrete;
- (ii) any bounded projection P from $L^\infty(G)$ onto a weak* closed left translation invariant subspace X of $L^\infty(G)$ which commutes with left translation also commutes with convolution.

Proof. Clearly (i) implies (ii).

(ii) \Rightarrow (i). We assume to the contrary that G is non-discrete. Let m be a left invariant mean on $L^\infty(G)$ which is not a topologically left invariant mean, see [16, Proposition 22.3]. We consider the weak* closed subspace X of $L^\infty(G)$ consisting of constant functions. Define $P : L^\infty(G) \rightarrow X$ by $P(f) = \langle m, f \rangle 1_G$, $f \in L^\infty(G)$. Then, as readily checked, $\|P\| \leq 1$, and P is a projection of $L^\infty(G)$ onto X commuting with left translations. Finally, let $f \in L^\infty(G)$ and $\varphi \in P^1(G)$ be such that $\langle m, \varphi * f \rangle \neq \langle m, f \rangle$; here, $P^1(G)$ is the set of all probability

measures in $L^1(G)$. Then

$$P(\varphi * f) = \langle m, \varphi * f \rangle 1_G \neq \langle m, f \rangle 1_G = P(f).$$

We conclude that P does not commute with convolution. This is a contradiction. \square

In [10], Lau and Losert proved that a locally compact group G is amenable if and only if, whenever X is a weak* closed left translation invariant complemented subspace of $L^\infty(G)$, X is invariantly complemented. Also, as shown by Lau [7], if G is an amenable locally compact group, then any weak* closed self-adjoint left translation invariant subalgebra of $L^\infty(G)$ is the range of a bounded projection commuting with left translations.

In the following, we define approximately complemented subspaces, and we obtain the other version of above facts.

Definition 3.8. Let E be a normed space. Then a subspace F of E is called *approximately complemented* in E if there is a net $\{P_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ of bounded operators from E into F such that $\lim_\alpha P_\alpha(f) = f$ uniformly on bounded subsets of F .

Theorem 3.9. Let G be an amenable locally compact group, and let X be a closed subspace of $LUC(G)$ such that $L_x f \in X$ for all $f \in X$ and $x \in G$. If X is approximately complemented in $LUC(G)$, then there is a net of bounded operators $P'_\beta : LUC(G) \rightarrow X$ such that $\lim_\beta P'_\beta(f) = f$ uniformly on bounded subsets of X and, for every compact s

$$\lim_\beta \|L_a P'_\beta(f) - P'_\beta(L_a f)\| = 0$$

uniformly for $a \in K$ and $f \in F$.

Proof. Let $\{P_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be a net of bounded operators from $LUC(G)$ into X such that $\lim_\alpha P_\alpha(f) = f$ uniformly on bounded subsets of X . For $\varphi \in P^1(G)$ and $\alpha \in I$, we define an operator P^φ_α on $LUC(G)$ by

$$P^\varphi_\alpha(f)(y) = \int \varphi(x) P_\alpha(L_x f)(x^{-1}y) dx.$$

Since $x \mapsto L_{x^{-1}}P_\alpha(L_x f)$ is a continuous map from G into $LUC(G)$, $P_\alpha^\varphi(f)$ is well defined by [2] and that this integral defines a bounded linear operator from $LUC(G)$ into X .

Let K be a compact subset of G , $\alpha \in I$, and let $\epsilon > 0$. By [16, Lemma 6.13], there exists a $\varphi \in P^1(G)$ such that

$$\|\delta_a * \varphi - \varphi\|_1 < \frac{\epsilon}{\|P_\alpha\| + 1}$$

whenever $a \in K$. For every $a \in K$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |P_\alpha^\varphi(L_a f)(y) - L_a P_\alpha^\varphi(f)(y)| \\ &= \left| \int \varphi(x)(P_\alpha(L_{ax} f)(x^{-1}y) - P_\alpha(L_x f)(x^{-1}ay)) dx \right| \\ &= \left| \int (\varphi(a^{-1}x) - \varphi(x))P_\alpha(L_x f)(x^{-1}ay) dx \right| \\ &\leq \|P_\alpha\| \|f\| \|\delta_a * \varphi - \varphi\|_1 \\ &< \|f\| \epsilon, \end{aligned}$$

whenever $f \in LUC(G)$. We consider the directed set $J = \mathcal{K} \times I \times (0, 1)$ where, for $\beta = (K, \alpha, \epsilon) \in J$,

$$\beta' = (K', \alpha', \epsilon') \in J, \quad \beta' \succeq \beta$$

in the cases $K \subseteq K'$ and $\alpha' \succeq \alpha$ and $\epsilon' \leq \epsilon$ (here \mathcal{K} is the family of compact subsets of G). For each $\beta = (K, \alpha, \epsilon)$, there exists $\varphi_\beta \in P^1(G)$ such that

$$\|\delta_a * \varphi_\beta - \varphi_\beta\|_1 < \frac{\epsilon}{\|P_\alpha\| + 1} \quad \text{for all } a \in K.$$

We define $P'_\beta : LUC(G) \rightarrow X$ by $P'_\beta(f) = P_{\alpha}^{\varphi_\beta}(f)$.

Let K_0 be a compact subset of G , $\epsilon_0 > 0$, and let $\alpha_0 \in I$. For every $\beta = (K, \alpha, \epsilon) \succeq (K_0, \alpha_0, \epsilon_0) = \beta_0$, we have

$$\|P'_\beta(L_a f) - L_a P'_\beta(f)\| < \|f\| \epsilon \leq \|f\| \epsilon_0$$

for every $a \in K$ and $f \in LUC(G)$. This shows that $\lim_\beta \|P'_\beta(L_a f) - L_a P'_\beta(f)\| = 0$ uniformly on every compact subset K of G and every bounded subset F of X .

Now, let F be a bounded subset of X and $\epsilon > 0$. Obviously, $\{L_x f; f \in F, x \in G\}$ is a bounded subset of X . By assumption, there

exists $\alpha_0 \in I$ such that $\|P_\alpha(L_x f) - L_x f\| < \epsilon$ for all $\alpha \succeq \alpha_0$, $x \in G$ and $f \in F$. Put $\beta_0 = (\{e\}, \alpha_0, \epsilon)$, and let $\beta \succeq \beta_0$. For $\psi \in L^1(G)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle P'_\beta(f) - f, \psi \rangle| &= \left| \int \int \varphi_\beta(x)(P_\alpha(L_x f)(x^{-1}y) - f(y))\psi(y) \, dx \, dy \right| \\ &= \left| \int \int \varphi_\beta(x)(P_\alpha(L_x f)(y) - f(xy))\psi(xy) \, dy \, dx \right| \\ &\leq \int \varphi_\beta(x)\|P_\alpha(L_x f) - L_x f\| \|\psi\|_1 \, dx \\ &\leq \epsilon \|\psi\|_1. \end{aligned}$$

Let G be an amenable locally compact group, and let X be a $\sigma(LUC(G), L^1(G))$ closed approximately complemented subspace of $LUC(G)$ such that $L_x f \in X$ for all $f \in X$ and $x \in G$. Then there is a net of bounded operators $\mathcal{P}_\beta : \mathcal{B}(LUC(G)) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X)$ such that $\mathcal{P}_\beta(T) = T$ uniformly on bounded subsets of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ and, for every compact set K of G and every bounded set \mathcal{F} of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X)$,

$$\lim_\beta \|L_a \mathcal{P}_\beta(T) - \mathcal{P}_\beta(L_a T)\| = 0$$

uniformly for $a \in K$ and $T \in \mathcal{F}$. We conclude that $\lim_\beta P'_\beta(f) = f$ uniformly on bounded subsets of X . \square

Remark 3.10. Recall that a closed subspace F of a Banach space X is called *weakly complemented* in X if

$$F^\perp = \{f \in X^*; \langle f, x \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } x \in F\}$$

is complemented in X^* . It is easy to see that every complemented subspace is weakly complemented. It is known that c_0 is weakly complemented in l^∞ , but not complemented, see [20, Exercise 2.3.3]. Denote by $L^1([0, 1])$ the Banach space of all integrable functions defined on $[0, 1]$. This has a subspace isomorphic to l^2 [13]. This subspace is approximately complemented in $L^1([0, 1])$, but it is not weakly complemented in $L^1([0, 1])$ [24]. Therefore, this subspace is not complemented in $L^1([0, 1])$.

Theorem 3.11. *Let G be an amenable locally compact group, and let X be a weak* closed approximately complemented subspace of $LUC(G)$ such that $L_x f \in X$ for all $f \in X$ and $x \in G$. Then there is a net of*

bounded operators

$$\mathcal{P}_\beta : \mathcal{B}(LUC(G)) \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X), \quad \beta \in J,$$

such that $\lim_\beta \mathcal{P}_\beta(T) = T$ uniformly on bounded subsets of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$ and, for every compact set K of G and every bounded set \mathcal{F} of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X)$,

$$\lim_\beta \|L_a \mathcal{P}_\beta(T) - \mathcal{P}_\beta(L_a T)\| = 0$$

uniformly for $a \in K$ and $T \in \mathcal{F}$.

Proof. First, observe that $L_x T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X)$ for $x \in G$ and $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X)$, since $L_x f \in X$ for all $x \in G$ and $f \in X$. If X is approximately complemented, there is a net of bounded operators $P_\beta : LUC(G) \rightarrow X$, $\beta \in J$, such that $\lim_\beta \|P_\beta(f) - f\| = 0$ uniformly on bounded subsets of X and, for every compact set K of G and every bounded set F of X ,

$$\lim_\beta \|L_a P_\beta(f) - P_\beta(L_a f)\| = 0$$

uniformly for $a \in K$ and $f \in F$, see Theorem 3.9. For $\beta \in J$ and $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$, we now set $\langle \mathcal{P}_\beta(T)(f), \varphi \rangle = \langle P_\beta(T(f)), \varphi \rangle$ whenever $f \in LUC(G)$ and $\varphi \in L^1(G)$. It is easy to see that $\mathcal{P}_\beta(T) \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X)$ for all $T \in \mathcal{B}(LUC(G))$. Therefore, given a bounded set $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X)$ and an $\epsilon > 0$, there is a $\beta_0 \in J$ such that

$$\|P_\beta(T(f)) - T(f)\| < \epsilon$$

for all $\beta \succeq \beta_0$, $T \in \mathcal{F}$ and $f \in b(LUC(G))$;

here, $b(LUC(G))$ denotes the closed unit ball in $LUC(G)$. For every $\beta \succeq \beta_0$, $T \in \mathcal{F}$ and $f \in b(LUC(G))$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |P_\alpha^\varphi(L_a f)(y) - L_a P_\alpha^\varphi(f)(y)| \\ &= \left| \int \varphi(x) (P_\alpha(L_{ax} f)(x^{-1}y) - P_\alpha(L_x f)(x^{-1}ay)) dx \right| \\ &= \left| \int (\varphi(a^{-1}x) - \varphi(x)) P_\alpha(L_x f)(x^{-1}ay) dx \right| \\ &\leq \|P_\alpha\| \|f\| \|\delta_a * \varphi - \varphi\|_1 \\ &< \|f\| \epsilon, \end{aligned}$$

whenever $\varphi \in L^1(G)$. This shows that $\|\mathcal{P}_\beta(T) - T\| < \epsilon$ for all $\beta \succeq \beta_0$ and $T \in \mathcal{F}$.

Now, let \mathcal{F} be a bounded subset of $\mathcal{B}(LUC(G), X)$. Given a compact set $K \subseteq G$ and $\epsilon > 0$, from Theorem 3.9, there is a $\beta_0 \in J$ such that $\|P_\beta(L_a T(f)) - L_a P_\beta(T(f))\| < \epsilon$ for all $\beta \succeq \beta_0$, $T \in \mathcal{F}$, $a \in K$ and $f \in b(LUC(G))$. For $\beta \succeq \beta_0$, $T \in \mathcal{F}$ and $f \in b(LUC(G))$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\langle L_a \mathcal{P}_\beta(T)(f) - \mathcal{P}_\beta(L_a T)(f), \varphi \rangle| \\ &= |\langle L_a P_\beta(T(f)), \varphi \rangle - \langle P_\beta(L_a T(f)), \varphi \rangle| \\ &\leq \|L_a P_\beta(T(f)) - P_\beta(L_a T(f))\| \|\varphi\|_1 \\ &< \|\varphi\|_1 \epsilon, \end{aligned}$$

whenever $\varphi \in L^1(G)$. We conclude that $\|L_a \mathcal{P}_\beta(T) - \mathcal{P}_\beta(L_a T)\| < \epsilon$ for all $\beta \succeq \beta_0$, $a \in K$ and $T \in \mathcal{F}$. This completes the proof. \square

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