

Actions of Semitopological Semigroups on Hausdorff Spaces

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Notation and Definitions

A *semigroup* is a nonempty set G together with an associative multiplication, which we usually call multiplication, from $G \times G$ into G .

A semigroup G together with a Hausdorff topology for which multiplication in G is continuous from the left is called a *right topological semigroup*.

A semigroup G together with a Hausdorff topology for which multiplication in G is separately [resp. jointly] continuous is called a *semitopological* [resp. *topological*] *semigroup*. When the topology of G is locally compact, we call it a *locally compact semitopological* [resp. *topological*] *semigroup*.

A group G equipped with a Hausdorff topology is called a *topological group* if both multiplication and inversion are continuous. When the topology of a group is locally compact, we say G is a *locally compact group*.

G shall always denote a semitopological semigroup, unless otherwise stated.

X shall always denote a Hausdorff topological space, and we write \mathcal{T}_X for its topology.

\mathcal{T}_X has the discrete topology.

Let X be any (nonempty) topological space.

$\ell^\infty(X) =$ all bounded complex-valued functions

$CB(X) =$ all bounded, continuous complex-valued functions

$C_0(X) = \{f \in CB(X) : \text{for every } \epsilon > 0, \text{ there exists a}$
subset $K \subset X$ (depending on ϵ)
such that $|f(x)| < \epsilon$ for every $x \in X \setminus K\}$

$C_c(X) = \{f \in CB(X) : f \text{ has compact support}\}$

$\ell^\infty(X)$ is a commutative unital C^* -algebra with respect to the supremum norm

$$\|f\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in X} |f(x)|,$$

with pointwise addition and multiplication, and involution

$$f^*(x) = \overline{f(x)}.$$

$C_c(X) \subseteq C_0(X) \subseteq CB(X)$, with equality for compact X .

Generally we always consider $CB(X)$ to have the supremum topology, noting that $CB(X_d) = \ell^\infty(X)$.

For any $f \in \ell^\infty(G)$ and $a \in G$, we denote the left translations of f by a by

$$\ell_a f(b) = f(ab),$$

and

$$r_a f(b) = f(ba),$$

for all $b \in G$. We denote the left and right orbits of f

$$O_\ell f = \{\ell_a f : a \in G\},$$

and

$$O_r f = \{r_a f : a \in G\}.$$

A linear subspace $Y \subseteq \ell^\infty(G)$ is *left* [resp. *right*] *invariant* if $O_\ell f \subseteq Y$ [resp. $O_r f \subseteq Y$] for all $f \in Y$. Y is *invariant* if it is both left and right invariant.

Let Y be a left [resp. right] invariant norm closed subspace of $\ell^\infty(G)$, and let Y^* denote the dual space of Y . Y is *left* [resp. *right*] *introverted* if the function

$$n_\ell f(g) = n(\ell_g f) \quad [\text{resp. } n_r f(g) = n(r_g f)]$$

is in Y for each $n \in Y^*$. Y is *introverted* if it is both left and right introverted.

Let X be an arbitrary set, let Y be a norm closed subspace of $\ell^\infty(X)$ containing the constant functions. Denote the constant function in Y by 1_Y . A *mean* on Y is any $m \in Y^*$ such that $m(1_Y) = 1 = \|m\|$. We denote all means on Y by $M(Y)$.

Let Y be a left [resp. right] invariant norm closed subspace of $\ell^\infty(G)$ containing the constant functions. A mean $m \in M(Y)$ is called a [resp. *right*] *invariant mean* (LIM [resp. RIM]) if $m(\ell_g f) = m(f)$ [resp. $m(r_g f) = m(f)$] for all $g \in G$ and $f \in Y$. We denote the set of all such means by $LIM(Y)$ [resp. $RIM(Y)$]. A mean $m \in M(Y)$ is called an *invariant mean* (IM) if m is both a LIM and a RIM.

A topological group G is said to be *left* [resp. *right*] *amenable* if there exists a LIM [resp. RIM] on $\ell^\infty(G)$. G is *amenable* if there exists an IM on $\ell^\infty(G)$. A topological group G is said to be *amenable* if there exists a LIM or a RIM for $\ell^\infty(G_d)$.

Let Y be a left introverted subspace of $\ell^\infty(G)$. The *Arens product* is a map from $Y^* \times Y^*$ to Y^* defined by:

$$(m, n) \mapsto m \circ n,$$

where

$$m \circ n(f) = \langle m, n_\ell f \rangle$$

for all $m, n \in Y^*$ and $f \in Y$.

When Y is a right introverted subspace of $\ell^\infty(G)$, the *Arens product* is defined for Y^* by

$$(m, n) \mapsto m \square n,$$

where

$$m \square n(f) = \langle m, n_r f \rangle.$$

Both products are associative, distributive and weak*-weak*-continuous in the first variable. Furthermore, Y^* is a Banach space under either product.

If Y is a left [resp. right] introverted subspace of ℓ^∞ , then Y^* is a right topological semigroup under the first [resp. second] Arens product.

Let Y be left G introverted. The *topological center* of Y^* with respect to the first Arens product is

$$Z_t(Y) = \{m \in Y^* : \text{the map } n \mapsto m \circ n \text{ is } w^*\text{-}w^* \text{ continuous}\}$$

Let Y be introverted. The *topological center* of Y^* with respect to the second Arens product is

$$Z_t(Y) = \{m \in Y^* : m \circ n = m \square n \text{ for all } n \in Y\}$$

Y is called *Arens regular* when $Z_t(Y) = Y^*$.

Analysis on G -invariant subspaces

Definitions

Definition 1. *A jointly continuous action of G on a Hausdorff space X is a jointly continuous map $(a, x) \mapsto ax$ from $G \times X$ into X , such that $(ab)x = a(bx)$ for all $a, b \in G$ and such that the map $x \mapsto ax$, from X into X , is continuous for each $a \in G$.*

Example Multiplication in a topological semigroup viewed as a jointly continuous action of S on itself.

Let G have a jointly continuous action on X .

Definition 2. We denote the left translation of $f \in \ell^\infty(X)$ by an element $a \in G$ by

$$\lambda_a f(x) = f(ax)$$

for all $x \in X$. We define an analogue to the right (defined in (1)): for $f \in \ell^\infty(X)$ and $x \in X$, define the

$$\rho_x f(a) = f(ax),$$

for all $a \in G$.

Definition 3. We define the left and right orbits of with respect to G by

$$O_\lambda f = \{\lambda_a f : a \in G\}, \quad O_\rho f = \{\rho_x f : x \in X\}.$$

Definition 4. Consider a subspace of $CB(X)$ that is defined purely in terms of the action of G on X and the algebra structure of G and X (i.e. defined independently of the algebra structure of X , if any). Hereafter, we will always write such a subspace as $Y(G, X)$. We define the incident space of $Y(G, X)$ as $Y(G, G)$, the subspace of $CB(G)$ defined by the same conditions as $Y(G, X)$, with X replaced by G . For convenience we will write $Y(G)$ for $Y(G, G)$.

Definition 5. A linear subspace $Y \subseteq \ell^\infty(X)$ is left G invariant if $O_\lambda f \subseteq Y$ for all $f \in Y$. A subspace $Y(G, X)$ of $CB(X)$ is left G invariant if $O_\lambda f \subseteq Y(G, X)$ for all $f \in Y(G, X)$. $Y(G, X)$ is right X invariant if it is left G and right X invariant.

Definition 6. Let $Y(G, X)$ be a norm closed, left G invariant subspace of $CB(X)$, and let $n \in Y(G, X)^*$. $Y(G, X)$ is called *left G introverted* if the function

$$n_\lambda f(g) = n(\lambda_g f)$$

is in $Y(G)$ for all $f \in Y(G, X)$. When $Y(G, X)$ is a norm closed, right X invariant subspace and $m \in Y(G)^*$, $Y(G, X)$ is called *right X introverted* if the function

$$m_\rho f(x) = m(\rho_x f)$$

is in $Y(G, X)$ for all $f \in Y(G, X)$. $Y(G, X)$ is called *introverted* if it is both left G and right X introverted.

Definition 7 (Greenleaf). Let Y be a left G -invariant closed subspace of $\ell^\infty(X)$ containing the constant functions. A mean $m \in Y^*$ is said to be a left G -invariant mean if $m(\lambda_g f) = m(f)$ for all $g \in G$ and $f \in Y$. We denote the set of such means by $GLIM(Y)$. X is said to be left amenable if there exists a $GLIM$ on $\ell^\infty(X)$.

Definition 8. Let $Y_1(G, X)$ be a left introverted subspace of $CB(X)$. For $m \in Y_1(G)^*$, $n \in Y_1(G, X)^*$ and $f \in Y_1(G, X)$, the left Arens action of $Y_1(G)^*$ on $Y_1(G, X)^*$ is defined by

$$(m, n) \mapsto m \odot n,$$

where

$$m \odot n(f) = \langle m, n_\lambda f \rangle.$$

Let $Y_2(G, X)$ be a right introverted subspace of $CB(X)$. For $m \in Y_2(G)^*$, $n \in Y_2(G, X)^*$ and $f \in Y_2(G, X)$. We similarly define the right Arens action of $Y_2(G)^*$ on $Y_2(G, X)^*$ by

$$n \boxdot m(f) = \langle n, m_\rho f \rangle.$$

Proposition 9. *Let $Y(G, X)$ be a left introverted space with $CB(X)$. The left Arens action of $Y(G)^*$ on $Y(G, X)$ has the following properties:*

- (i) *If $n \in GLIM(Y(G, X))$, then for every $m \in Y(G, X)^*$, $m \odot n = n$.*
- (ii) *$Y(G, X)^*$ is a left Banach- $Y(G)^*$ module.*
- (iii) *For any $g \in G$ and $x \in X$, $\delta_g \odot \delta_x = \delta_{gx}$.*

Definition 10. *Let $Y(G, X)$ be a left introverted space with $CB(X)$. We define the topological center of $Y(G, X)^*$ to be the set*

$$Z_Y = \{m \in Y(G)^* : n \mapsto m \odot n \text{ is } w^*-w^* \text{ continuous on } GLIM(Y(G, X))\}$$

G -invariant function spaces

Definition 11. A function $f \in CB(X)$ is almost periodic if $O_\rho f$ is relatively compact in the norm topology of $CB(X)$ (equivalently, if $O_\lambda f$ is relatively compact in the norm topology of $CB(G)$). We denote the space of all such functions $AP(G, X)$.

Definition 12. A function $f \in CB(X)$ is weakly almost periodic if $O_\lambda f$ is relatively compact in the weak topology of $CB(G)$ (equivalently, if $O_\rho f$ is relatively compact in the weak topology of $CB(X)$). We denote the space of all such functions $WAP(G, X)$.

Definition 13. A function $f \in CB(X)$ is called left uniformly continuous if the map $a \mapsto \lambda_a f$ from G into $CB(X)$ is continuous. We denote the set of all such functions by $LUC(G, X)$.

Theorem 14. $AP(G, X)$ is the largest involution closed, left introverted C^* -subalgebra of $CB(X)$ containing the constant functions such that $m \odot n = n \square m$, and such that $(m, n) \mapsto m \odot n$ is jointly continuous on bounded subsets.

Theorem 15. $WAP(G, X)$ is the largest involution closed, left introverted C^* -subalgebra of $CB(X)$ containing the constant functions such that the subalgebra is introverted, $n \square m$, and such that $(m, n) \mapsto m \odot n$ is separately continuous.

Theorem 16. $LUC(G, X)$ is an invariant left introverted C^* -subalgebra of $CB(X)$ containing the constant functions.

- $AP(G, X) \subset WAP(G, X)$
- $AP(G, X) \subset LUC(G, X)$
- If G is a locally compact group, then $WAP(G, X) \subset$
- $f \in WAP(G, X) \Leftrightarrow \lim_i \lim_j f(g_i x_j) = \lim_j \lim_i f(g_i x_j)$
 quences $\{g_i\} \subset G$ and $\{x_j\} \subset X$, whenever all limits exist.

Arens action of the Banach algebra $LUC(G)^*$ on L

Using ideas of Lau and Wong, we prove that the measure $\mathcal{M}(G)$ is a subset of Z_{LUC} .

Let Z denote the set of all $m \in LUC(G)^*$ such that $m_\rho f$ is in $LUC(G, X)$ for all $f \in LUC(G, X)$, with $m \odot n$ for all $n \in LUC(G, X)^*$.

Lemma 17. *Let $m \in LUC(G)^*$. The following are equivalent:*

- (i) $m \in Z$.
- (ii) $m \in Z_{LUC}$.
- (iii) *The map $n \mapsto m \odot n$ is weak*-weak* continuous on bounded subsets of $LUC(G, X)^*$.*

For any locally compact space X , let τ_X denote the weak* topology on $\mathcal{M}(X)$ determined by the family of seminorms $\{p_f : f \in LUC(G, X)\}$, where $p_f(\mu) = \left| \int f d\mu \right|$, $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(X)$.

Lemma 18. *Let G be a locally compact semitopological group with jointly continuous action on a locally compact Hausdorff space X .*

- (i) *For every $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(G)$, the map $n \mapsto \mu \odot n$ is weak* continuous on norm bounded subsets of $LUC(G, X)$.*
- (ii) *For every $n \in LUC(G, X)^*$, the map $\mu \mapsto \mu \odot n$ is continuous.*
- (iii) *For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(G)$, $\nu \in \mathcal{M}(X)$, $\mu \odot \nu(f) = \langle \mu * \nu, f \rangle$, $f \in C_0(X)$.*
- (iv) *$n \in GLIM(LUC(G, X))$ if and only if $\mu \odot n = 0$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_0(G) = \{\mu \in \mathcal{M}(G) : \mu \geq 0, \|\mu\| = 1\}$.*

Main Result

Theorem 19. *Let G be a locally compact semitopological group with jointly continuous action on a locally compact Hausdorff space X . If $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(G)$, then $\mu \in Z_{LUC}$.*

Proof. By Lemma 18 (i), the map $\mu \mapsto m \odot \mu$ is weak*-continuous on norm bounded subsets of $LUC(G, X)^*$. By Lemma 18 (ii), $\mu \in Z_{LUC}$.

Remarks

In *Continuity of Arens multiplication on the dual space of uniformly continuous functions on locally compact groups and topological semigroups* (Math. Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc. **99** (1986), 273–283), Lau proved that if G is either a compact group or a cancellative discrete semigroup, then $Z_{LUC} = \mathcal{M}(G)$.

Recently, Neufang, in his paper *On a unified approach to the topological center problem for certain Banach algebras in abstract harmonic analysis* (Arch. Math. (Basel) **8** no. 2, 164–171), used a different technique to prove the result when G is a locally compact group.

G -minimal sets and G -invariant measures for βX

Let G, X be discrete. $(\kappa, \beta X) =$ the Stone-Ćech completion of X . We identify $\kappa(x) \in \beta X$ with $\delta_x \in \ell^\infty(X)^*$.

The left action of G on X extends to an action of G

$$(a, n) \mapsto \kappa(a) \odot n.$$

Notation:

For fixed $n \in \beta X$, $\kappa(G) \odot n = \{\kappa(g) \odot n : g \in G\}$.

For fixed $g \in G$ and any $U \subset \beta X$, $\kappa(g) \odot U = \{\kappa(g) \odot$

If $K \subset G$ and $U \subset \beta X$,

$$\{\kappa(K)\}^{-1} \odot U = \{n \in \beta X : \kappa(k) \odot n \in U \text{ for some } k \in K\}.$$

If $A \subset G$ and K is as above,

$$\{K\}^{-1} A = \{g \in G : kg \in A \text{ for some } k \in K\}.$$

We have an isometric $*$ -isomorphism T from $C_c(\beta X)$ onto $\ell^\infty(X)$, $\tilde{f} \mapsto f$, where

$$f(x) = \tilde{f}(\kappa(x)),$$

for $\tilde{f} \in C_c(\beta X)$ and $x \in X$. We identify $CB(\beta X)^*$ with $\ell^\infty(X)^*$ in the usual way:

$$\langle T^*n, \tilde{f} \rangle = \int \tilde{f} d(T^*n).$$

Proposition 20. *$n \in GLIM(\ell^\infty(X))$ if and only if T^*n is a probability measure on βX such that $(T^*n)(\{\kappa(g)\}^{-1} \odot U) = 1$ for all $g \in G$ and Borel sets $U \subset \beta X$.*

Definition 21. *Let $n \in \ell^\infty(X)^*$. T^*n is called G -invariant if $n \in GLIM(\ell^\infty(X))$.*

Definition 22. $n \in \beta X$ is called left almost G -periodic if for every neighbourhood U of n there exists a subset $A \subset G$ such that A is a finite subset $K \subset G$ with $G = \{K\}^{-1}A$ and $\kappa(A) \odot U \subset U$. We denote the set of all almost G -periodic elements in βX by $\text{AP}(X, G)$.

Definition 23. A nonempty subset U of βX is called G -minimal if $\kappa(g) \odot U \subset U$ for all $g \in G$. U is called G -minimal if it is closed and minimal with respect to this property. We denote the elements of βX which belong to a G -minimal set by $\text{Min}(X, G)$.

We denote by $K^{G, X}$ the elements in βX which are in the support of some G -invariant measure.

Proposition 24. *Let $n \in GLIM(\ell^\infty(X))$. Then $\text{supp } n$ is a G -invariant set.*

Proposition 25. *Let $n \in M(\ell^\infty(X))$, and let U be a closed subset of βX . Then $\text{supp } (T^*n) \subset U$ if and only if $n \in M(U)$.*

Main Results

Theorem 26. $A^{G,X} = B^{G,X}$.

Corollary 27. *When G acts amenably on X , $A^{G,X} \subset B^{G,X}$.*

We now find conditions on X and G that imply $K^{G,X} \neq \emptyset$.
 We need the following definition:

Definition 28. For $A \subset X$, let

$$d(A) = \sup \{m(\chi_A) : m \in GLIM(\ell^\infty(X))\}.$$

A is called a C -subset for the pair (G, X) if $d(A) < 1$ and $d(\{K\}^{-1}A) < 1$ for all finite $K \subset G$.

Theorem 29. If G is left amenable and (G, X) has a C -subset, then $\overline{\kappa(A)} \cap \overline{A^{G,X}} = \emptyset$ and $\overline{\kappa(A)} \cap K^{G,X} \neq \emptyset$. Thus $A^{G,X} \neq \emptyset$.

Proposition 30. Let G be left amenable. Suppose that (G, X) has no C -subsets. Then $K^{G,X} \subset \overline{A^{G,X}}$.

Fixed Point Properties

Let G be a locally compact group, let H be a closed subgroup of G . The coset space $G/H = \{xH : x \in G\}$. The space G/H admits a quasi-invariant measure λ .

$L^\infty(G/H) =$ ess. bdd. λ -measurable \mathbb{C} -valued functions with norm

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\| &= \text{ess. sup}_{x \in G} |f(x)| \\ &= \inf\{\alpha > 0 : \{g \in G : |f(g)| > \alpha\} \text{ is locally null}\} \end{aligned}$$

An affine transformation from a vector space V to itself is a map T such that

$$T(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) = \alpha T(x) + (1 - \alpha)T(y)$$

for all $x, y \in V$ and scalars α .

Existence of a G -invariant measure on coset space

We prove, using Day's fixed point theorem in *Fixed-point theorems for compact convex sets* (Illinois J. Math. **5** (1961), 589), that G/H admits a regular Borel measure μ on the coset space G/H such that $\mu(gE) = \mu(E)$ for all $g \in G$ and measurable sets E of G/H . The proof uses an idea of Izzo in the proof of the existence of the Haar measure on locally compact groups using the Markov-Kakutani fixed point theorem in *On certain actions of semi-groups on L -spaces* (St. Petersburg Math. Journal **29** (1967), 63–77).

Theorem 31 (Day's Fixed Point Theorem). *Let K be a compact, convex subset of a locally convex Hausdorff topological vector space. Let S be a semigroup of affine continuous transformations of K into itself. If S is amenable as a discrete group, then there exists $k \in K$ such that $Tk = k$ for all $T \in S$.*

Lemma 32. *Let G be a topological group and let U be a symmetric metric neighbourhood of the identity in G . There exists V such that for each $g \in G$, the set gUU contains at least one element of V , and such that the set gU contains at least one element of V .*

Lemma 33. *Let X be a vector space. If K is a weakly compact subset of X^* such that for each $x \in X$ the set $\{\phi(x) : \phi \in K\}$ is bounded, then K is compact.*

Main Result

Theorem 34. *Let G be a locally compact group which is discrete as a topological group, and let H be a closed subgroup of G . Then G/H admits a G -invariant measure.*

Proof. For each $a \in G$, define $T_a : C_c(G/H)^* \rightarrow C_c(G/H)^*$

$$\langle T_a, \phi \rangle(f) = \phi(\lambda_a f)$$

Each T_a is continuous and affine, and $S = \{T_a : a \in G\}$ is a continuous representation of G .

Fix a symmetric neighbourhood U of the identity in G such that U is compact. Let K be all positive linear functionals $\phi \in C_c(G/H)^*$ which satisfy:

$\phi(f) \leq 1$ for all nonnegative $f \in C_c(G/H)$ that are bounded above by 1 and supported in $(xU)H = \{(xu)H : u \in U\}$ for some $x \in G$, and

$\phi(f) \geq 1$ for all nonnegative $f \in C_c(G/H)$ that are bounded on $(xUU)H = \{(xuv)H : u, v \in U\}$ for some $x \in G$.

K is weak* closed and convex. For each $f \in C_c(G/H)$, $\{\phi(f) : \phi \in K\}$ is bounded. By Lemma 33, K is weak* closed. Take V as in Lemma 32. The functional

$$\psi : f \mapsto \sum_{v \in V} f(vH).$$

is in K .

It follows, from the definition of K , that T_a maps K to K . By Day's fixed point theorem, $S = \{T_a : a \in G\}$ has a fixed point in K .

A Fixed Point Property for the pair $(G : H)$

Eymard defined the following fixed point property for the pair $(G : H)$ in *Moyennes invariantes et représentation* (Lecture Notes in Mathematics, vol. 300, Springer-Verlag, 1972).

Definition 35. *The pair $(G : H)$ is said to have the fixed point property (FPP) if every jointly continuous affine action of G on a compact convex subset K of a locally convex topological vector space X which has a fixed point for H also has a fixed point for G .*

Furthermore, Eymard proved that there exists a GLIM if and only if $(G : H)$ has the FPP.

In *A remark on groups with the fixed point property*, Amer. Math. Soc. **23** (1972), no. 2, 623–624), S. considered the following weaker condition of the action of

Definition 36. A weakly measurable affine action of G on a compact convex subset K of a locally convex topological space X is a representation of G by continuous affine maps α_g such that for each $\phi \in X^*$ and $x \in K$, the map $g \mapsto \langle \phi, \alpha_g(x) \rangle$ is measurable.

We define a second fixed point property for the pair

Definition 37. The pair $(G : H)$ is said to have the second fixed point property if for every weakly measurable affine action of G on a compact convex subset K of a locally convex topological space X with a fixed point for H also has a fixed point for G .

Main Result

Theorem 38. *For G a locally compact group with a closed subgroup H , the following are equivalent:*

- (i) There exists a GLIM on $L^\infty(G/H)$.*
- (ii) $(G : H)$ has the FPP2.*
- (iii) $(G : H)$ has the FPP.*
- (iv) There exists a GLIM on $LUC(G, G/H)$.*