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Representative Functions on Topological Groups

ANTOINE DERIGHETTI

1. Introduction

In this paper we shall study the relations existing between the topological properties of a completely regular topological group G and the algebraic properties of the space of all representative functions R(G) over G.

In the first part we give some results which generalize those of S. Kakutani ([4] pp. 430-431) concerning compactifications of locally compact abelian groups.

For a compact group G the Tannaka duality theorem shows that the algebraic properties of R(G) characterize completely those of G. Using [2], we find algebraic characterizations of the connectedness, local connectedness and arcwise connectedness of G. Similarly, we attempt to generalize, in a certain sense, the well-known result of Pontrjagin ([10] p. 32) about the covering dimension of a compact abelian group. Using these results we obtain some applications to more general topological groups.

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2. Compactifications and related questions

Let γ be the map of R(G) into $R(G) \otimes_{\mathbf{C}} R(G)$ induced by the product in G. Following ([6]), one can say that, with the coproduct γ and the pointwise product, R(G) is a Hopf algebra. We consider, as in [2], only Hopf subalgebras of R(G) which are stable under complex conjugation.

Let \mathscr{H} be a Hopf subalgebra of R(G). We denote by $S(\mathscr{H})$ the set of all C-algebra homomorphisms of \mathscr{H} onto C which commute with complex conjugation. With the finite open topology $S(\mathscr{H})$ is a compact space ([6] p. 28). Let Γ be a non empty subset of R(G); we denote by $\mathscr{H}(\Gamma)$ the least Hopf subalgebra containing Γ . It follows from ([6] p. 29-30) that $S(\mathscr{H}(\Gamma))$ is a compact group and the evaluation map φ_{Γ} of G into $S(\mathscr{H}(\Gamma))$ is a continuous homomorphism.

PROPOSITION 1. The group $\varphi_{\Gamma}(G)$ is dense in $S(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma))$ for every $\Gamma \subset R(G)$. Proof. Consider $f \in R(S(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma)))$ with f=0 on $\varphi_{\Gamma}(G)$. By the Tannaka duality theorem ([6] p. 30) there exists $h \in \mathcal{H}(\Gamma)$ such that s(h) = f(s) for every $s \in S(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma))$. In particular $\varphi_{\Gamma}(x)(h) = h(x) = 0$ for every $x \in G$. This implies that h = 0 and therefore f = 0. Using ([7] Lemma 5.2.) we obtain $\overline{\varphi_{\Gamma}(G)} = S(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma))$.

COROLLARY 1. Let \mathcal{H} be any Hopf subalgebra of R(G). Let τ be any element

of $S(\mathcal{H})$, let $f_1, ..., f_n$ be a finite subset of \mathcal{H} and let ε be any positive number. Then there is a point $x \in G$ such that $|\tau(f_j) - f_j(x)| < \varepsilon \ (1 \le j \le n)$.

Proof. By definition of the topology of $S(\mathcal{H})$ the set $\{\tau' \in S(\mathcal{H}) \mid |\tau'(f_j) - \tau(f_j)| < \varepsilon \}$ is an open neighborhood U of τ . From prop. 1 the existence of $x \in G$ then follows with the required properties.

Remark. This result is proved for characters over a topological group in ([5]). At the end of the same paper, the authors indicate the possibility of generalization.

COROLLARY 2. Let G be an infinite maximally almost periodic group and let $f_1, ..., f_n \in R(G)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. Then there is an element $x \in G$ such that $x \neq e$ and $|f_j(x) - f_j(e)| < \varepsilon \ (1 \le j \le n)$.

The proof is analogous (using prop. 1) to that in the locally compact abelian case ([4] p. 431).

PROPOSITION 2. Let G be a topological group. Let H be a compact group. Then the following assertions are equivalent:

- (i) There is a continuous homomorphism φ of G into H such that $\overline{\varphi(G)} = H$.
- (ii) H is isomorphic to the compact group $S(\Gamma)$ for some Hopf subalgebra Γ of R(G).
- (iii) There is a Hopf algebra monomorphism ψ of R(H) into R(G).

Proof. It is clear that (i) implies (iii) and that (ii) implies (i). Suppose that (iii) holds. The map ψ^* of S(R(G)) into S(R(H)) defined by $\psi^*(s) = s \circ \psi$ is a continuous group homomorphism. There exists a continuous group homomorphism ψ' of G into H defined by the commutativity of

$$S(R(G)) \xrightarrow{\psi^*} S(R(H))$$

$$\downarrow^{\varphi_{R(G)}} \uparrow \qquad \uparrow^{\varphi_{R(H)}}.$$

$$G \xrightarrow{\psi'} \qquad H$$

The relation $\overline{\psi'(G)} \neq H$ implies the existence of $f \in R(H)$ with $f \neq 0$ and $f(\psi'(x)) = 0$ for any $x \in G$. This contradicts the equality $f \circ \psi' = \psi(f)$. Therefore (iii) implies (i). It remains to prove that (i) implies (ii). Consider the Hopf algebra monomorphism φ^* of R(H) into R(G) defined by $\varphi^*(f) = f \circ \varphi$ and set $\Gamma = \varphi^*(R(H))$. To every $f \in R(H)$ there corresponds a function on $S(\Gamma)$ defined by $s(\varphi^*(f))$ for every

 $s \in S(\Gamma)$. This map is a Hopf algebra isomorphism of R(H) onto $R(S(\Gamma))$ and therefore H and $S(\Gamma)$ are isomorphic.

Remark. From the approximation theorem it follows that S(R(G)) is isomorphic to the almost periodic compactification of G([8] p. 168).

3. Some results concerning compact groups

For a compact group G we have $\varphi(G) = S(R(G))$ (we set $\varphi_{R(G)} = \varphi$). This equality permits us to characterize the topological properties of G (as in the abelian case) using the "algebraic" properties of R(G).

First we introduce some notations. If \mathscr{H} is a Hopf subalgebra of R(G), let \mathscr{H}^{\perp} denote the closed normal subgroup of G defined by $\{h \in G \mid {}_h f = f \text{ for every } f \in \mathscr{H}\}$. Conversely, if H is a closed normal subgroup of G, let H^{\perp} be the Hopf subalgebra of R(G) defined by $\{f \in R(G) \mid {}_h f = f \text{ for every } h \in H\}$. In [2] the following result was proved:

THEOREM 1. For every compact group G, $G_0^{\perp} = \{ f \in R(G) \mid f \text{ is an algebraic element of the C-algebra } R(G) \}$, where G_0 denotes the connected component of the identity in G.

Proof. We prove at first that the above conditions are sufficient to insure the local connectedness of a compact group G.

THEOREM 2. A compact group G is locally connected if and only if every finite set of representative functions on G is contained in a finitely generated Hopf subalgebra \mathcal{H} of R(G) such that every non constant element of $R(\mathcal{H}^{\perp})$ is not algebraic.

Proof. We prove at first that the above conditions are sufficient to insure the local connectedness of G. For every open neighborhood U of e in G there exists an $\varepsilon > 0$ and there exists a sequence $\{f_j\}_{j=1}^n \subset R(G)$ such that the set $\{x \in G \mid |f_j(x)-f_j(e)| < \varepsilon \ 1 \le j \le n\}$ is contained in U. This implies that $\mathscr{H}(f_1, ..., f_n)^\perp \subset U$. By hypothesis there exists a finitely generated Hopf subalgebra \mathscr{E} of R(G) with $\mathscr{E} \supset \mathscr{H}(f_1, ..., f_n)$ and \mathscr{E}^\perp connected. Let π be the canonical map of G onto G/\mathscr{E}^\perp . The factor group G/\mathscr{E}^\perp is a Lie group, since $R(G/\mathscr{E}^\perp)$ and \mathscr{E} are isomorphic. Let Σ be a fundamental system of open connected neighborhoods of $\pi(e)$ in G/\mathscr{E}^\perp . It is easy to demonstrate the existence of a subset $G \in \Sigma$ with $\pi^{-1}(G) \subset U$. It suffices to prove that $\pi^{-1}(G)$ is connected. Suppose the contrary. There exist open subsets of G V_1 , V_2 such that $V_1, V_2 \neq \emptyset$, $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$ and $V_1 \cup V_2 = \pi^{-1}(G)$. The existence of $x \in G$ with $\pi(x) \in \pi(V_1) \cap \pi(V_2) = \emptyset$ and this implies that G is not connected.

For the second part of the proof, we suppose that R(G) does not satisfy the above

conditions, and show that G is not locally connected. In this case there exists an $M \subset R(G)$ with $|M| < \infty$, such that every Hopf subalgebra $\mathscr E$ of R(G) with $\mathscr E \supset M$ and $\mathscr E^{\perp}$ connected is not finitely generated. Let $\mathscr H$ be the Hopf subalgebra of R(G) with the property that $\mathscr H^{\perp}$ is the connected component of the unit element in the subgroup $\mathscr H(M)^{\perp}$ (the connected component of a normal closed subgroup is itself a normal subgroup). Denoting by α the canonical map of $G/\mathscr H^{\perp}$ onto $G/\mathscr H(M)^{\perp}$, we have $\operatorname{Ker} \alpha = \mathscr H(M)^{\perp}/\mathscr H^{\perp}$. By a generalization of a wellknown theorem of Hurewicz ([9] theorem 4), dim $\operatorname{Ker} \alpha = 0$ implies $\dim G/\mathscr H^{\perp} \leqslant \dim G/\mathscr H(M)^{\perp}$, and then $\dim S(\mathscr H) \leqslant \dim S(\mathscr H(M))$. It follows that $\dim S(\mathscr H)$ is finite, because $S(\mathscr H(M))$ is a compact Lie group. By hypothesis $\mathscr H$ is not finitely generated. This fact implies that $S(\mathscr H)$ is not locally connected, and therefore (since the natural map of G onto $G/\mathscr H^{\perp}$ is open) that G itself is not locally connected.

Remarks.

- 1) In this proof we have used the two following results: α) A compact group G is a Lie group if and only if the C-algebra R(G) is finitely generated; β) Every compact (or locally compact) locally connected group with a finite dimension is a Lie group.
- 2) The corresponding classical result ([10] p. 33) for compact abelian groups is: G is locally connected if and only if every finite number of continuous characters over G is contained in a finitely generated subgroup H of \hat{G} (group of all continuous characters over G) such that \hat{G}/H is torsion-free.

We denote by $\mathcal{D}(G)$ the set of all C-derivations of the C-algebra R(G) which commute with complex conjugation and every left translation. Let $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$. For every $f \in R(G)$ consider the finite dimensional G-module $R(f) = [\{f_x \mid x \in G\}]$. By ([7] prop. 2.5) R(f) is stable under D. This implies that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} D^n f/n!$ defines an element $\exp Df$ of R(f) and therefore of R(G).

PROPOSITION 3. For every $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ the map $t \mapsto \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(e) \exp t D)$ is a one-parameter subgroup of G. Conversely every one-parameter subgroup admits such a unique representation.

Proof. Let $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ and $t \in \mathbb{R}$. It is easy to prove that $\exp tD(fg) = \exp tD(f)$ expt D(g) for every f, $g \in R(G)$. It follows that $\exp tD$ is a C-algebra endomorphism of R(G). From the fact that $\exp tD$ commutes with complex conjugation it follows that $\varphi(e) \exp tD \in S(R(G))$. We have therefore that $t \mapsto \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(e) \exp tD)$ is a one-parameter subgroup of G.

Let $\lambda \in \operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{cont}}(\mathbf{R}, G)$. For every $f \in R(G)$ and $t \in \mathbf{R}$ set U_t $f = f_{\lambda(t)}$. The operator U_t is unitary under the scalar-product of R(G) defined by the normalized Haar measure of G. We denote by U_t' the extension of U_t to $L^2(G)$. There exists an operator D of $L^2(G)$ with iD selfadjoint and such that $\lim_{t\to 0} ||(U_t'f-f)t^{-1}-Df||_2 = 0$ for

every $f \in R(G)$. The operator -iD has the spectral representation $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \mu \, dE_{\mu}$ and U'_t is equal to $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{i\mu t} \, dE_{\mu}$. For every f in R(G) and $t \neq 0$ we have $(U_t f - f) t^{-1} \in R(f)$ and therefore $Df \in R(f)$, i.e. $D(R(G)) \subset R(G)$. It is easy to verify that the restriction of D to R(G) is contained in $\mathcal{D}(G)$. As above we can define $\exp tD$. It is clear that the C-algebra endomorphism $\exp tD$ commutes with complex conjugation and left translations and invoking ([7] Lemma 5.4) we obtain that $\exp tD$ is a unitary operator of R(G). For every f of R(G) we have $\lim_{t\to 0} ||(\exp tDf - f) t^{-1} - Df||_2 = 0$. Let U''_t be the extension of $\exp tD$ to $L^2(G)$. As above there exists an operator D' of $L^2(G)$ with iD' self-adjoint and $\lim_{t\to 0} ||(U''_t h - h) t^{-1} - D'h||_2 = 0$ for every $h \in R(G)$. We have therefore D = D' and $U''_t = U'_t$ i.e. $\exp tDf = f_{\lambda(t)}$ for every $f \in R(G)$.

COROLLARY. For a compact Lie group G, the Lie algebra g of G is isomorphic to $\mathcal{D}(G)$.

Remarks.

- 1) Proposition 3 gives a characterisation of the Lie algebra of a compact group. The corollary has been already proved for more general Lie groups than compact Lie groups ([7] Theorem 11.1).
- 2) For the second part of the proof of proposition 3 Professor G. Hochschild has suggested a method which avoids the use of operator theory in $L^2(G)$. If V is any finite dimensional right-submodule of R(G) the map $t \mapsto U_t$ (where $U_t f = f_{\lambda(t)}$) defines a continuous homomorphism of \mathbf{R} into the full linear group of V. This homomorphism is therefore of the form $t \mapsto \exp t D_V$, where D_V is some linear endomorphism of V. Since R(G) is the union of such V's, the D_V 's match up to give a linear endomorphism D of R(G) with the required properties.

We set for $\Gamma \subset R(G)$ and $M \subset \mathcal{D}(G)$:

- (i) Ann $(\Gamma) = \{ D \in \mathcal{D}(G) \mid Df = 0 \text{ for every } f \in \Gamma \},$
- (ii) $\mathcal{H}_l(\Gamma)$ = the least subalgebra of R(G) invariant under the left-translations and the complex conjugation containing Γ .
- (iii) Ann $(M) = \{ f \in R(G) \mid Df = 0 \text{ for every } D \in M \}.$

It is easy to see that $Ann(\Gamma)$ is a Lie subalgebra of $\mathcal{D}(G)$, and that $Ann(M) = \mathcal{H}_l(Ann(M))$.

PROPOSITION 4. For every subset Γ of R(G), we have $\mathcal{H}_l(\Gamma \cup \mathcal{A}) = \text{Ann } (\text{Ann}(\Gamma))$, where \mathcal{A} is the subset of all algebraic elements of R(G).

Proof. Denote by $\lambda(D)$ the element of $\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{cont}}(\mathbf{R}, G)$ corresponding to $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$. From $f \in \lambda(D)(\mathbf{R})^{\perp 1}$ it follows that $\exp tDf = f$ for every $t \in \mathbf{R}$ i.e. $f \in \operatorname{Ker} D$ and

¹⁾ For every subset H of G, H_r^{\perp} denotes the set $\{f \in R(G) \mid f_x = f \text{ for every } x \in H\}$ and for any subalgebra Γ of R(G) with $\mathcal{H}_l(\Gamma) = \Gamma \Gamma_r^{\perp}$ is the closed subgroup $\{x \in G \mid f_x = f \text{ for every } f \in \Gamma\}$.

conversely, we have therefore $\lambda(D)(\mathbf{R})_r^{\perp} = \operatorname{Ker} D$. Using the fact that every one-parameter subgroup is contained in G_0 we obtain $\operatorname{Ker} D \supset \mathscr{A}$ and in particular $\operatorname{Ann}(\operatorname{Ann}(\Gamma)) \supset \mathscr{H}_l(\Gamma \cup \mathscr{A})$. It is easy to verify that $\operatorname{Ann}(\Gamma) = \{D \in \mathscr{D}(G) \mid \lambda(D)(\mathbf{R}) \subset \mathscr{H}_l(\Gamma \cup \mathscr{A})_r^{\perp}\}$. Since the closed subgroup $\mathscr{H}_l(\Gamma \cup \mathscr{A})_r^{\perp}$ is connected, we have $\mathscr{H}_l(\Gamma \cup \mathscr{A}) = \{\lambda(D)(\mathbf{R}) \mid D \in \mathscr{D}(G), \lambda(D)(\mathbf{R}) \subset \mathscr{H}_l(\Gamma \cup \mathscr{A})_r^{\perp}\}_r^{\perp}$ and therefore $\mathscr{H}_l(\Gamma \cup \mathscr{A}) = \{\lambda(D)(\mathbf{R}) \mid D \in \operatorname{Ann}(\Gamma)\}_r^{\perp} = \bigcap \{\operatorname{Ker} D \mid D \in \operatorname{Ann}(\Gamma)\} = \operatorname{Ann}(\operatorname{Ann}(\Gamma))$.

Remarks.

- 1) For $\Gamma = \emptyset$ we obtain $\mathscr{A} = \operatorname{Ann}(\mathscr{D}(G))$ which gives another characterisation of the set of all algebraic elements of R(G).
 - 2) The group G is solenoïdal if and only if there is $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ with $\operatorname{Ker} D = \mathbb{C} \cdot 1_G$.
- 3) There is a bijective map between the closed subgroups of G_0 and the Lie subalgebras M of $\mathcal{D}(G)$ such that $M = \operatorname{Ann}(\operatorname{Ann}(M))$. That is, to every closed subgroup H of G_0 we associate $M = \operatorname{Ann}(H_r^{\perp})$. The subgroup H is normal in G if and only if M is an ideal of $\mathcal{D}(G)$.

THEOREM 3. A compact group G is arcwise connected if and only if for every $x \in G$ there is an element D of $\mathcal{D}(G)$ such that the following diagram commutes:

$$R(G) \xrightarrow{\varphi(x)} \mathbf{C}$$

$$exp D \searrow \nearrow \varphi(e)$$

$$R(G)$$

LEMMA. A compact group is arcwise connected if and only if it is the union of all one-parameter subgroups.

Proof. By ([11] Theorem 1) every arc beginning at the unit element is homotopic to the restriction to [0,1] of a one-parameter subgroup.

Proof of theorem 3. Suppose first that G is arcwise connected. In this case for every $x \in G$ there exists $\lambda \in \operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{cont}}(\mathbf{R}, G)$ and $a \in \mathbf{R}$ with $\lambda(a) = x$. There exists $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ such that $\lambda(at) = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(e) \exp t D)$ and therefore $\varphi(e) \exp D = \varphi(x)$.

Conversely suppose that for every $x \in G$ there exists $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ such that $\varphi(x) = \varphi(e) \exp D$. If we set $\lambda(t) = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(e) \exp tD)$ we obtain $\lambda \in \operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{cont}}(\mathbf{R}, G)$ and $\lambda(1) = x$. Remarks.

1) The classical result for compact abelian groups ([3]) is: G is arcwise connected if and only if for every $x \in G$ there exists $\lambda \in \text{Hom}(\hat{G}, \mathbb{R})$ such that

$$\hat{G} \xrightarrow{x} S^{1}$$

$$\stackrel{\lambda}{\searrow} \uparrow e^{2\pi i}$$

$$\mathbf{R}$$

commutes.

2) It is not necessary to give conditions which imply the local arcwise connectedness of G because a compact connected group is locally arcwise connected if and only if it is arcwise connected ([11]).

The dimension of a compact abelian group is equal by ([10] p. 32) to the rank of its character group. The next theorem is to be considered as a possible generalization to the non abelian case.

THEOREM 4. The dimension of a compact group G is equal to the dimension of the real vector space $\mathcal{D}(G)$.

Proof. There exists an inverse system $(G_{\alpha}, u_{\alpha\beta})$ consisting of compact Lie groups G_{α} and continuous epimorphisms $u_{\beta\alpha}\colon G_{\beta}\to G_{\alpha}(\alpha<\beta)$ such that $G\cong \lim_{\leftarrow}(G_{\alpha}, u_{\alpha\beta})$. We denote by π_{α} the projection of G onto G_{α} ; by R_{α} , the Hopf subalgebra of R(G), $(\operatorname{Ker} \pi_{\alpha})^{\perp}$; by \mathscr{D}_{α} the set of all C-derivations of R_{α} which commute with complex conjugation and all left translations and finally by $i_{\alpha\beta}$ ($\alpha<\beta$) the natural injection of R_{α} into R_{β} . It follows from ([2]) that R(G) and $\lim_{\alpha}(R_{\alpha}, i_{\alpha\beta})$ are isomorphic. The restriction $R_{\beta\alpha}$ ($\alpha<\beta$) of an element of \mathscr{D}_{β} to R_{α} belongs to \mathscr{D}_{α} . The differential $u_{\beta\alpha}$ of $u_{\beta\alpha}$ is a linear map of the Lie algebra g_{β} of G_{β} onto g_{α} . It is easy to verify that the projective systems ($\mathscr{D}(G)$, id), (\mathscr{D}_{α} , $\operatorname{Res}_{\alpha\beta}$) and (g_{α} , $u_{\alpha\beta}$) are isomorphic. From dim \mathscr{D}_{α} = dim G_{α} (corollary of prop. 3), dim $G=\sup_{\alpha}$ dim G_{α} and dim $\mathscr{D}(G)=\sup_{\alpha}$ dim \mathscr{D}_{α} the theorem follows.

4. Applications

For non-compact groups the relations between the properties of G and those of R(G) are more complicated.

If the C-algebra R(G) of a locally compact maximally almost periodic group G is finitely generated, then G is a Lie group. The condition is not necessary. However, if G is a Lie group such that G/G_0 is finite then R(G) is finitely generated if and only if the factor group of G modulo the closure of the commutator of G_0 is compact ([7] theorem 11.1).

PROPOSITION 5. If a topological group G is connected, then every non constant representative function over G is non algebraic. If every representative function over a maximally almost periodic group is algebraic then the group is totally disconnected.

Proof. The connectedness of G implies the same property for S(R(G)). From Theorem 1 the first part of proposition 5 follows. The proof of the second part is completely analogous.

THEOREM 5. Every locally countably compact torsion group with a maximally almost periodic connected component of the identity is totally disconnected.

Proof. Suppose that G is a compact torsion group. For every $f \in R(G)$ consider R(f) and the corresponding continuous finite dimensional representation ϱ_f ; $\varrho_f(G)$ is a compact torsion Lie group and therefore is a finite group. It follows $\ker \varrho_f \supset G_0$ i.e. $f \in G_0^{\perp}$. Using theorem 1, we have that G is totally disconnected. For the general case consider, the continuous map $\alpha_n : G \to G$ defined by $\alpha_n(x) = x^n$ for every positive integer n. By assumption we have $G = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \ker \alpha_n$, the category theorem of Baire implies the existence of n_0 such that $\ker \alpha_{n_0} \supset G_0$. From this it follows that $S(R(G_0))$ is a torsion group. Using the first part of the proof, theorem 1 and proposition 5 we have the desired result.

Remark. This theorem generalizes a result proved by Braconnier ([1] p. 51) for the case of a locally compact abelian group.

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