

Weak and smooth synthesis  
sets of the Fourier algebras and  
their applications

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$G$ : An  $n$ -dimensional Lie group

$\mathcal{D}(G)$ : compactly supported  $C^\infty$  functions on  $G$ ,

$A(G)$ : The Fourier algebra of  $G$ .

$$I(E) = \{f \in A(G) \mid f(x) = 0 \text{ for all } x \in E\},$$

$$J(E) = \overline{\{a \in I(E) \mid \text{supp } a \text{ is compact}\}},$$

$$J_{\mathcal{D}}(E) = \{f \in \mathcal{D}(G) \mid f(x) = 0 \text{ for all } x \in E\},$$

$$I_0(E) = \{f \in A(G) \cap C_c(G) \mid \text{supp } f \cap E = \emptyset\}$$

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$E$  is:

- **a set of synthesis** if  $I(E) = \overline{I_0(E)}$ .
- **a set of local syn.** if  $J(E) = \overline{I_0(E)}$ .

- **$E$  is a set of weak synthesis of degree at most  $d$**  if  $I(E)^d = \overline{I_0(E)}$  for some positive integer  $d$ , i.e. if  $I(E)/\overline{I_0(E)}$  is nilpotent of degree at most  $d$ .
- **$E$  is a set of local weak synthesis of degree at most  $d$**  if  $J(E)^d = \overline{I_0(E)}$  for some positive integer  $d$ , i.e. if  $J(E)/\overline{I_0(E)}$  is nilpotent of degree at most  $d$ .
- **$E$  is a set of smooth synthesis** if  $J_{\mathcal{D}}(E) = I(E)$  and it is a **set of local smooth synthesis** if  $J_{\mathcal{D}}(E) = J(E)$ .

## **Theorem 1 (Ludwig-Turowska)**

*Let  $M$  be a smooth  $m$ -dimensional submanifold of  $G$ , and let  $E \subseteq M$  be closed in  $G$ . Then:*

*(i)  $J_{\mathcal{D}}(E)^{[\frac{m}{2}]+1} = \overline{I_0(E)}$ .*

*(ii) If  $E$  is a set of smooth synthesis, then it is a set of weak synthesis of degree at most  $[\frac{m}{2}] + 1$ .*

*(iii) If  $E$  is a set of local smooth synthesis, then it is a set of local weak synthesis of degree at most  $[\frac{m}{2}] + 1$ .*

**Definition 2 (Domar, Kirsch-Müller, Ludwig-Turowska)**

(i) *Any pair  $t \in G$  and  $a \in \text{Aut}(G)$  give rise to a mapping  $\varphi : G \rightarrow G$ ,  $\varphi(s) = a(ts)$ , which will be called an **affine transformation of  $G$** .*

(ii) *A Lie group  $H$  is a **group of affine transformation of  $G$**  if  $H$  acts smoothly by affine transformations on  $G$ . Smoothly here means that the mapping  $H \times G \rightarrow G$ ,  $(a, x) \mapsto a(x)$  is smooth.*

(iii) *Let  $M$  be a smooth  $m$ -dimensional submanifold of  $G$ . A subset  $E$  of  $M$  has the **cone property** if the following holds:*

(1)  *$E$  is closed in  $G$ .*

(2) *For every  $x \in E$ , there exists an open neighborhood  $U_x$  of  $x \in G$  and a  $C^\infty$  mapping  $\psi_x$  from an open subset  $W_x \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  containing 0 into a Lie group of affine transformations  $H_x$  on  $G$  such that  $\psi_x(0) = \text{id}_G$  and there exists an open subset  $W_x^0 \subset W_x$  such that:*

(2.1)  $0$  is in the closure of  $W_x^0$ .

(2.2) For every  $y \in U_x \cap E$ ,  $\psi_x(W_x^0)y$  is contained in  $E$  and open in  $M$  and the mapping  $W_x^0 \rightarrow \psi_x(W_x^0)y$ ,  $t \mapsto \psi_x(t)y$ , is a diffeomorphism.

### **Theorem 3 (Ludwig-Turowska)**

Let  $M$  be a smooth  $m$ -dimensional submanifold of  $G$ , and let  $E \subseteq M$  be a subset with the cone property. Then:

- (i)  $E$  is a set of local smooth synthesis.
- (ii)  $E$  is a set of local weak synthesis of degree at most  $\lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil + 1$ .

## Anti-diagonal:

$$\check{\Delta}_G = \{(g, g^{-1}) \in G \times G \mid g \in G\}.$$

## Forrest-S.-Spronk:

For  $G$  compact,  $\check{\Delta}_G$  is a set of syn. for  $A(G \times G)$  iff  $G_e$  is abelian.

**Theorem 4 (Park-S.)** (i)  $\check{\Delta}_G$  is a smooth manifold of dim.  $n$  with the cone prop.  
(ii)  $\check{\Delta}_G$  is a set of local weak syn. of degree at most  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$ .

$$\psi : G \rightarrow \text{Aff}(G \times G)$$

$$\psi(r)(g, h) = (gr, r^{-1}h).$$



**Forrest-S.-Spronk:** For  $G$  compact,  
 $E = (\Delta_G \times \Delta_G)\Delta_{G \times G}$  is a set of syn.  
for  $A(G^4)$  iff  $G_e$  is abelian.

**Theorem 5 (Park-S.)** (i)  $E$  is a closed  
smooth submanifold of  $G^4$  of dimen-  
sion  $3n$  with the cone property.

(ii)  $E$  is a set of loc. weak syn. for  
 $A(G^4)$  of degree at most  $[\frac{3n}{2}] + 1$ .

$$\psi : G^3 \rightarrow \text{Aff}(G^4), t = (p, q, r) \in G^3$$

$$\psi(t)(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) =$$

$$(pg_1, pg_2qp^{-1}, rg_3, rg_4qp^{-1}).$$

## Connection with (operator) weak amenability of $A(G)$ !

A Banach algebra  $A$  is **amenable** if for any Banach  $A$ -bimodule  $X$ , any bounded derivation  $D : A \rightarrow X^*$  is inner (i.e.  $\exists x^* \in X^*$  s.t.  $D(a) = ax^* - x^*a$ ).

$A$  is **weakly amenable** if any bounded derivation  $D : A \rightarrow A^*$  is inner.

### **B. E. Johnson:**

- (i)  $L^1(G)$  is amenable iff  $G$  is amenable.
- (ii)  $L^1(G)$  is weakly amenable.
- (iii)  $A(SU(2))$  is not even weakly amenable!

**Ruan:**  $A(G)$  is operator amenable iff  $G$  is amenable.

**Forrest-Runde:**

$A(G)$  is amenable iff  $G$  admits an abelian subgroup of finite index.

**Spronk 02; Samei 05:**

$A(G)$  is operator weakly amenable.

**Missing part:** When  $A(G)$  is weakly amenable?

**Theorem 6** *Let  $E \subset G$  be a set of weak synthesis for  $A(G)$ . Then TFAE:*

- (i)  $E$  is a set of synthesis;*
- (ii)  $E$  is essential (i.e.  $\overline{I^2(E)} = I(E)$ );*
- (iii)  $I(E)$  is operator weakly amenable.*

**Corollary 7** *Let  $G$  be compact, connected, and non-abelian. Then  $I(E)$  is not operator weakly amenable for:*

- (i)  $E = \check{\Delta}_G$  ;*
- (ii)  $E = (\Delta_G \times \Delta_G)\Delta_{G \times G}$ ;*
- (iii)  $G$  is semisimple and  $E$  is the conjugacy class of any regular element in  $G$  (C. Meaney).*

A closed subset  $E \subset H$  is a **Helson set** if  $A(H)|_E = C_0(E)$ .

**Theorem 8** *Let  $H$  be an amenable, non-discrete group, and  $E \subset H$  be a Helson-set of non-synthesis for  $A(H)$ . Then  $\overline{I(E)^2} = I(E)$ .*

**(Bade-Curtis-Sinclair for  $H$  abelian).**

**Back to weak amenability of  $A(G)$ :**

**B. E. Johnson:**  $A(SU(2))$  is not weakly amenable.

**Plymen:**  $A(G)$  is not weakly amenable for every compact connected non-abelian Lie group.

**Forrest-Runde:** If  $G_e$  is abelian, then  $A(G)$  is weakly amenable.

**Conjecture:** The converse is also true!

**Forrest-S.-Spronk:** (i) For  $G$  maximally weakly almost periodic or SIN group,  $A(G)$  is weakly amenable iff  $G_e$  is abelian iff  $E = \check{\Delta}_G$  is a set of syn. for  $A(G \times G)$ .

(ii) For  $G$  compact, the map on

$$P : A(G \times G) \rightarrow A_\gamma(G) , \quad u \times v \mapsto u * v$$

is a quotient map onto

$$A_\gamma(G) := \left\{ f : \sum_{\pi \in \hat{G}} d_\pi^2 \|\hat{f}(\pi)\|_1 < \infty \right\}.$$

Also the map  $f \mapsto \tilde{f}(s, t) = f(st)$  is a left-inverse of  $P$  and is an isometric algebra isomorphism.

**Choi-Ghandehari:**  $A(G)$  is not weakly amenable if  $G$  is a semisimple Lie group, a simply connected nilpotent Lie group, or the  $ax + b$ -group.

**Key idea:** Constructing a bounded derivation from  $A(G) \rightarrow A(G)^*$  in the form of

$$(f, g) \mapsto \int_H \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial t} g(x) dx, (f, g \in \mathcal{D}(G))$$

where the integration is taken over a suitable closed Lie subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  and the differentiation is taken over a one-parameter curve in  $H$ .



## Alternative approach:

$G$ : a connected Lie group.

- If  $A(G)$  is weakly amenable, then  $\check{\Delta}_G$  is a set of synthesis for  $A(G \times G)$ .
- If  $G$  is the reduced Heisenberg group or the  $ax + b$ -group, then  $\check{\Delta}_G$  is a set of synthesis for  $A(G \times G)$ .
- Use the structure theory and synthesis property to extend the preceding result to other cases.

**Theorem 9** *Suppose that  $G$  is a connected Lie group for which  $\check{\Delta}_G$  is a set of local synthesis for  $A(G \times G)$ . Then:*

*(i)  $G$  is solvable and does not have the  $ax + b$ -group as a closed subgroup;*

*(ii) if  $G$  is nilpotent, then  $G$  is abelian;*

*(iii) if  $\check{\Delta}_L$  is not a set of local synthesis for  $A(L \times L)$  for any 2-step solvable connected Lie group  $L$ , then  $G$  is abelian.*