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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 $R(G) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} R(G)$ 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 \mathcal{H} be a Hopf subalgebra of $R(G)$. We denote by $S(\mathcal{H})$ the set of all \mathbb{C} -algebra homomorphisms of \mathcal{H} onto \mathbb{C} which commute with complex conjugation. With the finite open topology $S(\mathcal{H})$ is a compact space ([6] p. 28). Let Γ be a non empty subset of $R(G)$; we denote by $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma)$ the least Hopf subalgebra containing Γ . It follows from ([6] p. 29–30) that $S(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma))$ is a compact group and the evaluation map φ_{Γ} of G into $S(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma))$ 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, \dots, 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 $|\tau(f_j) - f_j(x)| < \varepsilon$ ($1 \leq j \leq n$).

Proof. By definition of the topology of $S(\mathcal{H})$ the set $\{\tau' \in S(\mathcal{H}) \mid |\tau'(f_j) - \tau(f_j)| < \varepsilon, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ 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 $f_1, \dots, f_n \in R(G)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. Then there is an element $x \in G$ such that $x \neq e$ and $|f_j(x) - f_j(e)| < \varepsilon$ ($1 \leq j \leq n$).

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S(R(G)) & \xrightarrow{\psi^*} & S(R(H)) \\ \varphi_{R(G)} \uparrow & & \uparrow \varphi_{R(H)} \\ G & \xrightarrow{\psi'} & H \end{array}$$

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 \mathcal{H} is a Hopf subalgebra of $R(G)$, let \mathcal{H}^\perp denote the closed normal subgroup of G defined by $\{h \in G \mid {}_h f = f \text{ for every } f \in \mathcal{H}\}$. 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 $\{x \in G \mid |f_j(x) - f_j(e)| < \varepsilon \text{ } 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ is contained in U . This implies that $\mathcal{H}(f_1, \dots, f_n)^\perp \subset U$. By hypothesis there exists a finitely generated Hopf subalgebra \mathcal{E} of $R(G)$ with $\mathcal{E} \supset \mathcal{H}(f_1, \dots, f_n)$ and \mathcal{E}^\perp connected. Let π be the canonical map of G onto G/\mathcal{E}^\perp . The factor group G/\mathcal{E}^\perp is a Lie group, since $R(G/\mathcal{E}^\perp)$ and \mathcal{E} are isomorphic. Let Σ be a fundamental system of open connected neighborhoods of $\pi(e)$ in G/\mathcal{E}^\perp . It is easy to demonstrate the existence of a subset $O \in \Sigma$ with $\pi^{-1}(O) \subset U$. It suffices to prove that $\pi^{-1}(O)$ 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 $V_1 \cup V_2 = \pi^{-1}(O)$. The existence of $x \in G$ with $\pi(x) \in \pi(V_1) \cap \pi(V_2)$ contradicts the connectedness of $x\mathcal{E}^\perp$. We therefore have $\pi(V_1) \cap \pi(V_2) = \emptyset$ and this implies that O 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 \mathcal{E} of $R(G)$ with $\mathcal{E} \supset M$ and \mathcal{E}^\perp connected is not finitely generated. Let \mathcal{H} be the Hopf subalgebra of $R(G)$ with the property that \mathcal{H}^\perp is the connected component of the unit element in the subgroup $\mathcal{H}(M)^\perp$ (the connected component of a normal closed subgroup is itself a normal subgroup). Denoting by α the canonical map of G/\mathcal{H}^\perp onto $G/\mathcal{H}(M)^\perp$, we have $\text{Ker } \alpha = \mathcal{H}(M)^\perp / \mathcal{H}^\perp$. By a generalization of a wellknown theorem of Hurewicz ([9] theorem 4), $\dim \text{Ker } \alpha = 0$ implies $\dim G/\mathcal{H}^\perp \leq \dim G/\mathcal{H}(M)^\perp$, and then $\dim S(\mathcal{H}) \leq \dim S(\mathcal{H}(M))$. It follows that $\dim S(\mathcal{H})$ is finite, because $S(\mathcal{H}(M))$ is a compact Lie group. By hypothesis \mathcal{H} is not finitely generated. This fact implies that $S(\mathcal{H})$ is not locally connected, and therefore (since the natural map of G onto G/\mathcal{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 \mathbf{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 \mathbf{C} -derivations of the \mathbf{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 $t \mapsto \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(e)\exp tD)$ 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 $t \in \mathbf{R}$. It is easy to prove that $\exp tD(fg) = \exp tD(f) \exp tD(g)$ for every $f, g \in R(G)$. It follows that $\exp tD$ is a \mathbf{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 $\lambda \in \text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(\mathbf{R}, G)$. 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 $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \|(U'_t f - f)t^{-1} - Df\|_2 = 0$ 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 \mathbf{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 $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \|(\exp tD f - f) t^{-1} - Df\|_2 = 0$. 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 $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \|(U_t'' h - h) t^{-1} - D'h\|_2 = 0$ for every $h \in R(G)$. We have therefore $D = D'$ and $U_t'' = U_t'$ i.e. $\exp tD f = f_{\lambda(t)}$ for every $f \in R(G)$.

COROLLARY. For a compact Lie group G , the Lie algebra \mathfrak{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 $t \mapsto \exp tD_V$, 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) $\text{Ann}(\Gamma) = \{D \in \mathcal{D}(G) \mid Df = 0 \text{ for every } f \in \Gamma\}$,
- (ii) $\mathcal{H}_l(\Gamma) =$ the least subalgebra of $R(G)$ invariant under the left-translations and the complex conjugation containing Γ .
- (iii) $\text{Ann}(M) = \{f \in R(G) \mid Df = 0 \text{ for every } D \in M\}$.

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

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 $\text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(\mathbf{R}, G)$ corresponding to $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$. From $f \in \lambda(D)(\mathbf{R})_r^\perp$ it follows that $\exp tD f = f$ for every $t \in \mathbf{R}$ i.e. $f \in \text{Ker } D$ 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 $\lambda(D)(\mathbf{R})_r^\perp = \text{Ker } D$. Using the fact that every one-parameter subgroup is contained in G_0 we obtain $\text{Ker } D \supset \mathcal{A}$ and in particular $\text{Ann}(\text{Ann}(\Gamma)) \supset \mathcal{H}_1(\Gamma \cup \mathcal{A})$. It is easy to verify that $\text{Ann}(\Gamma) = \{D \in \mathcal{D}(G) \mid \lambda(D)(\mathbf{R}) \subset \mathcal{H}_1(\Gamma \cup \mathcal{A})_r^\perp\}$. Since the closed subgroup $\mathcal{H}_1(\Gamma \cup \mathcal{A})_r^\perp$ is connected, we have $\mathcal{H}_1(\Gamma \cup \mathcal{A}) = \{\lambda(D)(\mathbf{R}) \mid D \in \mathcal{D}(G), \lambda(D)(\mathbf{R}) \subset \mathcal{H}_1(\Gamma \cup \mathcal{A})_r^\perp\}_r^\perp$ and therefore $\mathcal{H}_1(\Gamma \cup \mathcal{A}) = \{\lambda(D)(\mathbf{R}) \mid D \in \text{Ann}(\Gamma)\}_r^\perp = \bigcap \{\text{Ker } D \mid D \in \text{Ann}(\Gamma)\} = \text{Ann}(\text{Ann}(\Gamma))$.

Remarks.

1) For $\Gamma = \emptyset$ we obtain $\mathcal{A} = \text{Ann}(\mathcal{D}(G))$ which gives another characterisation of the set of all algebraic elements of $R(G)$.

2) The group G is solenoidal if and only if there is $D \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ with $\text{Ker } D = \mathbf{C} \cdot 1_G$.

3) There is a bijective map between the closed subgroups of G_0 and the Lie subalgebras M of $\mathcal{D}(G)$ such that $M = \text{Ann}(\text{Ann}(M))$. That is, to every closed subgroup H of G_0 we associate $M = \text{Ann}(H_r^\perp)$. 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:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R(G) & \xrightarrow{\varphi(x)} & \mathbf{C} \\ \exp D \searrow & & \nearrow \varphi(e) \\ & R(G) & \end{array}$$

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 $\lambda \in \text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(\mathbf{R}, G)$ 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 $\lambda(t) = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(e) \exp t D)$ we obtain $\lambda \in \text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(\mathbf{R}, G)$ 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 $\lambda \in \text{Hom}(\hat{G}, \mathbf{R})$ such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \hat{G} & \xrightarrow{x} & S^1 \\ \lambda \searrow & & \uparrow e^{2\pi i} \\ & \mathbf{R} & \end{array}$$

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 $u_{\beta\alpha}: G_\beta \rightarrow G_\alpha$ ($\alpha < \beta$) such that $G \cong \varprojlim (G_\alpha, u_{\alpha\beta})$. We denote by π_α the projection of G onto G_α ; by R_α , the Hopf subalgebra of $R(G)$, $(\text{Ker } \pi_\alpha)^\perp$; by \mathcal{D}_α the set of all \mathbb{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 $\varinjlim (R_\alpha, i_{\alpha\beta})$ are isomorphic. The restriction $R_{\beta\alpha}$ ($\alpha < \beta$) of an element of \mathcal{D}_β to R_α belongs to \mathcal{D}_α . The differential $u_{\beta\alpha}^*$ of $u_{\beta\alpha}$ is a linear map of the Lie algebra \mathfrak{g}_β of G_β onto \mathfrak{g}_α . It is easy to verify that the projective systems $(\mathcal{D}(G), \text{id})$, $(\mathcal{D}_\alpha, \text{Res}_{\alpha\beta})$ and $(\mathfrak{g}_\alpha, u_{\alpha\beta}^*)$ are isomorphic. From $\dim \mathcal{D}_\alpha = \dim G_\alpha$ (corollary of prop. 3), $\dim G = \sup_\alpha \dim G_\alpha$ and $\dim \mathcal{D}(G) = \sup_\alpha \dim \mathcal{D}_\alpha$ 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 \mathbb{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 $\text{Ker } \varrho_f \supset G_0$ 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 $\alpha_n: G \rightarrow G$ defined by $\alpha_n(x) = x^n$ for every positive integer n . By assumption we have $G = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{Ker } \alpha_n$, the category theorem of Baire implies the existence of n_0 such that $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n_0}$ is open and therefore $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n_0} \supset G_0$. 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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