

# EXTENDING MULTIPLIERS OF THE FOURIER ALGEBRA FROM A SUBGROUP

MICHAEL BRANNAN AND BRIAN FORREST

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we consider various extension problems associated with elements in the the closure with respect to either the multiplier norm or the completely bounded multiplier norm of the Fourier algebra of a locally compact group. In particular, we show that it is not always possible to extend an element in the closure with respect to the multiplier norm of the Fourier algebra of the free group on two generators, to a multiplier of the Fourier algebra of  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G$  be a locally compact group. We let  $A(G)$  and  $B(G)$  denote the Fourier and Fourier-Stieltjes algebras of  $G$ . These Banach algebras of continuous functions on  $G$ , introduced in by Eymard in [6], are central objects in non-commutative harmonic analysis.

A *multiplier* of  $A(G)$  is a (necessarily bounded and continuous) function  $v : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $vA(G) \subseteq A(G)$ . For each multiplier  $v$  of  $A(G)$ , the linear operator  $M_v$  on  $A(G)$  defined by  $M_v(u) = vu$  for each  $u \in A(G)$  is bounded via the Closed Graph Theorem. The *multiplier algebra* of  $A(G)$  is the closed subalgebra

$$MA(G) := \{M_v : v \text{ is a multiplier of } A(G)\}$$

of  $B(A(G))$ , where  $B(A(G))$  denotes the algebra of all bounded linear operators from  $A(G)$  to  $A(G)$ . Throughout this paper we will generally use  $v$  in place of the operator  $M_v$  and we will write  $\|v\|_{MA(G)}$  to represent the norm of  $M_v$  in  $B(A(G))$ .

Let  $G$  be a locally compact group and let  $VN(G)$  its group von Neumann algebra. That is,  $VN(G)$  is the von Neumann algebra generated by the left regular representation  $\lambda_G : G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(L^2(G))$ . The duality

$$A(G) = VN(G)_*$$

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equips  $A(G)$  with a natural operator space structure. With this operator space structure we can define the *cb-multiplier algebra* of  $A(G)$  to be

$$M_{cb}A(G) := CB(A(G)) \cap MA(G),$$

where  $CB(A(G))$  denotes the (quantized) Banach algebra of all completely bounded linear maps from  $A(G)$  into itself. We let  $\|v\|_{M_{cb}A(G)}$  denote the *cb-norm* of the operator  $M_v$ . It is well known that  $M_{cb}A(G)$  is a closed subalgebra of  $CB(A(G))$  and is thus a (quantized) Banach algebra with respect to the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{M_{cb}A(G)}$ .

It is known that in general,

$$A(G) \subseteq B(G) \subseteq M_{cb}A(G) \subseteq MA(G)$$

and that for  $v \in B(G)$

$$\|v\|_{B(G)} \geq \|v\|_{M_{cb}A(G)} \geq \|v\|_{MA(G)}.$$

Moreover, if  $v \in A(G)$ , then

$$\|v\|_{A(G)} = \|v\|_{B(G)}.$$

In case  $G$  is an amenable group, we have

$$B(G) = M_{cb}A(G) = MA(G)$$

and that

$$\|v\|_{B(G)} = \|v\|_{M_{cb}A(G)} = \|v\|_{MA(G)}$$

for any  $v \in B(G)$ .

In [7], the first author introduced the following algebra which was denoted in that paper by  $A_{M_0}(G)$ :

**Definition 1.1.** Given a locally compact group  $G$ , let

$$A_{cb}(G) \stackrel{def}{=} \overline{A(G)}^{\|\cdot\|_{M_{cb}A(G)}} \subseteq M_{cb}A(G).$$

Clearly, if  $G$  is amenable, then  $A(G) = A_{cb}(G)$  and the norms agree. However, in general if  $G$  is non-amenable, then  $A(G) \subsetneq A_{cb}(G)$ . Moreover, it can be shown that for a large class of locally compact groups, which contains many interesting non-amenable groups including the free group on two generators  $\mathbb{F}_2$  and  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ , that  $A_{cb}(G)$  behaves in much the same manner as does the Fourier algebra of an amenable group [4, 8]. For this class, the so called weakly amenable groups,  $A_{cb}(G)$  has proven to be a rather interesting object to study.

In this paper, we will also be interested in multipliers of  $A(G)$  that may or may not be completely bounded but can none the less be approximated by elements of  $A(G)$ . This leads us to the following algebras:

**Definition 1.2.** Given a locally compact group  $G$ , let

$$A_M(G) \stackrel{def}{=} \overline{A(G)}^{\|\cdot\|_{MA(G)}} \subseteq MA(G).$$

As we have seen, if  $G$  is amenable, then  $A(G) = A_{cb}(G) = A_M(G)$  with equality holding for the various norms. Moreover, in [14] Losert has shown that  $G$  is amenable if and only if  $A(G) = A_M(G)$ . In fact, Losert showed that  $G$  is amenable whenever the  $\|\cdot\|_{B(G)}$  and the  $\|\cdot\|_{MA(G)}$  norms are equivalent on  $A(G)$ .

Typically, we have

$$A(G) \subset A_{cb}(G) \subset A_M(G).$$

Since it is well known that  $M_{cb}(A(G)) \subsetneq M(A(G))$  for many non-amenable groups, it would be reasonable to speculate that for non-amenable groups that the second inclusion is proper. While this was recently shown in [2] to be the case for the group  $\mathbb{F}_2$ , in what can only be described as a remarkable result, Losert has shown that for the group  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ , we have  $M_{cb}A(SL(2, \mathbb{R})) = MA(SL(2, \mathbb{R}))$  and hence that

$$A(SL(2, \mathbb{R})) \subsetneq A_{cb}(SL(2, \mathbb{R})) = A_M(SL(2, \mathbb{R})).$$

## 2. SOME GENERAL RESULTS ON RESTRICTIONS AND EXTENSIONS OF COMPLETELY BOUNDED MULTIPLIERS

Let  $G$  be a locally compact group and let  $\mathcal{A}(G)$  be any of the algebras  $A(G)$ ,  $B(G)$ ,  $MA(G)$ ,  $M_{cb}A(G)$ ,  $A_M(G)$ , or  $A_{cb}(G)$ . Denote by  $L_g$ , the left translation operator on  $\mathcal{A}(G)$ , by  $g \in G$  (i.e.  $(L_g\varphi)(x) = \varphi(g^{-1}x)$ ).

Let  $H \leq G$  be a closed subgroup. We will denote by  $\mathcal{A}(G)|_H$ , the space of all restrictions of elements of  $\mathcal{A}(G)$  to  $H$ . In each case, it is known that

$$\mathcal{A}(G)|_H \subseteq \mathcal{A}(H),$$

and that the restriction map  $R : \mathcal{A}(G) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(H)$  given by

$$R(u) = u|_H$$

is contractive.

A natural question arises:

*Question 2.1.* For which pairs  $H \leq G$  is the map  $R : \mathcal{A}(G) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(H)$  surjective? Equivalently, for which pairs  $H \leq G$  will it be that every element in  $\mathcal{A}(H)$  extends to an element in  $\mathcal{A}(G)$ .

It is well known, that in general  $B(G)|_H \subsetneq B(H)$  (see for example [5, Pg. 92]). Since this can happen even when  $G$  is amenable, we do not expect the restriction mapping to be surjective in general for either of  $MA(G)$  or  $M_{cb}A(G)$ .

In stark contrast, Herz [11] has shown that for any closed subgroup  $H$  of any locally compact group  $G$

$$A(G)|_H = A(H).$$

Herz's result (which we refer to as *Herz's restriction theorem*) has proved to be a powerful tool in the study of the Fourier algebra. It's usefulness leads us to ask specifically:

*Question 2.2.* If  $\mathcal{A}(G)$  is either  $A_M(G)$ , or  $A_{cb}(G)$ , does  $\mathcal{A}(G)|_H = \mathcal{A}(H)$ ?

Here it is natural to focus our attention on the case where  $H$  is non-amenable, since if  $H$  is amenable,  $\mathcal{A}(H) = A(H)$  and Herz's restriction theorem establishes the result in the affirmative. In the general case, since  $A(H)$  is always dense in  $\mathcal{A}(H)$ , if we could show that the restriction map  $R$  has closed range, then we would be done.

Now, while we have noted that  $B(G)|_H \subsetneq B(H)$  in many situations, we at least know that the range of the restriction map is closed. This statement, may well be part of the folklore. A similar result was proved by Ghandehari [9, Lemma 3.2.6] for the algebra  $B_0(G) = B(G) \cap C_0(G)$ . We include the short proof for completeness.

**Proposition 2.3.** *For any closed subgroup  $H \leq G$ ,  $B(G)|_H$  is a closed subalgebra of  $B(H)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\pi : G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H}_\pi)$  be any weakly continuous unitary representation of  $G$ . Then we denote by  $A_\pi(G)$ , the  $\|\cdot\|_{B(G)}$ -closed linear span of the coefficient functions  $\{g \mapsto \langle \pi(g)\xi|\eta \rangle : \xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}_\pi\}$  [1].

Let  $\omega : G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H}_\omega)$  denote the universal unitary representation of  $G$ . Then  $B(G) = \{g \mapsto \langle \omega(g)\xi|\eta \rangle : \xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}_\omega\}$ . On the other hand, we have  $B(G)|_H = \{h \mapsto \langle \omega|_H(h)\xi|\eta \rangle : \xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}_\omega\} \subseteq A_{\omega|_H}(H)$ , where  $\omega|_H : H \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H}_\omega)$  is the restricted representation. Since  $A_{\omega|_H}(H)$  is by definition norm closed, then  $\overline{B(G)|_H}^{\|\cdot\|_{B(H)}} \subseteq A_{\omega|_H}(H)$ . On the other hand we have  $A_{\omega|_H}(H) \subseteq B(G)|_H$ . To see this, let  $v \in A_{\omega|_H}(H)$ , then there exist  $\{\xi_i\}_{i=1}^\infty, \{\eta_i\}_{i=1}^\infty \subset \mathcal{H}_\omega$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^\infty \|\xi_i\|^2 < \infty, \sum_{i=1}^\infty \|\eta_i\|^2 < \infty$ , and

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle \omega|_H(\cdot)\xi_i|\eta_i \rangle.$$

Clearly

$$u = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle \omega(\cdot)\xi_i|\eta_i \rangle \in A_\omega(G) = B(G),$$

satisfies  $u|_H = v$ . □

*Remark 2.4.* The proof above can be clearly modified to show that for any weakly continuous unitary representation  $\pi$  of  $G$ , we have

$$A_\pi(G)|_H = A_{\pi|_H}(G).$$

In particular, if  $\lambda_G$  is the left regular representation of  $G$ , then Herz's theorem can be interpreted as

$$A(G)|_H = A_{\lambda_G}(G)|_H = A_{\lambda_G|_H}(G) = A(H).$$

Proposition 2.3 leads naturally to the analogous question for multipliers.

*Question 2.5.* Let  $H \leq G$  be closed. Is the restriction algebra  $M_{cb}A(G)|_H$  always closed in  $M_{cb}A(H)$ ? Is  $MA(G)|_H$  always closed in  $MA(H)$ ?

3.  $[SIN]_H$  GROUPS

Let  $G$  be a locally compact group and  $H \leq G$  a closed subgroup. We say that  $G \in [SIN]_H$  if there exists an open neighbourhood base  $\{V\}_{V \in \mathcal{V}}$  of the identity in  $e \in G$  which is invariant under inner automorphisms by  $H$ . In this section, we show that for  $G \in [SIN]_H$ , we can provide partial answers to the above questions for c.b. multipliers. In particular, we prove a version of Herz's restriction theorem for the algebra  $A_{cb}(G)$ . Our main tool is the following construction due to Haagerup and Kraus [10].

**Theorem 3.1.** ([10, Lemma 1.16]) *Let  $H$  be a closed subgroup of a locally compact group  $G$  and suppose that the Haar modular functions satisfy the relation  $\Delta_H = \Delta_G|_H$ . Fix  $\xi \in C_c(G)$ . Define a linear map  $\Phi_\xi : C_b(H) \rightarrow C_b(G)$  by the equation*

$$\Phi_\xi(\varphi) = \xi * (\varphi dh) * \tilde{\xi}, \quad (\varphi \in C_b(H)),$$

where  $\tilde{\xi}(g) = \overline{\xi(g^{-1})}$ . Then  $\Phi_\xi(M_{cb}A(H)) \subseteq M_{cb}A(G)$ , and

$$\|\Phi_\xi\|_{M_{cb}A(H) \rightarrow M_{cb}A(G)} \leq \int_{G/H} \left( \int_H \xi(gh) dh \right)^2 d(gH),$$

where  $d(gH)$  is the left translation-invariant measure on  $G/H$  induced by Haar measure  $dg$  in  $G$ , and normalized so that

$$\int_G f(g) dg = \int_{G/H} \int_H f(gh) dh d(gH), \quad (f \in C_c(G)).$$

Our next result, the main result of this section, is inspired by the work of Cowling and Rodway [5] on extending elements of  $B(H)$  to  $B(G)$  when  $G$  is a SIN-group and  $H \leq G$  is closed.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $G \in [SIN]_H$ , and suppose  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(H)$  has the property that the map*

$$\begin{aligned} H &\rightarrow M_{cb}A(H) \\ h &\mapsto L_h \varphi \end{aligned}$$

*is continuous. Then  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(G)|_H$ . Moreover, for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $u \in M_{cb}A(G)$  such that  $u|_H = \varphi$  and  $\|u\|_{M_{cb}A(G)} \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|\varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)}$ .*

*Remark 3.3.* Observe that if  $H$  is discrete and  $G \in [SIN]_H$ , then every  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(H)$  trivially satisfies the hypothesis of Theorem 3.2, so  $M_{cb}A(H) = M_{cb}A(G)|_H$  in this case. When  $H$  is not discrete or amenable, it is unknown whether or not every element of  $M_{cb}A(H)$  satisfies the translation-continuity condition of this theorem. Other examples of  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(H)$  which do satisfy the hypothesis of Theorem 3.2 are given by coefficient functions of uniformly bounded (not necessarily unitary) representations of  $H$ , and elements which belong to the closure  $\overline{B(H)}^{\|\cdot\|_{M_{cb}A(H)}} \subseteq M_{cb}A(H)$ .

*Proof.* (Of Theorem 3.2.) Fix  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(H)$  satisfying the above hypothesis. As in the proof of the open mapping theorem (see for example [17, Theorem 5.9]), it suffices to prove that for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $u \in M_{cb}A(G)$  with

$$\|u\|_{M_{cb}A(G)} \leq \|\varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)},$$

and

$$\|u|_H - \varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} < \epsilon.$$

Let  $V$  be an open neighbourhood of the identity  $e \in G$  such that

$$\|L_{h^{-1}}\varphi - \varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} < \epsilon, \quad (h \in V^{-1}V \cap H).$$

Let  $0 \leq \xi \in C_c(G)$  be a function which is  $H$ -central (i.e.  $\xi(hxh^{-1}) = \xi(x)$  for all  $h \in H, x \in G$ ) and suppose  $\text{supp}\xi \subseteq V$ . This is always possible, since  $G \in [SIN]_H$ . Finally normalize  $\xi$  so that

$$\int_{G/H} \left( \int_H \xi(gh)dh \right)^2 d(gH) = 1.$$

Let  $u \in M_{cb}A(G)$  be defined by  $u = \Phi_\xi(\varphi)$ , where  $\Phi_\xi$  is the map given in Theorem 3.1. Then

$$\|u\|_{M_{cb}A(G)} \leq \|\varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} \int_{G/H} \left( \int_H \xi(gh)dh \right)^2 d(gH) = \|\varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)}.$$

We now consider the restriction  $u|_H \in M_{cb}A(H)$ . For  $k \in H$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} u(k) &= (\xi * (\varphi dh) * \tilde{\xi})(k) \\ &= \int_G \int_H \xi(g)\varphi(h)\xi(k^{-1}gh)dhdg \\ &= \int_G \int_H \xi(g)\varphi(h)\xi(ghk^{-1})dhdg \quad (\text{since } \xi \text{ is } H\text{-central}) \\ &= \int_G \int_H \xi(g)\varphi(hk)\xi(gh)dhdg \quad (\text{since } H \text{ is unimodular}) \\ &= \int_G \int_H \xi(g)\xi(gh)(L_{h^{-1}}\varphi)(k)dhdg. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, note that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_G \int_H \xi(g)\xi(gh)dhdg \\ &= \int_{G/H} \int_H \int_H \xi(gh')\xi(gh'h)dhdh'd(gH) \\ &= \int_{G/H} \int_H \int_H \xi(gh')\xi(gh)dhdh'd(gH) \\ &= \int_{G/H} \left( \int_H \xi(gh)dh \right)^2 d(gH) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for all  $k \in H$ , we have

$$u(k) - \varphi(k) = \int_G \int_H \xi(g)\xi(gh)[(L_{h^{-1}}\varphi)(k) - \varphi(k)]dhdg.$$

Since the function

$$G \times H \ni (g, h) \mapsto v(g)v(gh),$$

is non-negative, continuous, and compactly supported, we can interpret the difference  $u|_H - \varphi$  as the vector valued integral

$$u|_H - \varphi = \int_G \int_H \xi(g)\xi(gh)[L_{h^{-1}}\varphi - \varphi]dhdg \in M_{cb}A(H).$$

Furthermore, we have the norm estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \|u|_H - \varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} &\leq \int_G \int_H \xi(g)\xi(gh)\|L_{h^{-1}}\varphi - \varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)}dhdg \\ &\leq \sup_{\{(g,h) \in G \times H: v(g)v(gh) \neq 0\}} \|L_{h^{-1}}\varphi - \varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} \\ &\leq \sup_{\{g \in V, h \in V^{-1}V \cap H\}} \|L_{h^{-1}}\varphi - \varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} \\ &< \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

As a consequence of Theorem 3.2, we get an analogue of Herz's restriction theorem for  $A_{cb}(G)$  when  $G \in [SIN]_H$ .

**Corollary 3.4.** *If  $G \in [SIN]_H$ , then the restriction map  $R : A_{cb}(G) \rightarrow A_{cb}(H)$  is a completely contractive surjection.*

*Proof.* It is well known that the restriction map  $R : M_{cb}A(G) \rightarrow M_{cb}A(H)$  is a complete contraction (see [18, Corollary 6.3]). We therefore only need to show that  $R : A_{cb}(G) \rightarrow A_{cb}(H)$  is surjective.

Let  $\varphi \in A_{cb}(H)$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. We want to show that  $\varphi \in R(A_{cb}(G))$ . Using the same open mapping theorem argument that was used at the start of the proof of Theorem 3.2, our problem reduces to finding  $u \in A_{cb}(G)$  such that  $\|u\|_{A_{cb}(G)} \leq \|\varphi\|_{A_{cb}(H)}$ , and  $\|u|_H - \varphi\|_{A_{cb}(H)} < \epsilon$ . Since  $\varphi \in A_{cb}(H) \subseteq \overline{B(\overline{H})}^{\|\cdot\|_{M_{cb}A(H)}}$ ,  $\varphi$  satisfies the hypothesis of Theorem 3.2 (see Remark 3.3). Let  $u = \Phi_\xi(\varphi) \in M_{cb}A(G)$  be the c.b. multiplier constructed in the proof of Theorem 3.2. Then  $\|u\|_{M_{cb}A(G)} \leq \|\varphi\|_{A_{cb}(H)}$ , and  $\|u|_H - \varphi\|_{A_{cb}(H)} < \epsilon$ . So to complete the proof, we need to show that  $u \in A_{cb}(G)$ . This, however, is easy: using the density of  $A(H) \cap C_c(H)$  in  $A_{cb}(H)$ , we can find a sequence  $\{\varphi_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset A(H) \cap C_c(H)$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi - \varphi_n\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} = 0.$$

Since  $\Phi_\xi : M_{cb}A(H) \rightarrow M_{cb}A(G)$  is a continuous map, which evidently maps compactly supported functions to compactly supported functions, we have

$$u = \Phi_\xi(\varphi) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Phi_\xi(\varphi_n) \in \underbrace{\overline{M_{cb}A(G) \cap C_c(G)}}_{=A(G) \cap C_c(G)}^{\|\cdot\|_{M_{cb}A(G)}} = A_{cb}(G).$$

□

It turns out that when  $G \in [SIN]_H$  and  $H$  is a discrete subgroup, we can improve on Theorem 3.2 and Corollary 3.4 a bit:

**Theorem 3.5.** *Suppose that  $G \in [SIN]_H$  and that  $H$  is a discrete subgroup. Then there exists an isometry  $\Gamma : M_{cb}A(H) \rightarrow M_{cb}A(G)$  which maps  $A_{cb}(H)$  into  $A_{cb}(G)$ , and is a right inverse for the restriction map. That is,  $\Gamma\varphi|_H = \varphi$  for all  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(H)$ .*

An immediate consequence of this theorem is the following:

**Corollary 3.6.** *Let  $H \leq G$  be as in Theorem 3.5, and let  $\mathcal{A}(G)$  (resp.  $\mathcal{A}(H)$ ) be either the algebra  $M_{cb}A(G)$  or  $A_{cb}(G)$  (resp.  $M_{cb}A(H)$  or  $A_{cb}(H)$ ). Let  $I_G(H)$  denote the ideal of functions  $\psi \in \mathcal{A}(G)$ , which vanish on  $H$ . Then  $I_G(H)$  is complemented in  $\mathcal{A}(G)$ . Furthermore, this is also true with  $H$  replaced by any set  $E \subseteq H$  for which  $I_H(E)$ , the ideal of those functions in  $\mathcal{A}(H)$  vanishing on  $E$ , is complemented in  $\mathcal{A}(H)$ .*

*Remark 3.7.* We suspect that the above results may well be true with “complete isometry” replacing isometry and “completely complemented” replacing complemented. However, we are at this time unable to prove this assertion.

It is also worth noting that the previous two results are new even if  $G$  is amenable.

We will now prove Theorem 3.5.

*Proof.* Choose an open symmetric neighborhood  $V$  of the identity  $e \in G$  with compact closure such that  $H \cap V = H \cap V^2 = \{e\}$ . This can always be done because  $H$  is a discrete subgroup of  $G$ . Next, let  $0 \leq \xi \in C_c(G)$  be a function which is  $H$ -central (i.e.  $\xi(hxh^{-1}) = \xi(x)$  for all  $h \in H, x \in G$ ) and suppose  $\text{supp } \xi \subseteq V$ . This is possible because  $G \in [SIN]_H$ .

Let  $u = \xi * \tilde{\xi} \in A(G) \cap C_c(G)$  and normalize  $\xi$  so that  $u(e) = \|\xi\|_{L^2(G)}^2 = 1$ . Note that  $\text{supp}(u) \subseteq V^2$ . Define

$$\Gamma : \ell^\infty(H) \rightarrow C_b(G)$$

by the equation

$$(\Gamma\varphi)(x) = \sum_{h \in H} \varphi(h)u(h^{-1}x).$$

Then  $\Gamma$  maps finitely supported functions to compactly supported functions, and  $\Gamma\varphi|_H = \varphi$  for all  $\varphi \in \ell^\infty(H)$ . To verify this last statement, note that for

any  $h, k \in H$ ,  $u = \xi * \tilde{\xi}$  has been chosen so that  $u(h^{-1}k) = \delta_{h,k}$ . Therefore

$$(\Gamma\varphi)(k) = \sum_{h \in H} \varphi(h)u(h^{-1}k) = \varphi(k), \quad (\varphi \in \ell^\infty(H), k \in H).$$

Next we observe that  $\Gamma = \Phi_\xi : M_{cb}A(H) \rightarrow M_{cb}A(G)$ .

For  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(H)$ , and  $x \in G$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma\varphi(x) &= \sum_{h \in H} \varphi(h)u(h^{-1}x) \\ &= \int_G \sum_{h \in H} \xi(g)\varphi(h)\xi(x^{-1}hg)dg \\ &= \int_G \sum_{h \in H} \xi(h^{-1}g)\varphi(h)\xi(x^{-1}g)dg \\ &= \int_G \sum_{h \in H} \xi(gh^{-1})\varphi(h)\xi(x^{-1}g)dg \\ &= \int_G \sum_{h \in H} \xi(g)\varphi(h)\xi(x^{-1}gh)dg \\ &= \int_G \sum_{h \in H} \xi(g)\varphi(h)\tilde{\xi}(h^{-1}g^{-1}x)dg \\ &= \int_G \xi(g)[(\varphi dh) * \tilde{\xi}](g^{-1}x)dg \\ &= [\xi * (\varphi dh) * \tilde{\xi}](x) = [\Phi_\xi(\varphi)](x). \end{aligned}$$

So  $\Gamma = \Phi_\xi : M_{cb}A(H) \rightarrow M_{cb}A(G)$  and by Theorem 3.1,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Gamma\| &= \|\Phi_\xi\| \\ &\leq \int_{G/H} \left( \sum_{h \in H} \xi(gh) \right)^2 d(gH) \\ &= \int_{G/H} \sum_{h, h' \in H} \xi(gh)\xi(gh')d(gH) \\ &= \int_{G/H} \sum_{h \in H} \xi(gh)^2 d(gH) \\ &\quad (\text{since } g \mapsto \xi(gh) \text{ and } g \mapsto \xi(gh') \text{ have disjoint supports for } h \neq h'.) \\ &= \int_G \xi(g)^2 dg = \|\xi\|_{L^2(G)}^2 = 1. \end{aligned}$$

The fact that  $\Gamma$  is an isometry now follows from the contractivity of  $\Gamma$  and the fact that restriction to  $H$  is a complete contraction from  $M_{cb}A(G)$  to  $M_{cb}A(H)$ . Indeed, for  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(H)$ ,

$$\|\Gamma\varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(G)} \leq \|\varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} = \|\Gamma\varphi|_H\|_{M_{cb}A(H)} \leq \|\Gamma\varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(G)}.$$

□

4. THE GROUP  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ 

Let's consider now the case where  $G$  is the connected Lie group  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ , and  $H \leq G$  is a copy of the discrete subgroup  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . For example, we may take  $H$  to be the discrete subgroup generated by the (algebraically free) pair of matrices

$$g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Our main tool will be the following result due to Losert:

**Theorem 4.1.** ([15, Theorem]) *For  $G = SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ , we have  $MA(G) = M_{cb}A(G)$ , and  $A(G)$  is dense in  $MA(G) \cap C_0(G)$  with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_{MA(G)}$ . For any  $u \in MA(G)$ ,  $\lambda = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} u(x)$  exists,  $u - \lambda \in MA(G) \cap C_0(G)$ , and  $\|u\|_{MA(G)} = \|u - \lambda\|_{MA(G)} + \lambda$ .*

In particular, this result says that  $A_M(G) = A_{cb}(G) = M_{cb}A(G) \cap C_0(G)$ , and

$$M_{cb}A(G) = \mathbb{C}1_G \oplus_1 A_{cb}(G).$$

Losert's result gives immediately a negative answer to Question 2.2 for  $A_M(G)$  and Question 2.5 for  $MA(G)$  with this choice of  $G$  and  $H$ . To see why this is the case, we first need the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.2.** *For the free group on two generators  $\mathbb{F}_2$ , we have that*

$$A_{cb}(\mathbb{F}_2) \subsetneq A_M(\mathbb{F}_2).$$

*Proof.* Since  $\|v\|_{M_{cb}A(\mathbb{F}_2)} \geq \|v\|_{MA(\mathbb{F}_2)}$ , if  $A_{cb}(\mathbb{F}_2) = A_M(\mathbb{F}_2)$ , then it follows immediately that the two norms are equivalent on  $A(\mathbb{F}_2)$ . This is impossible since, in [3, Theorem 6.3.3] the first author constructs a set  $E \subset \mathbb{F}_2$  such that the ideal

$$I(E) = \{u \in A(\mathbb{F}_2) \mid u(g) = 0 \text{ for all } g \in E\} \subset A(\mathbb{F}_2)$$

has an approximate identity that is bounded in the  $\|\cdot\|_{MA(\mathbb{F}_2)}$  norm but not in the  $\|\cdot\|_{M_{cb}A(\mathbb{F}_2)}$  norm.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.3.** *The restriction map from  $A_M(G)$  to  $A_M(H)$  is not surjective, and  $MA(G)|_H$  is not closed in  $MA(H)$ .*

*Proof.* Consider the first statement concerning restriction from  $A_M(G)$  to  $A_M(H)$ . By Theorem 4.1,  $A_M(G) = A_{cb}(G) \subset M_{cb}A(G)$ . Since restriction from  $G$  to  $H$  induces a complete contraction from  $M_{cb}A(G)$  into  $M_{cb}A(H)$ , we also have  $A_M(G)|_H \subseteq A_{cb}(H)$ . On the other hand, for  $H = \mathbb{F}_2$ , we know that  $A_M(H) \subsetneq A_{cb}(H)$ , so  $A_M(G)|_H \subsetneq A_M(H)$ . This proves the first statement.

Consider now the restriction algebra  $MA(G)|_H$ . Take any element  $\varphi \in A_M(H) \setminus M_{cb}A(H)$ . Then, by Theorem 4.1,  $MA(G)|_H \subseteq M_{cb}A(H)$ , so

$$\varphi \notin MA(G)|_H.$$

On the other hand, we claim that

$$\varphi \in \overline{MA(G)|_H}^{\|\cdot\|_{MA(H)}}.$$

To see this, let  $\{\varphi_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq A(H)$  be a sequence such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi_n - \varphi\|_{MA(H)} \rightarrow 0$ . Then, by Herz's restriction theorem,

$$\{\varphi_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq A(G)|_H \subseteq MA(G)|_H.$$

Therefore  $\varphi \in \overline{MA(G)|_H}^{\|\cdot\|_{MA(H)}}$ .  $\square$

On the level of c.b. multipliers, with the choice of  $G$  and  $H$  as above, the situation is quite different than it is for  $[SIN]_H$  groups (c.f. Theorem 3.5).

**Theorem 4.4.** *The restriction map from  $M_{cb}A(G)$  to  $M_{cb}A(H)$  is not surjective.*

*Proof.* Let  $g_1, g_2$  be the free generators of  $H = \mathbb{F}_2$ . Then the set  $E = \{g_1^n g_2 g_1^{-n}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset H$  is algebraically free. It follows from the work of Leinert [13] (or more recently [16, Theorem 0.1]), that

$$\{\varphi \in M_{cb}A(H) : \text{supp}\varphi \subseteq E\} = \ell^\infty(E),$$

completely isomorphically.

Now choose any  $\varphi \in \ell^\infty(E)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(g_1^n g_2 g_1^{-n})$  does not exist. (For example, take  $\varphi(g_1^n g_2 g_1^{-n}) = (-1)^n$ ). We claim that there is no  $u \in M_{cb}A(G)$  such that  $u|_H = \varphi$ . Indeed, if such a  $u$  existed, Theorem 4.1 would imply that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} u(x) = \lambda \in \mathbb{C}.$$

But since

$$g_1^n g_2 g_1^{-n} \rightarrow \infty, \quad (n \rightarrow \infty),$$

this would mean that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(g_1^n g_2 g_1^{-n}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u(g_1^n g_2 g_1^{-n}) = \lambda,$$

which is a contradiction.  $\square$

*Remark 4.5.* At this point we do not know if  $M_{cb}A(SL(2, \mathbb{R}))|_{\mathbb{F}_2}$  is closed in  $M_{cb}A(\mathbb{F}_2)$ , and hence whether or not  $A_{cb}(\mathbb{F}_2) = A_{cb}(SL(2, \mathbb{R}))|_{\mathbb{F}_2}$ ?

We note that it may well be possible that equality does hold above. One suggestive piece of evidence in this direction arises from the representation theorem for c.b. multipliers. Let  $\xi \in L^2(G)$  be any unit vector, and let  $(\omega, \mathcal{H}_\omega)$  be the universal unitary representation of  $G$ . Examining the proof of Jolissaint [12], we see that for  $\varphi \in M_{cb}A(G)$ , there exist bounded maps  $V_1, V_2 : L^2(G) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_\omega$  such that

$$\|\varphi\|_{M_{cb}A(G)} = \|V_1\| \|V_2\|,$$

and such that  $\varphi$  is represented by the ‘‘twisted coefficient’’ function

$$(4.1) \quad \varphi(y^{-1}x) = \langle \omega(x)V_1\lambda(x^{-1})\xi | \omega(y)V_2\lambda(y^{-1})\xi \rangle, \quad (x, y \in G).$$

So any restriction,  $\psi \in M_{cb}A(G)|_H$  will be a “twisted coefficient” associated to  $\omega|_H$ . This is somewhat reminiscent of the situation for  $B(G)$ , though of course we are lacking anything as complete as Arzac’s work on  $B(G)$  [1] in our understanding of  $M_{cb}A(G)$  to help us complete the argument

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MICHAEL BRANNAN: DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, QUEEN’S UNIVERSITY, 99 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, KINGSTON, ONTARIO, CANADA, K7L 3N6. EMAIL: MBRANNAN@MAST.QUEENSU.CA

BRIAN FORREST: DEPARTMENT OF PURE MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO, WATERLOO, ONTARIO, CANADA, N2L 3G1. EMAIL: BEFORRES@MATH.UWATERLOO.CA