

## JOHNSON PSEUDO-CONTRACTIBILITY AND PSEUDO-AMENABILITY OF $\theta$ -LAU PRODUCT

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ABSTRACT. Given Banach algebras  $A$  and  $B$  and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . We shall study the Johnson pseudo-contractibility and pseudo-amenability of the  $\theta$ -Lau product  $A \times_{\theta} B$ . We show that if  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible, then both  $A$  and  $B$  are Johnson pseudo-contractible and  $A$  has a bounded approximate identity. In some particular cases, a complete characterization of Johnson pseudo-contractibility of  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is given. Also, we show that pseudo-amenability of  $A \times_{\theta} B$  implies the approximate amenability of  $A$  and pseudo-amenability of  $B$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two Banach algebras and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ , where  $\Delta(B)$  is the character space of  $B$ . Then the Banach space  $A \times B$  with the product

$$(a, b)(c, d) = (ac + \theta(d)a + \theta(b)c, bd), \quad a, c \in A, b, d \in B,$$

and  $\ell^1$ -norm becomes a Banach algebra, which is called the  $\theta$ -Lau product of  $A$  and  $B$  which is denoted by  $A \times_{\theta} B$ . The  $\theta$ -Lau product was first introduced by A. T. Lau [14] for  $F$ -algebras. Recently, this product was extended to general Banach algebras by M. Monfared [15] for every Banach algebras  $A$  and  $B$  and every character  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . One may regard  $A$  ( $B$ ) as a closed two sided ideal (Banach subalgebra) of  $A \times_{\theta} B$  by identifying it with  $A \times \{0\}$  ( $\{0\} \times B$ ), respectively. Therefore, if there is no ambiguity, we may simply write  $a$  ( $b$ ) instead of  $(a, 0)$  ( $(0, b)$ ) for every  $a \in A$  ( $b \in B$ ), respectively. Monfared studied several properties of  $A \times_{\theta} B$  including semisimplicity, Arens regularity, existence of approximate identity and amenability. We recall that the concept of an amenable Banach algebra was introduced by Johnson in 1972. Indeed,

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a Banach algebra  $A$  is called amenable if there is an element  $M \in (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  such that  $a \cdot M = M \cdot a$  and  $\pi_A^{**}(M)a = a$  for every  $a \in A$ , where  $\pi : A \otimes_p A \rightarrow A$  is the product morphism and  $A \otimes_p A$  is the projective tensor product of  $A$ . Motivated by this construction of Johnson, some authors introduce several modifications of this notion by relaxing some conditions in different versions of definitions of amenability. The notion of pseudo-amenability was introduced by F. Ghahramani and Y. Zhang [13]. A Banach algebra  $A$  is called pseudo-amenable if there is a net  $(m_\alpha) \subseteq A \otimes_p A$  such that  $a \cdot m_\alpha - m_\alpha \cdot a \rightarrow 0$  and  $\pi_A(m_\alpha)a \rightarrow a$  for every  $a \in A$ . The concept of approximately amenable Banach algebras was introduced by F. Ghahramani and R. J. Loy in [11], see also [12]. A Banach algebra  $A$  is called approximately amenable if there are nets  $(M_\alpha) \subseteq A \otimes_p A$ ,  $(F_\alpha) \subseteq A$  and  $(G_\alpha) \subseteq A$  such that for every  $a \in A$

- (i)  $a \cdot M_\alpha - M_\alpha \cdot a + F_\alpha \otimes a - a \otimes G_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ;
- (ii)  $aF_\alpha \rightarrow a$ ,  $G_\alpha a \rightarrow a$  and
- (iii)  $\pi_A(M_\alpha)a - F_\alpha a - G_\alpha a \rightarrow 0$ .

Recently the second and third authors [19] have defined a new concept related to amenability called Johnson pseudo-contractibility. Indeed, a Banach algebra  $A$  is called Johnson pseudo-contractible if there is a not necessarily bounded net  $(M_\alpha) \subseteq (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  such that  $a \cdot M_\alpha = M_\alpha \cdot a$  and  $\pi_A^{**}(M_\alpha)a - a \rightarrow 0$  for every  $a \in A$ .

In the Section 2 we deal with Johnson pseudo-contractible Banach algebras. We show that if  $A \times_\theta B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible, then  $A$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible and has a bounded approximate identity and  $B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible. Moreover, we show that in particular cases, for example when  $A$  is Arens regular and weakly sequentially complete or when  $A$  is a dual Banach algebra, Johnson pseudo-contractibility of  $A \times_\theta B$  is equivalent with amenability of  $A$  and Johnson pseudo-contractibility of  $B$ . Some example are given at the end of the section.

In the Section 3 we focus on pseudo-amenability of  $A \times_\theta B$ . Pseudo-amenability of  $A \times_\theta B$  was studied by E. Ghaderi *et al.* [10]. They showed that pseudo-amenability of  $A \times_\theta B$  implies pseudo-amenability of  $B$ , and implies pseudo-amenability of  $A$  whenever  $A$  has a bounded approximate identity. We show that the existence of bounded approximate identity in this result is not a necessary condition. Indeed, we show that if  $A \times_\theta B$  is pseudo-amenable, then  $A$  is approximately amenable and  $B$  is pseudo-amenable.

## 2. JOHNSON PSEUDO-CONTRACTIBILITY OF $A \times_\theta B$

We state a result from [2] that will be used frequently in this section.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Johnson pseudo-contractible Banach algebra with an identity. Then  $A$  is amenable.*

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Johnson pseudo-contractible Banach algebra and let  $I$  be a two sided closed ideal of  $A$ . If  $I$  has a bounded approximate identity, then  $I$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible.*

*Proof.* By hypothesis there is a net  $(M_\alpha) \subseteq (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  such that  $a \cdot M_\alpha = M_\alpha \cdot a$  and  $\pi_A^{**}(M_\alpha)a - a \rightarrow 0$  for every  $a \in A$ . Let  $(e_\beta)$  be a bounded approximate identity for  $I$  and let  $E$  be a weak\* cluster point of  $(e_\beta)$  in  $I^{**}$ . Then by setting  $(N_\alpha) = (E \cdot M_\alpha \cdot E) \subseteq (I \otimes_p I)^{**}$ , we have

$$x \cdot N_\alpha = N_\alpha \cdot x,$$

and

$$\pi_I^{**}(N_\alpha)x = \pi_A^{**}(E \cdot M_\alpha \cdot E)x = \pi_A^{**}(M_\alpha)x \rightarrow x,$$

for every  $x \in I$ . It follows that  $I$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible. □

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two Banach algebras and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . If  $A \times_\theta B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible, then the following statements hold.*

- (a)  *$A$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible and has a bounded approximate identity.*
- (b)  *$B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\Phi : (A \times_\theta B) \otimes_p (A \times_\theta B) \rightarrow A \times_\theta B$  is the linear map determined by

$$\Phi((a, b) \otimes (c, d)) = \theta(d)(a, b), \quad a, c \in A, b, d \in B.$$

Let  $(U_\alpha) \subseteq ((A \times_\theta B) \otimes_p (A \times_\theta B))^{**}$  be such that

$$(a, b) \cdot U_\alpha = U_\alpha \cdot (a, b), \quad \pi_{A \times_\theta B}^{**}(U_\alpha)(a, b) \rightarrow (a, b),$$

for every  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Then by Goldstine’s theorem for every  $\alpha$  there exists a net  $(u_{\alpha_\beta})$  in  $(A \times_\theta B) \otimes_p (A \times_\theta B)$  such that  $w^* - \lim_\beta u_{\alpha_\beta} = U_\alpha$ . Suppose that

$u_{\alpha_\beta} = \sum_{i=1}^\infty (a_i^{\alpha_\beta}, b_i^{\alpha_\beta}) \otimes (c_i^{\alpha_\beta}, d_i^{\alpha_\beta})$  for sequences  $(a_i^{\alpha_\beta}), (c_i^{\alpha_\beta}) \subseteq A$  and  $(b_i^{\alpha_\beta}), (d_i^{\alpha_\beta}) \subseteq B$ , where  $\sum_{i=1}^\infty \|(a_i^{\alpha_\beta}, b_i^{\alpha_\beta})\| \cdot \|(c_i^{\alpha_\beta}, d_i^{\alpha_\beta})\| < \infty$ . Note that  $\theta$  has an extension  $\tilde{\theta} \in \Delta(B^{**})$

given by  $\tilde{\theta}(F) = F(\theta)$  for every  $F \in B^{**}$ . Since  $\Phi$  and  $\theta$  are bounded,  $\Phi^{**}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}$  are weak\* continuous maps. Now we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (0, \tilde{\theta}), \Phi^{**}(U_\alpha) \rangle &= w^* - \lim_\beta \langle (0, \theta), \Phi(u_{\alpha_\beta}) \rangle \\ &= w^* - \lim_\beta \sum_{i=1}^\infty \theta(b_i^{\alpha_\beta})\theta(b_i^{\alpha_\beta}) \\ &= w^* - \lim_\beta \langle (0, \theta), \pi_{A \times_\theta B}(u_{\alpha_\beta}) \rangle \\ &= \langle (0, \tilde{\theta}), \pi_{A \times_\theta B}^{**}(U_\alpha) \rangle \rightarrow 1. \end{aligned}$$

Set  $\Phi^{**}(U_\alpha) = (\phi_\alpha, \psi_\alpha)$ , where  $\phi_\alpha \in A^{**}$  and  $\psi_\alpha \in B^{**}$ . We can see that  $\tilde{\theta}(\psi_\alpha) \rightarrow 1$ . Take  $\alpha_0$  such that  $\tilde{\theta}(\psi_{\alpha_0}) \neq 0$ , for every  $a \in A$  we have

$$a\Phi^{**}(U_{\alpha_0}) = \Phi^{**}(a \cdot U_{\alpha_0}) = \Phi^{**}(U_{\alpha_0} \cdot a) = 0.$$

Also, we have

$$a\Phi^{**}(U_{\alpha_0}) = (a, 0)(\phi_{\alpha_0}, \psi_{\alpha_0}) = (a\phi_{\alpha_0} + \tilde{\theta}(\psi_{\alpha_0})a, 0).$$

Therefore  $a\phi_{\alpha_0} + \tilde{\theta}(\psi_{\alpha_0})a = 0$ , so  $a(-\tilde{\theta}(\psi_{\alpha_0})^{-1}\phi_{\alpha_0}) = a$ , where  $-\tilde{\theta}(\psi_{\alpha_0})^{-1}\phi_{\alpha_0} \in A^{**}$ . This shows that  $A$  has a bounded right approximate identity. A similar argument shows that  $A$  has a bounded left approximate identity. It follows that  $A$  has a bounded approximate identity. Since  $A$  is a two sided closed ideal of  $(A \times_{\theta} B)$  and has a bounded approximate identity, by Lemma 2.1 it is Johnson pseudo-contractible.

It is well known that  $(A \times_{\theta} B)/A \cong B$  and there is a surjective homomorphism from  $A \times_{\theta} B$  onto  $(A \times_{\theta} B)/A$ . So, [19, Proposition 2.9] implies Johnson pseudo-contractibility of  $B$ .  $\square$

We remark that the converse of the previous theorem does not hold in general. For example,  $A(H)$ , the Fourier algebra on the integer Heisenberg group  $H$ , is Johnson pseudo-contractible and has a bounded approximate identity and  $M(H)$ , the measure algebra over  $H$ , is Johnson pseudo-contractible ( $H$  is discrete and amenable). But  $A(H) \times_{\theta} M(H)$  is not Johnson pseudo-contractible for every  $\theta \in \Delta(M(H))$ . Indeed,  $A(H) \times_{\theta} M(H)$  has an identity [15, Proposition 2.3]. If  $A(H) \times_{\theta} M(H)$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible, then, by Theorem 2.1,  $A(H) \times_{\theta} M(H)$  is amenable and [15, page 285] implies the amenability of  $A(H)$ . It gives a contradiction that  $H$  has an abelian subgroup of finite index, see [9, Theorem 2.3].

From [15, page 285] and Theorem 2.1, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.1.** *If  $B$  has an identity, then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (a)  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible;
- (b)  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is amenable;
- (c)  $A$  and  $B$  are amenable.

**Corollary 2.2.** *If  $A$  has an identity, then  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible if and only if  $A$  is amenable and  $B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible.*

*Proof.* In view of [3]  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is nothing but the  $\ell^1$ -direct sum  $A \oplus B$  with coordinatewise product whenever  $A$  has an identity. If  $A$  is amenable and  $B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible, then  $A \oplus B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible by [19, Theorem 2.11]. The converse comes immediately from Theorem 2.2 and Theorem 2.1.  $\square$

A Banach algebra  $A$  is called dual if it is a dual space such that multiplication in  $A$  is separately  $w^*$ -continuous. It is well known that a dual Banach algebra with a bounded approximate identity has an identity [18, Proposition 1.2], so we have the following corollary from Theorem 2.2 and Corollary 2.2.

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $B$  be a Banach algebra and let  $A$  be a dual Banach algebra and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . Then  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible if and only if  $A$  is amenable and  $B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible.*

A Banach algebra  $A$  is called Arens regular if the first and the second Arens products on  $A^{**}$  coincide. Also, a Banach algebra  $A$  is called weakly sequentially complete if every weakly Cauchy sequence in  $A$  is weakly convergent.

**Proposition 2.1.** *Suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are two Banach algebras and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . If  $A$  is Arens regular and weakly sequentially complete, then  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible if and only if*

- (a)  $A$  is amenable and has an identity;
- (b)  $B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible.

*Proof.* If  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible, then, by Theorem 2.1,  $A$  has a bounded approximate identity. Using Ülger theorem [4, Theorem 2.9.39],  $A$  has an identity. Now apply Corollary 2.2.  $\square$

It seems that Johnson pseudo-contractibility of  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is related with amenability of  $A$ . We believe that Corollary 2.2 holds without the assumption that  $A$  has an identity. However, it remains as a conjecture. We left it as an open problem in the following questions.

*Question 1.* Does Johnson pseudo-contractibility of  $A \times_{\theta} B$  implies the amenability of  $A$ ?

*Question 2.* Suppose that  $A$  is an amenable Banach algebra and  $B$  is a Johnson pseudo-contractible Banach algebra and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . Is  $A \times_{\theta} B$  a Johnson pseudo-contractible Banach algebra?

We finish this section with some examples. First we recall some concepts and notations from semigroup theory. A semigroup  $S$  is called regular if for every  $s \in S$  there exists an element  $t \in S$  such that  $sts = s$  and  $tst = t$ . A semigroup  $S$  is an inverse semigroup if for every  $s \in S$  there exists a unique element  $t \in S$  such that  $sts = s$  and  $tst = t$ . The set of idempotents of a semigroup  $S$  is denoted by  $E(S)$ , which is a partially ordered set with the following order

$$p \leq q \Leftrightarrow p = pq = qp, \quad p, q \in E(S).$$

For  $p \in E(S)$ , we set  $(p) = \{x : x \leq p\}$ . An inverse semigroup  $S$  is called uniformly locally finite if  $\sup\{|(p)| : p \in E(S)\} < \infty$ . It is well known that the discrete semigroup algebra  $\ell^1(S)$  is weakly sequentially complete [4, Theorem A.4.4]. Our main reference for semigroup theory is [5].

*Example 2.1.* Suppose that  $B$  is a Banach algebra and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ .

- (i) Let  $S$  be a uniformly locally finite inverse semigroup. Then Johnson pseudo-contractibility of  $\ell^1(S) \times_{\theta} B$  implies that  $\ell^1(S)$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible and has a bounded approximate identity. From [16, Proposition 2.1]  $E(S)$  must be finite and from [20, Theorem 2.3] every maximal subgroup of  $S$  is amenable, in other word  $\ell^1(S)$  is amenable, see [7].
- (ii) Suppose that  $S$  is regular and  $\ell^1(S)$  is Arens regular. If  $\ell^1(S) \times_{\theta} B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible, then, by Proposition 2.1,  $\ell^1(S)$  is amenable and has an identity. So, by [7],  $E(S)$  is finite. Now [5, Theorem 12.2] implies that  $S$  is a unital finite semigroup. Indeed,  $\ell^1(S) \times_{\theta} B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible if and only if  $S$  is a unital finite semigroup and  $B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible.

*Example 2.2.* Using [8, Theorem 3.1] one can see that  $M_I(\mathbb{C})$  (the Banach algebra of  $I \times I$ -matrices over  $\mathbb{C}$ , with finite  $\ell^1$ -norm and matrix multiplication) has no bounded approximate identity unless  $I$  is finite, but in this case  $M_I(\mathbb{C})$  is amenable and has an identity. So, for Banach algebra  $B$  and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ ,  $M_I(\mathbb{C}) \times_\theta B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible if and only if  $I$  is finite and  $B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible.

A linear subspace  $S^1(G)$  of  $L^1(G)$  is said to be a Segal algebra on  $G$  if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $S^1(G)$  is dense in  $L^1(G)$ ;
- (ii)  $S^1(G)$  with a norm  $\|\cdot\|_{S^1(G)}$  is a Banach space and  $\|f\|_{L^1(G)} \leq \|f\|_{S^1(G)}$  for every  $f \in S^1(G)$ ;
- (iii)  $S^1(G)$  is left translation invariant (that is,  $L_y f \in S^1(G)$  for every  $f \in S^1(G)$  and  $y \in G$ ) and the map  $y \mapsto L_y(f)$  from  $G$  into  $S^1(G)$  is continuous, where  $L_y(f)(x) = f(y^{-1}x)$ ;
- (iv)  $\|L_y(f)\|_{S^1(G)} = \|f\|_{S^1(G)}$ , for every  $f \in S^1(G)$  and  $y \in G$ .

*Example 2.3.* Suppose that  $B$  is a Banach algebra and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . Let  $S^1(G)$  be a Segal algebra on  $G$ . If  $S^1(G) \times_\theta B$  is Johnson pseudo-contractible, then  $S^1(G) = L^1(G)$ .

### 3. PSEUDO-AMENABILITY OF $A \times_\theta B$

*Remark 3.1.* Note that if  $U \in (A \times_\theta B) \otimes_p (A \times_\theta B)$ , then there are  $M \in A \otimes_p A$ ,  $N \in A \otimes_p B$ ,  $L \in B \otimes_p A$  and  $H \in B \otimes_p B$  such that

$$U = M + N + L + H$$

and

$$\|U\|_{(A \times_\theta B) \otimes_p (A \times_\theta B)} = \|M\|_{A \otimes_p A} + \|N\|_{A \otimes_p B} + \|L\|_{B \otimes_p A} + \|H\|_{B \otimes_p B}.$$

**Theorem 3.1.** *Suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are Banach algebras and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . If  $A \times_\theta B$  is pseudo-amenable, then*

- (a)  $A$  is approximate amenable and
- (b)  $B$  is pseudo-amenable.

*Proof.* It is well known that  $(A \times_\theta B)/A \cong B$  and there is a surjective homomorphism from  $A \times_\theta B$  onto  $(A \times_\theta B)/A$ . So [13, Proposition 2.2] implies pseudo-amenableity of  $B$ .

By assumption there is a net  $(U_\alpha) \subseteq (A \times_\theta B) \otimes_p (A \times_\theta B)$  such that

$$(x, y) \cdot U_\alpha - U_\alpha \cdot (x, y) \rightarrow 0, \quad \pi(U_\alpha)(x, y) \rightarrow (x, y),$$

for every  $x \in A$ ,  $y \in B$ . Particularly for every  $x \in A$  we have

$$(3.1) \quad x \cdot U_\alpha - U_\alpha \cdot x \rightarrow 0, \quad \pi(U_\alpha)x \rightarrow x.$$

Suppose that  $U_\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^\infty (a_i^\alpha, b_i^\alpha) \otimes (c_i^\alpha, d_i^\alpha)$  for sequences  $(a_i^\alpha), (c_i^\alpha) \subseteq A$  and  $(b_i^\alpha), (d_i^\alpha) \subseteq B$ , where  $\sum_{i=1}^\infty \|(a_i^\alpha, b_i^\alpha)\| \cdot \|(c_i^\alpha, d_i^\alpha)\| < \infty$ . Set  $M_\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^\infty a_i^\alpha \otimes c_i^\alpha$ ,  $F_\alpha = -\sum_{i=1}^\infty \theta(d_i^\alpha)a_i^\alpha$ ,

$G_\alpha = -\sum_{i=1}^\infty \theta(b_i^\alpha)c_i^\alpha$  and  $H_\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^\infty b_i^\alpha \otimes d_i^\alpha$ . One can easily see that

$$\pi_{A \times_\theta B}(U_\alpha) = (\pi_A(M_\alpha) - F_\alpha - G_\alpha, \pi_B(H_\alpha)).$$

For an arbitrary element  $b$  in  $B$ , we have

$$\pi_{A \times_\theta B}(U_\alpha)(0, b) = (\theta(b)(\pi_A(M_\alpha) - F_\alpha - G_\alpha), \pi_B(H_\alpha)b) \rightarrow (0, b),$$

so

$$\pi_A(M_\alpha) - F_\alpha - G_\alpha \rightarrow 0, \quad \theta(\pi_B(H_\alpha)) \rightarrow 1.$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} (3.2) \quad x \cdot U_\alpha &= \sum_{i=1}^\infty (x, 0)(a_i^\alpha, 0) \otimes (c_i^\alpha, 0) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (x, 0)(0, b_i^\alpha) \otimes (c_i^\alpha, 0) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (x, 0)(a_i^\alpha, 0) \otimes (0, d_i^\alpha) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (x, 0)(0, b_i^\alpha) \otimes (0, d_i^\alpha) \\ &= x \cdot \left( \sum_{i=1}^\infty (a_i^\alpha \otimes c_i^\alpha) \right) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (x \otimes \theta(b_i^\alpha)c_i^\alpha) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (xa_i^\alpha \otimes d_i^\alpha) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (\theta(b_i^\alpha)x \otimes d_i^\alpha) \\ &= x \cdot M_\alpha - x \otimes G_\alpha + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (xa_i^\alpha \otimes d_i^\alpha) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (\theta(b_i^\alpha)x \otimes d_i^\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly we have

$$(3.3) \quad U_\alpha \cdot x = M_\alpha \cdot x - F_\alpha \otimes x + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (b_i^\alpha \otimes c_i^\alpha x) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (b_i^\alpha \otimes \theta(d_i^\alpha)x).$$

From (3.2), (3.3) and (3.1), by using Remark 3.1 we obtain

- (a)  $x \cdot M_\alpha - M_\alpha \cdot x + F_\alpha \otimes x - x \otimes G_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ;
- (b)  $\sum_{i=1}^\infty (xa_i^\alpha \otimes d_i^\alpha) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (\theta(b_i^\alpha)x \otimes d_i^\alpha) \rightarrow 0$ ;
- (c)  $\sum_{i=1}^\infty (b_i^\alpha \otimes c_i^\alpha x) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (b_i^\alpha \otimes \theta(d_i^\alpha)x) \rightarrow 0$ .

Define a bounded linear map  $\phi : A \otimes_p B \rightarrow A$  by  $\phi(a \otimes b) = \theta(b)a$ . From (b) we have

$$\begin{aligned} -xF_\alpha + \theta(\pi_B(H_\alpha))x &= x \sum_{i=1}^\infty \theta(d_i^\alpha)a_i^\alpha + \sum_{i=1}^\infty \theta(b_i^\alpha d_i^\alpha)x \\ &= \phi \left( \sum_{i=1}^\infty (xa_i^\alpha \otimes d_i^\alpha) \right) + \sum_{i=1}^\infty (\theta(b_i^\alpha)x \otimes d_i^\alpha) \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

now  $\theta(\pi_B(H_\alpha)) \rightarrow 1$  implies that  $xF_\alpha \rightarrow x$ . Similarly, by using (c) we have  $G_\alpha x \rightarrow x$ . So we find  $(M_\alpha) \subseteq A \otimes_p A$ ,  $(F_\alpha) \subseteq A$  and  $(G_\alpha) \subseteq A$  such that

- (a)  $x \cdot M_\alpha - M_\alpha \cdot x + F_\alpha \otimes x - x \otimes G_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ;
- (b)  $xF_\alpha \rightarrow x, \quad G_\alpha x \rightarrow x$ ;
- (c)  $\pi_A(M_\alpha)x - F_\alpha x - G_\alpha x \rightarrow 0$ ,

for every  $x \in A$ . It follows that  $A$  is approximately amenable.  $\square$

*Example 3.1.* Let  $S$  be a uniformly locally finite inverse semigroup and let  $B$  be a Banach algebra and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . If  $\ell^1(S) \times_\theta B$  is pseudo-amenable, then by Theorem 3.1  $\ell^1(S)$  is approximately amenable. Theorem 4.3 of [17] shows that  $\ell^1(S)$  is amenable.

*Example 3.2.* Let  $G = SU(2)$  be the  $2 \times 2$  unitary group, and suppose that  $S^1(G) \neq L^1(G)$  is a Segal algebra on  $G$ . In [1] Alaghmandan showed that  $S^1(G)$  is not approximately amenable. Thus, by Theorem 3.1,  $S^1(G) \times_\theta B$  is not pseudo-amenable for every Banach algebra  $B$  and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ .

*Example 3.3.* Let  $G$  be an infinite abelian compact group and let  $B$  be a Banach algebra and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ . We claim that  $L^2(G) \times_\theta B$  is not pseudo-amenable. To see this, suppose that  $L^2(G) \times_\theta B$  is pseudo-amenable. Then Theorem 3.1 implies that  $L^2(G)$  is approximately amenable. But by the Plancherel theorem  $L^2(G)$  is isometrically isomorphism to  $\ell^2(\hat{G})$ , where  $\hat{G}$  is the dual group of  $G$  and  $\ell^2(\hat{G})$  is equipped with the pointwise product. So  $\ell^2(\hat{G})$  is approximately amenable which is a contradiction with the main result of [6].

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