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# Approximately Multiplicative Functionals on the Product of Banach Algebras

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**Abstract.** In this paper we characterize the conditions under which approximately multiplicative functionals are near multiplicative functionals on the product of Banach algebras.

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## 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper all Banach algebras are commutative. If A is a Banach algebra, then the set of all linear functionals on A is denoted by  $A^*$  and the set of all its nonzero multiplicative functionals is denoted by  $\hat{A}$ . If  $\varphi \in A^*$ , then define

$$\check{\varphi}(a,b) = \varphi(ab) - \varphi(a)\varphi(b)$$

for all  $a, b \in A$ . If  $\delta \in R^+$ , we say that  $\varphi$  is  $\delta$ -multiplicative, whenever  $\|\check{\varphi}\| \leq \delta$ .

Also for each  $\varphi \in A^{\star}$  define

$$d(\varphi) = \inf\{\|\varphi - \psi\| : \psi \in \hat{A} \cup \{0\}\}.$$

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We say that A is an algebra in which approximately multiplicative functionals are near multiplicative functionals, or A is AMNM for short, if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta > 0$  such that  $d(\varphi) < \varepsilon$  whenever  $\varphi$  is a  $\delta$ -multiplicative linear functional.

B. E. Johnson has shown that various Banach algebras are AMNMand some of them fail to be AMNM [5]. Also, this property is still unknown for some Banach algebras such as  $H^{\infty}$  and Douglas algebras. First author and S. H. Petroudi has shown in their paper that some of weighted Hardy spaces are AMNM [1]. In this paper, first we define a multiplication on  $A \times B$ , where A and B are two Banach algebras and will show that  $A \times B$  is AMNM, where A and B are AMNM. Also we show that the converse is true. Then we generalized this to finite product of Banach algebras. For some sources on these topics one can refer to [1-10].

Let A and B be two Banach algebras. Define in  $A \times B$  addition, multiplication and norm by (a, b)+(c, d)=(a+c, b+d), (a, b)(c, d)=(ac, bd), ||(a, b)||=||a||+||b|| for every  $a, c \in A$  and  $b, d \in B$ . Therefore  $A \times B$  is an algebra such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(a,b)(c,d)\| &= \|ac\| + \|bd\| \\ &\leqslant \|a\| \|c\| + \|b\| \|d\| \\ &\leqslant (\|a\| + \|b\|)(\|c\| + \|d\|) \\ &= \|(a,b)\| \|(c,d)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Also if  $\{(a_n, b_n)\}$  is a cauchy sequence in  $A \times B$ , then  $\{a_n\}, \{b_n\}$  respectively are cauchy sequence in A and B. Thus there exist  $a \in A, b \in B$  such that  $a_n \to a, b_n \to b$  and hence

$$||(a_n, b_n) - (a, b)|| = ||a_n - a|| + ||b_n - b|| \to 0.$$

Therefore  $A \times B$  is a Banach algebra.

### 2. Main Results

For the proof of our theorems, we need the following proposition[3].

**Proposition 2.1.** Let A be a unital Banach algebra. Then the following are equivalent.

(i) A is AMNM.

(ii) For any sequence  $\{\Phi_n\}$  in  $A^*$  with  $\|\check{\Phi}_n\| \to 0$  there is a sequence  $\{\Psi_n\}$  in  $\hat{A} \bigcup \{0\}$  with  $\|\Phi_n - \Psi_n\| \to 0$ .

(iii) For any sequence  $\{\Phi_n\}$  in  $A^*$  with  $\|\check{\Phi}_n\| \to 0$  there is a subsequence  $\{\Phi_{n_i}\}$  and a sequence  $\{\Psi_i\}$  in  $\hat{A} \cup \{0\}$  with  $\|\Phi_{n_i} - \Psi_i\| \to 0$ .

(iv) For any sequence  $\{\Phi_n\}$  in  $A^*$  with  $\|\check{\Phi}_n\| \to 0$  and  $\inf_n \|\Phi_n\| > 0$ there is a sequence  $\{\Psi_n\}$  in  $\hat{A}$  with  $\|\Phi_n - \Psi_n\| \to 0$ .

(v) For any sequence  $\{\Phi_n\}$  in  $A^*$  with  $\|\check{\Phi}_n\| \to 0$  and  $\Phi_n(1) = 1 = \|\Phi_n\|$  there is a sequence  $\{\Psi_n\}$  in  $\hat{A}$  with  $\|\Phi_n - \Psi_n\| \to 0$ .

(vi) For each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $\Phi \in A^*$  with  $\Phi(1) = 1 = \|\Phi\|$  and  $\|\check{\Phi}\| < \delta$  then  $d(\Phi) < \varepsilon$ .

Conditions (i) to (iv) are equivalent even if A does not have a unit. If A has an approximate unit of norm 1 then (i) to (iv) are equivalent to the following,

(vii) For each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $\Phi \in A^*$  with  $\|\Phi\| = 1$ and  $\|\check{\Phi}\| < \delta$  then  $d(\Phi) < \varepsilon$ .

Also T. M. Rassias proved the following theorem [7].

**Theorem 2.2.** Let J be a closed ideal in a Banach algebra A,

(i) If A and  $\frac{A}{I}$  are AMNM, then so is A.

(ii) If A is AMNM, then so is J.

(iii) If A is AMNM and J has a bounded approximate identity, then  $\frac{A}{I}$  is AMNM.

**Theorem 2.3.** If A and B are two AMNM algebras, then  $A \times B$  is AMNM.

**Proof.** We show that the statement (iv) of proposition  $2 \cdot 1$  holds for  $A \times B$ . Let  $\{\Phi_n\} \subseteq (A \times B)^*$ ,  $inf_n ||\Phi_n|| = k > 0$  and  $||\check{\Phi_n}|| \to 0$ . Since  $inf_n ||\Phi_n|| = k$ , for every n, there exist  $a_n \in A$  and  $b_n \in B$  such that  $||(a_n, b_n)|| = 1$  and  $|\Phi_n(a_n, b_n)| > \frac{k}{2}$ . If  $\Phi_n(a_n, b_n) = \alpha_n$ , then for  $c_n = \frac{a_n}{\alpha_n}$  and  $d_n = \frac{b_n}{\alpha_n}$ , we get

$$\|(c_n, d_n)\| < \frac{2}{k} \quad and \quad \Phi_n(c_n, d_n) = 1.$$
 (1)

For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $\Theta_n \in A^*$  and  $\Psi_n \in B^*$  by

$$\Theta_n(a) = \Phi_n(ac_n, d_n), \Psi_n(b) = \Phi_n(c_n, bd_n) \quad a \in A, b \in B.$$
(2)

Therefore for every  $a, a \in A$ , we have

$$\begin{split} \check{\Theta}_n(a, \acute{a}) &= \Phi_n(a\acute{a}c_n, d_n) - \Phi_n(ac_n, d_n) \Phi_n(\acute{a}c_n, d_n) \\ &= \Phi_n(a\acute{a}c_n, d_n) \Phi_n(c_n, d_n) - \Phi_n(ac_n, d_n) \Phi_n(\acute{a}c_n, d_n) \\ &+ \Phi_n((ac_n, d_n)(\acute{a}c_n, d_n)) - \Phi_n((a\acute{a}c_n, d_n)(c_n, d_n)) \\ &= \check{\Phi}_n((ac_n, d_n), (\acute{a}c_n, d_n)) - \check{\Phi}_n((a\acute{a}c_n, d_n), (c_n, d_n)). \end{split}$$

Thus if  $||a|| \leq 1$ ,  $||\dot{a}|| \leq 1$ , then by (1),

$$\|\check{\Theta}_n(a, \acute{a})\| \leqslant \frac{2}{k^2} \|\check{\Phi}_n\|$$

and hence  $\|\check{\Theta}_n\| \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$ . Since A is AMNM, by Proposition 2.1. (*ii*), there is a sequence  $\{\acute{\Theta}_n\} \subset \hat{A} \bigcup \{0\}$  such that  $\|\Theta_n - \acute{\Theta}_n\| \to 0$ . Similarly, we can find a sequence  $\{\acute{\Psi}_n\} \subset \hat{B} \bigcup \{0\}$  such that  $\|\Psi_n - \acute{\Psi}_n\| \to 0$ . Define  $\acute{\Phi}_n \in (A \times B)^*$ , by

$$\acute{\Phi}_n(a,b) = \acute{\Theta}_n(a)\acute{\Psi}_n(b).$$

It is easy to show that  $\widehat{\Phi}_n \in \widehat{A \times B} \bigcup \{0\}$ . Also we note that

$$\begin{aligned} |\Theta_n(a)\Psi_n(b) - \dot{\Phi}_n(a,b)| &\leq |\dot{\Psi}_n(b)| |\dot{\Theta}_n(a) \\ -\Theta_n(a)| + |\Theta_n(a)| |\dot{\Psi}_n(b) - \Psi_n(b)| \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

$$\Theta_n(a)\Psi_n(b) - \Phi_n(a,b) = \check{\Phi}_n((a,b), (c_n^2, d_n^2))$$

$$-\Phi_{n}(a,b)\Phi_{n}((c_{n},d_{n}),(c_{n},d_{n})) -\check{\Phi}_{n}((ac_{n},d_{n}),(c_{n},bd_{n})),$$
(4)

and hence  $\|\Phi_n - \hat{\Phi}_n\| \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$  and the proof is complete.  $\Box$ 

By following lemma we will show that the converse of Theorem 2.3 holds.

**Lemma 2.4.** Let A and B be two Banach algebra and  $f : A \to B$  be a liner bounded bijection. If f(ab) = f(a)f(b), for every  $a, b \in A$ , then A is AMNM if and only if B is AMNM.

**Proof.** Suppose A is AMNM and  $\{\Phi_n\}$  be a sequence in  $B^*$  with  $\|\check{\Phi}_n\| \to 0$ . By property of f, for every  $a, b \in A$ , we have

$$|(\Phi_n of)(a, b)| = |\Phi_n(f(a)f(b)) - (\Phi_n of)(a)(\Phi_n of)(b)|$$
  
$$\leq \|\check{\Phi}_n\| \|f\|^2 \|a\| \|b\|,$$

and hence  $\|(\Phi_n of)\| \to 0$ . Thus there is a sequence  $\{\Psi_n\}$  in  $\hat{A} \bigcup \{0\}$  such that  $\|\Phi_n of - \Psi_n\| \to 0$ . By Open Mapping Theorem,  $\|f^{-1}\| < \infty$ . Also, note that  $\{\Psi_n of^{-1}\} \subset \hat{B} \bigcup \{0\}$  and  $\|\Phi_n - \Psi_n of^{-1}\| \leq \|f^{-1}\| \|\Phi_n of - \Psi_n\|$ . Therefore  $\|\Phi_n - \Psi_n of^{-1}\| \to 0$  and so B is AMNM. The proof of converse is similar.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 2.5.** Let A and B be two Banach algebras. If  $A \times B$  is AMNM, then A and B are AMNM.

**Proof.** By definition of multiplication in  $A \times B$ , it is easy to show that  $A \times \{0\}$  is a closed ideal in  $A \times B$ . Thus by theorem 2.3.,  $A \times \{0\}$  is AMNM. If we define  $f : A \times \{0\} \to A$  by f(a, 0) = a, then by Lemma 2.4., A is AMNM. Similarly, we can show that B is AMNM.

Let  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  be three Banach algebras. Define the vector space operations in  $A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3$  componentwise, define multiplication in  $A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3$ by

$$(a_1, a_2, a_3)(b_1, b_2, b_3) = (a_1b_1, a_2b_2, a_3b_3),$$

and define  $||(a_1, a_2, a_3)|| = ||a_1|| + ||a_2|| + ||a_3||$ . Then it is easy to show that  $A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3$  by this norm is a Banach algebra. If we define

 $f: A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3 \to (A_1 \times A_2) \times A_3$  by  $f(a_1, a_2, a_3) = ((a_1, a_2), a_3)$ , then by lemma 2.4,  $A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3$  is AMNM if and only if  $(A_1 \times A_2) \times A_3$ is AMNM. Thus by theorem 2.3 and induction we can prove that  $A_1 \times A_2 \dots \times A_n$  is AMNM if and only if  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  are AMNM.  $\Box$ 

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