

## THE STRUCTURE AND AMENABILITY OF $\ell^p$ -MUNN ALGEBRAS

S. NASERI\* AND H. SAMEA

Communicated by Gholamhossein Esslamzadeh

ABSTRACT. We introduce the notion of  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ , where  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Banach space,  $I$  is an index set and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . We find necessary and sufficient conditions for which  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra and investigate amenability of this Banach algebra. Applications to  $\ell^p(S)$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ), where  $S$  is a Brandt semigroup, are also given.

### 1. Introduction

Some properties of  $\ell^1$ -Munn algebras were investigated by Esslamzadeh [3], where the author introduced the notion and used them as a tool for studying certain semigroup algebras. For more information, see [2-4]. Our aim here is to introduce and investigate the properties of  $\ell^p$ -Munn algebras. It enables us to study some properties of  $\ell^p$ -spaces on Brandt semigroups. This paper is organized as follows. Our notations are introduced in the present section. In section 2, we introduce and investigate the structure of  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ , for the Banach space  $\mathcal{A}$ , the index set  $I$ , and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . The Banach space  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is the vector space of all  $I \times I$ -matrices  $A$  over  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\|A\|_p = \left( \sum_{i,j \in I} \|A_{ij}\|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} < \infty$ . We find

---

MSC(2010): Primary: 43A07.

Keywords: Banach algebra, amenability, semigroup.

Received: 30 September 2008. Accepted: 30 July 2009.

\*Corresponding author

© 2010 Iranian Mathematical Society.

necessary and sufficient conditions for which  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra. We prove that if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a unital Banach algebra, then  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra if and only if  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ . Moreover, it is proved that if  $G$  is a group and  $S$  is a Brandt semigroup over  $G$  with index set  $I$ , then the Banach space  $\ell^p(S)/\mathbb{C}\delta_0$  is isometrically isomorphic with  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G))$ . Moreover, if  $G$  is a finite group, and  $I$  is finite, then  $(\ell^p(S), *)/\mathbb{C}\delta_0$  is isometrically isomorphic with  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G), *)$ . Finally, in Section 3 we study the amenability of the Banach algebra  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  ( $1 \leq p \leq 2$ ) over a Banach algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with a unit. We prove that  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  ( $1 \leq p \leq 2$ ) is amenable, if and only if  $\mathcal{A}$  is amenable, and  $I$  is finite.

The following are some of the notations which we use here.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra. If  $\mathcal{A}$  admits a unit  $e_{\mathcal{A}}$  ( $ae_{\mathcal{A}} = e_{\mathcal{A}}a = a$ , for all  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ ) and  $\|e_{\mathcal{A}}\| = 1$ , we say that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a *unital normed algebra*. For a Banach algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ , an  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule will always refer to a *Banach  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule*  $X$ ; that is, a Banach space which is algebraically an  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule, and for which there is a constant  $C_X \geq 0$  such that for  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $x \in X$ ,  $\|a.x\| \leq C_X\|a\|\|x\|$ ,  $\|x.a\| \leq C_X\|x\|\|a\|$ . A *derivation*  $D : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow X$  is a linear map, always taken to be continuous, satisfying  $D(ab) = D(a).b + a.D(b)$ , for  $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$ . For every  $x \in X$ , we define  $ad_x$  by  $ad_x(a) = a.x - x.a$ , for  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ . Note that  $ad_x$  is a derivation which is called an *inner derivation*. A Banach algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called *amenable* if and only if, for any  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule  $X$ , every derivation  $D : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow X^*$  is inner.

## 2. The structure of the Banach space $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) over a Banach algebra $\mathcal{A}$

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach space,  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , and  $I$  be an arbitrary index set, and let  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  be the vector space of all  $I \times I$ -matrices  $A$  over  $\mathcal{A}$  such that

$$\|A\|_p = \left( \sum_{i,j \in I} \|A_{ij}\|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} < \infty.$$

Then, it is easy to check that  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  with scalar multiplication, matrix addition, and the norm  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is a Banach space. This Banach space is called  *$\ell^p$ -Munn Banach space* over  $\mathcal{A}$ . If  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra, then  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is called the  *$\ell^p$ -Munn Banach algebra* over  $\mathcal{A}$  with index set  $I$ .

The space  $\mathcal{LM}_I^1(\mathcal{A})$  over a unital Banach algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called the  $\ell^1$ -Munn Banach algebra over  $\mathcal{A}$  with index set  $I$  (see [3]). If  $I$  is finite, then  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{LM}_I^1(\mathbb{C})}$  is called *Frobenius norm*.

A Brandt semigroup  $S$  over a group  $G$  with index set  $I$  consists of all canonical  $I \times I$  matrix units over  $G \cup \{0\}$  and a zero matrix  $0$ . Note that an  $I \times I$  matrix whose entries are zero except one, is called a canonical matrix unit.

Let  $G$  be a group and  $S$  be a Brandt semigroup over  $G$ . For  $f \in \ell^p(S)$ , and  $i, j \in I$ , define  $f_{ij} : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by

$$f_{ij}(g) = f((g)_{ij}),$$

where  $(g)_{ij}$  is the matrix with  $(k, l)$ -entry equal to  $g$  if  $(k, l) = (i, j)$  and  $0$  if  $(k, l) \neq (i, j)$ . Since for every  $i, j \in I$ ,

$$\sum_{g \in G} |f((g)_{ij})|^p \leq \sum_{s \in S} |f(s)|^p < \infty,$$

then we have  $f_{ij} \in \ell^p(G)$ . It is clear that if  $A = [f_{ij}]$ , then  $A \in \mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G))$ . Now, as in Proposition 5.6 of [3], let

$$\Phi : \ell^p(S) \rightarrow \mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G)) : f \mapsto [f_{ij}].$$

It is clear that  $\Phi$  is a well-defined linear map with  $\|\Phi\| \leq 1$ . Suppose  $A \in \mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G))$  and  $A = [f_{ij}]$ . Define  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f((g)_{ij}) = f_{ij}(g)$ , for  $g \in G$  and  $i, j \in I$ . Since

$$\sum_{s \in S} |f(s)|^p = \sum_{i, j \in I} \sum_{g \in G} |f((g)_{ij})|^p = \sum_{i, j \in I} \|f_{ij}\|_p^p < \infty,$$

Then  $f \in \ell^p(S)$ . Clearly  $\Phi(f) = A$ . Hence,  $\Phi$  is onto. Therefore, there is an isometrical isomorphism from  $\ell^p(S)/\mathbb{C}\delta_0$  onto  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G))$ . Thus, we have the following result.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $S$  be a Brandt semigroup over  $G$  with the index set  $I$ . Then, the Banach space  $\ell^p(S)/\mathbb{C}\delta_0$  is isometrically isomorphic with  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G))$ .*

For the rest of the paper, we assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Banach algebra.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ . The Banach space  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  with matrix multiplication and norm  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is a Banach algebra.*

**Proof.** Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ , and  $i, j \in I$ . Since  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ , then for  $q$  with  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ , we have  $q \geq 2 \geq p$ . Hence,  $\ell^p(I) \subseteq \ell^q(I)$  and

$\|f\|_q^p \leq \|f\|_p^p$  ( $f \in \ell^p(I)$ ). We denote the function  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , by  $(f(i))_i$ . Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \sum_{k \in I} \|A_{ik}\| \|B_{kj}\| \right)^p &= \|(\|A_{ik}\|)_k (\|B_{kj}\|)_k\|_1^p \\ &\leq \|(\|A_{ik}\|)_k\|_p^p \|(\|B_{kj}\|)_k\|_q^p \\ &\leq \|(\|A_{ik}\|)_k\|_p^p \|(\|B_{kj}\|)_k\|_p^p \\ &= \left( \sum_{k \in I} \|A_{ik}\|^p \right) \left( \sum_{l \in I} \|B_{lj}\|^p \right). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|AB\|_p^p &= \sum_{i,j \in I} \left\| \sum_{k \in I} A_{ik} B_{kj} \right\|^p \\ &\leq \sum_{i,j \in I} \left( \sum_{k \in I} \|A_{ik}\| \|B_{kj}\| \right)^p \\ &\leq \sum_{i,j \in I} \left( \sum_{k \in I} \|A_{ik}\|^p \right) \left( \sum_{l \in I} \|B_{lj}\|^p \right) \\ &= \left( \sum_{i,k \in I} \|A_{ik}\|^p \right) \left( \sum_{j,l \in I} \|B_{lj}\|^p \right) \\ &= \|A\|_p^p \|B\|_p^p. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\|AB\|_p \leq \|A\|_p \|B\|_p$ . This shows that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is an algebra norm. Hence,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra.  $\square$

**Example 2.4.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a non-zero Banach space. Define

$$a.b = 0 \quad (a, b \in \mathcal{A}).$$

With this multiplication  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Banach algebra. Now, let  $I$  be an arbitrary set and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then for each  $A, B \in \mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $AB = 0$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra.

**Proposition 2.5.** Let  $I$  be an infinite set and  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra such that  $\mathcal{A}^2 \neq 0$ . Then, for each  $2 < p < \infty$ ,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is not an algebra.

**Proof.** Since  $\mathcal{A}^2 \neq 0$ , then there exist  $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $ab \neq 0$ . Let  $\{i_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be an infinite subset of distinct elements of  $I$ . Define the  $I \times I$ -matrix  $A$  over  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $A_{i_1 i_n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}a$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) and  $A_{ij} = 0$ , for other  $i, j \in I$ . Also, define the  $I \times I$ -matrix  $B$  over  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $B_{i_n i_1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}b$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) and  $B_{ij} = 0$ , for other  $i, j \in I$ . It is easy to see that  $A, B \in \mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ . But  $AB$  is not even well defined, since

$$(AB)_{i_1 i_1} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_{i_1 i_n} B_{i_n i_1} = \left( \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{1}{n} \right) ab.$$

□

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $I$  be a set with at least two elements, and  $\mathcal{A}$  be a unital Banach algebra. Then,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra if and only if  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ .*

**Proof.** By Theorem 2.3, if  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ , then  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra. By Proposition 2.5, if  $I$  is infinite, and  $2 < p < \infty$ , then  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is not a Banach algebra. Now, suppose  $I$  is finite. Let  $i_1, i_2 \in I$  and  $i_1 \neq i_2$ . Define the  $I \times I$ -matrix  $A$  over  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $A_{i_1 i_1} = A_{i_1 i_2} = e_{\mathcal{A}}$  and  $A_{ij} = 0$ , for other  $i, j \in I$ . Also, define the  $I \times I$ -matrix  $B$  over  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $B_{i_1 i_1} = B_{i_2 i_1} = e_{\mathcal{A}}$  and  $B_{ij} = 0$ , for other  $i, j \in I$ . Then,

$$\|AB\|_p = 2 > 2^{\frac{2}{p}} = 2^{\frac{1}{p}} 2^{\frac{1}{p}} = \|A\|_p \|B\|_p,$$

and so  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is not an algebra norm. Hence,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is not a Banach algebra. □

**Remark 2.7.** (a) Let  $I$  be finite and  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra with the unit  $e_{\mathcal{A}}$ . Suppose  $\text{Card}(I) = m$ . If  $(A_1, \dots, A_m) \in \mathcal{A}^m$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ , then

$$\|(A_i)_i\|_1 = \|(A_i e_{\mathcal{A}})_i\|_1 \leq \|(A_i)_{i \in I}\|_p \|(e_{\mathcal{A}})_{i \in I}\|_q = m^{\frac{1}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\| \|(A_i)_{i \in I}\|_p.$$

Thus, for arbitrary  $I \times I$  matrices  $A, B$  on  $\mathcal{A}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|AB\|_p^p &= \sum_{i,j \in I} \left\| \sum_{k \in I} A_{ik} B_{kj} \right\|_p^p \leq \sum_{i,j \in I} \left( \sum_{k \in I} \|A_{ik}\| \|B_{kj}\| \right)^p \\ &= \sum_{i,j \in I} \left\| (\|A_{ik}\|)_k (\|B_{kj}\|)_k \right\|_1^p \leq \sum_{i,j \in I} \left\| (\|A_{ik}\|)_k \right\|_1^p \left\| (\|B_{lj}\|)_l \right\|_1^p \\ &\leq m^{\frac{2p}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^{2p} \sum_{i,j \in I} \left\| (\|A_{ik}\|)_k \right\|_p^p \left\| (\|B_{lj}\|)_l \right\|_p^p = m^{\frac{2p}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^{2p} \|A\|_p^p \\ &\quad \|B\|_p^p. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\|AB\|_p \leq m^{\frac{2}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^2 \|A\|_p \|B\|_p$ .

(b) Let  $I$  be finite and  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra with the unit  $e_{\mathcal{A}}$ . Suppose  $\text{Card}(I) = m$ . By (a), it is easy to see that  $(\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\mathcal{A}), m^{\frac{2}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^2 \|\cdot\|_p)$  is a Banach algebra.

(c) Let  $I$  be finite and  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra with the unit  $e_{\mathcal{A}}$ . Suppose  $\text{Card}(I) = m$ . Define the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $\|a\| = C\|a\|$  ( $a \in \mathcal{A}$ ), where  $C \geq m^{\frac{2}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^2$ . Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  denote the algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  and  $A$  be an  $I \times I$ -matrix over  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . Then,

$$\|A\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})} = C\|A\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\mathcal{A})}.$$

From this equality and (a), for each  $A, B \in \mathcal{L}M_I^p(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$  we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} \|AB\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})} &= C\|AB\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\mathcal{A})} \leq C m^{\frac{2}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^2 \|A\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\mathcal{A})} \|B\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\mathcal{A})} \\ &= \frac{m^{\frac{2}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^2}{C} \|A\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})} \|B\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})} \leq \|A\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})} \\ &\quad \|B\|_{\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\mathcal{L}M_I^p(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$  is a Banach algebra.

**Example 2.8.** The algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{C}$  with the norm  $\|A\| = 3|A|$  ( $A \in \mathcal{A}$ ) is a Banach algebra with a the unit that is not unital (since  $\|1\| = 3 \neq 1$ ). Then, by notations of Remark 2.7,  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{C}$  with  $C = 3$ . Let  $I = \{1, 2\}$ . Since  $C \geq 2^{2\frac{2}{3}}|1|$ , then by remark 2.7,  $\mathcal{L}M_I^3(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra. This example shows that we can not replace the condition “ $\mathcal{A}$  is unital” by “ $\mathcal{A}$  has a unit” in the Proposition 2.6.

**Proposition 2.9.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group with  $\text{Card}(G) = m$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$ , and  $S$  be a Brandt semigroup over  $G$  with the index set  $I$ . Then,  $\ell^p(S)$  is closed under convolution if and only if  $I$  is finite. Moreover, if  $I$  is finite, then there exists a constant  $C$  such that  $\ell^p(S)$  with the product*

$$\delta_s * \delta_t = \delta_{st} \quad (s, t \in S),$$

*and the norm  $C\|\cdot\|_p$  defines a Banach algebra. Also,  $\ell^p(G)$  with the norm  $C\|\cdot\|_p$  is a Banach algebra under convolution, and  $\ell^p(S)/\mathbb{C}\delta_0$  is an isometric Banach algebra-isomorphic with  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G))$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose  $I$  is infinite. Let  $\{i_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be an infinite subset of distinct elements of  $I$ . Let  $f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \delta_{(e)_{i_1 i_n}}$ , and  $g = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \delta_{(e)_{i_n i_1}}$ . Clearly,  $f, g \in \ell^p(S)$ . But

$$f * g(0) = \sum_{m, n \in \mathbb{N}, m \neq n} \frac{1}{mn} = \infty.$$

Hence,  $\ell^p(S)$  is not closed under convolution.

Suppose  $I$  is finite with  $\text{Card}(I) = l$ . It is easy to see that the Banach space  $\ell^p(G)$  with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\ell^p(G)} = m^{1-\frac{1}{p}} \|\cdot\|_p$  and the product

$$\delta_x * \delta_y = \delta_{xy} \quad (x, y \in G),$$

defines a convolution Banach algebra. Note that  $\delta_e$  ( $e$  is the unit of  $G$ ) is the unit of  $\ell^p(G)$  with  $\|\delta_e\|_{\ell^p(G)} = m^{1-\frac{1}{p}}$ .

By Theorem 2.3, for  $p \leq 2$ ,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G))$  defines a Banach algebra. In this case, let  $C = m^{1-\frac{1}{p}}$ . For  $p > 2$ , by Remark 2.7(c),

$$\|\cdot\| = l^{\frac{2}{q}} \|\delta_e\|_{\ell^p(G)}^2 \|\cdot\|_{\ell^p(G)} = l^{\frac{2}{q}} \|\delta_e\|_{\ell^p(G)}^2 m^{1-\frac{1}{p}} \|\cdot\|_p = l^{\frac{2}{q}} m^{3(1-\frac{1}{p})} \|\cdot\|_p.$$

Thus,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\ell^p(G))$  defines a Banach algebra. In this case, let  $C = l^{\frac{2}{q}} m^{3(1-\frac{1}{p})}$ . It is easy to see that for the mapping

$$\Phi : (\ell^p(S), C\|\cdot\|_p) \longrightarrow \mathcal{LM}_I^p((\ell^p(G), C\|\cdot\|_p)) : f \mapsto [f_{ij}],$$

$\Phi(\delta_s * \delta_t) = \Phi(\delta_s)\Phi(\delta_t)$ . Hence,  $\Phi$  is an algebra homomorphism. Therefore, by Proposition 2.2, the Banach algebra  $(\ell^p(S), C\|\cdot\|_p)/\mathbb{C}\delta_0$  is isometrically algebra isomorphic with  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p((\ell^p(G), C\|\cdot\|_p))$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.10.** By Proposition 5.6 of [3], for a Brandt semigroup  $S$  over a group  $G$  with an index set  $I$ ,  $\ell^1(S)/\mathbb{C}\delta_0$  is isometrically algebra isomorphic with  $\mathcal{LM}_I(\ell^1(G))$ .

### 3. Amenability of the Banach algebra $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ ( $1 \leq p \leq 2$ ) over a Banach algebra $\mathcal{A}$ with unit

Throughout this section, we suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  has a unit which we denote by  $e_{\mathcal{A}}$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra with unit  $e_{\mathcal{A}}$ , and  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  has a bounded approximate identity.
- (2)  $I$  is finite.

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) Suppose on the contrary that  $I$  is infinite and  $(E_{\alpha})_{\alpha}$  is an approximate identity for  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ . For every finite subset  $F$  of  $I$ , define  $E_F$  by  $(E_F)_{ii} = e_{\mathcal{A}}$  if  $i \in F$ ,  $(E_F)_{ii} = 0$  if  $i \in I - F$  and  $(E_F)_{ij} = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{Card}F)^{\frac{1}{p}} &= \left( \sum_{i \in F} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} = \|E_F\|_p \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \|E_F E_{\alpha}\|_p = \lim_{\alpha} \left( \sum_{i \in F, j \in I} \|(E_{\alpha})_{ij}\|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \\ &\leq \liminf \|E_{\alpha}\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{\alpha} \|E_{\alpha}\|_p = \infty$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  does not have a bounded approximate identity.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1) Suppose  $I$  is finite. Then, it is clear that  $E_I$  is a unit for  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra with a unit and  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is amenable.
- (ii)  $\mathcal{A}$  is amenable and  $I$  is finite.

**Proof.** (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii): Since  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is amenable, then by Proposition(2.2.1) of [5],  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  has a bounded approximate identity and by Lemma 3.1,  $I$  is a finite set. By Corollary 4 of Section 4 of [1], there exists an equivalent norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = (\mathcal{A}, \|\cdot\|)$  is unital. Since  $I$  is finite, then the identity map  $A \mapsto A$ ;  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{LM}_I(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$  is continuous. Indeed, if  $c\|a\| \leq \|a\| \leq C\|a\|$  ( $a \in \mathcal{A}$ ), then by Remark



2.7(a),  $\|A\|_{\mathcal{LM}_I(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})} \leq \frac{C}{c^2} (\text{Card}(I))^{\frac{2}{q}} \|e_{\mathcal{A}}\|^2 \|A\|_{\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})}$ . So,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is Banach algebra isomorphic with  $\mathcal{LM}_I(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{LM}_I(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$  is amenable, and so by Theorem 4.1 of [3],  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  is amenable. Therefore,  $\mathcal{A}$  is amenable. (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i): We apply the notations of the above paragraph. By Theorem 4.1 of [3],  $\mathcal{LM}_I(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$  is amenable. Hence,  $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is amenable.  $\square$

**Remark 3.3.** The above theorem remains valid, if we replace the condition “ $1 \leq p \leq 2$ ” by “ $\mathcal{LM}_I^p(\mathcal{A})$  is a Banach algebra”.

**Example 3.4.** Let  $S$  be a Brandt semigroup over a finite group  $G$  with a finite index  $I$ . Then, by Proposition 2.9, Theorem 3.2, and Remark 3.3, the convolution Banach algebra  $\ell^p(S)$  is amenable.

### Acknowledgments

The first author is grateful to the Office of Graduate Studies of the University of Isfahan for its support and the second author also thanks the University of Bu-Ali Sina (Hamedan) for its support. Also, the authors thank the referee for his invaluable comments.

### REFERENCES

- [1] F. Bonsall, J. Duncan, Complete Normed Algebras, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1973.
- [2] H. G. Dales, A. T. M. Lau D. Strauss, *Banach algebras on semigroups and their compactifications*, To appear in the Memoirs of AMS.
- [3] G. H. Esslamzadeh, *Banach algebra structure and amenability of a class of matrix algebras with applications*, J. Funct. Anal. **161** (1999) 364-383.
- [4] G. H. Esslamzadeh, *Ideals and representations of certain semigroup algebras*, Semigroup Forum **69** (2004) 51-56.
- [5] V. Runde, Lectures on Amenability, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, Vol. **1774**, Springer, Berlin, 2002.

**S. Naseri**

Department of Mathematics, University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran.

Email: [naserisaber@yahoo.com](mailto:naserisaber@yahoo.com)

**H. Samea**

Department of Mathematics, University of Bu-Ali Sina, Hamedan, Iran.

Email: [h-samea@basu.ac.ir](mailto:h-samea@basu.ac.ir)