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THE CARDINALITY OF THE SET OF INVARIANT MEANS ON A LOCALLY COMPACT TOPOLOGICAL SEMIGROUP

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Abstract

For a large class of locally compact topological semigroups, which include all non-compact, σ -compact and locally compact topological groups as a very special case, we show that the cardinality of the set of all invariant means on the space of weakly uniformly continuous functions is either 0 or $\geq 2^c$; where c denotes the cardinality of continuum.

1. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, let S denote a (Hausdorff, jointly continuous and) locally compact topological semigroup, $C(S)$ the space of all bounded complex-valued continuous functions on S and $M(S)$ the Banach algebra of all complex-valued bounded Radon measures on S with convolution multiplication given by

$$\nu * \mu(f) = \iint f(xy) d\nu(x) d\mu(y) = \iint f(xy) d\mu(y) d\nu(x)$$

for all $\nu, \mu \in M(S)$ and $f \in C(S)$. Corresponding to each function f in $C(S)$, measure ν in $M(S)$ and point x in S we have the functions ${}_x f, f_x, \nu \circ f$ and $f \circ \nu$ in $C(S)$ given by

$${}_x f(y) = f(xy) \quad \text{and} \quad f_x(y) = f(yx) \quad (y \in S)$$

$$\nu \circ f(y) = \nu(f_y) \quad \text{and} \quad f \circ \nu(y) = \nu({}_y f) \quad (y \in S).$$

A function in $C(S)$ is said to be *weakly uniformly continuous* if it belongs to the set $WUC(S) = \{f \in C(S): \text{the maps } x \rightarrow {}_x f \text{ and } x \rightarrow f_x \text{ of } S \text{ into } C(S) \text{ are weakly continuous}\}$.

For any subsets A and B of S and point x in S , we write $AB = \{ab: a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$, $A^{-1}B = \{y \in S: ay \in B \text{ for some } a \in A\}$, $x^{-1}B = \{x\}^{-1}B$ and $A^{-1}x = A^{-1}\{x\}$. By symmetry we similarly define BA^{-1} , Bx^{-1} and xA^{-1} . An object playing a pivotal role in this paper is the

algebra of all *absolutely continuous measures* on S - namely $M_a(S) := \{ \nu \in M(S) : \text{the maps } x \rightarrow |\nu|(x^{-1}K) \text{ and } x \rightarrow |\nu|(Kx^{-1}) \text{ of } S \text{ into } \mathbb{R} \text{ are continuous for all compact } K \subseteq S \}$. (Here $|\nu|$ denotes the measure arising from the total variation of ν .) For various studies on the algebra $M_a(S)$, see e.g. [1], [5] and the references cited there. Taking $\text{supp}(\nu) := \{ x \in S : |\nu|(X) > 0 \text{ for every open neighbourhood } X \text{ of } x \}$ we define *the foundation* of $M_a(S)$, namely $F_a(S)$, to be the closure of the set $\cup \{ \text{supp}(\nu) : \nu \in M_a(S) \}$. For a function f in $C(S)$ we also write $\text{supp}(f) := \text{closure of } \{ x \in S : f(x) \neq 0 \}$.

If $h \in M(S)^*$ and $\nu \in M(S)$ we define the functional $\nu \circ h$ on $M(S)$ and function $\nu \circ h$ on S by

$$\nu \circ h(\mu) := h(\nu^* \mu) \quad \text{and} \quad \nu \circ h(x) := h(\nu^* \bar{x})$$

$$(\mu \in M(S) \quad \text{and} \quad x \in S);$$

where \bar{x} stands for the point mass at x . By symmetry one similarly defines $h \circ \nu$ and $h \circ \nu$. By a *mean* m on $M_a(S)^*$ (or $\text{WUC}(S)$) we mean a functional such that $m(1) = 1$ and $m(f) \geq 0$ if $f \geq 0$; for all f in $M_a(S)^*$ (or $\text{WUC}(S)$, respectively). A mean m on $\text{WUC}(S)$ is said to be *invariant* (or *topologically invariant*) if $m({}_x f) = m(f_x) = m(f)$ (or $m(\nu \circ f) = m(f \circ \nu) = m(f)\nu(S)$, respectively), for all $f \in \text{WUC}(S)$, $x \in S$ and $\nu \in M(S)$. Similarly one defines a (topologically) invariant mean on $M_a(S)^*$. We denote the set of all invariant means on $\text{WUC}(S)$ by $\text{IM}(\text{WUC}(S))$.

For ease of reference we mention the following special case of a result proved in [6] and which can also be deduced from the two main theorems of [14].

1.1. PROPOSITION: *If S has an identity element and coincides with the foundation of $M_a(S)$, the following items are equivalent:*

- (a) *There exists a topological invariant mean on $M_a(S)^*$.*
- (b) *There exists an invariant mean on $\text{WUC}(S)$.*

The following result is also proved in [6].

1.2. PROPOSITION: *Every invariant mean on $\text{WUC}(S)$ is topologically invariant.*

For any subsets A, B, C of S we write $A \otimes B := \{ AB, A^{-1}B, AB^{-1} \}$ and $A \otimes B \otimes C := (\cup \{ A \otimes D : D \in B \otimes C \}) \cup (\cup \{ D \otimes C : D \in A \otimes B \})$. So inductively we can define $A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes \dots \otimes A_n$ for any subsets A_1, \dots, A_n of S . Following [7], a subset B of S is said to be *relatively neo-compact* if B is contained in a (finite) union of sets in $A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes \dots \otimes A_n$ for some compact subsets A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n of S . In particular, as noted in [7]:

For a topological semigroup S such that $C^{-1}D$ and DC^{-1} are compact whenever C and D are compact subsets of S , we have that $B \subseteq S$ is relatively neo-compact if and only if B is relatively compact. (So relatively neo-compact subsets of a topological group are precisely the relatively compact subsets.)

The *centre* of $E \subset S$ is the set $Z(E) := \{x \in S: xy = yx \text{ for all } y \in E\}$. Let $P(M_a(S)) := \{\nu \in M_a(S): \nu \geq 0 \text{ and } \|\nu\| = 1\}$. A net or sequence $(\mu_\alpha) \subset P(M_a(S))$ is said to be *weakly* (or *strongly*) *convergent to topological invariance* if $\nu^* \mu_\alpha - \mu_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ and $\mu_\alpha * \nu - \mu_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ weakly (or strongly, respectively) in $M_a(S)$, for all $\nu \in P(M_a(S))$.

Let $F := \{\phi \in (l^\infty): \phi > 0, \|\phi\| = 1 \text{ and } \phi(g) = 0 \text{ for all } g \in l^\infty \text{ such that } g(k) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty\}$ and c be the cardinality of continuum.

Our aim in this paper is to prove the following result.

THEOREM: *Let S be a σ -compact locally compact topological semigroup such that S is not relatively neo-compact, $M_a(S)$ is non-zero and there exists an invariant mean on $\text{WUC}(S)$. Suppose either (a) S has an identity element and coincides with the foundation of $M_a(S)$, or (b) the centre of $F_a(S)$ is not $M_a(S)$ -negligible. Then there exists a linear isometry $\tau: (l^\infty)^* \rightarrow \text{WUC}(S)^*$ such that*

$$\tau(F) \subset \text{IM}(\text{WUC}(S)) \quad \text{and so} \quad \text{card}(\text{IM}(\text{WUC}(S))) \geq 2^c.$$

2. Proof of the theorem

We partition part of our proof into some lemmas. In the following lemma $C_0(S)$ denotes the space of functions in $C(S)$ which are arbitrarily small outside compact sets and $C_{00}(S) := \{f \in C(S): f \text{ vanishes outside some compact subset of } S\}$.

2.1. **LEMMA:** *If S is not relatively neo-compact, then*

$$m(f) = 0 \quad \text{for all } f \in C_0(S) \quad \text{and} \quad m \in \text{IM}(\text{WUC}(S))$$

PROOF: Let $f \in C_{00}(S)$ be positive and take K to be the support of f (i.e. $\text{supp}(f)$). Since S is not relatively neo-compact, we can choose a sequence $\{x_n\}$ in S such that

$$x_{n+1} \notin K(x_1^{-1}K \cup \dots \cup x_n^{-1}K)^{-1} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

So if $n \neq k$ we have $x_n^{-1}K \cap x_k^{-1}K = \emptyset$ or, equivalently,

$$\text{supp}({}_{x_n}f) \cap \text{supp}({}_{x_k}f) = \emptyset.$$

consequently

$$nm(f) = m\left({}_{x_1}f + \dots + {}_{x_n}f\right) \leq \|f\|_S \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N},$$

and so $m(f) = 0$.

Since $C_{00}(S)$ is dense in $C_0(S)$, the remainder of our result follows trivially.

2.2. LEMMA: *There is a net in $P(M_a(S))$ weakly convergent to topological invariance if and only if there is a net in $P(M_a(S))$ strongly convergent to topological invariance.*

PROOF: Suppose $(\eta_\alpha) \subseteq P(M_a(S))$ converges weakly to topological invariance. Setting $M_{\nu,\mu} := M_a(S)$ we form the locally convex product space $M := \Pi\{M_{\nu,\mu}: (\nu, \mu) \in P(M_a(S)) \times P(M_a(S))\}$ with the product of norm topologies and define the linear map $L: M_a(S) \rightarrow M$ by

$$L(\phi)(\nu, \mu) := \nu^*\phi^*\mu - \phi$$

$$\text{for all } \phi \in M_a(S) \quad \text{and } \nu, \mu \in P(M_a(S)).$$

As noted in [11, page 160], the weak topology on M coincides with the product of the weak topologies on the $M_{\nu,\mu}$'s. Since $\nu^*\eta_\alpha^*\mu - \eta_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ weakly, for all $\nu, \mu \in P(M_a(S))$, $0 \in \text{weak-closure } L(P(M_a(S)))$. Since $L(P(M_a(S)))$ is a convex subset of the locally convex space M , we have $\text{weak-closure } L(P(M_a(S))) = \text{strong-closure } L(P(M_a(S)))$, by the Hahn-Banach Theorem. So there exists a net $(\rho_\beta) \subseteq P(M_a(S))$ such that $L(\rho_\beta) \rightarrow 0$ in M or, equivalently, such that

$$\|\nu^*\rho_\beta^*\mu - \rho_\beta\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for all } \nu, \mu \in P(M_a(S)).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nu^*\rho_\beta - \rho_\beta\| &\leq \|\nu^*\rho_\beta - \nu^*\nu^*\rho_\beta^*\nu\| + \|(\nu^*\nu)^*\rho_\beta^*\nu - \rho_\beta\| \\ &\leq \|\rho_\beta - \nu^*\rho_\beta^*\nu\| + \|(\nu^*\nu)^*\rho_\beta^*\nu - \rho_\beta\| \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

for all $\nu \in P(M_a(S))$. Similarly $\|\rho_\beta^*\nu - \rho_\beta\| \rightarrow 0$, and the remainder of our lemma follows trivially.

2.3. LEMMA: *Let S be not relatively neo-compact and let $\{\mu_n\}$ be a sequence in $P(M_a(S))$ strongly convergent to topological invariance and such that $T_n := \text{supp}(\mu_n)$ is compact, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then, given $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\epsilon > 0$, we can find $n > n_0$ such that*

$$\mu_n\left((T_1 \cup \dots \cup T_{n_0}) \cap T_n\right) < \epsilon.$$

PROOF: Suppose, on the contrary, there exists an n_0 and $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$\mu_n((T_1 \cup \dots \cup T_{n_0}) \cap T_n) > \epsilon \quad \text{for all } n > n_0.$$

Let $f \in C_0(S)$ be a positive function with $f = 1$ on $T_1 \cup \dots \cup T_{n_0}$ and note that

$$\mu_n(f) > \epsilon \quad \text{for all } n > n_0.$$

Let m be any weak* - cluster point of $\{\mu_n\}$ in $\text{WUC}(S)^*$ and note that m is such that $m(f) > \epsilon$ and $m(\nu \circ g) = m(g)(\nu \in P(M_a(S)))$ and $g \in \text{WUC}(S)$. Since $M_a(S)$ is an ideal of $M(S)$, see e.g. [1] or [5], we have $\bar{x}^*\nu \in P(M_a(S))$ whenever $x \in S$ and $\nu \in P(M_a(S))$. Now $x^*\nu \circ g = \nu \circ_x g$ and so $m(g) = m(x^*\nu \circ g) = m(\nu \circ_x g) = m({}_x g)$; similarly $m(g_x) = m(g)(g \in \text{WUC}(S)$ and $x \in S)$. By Lemma 2.1, we must have $m(f) = 0$. This contradiction implies our result.

2.4. LEMMA: *Let S be σ -compact with $M_a(S)$ non-zero and let there be an invariant mean on $\text{WUC}(S)$. Then there exists a sequence (ρ_n) in $P(M_a(S))$ converging strongly to topological invariance and such that $K_n := \text{supp}(\rho_n)$ is compact, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if any one of the following conditions holds:*

- (a) *S is the foundation of $M_a(S)$ and S has an identity element.*
- (b) *The centre of $F_a(S)$ is not $M_a(S)$ -negligible.*

PROOF: First we show that there exists a net in $P(M_a(S))$ weakly convergent to topological invariance, if (a) or (b) holds. To this end, suppose (a) holds. Then there exists a topological invariant mean m on $M_a(S)^*$, by Proposition 1.1. Now $m \in \text{weak}^*$ -closure $(P(M_a(S)))$ in $M_a(S)^{**}$. Consequently, there exists a net (μ_α) in $P(M_a(S))$ such that $\mu_\alpha(h) \rightarrow m(h)$ for all $h \in M_a(S)^*$. In particular, for each $\nu \in P(M_a(S))$ we have

$$|h(\nu^*\mu_\alpha - \mu_\alpha)| = |\mu_\alpha(\nu \circ h) - \mu_\alpha(h)| \rightarrow |m(\nu \circ h) - m(h)| = 0,$$

for all $h \in M_a(S)^*$. Similarly $\mu_\alpha^*\nu - \mu_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ weakly. Thus $((\mu_\alpha) \subseteq P(M_a(S)))$ is weakly convergent to topological invariance.

Next suppose condition (b) holds. Then we can choose $\tau \in P(M_a(S))$ such that $\text{supp}(\tau) \subset Z(F_a(S))$ (, where $Z(F_a(S))$ denotes the centre of $F_a(S)$). We then have $\tau^*\nu = \nu^*\tau$ for all $\nu \in P(M_a(S))$. Now if m_0 is any invariant mean on $\text{WUC}(S)$ we have that m_0 is topologically invariant, by proposition 1.2. Let (η_α) be a net in $P(M_a(S))$ such that $\eta_\alpha(f) \rightarrow m_0(f)$, for all $f \in \text{WUC}(S)$. Then for any $\nu \in P(M_a(S))$ and $h \in M_a(S)^*$, we have that $\tau^*\nu \circ h \circ \tau, \tau \circ h \circ \tau \in \text{WUC}(S)$ by [7, Lemma 4.1].

Hence, if $\mu_\alpha := \tau^* \eta_\alpha^* \tau$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 h(\nu^* \mu_\alpha - \mu_\alpha) &= h(\nu^* \tau^* \eta_\alpha^* \tau - \tau^* \eta_\alpha^* \tau) \\
 &= h(\tau^* \nu^* \eta_\alpha^* \tau - \tau^* \eta_\alpha^* \tau) \\
 &= \eta_\alpha(\tau^* \nu \circ h \circ \tau) - \eta_\alpha(\tau \circ h \circ \tau) \\
 &\rightarrow m_0(\tau^* \nu \circ h \circ \tau) - m_0(\tau \circ h \circ \tau) \\
 &= m_0(\nu \circ (\tau \circ h \circ \tau)) - m_0(\tau \circ h \circ \tau) = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly $h(\mu_\alpha^* \nu - \mu_\alpha) \rightarrow 0$. Thus (μ_α) is weakly convergent to topological invariance.

Now suppose either (a) or (b) holds. Then there exists a net $(\eta_\beta) \subset P(M_a(S))$ strongly convergent to topological invariance, by Lemma 2.2. Fix any $\lambda \in P(M_a(S))$ and set $\mu_\beta := \lambda^* \eta_\beta^* \lambda$. Note that (μ_β) is also strongly convergent to topological invariance. As S is σ -compact, we can choose an increasing sequence of compact neighbourhoods, $D_1 \subset D_2 \subset \dots$, such that $S = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} D_n$. Noting that the maps $(x, y) \rightarrow \bar{x}^* \mu_\beta^* \bar{y}$ of $S \times S$ into $M_a(S)$ are norm continuous (see e.g. [5, Corollary 4.10 (ii)]) we can choose a sequence $\{\mu_{\beta_1}, \mu_{\beta_2}, \dots\}$ from the μ_β 's such that

$$\|\bar{x}^* \mu_{\beta_n}^* \bar{y} - \mu_{\beta_n}\| < \frac{1}{5n} \quad \text{for all } x, y \in D_n.$$

Choose compact sets K_n such that

$$\mu_{\beta_n}(S \setminus K_n) < \frac{1}{5n} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Setting $\rho := (\mu_{\beta_n}(K_n))^{-1} \mu_{\beta_n}|_{K_n}$ we have $(\rho_n) \subset P(M_a(S))$, $\text{supp}(\rho_n) \subset K_n$ and a standard technical argument shows that

$$\|\mu_{\beta_n} - \rho_n\| < 2\mu_{\beta_n}(S \setminus K_n) < \frac{2}{5n}.$$

Consequently

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\bar{x}^* \rho_n^* \bar{y} - \rho_n\| &< \|\bar{x}^* \rho_n^* \bar{y} - \bar{x}^* \mu_{\beta_n}^* \bar{y}\| + \|\bar{x}^* \mu_{\beta_n}^* \bar{y} - \mu_{\beta_n}\| + \|\mu_{\beta_n} - \rho_n\| \\
 &< 2\|\rho_n - \mu_{\beta_n}\| + \|\bar{x}^* \mu_{\beta_n}^* \bar{y} - \mu_{\beta_n}\| \\
 &< \frac{4}{5n} + \frac{1}{5n} = \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{for all } x, y \in D_n.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now for any $\nu, \eta \in P(M_a(S))$ with compact supports we have $\text{supp}(\nu) \cup \text{supp}(\eta) \subset D_n$ for n larger than some n_0 and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nu^* \rho_n^* \eta - \rho_n\| &= \sup \{ |\nu^* \rho_n^* \eta(f) - \rho_n(f)| : f \in C_0(S), \|f\|_S \leq 1 \} \\ &\leq \sup \left\{ \int |\bar{x}^* \rho_n^* \bar{y}(f) - \rho_n(f)| d\nu(x) d\eta(y) : \right. \\ &\quad \left. f \in C_0(S), \|f\|_S \leq 1 \right\} \\ &< \frac{1}{n}. \end{aligned}$$

It is now trivial to complete the proof of our lemma.

2.5. PROOF OF OUR THEOREM: Note that we have the hypothesis of Lemma 2.4 met and so let $\{\rho_n\}$ and $\{K_n\}$ be as in Lemma 2.4. Choose $\nu \in P(M_a(S))$ with $C = \text{supp}(\nu)$ compact and note that the sequence $\{\nu^* \rho_n^* \nu\}$ also converges strongly to topological invariance.

Observing that $T_n = \text{supp}(\nu^* \rho_n^* \nu) = CK_n C$ is compact ($n \in \mathbb{N}$) and recalling Lemma 2.3, there exist subsequences $\{T_{n_k}\}$ of $\{T_n\}$ and $\{\nu^* \rho_{n_k}^* \nu\}$ of $\{\nu^* \rho_n^* \nu\}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \nu^* \rho_{n_k}^* \nu(T_{n_k} \setminus (T_{n_0} \cup \dots \cup T_{n_{k-1}})) &> \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{for } k \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ where } T_{n_0} &= \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

Let $F_k = T_{n_k} \setminus (T_{n_0} \cup \dots \cup T_{n_{k-1}})$ and $\mu_k = \nu^* \rho_{n_k}^* \nu$, for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Let $\Pi: \text{WUC}(S) \rightarrow l^\infty$ be the linear mapping defined by

$$\Pi(f)(k) = \rho_{n_k}(f)$$

$$\text{for all } f \in \text{WUC}(S) \text{ and } k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

To see that Π is onto, let $g \in l^\infty$ be fixed. Since members of the sequence $\{F_k\}$ are clearly pairwise disjoint and $\mu_k(F_k) > \frac{1}{2}$, the function

$$h = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(k)}{\mu_k(F_k)} \chi_{F_k}$$

is a linear functional in $M(S)^*$. (Here χ_{F_k} is the characteristic function of

F_k .) Consequently $\nu \circ h \circ \nu \in WUC(S)$, by [7, Lemma 4.1]. Now, for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(\nu \circ h \circ \nu)(k) &:= \rho_{n_k}(\nu \circ h \circ \nu) \\ &= \nu^* \rho_{n_k}^* \nu(h) \\ &= \mu_k \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(i)}{\mu_i(F_i)} \chi_{F_i} \right) \\ &= g(k). \end{aligned}$$

Thus Π maps the function $\nu \circ h \circ \nu$ onto g and Π is onto. Further, we clearly have

$$\|g\|_{\infty} = \|\Pi(\nu \circ h \circ \nu)\|_{\infty} = \|\nu \circ h \circ \nu\|_S.$$

It follows that the dual map $\Pi^*: (l^{\infty})^* \rightarrow WUC(S)^*$ is a linear isometry.

To see that $\Pi^*F \subset \text{IM}(WUC(S))$, let $\phi \in F$ be fixed. Then, clearly

$$\Pi^*\phi > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \Pi^*\phi(1) = \phi(1) = 1.$$

Now, for any $\eta \in P(M_a(S))$ and $f \in WUC(S)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(\eta \circ f - f)(k) &:= \rho_{n_k}(\eta \circ f - f) \\ &= (\eta^* \rho_{n_k} - \rho_{n_k})(f) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad k \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Recalling the definition of F we have

$$\Pi^*\phi(\eta \circ f - f) = 0.$$

Similarly $\Pi^*\phi(f \circ \eta - f) = 0$ and so $\Pi^*\phi \in \text{IM}(WUC(S))$.

Taking $\beta\mathbb{N}$ to be the Stone-Chech compactification of \mathbb{N} , we have $\beta\mathbb{N} \setminus \mathbb{N} \subset F$. Since $\text{card}(\beta\mathbb{N} \setminus \mathbb{N}) = 2^c$ and Π^* is an isometry, we thus get $\text{card}(\text{IM}(WUC(S))) \geq \text{card}(F) \geq 2^c$. So $\tau = \Pi^*$ is the required map and our Theorem is proved.

3. Note on references

Many results on the sizes of sets of invariant means can be found in the literature: for discrete semigroups see e.g. Chou ([2] and [3]), Granirer [8] and Klawe [12]; and for locally compact topological groups see e.g. Chou ([3] and [4]) and Granirer [8]. Related results dealing with the difference between an invariant and a topologically invariant mean can be found in

the papers of Rosenblatt [15] and Liu and Van Rooij [13]. Our main theorem generalizes some of these results and our techniques are inspired by the paper of Chou [4]. The proof of lemma 2.2 is closely related to that given in Greenleaf [9, Theorem 2.42].

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