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Let G be a nondiscrete locally compact abelian group, and $M(G)$ the convolution algebra of bounded regular measures on G . In this paper, the following is proved: Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ be a countable subset of $M_c^+(G)$, $0 \neq \lambda_0 \in M_0(G)$, and $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ a countable family of σ -compact subsets of G such that $\lambda_k(x + C_k) = 0$ for all $x \in G$ and all $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. Then there exists a nonzero measure $\sigma \in M_0^+(\text{supp } \lambda_0)$ with compact support such that $\lambda_k[x + C_k + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma)] = 0$ for all $x \in G$ and all $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. A consequence of this result is the following: Let Y be the closed ideal in $M(G)$ which is generated by $\bigcup \{L^1(\lambda_k): k = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ for some countable subset $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ of $M_c(G)$. Then there exist "fairly many" symmetric maximal ideals in $M(G)$ which contain $\bigcup \{L^1(\mu): \mu \in Y\} \cup M_c(G)$ but not $M_0(G)$. Here $L^1(\mu)$ denotes the set of the measures in $M(G)$ which are absolutely continuous with respect to $|\mu|$.

Throughout the paper, let G be a nondiscrete locally compact abelian group, \hat{G} its dual, and $M(G)$ the convolution algebra of bounded regular measures on G . We use the following customary notations:

$$L^1(G) = M_a(G) \subset M_0(G) \subset M_c(G) \subset M(G).$$

Here $M_0(G)$ denotes the closed ideal of those measures in $M(G)$ whose Fourier transforms vanish at infinity. For the definitions of $M_c(G)$ and $M_a(G)$, see [3: (19.13)]; for the second inclusion, see [8: 5.6.9] or [4]. Given a measure $\mu \in M(G)$, we denote by $L^1(\mu)$ the set of those measures in $M(G)$ which are absolutely continuous with respect to $|\mu|$. For a set K in G , define

$$(K)_1 = K \cup (-K) \quad \text{and} \quad (K)_n = (K)_{n-1} + (K)_1 \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots).$$

Thus, the union of all $(K)_n$, denoted by $G_p(K)$, is the subgroup of G generated by K .

Our main results are the following.

THEOREM 1. *Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ be a countable subset of $M_c^+(G)$, $0 \neq \lambda_0 \in M_0(G)$, and $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ a countable family of nonempty σ -compact subsets of G such that*

$$(a) \quad \lambda_k(x + C_k) = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

Then there exists a nonzero measure $\sigma \in M_0^+(\text{supp } \lambda_0)$ with compact support such that

(b) $\lambda_k[x + C_k + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma)] = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$

If, in addition, G is metrizable, such a measure σ can be taken so that $(\text{supp } \sigma) - x_0$ is independent for some $x_0 \in G$.

COROLLARY. Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ be a countable subset of $M_c(G)$, $0 \neq \lambda_0 \in M_0(G)$, and Y the closed ideal in $M(G)$ which is generated by $\bigcup \{L^1(\lambda_k): k = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$. Then there exists a nonzero measure $\sigma \in M_0^+(\text{supp } \lambda_0)$ with compact support such that

$$|\mu|[x + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma)] = 0 \quad (x \in G; \mu \in Y).$$

If, in addition, G is metrizable, such a measure σ can be taken so that $(\text{supp } \sigma) - x_0$ is independent for some $x_0 \in G$.

THEOREM 2. Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ and Y be as in the Corollary. Then there exists a symmetric maximal ideal Θ in $M(G)$ such that

$$\bigcup \{L^1(\mu): \mu \in Y\} \cup M_a(G) \subset \Theta \quad \text{but } M_0(G) \not\subset \Theta.$$

Furthermore, the set of all Θ 's with these properties has cardinal number larger than or equal to $\max\{2^\omega, \text{Card } \hat{G}\}$. Here ω denotes the smallest uncountable cardinal.

Theorem 1 improves the main result in [6] and its Corollary generalizes a theorem of Rudin [7] (see N. Th. Varopoulos [9] in this connection). The idea of our proof is due to T. W. Körner [5: Ch. XIII]. Although the arguments needed are similar to those in [6], we give a detailed proof of Theorem 1.

We need some lemmas.

LEMMA 1. Let λ be a measure in $M_c^+(G)$, and D a compact subset of G such that $\lambda(x + D) = 0$ for all $x \in G$. Then, for each finite set F in G , $n \in \mathbb{N}$ (the natural numbers) and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a neighborhood V of $0 \in G$ such that

$$\lambda[x + D + (F + V)_n] < \varepsilon \quad (x \in G).$$

Proof. Let F , n , and ε be as above. Take a compact set K in G so that $\lambda(G \setminus K) < \varepsilon$, and fix any neighborhood V_0 of 0 with compact closure. Since F is finite, $\lambda[x + D + (F)_n] = 0$ for all $x \in G$ by hypothesis. Thus, for each $x \in G$, we can find a neighborhood W_x of 0 so that

$$\lambda[x + D + (F)_n + (W_x)_{2n}] < \varepsilon.$$

(Note that $D + (F)_n$ is compact.) It follows from compactness of the

set $K - [D + (F)_n + (\bar{V}_0)_n]$ that there exist finitely many points $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \in G$ such that

$$K - [D + (F)_n + (V_0)_n] \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^m (x_j + W_{x_j}).$$

Put $V = \bigcap_{j=1}^m W_{x_j} \cap V_0$. If $x \in K - [D + (F)_n + (V_0)_n]$, then $x \in x_j + W_{x_j}$ for some $j = j(x)$, and so

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda[x + D + (F + V)_n] &\leq \lambda[x_j + W_{x_j} + D + (F)_n + (V)_n] \\ &\leq \lambda[x_j + D + (F)_n + (W_{x_j})_{2n}] < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

If $x \notin K - [D + (F)_n + (V_0)_n]$, then

$$[x + D + (F + V)_n] \cap K \subset [x + D + (F)_n + (V_0)_n] \cap K = \emptyset,$$

and so $\lambda[x + D + (F + V)_n] \leq \lambda(G \setminus K) < \varepsilon$. This completes the proof.

LEMMA 2. *Suppose that G is metrizable and λ_0 a nonzero measure in $M_c^+(G)$. Then there exists a point $x_0 \in G$ and a nonempty, totally disconnected, compact, perfect subset K_0 of $\text{supp } \lambda_0$ with the following three properties.*

(a) *Every nonempty (relatively) open subset of K_0 has positive λ_0 -measure.*

(b) *The elements of $K_0 - x_0$ have the same order, say q_0 .*

(c) *If V_1, V_2, \dots, V_m are m disjoint, nonempty, open subsets of K_0 , there exist m points $x_j \in V_j$ such that $x_1 - x_0, x_2 - x_0, \dots, x_m - x_0$ are independent.*

Proof. Since G is metrizable and λ_0 is continuous, we may assume that λ_0 is carried by a totally disconnected compact set.

Suppose first that there exist a natural number q and an element $y \in G$ such that

$$E(q, y) = \{x \in \text{supp } \lambda_0 : qx = y\}$$

has positive λ_0 -measure. Let q_0 be the smallest natural number such that $\lambda_0[E(q_0, y_0)] > 0$ for some $y_0 \in G$. Fix any element $x_0 \in E(q_0, y_0)$. Then $\lambda_0[E(q, qx_0)] = 0$ for all $q \in N$ with $1 \leq q < q_0$, so that there exists a compact subset K_0 of $E(q_0, y_0) \setminus \{\bigcup_{q=1}^{q_0-1} E(q, qx_0)\}$ with $\lambda_0(K_0) > 0$. Replacing K_0 by the support of $\lambda_0 \upharpoonright K_0$, we may assume that K_0 is perfect and satisfies (a). Evidently (b) holds. Suppose now that (c) holds for some $m \in N$ (note that (c) is trivial for $m = 1$). Let V_1, \dots, V_m, V_{m+1} be $m + 1$ disjoint, nonempty, open subsets of K_0 . There are m points $x_1 \in V_1, \dots, x_m \in V_m$ such that $x_1 - x_0, \dots, x_m - x_0$ are independent. Let H be the subgroup of G which is generated by x_0, x_1, \dots, x_m . By minimality of q_0 , we have $\lambda_0[E(q, y)] = 0$ for all $q \in N$

with $1 \leq q < q_0$ and all $y \in H$. Since $\lambda_0(V_{m+1}) > 0$ by (a) and H is at most countable, we can find an element $x_{m+1} \in V_{m+1}$ so that

$$x_{m+1} \notin E(q, y) \quad (q = 1, 2, \dots, q_0 - 1; y \in H).$$

It is now easy to prove that the elements $x_1 - x_0, \dots, x_m - x_0, x_{m+1} - x_0$ are independent. By induction on m , we obtain (c).

Suppose next that $\lambda_0[E(q, y)] = 0$ for all $q \in N$ and all $y \in G$. Then $F = \{x \in \text{supp } \lambda_0 : \text{ord } x < \infty\}$ has λ_0 -measure zero, so that there exists a nonempty compact, perfect subset K_0 of $(\text{supp } \lambda_0) \setminus F$ which satisfies (a). It is now easy to prove that (b) and (c) hold for $x_0 = 0$.

LEMMA 3. *Let K be a totally disconnected, compact subset of G , and σ a nonzero measure in $M_c^+(G)$ with $\text{supp } \sigma = K$. Then, for each compact subset \hat{F} of \hat{G} and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a finite partition $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^n$ of K into disjoint clopen subsets such that:*

$$(i) \quad 0 < \sigma(K_j) < \varepsilon \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, n);$$

$$(ii) \quad \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma(K_j) \hat{\nu}_j(\chi) - \hat{\sigma}(\chi) \right| < \varepsilon \quad (\chi \in \hat{F})$$

whenever $\nu_j \in M^+(K_j)$ and $\|\nu_j\|_M = 1$ for all $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Proof. Since \hat{F} is compact while K is totally disconnected and compact, there is a finite partition $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^n$ of K into disjoint clopen subsets which satisfies (i) and

$$\sup \{|\chi(x) - \chi(y)| : x, y \in K_j\} < (3 \|\sigma\|_M)^{-1} \varepsilon$$

for all $\chi \in \hat{F}$ and all $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. If $\nu_j \in M^+(K_j)$ and $\|\nu_j\|_M = 1$ for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, then we have

$$|\sigma(K_j) \hat{\nu}_j(\chi) - \widehat{\sigma|_{K_j}}(\chi)| < \|\sigma\|_M^{-1} \sigma(K_j) \varepsilon \quad (\chi \in \hat{F}).$$

To see this, take any $x_j \in K_j$. Then $\chi \in \hat{F}$ implies

$$\begin{aligned} & |\sigma(K_j) \hat{\nu}_j(\chi) - \widehat{\sigma|_{K_j}}(\chi)| \\ &= \left| \sigma(K_j) \int_{K_j} \bar{\chi} d\nu_j - \int_{K_j} \bar{\chi} d\sigma \right| \\ &\leq \sigma(K_j) \int_{K_j} |\bar{\chi} - \bar{\chi}(x_j)| d\nu_j + \int_{K_j} |\bar{\chi} - \bar{\chi}(x_j)| d\sigma \\ &\leq 2\sigma(K_j)(3 \|\sigma\|_M)^{-1} \varepsilon < \|\sigma\|_M^{-1} \sigma(K_j) \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Adding these inequalities for all j 's, we obtain (ii).

To prove the following lemma, we need a definition. Let K be a subset of G whose elements have the same order q_0 ($2 \leq q_0 \leq \infty$). Let also L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n be finitely many subsets of K , and M any natural number. We say that L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n are M -independent if and only if $\sum_{j=1}^n m_j x_j \neq 0$ whenever $m_j \in Z$ (the integers), $|m_j| < q_0$,

$x_j \in L_j$ ($j = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and $0 \neq \sum_{j=1}^k |m_j| < M$.

LEMMA 4. Suppose that G is metrizable, and that $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ and $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ are as in Theorem 1. Let also $x_0 \in G$ and $K_0 \subset \text{supp } \lambda_0$ be as in Lemma 2. Then there exists a nonzero measure $\sigma \in M_0^+(K_0)$ such that $(\text{supp } \sigma) - x_0$ is independent and

$$(P_1) \quad \lambda_k[x + C_k + (\text{supp } \sigma)_1] = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

Proof. Write

$$\hat{G} = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \hat{E}_n \quad \text{and} \quad C_k = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty C_{kn} \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots),$$

where the \hat{E}_n are compact subsets of \hat{G} while the C_{kn} are compact subsets of G such that $C_{kn} \subset C_{k(n+1)}$ for all k and n . (It is well-known that G is metrizable if and only if \hat{G} is σ -compact. See, for example, [4].) Let λ be the measure in $M(G)$ defined by $\lambda(E) = \lambda_0[(E + x_0) \cap K_0]$ for all Borel subsets E of G . Then, $0 \neq \lambda \in M_0^+(G)$ and the elements in $\text{supp } \lambda = K_0 - x_0$ have the same order q_0 .

We shall now construct a sequence $(n_p)_{p=1}^\infty$ of natural numbers, a sequence $(\mathcal{J}_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ of finite collections of disjoint clopen subsets of $K_0 - x_0$, a sequence $(\sigma_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ of probability measures in $L^1(\lambda)$, and a sequence $(\hat{F}_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ of compact subsets of \hat{G} . They will satisfy the following three conditions. Every σ_n has the form

$$(i) \quad \sigma_n = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} a_I \lambda_I$$

where each a_I is a positive real number, $\lambda_I = \lambda|_I$ the restriction of λ to I , and

$$\|\sigma_n\|_M = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} a_I \lambda(I) = 1.$$

$$(ii) \quad \sup \{|\hat{\sigma}_n| \hat{I}(\chi) : \chi \in \hat{G} \setminus \hat{F}_n\} < 2^{-n} \sigma_n(I) \quad \forall I \in \mathcal{J}_n.$$

$$(iii) \quad \hat{E}_n \subset \hat{F}_n.$$

For $n = 1$, such \mathcal{J}_1 , σ_1 , and \hat{F}_1 may be quite arbitrary. We set $n_1 = 1$, and suppose that n_p , \mathcal{J}_{n_p} , σ_{n_p} , and \hat{F}_{n_p} have been constructed for some $p \in N$. Let $l_p = \text{Card } \mathcal{J}_{n_p}$, and write

$$\mathcal{J}_{n_p} = \{I_i\}_{i=1}^{l_p} = \{I_i^p\}_{i=1}^{l_p}.$$

Let M_p be the largest natural number such that

$$(1) \quad \max \{\sigma_{n_p}(I) : I \in \mathcal{J}_{n_p}\} \leq M_p^{-2},$$

and set

$$(2) \quad T_p = \{A \subset \mathcal{J}_{n_p} : 1 \leq \text{Card } A \leq M_p\} = \{A_r\}_{r=1}^{s_p}.$$

We may assume

$$(3) \quad A_r = \{I_r\} = \{I_r^p\} \quad (r = 1, 2, \dots, l_p).$$

We shall inductively construct the \mathcal{J}_n , σ_n , and \hat{F}_n for all $n \in N$ with $n_p < n \leq n_p + s_p$ as follows. Suppose that \mathcal{J}_n , σ_n and \hat{F}_n have been constructed for some $n = n_p + r - 1$ ($r = 1, 2, \dots, s_p$), and put

$$(4) \quad \mathcal{K}_n = \{I \in \mathcal{J}_n : I \subset J \text{ for some } J \in A_r\}.$$

We can find (finite) collections $\{b_j^K\}_j$ of real numbers and collections $\{L_j^K\}_j$ of disjoint clopen subsets of $K \in \mathcal{K}_n$ which satisfy the following six conditions:

$$(5) \quad 0 < b_j^K \sigma_n(L_j^K) < 2^{-1} \sigma_n(K) \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{K}_n \text{ and } \forall j;$$

$$(6) \quad \sum_j b_j^K \sigma_n(L_j^K) = \sigma_n(K) \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{K}_n;$$

$$(7) \quad \left| \sum_j b_j^K \widehat{\sigma_n | L_j^K}(\chi) - \widehat{\sigma_n | K}(\chi) \right| < 2^{-n} \sigma_n(K) \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{K}_n \text{ and } \forall \chi \in \hat{F}_n;$$

$$(8) \quad \sum_j \text{dia}(L_j^K) < n^{-1} \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{K}_n;$$

$$(9) \quad \text{The sets } \{L_j^K\}_{K,j} \text{ are } M_p\text{-independent};$$

$$(10) \quad \sup_{x \in G} \lambda_k \left[x + C_{kn} + \left(\bigcup_j L_j^K \right)_1 \right] < (nl_p)^{-1} \\ \forall K \in \mathcal{K}_n \text{ and } \forall k = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

The above conditions are met as follows: For each $K \in \mathcal{K}_n$, apply Lemma 3 to $\sigma = \sigma_n | K$, $\varepsilon = 2^{-n} \sigma_n(K)$ and $\hat{F} = \hat{F}_n$. Let $\{K_j\}_j$ be a finite partition of K as in Lemma 3. Using property (c) in Lemma 2, we can find $x_j^K \in K_j$ so that $\bigcup \{\{x_j^K\}_j : K \in \mathcal{K}_n\}$ is independent. If we choose $L_j^K \subset K_j$ so that $x_j^K \in L_j^K$ and the diameter of each L_j^K is “sufficiently small”, then (8) and (9) hold and so does (10) by Lemma 1. Finally, it suffices to set $b_j^K = \sigma_n(K_j)/\sigma_n(L_j^K)$.

We now define

$$(11) \quad \mathcal{L}_n = \mathcal{J}_n \setminus \mathcal{K}_n, \quad \mathcal{J}_{n+1} = \mathcal{L}_n \cup \left(\bigcup_{K \in \mathcal{K}_n} \{L_j^K\}_j \right);$$

$$(12) \quad \theta_{n+1} = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{L}_n} a_I \lambda_I + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_n} \sum_j b_j^K \sigma_n | L_j^K,$$

and take a compact subset \hat{F}_{n+1} of \hat{G} , with $\hat{F}_{n+1} \supset \hat{E}_{n+1} \cup \hat{F}_n$, so that (ii) holds with n replaced by $n + 1$.

We repeat the above process with n_p replaced by $n_{p+1} = n_p + s_p$, which completes our induction. Let σ_∞ be a weak-* cluster point of

$(\sigma_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ in $M(G)$, and σ the measure in $M(G)$ defined by $\sigma(E) = \sigma_\infty(E - x_0)$ for all Borel sets E in G . We claim that σ has the required properties.

First note that

$$\bigcup_{I \in \mathcal{I}_{n+1}} I \subset \bigcup_{I \in \mathcal{I}_n} I = \text{supp } \sigma_n \subset K_0 - x_0,$$

and so we have

$$(13) \quad \sigma_\infty \geq 0, \quad \sigma_\infty(G) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{supp } \sigma_\infty \subset \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty \left(\bigcup_{I \in \mathcal{I}_n} I \right).$$

Let $p \in N$ be given. It is easily seen from (3), (4), and (11) that

$$\mathcal{I}_{n_p+l_p} = \{L_j^{I_1}\}_j \cup \{L_j^{I_2}\}_j \cup \cdots \cup \{L_j^{I_l}\}_j, \quad \text{where } l = l_p.$$

This, combined with (10) and (13), shows

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_k[x + C_{kn_p} + (\text{supp } \sigma_\infty)_1] \\ \leq \sum_{i=1}^{l_p} \lambda_k \left[x + C_{kn_p} + \left(\bigcup_j L_j^{I_i} \right)_1 \right] \leq l_p \cdot (n_p l_p)^{-1} = n_p^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

for all $x \in G$ and all $k = 0, 1, \dots, n_p$. (Note that $C_{kn} \subset C_{k(n+1)}$ for all k and n .) Thus, fixing $x \in G$ and $k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, and letting $p \rightarrow \infty$, we have

$$\lambda_k[x + C_k + (\text{supp } \sigma_\infty)_1] = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

But evidently $\text{supp } \sigma = (\text{supp } \sigma_\infty) + x_0$, and so (P₁) holds.

It remains to show that $\hat{\sigma}$ vanishes at infinity and that $(\text{supp } \sigma) - x_0$ is independent. Although these are proved in [5: Ch. XIII, 151-153 and 155-156], we give their proofs to make the paper self-contained.

Suppose $n_p \leq n < n_{p+1}$ ($p, n \in N$), and write $n = n_p + r - 1$ ($r = 1, 2, \dots, s_p$). Then we have

$$(14) \quad \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_n} \sigma_n(K) = \sum_{J \in A_r} \sigma_{n_p}(J) \leq (\text{Card } A_r) \cdot \max_{J \in A_r} \sigma_{n_p}(J) \leq M_p^{-1}.$$

Here the equality follows from (4), (6) and (12) while the last inequality follows from (1) and (2). If $\chi \in \hat{F}_n$, then

$$\begin{aligned} |\hat{\sigma}_{n+1}(\chi) - \hat{\sigma}_n(\chi)| &\leq \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_n} \left| \sum_j b_j^K \widehat{\sigma_n} \left[L_j^K(\chi) - \widehat{\sigma_n} \right] K(\chi) \right| \\ &< \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_n} 2^{-n} \sigma_n(K) \leq 2^{-n} \end{aligned}$$

by (i), (12) and (7). It follows that

$$|\hat{\sigma}_\infty(\chi) - \hat{\sigma}_{n+1}(\chi)| < 2^{-n} \quad \forall \chi \in \hat{F}_{n+1},$$

since $\hat{F}_n \subset \hat{F}_{n+1} \subset \cdots$ by construction. For $\chi \in \hat{G} \setminus \hat{F}_n$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
|\hat{\sigma}_{n+1}(\chi)| &\leq \sum_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} |a_I \hat{\lambda}_I(\chi)| + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_n} \sum_j b_j^K \sigma_n(L_j^K) \\
&\leq \sum_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} |\widehat{\sigma_n | I}(\chi)| + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_n} \sigma_n(K) \\
&\leq 2^{-n} \sum_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} \sigma_n(I) + M_p^{-1} = 2^{-n} + M_p^{-1}
\end{aligned}$$

by (12), (i), (6), (ii) and (14). Hence

$$|\hat{\sigma}_\infty(\chi)| \leq 2^{-n} + 2^{-n} + M_p^{-1} \quad \forall \chi \in \hat{F}_{n+1} \setminus \hat{F}_n.$$

But $\hat{G} = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \hat{F}_n$ by (iii) and $\lim_p M_p = \infty$ by construction. Thus the above inequality shows that $\hat{\sigma}_\infty \in C_0(\hat{G})$, or equivalently, that $\hat{\sigma} \in C_0(\hat{G})$.

Finally we prove that $(\text{supp } \sigma) - x_0 = \text{supp } \sigma_\infty$ is independent. Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t be distinct elements of $\text{supp } \sigma_\infty$. It is easy to see that

$$\max_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} \text{dia}(I) \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \longrightarrow \infty.$$

Therefore, there is an $n_0 \in N$ such that x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t belong to distinct sets in \mathcal{J}_n whenever $n \geq n_0$. Take any $p \in N$ so that $n_p \geq n_0$ and $M_p > t$, and let

$$A = \{I \in \mathcal{J}_{n_p} : I \text{ contains some } x_n\}.$$

Then $1 \leq \text{Card } A = t < M_p$; hence $A = A_r$ for some $r = 1, 2, \dots, s_p$. Thus x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t belong to distinct sets in $\bigcup \{L_j^K : K \in \mathcal{K}_n\}$, where $n = n_p + r - 1$. It follows from (9) that x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t are M_p -independent. Since p can be taken as large as one pleases, we conclude that x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t are independent.

This establishes Lemma 4.

LEMMA 5. *Let G , $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ and $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ be as in Lemma 4. Let also $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^m$ be finitely many, disjoint, compact subsets of G such that $M_0(K_j) \neq 0$ for all $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$. Then, for each $n \in N$, there exist m nonzero measures $\mu_j \in M_0^+(K_j)$ such that*

$$(P_n) \quad \lambda_k \left[x + C_k + \left(\bigcup_{j=1}^m \text{supp } \mu_j \right)_n \right] = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

Proof. For each $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$, choose and fix a measure $\tau_j \in M_0^+(K_j)$ with $\|\tau_j\|_M = m^{-1}$ whose support is totally disconnected. In the proof of Lemma 4, replace λ and $K_0 - x_0$ by $\lambda' = \sum_{j=1}^m \tau_j$ and $\bigcup_{j=1}^m \text{supp } \tau_j$, respectively; take off condition (9); and let σ_∞ be any measure constructed as there with $\sigma_1 = \lambda'$ and $\mathcal{J}_1 = \{\text{supp } \tau_j\}_{j=1}^m$. Then

$$0 \neq \mu_j = \sigma_\infty | K_j \in M_0^+(K_j) \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, m),$$

and $\{\mu_j\}_{j=1}^m$ satisfy (P₁). We repeat the same argument replacing

$\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ and $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^m$ by $\{C_k + (\bigcup_{j=1}^m \text{supp } \mu_j)_1\}_{k=0}^\infty$ and $\{\text{supp } \mu_j\}_{j=1}^m$, respectively; and continue this process. At the n th step, we will obtain m nonzero measures satisfying the required condition. This completes the proof.

Proof of Theorem 1 for metrizable groups. Suppose that G is a given metrizable group. Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$, $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$, x_0 , and K_0 be as in Lemma 4. Let also $\hat{G} = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \hat{E}_n$ be as in the proof of Lemma 4. We construct a sequence $(\mathcal{J}_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ of finite collections of disjoint compact subsets of K_0 , a sequence $(\sigma_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ of probability measures in $M_0(K_0)$, and a consequence $(\hat{F}_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ of compact subsets of \hat{G} . They satisfy the following four conditions. Every σ_n has the form

$$(i) \quad \sigma_n = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} a_I \mu_I,$$

where each a_I is a real positive number, μ_I a probability measure in $M_0(I)$ with $\text{supp } \mu_I = I$, and

$$\|\sigma_n\|_M = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} a_I = 1.$$

$$(ii) \quad \sup \{ \|\hat{\mu}_I(\chi)\| : \chi \in \hat{G} \setminus \hat{F}_n \} < 2^{-n} a_I \quad \forall I \in \mathcal{J}_n.$$

$$(iii) \quad \hat{E}_n \subset \hat{F}_n.$$

$$(iv) \quad \lambda_k[x + C_k + (K_1)_1 + (K_2)_2 + \cdots + (K_n)_n] = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots),$$

where $K_1 = \bigcup \{I : I \in \mathcal{J}_1\}$ and $K_n = \bigcup \{I \in \mathcal{J}_n : I \in \mathcal{J}_{n-1}\}$ for $n=2, 3, \dots$.

For $n=1$, we apply Lemma 4 to obtain a probability measure $\sigma_1 \in M_0(K_0)$ such that $(\text{supp } \sigma_1) - x_0$ is independent and

$$\lambda_k[x + C_k + (\text{supp } \sigma_1)_1] = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

Set $\mathcal{J}_1 = \{I = \text{supp } \sigma_1\}$, $\mu_I = \sigma_1$, $a_I = 1$, and take any compact subset \hat{F}_1 of \hat{G} satisfying (ii) and (iii) for $n=1$.

Suppose that $(\mathcal{J}_i)_{i=1}^n$, $(\sigma_i)_{i=1}^n$ and $(\hat{F}_i)_{i=1}^n$ have been constructed for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Choose and fix any $I_n \in \mathcal{J}_n$ with

$$(1) \quad a_{I_n} = \sup \{a_I : I \in \mathcal{J}_n\}.$$

Applying Lemmas 3 and 5, we can find a (finite) collection $\{b_{nj}\}_j$ of real numbers, a collection $\{L_{nj}\}_j$ of disjoint compact subsets of I_n , and a collection $\{\mu_{nj}\}_j$ of probability measures in $M_0(I_n)$ with $\text{supp } \mu_{nj} = L_{nj}$ which satisfy the following four conditions.

$$(2) \quad 0 < b_{nj} < n^{-1} \cdot \min_{I \in \mathcal{J}_n} a_I \quad \forall j.$$

$$(3) \quad \sum_j b_{nj} = a_{I_n}$$

$$(4) \quad \left| \sum_j b_{nj} \hat{\mu}_{nj}(\chi) - a_{I_n} \hat{\mu}_{I_n}(\chi) \right| < 2^{-n} \quad \forall \chi \in \hat{F}_n.$$

$$(5) \quad \lambda_k \left[x + C_k + (K_1)_1 + \cdots + (K_n)_n + \left(\bigcup_j L_{nj} \right)_{n+1} \right] = 0 \quad \forall x \in G$$

for all $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. Put $\mathcal{J}_{n+1} = (\mathcal{J}_n \setminus \{I_n\}) \cup \{L_{nj}\}_j$, and $a_I = b_{nj}$, $\mu_I = \mu_{nj}$ for $I = L_{nj} \forall j$. Define σ_{n+1} by the right-hand side of (i) with n replaced by $n+1$. Finally, we take any compact subset \hat{F}_{n+1} of \hat{G} , with $\hat{F}_{n+1} \supset \hat{E}_{n+1} \cup \hat{F}_n$, so that (ii) holds with n replaced by $n+1$.

This completes the induction. Let σ be a weak-* cluster point of $(\sigma_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ in $M(G)$. Then it is easy to prove that σ has all the required properties (see [5: Ch. XIII, 151-153]). This establishes Theorem 1 for metrizable groups.

To prove the general case, we need one more lemma.

LEMMA 6. *Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ and $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ be as in Theorem 1. Then, given a σ -compact subset \hat{F} of \hat{G} , we can find a σ -compact, noncompact, open subgroup Γ of \hat{G} so that $\hat{F} \subset \Gamma$ and*

$$(i) \quad \lambda_k[x + C_k + H_\Gamma] = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots),$$

where H_Γ denotes the annihilator of Γ .

Proof. Let C_{kn} be as in the proof of Lemma 4, and let \mathcal{F} be the family of all σ -compact, noncompact, open subgroups of \hat{G} which contain \hat{F} . Since every C_{kn} is compact, we have

$$(1) \quad C_{kn} = \bigcap \{C_{kn} + H_\Gamma; \Gamma \in \mathcal{F}\} \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots; n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Applying Lemma 1, we can find neighborhoods V_{kn} of 0 so that

$$(2) \quad \lambda_k[x + C_{kn} + V_{kn}] < n^{-1} \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots; n = 1, 2, \dots; x \in G).$$

By (1), there exist subgroups Γ_{kn} in \mathcal{F} such that

$$(3) \quad C_{kn} + H_{kn} \subset C_{kn} + V_{kn} \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots; n = 1, 2, \dots),$$

where H_{kn} is the annihilator of Γ_{kn} . Let Γ be any subgroup in \mathcal{F} which contains all Γ_{kn} . Then, it follows from (2) and (3) that (i) holds. This completes the proof.

Proof of Theorem 1 for general groups. Let G be an arbitrary nondiscrete LCA group, and let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ and $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ be as in Theorem 1. For $\hat{F} = \{\chi \in \hat{G}; \hat{\lambda}_0(\chi) \neq 0\}$, take a $\Gamma \subset G$ as in Lemma 6. Setting

$H = H_I$, we denote by π and m_H the natural mapping of G onto $G_0 = G/H$ and the Haar measure of H with $m_H(H) = 1$, respectively. For each $\mu \in M(G)$, define a measure $\mu' \in M(G_0)$ by setting

$$(1) \quad \int_{G_0} f d\mu' = \int_G f \circ \pi d\mu \quad \forall f \in C_0(G_0).$$

Identifying Γ with \hat{G}_0 in the usual way, we see $\hat{\mu}' = \hat{\mu}|_{\Gamma}$ for all $\mu \in M(G)$, so that $0 \neq \lambda'_0 \in M_0(G_0)$. On the other hand, we have

$$(2) \quad \lambda'_k[x' + C'_k] = 0 \quad (x' \in G_0; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$$

by (i) in Lemma 6 and (1), where $C'_k = \pi(C_k)$. Therefore $\{\lambda'_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty} \subset M_0^+(G)$, and we can apply our result for metrizable groups to find a nonzero measure $\sigma' \in M_0^+(\text{supp } \lambda'_0)$ with compact support such that

$$(3) \quad \lambda'_k[x' + C'_k + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma')] = 0 \quad (x' \in G_0; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

Now define a measure $\sigma \in M(G)$ by setting

$$(4) \quad \int_G f d\sigma = \int_{G_0} \left\{ \int_H f(x+t) dm_H(t) \right\} d\sigma'(x') \quad \forall f \in C_0(G).$$

As is easily seen, we then have

$$(5) \quad \text{supp } \sigma = \pi^{-1}[\text{supp } \sigma'] \quad \text{and} \quad \text{supp } \lambda_0 = \pi^{-1}[\text{supp } \lambda'_0]$$

(note that $\sigma * m_H = \sigma$ and $\lambda_0 * m_H = \lambda_0$). It is also easy to check that $0 \neq \sigma \in M_0^+(G)$, that $\text{supp } \sigma$ is a compact subset of $\text{supp } \lambda_0$, and that

$$\lambda_k[x + C_k + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma)] = \lambda'_k[x' + C'_k + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma')] = 0$$

for all $x \in G$ and all $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$.

This establishes Theorem 1.

Proof of Corollary. Let Y be as in the present Corollary. Setting $C_k = \{0\}$ for all k and applying Theorem 1 to $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$, we obtain a nonzero measure $\sigma \in M_0^+(\text{supp } \lambda_0)$ with compact support such that

$$(1) \quad |\tau| [x + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma)] = 0 \quad (x \in G)$$

holds for all $\tau \in \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} L^1(\lambda_k)$. But then we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\nu * \tau| [x + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma)] &\leq (|\nu| * |\tau|) [x + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma)] \\ &\leq \int_G |\tau| [x - y + G_p(\text{supp } \sigma)] d|\nu|(y) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for all $x \in G$ whenever $\nu \in M(G)$ and $\tau \in \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} L^1(\lambda_k)$. Since the ideal Y is generated by $\bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} L^1(\lambda_k)$, this implies that (1) holds for all $\tau \in Y$.

The last statement in the Corollary is now trivial and the proof is complete.

To prove Theorem 2, we need some notation. Let \mathcal{J} be a non-empty family of (locally) Borel measurable subgroups of G such that for any countable subfamily \mathcal{J}_0 of \mathcal{J} there exists a subgroup $H \in \mathcal{J}$ which contains all $L \in \mathcal{J}_0$. Define

$$I(\mathcal{J}) = \{\mu \in M(G): |\mu|(x + H) = 0 \quad \forall x \in G \text{ and } \forall H \in \mathcal{J}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J}) = \{\nu \in M(G): |\nu|(G \setminus (D + H)) = 0 \text{ for some countable } D \subset G \text{ and some } H \in \mathcal{J}\}.$$

Then it is easy to prove the following (cf. [1]):

- (a) $I(\mathcal{J})$ is a closed ideal in $M(G)$ such that $I(\mathcal{J})^* = I(\mathcal{J})$.
- (b) $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J})$ is a closed subalgebra of $M(G)$ such that $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J})^* = \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J})$.
- (c) $M(G) = I(\mathcal{J}) + \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J})$ and $I(\mathcal{J}) \cap \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J}) = \{0\}$.

We denote by $\Phi_{\mathcal{J}}$ the projection of $M(G)$ onto $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J})$ which is induced by the direct sum decomposition $M(G) = I(\mathcal{J}) + \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J})$. Note that $\Phi_{\mathcal{J}}$ is a *-homomorphism of $M(G)$ onto $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{J})$.

Proof of Theorem 2. Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ and Y be as in Corollary; without loss of generality, we may assume that $\lambda_k \geq 0$ for all k . By Lemma 6, there is a σ -compact, noncompact, open subgroup Γ of \hat{G} such that

$$(1) \quad \lambda_k(x + H) = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots),$$

where H is the annihilator of Γ . Let $G_0 = G/H$, and let $\mu \rightarrow \mu'$ be the mapping of $M(G)$ onto $M(G_0)$ defined in the proof of Theorem 1 for general groups. Note that $\mu \rightarrow \mu'$ is a *-homomorphism. Since (1) implies $\lambda'_k \in M_c(G)$ for all k , Theorem 1 assures that there exists a nonzero measure $\sigma' \in M_0^+(G_0)$ with compact support such that $K' = \text{supp } \sigma'$ is independent and

$$(2) \quad \lambda'_k[x' + G_p(K')] = 0 \quad (x' \in G_0; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

Let ω_1 be the first countable ordinal and let $W = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ be the well-ordered set consisting of all ordinals smaller than ω_1 . We now construct a family $\{L'_\alpha: \alpha \in W\}$ of disjoint compact subsets of K' such that

$$(3) \quad M_0(L'_\alpha) \neq \{0\} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma'(L'_\alpha) = 0$$

for all $\alpha \in W$. First, by Theorem 1, there exists a compact subset L'_1 of K' having property (3). Let $\beta \in W$, $\beta \geq 2$, and suppose that L'_α has been constructed for all $\alpha \in W$ with $\alpha < \beta$. Then $E'_\beta = \bigcup \{L'_\alpha: \alpha < \beta\}$ is σ -compact, and by (3), has σ' -measure zero. Therefore, there exists a compact subset F'_β of $K' \setminus E'_\beta$ having positive σ' -

measure. Applying Theorem 1 again, we can find a compact subset L'_β of F'_β so that (3) holds for $\alpha = \beta$. By transfinite induction, we obtain a family $\{L'_\alpha: \alpha \in W\}$ of disjoint compact subsets of K' satisfying (3).

Let $\mathcal{P}(W)$ be the family of all nonempty subsets of W ; hence $\text{Card } \mathcal{P}(W) = 2^\omega$, where ω denotes the smallest uncountable cardinal. For each $A \in \mathcal{P}(W)$ and $\chi \in \Gamma$, we construct a complex homomorphism $\Psi_{A\chi}$ of $M(G)$ as follows. Let $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}_A$ be the family of subgroups of G each of which is generated by $\bigcup \{L'_\alpha: \alpha \in B\}$ for some countable subset B of A . We define $\Psi_{A\chi}$ by setting

$$(4) \quad \Psi_{A\chi}(\mu) = \widehat{\Phi_{\mathcal{T}}((\chi\mu)')}(1) \quad (\mu \in M(G)).$$

It is easy to see that $\Psi_{A\chi}$ is a symmetric complex homomorphism of $M(G)$. Also $\Psi_{A\chi} \neq 0$ because

$$(5) \quad \Psi_{A\chi}(\delta_x) = \chi(x) \neq 0 \quad (x \in G),$$

where δ_x denotes the unit mass at x .

Fixing an $A \in \mathcal{P}(W)$ and $\chi \in \Gamma$, we now prove

$$(6) \quad \bigcup \{L^1(\mu): \mu \in Y\} \cup M_a(G) \subset \text{Ker } \Psi_{A\chi} \quad \text{but } M_0(G) \not\subset \text{Ker } \Psi_{A\chi}.$$

First note that $\nu \in M^+(G)$ and $\mu \in L^1(\nu)$ imply $\mu' \in L^1(\nu')$. In fact, if w is a bounded Borel function on G , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{G_0} f d(w\nu)' \right| &= \left| \int_G (f \circ \pi) w d\nu \right| \leq \int_G (|f| \circ \pi) |w| d\nu \\ &\leq \|w\|_\infty \int_G (|f| \circ \pi) d\nu = \|w\|_\infty \cdot \|f\|_{L^1(\nu')} \end{aligned}$$

for all $f \in C_0(G_0)$, so that $(w\nu)' \in L^1(\nu')$. Since the mapping $\tau \rightarrow \tau'$ is norm-decreasing, we see

$$\inf \{ \|\mu' - \tau'\|_M: \tau' \in L^1(\nu') \} \leq \|\mu' - (w\nu)'\|_M \leq \|\mu - w\nu\|_M.$$

Since w was arbitrary and $\mu \in L^1(\nu)$, this implies $\mu' \in L^1(\nu')$. Suppose now that $\nu \in M(G)$ and $\lambda \in L^1(\lambda_k)$ for some k . Then, the above observation and (2) show

$$\begin{aligned} |(\nu * \lambda)'|(x' + T') &= |\nu' * \lambda'| (x' + T') \leq (|\nu'| * |\lambda'|)(x' + T') \\ &\leq (|\nu'| * |\lambda'|)[x' + G_p(K')] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for all $x' \in G_0$ and all $T' \in \mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}_A$. Since the linear span of the sets $M(G) * L^1(\lambda_k)$, $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, is dense in Y , it follows that

$$|\tau'| (x' + T') = 0 \quad (x' \in G_0; T' \in \mathcal{T})$$

holds for all $\tau \in Y$, and so for all $\tau \in \bigcup \{L^1(\mu): \mu \in Y\}$. Therefore we have

$$\bigcup \{L^1(\mu): \mu \in Y\} \subset \text{Ker } \Psi_{A\chi}.$$

Note now that $\lambda'_0 \neq 0$, and so $G_p(\text{supp } \sigma')$ has no interior point by (2); hence the Haar measure of $G_p(\text{supp } \sigma')$ is zero. Since $M_a(G)' = M_a(G_0)$, it follows that $M_a(G) \subset \text{Ker } \Psi_{A\chi}$. To prove that $M_0(G) \not\subset \text{Ker } \Psi_{A\chi}$, take any $\alpha \in A$. Then $L'_\alpha \subset G_p(L'_\alpha) \in \mathcal{T}$, and so $\Phi_{A\chi}[M_0(L'_\alpha)] = M_0(L'_\alpha) \neq \{0\}$. This establishes (6) because $M_0(G)' = M_0(G_0)$.

Finally, take any $A, B \in \mathcal{P}(W)$ and any $\chi, \gamma \in \Gamma$. If $\chi \neq \gamma$, (5) implies that $\Psi_{A\chi} \neq \Psi_{B\gamma}$. If $A \neq B$ (say $A \not\supset B$), take any $\beta \in B \setminus A$; we claim

$$(7) \quad M_a(L'_\beta) \subset \text{Ker } \Phi_{A\chi} \quad \text{where } \mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}_A.$$

In fact, let T' be an arbitrary subgroup in \mathcal{T} ; there exists a countable subset A_0 of A such that $T' = G_p(\bigcup \{L'_\alpha: \alpha \in A_0\})$. Since K' is independent and since L'_β and $\bigcup \{L'_\alpha: \alpha \in A_0\}$ are disjoint subsets of K' , it follows that $L'_\beta \cap (x' + T')$ contains at most one point for each $x' \in G_0$. In particular, if $\mu' \in M_a(L'_\beta)$, then $|\mu'| (x' + T') = 0$ for all $x' \in G_0$. Since $T' \in \mathcal{T}$ was arbitrary, we see that (7) holds. On the other hand, we have $\Phi_{A\chi}(M(L'_\beta)) = M(L'_\beta)$ for $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{T}_B$. Thus $\Psi_{A\chi} \neq \Psi_{B\gamma}$, as is easily seen. This clearly establishes Theorem 2.

REMARKS. (i) If G is a metrizable I -group, then the element x_0 in Theorem 1 (and Corollary) can be chosen $x_0 = 0$. In fact, take any nonzero $\lambda_0 \in M_0^+(G)$, and assume that $E_{qy} = \{x \in G: qx = y\}$ has positive λ_0 -measure for some $q \in N$ and some $y \in G$. Let μ_0 be the restriction of λ_0 to E_{qy} , so that $0 \neq \mu_0 = M_0^+(G)$. It is trivial that E_{qy} is a coset of some closed subgroup H of G which is of bounded order. If Γ is the annihilator of H , we see $|\hat{\mu}_0| = \text{const} \neq 0$ on Γ . Since $\hat{\mu}_0$ vanishes at infinity, it follows that Γ is compact, or, equivalently, that H is an open subgroup of G . This is a contradiction because G is an I -group while H is of bounded order. Thus, our assertion follows from the last paragraph of the proof of Lemma 2 and the proof of Theorem 1 for metrizable groups.

(ii) Let \hat{G}^- denote the closure of \hat{G} in the maximal ideal space Δ_G of $M(G)$, and let Y be as in Theorem 2. Then, for some $\tau \in M_0^+(G)$, the set E_τ of all symmetric $\theta \in \Delta_G$ such that

$$\bigcup \{L^1(\mu): \mu \in Y\} \cup M_a(G) \subset \theta \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\tau}(\theta) = 1$$

has cardinal number $\geq 2^\omega$, where $\hat{\tau}$ denotes the Gelfand transform of τ . Note that E_τ is a closed subset of Δ_G disjoint from \hat{G}^- . To see this, redefine $\mathcal{P}(W)$ in the proof of Theorem 2 to be the family of all subsets of W containing $1 \in W$, and fix any probability measure $\tau \in M_0^+(G)$ such that $\tau' \in M(L'_1)$. Then we have

$$\Psi_{A_1}(\tau) = \hat{\tau}'(1) = \hat{\tau}(1) = 1 \quad (A \in \mathcal{P}(W)) .$$

(iii) Let Y be as in Theorem 2. Then there exist a measure $\tau \in M_0^+(G)$, a nondiscrete LCA group G_0 , and an independent compact subset K' thereof, with $M_0(K') \neq \{0\}$, having the following property: the set of all asymmetric $\theta \in \Delta_G$ such that

$$\bigcup \{L^1(\mu): \mu \in Y\} \cup M_a(G) \subset \theta \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\tau}(\theta) = 1$$

has cardinal number $\geq \text{Card } M_c(K')^*$, where $M_c(K')^*$ denotes the conjugate space of $M_c(K')$. This can be proved using the proof of Theorem 2 and a theorem of Hewitt and Kakutani [2]. We omit the details.

(iv) Some analogs to our results hold for non-abelian groups. For example, we have the following: Let G be a nondiscrete locally compact group, $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=0}^\infty \subset M_c^+(G)$, $\lambda_0 \neq 0$, and let $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ be a countable family of σ -compact subsets of G such that

$$\lambda_k(xC_k) = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots) .$$

Then there exists a nonzero measure $\sigma \in M_c^+(\text{supp } \lambda_0)$ with compact support such that

$$\lambda_k[xG_\sigma(\text{supp } \sigma)C_k] = 0 \quad (x \in G; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots) .$$

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