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**FREE BANACH-LIE ALGEBRAS, COUNIVERSAL BANACH-LIE  
GROUPS, AND MORE**

VLADIMIR G. PESTOV

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# FREE BANACH-LIE ALGEBRAS, COUNIVERSAL BANACH-LIE GROUPS, AND MORE

VLADIMIR G. PESTOV

The construction of free Banach-Lie algebra over a normed space enables us to build a connected separable Banach-Lie group of which any other connected separable Banach-Lie group is a quotient. New proofs are given to the result on representability of any Banach-Lie algebra as a quotient of an enlargable Banach-Lie algebra (due to van Est and Świerczkowski) and to the result on representability of any topological group as a quotient of a group with no small subgroups (due to successive efforts of Morris and Thompson, the author, and Sipacheva and Uspenskii).

**1. Introduction.** Over the last 50 years a number of constructions of “universal arrows” (see, e.g., [Go]) to the categories of topological algebraic systems have been studied. Important contributions are those by Markov [M], Graev [Gr], and Arhangel’skii [A2] on free topological groups, Mal’cev [Mc] on free topological algebras, Arens and Eells [AE], Raïkov [R], and Uspenskii [U] on free Banach spaces and free locally convex spaces. By virtue of these constructions a first ever example of a non-normal Hausdorff topological group was obtained [M], and the representability of any topological group as a quotient group of a zero-dimensional group was proved [A1]. Here we apply the concept of a free complete normed Lie algebra to theory of topological and Lie groups. Our construction is an extension of the well-known construction of Arens-Eells [AE] to the case of normed Lie algebras. Our main result is that there exists a couniversal separable connected Banach-Lie group, that is, such a separable connected Banach-Lie group that any other such Banach-Lie group is its quotient Lie group. This follows from observation that any free Banach-Lie algebra is enlargable, that is, comes from an appropriate Banach-Lie group. Also we give entirely new and rather transparent proofs of two earlier known results.

Cohomological technique has enabled van Est and independently Świerczkowski [Ś2] to prove that any Banach-Lie algebra is a quotient algebra of an enlargable Banach-Lie algebra. Here we deduce the result from enlargability of free Banach-Lie algebras.

In his book [Ka] Kaplansky asked whether a quotient group of a

topological group with no small subgroups (NSS group) is again an NSS group. Morris [Mo] answered in negative, and later he and Thompson [MT] have presented the following

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $X$  be a submetrizable Tychonoff topological space (that is, a Tychonoff space admitting a continuous metric). Then the Markov free topological group  $F(X)$  over  $X$  is an NSS group.*  $\square$

It was asked in [MT] whether the following result is true.

**THEOREM B.** *Each topological group is a quotient group of an NSS group.*  $\square$

The author [Pe1, Pe2] has deduced Theorem B from Theorem A. It was discovered, however, by Sipacheva and Uspenskii [SU] that both the original proof of Theorem A by Morris and Thompson [MT] and the later proof proposed by Thompson [T] are not free of certain deficiencies. In the same work [SU] a correct proof of Theorem A was given. Thus, Theorem B—and its proof from [Pe1, Pe2]—still remain valid. The proof of Theorem A by Sipacheva and Uspenskii is “hard”—it relies on combinatorial technique of words in free groups. The concept of free Banach-Lie algebra enables us to provide an entirely different proof of Theorem A which is purely Lie-theoretic and certainly “soft”.

**2. Free Banach-Lie algebras.** A norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on an algebra  $A$  is called *submultiplicative* if  $\|x \star y\| \leq \|x\| \cdot \|y\|$  whenever  $x, y \in A$ , where  $\star$  stands for the binary algebra operation. By a *normed algebra* we mean an algebra endowed with a submultiplicative norm. We will loosely refer to *complete normed algebras* as merely *Banach algebras*. A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  between two metric spaces is *contracting*, or *non-expanding*, if  $\rho_Y(fx, fy) \leq \rho_X(x, y)$  whenever  $x, y \in X$ . If  $X$  and  $Y$  are normed spaces and  $f$  is linear, this is equivalent to the condition  $\|f\| \leq 1$ .

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $E$  be a normed space. There exist a complete normed Lie algebra  $\mathcal{FL}(E)$  and a contracting linear operator  $i_E: E \rightarrow \mathcal{FL}(E)$  with the following properties:*

(1)  $i_E(E)$  topologically generates  $\mathcal{FL}(E)$ , that is, the least Lie subalgebra containing  $i_E(E)$  is dense in  $\mathcal{FL}(E)$ .

(2) For an arbitrary complete normed Lie algebra  $\mathcal{L}$  and any contracting linear operator  $f: E \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ , there exists a contracting Lie algebra homomorphism  $\hat{f}: \mathcal{FL}(E) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$  such that  $\hat{f} \circ i_E = f$ .

The pair  $(\mathcal{FL}(E), i_E)$  with the properties (1) and (2) is essentially unique. The operator  $i_E$  is an isometrical embedding  $E \hookrightarrow \mathcal{FL}(E)$ . If  $\dim E > 2$  then  $\mathcal{FL}(E)$  is centerless.

*Proof.* Denote by  $\mathbf{F}$  the class of (classes of isomorphisms of) all pairs  $(L, j)$  where  $L$  is a complete normed Lie algebra and  $j : E \rightarrow L$  is a contracting linear operator such that the image  $j(E)$  topologically generates  $L$ .  $\mathbf{F}$  is a set. Let  $i_E$  stand for the diagonal product  $\Delta\{j : (L, j) \in \mathbf{F}\}$ , viewed as a mapping from  $E$  to the  $l_\infty$ -type sum  $\mathbf{L} = l_\infty - \bigoplus_{(L, j) \in \mathbf{F}} L$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{FL}(E)$  the least closed Lie subalgebra of the Lie algebra  $\mathbf{L}$  containing the image  $i_E(E)$ . The properties (1) and (2) of the pair  $(\mathcal{FL}(E), i_E(E))$  are checked immediately.

The proof of uniqueness is standard (cf. [Go, Gr, M, R]).

Since the pair  $(E, \text{id}_E)$  is in  $\mathbf{F}$ , where  $E$  is treated as a commutative normed Lie algebra, then for any element  $x \in E$  one has  $\|x\|_E \geq \|i_E(x)\|_{\mathcal{FL}(E)} \geq \|\text{id}_E(x)\|_E = \|x\|_E$ , that is,  $i_E$  is an isometrical embedding.

Now let  $x \in \mathcal{FL}(E)$ . One may assume that  $\|x\| = 1$ . There exists a Lie polynomial  $l$  of degree  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for some elements  $x_1, \dots, x_m \in E$  one has  $\|l(x_1, \dots, x_m) - x\| \leq \frac{1}{3}$ . There is a projection,  $\pi$ , from  $E$  to the subspace  $V$  spanned by  $x_1, \dots, x_m$ . The free degree  $k, k \geq n$  nilpotent Lie algebra  $\mathbf{N}_k(V)$  over  $V$  is finite-dimensional and therefore it is a normed space. By rescaling a norm on  $\mathbf{N}_k(V)$ , one can assume that it is submultiplicative. Let  $C > 0$  be the norm of  $\pi$  calculated with respect to a new norm on  $V \subset \mathbf{N}_k(V)$ ; the operator  $C^{-1}\pi : E \rightarrow \mathbf{N}_k(V)$  is contracting and it is clear that the element  $C^{-1}\pi(l(x_1, \dots, x_m)) = l(C^{-1}x_1, \dots, C^{-1}x_m)$  is non-zero in  $\mathbf{N}_k(V)$ . If  $k$  has been chosen sufficiently large, then  $[C^{-1}\pi(x), y] \neq 0$  for some  $y \in \mathbf{N}_k(V)$ ; this means that  $[x, z] \neq 0$  for an arbitrary  $z \in (C^{-1}\pi)^{-1}(y)$ . □

**THEOREM 2.2.** *Let  $X = (X, \rho, \star)$  be a pointed metric space. There exist a complete normed Lie algebra  $\mathcal{FL}_X$  and a contracting mapping  $i_X : X \rightarrow \mathcal{FL}_X$  with the following properties:*

- (1)  $i_X(\star) = 0_{\mathcal{FL}_X}$ .
- (2) The Lie algebra  $\mathcal{FL}_X$  is topologically generated by the set  $i_X(X)$ .
- (3) For an arbitrary complete normed Lie algebra  $\mathcal{L}$  and any contracting mapping  $f : X \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$  which sends  $\star$  to  $0_{\mathcal{L}}$ , there exists a contracting Lie algebra homomorphism  $\hat{f} : \mathcal{FL}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ .

The Lie algebra  $\mathcal{FL}_X$  with the properties (1) and (2) is essentially unique. For any metric space  $X$  the mapping  $i_X$  is an isometrical embedding. Free Banach-Lie algebras over the same metric space  $(X, \rho)$  with different distinguished points are isometrically isomorphic.

*Proof.* It is known [R, Pe3] that for any pointed metric space  $X = (X, \rho, \star)$  there exists an essentially unique Banach space  $B(X, \star)$  (called the free Banach space over  $X$ ) containing  $X$  as a metric subspace in such a way that  $\star$  is identified with the zero element of  $B(X, \star)$  and any contracting mapping  $f$  from  $X$  to a Banach space  $E$ , taking  $\star$  to zero, extends to a unique contracting linear operator  $\hat{f}: B(X, \star) \rightarrow E$ . Now it suffices to put  $\mathcal{FL}_X = \mathcal{FL}(B(X, \star))$  and use the above theorem together with known facts about free Banach spaces [Pe3].  $\square$

*Assertion 2.3.* Let  $f: E \rightarrow F$  be an open linear mapping onto between normed spaces. Then the normed Lie algebra morphism  $\hat{f}: \mathcal{FL}(E) \rightarrow \mathcal{FL}(F)$  extending  $f$  is an open homomorphism onto.

*Proof.* Denote by  $A$  the Banach algebra quotient of  $\mathcal{FL}(E)$  by a closed Lie ideal  $\ker \hat{f}$ . There is a natural continuous homomorphism  $i: A \rightarrow \mathcal{FL}(F)$ . On the other hand, since  $A$  contains  $F$  as a normed subspace, there is a contracting homomorphism  $\hat{id}_E: \mathcal{FL}(F) \rightarrow A$ . It is easy to see that  $i$  and  $\hat{id}_E$  are mutually inverse maps. This proves that  $A$  and  $\mathcal{FL}(F)$  are isomorphic and  $\hat{f}$  is a quotient homomorphism between Banach algebras, as desired.  $\square$

### 3. Couniversal Banach-Lie groups.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *For any normed space  $E$ , the free Banach-Lie algebra  $\mathcal{FL}(E)$  is enlargable.*

*Proof.* If  $\dim E = 1$ , it is trivial. Otherwise, use Theorem 2.1 and the following fact: any centerless Banach-Lie algebra is enlargable [vEK].  $\square$

**COROLLARY 3.2.** *For any pointed metric space  $(X, \rho, \star)$ , the free Banach-Lie algebra  $\mathcal{FL}_X$  is enlargable.*  $\square$

**THEOREM 3.3** [Š2]. *Every Banach-Lie algebra is a quotient algebra of an enlargable Banach-Lie algebra.*

*Proof.* Denote by  $\mathfrak{g}^+$  the Banach space of an arbitrary Banach-Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ . The identity mapping  $\text{id}_{\mathfrak{g}}$  extends to a quotient Banach-

Lie algebra homomorphism from  $\mathcal{FL}(\mathfrak{g}^+)$  onto  $\mathfrak{g}$  (Theorem 2.1 and Assertion 2.3). Finally,  $\mathcal{FL}(\mathfrak{g}^+)$  is enlargable.  $\square$

There exists still another proof of the above result, sketched in [Pe5]; it is based on nonstandard Lie theory [Pe4].

**THEOREM 3.4.** *Let  $\tau$  be a cardinal number. There exists a couniversal Banach-Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of density  $\tau$ . In other terms,  $\mathfrak{g}$  contains a dense subset of cardinality  $\leq \tau$  and for every other Banach-Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{h}$  with the same property, there exists a quotient Lie algebra homomorphism onto,  $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ . In particular, there exists a couniversal separable Banach-Lie algebra.*

*Proof.* The desired Banach-Lie algebra is  $\mathcal{FL}(l_1(\tau))$ . One should take into account that a Banach space of density  $\leq \tau$  is a quotient space of the Banach space  $l_1(\tau)$  [LT] and use Theorems 2.1, 3.1 and Assertion 2.3.  $\square$

**THEOREM 3.5.** *Let  $\tau$  be a cardinal number. Then there exists a couniversal connected Banach-Lie group  $G$  of density  $\tau$ . In other terms,  $G$  contains a dense subset of cardinality  $\leq \tau$  and any other connected Banach-Lie group with the same property is a quotient Lie group of  $G$ . In particular, there exists a couniversal separable Banach-Lie group.*

*Proof.* Take as  $G$  a connected simply connected Banach-Lie group corresponding to the Banach-Lie algebra  $\mathcal{FL}(l_1(\tau))$  (use Theorem 3.1). Let  $H$  be an arbitrary connected Banach-Lie group of density  $\leq \tau$ . According to 3.4, the Lie algebra  $\text{Lie}(H)$  is a quotient Banach-Lie algebra of  $\mathcal{FL}(l_1(\tau))$ ; let  $\pi$  denote the corresponding quotient homomorphism. It follows from Th. 3.6.2.1, Prop. 3.6.4.10(i), and Prop. 3.4.4.8 in [Bou] and the connectedness of  $H$  that there is a quotient Banach-Lie group morphism from  $G$  onto  $H$ .  $\square$

In particular, every connected finite dimensional Lie group is a quotient group of an arbitrary couniversal Banach-Lie group.

**4. On a question of Kaplansky on NSS groups.** The author considers the following two results as a development of some ideas of Gelbaum [Ge].

**THEOREM 4.1.** *Let  $X = (X, \rho, \star)$  be a pointed metric space of diameter  $\text{diam } X \leq 1$ . Then the image  $\exp_{\mathcal{FL}_X}(X \setminus \{\star\})$  of the set*

$X \setminus \{\star\}$  under the exponential mapping forms a free group basis for a subgroup generated by that set in the simply connected Banach-Lie group associated to  $\mathcal{FL}_X$ .

*Proof.* The group  $SU(2)$  contains a free group with an infinite number of generators [DGD]. By virtue of a theorem of Mycielski [My], for any non-trivial irreducible word  $w(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  the identity  $w = 0$  holds over no neighbourhood of zero in  $SU(2)$  (otherwise the same identity would be true over the whole of  $SU(2)$ ).

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be an arbitrary collection of distinct points in  $X \setminus \{\star\}$  and let  $\varepsilon$  be the minimum of distances  $\rho(x_i, x_j)$ ,  $i \neq j$ , and  $\rho(x_i, \star)$ . For any  $n$  and any irreducible word  $w(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  there are elements  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  in the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$  such that  $w(\exp(u_1), \dots, \exp(u_n)) \neq e_{SU(2)}$  and  $\|u_i\| \leq \varepsilon$ , where  $\|\cdot\|$  is a fixed submultiplicative norm on  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$  (say, a doubled operator norm). The composition,  $f$ , of the mapping  $x \mapsto (\rho(x, x_1), \dots, \rho(x, x_n), \rho(x, \star))$  and a linear mapping from  $\mathbf{R}^{n+1}$  to  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$  sending the images of  $x_i$  to  $u_i$  and the image of  $\rho(x, \star)$  to 0, is a contracting map from  $X$  to  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$ , sending  $x_i$  to  $u_i$  and  $\star$  to 0. Therefore, it extends to a Banach-Lie algebra morphism  $\hat{f}: \mathcal{FL}_X \rightarrow \mathfrak{su}(2)$ . Furthermore, there exists a Lie group morphism  $f^*$  from the simply connected Lie group associated with  $\mathcal{FL}_X$  to  $SU(2)$  commuting with the corresponding exponential mappings. Now it is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} f^*[w(\exp_{\mathcal{FL}_X}(x_1), \dots, \exp_{\mathcal{FL}_X}(x_n))] \\ = \exp_{\mathfrak{su}(2)}[w(u_1, \dots, u_n)] \neq e_{SU(2)}. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**COROLLARY 4.2.** *An arbitrary metrizable topological space  $X$  can be homeomorphically embedded into a Banach-Lie group  $G$  as a free group basis for a subgroup  $\text{gp}_G(X)$  generated by  $X$  in  $G$ .*

*Proof.* Follows from the preceding theorem after an appropriate metrization of  $X$ . □

Now we will show that Theorem B (Introduction) admits a Lie-theoretic proof.

**COROLLARY 4.3.** *Let  $X$  be a submetrizable Tychonoff topological space. Then the free topological group  $F(X)$  over  $X$  has no small subgroups.*

*Proof.* Pick a continuous one-to-one mapping  $f$  from  $X$  to a metrizable topological space  $Y$ . Let  $i_Y$  be a homeomorphic embedding of  $Y$  into a Banach-Lie group  $G$  as a free group basis for a

subgroup  $\text{gp}_G(Y)$  generated by  $i_Y(Y)$  in  $G$ . The composition  $i_Y \circ f$  extends to a continuous homomorphism  $\widehat{i_Y \circ f}: F(X) \rightarrow G$  by the very definition of a free topological group [M, Gr, A2]. Since any Banach-Lie group has no small subgroups ([Bou], corol. 1 de Th. 3.4.2.2), then there is a neighbourhood  $U$  of unity in  $G$  that contains no small subgroups. This property is shared by a neighbourhood of unity  $(\widehat{i_Y \circ f})^{-1}(U)$  in  $F(X)$ .  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.4.** [Pe1, Pe2, SU] *Every topological group is a topological quotient group of a group with no small subgroups.*

*Proof.* Any topological space—in particular,  $G$ —is an image of an appropriate submetrizable Tychonoff topological space  $X$  under a quotient mapping  $\pi$  [J]. Extend  $\pi$  to an open homomorphism  $\hat{\pi}: F(X) \rightarrow G$  [A2] and apply Theorem 4.2.  $\square$

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This paper is dedicated to the author's topologist friends.

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University of California  
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vsv@math.ucla.edu

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christ@math.ucla.edu

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University of California, San Diego  
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tenright@ucsd.edu

NICHOLAS ERCOLANI  
University of Arizona  
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ercolani@math.arizona.edu

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Stanford University  
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finn@gauss.stanford.edu

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University of California  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
vfr@math.berkeley.edu

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Stanford University  
Stanford, CA 94305  
spk@gauss.stanford.edu

C. C. MOORE  
University of California  
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