

RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Spectrum, homomorphisms and multipliers of Lau product of Banach algebras

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### Abstract

Given Banach algebras A, B and a continuous homomorphism  $\theta: B \longrightarrow A$  with  $\|\theta\| \leq 1$ , we obtain characterization of spectrum, homomorphisms and multipliers of  $A \times_{\theta} B$ , which is a strongly splitting Banach algebra extension of B by A. Also we characterize the semisimplicity of these algebras.

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### 1. Introduction

Let A and B be Banach algebras and  $\phi: B \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a multiplicative linear functional. Then the direct product  $A \times B$  equipped with the algebra multiplication

$$(a,b)(u,v) = (au + \phi(b)u + \phi(v)a, bv), \qquad (a,b), (u,v) \in A \times B,$$

and with the  $l^1$ -norm is a Banach algebra which is called the Lau product of A and B and is denoted by  $A \times_{\phi} B$ .

This type of product was introduced by Lau [9] for certain class of Banach algebras and was extended by Sangani Monfared [11] for the general case.

If we allow  $\phi = 0$ , then we obtain the usual direct product of Banach algebras, and when  $B = \mathbb{C}$  and  $\phi : \mathbb{C} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is the identity map,  $A \times_{\phi} \mathbb{C}$  coincides with the unitization of A.

Some basic properties of  $A \times_{\phi} B$  such as characterization of Gelfand space, topological center, amenability, ideal structure and minimal idempotent are investigated in [11]. Also, characterization of multipliers of these product discussed in [3] and [14]. Additionally, many Banach algebras properties of  $A \times_{\phi} B$  are studied in [1], [6], [8], [10], [13], for example.

Bhatt and Dabhi in [2] introduced a new type of Lau product. Let  $\theta : B \longrightarrow A$  be a continuous homomorphism between Banach algebras with  $\|\theta\| \leq 1$ . Then  $A \times B$  with the multiplication

 $(a,b)(u,v) = (au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v), bv),$ 

and with the  $l^1$ -norm turns into a Banach algebra, which is denoted by  $A \times_{\theta} B$ .

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The product  $A \times_{\theta} B$  provides not only new examples in Banach algebras by themselves, but also it has the potential to serve as counter-examples in different branches of functional and harmonic analysis.

Let  $\Delta(A)$  be the set of all multiplicative linear functionals on Banach algebra A. Note that every  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$  is continuous and  $\|\phi\| \leq 1$ , [5]. When A is unital with identity  $e_A$ and  $\phi \in \Delta(B)$ , then  $\theta : B \longrightarrow A$  defined by  $\theta(b) = \phi(b)e_A$  is a continuous homomorphism with  $\|\theta\| \leq 1$ . Therefore in this case the Lau product coincides with  $A \times_{\theta} B$ .

We remark that in  $A \times_{\theta} B$ , we identify  $A \times \{0\}$  with A and  $\{0\} \times B$  with B. Then A is a closed ideal while B is a closed subalgebra of  $A \times_{\theta} B$ , and  $(A \times_{\theta} B)/A$  is isometric isomorphism with B.

Spelitting of Banach algebra extensions has been a major tool in the study of Banach algebras. For example, module extensions as generalizations of Banach algebras extensions where introduced and studied by Gourdeau [7]. On the other hand,  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is a strongly splitting Banach algebra extension of B by A that exhibits many properties that are not shared, in general, by arbitrary strongly splitting extensions. For example, commutativity is not preserved by a general strongly splitting extension. However,  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is commutative if and only if both A and B are commutative, [11, Proposition 2.3].

Let X be an A-bimodule, Y be an B-bimodule and  $\theta : B \longrightarrow A$  be a homomorphism. We say that  $\sigma : Y \longrightarrow X$  is a right (left)  $\theta$ -module homomorphism if for all  $b \in B$  and  $y \in Y$ ,

$$\sigma(by) = \theta(b)\sigma(y), \qquad (\sigma(yb) = \sigma(y)\theta(b)).$$

In particular, if X = A and Y = B, then  $\sigma$  is called right (left)  $\theta$ -multiplier. It is clear that each multiplier is a special case of a  $\theta$ -multiplier with  $\theta = id$ , the identity map on A.

Example 1.1. Let

$$A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a, b, c \in \mathbb{C} \right\},\$$

and define  $\theta, \sigma : A \longrightarrow A$  by

$$\theta\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then, for all  $x, y \in A$ ,

$$\sigma(xy) = \theta(x)\sigma(y) = \sigma(x)\theta(y).$$

Therefore  $\sigma$  is a  $\theta$ -multiplier.

The purpose of the present paper is to investigate the spectrum, homomorphisms and multipliers for Banach algebras induced by Lau product of Banach algebras defined by a Banach algebra morphism.

Throughout the paper, we assume that A and B are Banach algebras and  $\theta: B \longrightarrow A$  is a continuous homomorphism with  $\|\theta\| \leq 1$ .

### 2. Spectrum of Lau product

The spectrum of an element  $a \in A$  is defined as

$$Sp_A(a) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \lambda e_A - a \notin Inv(A)\},\$$

where Inv(A) is the set of all invertible elements of A, and the spectral radius  $r_A(a)$  of an element a is defined as  $r_A(a) = \sup\{|\lambda| : \lambda \in Sp_A(a)\}$ .

It should be note that if A is not unital, then  $Sp_A(a) = Sp_{A^{\sharp}}(a)$ , where  $A^{\sharp}$  stands the unitization of A, [12].

**Theorem 2.1.** Let A and B be unital Banach algebras. Then

$$Inv(A \times_{\theta} B) \cong Inv(A) \times Inv(B), \quad (homeomorphism).$$
 (2.1)

**Proof.** Let  $e_A$  and  $e_B$  be unit of A and B, respectively. Then  $(e_A - \theta(e_B), e_B)$  is the unit element of  $A \times_{\theta} B$ . Define

$$h: Inv(A) \times Inv(B) \longrightarrow Inv(A \times_{\theta} B),$$

by  $h(a,b) = (a - \theta(b), b)$ . Let  $a \in Inv(A)$  and  $b \in Inv(B)$ , then there exists  $u \in A$  and  $v \in B$  such that  $au = e_A$  and  $bv = e_B$ . So

$$(a - \theta(b), b)(u - \theta(v), v) = (au - \theta(bv), bv) = (e_A - \theta(e_B), e_B)$$

Therefore  $(a - \theta(b), b)$  has a right inverse.

Similarly,  $(a - \theta(b), b)$  has a left inverse and thus h is well-defined. It is easy to check that h is linear and one to one.

Suppose that  $(a, b) \in Inv(A \times_{\theta} B)$ . Hence there exist  $(u, v) \in Inv(A \times_{\theta} B)$  such that

$$(au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v), bv) = (a, b)(u, v) = (e_A - \theta(e_B), e_B).$$
(2.2)

It follows from (2.2) that  $bv = e_B$  and

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$$au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v) = e_A - \theta(e_B) = e_A - \theta(bv)$$

Therefore

$$au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v) + \theta(bv) = e_A.$$

Since

$$a + \theta(b))(u + \theta(v)) = au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v) + \theta(bv) = e_A$$

hence  $a + \theta(b)$  and b have right inverse in A and B, respectively. Similarly,  $a + \theta(b)$  and b have left inverse in A and B, respectively. Thus,  $a + \theta(b) \in Inv(A)$ ,  $b \in Inv(B)$  and

$$h(a + \theta(b), b) = (a + \theta(b) - \theta(b), b) = (a, b)$$

This means that h is surjective. For  $(a, b) \in Inv(A) \times Inv(B)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|h(a,b)\| &= \|(a-\theta(b),b)\| \\ &= \|a-\theta(b)\| + \|b\| \\ &\leq \|a\| + \|\theta\| \|b\| + \|b\| \\ &\leq (1+\|\theta\|)(\|a\|+\|b\|). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $||h|| \leq 2$  and h is continuous. Similarly,  $h^{-1}$  is continuous. This finishes the proof.

Our next result concerns the spectrum in  $A \times_{\theta} B$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** For Banach algebras A and B, we have

$$Sp_{A\times_{\theta}B}(a,b) = Sp_A(a+\theta(b)) \cup Sp_B(b).$$
(2.3)

**Proof.** It is enough to show that

$$Sp_{A\times_{\theta}B}(a,b) = Sp_A(a+\theta(b)) \cup Sp_B(b)$$

when A and B are unital.

Let  $\lambda \notin Sp_A(a) \cup Sp_B(b)$ . Then  $\lambda e_A - a \in Inv(A)$  and  $\lambda e_B - b \in Inv(A)$ . Hence by Theorem 2.1, we get

$$(\lambda e_A - a - \theta(\lambda e_B - b), \lambda e_B - b) \in Inv(A \times_{\theta} B),$$
 (2.4)

which yields that

$$\lambda(e_A - \theta(e_B), e_B) - (a - \theta(b), b) \in Inv(A \times_{\theta} B).$$

Therefore,  $\lambda \notin Sp_{A \times_{\theta} B}(a - \theta(b), b)$ .

Now suppose that  $\lambda \notin Sp_A(a + \theta(b)) \cup Sp_B(b)$ . Then by the above argument,

$$\lambda \notin Sp_{A \times_{\theta} B}(a + \theta(b) - \theta(b), b) = Sp_{A \times_{\theta} B}(a, b).$$

This means that

$$Sp_{A\times_{\theta}B}(a,b) \subseteq Sp_A(a+\theta(b)) \cup Sp_B(b)$$

For the converse, let  $\lambda \notin Sp_{A \times_{\theta} B}(a, b)$ . Then

$$\lambda(e_A - \theta(e_B), e_B) - (a, b) \in Inv(A \times_{\theta} B).$$
(2.5)

But

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(e_A - \theta(e_B), e_B) - (a, b) &= (\lambda e_A - \lambda \theta(e_B) - a, \lambda e_B - b) \\ &= (\lambda e_A - \lambda \theta(e_B) - a + \lambda \theta(e_B) - \theta(b) - \theta(\lambda e_B - b), \lambda e_B - b) \\ &= (\lambda e_A - (a + \theta(b)) - \theta(\lambda e_B - b), \lambda e_B - b). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (2.5) and the above equality that

$$\lambda e_A - (a + \theta(b)) \in Inv(A), and \lambda e_B - b \in Inv(B).$$

Consequently,  $\lambda \notin Sp_A(a + \theta(b))$  and  $\lambda \notin Sp_B(b)$ . Thus,

$$Sp_A(a + \theta(b)) \cup Sp_B(b) \subseteq Sp_{A \times_{\theta} B}(a, b).$$

This completes the proof.

The next corollary appeared in [4, Lemma 2.5] for commutative Banach algebras. Here as a consequence of Theorem 2.2, we deduce it for the general case.

Corollary 2.3. Let A and B be Banach algebras. Then

$$r_{A \times_{\theta} B}(a, b) = \max\{r_A(a + \theta(b)), r_B(b)\}.$$

#### 3. Homomorphisms of Lau product

In this section, we assume that E and F are Banach algebras, and  $\sigma \in Hom(F, E)$  with  $\|\sigma\| \leq 1$ , where Hom(F, E) denotes the set of all homomorphisms from F into E.

Let  $p_A : A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow A$  and  $p_B : A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow B$  be the usual projections which are defined by  $p_A(a,b) = a$  and  $p_B(a,b) = b$ , respectively.

Recall that an A-bimodule X is called left (right) faithful if the condition ax = 0 (xa = 0) for  $x \in X$  implies that x = 0. The Banach algebra A is faithful, if it is faithful as an A-bimodule over itself.

**Theorem 3.1.** Suppose that

$$f_1: A \longrightarrow E, \quad f_2: B \longrightarrow F, \quad f: A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow E \times_{\sigma} F,$$

where  $f = (f_1 \circ p_A, f_2 \circ p_B)$ . Then,

- (i) If  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, E \times_{\sigma} F)$ , then  $f_1 \in Hom(A, E)$  and  $f_2 \in Hom(B, F)$ .
- (ii) If  $f_1 \in Hom(A, E)$  and  $f_2 \in Hom(B, F)$ ,  $f_1$  is surjective and E is faithful, then  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, E \times_{\sigma} F)$  if and only if  $\sigma \circ f_2 = f_1 \circ \theta$ .

**Proof.** (i) Suppose that  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, E \times_{\sigma} F)$ , then for all  $(a, b), (u, v) \in A \times_{\theta} B$ ,

$$f((a,b)(u,v)) = f(a,b)f(u,v).$$
(3.1)

By using  $f = (f_1 \circ p_A, f_2 \circ p_B)$  we get

$$f((a,b)(u,v)) = f(au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v), bv)$$
  
=  $(f_1(au) + f_1(\theta(b)u) + f_1(a\theta(v)), f_2(bv)).$ 

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On the other hand,

$$f(a,b)f(u,v) = (f_1(a), f_2(b))(f_1(u), f_2(v))$$
  
=  $(f_1(a)f_1(u) + \sigma(f_2(b))f_1(u) + f_1(a)\sigma(f_2(v)), f_2(b)f_2(v)).$ 

Hence by the above two equalities and (3.1), we have  $f_2(bv) = f_2(b)f_2(v)$  and

$$f_1(au) + f_1(\theta(b)u) + f_1(a\theta(v)) = f_1(a)f_1(u) + \sigma(f_2(b))f_1(u) + f_1(a)\sigma(f_2(v)).$$
(3.2)

By taking b = v = 0 in (3.2), we conclude that  $f_1(au) = f_1(a)f_1(u)$  for all  $a, u \in A$ . Thus,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are homomorphisms.

(ii) Assume that  $f_1 \in Hom(A, E), f_2 \in Hom(B, F)$  and let  $f : A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow E \times_{\sigma} F$  be a homomorphism. Then by the equality (3.2),

$$f_1(\theta(b))f_1(u) + f_1(a)f_1(\theta(v)) = \sigma(f_2(b))f_1(u) + f_1(a)\sigma(f_2(v)).$$
(3.3)

If we take a = 0 in (3.3), we obtain

$$(f_1(\theta(b)) - \sigma(f_2(b)))f_1(u) = 0, \quad u \in A, b \in B.$$

Since  $f_1$  is surjective and E is faithful, we get  $\sigma \circ f_2 = f_1 \circ \theta$ . The converse is similar.  $\Box$ 

If  $E = F = \mathbb{C}$  and  $\sigma : \mathbb{C} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is the identity map, then we get the following result.

Corollary 3.2. Let

$$f_1: A \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad f_2: B \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad f: A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^2,$$

where  $f = (f_1 \circ p_A, f_2 \circ p_B)$ . Then,

- (i) If  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2)$ , then  $f_1 \in \Delta(A)$  and  $f_2 \in \Delta(B)$ . (ii) If  $0 \neq f_1 \in \Delta(A)$  and  $f_2 \in \Delta(B)$ , then  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2)$  if and only if  $f_2 = f_1 \circ \theta.$

It should be pointed out that the topology of  $\Delta(A)$  is the induced weak<sup>\*</sup> topology from  $A^*$ , the dual space of A. Note that  $\Delta(A)$  is a locally compact Hausdorff space and it is compact, whether A is unital, [5].

It is shown in [11, Proposition 2.4] that if A and B are commutative and  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ , then  $\Delta(A \times_{\theta} B) = E \cup F$ , where

$$E = \{(\phi, \theta) : \phi \in \Delta(A)\}, and \quad F = \{(0, \psi) : \psi \in \Delta(B)\}$$

The following result shows that  $\Delta(A)$  and  $Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2)$  are homeomorphic as a two locally compact Hausdorff spaces.

**Corollary 3.3.** For Banach algebras A and B,

$$\Delta(A) \cong Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2).$$

**Proof.** Define  $h: \Delta(A) \longrightarrow Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2)$  via

$$h(f_1) = (f_1 \circ p_A, f_1 \circ \theta \circ p_B),$$

Then h is linear and bijective. Moreover, both h and  $h^{-1}$  are continuous. Indeed, for each  $f_1 \in \Delta(A)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|h(f_1)\| &= \|(f_1 \circ p_A, f_1 \circ \theta \circ p_B)\| \\ &\leq \|f_1 \circ p_A\| + \|f_1 \circ \theta \circ p_B\| \\ &= \|f_1\| + \|f_1 \circ \theta\| \\ &\leq \|f_1\| (1 + \|\theta\|) \leq 2\|f_1\|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, h is continuous. The continuity of  $h^{-1}$  is obvious.

The Jacobson radical of an algebra A, denoted by radA, is the intersection of maximal modular left (right) ideals of A. The algebra A is called *semisimple* if  $radA = \{0\}$ . If A is a commutative Banach algebra, then

$$radA = \bigcap \{ker\phi: \phi \in \Delta(A)\}$$

**Lemma 3.4.** Let A and B be commutative and  $(a, b) \in rad(A \times_{\theta} B)$ . Then f(a, b) = (0, 0) for each  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $(a,b) \in rad(A \times_{\theta} B)$ , then g(a,b) = 0 for each  $g \in \Delta(A \times_{\theta} B)$ . Assume to contrary that there exist  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2)$  such that  $f(a,b) \neq (0,0)$ . By Corollary (3.3), there exist  $f_1 \in \Delta(A)$  such that

$$(f_1(a), f_1 \circ \theta(b)) = f(a, b) \neq (0, 0)$$

Therefore  $f_1(a) \neq 0$  or  $f_1 \circ \theta(b) \neq 0$ .

Case I: Let  $f_1(a) + f_1 \circ \theta(b) \neq 0$ .

Let  $g: A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by  $g(a, b) = f_1(a) + f_1 \circ \theta(b)$ . Then  $g \in \Delta(A \times_{\theta} B)$  and  $g(a, b) \neq 0$ .

Case II: Let  $f_1(a) + f_1 \circ \theta(b) = 0$ .

Then  $f_1 \circ \theta(b) \neq 0$ . Define  $g: A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  via  $g(a, b) = f_1 \circ \theta(b)$ . Then  $g \in \Delta(A \times_{\theta} B)$ and  $g(a, b) \neq 0$ .

In both cases we obtain a contradiction. Thus, we reach the desired result.

 $\square$ 

The following result is due to Sangani Monfared [11, Theorem 3.1] when  $\theta \in \Delta(B)$ , see also [2, Corollary 2.2]. Here we outline an alternative proof for it with direct method.

**Theorem 3.5.** Let A and B be commutative. Then  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is semisimple if and only if A and B are semisimple.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is semisimple and let  $b \in rad(B)$ . Then  $f_2(b) = 0$ , for each  $f_2 \in \Delta(B)$ . Since  $f_1 \circ \theta \in \Delta(B)$ , for every multiplicative linear functional  $f_1$  on A, so  $(f_1 \circ \theta)(b) = 0$ . Therefore, for all  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2)$ ,

$$f(\theta(b), b) = (f_1(\theta(b)), f_1 \circ \theta(b)) = (0, 0).$$

Noticing that

$$\Delta(A \times_{\theta} B) \subseteq Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2).$$

hence for every  $g \in \Delta(A \times_{\theta} B)$ , we have  $g(\theta(b), b) = 0$ . Thus,  $(\theta(b), b) \in rad(A \times_{\theta} B) = \{0\}$ and hence b = 0. Consequently, B is semisimple.

Now we prove that  $rad(A) = \{0\}$ . To see this, let  $a \in rad(A)$ , then for each  $f_1 \in \Delta(A)$ , we have  $f_1(a) = 0$ . Therefore for all  $f \in Hom(A \times_{\theta} B, \mathbb{C}^2)$ ,

$$f(a,0) = (f_1(a), f_1 \circ \theta(0)) = (0,0),$$

which yields that g(a, 0) = 0 for each  $g \in \Delta(A \times_{\theta} B)$ . So  $(a, 0) \in rad(A \times_{\theta} B) = \{0\}$  and hence a = 0. Therefore, A is semisimple.

For the converse let A and B be semisimple. Suppose that  $g \in \Delta(A \times_{\theta} B)$  is arbitrary and g(a, b) = 0. Then by Lemma 3.4, we have  $(f_1(a), f_1 \circ \theta(b)) = (0, 0)$  where  $f_1 \in \Delta(A)$ . So  $f_1(a) = f_1 \circ \theta(b) = 0$ . It follows from the semisimplicity of A and B that a = b = 0. Thus,  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is semisimple.

**Corollary 3.6.** Suppose that A is commutative and semisimple. If  $\theta$  is one to one, then

- (i)  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is semisimple,
- (ii)  $\Delta(A \times_{\theta} B)$  separates the points of  $A \times_{\theta} B$ ,
- (iii)  $r_{A \times_{\theta} B}(a, b)$  is a norm on  $A \times_{\theta} B$ ,
- (iv)  $A \times_{\theta} B$  has a unique complete norm.

**Proof.** (i) Let  $b \in rad(B)$ . Then  $f_2(b) = 0$  for each  $f_2 \in \Delta(B)$ . Since  $f_1 \circ \theta \in \Delta(B)$ , for all  $f_1 \in \Delta(A)$ , so  $(f_1 \circ \theta)(b) = 0$ . Therefore  $\theta(b) \in rad(A) = \{0\}$ , and hence b = 0. Thus, B is semisimple and by Theorem 3.5,  $A \times_{\theta} B$  is semisimple. 

(ii), (iii), and (iv) follows from (i).

#### 4. Multipliers of Lau product

Let X be an A-bimodule, Y be an B-bimodule and suppose that  $\sigma: Y \longrightarrow X$  is a  $\theta$ -module homomorphism. Consider  $X \times_{\sigma} Y$  as a Banach space, then the action

 $(a,b)(x,y) = (ax + a\sigma(y) + \theta(b)x, by), \quad (a,b) \in A \times_{\theta} B, \quad (x,y) \in X \times_{\sigma} Y.$ 

turns  $X \times_{\sigma} Y$  into a left  $(A \times_{\theta} B)$ -module. Indeed, for every  $(a, b), (u, v) \in A \times_{\theta} B$  and  $(x,y) \in X \times_{\sigma} Y$  we have

$$((a,b)(u,v))(x,y) = (au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v), bv)(x,y)$$
  
=  $(aux + \theta(b)ux + a\theta(v)x + au\sigma(y) + \theta(b)u\sigma(y) + a\theta(v)\sigma(y)$   
+  $\theta(bv)x, bvy).$ 

On the other hand,

$$(a,b)((u,v)(x,y)) = (a,b)(ux + u\sigma(y) + \theta(v)x, vy)$$
  
=  $(aux + au\sigma(y) + a\theta(v)x + a\sigma(vy) + \theta(b)ux + \theta(b)u\sigma(y)$   
+  $\theta(b)\theta(v)x, bvy).$ 

Since  $\sigma$  is a right  $\theta$ -module homomorphism, by comparing the above two expressions, we obtain

$$((a,b)(u,v))(x,y) = (a,b)((u,v)(x,y)).$$

Similarly,  $X \times_{\sigma} Y$  is a right  $(A \times_{\theta} B)$ -module with the module action

$$(x, y)(a, b) = (xa + \sigma(y)a + x\theta(b), yb),$$

and in this case we arrive at

$$(x,y)((a,b)(u,v)) = ((x,y)(a,b))(u,v).$$

**Theorem 4.1.** Suppose that  $\sigma: Y \longrightarrow X$  is a  $\theta$ -module homomorphism and set

$$T_1: A \longrightarrow X, \quad T_2: B \longrightarrow Y, \quad T: A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow X \times_{\sigma} Y,$$

where  $T = (T_1 \circ p_A, T_2 \circ p_B)$ . Then,

- (i) If T is a right multiplier, then  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are so.
- (ii) If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are right multiplier and X is faithful, then T is right multiplier if and only if  $\sigma \circ T_2 = T_1 \circ \theta$ .

**Proof.** (i) Suppose that T is a right multiplier, then for all  $(a,b), (u,v) \in A \times_{\theta} B$ ,

$$T((a,b)(u,v)) = (a,b)T(u,v).$$
(4.1)

It follows from (4.1) and our assumption that

$$(aT_1(u) + a\sigma(T_2(v)) + \theta(b)T_1(u), bT_2(v)) = (a, b)(T_1(u), T_2(v))$$
  
=  $(a, b)T(u, v)$   
=  $T((a, b)(u, v))$   
=  $T(au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v), bv)$   
=  $(T_1(au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v)), T_2(bv)).$ 

Therefore,  $T_2(bv) = bT_2(v)$  and

$$aT_{1}(u) + a\sigma(T_{2}(v)) + \theta(b)T_{1}(u) = T_{1}(au + \theta(b)u + a\theta(v)).$$
(4.2)

Setting b = v = 0 in (4.2), we get  $aT_1(u) = T_1(au)$  for all  $a, u \in A$ . Thus,  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are right multipliers.

(ii) Let  $T_1, T_2$  and T are right multipliers. Then (4.2) gives

 $a\sigma(T_2(v)) = T_1(a\theta(v)) = aT_1(\theta(v)), \quad a \in A, v \in B.$ 

Therefore,  $a(\sigma(T_2(v)) - T_1(\theta(v))) = 0$  and since X is faithful, we get  $\sigma \circ T_2 = T_1 \circ \theta$ . The converse is immediate.

Let  $\mathfrak{M}_r(A)$  denotes the set of all right multipliers from A into a left A-module X, and let

$$\mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B) = \{T : A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow X \times_{\sigma} Y, T \text{ is a right multiplier} \}.$$

In the next result we turns our attention to the multipliers of  $A \times_{\theta} B$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** Suppose that  $\sigma: Y \longrightarrow X$  is a invertible  $\theta$ -module homomorphism. If X is faithful and  $\sigma^{-1}$  is continuous, then

$$\mathfrak{M}_r(A) \cong \mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B).$$

**Proof.** Let  $h: \mathfrak{M}_r(A) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B)$  defined by

$$h(T_1) = (T_1 \circ p_A, \sigma^{-1} \circ T_1 \circ \theta \circ p_B).$$

First note that h is linear and well-defined. To see this, let  $T_1 : A \longrightarrow X$  be a right multiplier and take  $T_2 = \sigma^{-1} \circ T_1 \circ \theta$ . Then for  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ ,

$$T_{2}(b_{1}b_{2}) = \sigma^{-1} \circ T_{1} \circ \theta(b_{1}b_{2})$$
  
=  $\sigma^{-1} \circ T_{1}(\theta(b_{1})(\theta(b_{2})))$   
=  $\sigma^{-1}(\theta(b_{1})T_{1}(\theta(b_{2})))$   
=  $\sigma^{-1}(\theta(b_{1})\sigma(T_{2}(b_{2})))$   
=  $b_{1}T_{2}(b_{2}).$ 

The last equality is true, because  $\sigma$  is a  $\theta$ -module homomorphism. Hence  $T_2$  is a right multiplier from B into Y, so by Theorem 4.1 (ii),  $h(T_1) \in \mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B)$ .

Clearly, h is one to one. We show that h is surjective. Let  $T : A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow X \times_{\sigma} Y$  be a right multiplier. Then for all  $(a, b) \in A \times_{\theta} B$ ,

$$T(a,b) = (S_1(a,b), S_2(a,b)),$$

where  $S_1 : A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow X$  and  $S_2 : A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow Y$ . Define  $T_1 : A \longrightarrow X$  via  $T_1 \circ p_A = S_1$ and  $T_2 : B \longrightarrow Y$  by  $T_2 \circ p_B = S_2$ . Then by the preceding theorem  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are right multipliers. Also the equality  $\sigma \circ T_2 = T_1 \circ \theta$  holds true. So

$$h(T_1) = (S_1, S_2) = T.$$

Note that  $h^{-1}$  is automatically continuous. In fact, for each  $T \in \mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B)$ ,

$$||h^{-1}(T)|| = ||T_1|| \le ||T_1|| + ||T_2|| = ||T||,$$

and hence  $||h^{-1}|| \le 1$ .

On the other hand, for each  $T_1 \in \mathfrak{M}_r(A)$  we have

$$\|h(T_1)\| = \|(T_1 \circ p_A, \sigma^{-1} \circ T_1 \circ \theta \circ p_B)\|$$
  

$$\leq \|T_1 \circ p_A\| + \|\sigma^{-1} \circ T_1 \circ \theta \circ p_B\|$$
  

$$= \|T_1\| + \|\sigma^{-1} \circ T_1 \circ \theta\|$$
  

$$\leq \|T_1\|(1 + \|\sigma^{-1}\|\|\theta\|).$$

Consequently, h is continuous. This finishes the proof.

As a consequence of Theorem 4.2, we deduce the next result.

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**Corollary 4.3.** Let A be a unital Banach algebra. If  $\theta$  is invertible and  $\theta^{-1}$  is continuous, then  $T_1$  is a right multiplier on A if and only if T is a right multiplier on  $A \times_{\theta} B$ .

Let  $\sigma$  be a  $\theta$ -module homomorphism and define

$$L_X = \{L_x : A \longrightarrow X : L_x(a) = ax, \forall x \in X\},$$
$$L_Y = \{L_y : B \longrightarrow Y : L_y(b) = by, \forall y \in Y\},$$

and

$$(L_X, L_Y) = \{(L_x, L_y) : x \in X, y \in Y\}.$$

Moreover, for  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$  we set

$$L_{X \times_{\sigma} Y} = \{ L_{(x,y)} : A \times_{\theta} B \longrightarrow X \times_{\sigma} Y : \quad L_{(x,y)}(a,b) = (a,b)(x,y) \}.$$

Then for all  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$ ,  $L_x$ ,  $L_y$  and  $L_{(x,y)}$  are right multipliers.

The next example provided that  $(L_X, L_Y)$  is different from  $\mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B)$ .

**Example 4.4.** Let A be a unital Banach algebra, and let  $\theta = \sigma : A \longrightarrow A$  be the identity map. Then by Theorem 4.1,  $(L_x, L_y) \in \mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B)$  if and only if  $\sigma \circ L_y = L_x \circ \theta$ . However, for  $x = e_A$ ,  $y = 2e_A$  and  $a = e_A$  we have,

$$\sigma \circ L_y(a) = \sigma(2e_A) = 2e_A, \qquad L_x \circ \theta(a) = L_x(a) = e_A.$$

Therefore,  $(L_x, L_y)$  is not a right multiplier.

**Proposition 4.5.** Let  $\sigma: Y \longrightarrow X$  be a  $\theta$ -module homomorphism. If X is faithful and  $\theta$  is surjective, then  $(L_x, L_y) \in \mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B)$  if and only if  $x = \sigma(y)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $(L_x, L_y) \in \mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} B)$ . Then by Theorem 4.1, for every  $b \in B$ ,

$$(\sigma \circ L_y)(b) = (L_x \circ \theta)(b),$$

which imply that  $\theta(b)\sigma(y) = \sigma(by) = \theta(b)x$ . For each  $a \in A$  there exist  $b \in B$  such that  $\theta(b) = a$ . Therefore, we have  $ax = a\sigma(y)$  and hence  $a(x - \sigma(y)) = 0$ . Since X is faithful, we conclude that  $x = \sigma(y)$ . The converse is similar.

The next corollary follows immediately from preceding result.

**Corollary 4.6.** Let A be a unital Banach algebra. Then for all  $a \in A$ ,

$$(L_a, L_a) \in \mathfrak{M}_r(A \times_{\theta} A).$$

**Lemma 4.7.** Let  $\sigma : Y \longrightarrow X$  be a  $\theta$ -module homomorphism. Then for each  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$ ,

$$L_{(x,y)} = (L_{(x+\sigma(y))} \circ p_A + L_x \circ \theta \circ p_B, L_y \circ p_B).$$

**Proof.** Let  $(a,b) \in (A \times_{\theta} B)$ . Then

$$L_{(x,y)}(a,b) = (a,b)(x,y)$$
  
=  $(ax + a\sigma(y) + \theta(b)x, by)$   
=  $(L_{(x+\sigma(y))}(a) + L_x \circ \theta(b), L_y(b)).$   
=  $(L_{(x+\sigma(y))} \circ p_A(a,b) + L_x \circ \theta \circ p_B(a,b), L_y \circ p_B(a,b)),$ 

as required.

**Theorem 4.8.** Suppose that  $\sigma : Y \longrightarrow X$  is a  $\theta$ -module homomorphism. If  $\theta$  is surjective, then

$$(L_X, L_Y) \cong L_{X \times_\sigma Y}.$$

**Proof.** Let  $h: (L_X, L_Y) \longrightarrow L_{X \times_{\sigma} Y}$  defined by

$$h((L_x, L_y)) = (L_{(x+\sigma(y))} \circ p_A + L_x \circ \theta \circ p_B, L_y \circ p_B)$$

The mapping h is linear and it is well-defined by Lemma 4.7. Clearly, h is surjective. We show that h is one to one. Let  $h((L_x, L_y)) = h((L_s, L_t))$ , then

$$L_{(x+\sigma(y))} \circ p_A + L_x \circ \theta \circ p_B = L_{(s+\sigma(t))} \circ p_A + L_s \circ \theta \circ p_B, \tag{4.3}$$

and

$$L_y \circ p_B = L_t \circ p_B. \tag{4.4}$$

It follows from (4.4) that  $L_y = L_t$  and hence for each  $b \in B$ ,

$$y = L_y(b) = L_t(b) = bt.$$
 (4.5)

Since  $\sigma$  is a right  $\theta$ -module homomorphism, by (4.5) we get

$$\theta(b)\sigma(y) = \sigma(by) = \sigma(bt) = \theta(b)\sigma(t), \tag{4.6}$$

and the surjectivity of  $\theta$  together (4.6) implies that

$$L_{\sigma(y)}(a) = a\sigma(y) = a\sigma(t) = L_{\sigma(t)}(a), \qquad (4.7)$$

for all  $a \in A$ . From (4.3) we have

$$L_{(x+\sigma(y))}(a) = (L_{(x+\sigma(y))} \circ p_A + L_x \circ \theta \circ p_B)(a, 0)$$
  
=  $(L_{(s+\sigma(t))} \circ p_A + L_s \circ \theta \circ p_B)(a, 0)$   
=  $L_{(s+\sigma(t))}(a).$ 

By (4.7) and the above equality, we obtain  $L_x = L_s$ . Therefore,  $(L_x, L_y) = (L_s, L_t)$  and h is one to one. The continuity of h and  $h^{-1}$  are obvious.

From Theorem 4.8, we have the next result.

**Corollary 4.9.** If  $\theta$  is surjective, then  $(L_A, L_B) \cong L_{A \times_{\theta} B}$ .

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