

ON BIFLATNESS AND  $\phi$ -BIFLATNESS OF SOME BANACH ALGEBRASA. Sahami<sup>1</sup>

In this paper we continue our work in [20]. For a Banach algebra  $A$  with a character  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ , we discuss the relation of  $\phi$ -biflatness and left  $\phi$ -amenability. We show that if a Segal algebra  $S(G)$  ( $S(G)^{**}$ ) is  $\phi$ -biflat, then  $G$  is an amenable group. Also we show that  $\phi$ -biflatness of a symmetric Segal algebra  $S(G)$  is equivalent with amenability of  $G$ . We give the notion of bounded character biflat Banach algebras and study its character spaces. We show that for a non-empty totally ordered set  $I$  with a smallest element, upper triangular  $I \times I$ -matrix algebra, say  $UP_I(A)$  is biflat if and only if  $A$  is biflat and  $I$  is singleton, provided that  $\Delta(A)$  is non-empty and  $A$  has a right identity. Also we give a class of non biflat Banach algebras.

**Keywords:** Segal algebra, Matrix algebra, biflatness, left  $\phi$ -amenable,  $\phi$ -biflatness.

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### 1. Introduction and Preliminaries

A Banach algebra  $A$  is amenable if for every bounded derivation  $D : A \rightarrow X^*$  there exists an element  $x_0$  in  $X^*$  such that

$$D(a) = a \cdot x_0 - x_0 \cdot a \quad (a \in A),$$

for every Banach  $A$ -bimodule  $X$ , see [12]. A. Ya. Helemskii studied Banach algebras through its homological properties. He introduced the concepts of biflat and biprojective Banach algebras. Indeed, a Banach algebra  $A$  is called biflat (biprojective), if there exists a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism  $\rho : A \rightarrow (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  ( $\rho : A \rightarrow A \otimes_p A$ ) such that  $\pi_A^{**} \circ \rho$  ( $\pi_A \circ \rho$ ) is the canonical embedding of  $A$  into  $A^{**}$  (is the identity map on  $A$ ), respectively, where  $\pi_A : A \otimes_p A \rightarrow A$  is denoted for product morphism given by  $\pi_A(a \otimes b) = ab$  ( $a, b \in A$ ). In fact a Banach algebra  $A$  with a bounded approximate identity is biflat if and only if  $A$  is amenable. Using this fact he showed that for a locally compact group  $G$ ,  $L^1(G)$  is biflat (biprojective) if and only if  $G$  is an amenable (compact) group, respectively, see [7].

Recently a new notion of the amenability of Banach algebras related to its character space has been introduced. Suppose that  $A$  is a Banach algebra and  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ .  $A$  is called left  $\phi$ -amenable, if for each continuous derivation  $D : A \rightarrow X^*$  there exists  $x_0$  in  $X^*$  such that

$$D(a) = a \cdot x_0 - \phi(a)x_0 \quad (a \in A),$$

for every Banach  $A$ -bimodule  $X$  with a left action  $a \cdot x = \phi(a)x$  which  $a \in A$  and  $x \in X$ . Alaghmandan *et. al.* in [2] showed that a Segal algebra  $S(G)$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable if and only if  $G$  is an amenable group. For more information about left  $\phi$ -amenability see [13], [10], [15] and [16].

Motivated by these considerations, author with A. Pourabbas introduced some generalizations of Helemskii's concepts like  $\phi$ -biflatness and  $\phi$ -biprojectivity, where  $\phi$  is a multiplicative linear functional on  $A$ . Indeed a Banach algebra  $A$  is called  $\phi$ -biflat ( $\phi$ -biprojective)

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if there exists a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism  $\rho : A \rightarrow (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  ( $\rho : A \rightarrow A \otimes_p A$ ) such that

$$\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**} \circ \rho(a) = \phi(a) \quad (\phi \circ \pi_A \circ \rho(a) = \phi(a)) \quad (a \in A),$$

respectively. We showed for a locally compact group  $G$ ,  $L^1(G)$  is  $\phi$ -biflat if and only if  $G$  is amenable. We also showed that for every locally compact group  $G$ , the Fourier algebra  $A(G)$  is  $\phi$ -biprojective if and only if  $G$  is discrete, see [20].

In this paper we give criterions to study the relation of left  $\phi$ -amenability and  $\phi$ -biflatness. We show that a symmetric Segal algebra  $S(G)$  is  $\phi$ -biflat if and only if  $G$  is amenable. We study  $\phi$ -biflatness of  $A^{**}$  and we show that if  $S(G)^{**}$  is biflat, then  $G$  is an amenable group. We introduce the new class of character biflat Banach algebras and study its maximal ideal space. Finally we investigate Helemskii-notion of biflatness for a class of matrix algebras using  $\phi$ -biflatness and left  $\phi$ -amenability and we give a class of non-biflat Banach algebras.

We remark some standard notations and definitions that we shall need in this paper. Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra. If  $X$  is a Banach  $A$ -bimodule, then  $X^*$  is also a Banach  $A$ -bimodule via the following actions

$$(a \cdot f)(x) = f(x \cdot a), \quad (f \cdot a)(x) = f(a \cdot x) \quad (a \in A, x \in X, f \in X^*).$$

Throughout, the character space of  $A$  is denoted by  $\Delta(A)$ , that is, all non-zero multiplicative linear functionals on  $A$ . Let  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Then  $\phi$  has a unique extension  $\tilde{\phi} \in \Delta(A^{**})$  which is defined by  $\tilde{\phi}(F) = F(\phi)$  for every  $F \in A^{**}$ .

Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra. The projective tensor product  $A \otimes_p A$  is a Banach  $A$ -bimodule via the following actions

$$a \cdot (b \otimes c) = ab \otimes c, \quad (b \otimes c) \cdot a = b \otimes ca \quad (a, b, c \in A).$$

## 2. General results about $\phi$ -biflatness of Banach algebras

A Banach algebra  $A$  is left(right)  $\phi$ -amenable if and only if there exists an element  $m \in A^{**}$  such that  $am = \phi(a)m$  ( $ma = \phi(a)m$ ) and  $\tilde{\phi}(m) = 1$  for every  $a \in A$ , respectively, see [13, Theorem 1.1]. At the following Theorem we study the relation of  $\phi$ -biflatness and left (right)  $\phi$ -amenability.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a left(right) approximate identity and let  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . If  $A$  is  $\phi$ -biflat, then  $A$  is left(right)  $\phi$ -amenable, respectively.*

*Proof.* Let  $A$  be a  $\phi$ -biflat Banach algebra. Then there exists a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism  $\rho : A \rightarrow (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  such that  $\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**} \circ \rho(a) = \phi(a)$  for every  $a \in A$ . Put  $L = \ker \phi$ . Set  $g = (id_A \otimes \tilde{\phi})^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes q)^{**} \circ \rho : A \rightarrow (A \otimes_p \mathbb{C})^{**}$ , where  $q : A \rightarrow \frac{A}{L}$  is the quotient map and  $\tilde{\phi} : \frac{A}{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a character defined by  $\tilde{\phi}(a + L) = \phi(a)$  for every  $a \in A$ . We see that  $g$  is a bounded left  $A$ -module morphism. We show that  $g(l) = 0$  for every  $l \in L$ . Since  $A$  has a left approximate identity,  $\overline{AL} = L$ . Then for each  $l \in L$  there exist sequences  $(a_n) \subseteq A$  and  $(l_n) \subseteq L$  such that  $a_n l_n \rightarrow l$ . For  $b \in L$ , define a map  $R_b : A \rightarrow L$  by  $R_b(a) = ab$  for every

$a \in A$ . Since  $q \circ R_{l_n} = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
g(l) &= (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi})^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes q)^{**}(\rho(l)) \\
&= \lim_n (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi})^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes q)^{**}(\rho(a_n l_n)) \\
&= \lim_n (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi})^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes q)^{**}(\rho(a_n) \cdot l_n) \\
&= \lim_n (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi})^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes q)^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes R_{l_n})^{**}(\rho(a_n)) \\
&= \lim_n ((id_A \otimes \bar{\phi}) \circ (id_A \otimes q) \circ (id_A \otimes R_{l_n}))^{**}(\rho(a_n)) \\
&= \lim_n ((id_A \otimes \bar{\phi}) \circ (id_A \otimes (q \circ R_{l_n})))^{**}(\rho(a_n)) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $g$  induces a map  $\bar{g} : \frac{A}{L} \rightarrow (A \otimes_p \mathbb{C})^{**}$  which is defined by  $\bar{g}(a + L) = g(a)$  for all  $a \in A$ . It is easy to see that  $\bar{g}$  is a bounded left  $A$ -module morphism. Pick  $a_0$  in  $A$  such that  $\phi(a_0) = 1$ . We denote  $\lambda : A \otimes_p \mathbb{C} \rightarrow A$  for a map which is specified by  $\lambda(a \otimes z) = az$  for every  $a \in A$  and  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ . Set  $m = \lambda^{**} \circ \bar{g}(a_0 + L) \in A^{**}$ , we claim that  $am = \phi(a)m$  and  $\tilde{\phi}(m) = 1$  for every  $a \in A$ . Since  $\lambda^{**}$  is a left  $A$ -module morphism and also since  $aa_0 + L = \phi(a)a_0 + L$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
am &= a\lambda^{**} \circ \bar{g}(a_0 + L) = \lambda^{**} \circ \bar{g}(aa_0 + L) = \lambda^{**} \circ \bar{g}(\phi(a)a_0 + L) \\
&= \phi(a)\lambda^{**} \circ \bar{g}(a_0 + L) \\
&= \phi(a)m
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

for every  $a \in A$ . Since  $\rho(a_0) \in (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$ , by Goldstine's theorem there exists a net  $(a_\alpha)$  in  $A \otimes_p A$  such that  $a_\alpha \xrightarrow{w^*} \rho(a_0)$ . So

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{\phi}(m) &= m(\phi) = [\lambda^{**} \circ \bar{g}(a_0 + L)](\phi) \\
&= [\lambda^{**} \circ g(a_0)](\phi) \\
&= [\lambda^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi})^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes q)^{**}(\rho(a_0))](\phi) \\
&= [(\lambda \circ (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi}) \circ (id_A \otimes q))^{**}(\rho(a_0))](\phi) \\
&= [w^* - \lim(\lambda \circ (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi}) \circ (id_A \otimes q))^{**}(a_\alpha)](\phi) \\
&= \lim(\lambda \circ (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi}) \circ (id_A \otimes q))^{**}(a_\alpha)(\phi) \\
&= \lim(\lambda \circ (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi}) \circ (id_A \otimes q))(a_\alpha)(\phi) \\
&= \lim \phi \circ \lambda \circ (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi}) \circ (id_A \otimes q)(a_\alpha) \\
&= \lim \phi \circ \pi_A(a_\alpha).
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

On the other hand since  $a_\alpha \xrightarrow{w^*} \rho(a_0)$ , the  $w^*$ -continuity of  $\pi_A^{**}$  implies that

$$\pi_A(a_\alpha) = \pi_A^{**}(a_\alpha) \xrightarrow{w^*} \pi_A^{**}(\rho(a_0)).$$

Thus

$$\phi(\pi_A(a_\alpha)) = \pi_A(a_\alpha)(\phi) = \pi_A^{**}(a_\alpha)(\phi) \rightarrow \pi_A^{**}(\rho(a_0))(\phi) = \tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**}(a_\alpha) = 1. \tag{3}$$

We see that from (2) and (3),  $\tilde{\phi}(m) = 1$ . Combine this result with (1) implies that  $A$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable. Right case is similar to the left one.  $\square$

**Example 2.1.** Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with  $\dim(A) > 1$  such that  $ab = \phi(b)a$  for every  $a, b \in A$ , where  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Suppose conversely that  $A$  has a left approximate identity, say  $(e_\alpha)_\alpha$ . Suppose that  $a_0$  is an element in  $A$  such that  $\phi(a_0) = 1$ . We claim that  $\lim e_\alpha = a_0$ . To see this

$$a_0 = \lim e_\alpha a_0 = \lim \phi(a_0)e_\alpha = \lim e_\alpha.$$

It follows that  $a_0$  is a left unit of  $A$ . Suppose that  $a$  is an arbitrary element of  $A$ . Then  $a = a_0a = \phi(a)a_0$ , for every  $a \in A$ . It means that  $\dim A = 1$  which is a contradiction.

We claim that  $A$  is  $\phi$ -biflat. To see this let  $a_0$  be an element in  $A$  such that  $\phi(a_0) = 1$ . Define  $\rho : A \rightarrow (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  by  $\rho(a) = a \otimes a_0$  for each  $a \in A$ . One can easily see that  $\rho$  is a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism and  $\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**} \circ \rho(a) = \phi(a)$  for each  $a \in A$ . Hence  $A$  is  $\phi$ -biflat.

We claim that  $A$  is not left  $\phi$ -amenable. Suppose conversely that  $A$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable. Then by [13, Theorem 1.4] there exists a net  $(a_\alpha)$  in  $A$  such that

$$aa_\alpha - \phi(a)a_\alpha \rightarrow 0 \quad \phi(a_\alpha) = 1, \quad (a \in A). \quad (4)$$

Suppose that  $a_0$  is an element in  $A$  such that  $\phi(a_0) = 1$ . Put  $a_0$  in equation (4) one can see that  $\lim a_\alpha = a_0$ . Using (4) again follows that  $a = \phi(a)a_0$  for every  $a \in A$ . It implies that  $\dim A = 1$  which is a contradiction.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a left approximate identity. If  $A^{**}$  is  $\tilde{\phi}$ -biflat then  $A$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable.*

*Proof.* The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.1 which for the sake of completeness we give it here. Suppose that  $A^{**}$  is  $\tilde{\phi}$ -biflat. Then there exists a  $A^{**}$ -bimodule morphism  $\rho : A^{**} \rightarrow (A^{**} \otimes_p A^{**})^{**}$  such that  $\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_{A^{**}}^{**} \circ \rho(a) = \tilde{\phi}(a) \quad a \in A^{**}$ . By restricting  $\rho$  on  $A$ , we can assume that  $\rho : A \rightarrow (A^{**} \otimes_p A^{**})^{**}$ . There exists a bounded linear map  $\psi : A^{**} \otimes_p A^{**} \rightarrow (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  such that for  $a, b \in A$  and  $m \in A^{**} \otimes_p A^{**}$ , the following holds;

- (i)  $\psi(a \otimes b) = a \otimes b$ ,
- (ii)  $\psi(m) \cdot a = \psi(m \cdot a), \quad a \cdot \psi(m) = \psi(a \cdot m)$ ,
- (iii)  $\pi_A^{**}(\psi(m)) = \pi_{A^{**}}(m)$ ,

see [8, Lemma 1.7]. Define

$$g = \lambda^{****} \circ (id_A \otimes \tilde{\phi})^{****} \circ (id_A \otimes q)^{****} \circ \psi^{**} \circ \rho : A \rightarrow A^{****},$$

where  $id_A, q, \lambda$  and  $\tilde{\phi}$  are same as in the proof of Theorem 2.1. It is easy to see that  $g$  is a left  $A$ -module morphism and the restriction of  $g$  on  $L = \ker \phi$  is 0. Thus  $g$  induces a left  $A$ -module morphism  $\bar{g} : \frac{A}{L} \rightarrow A^{****}$ . Pick  $a_0 \in A$  such that  $\phi(a_0) = 1$ . Set  $m = \bar{g}(a_0 + L)$ . It is easy to see that  $\tilde{\phi}(m) = 1$  and  $am = \phi(a)m$  for every  $a \in A$ . Suppose that  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $F = \{a_1, \dots, a_r\} \subseteq A^{**}$ . Set

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \{(a_1n - \phi(a_1)n, \dots, a_rn - \phi(a_r)n, \tilde{\phi}(n) - 1) \mid n \in A^{**}, \|n\| \leq \|m\|\} \\ &\subseteq (\prod_{i=1}^r A^{**}) \oplus_1 \mathbb{C}. \end{aligned}$$

By Goldestine's theorem there exists a net  $(n_\alpha)$  in  $A^{**}$  such that  $n_\alpha \xrightarrow{w^*} m$  and  $\|n_\alpha\| \leq \|m\|$ . Thus  $(0, 0, \dots, 0)$  is a  $w^*$ -limit point of  $V$ . On the other hand since  $V$  is a convex set, the weak topology and the norm topology are coincide on  $V$ . So  $(0, 0, \dots, 0)$  is a  $\|\cdot\|$ -limit point of  $V$ . Therefore there exists an element  $n_{(F, \epsilon)}$  in  $A^{**}$  which satisfies

$$\|a_i n_{(F, \epsilon)} - \phi(a_i) n_{(F, \epsilon)}\| < \epsilon, \quad |\tilde{\phi}(n_{(F, \epsilon)}) - 1| < \epsilon \quad (5)$$

for every  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, r\}$ . Observe that

$$\Delta = \{(F, \epsilon) : F \text{ is a finite subset of } A, \epsilon > 0\},$$

with the following order

$$(F, \epsilon) \leq (F', \epsilon') \implies F \subseteq F', \quad \epsilon \geq \epsilon'$$

is a directed set. Equation 5 follows that there exists a net bounded net  $(n_{(F,\epsilon)})_{(F,\epsilon) \in \Delta}$  in  $A^{**}$  such that

$$an_{(F,\epsilon)} - \phi(a)n_{(F,\epsilon)} \rightarrow 0, \quad \tilde{\phi}(n_{(F,\epsilon)}) \rightarrow 1$$

for every  $a \in A$ . By Alaoglu's theorem suppose that  $n = w^* - \lim n_{(F,\epsilon)} \in A^{**}$ . It is easy to see that  $an = \phi(a)n$  and  $\tilde{\phi}(n) = 1$ , for every  $a \in A$ . It means that  $A$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable.  $\square$

Suppose that  $A$  is a Banach algebra and  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ .  $A$  is called (approximately)  $\phi$ -inner amenable, if there exists a bounded (not necessarily bounded) net  $(a_\alpha)_\alpha$  in  $A$  such that  $aa_\alpha - a_\alpha a \rightarrow 0$  and  $\phi(a_\alpha) \rightarrow 1$ , for every  $a \in A$ , respectively. For more information about  $\phi$ -inner amenability see [11].

**Corollary 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with an approximate identity and  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . If  $A$  is  $\phi$ -biflat then  $A$  is  $\phi$ -inner amenable.*

*Proof.* Since  $A$  is  $\phi$ -biflat with an approximate identity, Theorem 2.1 implies that  $A$  is left and right  $\phi$ -amenable. Thus there exist bounded nets  $(m_\alpha)_{\alpha \in I}$  and  $(n_\beta)_{\beta \in J}$  in  $A$  such that

$$am_\alpha - \phi(a)m_\alpha \rightarrow 0, \quad n_\beta a - \phi(a)n_\beta \rightarrow 0, \quad \phi(m_\alpha) = \phi(n_\beta) = 1, \quad (a \in A).$$

Define  $a_\alpha^\beta = m_\alpha n_\beta$ , it is easy to see that

$$aa_\alpha^\beta - a_\alpha^\beta a \rightarrow 0, \quad \phi(a_\alpha^\beta) = 1, \quad (a \in A).$$

Since  $(a_\alpha^\beta)_{\alpha \in I, \beta \in J}$  is a bounded net,  $A$  is  $\phi$ -inner amenable.  $\square$

**Remark 2.1.** For the previous Corollary, the existence of an approximate identity is necessary which we can not remove it. To see this let  $A$  be the Banach algebra as in Example 2.1. We showed that  $A$  is  $\phi$ -biflat, for some  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Using the similar method which we used in Example 2.1, one can show that  $A$  has an approximate identity if and only if  $\dim A = 1$  and also  $A$  is  $\phi$ -inner amenable if and only if  $\dim A = 1$ . So if  $\dim A > 1$ , then  $A$  is  $\phi$ -biflat but  $A$  doesn't have an approximate identity and  $A$  is not  $\phi$ -inner amenable.

We recall that a Banach algebra is approximately left(right)  $\phi$ -amenable if there exists a not necessarily bounded net  $(m_\alpha)_\alpha$  in  $A$  such that

$$am_\alpha - \phi(a)m_\alpha \rightarrow 0, \quad (m_\alpha a - \phi(a)m_\alpha \rightarrow 0), \quad \phi(m_\alpha) \rightarrow 1,$$

and for each  $a \in A$ , respectively. For more details see [1].

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Suppose that  $A$  is a  $\phi$ -biflat Banach algebra which is approximately  $\phi$ -inner amenable. Then  $A$  is approximately left and right  $\phi$ -amenable.*

*Proof.* Since  $A$  is  $\phi$ -biflat, there exists a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism  $\rho : A \rightarrow (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  such that  $\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**} \circ \rho(a) = \phi(a)$  for each  $a \in A$ . Suppose that  $(a_\alpha)_{\alpha \in I}$  is a net in  $A$  which satisfies  $aa_\alpha - a_\alpha a \rightarrow 0$  and  $\phi(a_\alpha) \rightarrow 1$  for each  $a \in A$ . Set  $n_\alpha = \rho(e_\alpha)$ . Since  $\rho$  is a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism, we have

$$a \cdot n_\alpha - n_\alpha \cdot a = a \cdot \rho(e_\alpha) - \rho(e_\alpha) \cdot a = \rho(aa_\alpha - a_\alpha a) \rightarrow 0 \quad (a \in A)$$

and

$$\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**}(n_\alpha) = \tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**} \circ \rho(e_\alpha) = \phi(a_\alpha) \rightarrow 1.$$

Let  $F$  and  $\Gamma$  be finite subsets of  $A$  and  $(A \otimes_p A)^*$ , respectively and also let  $\epsilon > 0$  be an arbitrary element. Take an element  $\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)$  in  $I$  such that

$$\|a \cdot n_\alpha - n_\alpha \cdot a\| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3K} \quad \text{and} \quad |\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**}(n_\alpha) - 1| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad (a \in F, \alpha \geq \alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)),$$

where  $K = \max\{|f| | f \in \Gamma\}$ . Since  $A$  is  $w^*$ -dense in  $A^{**}$ , there exists a net  $(m_\beta^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)})_{\beta \in J}$  in  $A \otimes_p A$  such that  $m_\beta^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \xrightarrow{w^*} n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}$ . Therefore  $a \cdot m_\beta^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \xrightarrow{w^*} a \cdot n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}$ ,  $m_\beta^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a \xrightarrow{w^*} n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a$ .

$a \xrightarrow{w^*} n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a$  for each  $a \in F$ . Since  $\pi_A^{**}$  is a  $w^*$ -continuous map,  $\pi_A(m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) \xrightarrow{w^*} \pi_A^{**}(n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)})$ . Thus for each  $a \in F$  and  $f \in \Gamma$ , there exists  $\beta(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)$  in  $J$  such that for every  $\beta \geq \beta(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)$  we have

$$|a \cdot m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f) - a \cdot n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f)| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3}, \quad |m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a(f) - a \cdot n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f)| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3},$$

and also

$$|\phi \circ \pi_A(m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) - \tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**}(n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)})| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & |a \cdot m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f) - m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a(f)| = \\ & |a \cdot m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f) - a \cdot n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f) + a \cdot n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f) - n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a(f) \\ & + n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a(f) - m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a(f)| \\ & \leq |a \cdot m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f) - a \cdot n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}(f)| + ||a \cdot n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} - n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a|| |f| \\ & + |n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a(f) - m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a(f)| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} = \epsilon. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Also

$$|\phi \circ \pi_A(m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) - 1| = |\phi \circ \pi_A(m_{\beta}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) - \tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**}(n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) + \tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**}(n_{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) - 1| < \epsilon.$$

Set  $m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} = m_{\beta(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}^{\alpha(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}$ . Using the partial order

$$(\Gamma, F, \epsilon) \leq (\Gamma', F', \epsilon') \Leftrightarrow \Gamma \subseteq \Gamma', F \subseteq F', \epsilon \geq \epsilon'$$

one can show that  $\{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)\}$  is a directed set, where  $\Gamma$  and  $F$  are finite subsets of  $(A \otimes_p A)^*$  and  $A$ , respectively and also  $\epsilon > 0$ . So for the net  $(m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)})_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}$ , we have

$$a \cdot m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} - m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a \xrightarrow{w^*} 0, \quad (a \in A)$$

and

$$\phi \circ \pi_A(m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) \rightarrow 1.$$

Using Mazur's Lemma we can assume that

$$a \cdot m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} - m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a \xrightarrow{\|\cdot\|} 0, \quad (a \in A).$$

Suppose that  $L : A \otimes_p A \rightarrow A$  is a map given by  $L(a \otimes b) = \phi(b)a$  ( $a, b \in A$ ). Clearly  $L$  is a bounded linear map which satisfies

$$aL(x) = L(a \cdot x), \quad L(x \cdot a) = \phi(a)L(x), \quad \phi(L(x)) = \phi \circ \pi_A(x),$$

for every  $a \in A, x \in A \otimes_p A$ . It follows that

$$||aL(m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) - \phi(a)L(m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)})|| \leq ||L(a \cdot m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} - m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)} \cdot a)|| \rightarrow 0 \quad (a \in A)$$

and

$$\phi(L(m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)})) = \phi \circ \pi_A(m_{(\Gamma, F, \epsilon)}) \rightarrow 1.$$

It means that  $A$  is approximately left  $\phi$ -amenable. Similarly we can show that  $A$  is approximately right  $\phi$ -amenable.  $\square$

### 3. Application to Segal algebras

Throughout this section  $G$  is a locally compact group. A linear subspace  $S(G)$  of  $L^1(G)$  is said to be a Segal algebra on  $G$  if it satisfies the following conditions

- (i)  $S(G)$  is dense in  $L^1(G)$ ,
- (ii)  $S(G)$  with a norm  $\|\cdot\|_{S(G)}$  is a Banach space and  $\|f\|_{L^1(G)} \leq \|f\|_{S(G)}$  for every  $f \in S(G)$ ,
- (iii) for  $f \in S(G)$  and  $y \in G$ , we have  $L_y(f) \in S(G)$  the map  $y \mapsto L_y(f)$  from  $G$  into  $S(G)$  is continuous, where  $L_y(f)(x) = f(y^{-1}x)$ ,
- (iv)  $\|L_y(f)\|_{S(G)} = \|f\|_{S(G)}$  for every  $f \in S(G)$  and  $y \in G$ .

It is well-known that  $S(G)$  always has a left approximate identity. A Segal algebra  $S(G)$  is called symmetric, if for every  $f \in S(G)$  and  $y \in G$ ,  $R_y(f) \in S(G)$  and the map  $y \mapsto R_y(f)$  is continuous. Also  $\|R_y(f)\|_S = \|f\|_S$ , for  $f \in S(G)$  and  $y \in G$ . We remind that a symmetric Segal algebra is an ideal of  $L^1(G)$ , for more information see [18].

For a Segal algebra  $S(G)$  it has been shown that

$$\Delta(S(G)) = \{\phi|_{S(G)} \mid \phi \in \Delta(L^1(G))\},$$

see [2, Lemma 2.2]. They showed for a locally compact group  $G$ ,  $S(G)$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable if and only if  $G$  is amenable [2, Corollary 3.4]. We will show that for a symmetric Segal algebra  $S(G)$ ,  $\phi$ -biflatness is equivalent with amenability of  $G$ .

**Corollary 3.1.** *If  $S(G)$  is  $\phi$ -biflat. Then  $G$  is amenable*

*Proof.* Since every Segal algebra has a left approximate identity, by the Theorem 2.1,  $S(G)$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable. Then [2, Corollary 3.4] implies that  $G$  is amenable.  $\square$

We show that the converse of Corollary 3.1 is valid for symmetric Segal algebras.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be a locally compact group, and  $S(G)$  be a symmetric Segal algebra on  $G$ . Then for every  $\phi \in \Delta(S(G))$  the followings are equivalent*

- (i)  $G$  is amenable,
- (ii)  $S(G)$  is  $\phi$ -biflat,
- (iii)  $S(G)$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable.

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) Let  $G$  be an amenable group. Then  $L^1(G)$  is amenable. So there exists a bounded net  $(m_\alpha)$  in  $L^1(G) \otimes_p L^1(G)$  such that  $a \cdot m_\alpha - m_\alpha \cdot a \rightarrow 0$  and  $\pi_{L^1(G)}(m_\alpha)a \rightarrow a$  for every  $a \in L^1(G)$ . It is easy to see that  $\phi \circ \pi_{L^1(G)}(m_\alpha) \rightarrow 1$  for every  $\phi \in \Delta(L^1(G))$ . Fix  $\phi \in \Delta(L^1(G))$ . Define a map  $R : L^1(G) \otimes_p L^1(G) \rightarrow L^1(G)$  by  $R(a \otimes b) = \phi(b)a$  and set  $L : L^1(G) \otimes_p L^1(G) \rightarrow L^1(G)$  for a map which is specified by  $L(a \otimes b) = \phi(a)b$  for every  $a, b \in L^1(G)$ . It is easy to see that  $L$  and  $R$  are bounded linear maps which satisfy

$$L(m \cdot a) = L(m) * a, \quad L(a \cdot m) = \phi(a)L(m) \quad (a \in L^1(G), m \in L^1(G) \otimes_p L^1(G))$$

and

$$R(a \cdot m) = a * R(m) \quad R(m \cdot a) = \phi(a)R(m) \quad (a \in L^1(G), m \in L^1(G) \otimes_p L^1(G)).$$

Thus

$$L(m_\alpha) * a - \phi(a)L(m_\alpha) = L(m_\alpha \cdot a - a \cdot m_\alpha) \rightarrow 0,$$

similarly we have  $a * R(m_\alpha) - \phi(a)R(m_\alpha) \rightarrow 0$  for every  $a \in L^1(G)$ . Since

$$\phi \circ L = \phi \circ R = \phi \circ \pi_{L^1(G)},$$

it is easy to see that

$$\phi \circ L(m_\alpha) = \phi \circ R(m_\alpha) = \phi \circ \pi_{L^1(G)}(m_\alpha) \rightarrow 1.$$

Pick an element  $i_0$  in  $S(G)$  such that  $\phi(i_0) = 1$ . Set  $n_\alpha = R(m_\alpha)i_0 \otimes i_0 L(m_\alpha)$  for every  $\alpha$ . Since  $L(m_\alpha)$  and  $R(m_\alpha)$  are bounded nets in  $L^1(G)$  and since  $S(G)$  is an ideal of  $L^1(G)$ , we see that  $(n_\alpha)$  is a bounded net in  $S(G) \otimes_p S(G)$ . Also

$$\begin{aligned} \|a \cdot n_\alpha - n_\alpha \cdot a\|_{S \otimes_p S} &= \|a \cdot n_\alpha - \phi(a)n_\alpha + \phi(a)n_\alpha - n_\alpha \cdot a\|_{S \otimes_p S} \\ &= \|a \cdot n_\alpha - \phi(a)n_\alpha\|_{S \otimes_p S} + \|\phi(a)n_\alpha - n_\alpha \cdot a\|_{S \otimes_p S} \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

for each  $a \in S(G)$ . Also we have

$$\phi \circ \pi_{S(G)}(n_\alpha) = \phi(R(m_\alpha) * i_0^2 * L(m_\alpha)) = \phi(R(m_\alpha))\phi(L(m_\alpha)) \rightarrow 1. \quad (8)$$

Let  $N$  be a  $w^*$ -cluster point of  $(n_\alpha)$  in  $(S(G) \otimes_p S(G))^{**}$ . Combining (7) and (8) with the facts

$$a \cdot n_\alpha \xrightarrow{w^*} a \cdot N, \quad n_\alpha \cdot a \xrightarrow{w^*} N \cdot a, \quad \pi_{S(G)}^{**}(n_\alpha) \xrightarrow{w^*} \pi_{S(G)}^{**}(N) \quad (a \in (S(G)))$$

we have

$$a \cdot N = N \cdot a, \quad \tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_{S(G)}^{**}(N) = 1 \quad (a \in (S(G))).$$

Define a map  $\rho : S(G) \rightarrow (S(G) \otimes_p S(G))^{**}$  by  $\rho(a) = a \cdot N$  for every  $a \in S(G)$ . It is easy to see that  $\rho$  is a bounded  $S(G)$ -bimodule morphism and  $\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_{S(G)}^{**} \circ \rho(a) = \tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_{S(G)}^{**}(a \cdot N) = \phi(a)$ , so  $S(G)$  is  $\phi$ -biflat.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) is clear by Corollary 3.1.

(iii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (i) is clear by [2, Corollary 3.4]. □

**Corollary 3.2.** *If  $S(G)^{**}$  is  $\tilde{\phi}$ -biflat then  $G$  is amenable.*

*Proof.* Since  $S(G)$  has a left approximate identity, by Theorem 2.2  $\tilde{\phi}$ -biflatness of  $S(G)^{**}$  implies that  $S(G)$  is left  $\phi$ -amenable. Hence by [2, Corollary 3.4]  $G$  is an amenable group. □

**Remark 3.1.** The converse of previous Corollary is also true, whenever  $G$  is compact group. To see this, let  $\hat{G}$  be the dual group of  $G$  which consists of all non-zero continuous homomorphism  $\rho : G \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$ . Since  $G$  is compact,  $\hat{G} \subseteq L^\infty(G) \subseteq L^1(G)$ . It is well-known that every character  $\phi \in \Delta(L^1(G))$  has the form  $\phi_\rho(f) = \int_G \rho(x)f(x)dx$ , where  $dx$  is the normalized Haar measure and  $\rho \in \hat{G}$ , for more details see [9, Theorem 23.7]. Clearly we have

$$\rho * f = f * \rho = \phi_\rho(f)\rho, \quad \phi_\rho(f)(\rho) = 1 \quad (f \in L^1(G)).$$

Note that by [2, Lemma 2.2],  $\Delta(S(G))$  is same as  $\Delta(L^1(G))$ . Now pick  $f_0 \in S(G)$  which  $\phi_\rho(f_0) = 1$ . Since  $\rho * f_0 = f_0 * \rho = \phi_\rho(f_0)\rho = \rho$ , we have  $\rho \in S(G)$ . On the other hand since  $\rho \in S(G)$ , two maps  $F \mapsto F\rho$  and  $F \mapsto \rho F$  are  $w^*$ -continuous on  $S(G)^{**}$ , we have  $F\rho = \rho F = \tilde{\phi}_\rho(F)\rho$  for all  $F \in S(G)^{**}$ . Hence the map  $K : S(G)^{**} \rightarrow (S(G)^{**} \otimes S(G)^{**})^{**}$  defined by  $K(F) = F \cdot \rho \otimes \rho$  is a bounded  $S(G)^{**}$ -bimodule morphism which satisfies

$$\tilde{\phi}_\rho \circ \pi_{S(G)^{**}}^{**} \circ K(F) = \tilde{\phi}_\rho(F) \quad (F \in S(G)^{**}).$$

It follows that  $S(G)^{**}$  is  $\tilde{\phi}_\rho$ -biflat.

#### 4. Bounded character biflat Banach algebras

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra.  $A$  is called character biflat if for each  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$  there exists a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism  $\rho_\phi : A \rightarrow (A \otimes_p A)^{**}$  such that

$$\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**} \circ \rho_\phi(a) = \phi(a) \quad (a \in A).$$

$A$  is called bounded character biflat if  $A$  is character biflat and there exists  $C > 0$  such that  $\|\rho_\phi\| < C$ , for all  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ .

It is easy to see that every biflat Banach algebra is bounded character biflat but the converse is not always true. At the following example we give a bounded character biflat Banach algebra which is not biflat.

**Example 4.1.** Consider the semigroup  $\mathbb{N}_\wedge$ , with the semigroup operation  $m \wedge n = \min\{m, n\}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are in  $\mathbb{N}$ .  $\Delta(\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge))$  consists of the all functions  $\phi_n : \ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by  $\phi_n(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_i \delta_i) = \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \alpha_i$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $\delta_i$  is point mass at  $\{i\}$ . See [3] for more details about the semigroup algebra  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$ . Author with A. Pourabas in [20, Example 5.3] showed that  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$  with respect to the  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$ -bimodule map  $\rho_1 : \ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge) \rightarrow (\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge))^{**}$  given by  $\rho_1(a) = a \cdot \delta_1 \otimes \delta_1$  ( $a \in \ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$ ) is  $\phi_1$ -biflat. Also for each  $n > 1$ , set  $\rho_n : \ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge) \rightarrow (\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge) \otimes_p \ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge))^{**}$  given by

$$\rho_n(a) = a \cdot \delta_n - \delta_{n-1} \otimes \delta_n - \delta_{n-1} \quad (a \in \ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)).$$

It is easy to see that

$$\phi_n \circ \pi_{\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)} \circ \rho_n(a) = \phi(a) \quad (a \in \ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge))$$

and  $\|\rho_n\| \leq 4$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It follows that  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$  is bounded character biflat. But  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$  is not biflat Banach algebra. To see this suppose conversely that  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$  is biflat. Since  $(\delta_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a bounded approximate identity for  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$  see [3, Proposition 3.3.1], biflatness of  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$  implies that  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$  is amenable. Then [5, Theorem 2] follows that  $E_{\mathbb{N}_\wedge}$  the set of idempotents of  $\mathbb{N}_\wedge$  must be finite but as we know  $\{\delta_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is an infinite subset of  $E(\mathbb{N}_\wedge)$  which is impossible.

Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\Delta(A)$  be a non-empty set.  $A$  is called  $C$ -left  $\phi$ -amenable, if there exists  $C > 0$  such that for each  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$  and  $m_\phi \in A^{**}$  which satisfies

$$am_\phi = \phi(a)m_\phi, \quad \tilde{\phi}(m) = 1$$

we have  $\|m_\phi\| < C$ . A subset  $Y$  of a metric space  $(X, d)$  is called uniformly discrete if there exists a  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for each  $x, y$  in  $X$ ,  $d(x, y) > \epsilon$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a bounded left approximate identity. If  $A$  is bounded character biflat, then  $\Delta(A)$  is a uniformly discrete subset of  $A^*$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $A$  is bounded character biflat. Let  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$  and  $\rho_\phi$  be a bounded  $A$ -bimodule morphism such that

$$\tilde{\phi} \circ \pi_A^{**} \circ \rho_\phi(a) = \phi(a) \quad (a \in A),$$

which  $\|\rho_\phi\|$  is bounded by some  $C > 0$ . Suppose that  $(e_\alpha)_\alpha$  is a bounded left approximate identity for  $A$  with bound  $K > 0$ . It is easy to see that a net  $(\rho_\phi(e_\alpha))$  is a bounded net in  $A^{**}$  with bound  $CK$ . Using Alaoglu's Theorem, after passing to a subnet, we can assume that  $\rho_\phi(e_\alpha) \xrightarrow{w^*} E$  for some  $E$  in  $A^{**}$  which  $\|E\| < CK$ . Now similar to the arguments as in the proof of Theorem 2.1 set  $m_\phi = [\lambda^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes \bar{\phi})^{**} \circ (id_A \otimes q)^{**}(E)]$ . Using the similar method as in Theorem 1 and also Theorem 2 we can see that

$$am_\phi = \phi(a)m_\phi \rightarrow 0 \quad \tilde{\phi}(m_\phi) \rightarrow 1 \quad (a \in A).$$

Hence  $m_\phi$  is a left  $\phi$ -mean and also the net  $(m_\phi)_{\phi \in \Delta(A)}$  is a bounded net with bound  $MCK$ , where  $M > 0$ . So  $A$  is left  $MCK$ - $\phi$ -amenable for all  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Applying [4, Corollary 2.2] one can see that  $\Delta(A)$  is a uniformly discrete subset of  $A^*$ .  $\square$

## 5. Application to biflatness of upper triangular Matrix algebras

In this section we study the biflatness of some matrix algebras via the notion of  $\phi$ -biflatness and right  $\phi$ -amenability.

**Proposition 5.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Suppose that  $I$  is a two-sided closed ideal of  $A$  which  $\phi|_I \neq 0$ .  $A$  is approximately left(right)  $\phi$ -amenable if and only if  $I$  is approximately left(right)  $\phi|_I$ -amenable, respectively.*

*Proof.* For if part, suppose that  $A$  is approximately left  $\phi$ -amenable. Then there exists a net  $(m_\alpha)_\alpha$  in  $A$  such that  $am_\alpha - \phi(a)m_\alpha \rightarrow 0$  and  $\phi(m_\alpha) = 1$  for all  $a \in A$ . Pick  $i_0 \in I$  which  $\phi(i_0) = 1$ . Set  $n_\alpha = m_\alpha i_0$ , then  $(n_\alpha)$  is a net in  $I$  which

$$\|in_\alpha - \phi(i)n_\alpha\| = \|im_\alpha i_0 - \phi(i)m_\alpha i_0\| \leq \|im_\alpha - \phi(i)m_\alpha\| \|i_0\| \rightarrow 0 \quad (i \in I)$$

and

$$\phi(n_\alpha) = \phi(m_\alpha i_0) = \phi(m_\alpha) = 1.$$

Hence  $I$  is approximately left  $\phi|_I$ -amenable.

For converse, suppose that  $I$  is approximately left  $\phi|_I$ -amenable. Then there exists a net  $(m_\alpha)$  in  $I$  such that  $im_\alpha - \phi(i)m_\alpha \rightarrow 0$  and  $\phi(m_\alpha) = 1$  for all  $i \in I$ . Pick  $i_0 \in I$  which  $\phi(i_0) = 1$ . Consider

$$\begin{aligned} \|am_\alpha - \phi(a)m_\alpha\| &= \|am_\alpha - ai_0m_\alpha + ai_0m_\alpha - \phi(a)m_\alpha\| \\ &\leq \|am_\alpha - ai_0m_\alpha\| + \|ai_0m_\alpha - \phi(a)m_\alpha\| \\ &\leq \|m_\alpha - i_0m_\alpha\| \|a\| + \|ai_0m_\alpha - \phi(ai_0)m_\alpha\| \\ &\rightarrow 0 \quad (a \in A) \end{aligned}$$

and  $\phi(m_\alpha) = 1$ . Then  $A$  is approximately left  $\phi$ -amenable.

The proof of right case is same as the left one.  $\square$

Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $I$  be a totally ordered set. By  $UP_I(A)$  we denote the set of  $I \times I$  upper triangular matrices which its entries come from  $A$  and

$$\|(a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I}\| = \sum_{i,j \in I} \|a_{i,j}\| < \infty.$$

With matrix operations and  $\|\cdot\|$  as a norm,  $UP_I(A)$  becomes a Banach algebra. These algebras are similar (in properties) to the  $\ell^1$ -Munn algebras. Existence of bounded approximate identity for  $\ell^1$ -Munn algebras has been studied in [6] by Esslamzadeh. Using this approach Ramsden in [17] characterized biprojectivity and biflatness of some semigroup algebras which are related to a class of  $\ell^1$ -Munn algebras.

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a left (right) identity and  $I$  be a totally ordered set. Then  $UP_I(A)$  has a left (right) approximate identity, respectively.*

*Proof.* It is clear that  $UP_I(A)$  has left identity, whenever  $I$  is a finite set. Then suppose that  $I$  is an infinite set. Put  $F(I)$  for the set of all finite subsets of  $I$  and  $1_A$  for a left identity of  $A$ . Let  $b = (b_{i,j})_{i,j \in I}$  be an arbitrary element of  $UP_I(A)$ . Then there exists an element  $F \in F(I)$  such that  $\sum_{i,j \in I-F} \|b_{i,j}\| < \epsilon$ . Define  $e_F = (a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I}$  with  $a_{i,j} = 1_A$  whenever  $i = j \in F$ , otherwise  $a_{i,j} = 0$ .

$$\|e_F b - b\| = \left\| \sum_{i,j \in I-F} b_{i,j} \right\| \leq \sum_{i,j \in I-F} \|b_{i,j}\| < \epsilon.$$

It means  $UP_I(A)$  has a left approximate identity. Right case is similar to the left one.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra with a right identity and  $\Delta(A) \neq \emptyset$  and also let  $(I, \leq)$  be a totally ordered set which has a smallest element.  $UP_I(A)$  is biflat if and only if  $A$  is biflat and  $I$  is singleton.*

*Proof.* Only if part is clear.

Suppose  $UP_I(A)$  is biflat. Then  $UP_I(A)$  is  $\psi$ -biflat for every  $\psi \in \Delta(UP_I(A))$ . Let  $i_0 \in I$  be a smallest element of  $I$  with respect to  $\leq$  and  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Define  $\psi_{i_0}((a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I}) = \phi(a_{i_0, i_0})$ , for every  $(a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I} \in UP_I(A)$ . It is easy to see that  $\psi_{i_0}$  is a character on  $UP_I(A)$ . Then  $UP_I(A)$  is  $\psi_{i_0}$ -biflat. Using previous Lemma and Theorem 2.1, one can see that  $UP_I(A)$  is right  $\psi_{i_0}$ -amenable. Let

$$J = \{(a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I} \in UP_I(A) | a_{i,j} = 0 \text{ for } i \neq i_0\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $J$  is a closed ideal of  $UP_I(A)$  and  $\psi_{i_0}|_J \neq 0$ . Thus by the right version of [13, Lemma 3.1] we have  $J$  is right  $\psi_{i_0}$ -amenable. Using the right version of [13, Theorem 1.4] there exists a bounded net  $(j_\alpha)$  in  $J$  such that

$$j_\alpha j - \psi_\phi(j)j_\alpha \rightarrow 0, \quad \psi_\phi(j_\alpha) = 1 \quad (j \in J). \quad (9)$$

Suppose that  $I$  has at least two elements. We claim that  $|I| = 1$ . Suppose conversely that

$|I| > 1$ . Let  $a_0$  be an element in  $A$  such that  $\phi(a_0) = 1$ . Set  $j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_0 & \cdots & a_0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$ . We know that for every  $\alpha$  the element  $j_\alpha$  has a form  $\begin{pmatrix} j_{i_0}^\alpha & \cdots & j_i^\alpha & \cdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $j_i^\alpha \in A$

for every  $i \in I$ . Now put  $j$  and  $j_\alpha$  in (9) we have  $j_0^\alpha a_0 \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $\phi$  is continuous, we have  $\phi(j_0^\alpha) \rightarrow 0$ . On the other hand  $\psi_\phi(j_\alpha) = \phi(j_0^\alpha) = 1$  which is a contradiction. So  $I$  must be singleton and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Suppose that  $x_0$  is an element in  $A$  which satisfies  $ax_0 = x_0a$  and  $\phi(x_0) = 1$ , for every  $a \in A$ . Then  $UP_{\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}}(A)$  is approximately  $\psi$ -inner amenable, for some  $\psi \in \Delta(UP_{\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}}(A))$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $I = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Define  $\psi(\sum_{i,j \in I} a_{i,j}) = \phi(a_{0,0})$ , it is clear that  $\psi$  is a character on  $UP_I(A)$ . Put  $F(I)$  for the set of all finite subsets of  $I$ . Let  $a$  be an arbitrary element of  $UP_I(A)$  and  $F \in F(I)$  be such that  $\sum_{i,j \in I-F} \|a_{i,j}\| < \frac{\epsilon}{\|x_0\|}$ . Set

$$n_F = \max\{n | i_n \in F\}.$$

Define  $a_{n_F} = \sum_{i,j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_F\}} a_{i,j}$  with  $a_{i,j} = x_0$  whenever  $i = j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_F\}$ , otherwise  $a_{i,j} = 0$ . Consider

$$\|aa_{n_F} - a_{n_F}a\| \leq \|x_0\| \|\sum_{i,j \in I-F} a_{i,j}\| < \epsilon, \quad \psi(a_{n_F}) = \phi(x_0) = 1.$$

Then  $UP_I(A)$  is approximately  $\psi$ -inner amenable.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.2.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\phi \in \Delta(A)$ . Suppose that  $x_0$  is an element in  $A$  which satisfies  $ax_0 = x_0a$  and  $\phi(x_0) = 1$ , for every  $a \in A$ . Then  $UP_{\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}}(A)$  is not biflat.*

*Proof.* Let  $I = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Suppose conversely that  $UP_I(A)$  is biflat. Then  $UP_I(A)$  is  $\psi$ -biflat, where  $\psi$  is the character which we defined as in the proof of Lemma 5.2. Using the Lemma 5.2,  $UP_I(A)$  is approximately  $\psi$ -inner amenable. Thus by Proposition 2.1, we have  $UP_I(A)$  is right approximate  $\psi$ -amenable. Set

$$J = \{(a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I} \in UP_I(A) | a_{i,j} = 0 \text{ for } i \neq 0\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $J$  is a closed ideal of  $UP_I(A)$  and  $\psi|_J \neq 0$ . By Proposition 5.1, we have  $J$  is approximately right  $\psi$ -amenable. Following the same way as in the proof of Theorem 5.1, we have a contradiction.  $\square$

**Corollary 5.1.** *Let  $G$  be a SIN group. Then  $UP_{\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}}(S(G))$  is not biflat.*

*Proof.* It is well-known that, if  $G$  is an SIN group, then  $S(G)$  has a central approximate identity, say  $(e_\alpha)_{\alpha \in I}$ , see [14]. It follows that  $ae_\alpha = e_\alpha a$  and  $\phi(e_\alpha) \rightarrow 1$ . Replacing  $e_\alpha$  with  $\frac{e_\alpha}{\phi(e_\alpha)}$  we can assume that  $\phi(e_\alpha) = 1$ . Applying Theorem 5.2, one can see that  $UP_{\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}}(S(G))$  is not biflat.  $\square$

**Corollary 5.2.** *Let  $A$  be a commutative Banach algebra which  $\Delta(A)$  is non-empty. Then  $UP_{\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}}(A)$  is not biflat.*

**Remark 5.1.** Suppose that  $X$  is a compact space. Then  $C(X)$  is an amenable Banach algebra [19, Example 2.3.4]. Since amenability implies the biflatness,  $C(X)$  is biflat but using previous Corollary we can see that  $UP_{\mathbb{N}}(C(X))$  is not biflat.

Set  $M_I(A)$ , for the set of all  $I \times I$ -matrices, say  $(a_{i,j})_{i,j \in I}$ , which  $(a_{i,j})$  comes from  $A$  and  $\sum_{i,j} \|a_{i,j}\| < \infty$ . Note that  $UP_I(A)$  is a subalgebra of  $M_I(A)$ . In the case of  $I = \mathbb{N}$  and  $A = \mathbb{C}$ ,  $M_I(A)$  is biprojective so is biflat see [17, Proposition 2.7] but by previous Corollary  $UP_I(A)$  is not biflat.

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