

## MULTIPLICATION OPERATORS ON WEIGHTED SPACES OF VECTOR-VALUED CONTINUOUS FUNCTIONS

R. K. SINGH AND JASBIR SINGH MANHAS

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### Abstract

If  $V$  is a system of weights on a completely regular Hausdorff space  $X$  and  $E$  is a locally convex space, then  $CV_0(X, E)$  and  $CV_b(X, E)$  are locally convex spaces of vector-valued continuous functions with topologies generated by seminorms which are weighted analogues of the supremum norm. In this paper we characterise multiplication operators on these spaces induced by scalar-valued and vector-valued mappings. Many examples are presented to illustrate the theory.

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $X$  be a non-empty set, let  $E$  be a topological algebra and let  $T(X, E)$  be a topological vector space of functions from  $X$  to  $E$ . Let  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$  be two mappings. Then scalar multiplication and multiplication in  $E$  give rise to two linear transformations  $M_\theta$  and  $M_\psi$  from  $T(X, E)$  to the linear space  $L(X, E)$  of all functions from  $X$  to  $E$ , defined as  $M_\theta f = \theta \cdot f$  and  $M_\psi f = \psi f$ , where the product of functions is defined pointwise. In case  $M_\theta$  and  $M_\psi$  take  $T(X, E)$  into itself and they are continuous, they are called multiplication operators on  $T(X, E)$  induced by  $\theta$  and  $\psi$  respectively. These operators have been the subject matter of study for a long time on different function spaces, especially on  $L^p$ -spaces, and they have played a very important role in the study of operators on Hilbert spaces.

In this note we have endeavoured to study multiplication operators on those weighted spaces of scalar-valued and vector-valued continuous functions which come in contact with topological dynamics.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $X$  be a completely regular Hausdorff space and  $E$  a Hausdorff locally convex topological vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $cs(E)$  be the set of all continuous seminorms on  $E$ . By  $C(X, E)$  we mean the collection of all continuous functions from  $X$  into  $E$ .

A non-negative upper-semicontinuous function on  $X$  will be called a weight on  $X$ . If  $V$  is a set of weights on  $X$  such that, given any  $x \in X$ , there is some  $v \in V$  for which  $v(x) > 0$ , we write  $V > 0$ . A set  $V$  of weights on  $X$  is said to be directed upward provided that, for every pair  $v_1, v_2 \in V$  and  $\lambda > 0$ , there exists  $v \in V$  so that  $\lambda v_i \leq v$  (pointwise on  $X$ ) for  $i = 1, 2$ . We hereafter assume that sets of weights are directed upward. A set  $V$  of weights on  $X$  which additionally satisfies  $V > 0$  will be referred to as a system of weights on  $X$ .

Now, taking a system  $V$  of weights on  $X$  and a locally convex space  $E$ , we consider the following vector spaces of continuous functions associated with the triple  $(X, V, E)$ :

$$CV_0(X, E) = \{f \in C(X, E) : vf \text{ vanishes at infinity on } X \text{ for all } v \in V\};$$

$$CV_b(X, E) = \{f \in C(X, E) : vf(X) \text{ is bounded in } E \text{ for all } v \in V\}.$$

Obviously  $CV_0(X, E)$ ,  $CV_b(X, E)$  are vector spaces and  $CV_0(X, E) \subseteq CV_b(X, E)$ . Now, let  $v \in V$ ,  $q \in cs(E)$  and  $f \in C(X, E)$ . If we put

$$P_{v,q}(f) = \text{Sup}\{v(x)q(f(x)) : x \in X\}$$

then  $P_{v,q}$  can be regarded as a seminorm on either  $CV_b(X, E)$  or  $CV_0(X, E)$ , and the family  $\{P_{v,q} : v \in V, q \in cs(E)\}$  defines the locally convex topology on each of these two spaces.

In case  $E = \mathbb{C}$ , we will omit  $E$  from our notation and write  $CV_0(X)$  in place of  $CV_0(X, \mathbb{C})$ . We also write  $P_v$  in place of  $P_{v,q}$  for each  $v \in V$ , where  $q(z) = |z|$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ . Moreover, if  $E = (E, q)$  is any normed linear space and  $v \in V$ , we write  $P_v$  instead of  $P_{v,q}$ . We shall denote by  $B_{v,q}$  the closed unit ball corresponding to the seminorm  $P_{v,q}$ . In case  $E = (E, q)$ , we simply write  $B_v$ .

If  $U$  and  $V$  are two systems of weights on  $X$ , we write  $U \leq V$  whenever given  $u \in U$ , there exists  $v \in V$  such that  $u \leq v$ . In this case, we then clearly have that  $CV_0(X, E) \subseteq CU_0(X, E)$  and  $CV_b(X, E) \subseteq CU_b(X, E)$ ,

as well as that the inclusion map is continuous in both instances. If  $U \leq V$  and  $V \leq U$ , then  $U$  and  $V$  are equivalent systems of weights on  $X$  and we denote this by  $U \approx V$ .

The spaces  $CV_0(X)$  and  $CV_b(X)$  were first introduced by Nachbin [6] and  $CV_0(X, E)$ ,  $CV_b(X, E)$  were subsequently considered in detail by Bierstedt [2] and Prolla [7].

Now, we shall give some examples of these spaces. Let  $X$  be a completely regular Hausdorff space. We denote by  $\chi_S$ , the characteristic function of a subset  $S$  of  $X$ . We distinguish four systems of weights on  $X$ , namely

$$U = \{\lambda\chi_K : \lambda > 0, K \subset X, K \text{ compact}\},$$

$U' = C_c^+(X)$ , the set of all positive continuous functions with compact supports,

$$V = K^+(X), \text{ the set of all positive constant functions on } X \text{ and}$$

$V' = C_0^+(X)$ , the set of all positive continuous functions vanishing at infinity. Further, if  $E$  is a locally convex space, then we define

$$C_0(X, E) = \{f \in C(X, E) : f \text{ vanishes at infinity on } X\},$$

$$C_b(X, E) = \{f \in C(X, E) : f(X) \text{ is bounded in } E\}.$$

**EXAMPLE.** Let  $X$  be a completely regular Hausdorff space and let  $E$  be a locally convex space. Then

(i)  $CU_0(X, E) = CU_b(X, E) = (C(X, E), k)$  where  $k$  denotes the compact open topology,

(ii)  $CU'_0(X, E) = CU'_b(X, E) = (C(X, E), k)$ ,

(iii)  $CV_0(X, E) = (C_0(X, E), u)$  and  $CV_b(X, E) = (C_b(X, E), u)$ , where  $u$  denotes the topology of uniform convergence on  $X$  and

(iv)  $CV'_0(X, E) = CV'_b(X, E) = (C_b(X, E), \beta_0)$ , where  $\beta_0$  denotes the strict topology.

## 2. Functions inducing multiplication operators

In developing our characterization of those functions  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  (or  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$ ) which induce multiplication operators on weighted spaces of type  $CV_0(X)$  and  $CV_0(X, E)$  we work under the following modest requirements.

(2.a)  $X$  is a completely regular Hausdorff space.

(2.b)  $E$  is a locally convex space such that there exists a vector  $s \in E$  for which  $p(s) \neq 0$ , for every  $p \in cs(E)$ .

(2.c)  $V$  is a system of weights on  $X$

(2.d) Corresponding to each  $x \in X$ , there exists  $f_x \in CV_0(X)$  such that  $f_x(x) \neq 0$ .

In case  $X$  happens to be locally compact, (2.d) is automatically satisfied. For a continuous function  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  (or  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$ ), the set

$$V|\theta| = \{v|\theta|: v \in V\}$$

(or for every  $p \in cs(E)$ ,  $Vp \circ \psi = \{vp \circ \psi: v \in V\}$ ) is a directed set of weights on  $X$  since [9, Theorem 2.2] Summers has shown that the product of two non-negative upper semicontinuous functions is non-negative and upper semicontinuous. In case  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  (or  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$ ) is non-zero at each point of  $X$ ,  $V|\theta|$  (or  $Vp \circ \psi$ ) is a system of weights on  $X$ .

In the following theorem we characterize multiplication operators on  $CV_0(X)$  induced by scalar-valued functions

**2.1 THEOREM.** *Let  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a continuous function. Then  $M_\theta: CV_0(X) \rightarrow CV_0(X)$  is a multiplication operator if and only if  $V|\theta| \leq V$ .*

**PROOF.** First, suppose  $V|\theta| \leq V$ . Then for every  $v \in V$ , there exists  $u \in V$  such that  $v|\theta| \leq u$  (pointwise on  $X$ ). We show that  $M_\theta$  is a continuous linear operator on  $CV_0(X)$ . Clearly  $M_\theta$  is linear on  $CV_0(X)$ . In order to prove the continuity of  $M_\theta$  on  $CV_0(X)$ , it is enough to show that  $M_\theta$  is continuous at the origin. For this, suppose  $\{f_\alpha\}$  is a net in  $CV_0(X)$  such that

$$P_v(f_\alpha) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{for every } v \in V.$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} P_v(\theta f_\alpha) &= \text{Sup}\{v(x)|\theta(x)||f_\alpha(x)|: x \in X\} \\ &\leq \text{Sup}\{u(x)|f_\alpha(x)|: x \in X\} \\ &= P_u(f_\alpha) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the continuity of  $M_\theta$  at the origin and hence  $M_\theta$  is continuous on  $CV_0(X)$ .

Conversely, suppose  $M_\theta$  is a continuous linear operator on  $CV_0(X)$ . We shall show that  $V|\theta| \leq V$ . Let  $v \in V$ . Since  $M_\theta$  is continuous at the origin, there exists  $u \in V$  such that  $M_\theta(B_u) \subseteq B_v$ . We claim that  $v|\theta| \leq 2u$ . Take  $x_0 \in X$  and set  $u(x_0) = \varepsilon$ . In case  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $N = \{x \in X: u(x) < 2\varepsilon\}$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x_0$ . Thus, according to [6, Lemma 2], there exists  $f \in CV_0(X)$  such that  $0 \leq f \leq 1$ ,  $f(x_0) = 1$  and  $f(X - N) = 0$ . Let  $g = (2\varepsilon)^{-1}f$ . Then clearly  $g \in B_u$ . Since  $M_\theta(B_u) \subseteq B_v$ , we have  $\theta g \in B_v$  and this yields that

$$v(x)|\theta(x)||g(x)| \leq 1, \quad \text{for every } x \in X.$$

From this it follows that

$$v(x)|\theta(x)||f(x)| \leq 2\varepsilon, \quad \text{for every } x \in X.$$

This implies that

$$v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)| \leq 2u(x_0).$$

Now, suppose  $u(x_0) = 0$  and  $v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)| > 0$ . If we put  $\varepsilon = v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)|/2$  and set  $N = \{x \in X : u(x) < \varepsilon\}$ , then  $N$  would be an open neighbourhood of  $x_0$  and we could again find  $f \in CV_0(X)$  such that  $0 \leq f \leq 1$ ,  $f(x_0) = 1$  and  $f(X - N) = 0$ . Now let  $g = \varepsilon^{-1}f$ . Then clearly  $g \in B_u$  and therefore  $\theta g \in B_v$ . Hence

$$v(x)|\theta(x)||g(x)| \leq 1, \quad \text{for every } x \in X.$$

This implies that

$$v(x)|\theta(x)||f(x)| \leq \varepsilon, \quad \text{for every } x \in X.$$

From this it follows that

$$v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)| \leq \frac{v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)|}{2}$$

which is impossible. This proves our claim and hence the proof is complete.

Now, we shall characterise multiplication operators on  $CV_0(X, E)$  induced by scalar-valued functions.

**2.2 THEOREM.** *Let  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a continuous function. Then*

$$M_\theta: CV_0(X, E) \rightarrow CV_0(X, E)$$

*is a multiplication operator if and only if  $V|\theta| \leq V$ .*

**PROOF.** First of all, let us suppose  $V|\theta| \leq V$ . Then for every  $v \in V$ , there exists  $u \in V$  such that  $v|\theta| \leq u$  (pointwise on  $X$ ). We shall show that  $M_\theta$  is a continuous linear operator on  $CV_0(X, E)$ . Obviously  $M_\theta$  is linear on  $CV_0(X, E)$ . It suffices to show that  $M_\theta$  is a continuous linear operator at the origin. To prove this, let  $\{f_\alpha\}$  be a net in  $CV_0(X, E)$  such that for every  $v \in V, q \in cs(E), P_{v,q}(f_\alpha) \rightarrow 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} P_{v,q}(\theta f_\alpha) &= \text{Sup}\{v(x)|\theta(x)|q(f_\alpha(x)): x \in X\} \\ &\leq \text{Sup}\{u(x)q(f_\alpha(x)): x \in X\} \\ &= P_{u,q}(f_\alpha) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the continuity of  $M_\theta$  at the origin and hence  $M_\theta$  is a continuous linear operator on  $CV_0(X, E)$ .

Conversely, suppose  $M_\theta: CV_0(X, E) \rightarrow CV_0(X, E)$  is a continuous linear operator. Then we shall show that  $V|\theta| \leq V$ . Let  $v \in V$ . Since  $M_\theta$  is continuous at the origin, therefore for every  $v \in V, p \in cs(E)$ , there exists  $u \in V, q \in cs(E)$  such that  $M_\theta(B_{u,q}) \subseteq B_{v,p}$ . By our assumption

there exists a vector  $s \in E$  such that  $p(s) \neq 0$ , for every  $p \in cs(E)$ . Let  $\alpha = p(s)/q(s)$ . Then  $\alpha > 0$ . We claim that  $\alpha v|\theta| \leq 2u$  (pointwise on  $X$ ). Fix  $x_0 \in X$  and set  $u(x_0) = \varepsilon$ . In case  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $N = \{x \in X : u(x) < 2\varepsilon\}$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x_0$  and therefore by [6, Lemma 2] there exists  $f \in CV_0(X)$  such that  $0 \leq f \leq 1$ ,  $f(x_0) = 1$  and  $f(X - N) = 0$ . Define  $g(x) = f(x)s$ , for every  $x \in X$ . Then clearly  $g \in CV_0(X, E)$  and for every  $p \in cs(E)$ ,  $0 \leq (p \circ g) \leq p(s)$ ,  $(p \circ g)(x_0) = p(s)$  and  $(p \circ g)(X - N) = 0$ .

Let  $h = (2\varepsilon)^{-1}g/q(s)$ . Then clearly  $h \in B_{u,q}$  and this yields that  $\theta \cdot h \in B_{v,p}$ . Hence  $v(x)|\theta(x)|p(h(x)) \leq 1$ , for every  $x \in X$ . From this, it follows that

$$v(x)|\theta(x)|\frac{1}{q(s)}p(g(x)) \leq 2\varepsilon, \quad \text{for every } x \in X.$$

This implies that

$$v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)|\frac{p(s)}{q(s)} \leq 2u(x_0).$$

Thus

$$\alpha v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)| \leq 2u(x_0).$$

On the other hand, suppose  $u(x_0) = 0$  and  $\alpha v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)| > 0$ . Put  $\varepsilon = \alpha v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)|/2$ . Then  $N = \{x \in X : u(x) < \varepsilon\}$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x_0$  and therefore again by [6, Lemma 2] there exists an  $f \in CV_0(X)$  such that  $0 \leq f \leq 1$ ,  $f(x_0) = 1$  and  $f(X - N) = 0$ . Again, define  $g(x) = f(x)s$ , for every  $x \in X$ . Then  $g \in CV_0(X, E)$  and for every  $p \in cs(E)$ ,  $0 \leq (p \circ g) \leq p(s)$ ,  $(p \circ g)(x_0) = p(s)$  and  $(p \circ g)(X - N) = 0$ . Consider  $h = g/\varepsilon q(s)$ . Then  $h \in B_{u,q}$  and therefore  $\theta h \in B_{v,p}$ . Hence

$$v(x)|\theta(x)|p(h(x)) \leq 1, \quad \text{for every } x \in X.$$

This implies that

$$v(x)|\theta(x)|\frac{1}{q(s)}p(g(x)) \leq \varepsilon, \quad \text{for every } x \in X.$$

From this it follows that

$$v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)|\frac{p(s)}{q(s)} \leq \frac{p(s)}{q(s)}\frac{v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)|}{2}.$$

Thus  $\alpha v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)| \leq \alpha v(x_0)|\theta(x_0)|/2$ , which is impossible. Hence our claim is established and the proof is completed.

In order to prove the next theorem, we shall need the following definitions.

Let  $E$  be a locally convex algebra with jointly continuous multiplication. It clearly follows that for each  $p \in cs(E)$ , there exists a  $q \in cs(E)$  such that  $p(xy) \leq q(x)q(y)$ , for every  $x, y \in E$ . A seminorm  $p$  on  $E$  is said to be submultiplicative if  $p(xy) \leq p(x)p(y)$ , for every  $x, y \in E$ . In [5] Michael defines  $E$  to be a locally multiplicatively convex algebra, or in short

an lmc algebra, if there exists a base of neighbourhoods of zero consisting of idempotent absolutely convex sets, or equivalently if its topology is defined by a collection of submultiplicative seminorms. Clearly, multiplication in an lmc algebra is always jointly continuous. For more details and examples of lmc algebras we refer to [3] and [5]. Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a family of submultiplicative seminorms inducing the topology of  $E$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}$  is a subfamily of  $cs(E)$ . In [10, c.2.3] Zelazako has noted that for any lmc algebra  $E$  with unit  $e$ , the family  $\mathcal{P}$  can be chosen in such a way that  $p(e) = 1$ , for every  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ . So we can assume that  $\mathcal{P}$  is such a family in this case.

Now, we shall give a characterisation of multiplication operators on  $CV_0(X, E)$  induced by vector-valued functions.

**2.3 THEOREM.** *Let  $E$  be a (locally multiplicatively convex) lmc algebra with unit  $e$  and let  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$  be a continuous function. Then*

$$M_\psi: CV_0(X, E) \rightarrow CV_0(X, E)$$

*is a multiplication operator if and only if  $Vp \circ \psi \leq V$ , for every  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ .*

**PROOF.** Suppose  $Vp \circ \psi \leq V$ , for every  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ . Then for every  $v \in V$ , there exists  $u \in V$  such that  $vp \circ \psi \leq u$  (pointwise on  $X$ ). We shall show that the mapping  $M_\psi: CV_0(X, E) \rightarrow C(X, E)$ , defined by  $M_\psi f = \psi f$ , where product is pointwise, is a continuous linear operator on  $CV_0(X, E)$ . We shall establish the continuity of  $M_\psi$  at the origin. For this, let  $\{f_\alpha\}$  be a net in  $CV_0(X, E)$  such that for every  $v \in V$ ,  $q \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $P_{v,q}(f_\alpha) \rightarrow 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} P_{v,q}(\psi f_\alpha) &= \text{Sup}\{v(x)q(\psi(x)f_\alpha(x)): x \in X\} \\ &\leq \text{Sup}\{v(x)q(\psi(x))q(f_\alpha(x)): x \in X\} \\ &\leq \text{Sup}\{u(x)q(f_\alpha(x)): x \in X\} \\ &= P_{u,q}(f_\alpha) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

This proves that  $M_\psi$  is continuous at the origin and hence a continuous linear operator on  $CV_0(X, E)$ .

Conversely, suppose  $M_\psi: CV_0(X, E) \rightarrow CV_0(X, E)$  is a continuous linear operator. We shall show that  $Vp \circ \psi \leq V$ , for every  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ . Let  $v \in V$  and  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ . Since  $M_\psi$  is continuous at the origin, there exist  $u \in V$  and  $q \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $M_\psi(B_{u,q}) \subseteq B_{v,p}$ . We claim that  $vp \circ \psi \leq 2u$  (pointwise on  $X$ ). Fix  $x_0 \in X$  and set  $u(x_0) = \varepsilon$ . In case  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $N = \{x \in X: u(x) < 2\varepsilon\}$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x_0$  and therefore according to [6, Lemma 2] there exists  $f \in CV_0(X)$  such that  $0 \leq f \leq 1$ ,  $f(x_0) = 1$  and  $f(X - N) = 0$ .

Define  $g(x) = f(x)e$ , for every  $x \in X$ , where  $e$  is the unit in  $E$ . Then  $g \in CV_0(X, E)$  and for every  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $0 \leq (p \circ g) \leq 1$ ,  $(p \circ g)(x_0) = 1$  and

$(p \circ g)(X - N) = 0$ . If  $h = (2\varepsilon)^{-1}g$ , then  $h \in B_{u,q}$  and hence  $\psi h \in B_{v,p}$ . From this it follows that  $v(x)p(\psi(x)h(x)) \leq 1$ , for every  $x \in X$ . This implies that

$$v(x)p(\psi(x)f(x)e) \leq 2\varepsilon, \quad \text{for every } x \in X.$$

Thus  $v(x_0)p(\psi(x_0)) \leq 2u(x_0)$ . On the other hand, suppose  $u(x_0) = 0$  and  $v(x_0)p(\psi(x_0)) > 0$ . Set  $\varepsilon = v(x_0)p(\psi(x_0))/2$ . Then  $N = \{x \in X : u(x) < \varepsilon\}$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x_0$  and therefore again by [6, Lemma 2] there exists  $f \in CV_0(X)$  such that  $0 \leq f \leq 1$ ,  $f(x_0) = 1$  and  $f(X - N) = 0$ .

We define  $g(x) = f(x)e$ , for every  $x \in X$ , where  $e$  is the unit in  $E$ . Then  $g \in CV_0(X, E)$  and for every  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $0 \leq (p \circ g) \leq 1$ ,  $(p \circ g)(x_0) = 1$  and  $(p \circ g)(X - N) = 0$ . Choose  $h = \varepsilon^{-1}g$ . Then clearly  $h \in B_{u,q}$  and therefore  $\psi h \in B_{v,p}$ . This implies that  $v(x)p(\psi(x)h(x)) \leq 1$ , for every  $x \in X$ . From this, it follows that  $v(x)p(\psi(x)g(x)) \leq \varepsilon$ , for every  $x \in X$ . Further, we get

$$v(x_0)p(\psi(x_0)f(x_0)e) \leq \frac{v(x_0)p(\psi(x_0))}{2}.$$

Thus  $v(x_0)p(\psi(x_0)) \leq v(x_0)p(\psi(x_0))/2$  which is impossible and this establishes our claim. This completes the proof of the theorem.

**2.4 REMARK.** Note that if  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  (or  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$ ) is a bounded continuous complex-valued (or vector-valued) function on  $X$ , then clearly  $M_\theta$  (or  $M_\psi$ ) is a multiplication operator on  $CV_0(X)$  (or  $CV_0(X, E)$ ) for any system of weights  $V$ .

If  $V$  is the system of weights generated by the characteristic functions of compact sets, then it turns out that every continuous map induces a multiplication operator. This we shall establish in the following theorem.

**2.5 THEOREM.** *Let  $X$  be a completely regular Hausdorff space and let*

$$V = \{\lambda\chi_K : \lambda > 0 \text{ and } K \subset X, K \text{ compact}\}.$$

(i) *Every continuous  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  induces a multiplication operator on  $CV_0(X)$  (or  $CV_0(X, E)$ ).*

(ii) *Every continuous  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$ , a locally convex algebra with jointly continuous multiplication, induces a multiplication operator  $M_\psi$  on  $CV_0(X, E)$*

**PROOF.** (i) In order to prove that  $M_\theta$  is a continuous linear operator on  $CV_0(X)$  (or  $CV_0(X, E)$ ), it is enough to show that for every  $v \in V$ , there exists  $u \in V$  such that  $v|\theta| \leq u$  (pointwise on  $X$ ). Let  $v \in V$ . Then  $v = \lambda\chi_K$ , where  $K$  is a compact subset of  $X$ . Let  $m = \text{Sup}\{|\theta(x)| : x \in K\}$  and choose  $u = \lambda m\chi_K$ . Then  $u \in V$ . Since  $|\theta(x)| \leq m$ , for every  $x \in K$ , we have

$$\lambda\chi_K(x)|\theta(x)| \leq \lambda m\chi_K(x), \quad x \in K.$$



Hence  $v(x)|\theta(x)| \leq u(x)$ , for every  $x \in K$ . If  $x \in X - K$ , then the above inequality is obviously true. Thus we have shown that  $v(x)|\theta(x)| \leq u(x)$ , for every  $x \in X$ , and hence by Theorems 2.1 and 2.2, it follows that  $M_\theta$  is a multiplication operator on  $CV_0(X)$  (or  $CV_0(X, E)$ ).

(ii) In view of Theorem 2.3, it is sufficient to establish the inequality  $Vp \circ \psi \leq V$ , for every  $p \in cs(E)$ , that is, for every  $v \in V$ , there exists  $u \in V$  such that  $vp \circ \psi \leq u$  (pointwise on  $X$ ). Let  $v \in V$  and  $p \in cs(E)$ . Then  $v = \lambda\chi_K$ ,  $K$  a compact subset of  $X$ . Let  $m = \text{Sup}\{p(\psi(x)): x \in K\}$  and choose  $u = \lambda m\chi_K$ . Then  $u \in V$ . Since  $p(\psi(x)) \leq m$ ,  $x \in K$ , we have

$$\lambda\chi_K(x)p(\psi(x)) \leq \lambda m\chi_K(x), \quad x \in K.$$

This implies that  $v(x)p(\psi(x)) \leq u(x)$ , for every  $x \in K$ . If  $x \in X - K$ , then obviously  $v(x)p(\psi(x)) \leq u(x)$ . Thus  $v(x)p(\psi(x)) \leq u(x)$ , for every  $x \in X$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

**2.6 COROLLARY.** *Let  $X$  have the discrete topology and  $V = \{\lambda\chi_K: \lambda \geq 0, K \subset X, K \text{ a finite set}\}$ . Then every function  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  (or  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$ ) induces a multiplication operator  $M_\theta$  (or  $M_\psi$ ) on  $CV_0(X)$  (or  $CV_0(X, E)$ ).*

**2.7 REMARK.** (i) In Theorem 2.5, if we replace the system of weights  $V = \{\lambda\chi_K: \lambda > 0, K \subset X, K \text{ compact}\}$  by  $U = C_c^+(X)$ , the set of all positive continuous functions on  $X$  with compact supports, then the new result is also true.

(ii) If  $X$  is a locally compact space, then  $V = \{\lambda\chi_K: \lambda \geq 0, K \subset X, K \text{ compact subset of } X\}$  and  $U = C_c^+(X)$  are equivalent, and otherwise  $V \leq U$ .

(iii) In Theorems 2.1–2.3 and 2.5 if we replace  $CV_0(X)$  and  $CV_0(X, E)$  by  $CV_b(X)$  and  $CV_b(X, E)$ , then all the new results are also true.

(iv) From Theorem 2.5, we noted that if  $\theta: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  (or  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$ ) is an unbounded continuous function, even then  $\theta$  (or  $\psi$ ) gives rise to a multiplication operator  $M_\theta$  (or  $M_\psi$ ) on  $CV_0(X)$  (or  $CV_0(X, E)$ ). For instance, the polynomial functions on  $\mathbb{R}$  induce continuous linear operators on  $CV_0(\mathbb{R})$ , where  $V = \{\lambda\chi_K: \lambda > 0, K \subset \mathbb{R}, K \text{ compact}\}$

Now, we give certain examples of functions which do not induce multiplication operators.

**2.8 EXAMPLE.** Let  $v: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be defined as  $v(n) = n$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $V = \{\lambda v: \lambda \geq 0\}$ . Then  $V$  is a system of weights on  $\mathbb{N}$  with discrete topology. Let  $\theta: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be defined as  $\theta(n) = n$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $v|\theta|$  is a system of weights on  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $V|\theta| \not\leq V$ . Thus  $M_\theta$  is not a multiplication operator on  $CV_0(\mathbb{N})$ . In fact,  $M_\theta$  is not even an into map. To see this, let  $f(n) = 1/n^2$ . Then  $f \in CV_0(\mathbb{N})$  but  $\theta f \notin CV_0(\mathbb{N})$ .

2.9 EXAMPLE. Let  $\mathbb{N}$  be the set of natural numbers with discrete topology and  $V$  be the system of positive constant weights on  $\mathbb{N}$ . Then  $CV_0(\mathbb{N}) = C_0$ , the Banach space of all null sequences of complex numbers. Let  $\theta: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be the identity map. Then  $V|\theta| \not\subseteq V$  and  $M_\theta$  is not a multiplication operator on  $C_0$ . Moreover,  $M_\theta$  is not even an into map. If  $f(n) = 1/n$ , then  $f \in C_0$  but  $\theta f \notin C_0$ .

2.10 EXAMPLE. Let  $\mathbb{R}^+$  be the set of positive reals with usual topology and let  $v: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be defined as  $v(x) = 1/x$ , for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Let  $V = \{\lambda v: \lambda \geq 0\}$  and let  $\theta: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be defined as  $\theta(x) = x^2$ . Then  $\theta$  does not induce a multiplication operator  $M_\theta$  on  $CV_0(\mathbb{R}^+)$ .

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University of Jammu  
 Jammu 180001  
 India