

On Bohr compactifications and profinite completions of group extensions

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Abstract

Let $G = N \rtimes H$ be a locally compact group which is a semi-direct product of a closed normal subgroup N and a closed subgroup H . The Bohr compactification $\text{Bohr}(G)$ and the profinite completion $\text{Prof}(G)$ of G are, respectively, isomorphic to semi-direct products $Q_1 \rtimes \text{Bohr}(H)$ and $Q_2 \rtimes \text{Prof}(H)$ for appropriate quotients Q_1 of $\text{Bohr}(N)$ and Q_2 of $\text{Prof}(N)$. We give a precise description of Q_1 and Q_2 in terms of the action of H on appropriate subsets of the dual space of N . In the case where N is abelian, we have $\text{Bohr}(G) \cong A \rtimes \text{Bohr}(H)$ and $\text{Prof}(G) \cong B \rtimes \text{Prof}(H)$, where A (respectively B) is the dual group of the group of unitary characters of N with finite H -orbits (respectively with finite image). Necessary and sufficient conditions are deduced for G to be maximally almost periodic or residually finite. We apply the results to the case where $G = \Lambda \wr H$ is a wreath product of discrete groups; we show in particular that, in case H is infinite, $\text{Bohr}(\Lambda \wr H)$ is isomorphic to $\text{Bohr}(\Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr H)$ and $\text{Prof}(\Lambda \wr H)$ is isomorphic to $\text{Prof}(\Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr H)$, where $\Lambda^{\text{Ab}} = \Lambda / [\Lambda, \Lambda]$ is the abelianisation of Λ . As examples, we compute $\text{Bohr}(G)$ and $\text{Prof}(G)$ when G is a lamplighter group and when G is the Heisenberg group over a unital commutative ring.

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1. Introduction

There are two distinguished compact groups associated to a general topological group G . A **Bohr compactification** (respectively, a **profinite completion**) of G is a pair consisting of a compact (respectively, profinite) group K and a continuous homomorphism $\beta : G \rightarrow K$ with dense image satisfying the following universal property: for every compact group (respectively, profinite group) L and every continuous homomorphism $\alpha : G \rightarrow L$, there exists a continuous homomorphism $\alpha' : K \rightarrow L$ such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & K \\
 & \nearrow \beta & \downarrow \alpha' \\
 G & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & L
 \end{array}$$

commutes. Bohr compactifications and profinite completions (K, β) of G are unique in the following sense: if (K', β') is a pair consisting of a compact (respectively, profinite) group

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K' and a continuous homomorphism $\beta' : G \rightarrow K'$ with dense image satisfying the same universal property, then there exists an isomorphism $f : K \rightarrow K'$ of topological groups such that $\beta' = f \circ \beta$. Concerning existence, we give below (Proposition 4) models of Bohr compactifications and profinite completions. For more on Bohr compactifications, see [Dix77, section 16], [BdlH, 4-C] or [Wei40, chapter VII]; for more details on profinite completions, see [RZ00].

We will often denote by $(\text{Bohr}(G), \beta_G)$ and $(\text{Prof}(G), \alpha_G)$ a Bohr compactification and a profinite completion of G . In the sequel, for two topological groups H and L , we write $H \cong L$ if H and L are topologically isomorphic.

The universal property of $\text{Bohr}(G)$ gives rise to a continuous surjective homomorphism $\alpha : \text{Bohr}(G) \rightarrow \text{Prof}(G)$ such that $\alpha_G = \alpha \circ \beta_G$. It is easy to see (see [Bek23, proposition 7]) that the kernel of α is $\text{Bohr}(G)_0$, the connected component of $\text{Bohr}(G)$, and so

$$\text{Prof}(G) \cong \text{Bohr}(G)/\text{Bohr}(G)_0.$$

Every continuous homomorphism $G_1 \xrightarrow{f} G_2$ of topological groups induces continuous homomorphisms

$$\text{Bohr}(G_1) \xrightarrow{\text{Bohr}(f)} \text{Bohr}(G_2) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Prof}(G_1) \xrightarrow{\text{Prof}(f)} \text{Prof}(G_2)$$

such that $\beta_{G_2} \circ f = \text{Bohr}(f) \circ \beta_{G_1}$ and $\alpha_{G_2} \circ f = \text{Prof}(f) \circ \alpha_{G_1}$.

Consider the category **TGrp** of topological groups, with objects the topological groups and morphisms the continuous homomorphisms between topological groups. The Bohr compactification and the profinite completion are covariant functors

$$\text{Bohr} : \mathbf{TGrp} \rightarrow \mathbf{CGrp} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Prof} : \mathbf{TGrp} \rightarrow \mathbf{PGrp}$$

from **TGrp** to the subcategory **CGrp** of compact groups and the subcategory **PGrp** of profinite groups.

Assume that we are given an extension

$$1 \longrightarrow N \xrightarrow{i} G \xrightarrow{p} G/N \longrightarrow 1 \tag{*}$$

of topological groups. The functors Bohr and Prof are right exact and so the diagrams

$$\text{Bohr}(N) \xrightarrow{\text{Bohr}(i)} \text{Bohr}(G) \xrightarrow{\text{Bohr}(p)} \text{Bohr}(G/N) \longrightarrow 1$$

and

$$\text{Prof}(N) \xrightarrow{\text{Prof}(i)} \text{Prof}(G) \xrightarrow{\text{Prof}(p)} \text{Prof}(G/N) \longrightarrow 1$$

are exact; this means that

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Bohr}(p) \text{ and } \text{Prof}(p) \text{ are surjective and} \\ &\text{Ker}(\text{Bohr}(p)) = \overline{\beta_G(N)} \text{ and } \text{Ker}(\text{Prof}(p)) = \overline{\alpha_G(N)}, \end{aligned}$$

where \overline{A} denotes the closure of a subset A ; these facts are well known and easy to prove (see, e.g., [HK01, lemma 2.2] and [RZ00, proposition 3.2.5]; see also Proposition 7 below). However, the functors Bohr and Prof are not left exact, that is, $\text{Bohr}(i) : \text{Bohr}(N) \rightarrow \text{Bohr}(G)$ and $\text{Prof}(i) : \text{Prof}(N) \rightarrow \text{Prof}(G)$ are in general not injective (see e.g. the examples given by Corollaries F and G below).

For now on, we will deal only with *locally compact* groups, and with *split* extensions. So, we will consider locally compact groups $G = N \rtimes H$ which are a semi-direct product of a normal closed subgroup N and a closed subgroup H . It is easy to see that $\text{Bohr}(G)$, respectively $\text{Prof}(G)$, is a semi-direct product of $\overline{\beta_G(N)}$ with $\overline{\beta_G(H)}$, respectively of $\overline{\alpha_G(N)}$ with $\overline{\alpha_G(H)}$ (see [Jun78, GZ11]). Our results give a precise description of the structure of these semi-direct products.

Denote by \widehat{N}_{fd} the set of equivalence classes (modulo unitary equivalence) of irreducible finite dimensional unitary representations of N . Every such representation $\sigma : N \rightarrow U(n)$ gives rise to the unitary representation $\text{Bohr}(\sigma) : \text{Bohr}(N) \rightarrow U(n)$ of $\text{Bohr}(N)$; here (and elsewhere) we identify $\text{Bohr}(U(n))$ with $U(n)$.

Observe that H acts on \widehat{N}_{fd} : for $\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}$ and $h \in H$, the conjugate representation $\sigma^h \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}$ is defined by $\sigma^h(n) = \sigma(h^{-1}nh)$ for all $n \in N$.

Define $\widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}$ as the set of $\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}$ with *finite* H -orbit.

Observe that, due to the universal property of $\text{Bohr}(N)$, the group H acts by automorphisms on $\text{Bohr}(N)$. However, this action does not extend in general to an action of $\text{Bohr}(H)$ on $\text{Bohr}(N)$.

Our first result shows that $\text{Bohr}(G)$ is a split extension of $\text{Bohr}(H)$ by an appropriate quotient of $\text{Bohr}(N)$.

THEOREM A. *Let $G = N \rtimes H$ be a semi-direct product of locally compact groups. Let $\varphi_N : \text{Bohr}(N) \rightarrow \overline{\beta_G(N)}$ and $\varphi_H : \text{Bohr}(H) \rightarrow \overline{\beta_G(H)}$ be the maps such that $\varphi_N \circ \beta_N = \beta_G|_N$ and $\varphi_H \circ \beta_H = \beta_G|_H$. Set*

$$C := \bigcap_{\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}} \text{Ker}(\text{Bohr}(\sigma)).$$

- (i) *We have $\text{Ker}\varphi_N = C$ and so φ_N induces a topological isomorphism $\overline{\varphi_N} : \text{Bohr}(N)/C \rightarrow \overline{\beta_G(N)}$.*
- (ii) *$\varphi_H : \text{Bohr}(H) \rightarrow \overline{\beta_G(H)}$ is a topological isomorphism.*
- (iii) *The action of H by automorphisms on $\text{Bohr}(N)$ induces an action of $\text{Bohr}(H)$ by automorphisms on $\text{Bohr}(N)/C$ and the maps $\overline{\varphi_N}$ and φ_H give rise to an isomorphism*

$$\text{Bohr}(G) \cong (\text{Bohr}(N)/C) \rtimes \text{Bohr}(H).$$

We turn to the description of $\text{Prof}(G)$. Let $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$ be the set of equivalence classes of irreducible unitary representations σ of N with finite image $\sigma(N)$. Observe that the action of H on \widehat{N}_{fd} preserves $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$. Let $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$ be the subset of $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$ of representations with finite H -orbit. Every $\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$ gives rise to the unitary representation $\text{Prof}(\sigma)$ of $\text{Prof}(N)$.

A result completely similar to Theorem A holds for $\text{Prof}(G)$.

THEOREM B. *Let $G = N \rtimes H$ be a semi-direct product of locally compact groups. Let $\psi_N : \text{Prof}(N) \rightarrow \overline{\alpha_G(N)}$ and $\psi_H : \text{Prof}(H) \rightarrow \overline{\alpha_G(H)}$ be the maps such that $\psi_N \circ \alpha_N = \alpha_G|_N$ and $\psi_H \circ \alpha_H = \alpha_G|_H$. Set*

$$D := \bigcap_{\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}} \text{Ker}(\text{Prof}(\sigma)).$$

- (i) *We have $\text{Ker}\psi_N = D$ and so ψ_N induces a topological isomorphism $\overline{\psi_N} : \text{Prof}(N)/D \rightarrow \overline{\alpha_G(N)}$.*
- (ii) *$\psi_H : \text{Prof}(H) \rightarrow \overline{\alpha_G(H)}$ is a topological isomorphism.*
- (iii) *The action of H by automorphisms on $\text{Prof}(N)$ induces an action of $\text{Prof}(H)$ by automorphisms on $\text{Prof}(N)/D$ and the maps $\overline{\psi_N}$ and ψ_H give rise to an isomorphism*

$$\text{Prof}(G) \cong (\text{Prof}(N)/D) \rtimes \text{Prof}(H).$$

When N is a finitely generated (discrete) group, we obtain the following well known result (see [GZ11, proposition 2.6]).

COROLLARY C. *Assume that N is finitely generated. Then $\text{Prof}(G) \cong \text{Prof}(N) \rtimes \text{Prof}(H)$.*

In the case where N is abelian, we can give a more explicit description of the quotients $\text{Bohr}(N)/C$ and $\text{Prof}(N)/D$ appearing in Theorems A and B. Recall that, in this case, the dual group \widehat{N} is the group of continuous homomorphisms from N to the circle group \mathbf{S}^1 . We will also consider the subgroup \widehat{N}_{fin} of $\chi \in \widehat{N}$ with finite image $\chi(N)$, that is, with values in the subgroup of m -th roots of unity in \mathbf{C} for some integer $m \geq 1$. Observe also that $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ and $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$ are subgroups of \widehat{N} .

COROLLARY D. *Assume that N is an abelian locally compact group. Let $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ and $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$ be equipped with the discrete topology. Let A and B be their respective dual groups. Then*

$$\text{Bohr}(G) \cong A \rtimes \text{Bohr}(H) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Prof}(G) \cong B \rtimes \text{Prof}(H).$$

Recall that G is **maximally almost periodic**, or **MAP**, if \widehat{G}_{fd} separates its points (equivalently, if $\beta_G : G \rightarrow \text{Bohr}(G)$ is injective); recall also that G is **residually finite**, or **RF**, if $\widehat{G}_{\text{finite}}$ separates its points (equivalently, if $\alpha_G : G \rightarrow \text{Prof}(G)$ is injective).

COROLLARY E. *Let $G = N \rtimes H$ be a semi-direct product of locally compact groups.*

- (i) *G is MAP if and only if H is MAP and $\widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N .*
- (ii) *G is RF if and only if H is RF and $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N .*

We give an application of our results to wreath products. Let H, Λ be groups, X a non empty set, and $H \curvearrowright X$ an action of H on X . Then H acts on the direct sum $\bigoplus_{x \in X} \Lambda$, by shifting the indices. The **(permutational) wreath product**, denoted $\Lambda \wr_X H$, is the semidirect product

$$\Lambda \wr_X H := (\bigoplus_{x \in X} \Lambda) \rtimes H.$$

When the action of H on X is simply transitive, we obtain the standard wreath product denoted $\Lambda \wr H$. Observe that $\Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr_X H$ is a quotient of $\Lambda \wr_X H$, where Λ^{Ab} is the abelianization $\Lambda/[\Lambda, \Lambda]$ of Λ .

Initially, we formulated the next two corollaries only for standard wreath products; the extension of these results to more general wreath products was suggested to us by the referee.

COROLLARY F. Let H, Λ be groups, and let $H \curvearrowright X$ be a transitive action of H on a set X . Let $\Lambda \wr_X H$ be equipped with the discrete topology.

(i) When X is finite, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bohr}(\Lambda \wr_X H) &\cong (\bigoplus_{x \in X} \text{Bohr}(\Lambda)) \rtimes \text{Bohr}(H) \text{ and} \\ \text{Prof}(\Lambda \wr_X H) &\cong (\bigoplus_{x \in X} \text{Prof}(\Lambda)) \rtimes \text{Prof}(H). \end{aligned}$$

(ii) When X is infinite, the quotient map $\Lambda \wr_X H \rightarrow \Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr_X H$ induces isomorphisms

$$\text{Bohr}(\Lambda \wr_X H) \cong \text{Bohr}(\Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr_X H) \text{ and } \text{Prof}(\Lambda \wr_X H) \cong \text{Prof}(\Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr_X H)$$

In particular, if Λ is perfect (that is, $\Lambda = [\Lambda, \Lambda]$), the quotient map $\Lambda \wr_X H \rightarrow H$ induces isomorphisms

$$\text{Bohr}(\Lambda \wr_X H) \cong \text{Bohr}(H) \text{ and } \text{Prof}(\Lambda \wr_X H) \cong \text{Prof}(H).$$

The following definition was suggested to us by the referee.

Definition 1. An action $H \curvearrowright X$ of a group H on a set X is **residually finite** or **RF**, if, for any pair x_1, x_2 of distinct elements of X , there exists a finite index subgroup L of H such that $Lx_1 \neq Lx_2$.

Observe that $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF if and only if $H \curvearrowright Y$ is RF for every H -orbit $Y \subset X$. Observe also that, when $H \curvearrowright X$ is simply transitive, the action $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF if and only if the group H is RF.

Item (ii) of the following result was proved, with different methods, in [Gru57, theorem 3.2] for standard wreath products and in [Cor14, proposition 1.7] for permutational wreath products.

COROLLARY G. Let Λ, H be groups, and let $H \curvearrowright X$ be an action of H on a set X . Let $\Lambda \wr_X H$ be equipped with the discrete topology.

Assume that Λ has at least two elements.

(i) The group $\Lambda \wr_X H$ is MAP if and only if Λ and H are MAP, and either

- Λ is abelian and $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF, or
- X is finite.

(ii) ([Gru57], [Cor14]) The group $\Lambda \wr_X H$ is RF if and only if Λ and H are RF, and either

- Λ is abelian and $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF, or
- X is finite.

Remark 2.

(i) The Bohr compactification of an abelian locally compact group A is easy to describe: $\text{Bohr}(A)$ can be identified with $\widehat{\Gamma}$, where $\Gamma = \widehat{A}$ is viewed as discrete group; in case A is finitely generated, a more precise description of $\text{Bohr}(A)$ is available (see [Bek23, proposition 11]).

- (ii) Provided $\text{Bohr}(H)$ and $\text{Prof}(H)$ are known, Corollary F together with Corollary D give, in view of (i), a complete description of the Bohr compactification and the profinite completion of any wreath product $\Lambda \wr_X H$ in case X is infinite.
- (iii) Bohr compactifications of group and semigroup extensions have been studied by several authors, in a more abstract and less explicit setting ([DL83, JL81, Jun78, JM02, Lan72, Mil83]); profinite completions of group extensions appear at numerous places in the literature ([GZ11, RZ00]).

This paper is organised as follows. Section 2 contains some general facts about Bohr compactifications and profinite completions as well as some reminders on projective representations. In Section 3, we give the proof of Theorems A and B. Section 4 contains the proof of the corollaries. Section 5 is devoted to the explicit computation of the Bohr compactification and profinite completions for two groups: the lamplighter group $(\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}) \wr \mathbf{Z}$ and the Heisenberg group $H(R)$ over an arbitrary commutative ring R .

2. Preliminaries

2.1. Models for Bohr compactifications and profinite completions

Let G be a topological group. We give well known models for $\text{Bohr}(G)$ and $\text{Prof}(G)$. For this, we use finite dimensional unitary representations of G , that is, continuous homomorphisms $\pi : G \rightarrow U(n)$ for some integer $n \geq 1$. We denote by \widehat{G}_{fd} the set of equivalence classes of irreducible finite dimensional unitary representations of G . Let $\widehat{G}_{\text{finite}}$ be the subset of \widehat{G}_{fd} consisting of representations π with finite image $\pi(G)$.

For a compact (respectively, profinite) group K , the set \widehat{K}_{fd} (respectively, $\widehat{K}_{\text{finite}}$) coincides with the dual space \widehat{K} , that is, the set of equivalence classes of unitary representations of K .

A useful tool for the identification of $\text{Bohr}(G)$ or $\text{Prof}(G)$ is given by the following proposition; for the easy proof, see [Bek23, propositions 5 and 6].

PROPOSITION 3

- (i) Let K be a compact group and $\beta : G \rightarrow K$ a continuous homomorphism with dense image; then (K, β) is a Bohr compactification of G if and only if the map $\widehat{\beta} : \widehat{K} \rightarrow \widehat{G}_{\text{fd}}$, given by $\widehat{\beta}(\pi) = \pi \circ \beta$, is surjective.
- (ii) Let L be a profinite group and $\alpha : G \rightarrow L$ a continuous homomorphism with dense image; then (L, α) is a profinite completion of G if and only if the map $\widehat{\beta} : \widehat{L} \rightarrow \widehat{G}_{\text{finite}}$, given by $\widehat{\beta}(\pi) = \pi \circ \alpha$, is surjective.

The following proposition is an immediate consequence of Proposition 3.

PROPOSITION 4. Choose families

$$(\pi_i : G \rightarrow U(n_i))_{i \in I} \quad \text{and} \quad (\sigma_j : G \rightarrow U(n_j))_{j \in J}$$

of representatives for the sets \widehat{G}_{fd} and $\widehat{G}_{\text{finite}}$, respectively.

- (i) Let $\beta : G \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} U(n_i)$ be given by $\beta(g) = \bigoplus_{i \in I} \pi_i(g)$ and let K be the closure of $\beta(G)$. Then (K, β) is a Bohr compactification of G .
- (ii) Let $\alpha : G \rightarrow \prod_{j \in J} U(n_j)$ be given by $\alpha(g) = \bigoplus_{j \in J} \sigma_j(g)$ and let L be the closure of $\alpha(G)$. Then (L, α) is a profinite completion of G .

We observe that a more common model for the profinite completion of G is the projective limit $\varprojlim G/H$, where H runs over the family of the normal subgroups of finite index of G , together with the natural homomorphism $G \rightarrow \varprojlim G/H$ (see e.g. [RZ00, 2.1.6])

2.2. Extension of representations

We will also use the notion of a projective representation. Let G be a locally compact group. A map $\pi : G \rightarrow U(n)$ is a **projective representation** of G if the following holds:

- $\pi(e) = I$,
- for all $g_1, g_2 \in G$, there exists $c(g_1, g_2) \in \mathbf{S}^1$ such that

$$\pi(g_1 g_2) = c(g_1, g_2) \pi(g_1) \pi(g_2),$$

π is Borel measurable.

The map $c : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^1$ is a 2-cocycle with values in the unit circle \mathbf{S}^1 . The conjugate representation $\bar{\pi} : G \rightarrow U(n)$ is another projective representation defined by $\bar{\pi}(g) = J\pi(g)J$, where $J : \mathbf{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^n$ is the anti-linear map given by conjugation of the coordinates,

The proof of the following lemma is straightforward.

LEMMA 5. Let $\pi : G \rightarrow U(n)$ be a projective representation of G , with associated cocycle $c : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^1$. Let $\pi' : G \rightarrow U(m)$ be another projective representation of G with associated cocycle 2-cocycle $c' : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^1$.

- (i) $\bar{\pi} : G \rightarrow U(n)$ is a projective representation of G with \bar{c} as associated cocycle.
- (ii) The tensor product

$$\pi \otimes \pi' : G \rightarrow U(nm), \quad g \mapsto \pi(g) \otimes \pi'(g)$$

is a projective representation of G with cc' as associated cocycle.

Let N be a closed normal subgroup of G . Recall that the stabiliser G_π in G of an irreducible unitary representation π of N is the set of $g \in G$ such that π^g is equivalent to π . Observe that G_π contains N .

The following proposition is a well known fact from the Clifford–Mackey theory of unitary representations of group extensions (see [CR62, chapter 1, section 11] and [Mac58]).

PROPOSITION 6. Let $G = N \rtimes H$ be the semi-direct product of the locally compact groups H and N . Let $\pi : N \rightarrow U(m)$ be an irreducible unitary representation of N and assume that $G = G_\pi$. There exists a projective representation $\tilde{\pi} : G \rightarrow U(m)$ with the following properties:

- (i) $\tilde{\pi}$ extends π , that is, $\tilde{\pi}(n) = \pi(n)$ for every $n \in N$;
- (ii) the 2-cocycle $\tilde{c} : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^1$ associated to $\tilde{\pi}$ has the form $\tilde{c} = c \circ (p \times p)$, for a map $c : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^1$, where $p : G \rightarrow H$ is the canonical homomorphism.

Proof. Let $S \subset U(m)$ be a Borel transversal for the quotient space $PU(m) = U(m)/\mathbf{S}^1$ with $I_m \in S$. Let $h \in H$. Since $G = G_\pi$ and since π is irreducible, there exists a unique matrix

$\tilde{\pi}(h) \in S$ such that

$$\pi(hnh^{-1}) = \tilde{\pi}(h)\pi(n)\tilde{\pi}(h)^{-1} \quad \text{for all } n \in N.$$

Define $\tilde{\pi} : G \rightarrow U(n)$ by

$$\tilde{\pi}(nh) = \pi(n)\tilde{\pi}(h) \quad \text{for all } n \in N, h \in H.$$

It is clear that $\tilde{\pi}|_N = \pi$ and that

$$\pi(gng^{-1}) = \tilde{\pi}(g)\pi(n)\tilde{\pi}(g)^{-1} \quad \text{for all } g \in G, n \in N.$$

It can be shown (see [Mac58, proof of theorem 8.2]) that $\tilde{\pi}$ is a measurable map.

Let $g_1, g_2 \in G$. For every $n \in N$, we have, on the one hand,

$$\pi(g_1g_2ng_2^{-1}g_1) = \tilde{\pi}(g_1g_2)\pi(n)\tilde{\pi}(g_1g_2)^{-1}$$

and on the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(g_1g_2ng_2^{-1}g_1) &= \tilde{\pi}(g_1)\pi(g_2ng_2^{-1})\tilde{\pi}(g_1)^{-1} \\ &= \tilde{\pi}(g_1)\tilde{\pi}(g_2)\pi(n)\tilde{\pi}(g_1)^{-1}\tilde{\pi}(g_2)^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since π is irreducible, it follows that

$$\tilde{\pi}(g_1g_2) = \tilde{c}(g_1, g_2)\tilde{\pi}(g_1)\tilde{\pi}(g_2)$$

for some scalar $\tilde{c}(g_1, g_2) \in \mathbf{S}^1$.

Moreover, for $g_1 = n_1h_1, g_2 = n_2h_2$, we have, on the one hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\pi}(g_1g_2) &= \tilde{c}(g_1, g_2)\tilde{\pi}(g_1)\tilde{\pi}(g_2) \\ &= \tilde{c}(n_1h_1, n_2h_2)\pi(n_1)\tilde{\pi}(h_1)\pi(n_2)\tilde{\pi}(h_2) \end{aligned}$$

and, on the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\pi}(g_1g_2) &= \tilde{\pi}(n_1(h_1n_2h_1^{-1})h_1h_2) \\ &= \pi(n_1(h_1n_2h_1^{-1}))\tilde{\pi}(h_1h_2) \\ &= \pi(n_1)\pi(h_1n_2h_1^{-1})\tilde{\pi}(h_1h_2) \\ &= \pi(n_1)\tilde{\pi}(h_1)\pi(n_2)\tilde{\pi}(h_1)^{-1}\tilde{\pi}(h_1h_2) \\ &= \tilde{c}(h_1, h_2)\pi(n_1)\tilde{\pi}(h_1)\pi(n_2)\tilde{\pi}(h_1)^{-1}\tilde{\pi}(h_1)\tilde{\pi}(h_2) \\ &= \tilde{c}(h_1, h_2)\pi(n_1)\tilde{\pi}(h_1)\pi(n_2)\tilde{\pi}(h_2); \end{aligned}$$

this shows that $\tilde{c}(n_1h_1, n_2h_2) = \tilde{c}(h_1, h_2)$.

2.3. Bohr compactification and profinite completion of quotients

Let G be a topological group and N a closed normal subgroup of G . Let $(\text{Bohr}(G), \beta_G)$ and $(\text{Prof}(G), \alpha_G)$ be a Bohr compactification and a profinite completion of G . Let $\text{Bohr}(p) : \text{Bohr}(G) \rightarrow \text{Bohr}(G/N)$ and $\text{Prof}(p) : \text{Bohr}(G) \rightarrow \text{Bohr}(G/N)$ be the morphisms induced by the canonical epimorphism $p : G \rightarrow G/N$. The following proposition is well known (see [HK01, lemma 2.2] or [Bek23, proposition 10] for (i) and [RZ00, proposition 3.2.5] for (ii)). For the convenience of the reader, we give for (ii) a proof which is different from the one in [RZ00]

PROPOSITION 7

- (i) Bohr(p) is surjective and its kernel is $\overline{\beta_G(N)}$.
- (ii) Prof(p) is surjective and its kernel is $\overline{\alpha_G(N)}$.

Proof. To show (ii), set $K := \overline{\alpha_G(N)}$. Let $(\text{Prof}(G/N), \bar{\alpha})$ be a profinite completion of G/N . We have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{p} & G/N \\ \downarrow \alpha_G & & \downarrow \bar{\alpha} \\ \text{Prof}(G) & \xrightarrow{\text{Prof}(p)} & \text{Prof}(G/N). \end{array}$$

It follows that $\alpha_G(N)$ and hence K is contained in $\text{Ker}(\text{Prof}(p))$. So, we have induced homomorphisms $\beta : G/N \rightarrow \text{Prof}(G)/K$ and $\beta' : \text{Prof}(G)/K \rightarrow \text{Prof}(G/N)$, giving rise to a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & G/N \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow \bar{\alpha} \\ \text{Prof}(G)/K & \xrightarrow{\beta'} & \text{Prof}(G/N). \end{array}$$

It follows that $(\text{Prof}(G)/K, \beta)$ has the same universal property for G/N as $(\text{Prof}(G/N), \bar{\alpha})$; it is therefore a profinite completion of G/N .

3. Proof of Theorems A and B

3.1. Proof of Theorem A

Set $K := \overline{\beta_G(N)}$, where β_G is the canonical map from the locally compact group $G = N \rtimes H$ to $\text{Bohr}(G)$.

- (i) *First step.* We claim that

$$\{\widehat{\sigma} \circ (\beta_G|_N) : \widehat{\sigma} \in \widehat{K}\} \subset \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}.$$

Indeed, let $\widehat{\sigma} \in \widehat{K}$. Then $\sigma := \widehat{\sigma} \circ (\beta_G|_N) \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}$. Let $\widehat{\rho} \in \widehat{\text{Bohr}(G)}$ be an irreducible subrepresentation of the induced representation $\text{Ind}_K^{\text{Bohr}(G)} \widehat{\sigma}$. Then, by Frobenius reciprocity, $\widehat{\sigma}$ is equivalent to a subrepresentation of $\widehat{\rho}|_K$. Hence, σ is equivalent to a subrepresentation of $(\widehat{\rho} \circ \beta_G)|_N$. The decomposition of the finite dimensional representation $(\widehat{\rho} \circ \beta_G)|_N$ into isotypical components shows that σ has a finite H -orbit (see [Bek23, proposition 12]).

- (ii) *Second step.* We claim that

$$\widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}} \subset \{\widehat{\sigma} \circ (\beta_G|_N) : \widehat{\sigma} \in \widehat{K}\}.$$

Indeed, let $\sigma : N \rightarrow U(m)$ be a representation of N with finite H -orbit. By Proposition 6, there exists a projective representation $\widetilde{\sigma}$ of $G_\sigma = NH_\sigma$ which extends σ and the associated cocycle $c : G_\sigma \times G_\sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^1$, factorises through $H_\sigma \times H_\sigma$.

Define a projective representation $\tau : G_\sigma \rightarrow U(m)$ of G_σ by

$$\tau(nh) = \widetilde{\sigma}(h) \quad \text{for all } nh \in NH_\sigma.$$

Observe that τ is trivial on N and that its associated cocycle is \bar{c} . Consider the tensor product representation $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ of G_σ . Lemma 5 shows that $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ is a projective representation for the cocycle $c\bar{c} = 1$. So, $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ is a measurable homomorphism from G_σ to $U(m)$. This implies that $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ is continuous (see [BHV08, lemma A.6.2]) and so $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ is an ordinary representation of G_σ .

It is clear that $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ is finite dimensional. Observe that the restriction $(\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau)|_N$ of $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ to N is a multiple of σ . Let

$$\rho := \text{Ind}_{G_\sigma}^G (\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau).$$

Then ρ is finite dimensional, since $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ is finite dimensional and G_σ has finite index in G . As G_σ is open in G , $\tilde{\sigma} \otimes \tau$ is equivalent to a subrepresentation of the restriction $\rho|_{G_\sigma}$ of ρ to G_σ (see e.g. [BdlH, 1-F]); consequently, σ is equivalent to a subrepresentation of $\rho|_N$. Since ρ is a finite dimensional unitary representation of G , there exists a unitary representation $\hat{\rho}$ of $\text{Bohr}(G)$ such that $\hat{\rho} \circ \beta_G = \rho$. So, σ is equivalent to a subrepresentation of $(\hat{\rho} \circ \beta_G)|_N$, that is, there exists a subspace V of the space of $\hat{\rho}$ which is invariant under $\beta_G(N)$ and defining a representation of N which is equivalent to σ . Then V is invariant under $K = \overline{\beta_G(N)}$ and defines therefore an irreducible representation $\hat{\sigma}$ of K for which $\hat{\sigma} \circ (\beta_G|_N) = \sigma$ holds.

Let $\varphi_N : \text{Bohr}(N) \rightarrow K = \overline{\beta_G(N)}$ be the homomorphism such that $\varphi_N \circ \beta_N = \beta_G|_N$.

(iii) *Third step.* We claim that

$$\text{Ker} \varphi_N = \bigcap_{\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fid}}^{H\text{-per}}} \text{Ker}(\text{Bohr}(\sigma)),$$

where $\text{Bohr}(\sigma)$ is the representation of $\text{Bohr}(N)$ such that $\text{Bohr}(\sigma) \circ \beta_N = \sigma$.

Indeed, by the first and second steps, we have

$$\widehat{N}_{\text{fid}}^{H\text{-per}} = \{ \hat{\sigma} \circ (\beta_G|_N) : \hat{\sigma} \in \widehat{K} \} = \{ (\hat{\sigma} \circ \varphi_N) \circ \beta_N : \hat{\sigma} \in \widehat{K} \};$$

since obviously $\hat{\sigma} \circ \varphi_N = \text{Bohr}(\sigma)$ for $\sigma = (\hat{\sigma} \circ \varphi_N) \circ \beta_N$, it follows that

$$\bigcap_{\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fid}}^{H\text{-per}}} \text{Ker}(\text{Bohr}(\sigma)) = \bigcap_{\hat{\sigma} \in \widehat{K}} \text{Ker}(\hat{\sigma} \circ \varphi_N).$$

As $\varphi_N(\text{Bohr}(N)) = K$ and \widehat{K} separates the points of K , we have $\bigcap_{\hat{\sigma} \in \widehat{K}} \text{Ker}(\hat{\sigma} \circ \varphi_N) = \text{Ker} \varphi_N$ and the claim is proved.

Set $L := \overline{\beta_G(H)}$.

(iv) *Fourth step.* We claim that the map $\varphi_H : \text{Bohr}(H) \rightarrow L$, defined by the relation $\varphi_H \circ \beta_H = \beta_G|_H$, is an isomorphism. Indeed, the canonical isomorphism $H \rightarrow G/N$ induces an isomorphism $\text{Bohr}(H) \rightarrow \text{Bohr}(G/N)$. Using Proposition 7 (i), we obtain a continuous epimorphism

$$f : L \rightarrow \text{Bohr}(H)$$

such that $f(\beta_G(h)) = \beta_H(h)$ for all $h \in H$. Then $\varphi_H \circ f$ is the identity on $\beta_G(H)$ and hence on L , by density. This implies that φ_H is an isomorphism.

Observe that, by the universal property of $\text{Bohr}(N)$, every element $h \in H$ defines a continuous automorphism $\theta_b(h)$ of $\text{Bohr}(N)$ such that

$$\theta_b(h)(n) = \beta_N(hnh^{-1}) \quad \text{for all } n \in N.$$

The corresponding homomorphism $\theta_b : H \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\text{Bohr}(N))$ defines an action of H on the compact group $\text{Bohr}(N)$. By duality, we have an action, still denoted by θ_b , of H on $\widehat{\text{Bohr}(N)}$ and we have

$$\text{Bohr}(\sigma^h) = \theta_b(h)(\text{Bohr}(\sigma)) \quad \text{for all } \sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}, h \in H.$$

This implies that the normal subgroup

$$\text{Ker}\varphi_N = \bigcap_{\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}} \text{Ker}(\text{Bohr}(\sigma))$$

of $\text{Bohr}(N)$ is H -invariant. We have therefore an induced action $\overline{\theta}_b$ of H on $\text{Bohr}(N)/\text{Ker}\varphi_N$. Observe that the isomorphism

$$\text{Bohr}(N)/\text{Ker}\varphi_N \rightarrow K$$

induced by φ_N is H -equivariant for $\overline{\theta}_b$ and the action of H on K given by conjugation with $\beta_G(h)$ for $h \in H$.

(v) *Fifth step.* We claim that the action $\overline{\theta}_b$ induces an action of $\text{Bohr}(H)$ by automorphisms on $\text{Bohr}(N)/\text{Ker}\varphi_N$ and that the map

$$(\text{Bohr}(N)/\text{Ker}\varphi_N) \rtimes \text{Bohr}(H) \rightarrow \text{Bohr}(G), (x\text{Ker}\varphi_N, y) \mapsto \varphi_N(x)\varphi_H(y)$$

is an isomorphism.

Indeed, $\overline{\beta}_G(N)$ is a normal subgroup of $\text{Bohr}(G)$ and so $\overline{\beta}_G(H)$ acts by conjugation on K . By the third and the fourth step, the maps

$$\overline{\varphi}_N : \text{Bohr}(N)/\text{Ker}\varphi_N \rightarrow K, \quad x\text{Ker}\varphi_N \mapsto \varphi_N(x)$$

and

$$\varphi_H : \text{Bohr}(H) \rightarrow L$$

are isomorphisms. We define an action

$$\widehat{\theta} : \text{Bohr}(H) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\text{Bohr}(N)/\text{Ker}\varphi_N)$$

by

$$\widehat{\theta}(y)(x\text{Ker}\varphi_N) = (\overline{\varphi}_N)^{-1} \left(\varphi_H(y)\varphi_N(x)\varphi_H(y)^{-1} \right)$$

for $x \in \text{Bohr}(N)$ and $y \in \text{Bohr}(H)$. The claim follows.

3.2. Proof of Theorem B

The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem A. The role of \widehat{N}_{fd} is now played by the space $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$ of finite dimensional irreducible representations of N with finite image. We will go

quickly through the steps of the proof of Theorem A; at some places (especially the second step) there will be a few crucial changes and new arguments which we will emphasise.

Set $L := \overline{\alpha_G(N)}$, where $\alpha_G : G \rightarrow \text{Prof}(G)$ is the canonical map. Observe that L is profinite.

- (i) *First step.* We claim that $\{\widehat{\sigma} \circ (\alpha_G|_N) : \widehat{\sigma} \in \widehat{L}\} \subset \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$. Indeed, let $\widehat{\sigma} \in \widehat{L}$. Then $\sigma := \widehat{\sigma} \circ (\alpha_G|_N) \in \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$, since L is profinite. Let $\widehat{\rho}$ be an irreducible subrepresentation of $\text{Ind}_L^{\text{Prof}(G)} \widehat{\sigma}$. Since $\text{Prof}(G)$ is compact, $\widehat{\rho}$ is finite dimensional. Since σ is equivalent to a subrepresentation of $\widehat{\rho} \circ (\alpha_G|_N)$, it has therefore a finite H -orbit.
- (ii) *Second step.* We claim that $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}} \subset \{\widehat{\sigma} \circ (\alpha_G|_N) : \widehat{\sigma} \in \widehat{L}\}$. Indeed, let $\sigma : N \rightarrow U(m)$ be an irreducible representation with finite image. By Proposition 6, there exists a projective representation $\widetilde{\sigma}$ of $G_\sigma = NH_\sigma$ which extends σ and the associated cocycle $c : G_\sigma \times G_\sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^1$, factorises through $H_\sigma \times H_\sigma$. We need to show that we can choose $\widetilde{\sigma}$ so that $\widetilde{\sigma}(G_\sigma)$ is finite.

Choose a projective representation $\widetilde{\sigma} : G_\sigma \rightarrow U(m)$ as above and modify $\widetilde{\sigma}$ as follows: define

$$\widetilde{\sigma}_1(nh) = \frac{1}{(\det \widetilde{\sigma}(h))^{1/m}} \widetilde{\sigma}(h)\sigma(n) \quad \text{for all } n \in N, h \in H_\sigma.$$

Then $\widetilde{\sigma}_1$ is again a projective representation of $G_\sigma = NH_\sigma$ which extends σ and the associated cocycle $c : G_\sigma \times G_\sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^1$ factorises through $H_\sigma \times H_\sigma$; moreover, $\widetilde{\sigma}_1(h) \in SU(m)$ for every $h \in H_\sigma$.

Every $h \in H_\sigma$ induces a bijection φ_h of $\sigma(N)$ given by

$$\varphi_h : \sigma(n) \mapsto \widetilde{\sigma}_1(h)\sigma(n)\widetilde{\sigma}_1(h)^{-1} = \sigma(hnh^{-1}) \quad \text{for all } n \in N.$$

So, we have a map

$$\varphi : \widetilde{\sigma}_1(H_\sigma) \rightarrow \text{Sym}(\sigma(N)), \quad \widetilde{\sigma}_1(h) \mapsto \varphi_h,$$

where $\text{Sym}(\sigma(N))$ is the set of bijections of $\sigma(N)$. For $h_1, h_2 \in H_\sigma$, we have $\varphi_{h_1} = \varphi_{h_2}$ if and only if $\widetilde{\sigma}_1(h_2) = \lambda \widetilde{\sigma}_1(h_1)$ for some scalar $\lambda \in \mathbf{S}^1$, by irreducibility of σ . Since $\det(\widetilde{\sigma}_1(h_1)) = 1$ and $\det(\widetilde{\sigma}_1(h_2)) = 1$, it follows that λ is a m th root of unity. This shows that the fibers of the map φ are finite. Since $\sigma(N)$ is finite, $\text{Sym}(\sigma(N))$ and hence $\widetilde{\sigma}_1(H_\sigma)$ is finite. It follows that $\widetilde{\sigma}_1(G_\sigma) = \widetilde{\sigma}_1(H_\sigma)\sigma(N)$ is finite.

Let $\tau : G_\sigma \rightarrow U(m)$ be the projective representation of G_σ given by

$$\tau(nh) = \widetilde{\sigma}_1(h) \quad \text{for all } nh \in NH_\sigma.$$

Then $\widetilde{\sigma}_1 \otimes \tau$ is an ordinary representation of G_σ and has finite image. The induced representation $\rho := \text{Ind}_{G_\sigma}^G (\widetilde{\sigma}_1 \otimes \tau)$ has finite image, since G_σ has finite index in G . As $\widetilde{\sigma}_1 \otimes \tau$ is equivalent to a subrepresentation of the restriction $\rho|_{G_\sigma}$ of ρ to G_σ , the representation σ is equivalent to a subrepresentation of $\rho|_N$. Since $\rho(G)$ has finite image, there exists a unitary representation $\widehat{\rho}$ of $\text{Prof}(G)$ such that $\widehat{\rho} \circ \alpha_G = \rho$. So, there exists a subspace V of the space of $\widehat{\rho}$ which is invariant under $\alpha_G(N)$ and defining a representation of N which is equivalent to σ . Then V defines an irreducible representation $\widehat{\sigma}$ of L for which $\widehat{\sigma} \circ (\alpha_G|_N) = \sigma$ holds.

Let $\psi_N : \text{Prof}(N) \rightarrow L$ be the homomorphism such that $\psi_N \circ \alpha_N = \alpha_G|_N$.

(iii) *Third step.* We claim that

$$\text{Ker}\psi_N = \bigcap_{\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}} \text{Ker}(\text{Prof}(\sigma)).$$

Indeed, the proof is similar to the proof of the third step of Theorem A

(iv) *Fourth step.* We claim that the map $\psi_H : \text{Prof}(H) \rightarrow \overline{\alpha_G(H)}$, defined by the relation $\varphi_H \circ \alpha_H = \alpha_G|_H$, is an isomorphism. Indeed, the proof is similar to the proof of the fourth step of Theorem A.

Every element $h \in H$ defines a continuous automorphism $\theta_p(h)$ of $\text{Prof}(N)$. Let

$$\theta_p : H \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\text{Prof}(N))$$

be the corresponding homomorphism; as in Theorem A, we have an induced action $\overline{\theta_p}$ of H on $\text{Prof}(N)/\text{Ker}\psi_N$.

• *Fifth step.* We claim that the action $\overline{\theta_p}$ of H induces an action of $\text{Prof}(H)$ by automorphisms on $\text{Prof}(N)/\text{Ker}\psi_N$ and that the map

$$(\text{Prof}(N)/\text{Ker}\psi_N) \rtimes \text{Prof}(H) \rightarrow \text{Prof}(G), (x\text{Ker}\psi_N, y) \mapsto \psi_N(x)\psi_H(y)$$

is an isomorphism.

Indeed, the proof is similar to the proof of the fifth step of Theorem A.

4. Proof of the Corollaries

4.1. Proof of Corollary C

Assume that N is finitely generated. In view of Theorem B, we have to show that $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}} = \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$.

It is well known that, for every integer $n \geq 1$, there are only finitely many subgroups of index n in N . Indeed, since N is finitely generated, there are only finitely many actions of N on the set $\{1, \dots, n\}$. Every subgroup M of index n defines an action of N on N/M and hence on $\{1, \dots, n\}$ for which the stabiliser of, say, 1 is M . So, there are only finitely many such subgroups M .

Let $\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$ and set $n := |\sigma(N)|$. Consider $N_\sigma = \bigcap_M M$, where M runs over the subgroups of N of index n . Then N_σ is a normal subgroup of N of finite index and, for every $h \in H$, the representation σ^h factorises to a representation of N/N_σ . Since N/N_σ is a finite group, it has only finitely many non equivalent irreducible representations and the claim is proved.

4.2. Proof of Corollary D

We assume that N is abelian. The dual group of $\text{Bohr}(N)$ is \widehat{N} and the dual of $\text{Prof}(N)$ is $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$, viewed as discrete groups. With the notation as in Theorems A and B, the subgroups C and D are respectively the annihilators in $\text{Bohr}(N)$ and in $\text{Prof}(N)$ of the closed subgroups $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ and $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$. Hence, $\text{Bohr}(N)/C$ and $\text{Prof}(N)/D$ are the dual groups of $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ and $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$, viewed as discrete groups. So, the claim follows from Theorems A and B.

4.3 Proof of Corollary E

In view of Theorems A and B, G is MAP, respectively RF, if and only if

$$\text{Ker}(\varphi_N \circ \beta_N) = \{e\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Ker}(\varphi_H \circ \beta_H) = \{e\},$$

respectively

$$\text{Ker}(\psi_N \circ \alpha_N) = \{e\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Ker}(\psi_H \circ \alpha_H) = \{e\}.$$

So, G is MAP, respectively RF, if and only if

$$\beta_N^{-1}(C) = \{e\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Ker}(\beta_H) = \{e\},$$

respectively

$$\alpha_N^{-1}(D) = \{e\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Ker}(\alpha_H) = \{e\}.$$

This exactly means that G is MAP, respectively RF, if and only if $\widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N and H is MAP, respectively $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N and H is RF.

4.4. Proof of Corollary F

We assume that $G = \Lambda \wr_X H$ is the wreath product of the groups Λ and H given by a transitive action $H \curvearrowright X$; set $N := \bigoplus_{x \in X} \Lambda$.

- (a) Assume that X is finite. Then, of course, $\widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}} = \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}$ and $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}} = \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$; so, the subgroups C and D from Theorems A and B are trivial. Since $\text{Bohr}(N) = \bigoplus_{x \in X} \text{Bohr}(\Lambda)$ and $\text{Prof}(N) = \bigoplus_{x \in X} \text{Prof}(\Lambda)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bohr}(\Lambda \wr_X H) &\cong (\bigoplus_{x \in X} \text{Bohr}(\Lambda)) \rtimes \text{Bohr}(H) \text{ and} \\ \text{Prof}(\Lambda \wr_X H) &\cong (\bigoplus_{x \in X} \text{Prof}(\Lambda)) \rtimes \text{Prof}(H). \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Assume that X is infinite.

- (i) *First step.* We claim that, for every $\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}$, we have $\dim \sigma = 1$, that is, $\sigma(N) \subset U(1) = \mathbf{S}^1$.

Indeed, assume by contradiction that $\dim \sigma > 1$. Let \mathcal{F} be the family of finite subsets of X . For every $F \in \mathcal{F}$, let $N(F)$ be the normal subgroup of N given by

$$N(F) := \bigoplus_{x \in F} \Lambda$$

The restriction $\sigma|_{N(F)}$ of σ to $N(F)$ has a decomposition into isotypical components:

$$\sigma|_{N(F)} = \bigoplus_{\pi \in \Sigma_F} n_\pi \pi,$$

where Σ_F is a (finite) subset of $\widehat{N(F)}_{\text{fd}}$ and the n_π 's some positive integers. As is well known (see, e.g., [Wei40, section 17]), every representation in $\widehat{N(F)}_{\text{fd}}$ is a tensor product $\bigotimes_{h \in F} \rho_h$ of irreducible representations ρ_h of Λ ; so, we can view Σ_F as subset of $\prod_{x \in F} \widehat{\Lambda}_{\text{fd}}$. If $F \subset F'$, then the obvious map $\prod_{x \in F'} \widehat{\Lambda}_{\text{fd}} \rightarrow \prod_{x \in F} \widehat{\Lambda}_{\text{fd}}$ restricts to a surjective map $\Sigma_{F'} \rightarrow \Sigma_F$.

Since $\dim \sigma$ is finite, it follows that there exists $F_0 \in \mathcal{F}$ such that

$$\dim \pi = 1 \quad \text{for all } \pi \in \Sigma_F, F \in \mathcal{F} \quad \text{with } F \cap F_0 = \emptyset$$

and

$$\dim \pi_0 > 1 \quad \text{for some } \pi_0 \in \Sigma_{F_0}.$$

For $h \in H$ and $F \in \mathcal{F}$, observe that for the decomposition of $\sigma^h|_{N(h^{-1}F)}$ into isotypical components, we have

$$\sigma^h|_{N(h^{-1}F)} = \bigoplus_{\pi \in \Sigma_F} n_\pi \pi.$$

So, σ^h and σ are not equivalent if $h^{-1}F_0 \cap F_0 = \emptyset$.

Since X is infinite, we can choose inductively a sequence $(h_n)_{n \geq 0}$ of elements in H by $h_0 = e$ and

$$h_{n+1}^{-1}F_0 \cap \bigcup_{0 \leq m \leq n} h_m^{-1}F_0 = \emptyset \quad \text{for all } n \geq 0.$$

The σ^{h_n} 's are then pairwise not equivalent. This is a contradiction, since $\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}$.

Let $p: \Lambda \wr_X H \rightarrow \Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr_X H$ be the quotient map, which is given by

$$p((\lambda_x)_{x \in X}, h) = ((\lambda_x[\Lambda, \Lambda])_{x \in X}, h).$$

(ii) *Second step.* We claim that the induced maps

$$\text{Bohr}(p) : \text{Bohr}(\Lambda \wr_X H) \rightarrow \text{Bohr}(\Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr_X H)$$

and

$$\text{Prof}(p) : \text{Prof}(\Lambda \wr_X H) \rightarrow \text{Prof}(\Lambda^{\text{Ab}} \wr_X H)$$

are isomorphisms.

Indeed, by the first step, every $\sigma \in \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}}$ factorises through N^{Ab} . Hence, by Theorems A and B, $[N, N]$ is contained in $C = \ker \varphi_N$ and $[N, N]$ is contained in $D = \ker \psi_N$. This means that $\beta_G(\ker p) = \{e\}$ and $\alpha_G(\ker p) = \{e\}$. The claim follows then from Proposition 7.

4.5. Proof of Corollary G

We assume that $G = \Lambda \wr_X H$ is the wreath product of the groups Λ and H given by an action $H \curvearrowright X$. We assume that Λ has at least two elements and, as before, we set $N = \bigoplus_{x \in X} \Lambda$.

(a) Assume that X is finite. Then G is MAP (respectively RF) if and only if Λ and H are MAP (respectively RF).

Indeed, $\widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}^{H\text{-per}} = \widehat{N}_{\text{fd}}$ separates the points of N if and only if Λ is MAP and $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}} = \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$ separates the points of N if and only if Λ is RF. The claim follows then from Corollary E.

(b) Assume that X is infinite.

Assume that G is MAP. Then, for every H -orbit Y in X , the wreath product $\Lambda \wr_Y H$, which embeds as subgroup of G , is MAP. Since some Y is infinite, Corollary F implies that Λ is abelian. So, we may and will from now assume that Λ (and hence N) is abelian.

(i) *First step.* We claim that, if $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N , then $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF.

Indeed, recall that the dual group $\widehat{\Lambda}$ of Λ , equipped with the topology of pointwise convergence, is a compact group. The dual group \widehat{N} of N can be identified, as topological group, with the product group $\prod_{x \in X} \widehat{\Lambda}$, endowed with the product topology, by means of the duality

$$\left\langle \prod_{x \in X} \chi_x, \oplus_{x \in X} \lambda_x \right\rangle = \prod_{x \in X} \chi_x(\lambda_x) \quad \text{for all } \prod_{x \in X} \chi_x \in \widehat{N}, \oplus_{x \in X} \lambda_x \in N.$$

(Observe that the product on the right hand side is well-defined since $\lambda_x = e$ for all but finitely many $x \in X$.) The dual action of H on \widehat{N} is given by

$$\left(\prod_{x \in X} \chi_x \right)^h = \prod_{x \in X} \chi_{h^{-1}x} \quad \text{for all } h \in H.$$

For $\Phi := \prod_{x \in X} \chi_x \in \widehat{N}$, we have that $\Phi \in \widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ if and only if there exists a finite index subgroup H_Φ of H such that

$$\chi_{hx} = \chi_x \quad \text{for all } h \in H_\Phi, x \in X.$$

Let x_0, x_1 be two distinct points from X . By assumption, $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N ; equivalently, $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ is dense in \widehat{N} . Since Λ has at least two elements, we can find $\chi^0 \in \widehat{\Lambda}$ and $\lambda_0 \in \Lambda$ with $\chi^0(\lambda_0) \neq 1$. Define $\Phi_0 = \prod_{x \in X} \chi_x \in \widehat{N}$ by $\chi_{x_0} = \chi^0$ and $\chi_x = 1_\Lambda$ for $x \neq x_0$. Set

$$\varepsilon := \frac{1}{2} \left| \chi^0(\lambda_0) - 1 \right| > 0.$$

Since $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ is dense in \widehat{N} , we can find $\Phi' = \prod_{x \in X} \chi'_x \in \widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ such that

$$|\chi'_{x_0}(\lambda_0) - \chi_{x_0}(\lambda_0)| \leq \varepsilon/2 \quad \text{and} \quad |\chi'_{x_1}(\lambda_0) - \chi_{x_1}(\lambda_0)| \leq \varepsilon/2.$$

We claim that $H_{\Phi'x_0} \neq H_{\Phi'x_1}$, where $H_{\Phi'}$ is the stabiliser of Φ' . Indeed, assume by contradiction that $x_0 \in H_{\Phi'x_1}$. Then $\chi'_{x_0} = \chi'_{x_1}$ and hence

$$\begin{aligned} 2\varepsilon &= |\chi^0(\lambda_0) - 1| \\ &\leq |\chi^0(\lambda_0) - \chi'_{x_0}(\lambda_0)| + |\chi'_{x_0}(\lambda_0) - 1| \\ &= |\chi_{x_0}(\lambda_0) - \chi'_{x_0}(\lambda_0)| + |\chi'_{x_1}(\lambda_0) - \chi_{x_1}(\lambda_0)| \\ &\leq \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

and this is a contradiction. Since $H_{\Phi'}$ has finite index, we have proved that $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF.

(ii) *Second step.* We claim that, if $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF, then $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N .

Indeed, let $\oplus_{x \in X} \lambda_x \in N \setminus \{e\}$. Then $F = \{x \in X : \lambda_x \neq e\}$ is a finite and non-empty subset of X . Let $(\chi_x^0)_{x \in F}$ be a sequence in $\widehat{\Lambda}$ such that $\prod_{x \in F} \chi_x^0(\lambda_x) \neq 1$ (this is possible, since

abelian groups are MAP). Since $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF, we can find a subgroup of finite index L of H so that $Lx \neq Lx'$ for all $x, x' \in F$ with $x \neq x'$. Define $\Phi = \prod_{x' \in X} \chi_{x'} \in \widehat{N}$ by

$$\chi_{x'} = \begin{cases} \chi_x^0 & \text{if } x' \in Lx \text{ for some } x \in F, \\ 1_\Lambda & \text{if } x' \notin \cup_{x \in F} Lx. \end{cases}$$

It is clear that $L \subset H_\Phi$ and hence that $\Phi \in \widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$; moreover,

$$\Phi(\oplus_{x \in X} \lambda_x) = \prod_{x \in F} \chi_x^0(\lambda_x) \neq 1.$$

So, $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N .

(iii) *Third step.* We claim that, if $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF and Λ is RF, then $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H\text{-per}}$ separates the points of N .

The proof is the same as the proof of the second step, with only one difference: one has to choose a sequence $(\chi_x^0)_{x \in F}$ in $\widehat{\Lambda}_{\text{finite}}$ such that $\prod_{x \in F} \chi_x^0(\lambda_x) \neq 1$; this is possible, since we are assuming that Λ is RF.

(iv) *Fourth step.* We claim that G is MAP if and only if H is RF and $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF. Indeed, this follows from Corollary E, combined with the first and second steps.

(v) *Fifth step.* We claim that G is RF if and only if Λ, H are RF and $H \curvearrowright X$ is RF. Indeed, this follows from Corollary E, combined with the first and third steps.

5. Examples

5.1. Lamplighter group

For $m \geq 1$, denote by C_m the finite cyclic group $\mathbf{Z}/m\mathbf{Z}$. Recall that

$$\text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z}) \cong \text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})_0 \oplus \text{Prof}(\mathbf{Z}),$$

and that

$$\text{Prof}(\mathbf{Z}) = \varprojlim_m C_m \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})_0 \cong \prod_{\omega \in \mathfrak{c}} \mathbf{A}/\mathbf{Q},$$

where \mathbf{A}/\mathbf{Q} is the ring of adeles of \mathbf{Q} and $\mathfrak{c} = 2^{\aleph_0}$ (see [Bek23, proposition 11]).

For an integer $n_0 \geq 2$, let $G = C_{n_0} \wr \mathbf{Z}$ be the lamplighter group. We claim that

$$\text{Bohr}(G) \cong \text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})_0 \times \text{Prof}(G)$$

and

$$\text{Prof}(G) = \varprojlim_m C_{n_0} \wr C_m.$$

Indeed, let $N := \oplus_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} C_{n_0}$. It will be convenient to describe N as the set of maps $f : \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow C_{n_0}$ such that $\text{supp}(f) := \{k \in \mathbf{Z} : f(k) \neq 0\}$ is at most finite. The action of $m \in \mathbf{Z}$ on $f \in N$ is given by translation: $f^m(k) = f(k+m)$ for all $k \in \mathbf{Z}$.

We identify $\widehat{C_{n_0}}$ with the group μ_{n_0} of n_0 -th roots of unity in \mathbf{C} by means of the duality

$$\langle z, k\mathbf{Z} \rangle = z^k \quad \text{for all } z \in \mu_{n_0}, k \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

Then \widehat{N} can be identified with the set of maps $\Phi : \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mu_{n_0}$, with duality given by

$$\langle \Phi, f \rangle = \prod_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} \langle \Phi(k), f(k) \rangle \quad \text{for all } \Phi \in \widehat{N}, f \in N.$$

Observe that $\Phi(N) \subset \mu_{n_0}$ and so $\widehat{N} = \widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}$.

We have $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}} = \bigcup_{m \geq 1} \widehat{N}(m)$, where $\widehat{N}(m)$ is the subgroup

$$\widehat{N}(m) = \left\{ \Phi : \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mu_{n_0} : \Phi(k+m) = \Phi(k) \quad \text{for all } k \in \mathbf{Z} \right\}.$$

Observe that we have natural injections $i_{m_2}^{m_1} : \widehat{N}(m_2) \rightarrow \widehat{N}(m_1)$ if m_1 is a multiple of m_2 . The dual group $A(m)$ of $\widehat{N}(m)$ can be identified with the set of maps $\bar{f} : C_m \rightarrow C_{n_0}$ by means of the duality

$$\langle \bar{f}, \Phi \rangle = \prod_{k+m\mathbf{Z} \in C_m} \Phi(k) \bar{f}^{(k+m\mathbf{Z})} \quad \text{for all } \Phi \in \widehat{N}(m), \bar{f} \in A(m).$$

If m_1 is a multiple of m_2 , we have a projection $p_{m_1}^{m_2} : A(m_1) \rightarrow A(m_2)$ given by

$$\langle p_{m_1}^{m_2}(\bar{f}), \Phi \rangle = \langle \bar{f}, \Phi \circ i_{m_2}^{m_1} \rangle.$$

The dual group A of $\widehat{N}^{H\text{-per}} = \bigcup_{m \geq 1} \widehat{N}(m)$ can then be identified with the projective limit $\varprojlim_m A(m)$.

The action of \mathbf{Z} by automorphisms of A is given, for $r \in \mathbf{Z}$ and $\bar{f} = (\bar{f}_m)_{m \geq 1} \in A$ by $(\bar{f})^r = (\bar{g}_m)_{m \geq 1}$, where

$$\bar{g}_m(k+m\mathbf{Z}) = \bar{f}_m(k+r+m\mathbf{Z}) \quad \text{for all } k \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

This action extends to an action of $\text{Proj}(\mathbf{Z}) = \varprojlim_m C_m$ by automorphisms on A in an obvious way. By Corollary D, the group $\text{Prof}(G)$ is isomorphic to the corresponding semi-direct product $A \rtimes \text{Prof}(\mathbf{Z})$ and hence

$$\text{Prof}(G) \cong \varprojlim_m C_{n_0} \wr C_m.$$

By Corollary D again, the action of \mathbf{Z} on A extends to an action by automorphisms of $\text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})$. Since $\text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})_0$ is connected and A is totally disconnected, $\text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})_0$ acts as the identity on A . Since $\text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z}) \cong \text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})_0 \times \text{Prof}(\mathbf{Z})$, it follows that

$$\text{Bohr}(G) \cong (A \rtimes \text{Proj}(\mathbf{Z})) \times \text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})_0 \cong \text{Prof}(G) \times \text{Bohr}(\mathbf{Z})_0.$$

For another description of $\text{Prof}(G)$, see [GK14, lemma 3.24].

5.2. Heisenberg group

Let R be a commutative unital ring. The Heisenberg group is the group

$$H(R) := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a & c \\ 0 & 1 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : a, b, c \in R \right\}.$$

We can and will identify $H(R)$ with R^3 , equipped with the group law

$$(a, b, c)(a', b', c') = (a + a', b + b', c + c' + ab').$$

We will equip R with the discrete topology; in the sequel, $\text{Bohr}(R)$, $\text{Prof}(R)$, and \widehat{R} will be the Bohr compactification, the profinite completion, and the dual group of $(R, +)$, the additive group of R .

Let $\mathcal{I}_{\text{finite}}$ be the family of *ideals* of the ring R with *finite* index (as subgroups of $(R, +)$). Every ideal I from $\mathcal{I}_{\text{finite}}$ defines two compact groups $H(\text{Bohr}(R), I)$ and $H(\text{Prof}(R), I)$ of Heisenberg type as follows:

$$H(\text{Bohr}(R), I) := \text{Bohr}(R) \times \text{Bohr}(R) \times (R/I)$$

is equipped with the group law

$$(x, y, z)(x', y', z') = (x + x', y + y', z + z' + p_I(x)p_I(y')),$$

where $p_I : \text{Bohr}(R) \rightarrow R/I$ is the group homomorphism induced by the canonical map $R \rightarrow R/I$; the group $H(\text{Prof}(R), I)$ is defined in a similar way.

Observe that, for two ideals I and J in $\mathcal{I}_{\text{finite}}$ with $J \subset I$, we have natural epimorphisms

$$H(\text{Bohr}(R), J) \rightarrow H(\text{Bohr}(R), I) \quad \text{and} \quad H(\text{Prof}(R), J) \rightarrow H(\text{Prof}(R), I).$$

We claim that the canonical maps $H(R) \rightarrow H(\text{Bohr}(R), I)$ and $H(R) \rightarrow H(\text{Prof}(R), I)$ induce isomorphisms

$$\text{Bohr}(H(R)) \cong \varprojlim_I H(\text{Bohr}(R), I)$$

and

$$\text{Prof}(H(R)) \cong \varprojlim_I H(\text{Prof}(R), I),$$

where I runs over $\mathcal{I}_{\text{finite}}$.

Indeed, $H(R)$ is a semi-direct product $N \rtimes H$ for

$$N = \{(0, b, c) : b, c \in R\} \cong R^2$$

and

$$H = \{(a, 0, 0) : a \in R\} \cong R.$$

Let $\chi \in \widehat{N}$. Then $\chi = \chi_{\beta, \psi}$ for a unique pair $(\beta, \psi) \in (\widehat{R})^2$, where $\chi_{\beta, \psi}$ is defined by

$$\chi_{\beta, \psi}(0, b, c) = \beta(b)\psi(c) \quad \text{for } b, c \in R.$$

For $h = (a, 0, 0) \in H$, we have

$$\chi_{\beta, \psi}^h(0, b, c) = \beta(b)\psi(a^{-1}b)\psi(c) = \chi_{\beta\psi^a, \psi}(0, b, c) \quad \text{for } b, c \in R,$$

where $\psi^a \in \widehat{R}$ is defined by $\psi^a(b) = \psi(a^{-1}b)$ for $b \in R$. It follows that the H -orbit of $\chi_{\beta, \psi}$ is

$$\{\chi_{\beta\psi^a, \psi} : a \in R\},$$

and that the stabiliser of $\chi_{\beta, \psi}$, which only depends on ψ , is

$$H_\psi = \{(a, 0, 0) \mid a \in I_\psi\},$$

where I_ψ is the ideal of R defined by

$$I_\psi = \{a \in R \mid aR \subset \ker \psi\}.$$

Let \widehat{R}_{per} be the subgroup of all $\psi \in \widehat{R}$ which factorises through a quotient R/I for an ideal $I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{finite}}$. It follows that

$$\widehat{N}^{H-\text{per}} = \{\chi_{\beta, \psi} : \beta \in \widehat{R}, \psi \in \widehat{R}_{\text{per}}\} \cong \widehat{R} \times \widehat{R}_{\text{per}}.$$

The dual group of \widehat{R}_{per} can be identified with $\varprojlim_I R/I$, where I runs over $\mathcal{I}_{\text{finite}}$. So, the dual group A of $\widehat{N}^{H-\text{per}}$ can be identified with $\varprojlim_I \text{Bohr}(R) \times (R/I)$.

The action of $\text{Bohr}(H) \cong \text{Bohr}(R)$ on every $\text{Bohr}(R) \times (R/I)$ is given by

$$x \cdot (y, z) = (y, z + p_I(x)p_I(y')) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in \text{Bohr}(R), z \in R/I,$$

for the natural map $p_I : \text{Bohr}(R) \rightarrow R/I$. This shows that

$$\text{Bohr}(H(R)) \cong \varprojlim_I H(\text{Bohr}(R), I).$$

Similarly, the dual group B of $\widehat{N}_{\text{finite}}^{H-\text{per}}$ can be identified with $\varprojlim_I \text{Prof}(R) \times (R/I)$ and we have

$$\text{Prof}(H(R)) \cong \varprojlim_I H(\text{Prof}(R), I).$$

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