

## SOME PROPERTIES OF BOUNDED TRI-LINEAR MAPS

Abotaleb Sheikhal<sup>1</sup>, Kazem Haghnejad Azar and Ali Ebadian

<sup>1</sup>Independent researcher

<sup>2</sup>University of Mohaghegh Ardabili, Department of Mathematics and Applications,  
Ardabil, Iran

<sup>3</sup>University of Urmia, Department of Mathematics, Urmia, Iran

**Abstract.** Let  $X, Y, Z$  and  $W$  be normed spaces and  $f : X \times Y \times Z \rightarrow W$  be a bounded tri-linear mapping. In this manuscript, we introduce the topological centers of bounded tri-linear mapping and we investigate their properties. We study the relationships between weakly compactness of bounded linear mappings and regularity of bounded tri-linear mappings. We extend some factorization property for bounded tri-linear mappings. We also establish the relations between regularity and factorization property of bounded tri-linear mappings.

**Keywords:** Arens product, Module action, Factors, Topological center and Tri-linear mappings

### 1. Introduction

Let  $X, Y, Z$  and  $W$  be normed spaces and  $f : X \times Y \times Z \rightarrow W$  be a bounded tri-linear mapping. One of the natural extensions of  $f$  can be derived by the following procedure:

1.  $f^* : W^* \times X \times Y \rightarrow Z^*$ , given by  $\langle f^*(w^*, x, y), z \rangle = \langle w^*, f(x, y, z) \rangle$ , where  $x \in X, y \in Y, z \in Z, w^* \in W^*$ .

The map  $f^*$  is a bounded tri-linear mapping and is called the adjoint of  $f$ .

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Corresponding Author: Abotaleb Sheikhal<sup>1</sup>, Independent researcher | E-mail: Abotaleb.sheikhal<sup>1</sup>.20@gmail.com

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2.  $f^{**} = (f^*)^* : Z^{**} \times W^* \times X \longrightarrow Y^*$ , given by  $\langle f^{**}(z^{**}, w^*, x), y \rangle = \langle z^{**}, f^*(w^*, x, y) \rangle$ , where  $x \in X, y \in Y, z^{**} \in Z^{**}, w^* \in W^*$ .
3.  $f^{***} = (f^{**})^* : Y^{**} \times Z^{**} \times W^* \longrightarrow X^*$ , given by  $\langle f^{***}(y^{**}, z^{**}, w^*), x \rangle = \langle y^{**}, f^{**}(z^{**}, w^*, x) \rangle$ , where  $x \in X, y^{**} \in Y^{**}, z^{**} \in Z^{**}, w^* \in W^*$ .
4.  $f^{****} = (f^{***})^* : X^{**} \times Y^{**} \times Z^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}$ , given by  $\langle f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}), w^* \rangle = \langle x^{**}, f^{***}(y^{**}, z^{**}, w^*) \rangle$ , where  $x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}, z^{**} \in Z^{**}, w^* \in W^*$ .

Now let  $f^r : Z \times Y \times X \longrightarrow W$  be the flip of  $f$  defined by  $f^r(z, y, x) = f(x, y, z)$ , whenever  $x \in X, y \in Y$  and  $z \in Z$ . Then  $f^r$  is a bounded tri-linear map and it may be extended as above to  $f^{r****} : Z^{**} \times Y^{**} \times X^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}$ . When  $f^{****}$  and  $f^{r****}$  are equal, then  $f$  is called regular. Regularity of  $f$  is equivalent to the following

$$w^* - \lim_{\alpha} w^* - \lim_{\beta} w^* - \lim_{\gamma} f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}) = w^* - \lim_{\gamma} w^* - \lim_{\beta} w^* - \lim_{\alpha} f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}),$$

where  $\{x_{\alpha}\} \subset X, \{y_{\beta}\} \subset Y$  and  $\{z_{\gamma}\} \subset Z$  and convergence to  $x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}$  and  $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies, respectively. A bounded tri-linear mapping  $f : X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$  is regular whenever at least two of  $X, Y$  or  $Z$  are reflexive, see [19] and [20]. Also, we have naturally six different Aron-Berner extensions to the bidual spaces based on six different elements in S3 and completely regularity should be defined accordingly to the equalities of all these six Aron-Berner extensions, see [13].

**Example 1.1.** Let  $G$  be an infinite, compact Hausdorff group and let  $1 < p < \infty$ . By [9, pp 54], we know that  $L^p(G) * L^1(G) \subset L^p(G)$ , where

$$(k * g)(x) = \int_G k(y)g(y^{-1}x)dy, \quad (x \in G, k \in L^p(G), g \in L^1(G)).$$

On the other hand, since the Banach space  $L^p(G)$  is reflexive, the bounded tri-linear mapping

$$f : L^p(G) \times L^1(G) \times L^p(G) \longrightarrow L^p(G)$$

defined by  $f(k, g, h) = (k * g) * h$ , is regular for every  $k, h \in L^p(G)$  and  $g \in L^1(G)$ , see [20].

A bounded bilinear (resp. tri-linear) mapping  $m : X \times Y \longrightarrow Z$  (resp.  $f : X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$ ) is said to be factor if is surjective, that is,  $m(X \times Y) = Z$  (resp.  $f(X \times Y \times Z) = W$ ), see [5].

For a discussion of Arens regularity for Banach algebras and bounded bilinear maps, see [1], [2], [11], [12] and [18]. For example, every  $C^*$ -algebra is Arens regular, see [4]. Also  $L^1(G)$  is Arens regular if and only if  $G$  is finite, [21].

The left topological center of  $m$  may be defined as follows:

$$Z_l(m) = \{x^{**} \in X^{**} : y^{**} \longrightarrow m^{***}(x^{**}, y^{**}) \text{ is } weak^* \text{-to-} weak^* \text{-continuous}\}.$$

Also the right topological center of turns out to be

$$Z_r(m) = \{y^{**} \in Y^{**} : x^{**} \longrightarrow m^{r****}(x^{**}, y^{**}) \text{ is } weak^* \text{-to-} weak^* \text{-continuous}\}.$$

The subject of topological centers has been investigated in [6], [7] and [16]. In [14], Lau and Ulger gave several significant results related to the topological centers of certain dual algebras. In [11], authors extend some problems from Arens regularity and Banach algebras to module actions. They also extend the definitions of the left and right multiplier for module actions, see [10] and [12].

Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra, and let  $\pi : A \times A \rightarrow A$  denote the product of  $A$ , so that  $\pi(a, b) = ab$  for every  $a, b \in A$ . The Banach algebra  $A$  is Arens regular whenever the map  $\pi$  is Arens regular. The first and second Arens products, denoted by  $\square$  and  $\diamond$  respectively, are defined by

$$a^{**}\square b^{**} = \pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}) \quad , \quad a^{**}\diamond b^{**} = \pi^{r***r}(a^{**}, b^{**}) \quad , \quad (a^{**}, b^{**} \in A^{**}).$$

### 2. Module actions for bounded tri-linear maps

Let  $(\pi_1, X, \pi_2)$  be a Banach  $A$ -module and let  $\pi_1 : A \times X \rightarrow X$  and  $\pi_2 : X \times A \rightarrow X$  be the left and right module actions of  $A$  on  $X$ , respectively. If  $(\pi_1, X)$  (resp.  $(X, \pi_2)$ ) is a left (resp. right) Banach  $A$ -module of  $A$  on  $X$ , then  $(X^*, \pi_1^*)$  (resp.  $(\pi_2^{r**}, X^*)$ ) is a right (resp. left) Banach  $A$ -module and  $(\pi_2^{r**}, X^*, \pi_1^*)$  is the dual Banach  $A$ -module of  $(\pi_1, X, \pi_2)$ . We note also that  $(\pi_1^{***}, X^{**}, \pi_2^{***})$  is a Banach  $(A^{**}, \square)$ -module with module actions  $\pi_1^{***} : A^{**} \times X^{**} \rightarrow X^{**}$  and  $\pi_2^{***} : X^{**} \times A^{**} \rightarrow X^{**}$ . Similarly,  $(\pi_1^{r***r}, X^{**}, \pi_2^{r***r})$  is a Banach  $(A^{**}, \diamond)$ -module with module actions  $\pi_1^{r***r} : A^{**} \times X^{**} \rightarrow X^{**}$  and  $\pi_2^{r***r} : X^{**} \times A^{**} \rightarrow X^{**}$ . If we continue dualizing we shall reach  $(\pi_2^{***r**r}, X^{***}, \pi_1^{***})$  and  $(\pi_2^{r***r}, X^{***}, \pi_1^{r***r**})$  are the dual Banach  $(A^{**}, \square)$ -module and Banach  $(A^{**}, \diamond)$ -module of  $(\pi_1^{***}, X^{**}, \pi_2^{***})$  and  $(\pi_1^{r***r}, X^{**}, \pi_2^{r***r})$ , respectively (see [15]). In [8], Eshaghi Gordji and Fillali show that if a Banach algebra  $A$  has a bounded left (or right) approximate identity, then the left (or right) module action of  $A$  on  $A^*$  is Arens regular if and only if  $A$  is reflexive.

We commence with the following definition for bounded tri-linear mapping.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\Omega_1 : A \times A \times X \rightarrow X$  be a bounded tri-linear map. Then the pair  $(\Omega_1, X)$  is said to be a left Banach  $A$ -module when

$$\Omega_1(\pi(a, b), \pi(c, d), x) = \Omega_1(a, b, \Omega_1(c, d, x)),$$

for each  $a, b, c, d \in A$  and  $x \in X$ . A right Banach  $A$ -module can be defined similarly. Let  $\Omega_2 : X \times A \times A \rightarrow X$  be a bounded tri-linear map. Then the pair  $(X, \Omega_2)$  is said to be a right Banach  $A$ -module when

$$\Omega_2(x, \pi(a, b), \pi(c, d)) = \Omega_2(\Omega_2(x, a, b), c, d).$$

A triple  $(\Omega_1, X, \Omega_2)$  is said to be a Banach  $A$ -module when  $(\Omega_1, X)$  and  $(X, \Omega_2)$  are left and right Banach  $A$ -modules respectively, also

$$\Omega_2(\Omega_1(a, b, x), c, d) = \Omega_1(a, b, \Omega_2(x, c, d)).$$

**Lemma 2.1.** *If  $(\Omega_1, X, \Omega_2)$  is a Banach  $A$ -module, then  $(\Omega_2^{r^*r}, X^*, \Omega_1^*)$  is a Banach  $A$ -module.*

*Proof.* Since the pair  $(X, \Omega_2)$  is a right Banach  $A$ -module, thus for every  $a, b, c, d \in A$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $x^* \in X^*$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Omega_2^{r^*r}(\pi(a, b), \pi(c, d), x^*), x \rangle &= \langle \Omega_2^{r^*}(x^*, \pi(c, d), \pi(a, b)), x \rangle \\ &= \langle x^*, \Omega_2^r(\pi(c, d), \pi(a, b), x) \rangle = \langle x^*, \Omega_2(x, \pi(a, b), \pi(c, d)) \rangle \\ &= \langle x^*, \Omega_2(\Omega_2(x, a, b), c, d) \rangle = \langle x^*, \Omega_2^r(d, c, \Omega_2(x, a, b)) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_2^{r^*}(x^*, d, c), \Omega_2(x, a, b) \rangle = \langle \Omega_2^{r^*r}(c, d, x^*), \Omega_2^r(b, a, x) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_2^{r^*}(\Omega_2^{r^*r}(c, d, x^*), b, a), x \rangle = \langle \Omega_2^{r^*r}(a, b, \Omega_2^{r^*r}(c, d, x^*)), x \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\Omega_2^{r^*r}(\pi(a, b), \pi(c, d), x^*) = \Omega_2^{r^*r}(a, b, \Omega_2^{r^*r}(c, d, x^*))$ , so  $(\Omega_2^{r^*r}, X)$  is a left Banach  $A$ -module. In the other hands,  $(\Omega_1, X)$  is a left Banach  $A$ -module, thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Omega_1^*(x^*, \pi(a, b), \pi(c, d)), x \rangle &= \langle x^*, \Omega_1(\pi(a, b), \pi(c, d), x) \rangle \\ &= \langle x^*, \Omega_1(a, b, \Omega_1(c, d, x)) \rangle = \langle \Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b), \Omega_1(c, d, x) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_1^*(\Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b), c, d), x \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $(X, \Omega_1^*)$  is a right Banach  $A$ -module. Finally, we show that

$$\Omega_1^*(\Omega_2^{r^*r}(a, b, x^*), c, d) = \Omega_2^{r^*r}(a, b, \Omega_1^*(x^*, c, d)).$$

For every  $x \in X$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Omega_1^*(\Omega_2^{r^*r}(a, b, x^*), c, d), x \rangle &= \langle \Omega_2^{r^*r}(a, b, x^*), \Omega_1(c, d, x) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_2^{r^*}(x^*, b, a), \Omega_1(c, d, x) \rangle = \langle x^*, \Omega_2^r(b, a, \Omega_1(c, d, x)) \rangle \\ &= \langle x^*, \Omega_2(\Omega_1(c, d, x), a, b) \rangle = \langle x^*, \Omega_1(c, d, \Omega_2(x, a, b)) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_1^*(x^*, c, d), \Omega_2(x, a, b) \rangle = \langle \Omega_1^*(x^*, c, d), \Omega_2^r(b, a, x) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_2^{r^*}(\Omega_1^*(x^*, c, d), b, a), x \rangle = \langle \Omega_2^{r^*r}(a, b, \Omega_1^*(x^*, c, d)), x \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(\Omega_2^{r^*r}, X^*, \Omega_1^*)$  is a Banach  $A$ -module.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $(\Omega_1, X, \Omega_2)$  be a Banach  $A$ -module, then*

1. *The triple  $(\Omega_1^{****}, X^{**}, \Omega_2^{****})$  is a Banach  $(A^{**}, \square, \square)$ -module.*
2. *The triple  $(\Omega_1^{r^{****r}}, X^{**}, \Omega_2^{r^{****r}})$  is a Banach  $(A^{**}, \diamond, \diamond)$ -module.*

*Proof.* We prove only (1), the other part has the same argument. Let  $\{a_\alpha\}, \{b_\beta\}, \{c_\gamma\}$  and  $\{d_\theta\}$  are nets in  $A$  which converge to  $a^{**}, b^{**}, c^{**}$  and  $d^{**} \in A^{**}$  in the

$w^*$ -topologies, respectively. Then by lemma 2.1 for every  $x^* \in X^*$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \langle \Omega_1^{****}(a^{**}, b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^{**})), x^* \rangle \\
&= \langle a^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^{**})), x^* \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^{**})), x^*, a_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle b^{**}, \Omega_1^{**}(\Omega_1^{****}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^{**})), x^*, a_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_1^{**}(\Omega_1^{****}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^{**})), x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_1^{****}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^{**}), \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle c^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(d^{**}, x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle \Omega_1^{***}(d^{**}, x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle d^{**}, \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(\Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), \pi(c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), \pi(c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle \pi^*(\Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}))), c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle d^{**}, \pi^*(\Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}))), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle \pi^{**}(d^{**}, \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}))), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle c^{**}, \pi^{**}(d^{**}, \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}))) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_1^{****}(\pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^{**}, x^*), \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \pi^*(\Omega_1^{****}(\pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^{**}, x^*), a_{\alpha}), b_{\beta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle b^{**}, \pi^*(\Omega_1^{****}(\pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^{**}, x^*), a_{\alpha}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \pi^{**}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(\pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^{**}, x^*)), a_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \langle a^{**}, \pi^{**}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(\pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^{**}, x^*)) \rangle \\
&= \langle \pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}), \Omega_1^{****}(\pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^{**}, x^*) \rangle \\
&= \langle \Omega_1^{****}(\pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}), \pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^{**}, x^*) \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(\Omega_1^{****}, X^{**})$  is a left Banach  $(A^{**}, \square, \square)$ -module. Now we show that the pair  $(X^{**}, \Omega_2^{****})$  is a right Banach  $(A^{**}, \square, \square)$ -module. Let  $\{x_{\eta}\}$  be a net in  $X$  which converge to  $x^{**} \in X^{**}$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies. The pair  $(X, \Omega_2)$  is a right Banach

$A$ -module, so we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \langle \Omega_2^{****}(\Omega_2^{****}(x^*, a^*, b^*), c^*, d^*), x^* \rangle \\
&= \langle \Omega_2^{****}(x^*, a^*, b^*), \Omega_2^{***}(c^*, d^*, x^*) \rangle \\
&= \langle x^*, \Omega_2^{***}(a^*, b^*, \Omega_2^{***}(c^*, d^*, x^*)) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \langle \Omega_2^{***}(a^*, b^*, \Omega_2^{***}(c^*, d^*, x^*)), x_{\eta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \langle a^*, \Omega_2^{**}(b^*, \Omega_2^{***}(c^*, d^*, x^*)), x_{\eta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \langle \Omega_2^{**}(b^*, \Omega_2^{***}(c^*, d^*, x^*)), x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \langle b^*, \Omega_2^*(\Omega_2^{***}(c^*, d^*, x^*)), x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_2^*(\Omega_2^{***}(c^*, d^*, x^*)), x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_2^{***}(c^*, d^*, x^*), \Omega_2(x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle c^*, \Omega_2^{**}(d^*, x^*, \Omega_2(x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle \Omega_2^{**}(d^*, x^*, \Omega_2(x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle d^*, \Omega_2^*(x^*, \Omega_2(x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle \Omega_2^*(x^*, \Omega_2(x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle x^*, \Omega_2(\Omega_2(x_{\eta}, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle x^*, \Omega_2(x_{\eta}, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), \pi(c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle \Omega_2^*(x^*, x_{\eta}, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), \pi(c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle \pi^*(\Omega_2^*(x^*, x_{\eta}, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}))), c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle d^*, \pi^*(\Omega_2^*(x^*, x_{\eta}, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}))), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle \pi^{**}(d^*, \Omega_2^*(x^*, x_{\eta}, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}))), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle c^*, \pi^{**}(d^*, \Omega_2^*(x^*, x_{\eta}, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}))) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \pi^{***}(c^*, d^*), \Omega_2^*(x^*, x_{\eta}, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_2^{**}(\pi^{***}(c^*, d^*)), x^*, x_{\eta}, \pi(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \pi^*(\Omega_2^{**}(\pi^{***}(c^*, d^*)), x^*, x_{\eta}), a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \langle b^*, \pi^*(\Omega_2^{**}(\pi^{***}(c^*, d^*)), x^*, x_{\eta}), a_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\alpha} \langle \pi^{**}(b^*, \Omega_2^{**}(\pi^{***}(c^*, d^*)), x^*, x_{\eta}), a_{\alpha} \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{\eta} \langle a^{**}, \pi^{**}(b^{**}, \Omega_2^{**}(\pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^*, x_{\eta})) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \langle \pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}), \Omega_2^{**}(\pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^*, x_{\eta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\eta} \langle \Omega_2^{***}(\pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}), \pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^*), x_{\eta} \rangle \\
&= \langle x^*, \Omega_2^{***}(\pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}), \pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}), x^*) \rangle \\
&= \langle \Omega_2^{***}(x^*, \pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}), \pi^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**})), x^* \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, we show that

$$\Omega_2^{***}(\Omega_1^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}, x^{**}), c^{**}, d^{**}) = \Omega_1^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}, \Omega_2^{***}(x^{**}, c^{**}, d^{**})).$$

Next we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\langle \Omega_2^{***}(\Omega_1^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}, x^{**}), c^{**}, d^{**}), x^* \rangle \\
&= \langle \Omega_1^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}, x^{**}), \Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^*) \rangle \\
&= \langle a^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, x^{**}, \Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^*)) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, x^{**}, \Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^*)), a_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle b^{**}, \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, \Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^*), a_{\alpha}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, \Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^*), a_{\alpha}), b_{\beta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle x^{**}, \Omega_1^{*}(\Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^*), a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \langle \Omega_1^{*}(\Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^*), a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}), x_{\eta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \langle \Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, x^*), \Omega_1(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}, x_{\eta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \langle c^{**}, \Omega_2^{**}(d^{**}, x^*, \Omega_1(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}, x_{\eta})) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle \Omega_2^{**}(d^{**}, x^*, \Omega_1(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}, x_{\eta})), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle d^{**}, \Omega_2^{*}(x^*, \Omega_1(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}, x_{\eta}), c_{\gamma}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle \Omega_2^{*}(x^*, \Omega_1(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}, x_{\eta}), c_{\gamma}), d_{\tau} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle x^*, \Omega_2(\Omega_1(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}, x_{\eta}), c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle x^*, \Omega_1(a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}, \Omega_2(x_{\eta}, c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau})) \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\tau} \langle \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}), \Omega_2(x_{\eta}, c_{\gamma}, d_{\tau}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle d^{**}, \Omega_2^*(\Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}), x_{\eta}, c_{\gamma}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle \Omega_2^{**}(d^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}), x_{\eta}), c_{\gamma} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \langle c^{**}, \Omega_2^{**}(d^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}), x_{\eta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\eta} \langle \Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})), x_{\eta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle x^{**}, \Omega_2^{***}(c^{**}, d^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta})) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_2^{****}(x^{**}, c^{**}, d^{**}), \Omega_1^*(x^*, a_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \Omega_1^{**}(\Omega_2^{****}(x^{**}, c^{**}, d^{**}), x^*, a_{\alpha}), b_{\beta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle b^{**}, \Omega_1^{**}(\Omega_2^{****}(x^{**}, c^{**}, d^{**}), x^*, a_{\alpha}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, \Omega_2^{****}(x^{**}, c^{**}, d^{**}), x^*), a_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \langle a^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, \Omega_2^{****}(x^{**}, c^{**}, d^{**}), x^*) \rangle \\
&= \langle \Omega_1^{****}(a^{**}, b^{**}, \Omega_2^{****}(x^{**}, c^{**}, d^{**})), x^* \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

as claimed.  $\square$

**Example 2.1.** Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra, for any  $a, b \in A$  the symbol  $[a, b] = ab - ba$  stands for multiplicative commutator of  $a$  and  $b$ . Let  $M_{n \times n}(C)$  be the Banach algebra of all  $n \times n$  matrices. We define

$$A = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}(C) \mid u, v \in C \right\}, \quad X = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & z \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}(C) \mid x, y, z \in C \right\}.$$

Now let  $\Omega_1 : A \times A \times X \rightarrow X$  to be the bounded tri-linear map given by

$$\Omega_1(a, b, x) = -\left[ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, abx \right], \quad (a, b \in A, x \in X).$$

For every  $a = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & v_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, b = \begin{pmatrix} u_2 & v_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, c = \begin{pmatrix} u_3 & v_3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, d = \begin{pmatrix} u_4 & v_4 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in A$  and  $x =$



$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & z_1 \end{pmatrix} \in X$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_1(\pi(a, b), \pi(c, d), x) &= \Omega_1\left(\begin{pmatrix} u_1u_2 & u_1v_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} u_3u_4 & u_3v_4 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & z_1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \\ &= -\left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} u_1u_2u_3u_4x_1 & u_1u_2u_3u_4y_1 + u_1u_2u_3v_4z_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right] \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u_1u_2u_3u_4x_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u_1u_2u_3u_4x_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= -\left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u_1u_2u_3u_4x_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right] = \Omega_1\left(\begin{pmatrix} u_1 & v_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} u_2 & v_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u_3u_4x_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) \\ &= \Omega_1\left(\begin{pmatrix} u_1 & v_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} u_2 & v_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \left(-\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u_3u_4x_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right)\right) \\ &= \Omega_1\left(\begin{pmatrix} u_1 & v_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} u_2 & v_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, -\left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} u_3u_4x_1 & u_3u_4y_1 + u_3v_4z_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right]\right) \\ &= \Omega_1\left(\begin{pmatrix} u_1 & v_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} u_2 & v_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \Omega_1\left(\begin{pmatrix} u_3 & v_3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} u_4 & v_4 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & z_1 \end{pmatrix}\right)\right) \\ &= \Omega_1(a, b, \Omega_1(c, d, x)), \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $(\Omega_1, X)$  is a left Banach  $A$ -module.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $a, b, c, d \in A$ ,  $x^* \in X^*$ ,  $x^{**} \in X^{**}$  and  $b^{**}, c^{**} \in A^{**}$ . Then*

1. *If  $(\Omega_1, X)$  is a left Banach  $A$ -module, then*

$$\Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*) = \pi^{**}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*)),$$

2. *If  $(X, \Omega_2)$  is a right Banach  $A$ -module, then*

$$\Omega_2^{****r}(x^*, \Omega_2^{****r}(x^{**}, a, b), c^{**}) = \pi^{r**}(c^{**}, \Omega_2^{****r}(x^*, x^{**}, \pi^{***}(a, b))).$$

*Proof.* (1) Since the pair  $(\Omega_1, X)$  is a left Banach  $A$ -module, thus for every  $x \in X$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Omega_1^*(x^*, \pi(a, b), \pi(c, d)), x \rangle &= \langle x^*, \Omega_1(\pi(a, b), \pi(c, d), x) \rangle \\ &= \langle x^*, \Omega_1(a, b, \Omega_1(c, d, x)) \rangle = \langle \Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b), \Omega_1(c, d, x) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_1^*(\Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b), c, d), x \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\Omega_1^*(x^*, \pi(a, b), \pi(c, d)) = \Omega_1^*(\Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b), c, d)$ , which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \pi^*(\Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*), a, b) \rangle &= \langle \Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*), \pi(a, b) \rangle \\ &= \langle \pi^{***}(c, d), \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a, b)) \rangle = \langle c, \pi^{**}(d, \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a, b))) \rangle \\ &= \langle d, \pi^*(\Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a, b)), c) \rangle = \langle \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, x^*, \pi(a, b)), \pi(c, d) \rangle \\ &= \langle x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, \pi(a, b), \pi(c, d)) \rangle = \langle x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(\Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b), c, d) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_1^{**}(x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b), c), d \rangle = \langle \Omega_1^{***}(d, x^{**}, \Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b)), c \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_1^{***}(c, d, x^{**}), \Omega_1^*(x^*, a, b) \rangle = \langle \Omega_1^{**}(\Omega_1^{***}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*, a, b) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\pi^*(\Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*), a) = \Omega_1^{**}(\Omega_1^{***}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*, a)$ . Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*), a \rangle &= \langle b^{**}, \Omega_1^{**}(\Omega_1^{***}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*, a) \rangle \\ &= \langle b^{**}, \pi^*(\Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*), a) \rangle \\ &= \langle \pi^{**}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*)), a \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

A similar argument applies for (2).  $\square$

### 3. Topological centers of bounded tri-linear maps

In this section, we shall investigate the topological centers of bounded tri-linear maps. The main definition of this section is as follows.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $f : X \times Y \times Z \rightarrow W$  be a bounded tri-linear map. We define the topological centers of  $f$  by

$$Z_l^1(f) = \{x^{**} \in X^{**} \mid y^{**} \rightarrow f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) \text{ is weak}^* \text{ - to - weak}^* \text{ - continuous}\},$$

$$Z_r^2(f) = \{x^{**} \in X^{**} \mid z^{**} \rightarrow f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) \text{ is weak}^* \text{ - to - weak}^* \text{ - continuous}\},$$

$$Z_r^1(f) = \{z^{**} \in Z^{**} \mid x^{**} \rightarrow f^{r****r}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) \text{ is weak}^* \text{ - to - weak}^* \text{ - continuous}\},$$

$$Z_r^2(f) = \{z^{**} \in Z^{**} \mid y^{**} \rightarrow f^{r****r}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) \text{ is weak}^* \text{ - to - weak}^* \text{ - continuous}\},$$

$$Z_c^1(f) = \{y^{**} \in Y^{**} \mid x^{**} \rightarrow f^{r****r}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) \text{ is weak}^* \text{ - to - weak}^* \text{ - continuous}\},$$

$$Z_c^2(f) = \{y^{**} \in Y^{**} \mid z^{**} \rightarrow f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) \text{ is weak}^* \text{ - to - weak}^* \text{ - continuous}\}.$$

**Lemma 3.1.** For a bounded tri-linear map  $f : X \times Y \times Z \rightarrow W$ , we have

1. The map  $f^{****}$  is the extension of  $f$  such that  $x^{**} \rightarrow f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**})$  is weak<sup>\*</sup>-weak<sup>\*</sup> continuous for each  $y^{**} \in Y^{**}$  and  $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$ .
2. The map  $f^{****}$  is the extension of  $f$  such that  $y^{**} \rightarrow f^{****}(x, y^{**}, z^{**})$  is weak<sup>\*</sup>-weak<sup>\*</sup> continuous for each  $x \in X$  and  $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$ .
3. The map  $f^{****}$  is the extension of  $f$  such that  $z^{**} \rightarrow f^{****}(x, y, z^{**})$  is weak<sup>\*</sup>-weak<sup>\*</sup> continuous for each  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$ .
4. The map  $f^{r****r}$  is the extension of  $f$  such that  $z^{**} \rightarrow f^{r****r}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**})$  is weak<sup>\*</sup>-weak<sup>\*</sup> continuous for each  $x^{**} \in X^{**}$  and  $y^{**} \in Y^{**}$ .
5. The map  $f^{r****r}$  is the extension of  $f$  such that  $x^{**} \rightarrow f^{r****r}(x^{**}, y, z)$  is weak<sup>\*</sup>-weak<sup>\*</sup> continuous for each  $y \in Y$  and  $z \in Z$ .

6. The map  $f^{r^{*****}}$  is the extension of  $f$  such that  $y^{**} \rightarrow f^{r^{*****}}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z)$  is  $weak^*-weak^*$  continuous for each  $x^{**} \in X^{**}$  and  $z \in Z$ .

*Proof.* See [19] and [20].  $\square$

As immediate consequences, we give the next Theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *If  $f : X \times Y \times Z \rightarrow W$  is a bounded tri-linear map, then  $X \subseteq Z_l^1(f)$  and  $Z \subseteq Z_r^2(f)$ .*

The mapping  $f^{****}$  is the extension of  $f$  such that  $x^{**} \rightarrow f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**})$  from  $X^{**}$  into  $W^{**}$  is  $weak^*-to-weak^*$  continuous for every  $y^{**} \in Y^{**}$  and  $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$ , hence for first right topological center of  $f$  we have

$$Z_r^1(f) \supseteq \{z^{**} \in Z^{**} \mid f^{r^{*****}}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}), \text{ for every } x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}\}.$$

The mapping  $f^{r^{*****}}$  is the extension of  $f$  such that  $z^{**} \rightarrow f^{r^{*****}}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**})$  from  $Z^{**}$  into  $W^{**}$  is  $weak^*-to-weak^*$  continuous for every  $x^{**} \in X^{**}$  and  $y^{**} \in Y^{**}$ , hence for second left topological center of  $f$  we have

$$Z_l^2(f) \supseteq \{x^{**} \in X^{**} \mid f^{r^{*****}}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}), \text{ for every } y^{**} \in Y^{**}, z^{**} \in Z^{**}\}.$$

**Example 3.1.** Let  $G$  be a finite locally compact Hausdorff group. Then

$$f : L^1(G) \times L^1(G) \times L^1(G) \rightarrow L^1(G)$$

defined by  $f(k, g, h) = k * g * h$ , is regular for every  $k, g$  and  $h \in L^1(G)$ . So  $L^1(G) \subseteq Z_r^1(f)$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra. Then*

1. *If  $(\Omega_1, X)$  is a left Banach  $A$ -module and  $\Omega_1^{***}, \pi^{***}(A, A)$  are factors, then  $Z_l^1(\Omega_1) \subseteq Z_l(\pi)$ .*
2. *If  $(X, \Omega_2)$  is a right Banach  $A$ -module and  $\Omega_2^{r^{*****}}, \pi^{***}(A, A)$  are factors, then  $Z_r^2(\Omega_2) \subseteq Z_r(\pi)$ .*

*Proof.* We prove only (1), the other one has the same argument. Let  $a^{**} \in Z_l^1(\Omega_1)$ , we show that  $a^{**} \in Z_l(\pi)$ . Let  $\{b_\alpha^{**}\}$  be a net in  $A^{**}$  which converges to  $b^{**} \in A^{**}$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies. We must show that  $\pi^{***}(a^{**}, b_\alpha^{**})$  converges to  $\pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**})$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies. Let  $a^* \in A^*$ , since  $\Omega_1^{***}$  factors, so there exists  $x^* \in X^*, x^{**} \in X^{**}$  and  $c^{**} \in A^{**}$  such that  $a^* = \Omega_1^{***}(c^{**}, x^{**}, x^*)$ . In the other hands  $\pi^{***}(A, A)$  factors, thus there exists  $c, d \in A$  such that  $\pi^{***}(c, d) = c^{**}$ . Because  $a^{**} \in Z_l^1(\Omega_1)$  thus  $\Omega_1^{***}(a^{**}, b_\alpha^{**}, x^{**})$  converges to  $\Omega_1^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}, x^{**})$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies.

In particular  $\Omega_1^{****}(a^{**}, b_{\alpha}^{**}; \Omega_1^{****}(c, d, x^{**}))$  converges to  $\Omega_1^{****}(a^{**}, b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c, d, x^{**}))$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies. Now by Theorem 2.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\alpha} \langle \pi^{***}(a^{**}, b_{\alpha}^{**}), a^* \rangle &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \pi^{***}(a^{**}, b_{\alpha}^{**}), \Omega_1^{***}(c^{**}, x^{**}, x^*) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \pi^{***}(a^{**}, b_{\alpha}^{**}), \Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle a^{**}, \pi^{**}(b_{\alpha}^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*)) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle a^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(b_{\alpha}^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \Omega_1^{****}(a^{**}, b_{\alpha}^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Omega_1^{****}(a^{**}, b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*) \rangle \\ &= \langle a^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{****}(c, d, x^{**}), x^*) \rangle \\ &= \langle a^{**}, \pi^{**}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(\pi^{***}(c, d), x^{**}, x^*)) \rangle \\ &= \langle a^{**}, \pi^{**}(b^{**}, \Omega_1^{***}(c^{**}, x^{**}, x^*)) \rangle \\ &= \langle a^{**}, \pi^{**}(b^{**}, a^*) \rangle \\ &= \langle \pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**}), a^* \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\pi^{***}(a^{**}, b_{\alpha}^{**})$  converges to  $\pi^{***}(a^{**}, b^{**})$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies, as required.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $\Omega : A \times A \times A \rightarrow A$  be a bounded tri-linear mapping. Then for every  $a \in A, a^* \in A^*$  and  $a^{**} \in A^{**}$ ,*

1. *If  $A$  has a bounded right approximate identity and bounded linear map  $T : A^* \rightarrow A^*$  given by  $T(a^*) = \pi^{**}(a^{**}, a^*)$  is weakly compactness, then  $\Omega$  is regular.*
2. *If  $A$  has a bounded left approximate identity and bounded linear map  $T : A \rightarrow A^*$  given by  $T(a) = \pi^{*r}(a^{**}, a)$  is weakly compactness, then  $\Omega$  is regular.*

*Proof.* We only prove (1). Let  $T$  be weakly compact, then  $T^{**}(A^{***}) \subseteq A^*$ . On the other hand, a direct verification reveals that  $T^{**}(A^{***}) = \pi^{****}(A^{**}, A^{***})$ . Thus  $\pi^{****}(A^*, A^{***}) \subseteq A^*$ . Now let  $a^{**}, b^{**} \in A^{**}, a^{***} \in A^{***}$  and let  $\{a_{\alpha}\}, \{a_{\beta}^*\}$  be nets in  $A$  and  $A^*$  which convergence to  $a^{**}, a^{***}$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies, respectively. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \pi^{*r***r}(a^{***}, a^{**}), b^{**} \rangle &= \langle \pi^{*r***}(a^{**}, a^{***}), b^{**} \rangle = \langle a^{**}, \pi^{*r**}(a^{***}, b^{**}) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \pi^{*r**}(a^{***}, b^{**}), a_{\alpha} \rangle = \lim_{\alpha} \langle a^{***}, \pi^{*r}(b^{**}, a_{\alpha}) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \pi^{*r}(b^{**}, a_{\alpha}), a_{\beta}^* \rangle = \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle b^{**}, \pi^{*r}(a_{\alpha}, a_{\beta}^*) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle b^{**}, \pi^*(a_{\beta}^*, a_{\alpha}) \rangle = \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \pi^{**}(b^{**}, a_{\beta}^*), a_{\alpha} \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle \pi^{***}(a_{\alpha}, b^{**}), a_{\beta}^* \rangle = \lim_{\alpha} \langle a^{***}, \pi^{***}(a_{\alpha}, b^{**}) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha} \langle \pi^{****}(a^{***}, a_{\alpha}), b^{**} \rangle = \lim_{\alpha} \langle \pi^{****}(b^{**}, a^{***}), a_{\alpha} \rangle \\ &= \langle a^{**}, \pi^{****}(b^{**}, a^{***}) \rangle = \langle \pi^{****}(a^{***}, a^{**}), b^{**} \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\pi^*$  is Arens regular. It follows that  $A$  is reflexive, see [8, Theorem 2.1]. Thus  $\Omega$  is regular.  $\square$

#### 4. Factors of bounded tri-linear mapping

We commence with the following definition.

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $X, Y, Z, S_1, S_2$  and  $S_3$  be normed spaces,  $f : X \times Y \times Z \rightarrow W$  and  $g : S_1 \times S_2 \times S_3 \rightarrow W$  be bounded tri-linear mappings. Then we say that  $f$  factors through  $g$  by bounded linear mappings  $h_1 : X \rightarrow S_1, h_2 : Y \rightarrow S_2$  and  $h_3 : Z \rightarrow S_3$ , if  $f(x, y, z) = g(h_1(x), h_2(y), h_3(z))$ .

The following theorem gives some necessary and sufficient conditions under which for factorization of the first and second extension of a bounded tri-linear mappings.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $f : X \times Y \times Z \rightarrow W$  and  $g : S_1 \times S_2 \times S_3 \rightarrow W$  be bounded tri-linear mapping. Then

1. The map  $f$  factors through  $g$  if and only if  $f^{****}$  factors through  $g^{****}$ ,
2. The map  $f$  factors through  $g$  if and only if  $f^{r****r}$  factors through  $g^{r****r}$ .

*Proof.* (1) Let  $f$  factor through  $g$  by bounded linear mappings  $h_1 : X \rightarrow S_1, h_2 : Y \rightarrow S_2$  and  $h_3 : Z \rightarrow S_3$ , then  $f(x, y, z) = g(h_1(x), h_2(y), h_3(z))$  for every  $x \in X, y \in Y$  and  $z \in Z$ . Let  $\{x_\alpha\}, \{y_\beta\}$  and  $\{z_\gamma\}$  be nets in  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  which converge to  $x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}$  and  $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies, respectively. Then for every  $w^* \in W^*$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}), w^* \rangle &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle w^*, f(x_\alpha, y_\beta, z_\gamma) \rangle \\
 &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle w^*, g(h_1(x_\alpha), h_2(y_\beta), h_3(z_\gamma)) \rangle \\
 &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle g^*(w^*, h_1(x_\alpha), h_2(y_\beta)), h_3(z_\gamma) \rangle \\
 &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle h_3^*(g^*(w^*, h_1(x_\alpha), h_2(y_\beta))), z_\gamma \rangle \\
 &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle z^{**}, h_3^*(g^*(w^*, h_1(x_\alpha), h_2(y_\beta))) \rangle \\
 &= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle h_3^{**}(z^{**}), g^*(w^*, h_1(x_\alpha), h_2(y_\beta)) \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle g^{**}(h_3^{**}(z^{**}), w^*, h_1(x_{\alpha})), h_2(y_{\beta}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle h_2^*(g^{**}(h_3^{**}(z^{**}), w^*, h_1(x_{\alpha}))), y_{\beta} \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle y^{**}, h_2^*(g^{**}(h_3^{**}(z^{**}), w^*, h_1(x_{\alpha}))) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle h_2^{**}(y^{**}), g^{**}(h_3^{**}(z^{**}), w^*, h_1(x_{\alpha})) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle g^{***}(h_2^{**}(y^{**}), h_3^{**}(z^{**}), w^*), h_1(x_{\alpha}) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{\alpha} \langle h_1^*(g^{***}(h_2^{**}(y^{**}), h_3^{**}(z^{**}), w^*)), x_{\alpha} \rangle \\
&= \langle x^{**}, h_1^*(g^{***}(h_2^{**}(y^{**}), h_3^{**}(z^{**}), w^*)) \rangle \\
&= \langle h_1^{**}(x^{**}), g^{***}(h_2^{**}(y^{**}), h_3^{**}(z^{**}), w^*) \rangle \\
&= \langle g^{****}(h_1^{**}(x^{**}), h_2^{**}(y^{**}), h_3^{**}(z^{**})), w^* \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $f^{****}$  factors through  $g^{****}$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $f^{****}$  factors through  $g^{****}$ , thus

$$f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = g^{****}(h_1^{**}(x^{**}), h_2^{**}(y^{**}), h_3^{**}(z^{**})),$$

in particular, for  $x \in X, y \in Y$  and  $z \in Z$  we have

$$f^{****}(x, y, z) = g^{****}(h_1^{**}(x), h_2^{**}(y), h_3^{**}(z)).$$

Then for every  $w^* \in W^*$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle w^*, f(x, y, z) \rangle &= \langle f^*(w^*, x, y), z \rangle \\
&= \langle f^{**}(z, w^*, x), y \rangle = \langle f^{***}(y, z, w^*), x \rangle \\
&= \langle f^{****}(x, y, z), w^* \rangle = \langle g^{****}(h_1^{**}(x), h_2^{**}(y), h_3^{**}(z)), w^* \rangle \\
&= \langle h_1^{**}(x), g^{****}(h_2^{**}(y), h_3^{**}(z), w^*) \rangle = \langle x, h_1^*(g^{****}(h_2^{**}(y), h_3^{**}(z), w^*)) \rangle \\
&= \langle g^{****}(h_2^{**}(y), h_3^{**}(z), w^*), h_1(x) \rangle = \langle h_2^{**}(y), g^{**}(h_3^{**}(z), w^*, h_1(x)) \rangle \\
&= \langle y, h_2^*(g^{**}(h_3^{**}(z), w^*, h_1(x))) \rangle = \langle g^{**}(h_3^{**}(z), w^*, h_1(x)), h_2(y) \rangle \\
&= \langle h_3^{**}(z), g^*(w^*, h_1(x), h_2(y)) \rangle = \langle z, h_3^*(g^*(w^*, h_1(x), h_2(y))) \rangle \\
&= \langle g^*(w^*, h_1(x), h_2(y)), h_3(z) \rangle = \langle w^*, g(h_1(x), h_2(y), h_3(z)) \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $f$  factors through  $g$  and proof follows.

(2) The proof is similar to (1).  $\square$

**Corollary 4.1.** *Let  $f : X \times Y \times Z \rightarrow W$  and  $g : S_1 \times S_2 \times S_3 \rightarrow W$  be bounded tri-linear map and let  $f$  factors through  $g$ . If  $g$  is regular then  $f$  is also regular.*

*Proof.* Let  $g$  be regular then  $g^{****} = g^{r****r}$ . Since the  $f$  factors through  $g$  then for every  $x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}$  and  $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) &= g^{****}(h_1^{**}(x^{**}), h_2^{**}(y^{**}), h_3^{**}(z^{**})) \\
&= g^{r****r}(h_1^{**}(x^{**}), h_2^{**}(y^{**}), h_3^{**}(z^{**})) \\
&= f^{r****r}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $f^{****} = f^{r****r}$ , as claimed.  $\square$

**5. Approximate identity and Factorization properties**

Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $A$  and  $B$  be Banach algebras with bounded left approximate identities  $\{e_\alpha\}$  and  $\{e_\beta\}$ , respectively. Then a bounded tri-linear mapping  $K_1 : A \times B \times X \rightarrow X$  is said to be left approximately unital if

$$w^* - \lim_{\beta} w^* - \lim_{\alpha} K_1(e_\alpha, e_\beta, x) = x,$$

and  $K_1$  is said left unital if there exists  $e_1 \in A$  and  $e_2 \in B$  such that  $K_1(e_1, e_2, x) = x$ , for every  $x \in X$ . Similarly, bounded tri-linear mapping  $K_2 : X \times B \times A \rightarrow X$  is said to be right approximately unital if

$$w^* - \lim_{\beta} w^* - \lim_{\alpha} K_1(x, e_\beta, e_\alpha) = x,$$

and  $K_2$  is also said to be right unital if  $K_2(x, e_2, e_1) = x$ .

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $A$  and  $B$  be Banach algebras. Then bounded tri-linear mapping*

1.  $K_1 : A \times B \times X \rightarrow X$  is left approximately unital if and only if  $K_1^{r^{****r}} : A^{**} \times B^{**} \times X^{**} \rightarrow X^{**}$  is left unital.
2.  $K_2 : X \times B \times A \rightarrow X$  is right approximately unital if and only if  $K_2^{****} : X^{**} \times B^{**} \times A^{**} \rightarrow X^{**}$  is right unital.

*Proof.* We prove only (1), the other part has the same argument. Let  $K_1$  be a left approximately unital. Thus there exists bounded left approximate identities  $\{e_\alpha\} \subseteq A$  and  $\{e_\beta\} \subseteq B$  such that

$$w^* - \lim_{\beta} w^* - \lim_{\alpha} K_1(e_\alpha, e_\beta, x) = x,$$

for every  $x \in X$ . Let  $\{e_\alpha\}$  and  $\{e_\beta\}$  converge to  $e_1^{**} \in A^{**}$  and  $e_2^{**} \in B^{**}$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies, respectively. On the other hand, for every  $x^{**} \in X^{**}$ , let  $\{x_\gamma\} \subseteq X$  converge to  $x^{**}$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle K_1^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, x^{**}), x^* \rangle &= \langle K_1^{r^{****}}(x^{**}, e_2^{**}, e_1^{**}), x^* \rangle \\ &= \langle x^{**}, K_1^{r^{****}}(e_2^{**}, e_1^{**}, x^*) \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \langle K_1^{r^{****}}(e_2^{**}, e_1^{**}, x_\gamma), x_\gamma \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\gamma} \langle e_2^{**}, K_1^{r^{**}}(e_1^{**}, x^*, x_\gamma) \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\beta} \langle K_1^{r^{**}}(e_1^{**}, x^*, x_\gamma), e_\beta \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\beta} \langle e_1^{**}, K_1^{r^*}(x^*, x_\gamma, e_\beta) \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\alpha} \langle K_1^{r^*}(x^*, x_\gamma, e_\beta), e_\alpha \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\alpha} \langle x^*, K_1^r(x_\gamma, e_\beta, e_\alpha) \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\alpha} \langle x^*, K_1(e_\alpha, e_\beta, x_\gamma) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{\gamma} \langle x^*, x_\gamma \rangle = \langle x^{**}, x^* \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $K_1^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, x^{**}) = x^{**}$ . It follows that  $K_1^{r^{****r}}$  is left unital.

Conversely, suppose that  $K_1^{r^{****r}}$  is left unital. So there exists  $e_1^{**} \in A^{**}$  and  $e_2^{**} \in b^{**}$  such that  $K_1^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, x^{**}) = x^{**}$  for every  $x^{**} \in X^{**}$ . Now let  $\{e_\alpha\}, \{e_\beta\}$  and  $\{x_\gamma\}$  be nets in  $A, B$  and  $X$  converging to  $e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}$  and  $x^{**}$  in the  $w^*$ -topologies, respectively. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} w^* - \lim_{\gamma} w^* - \lim_{\beta} w^* - \lim_{\alpha} K_1(e_\alpha, e_\beta, x_\gamma) &= K_1^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, x^{**}) \\ &= x^{**} = w^* - \lim_{\gamma} x_\gamma. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $K_1$  is left approximately unital and proof follows.  $\square$

**Remark 5.1.** It should be remarked that in contrast to the situation occurring for  $K_1^{r^{****r}}$  and  $K_2^{****}$  in the above lemma,  $K_1^{****}$  and  $K_2^{r^{****r}}$  are not necessarily left and right unital respectively, in general.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Suppose  $X, S$  are Banach spaces and  $A, B$  are Banach algebras.*

1. *Let  $K_1 : A \times B \times X \rightarrow X$  be left approximately unital and factors through  $g_r : A \times B \times S \rightarrow X$  from right by  $h : X \rightarrow S$ . If  $h$  is weakly compactness, then  $X$  is reflexive.*
2. *Let  $K_2 : X \times B \times A \rightarrow X$  be right approximately unital and factors through  $g_l : S \times B \times A \rightarrow X$  from left by  $h : X \rightarrow S$ . If  $h$  is weakly compactness, then  $X$  is reflexive.*

*Proof.* We only give the proof for (1). Since  $K_1$  is left approximately unital, there exists  $e_1^{**} \in A^{**}$  and  $e_2^{**} \in B^{**}$  such that

$$K_1^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, x^{**}) = x^{**},$$

for every  $x^{**} \in X^{**}$ . On the other hand, the bounded tri-linear mapping  $K_1$  factors through  $g_r$  from right, so by Theorem 4.1,  $K_1^{r^{****r}}$  factors through  $g_r^{r^{****r}}$  from right. Thus

$$K_1^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, x^{**}) = g_r^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, h^{**}(x^{**})).$$

Then for every  $x^{***} \in X^{***}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x^{***}, x^{**} \rangle &= \langle x^{***}, K_1^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, x^{**}) \rangle \\ &= \langle x^{***}, g_r^{r^{****r}}(e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}, h^{**}(x^{**})) \rangle \\ &= \langle g_r^{r^{****r}*}(x^{***}, e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}), h^{**}(x^{**}) \rangle \\ &= \langle h^{***}(g_r^{r^{****r}*}(x^{***}, e_1^{**}, e_2^{**})), x^{**} \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $x^{***} = h^{***}(g_r^{r^{****r}*}(x^{***}, e_1^{**}, e_2^{**}))$ . The weak compactness of  $h$  implies that  $h^{***}(S^{***}) \subseteq X^*$ . In particular  $h^{***}(g_r^{r^{****r}*}(x^{***}, e_1^{**}, e_2^{**})) \subseteq X^*$ , that is,  $X^*$  is reflexive. So  $X$  is reflexive.  $\square$

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