

# Cohen's factorization theorem for ternary Banach algebras

A. Jabbari

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we prove Cohen's factorization theorem for ternary Banach algebras.

## 1. Introduction

Ternary algebraic operations were considered in the 19th century by several mathematicians such as A. Cayley [3] who introduced the notion of cubic matrix which in turn was generalized by Kapranov, Gelfand and Zelevinskii in 1990 ([8]). The comments on physical applications of ternary structures can be found in [1, 9, 10, 12, 13].

A nonempty set  $G$  with a ternary operation  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot] : G \times G \times G \rightarrow G$  is called a ternary groupoid and denoted by  $(G, [\cdot, \cdot, \cdot])$ . The ternary groupoid  $(G, [\cdot, \cdot, \cdot])$  is called a ternary semigroup if the operation  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]$  is associative, i.e., if

$$[[x, y, z], u, v] = [x, [y, z, u], v] = [x, y, [z, u, v]]$$

holds for all  $x, y, z, u, v \in G$ . A ternary semigroup  $(G, [\cdot, \cdot, \cdot])$  is a ternary group if for all  $a, b, c \in G$ , there are  $x, y, z \in G$  such that

$$[x, a, b] = [a, y, b] = [a, b, z] = c,$$

which the elements  $x, y, z$  are uniquely determined (see [11]).

A ternary Banach algebra is a complex Banach space  $A$ , equipped with a ternary product  $(x, y, z) \mapsto [x, y, z]$  of  $A^3$  into  $A$ , which is associative in the sense that  $[[x, y, z], u, v] = [x, y, [z, u, v]] = [x, [y, z, u], v]$ , and satisfy  $\|[x, y, z]\| \leq \|x\| \|y\| \|z\|$ . An element  $e \in A$  is an identity of  $A$  if  $x = [x, e, e] = [e, e, x]$  for all  $x \in A$ .

For ternary Banach algebra  $A$ , a set  $U \times V$  is said to be an approximating set for  $A$  ( $U$  and  $V$  are bounded subsets of  $A$ ) if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , and every  $a \in A$ , there exist  $u \in U, v \in V$  such that  $\|[u, v, a] - a\| < \epsilon$ ,  $\|[u, a, v] - a\| < \epsilon$ ,  $\|[a, u, v] - a\| < \epsilon$ . In [7], the authors proved that the existing of an approximating set for a ternary

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Banach algebra  $A$ , implies existence of a bounded approximate identity for it ([7, Theorem 2.1]), in the other words, Altman's Theorem has been proved for ternary case. Some results on special derivations and homomorphisms are obtained in [5, 6].

Assume that  $A$  is a ternary Banach algebra, a bounded net  $(e_\alpha, f_\alpha)$  is a left bounded approximate identity for  $A$  if  $\lim_\alpha [e_\alpha, f_\alpha, a] = a$  for all  $a \in A$ . Similarly, a bounded net  $(e_\alpha, f_\alpha)$  is a right bounded approximate identity for  $A$  if  $\lim_\alpha [a, e_\alpha, f_\alpha] = a$  for all  $a \in A$ . Also,  $(e_\alpha, f_\alpha)$  is a middle bounded approximate identity for  $A$  if  $\lim_\alpha [e_\alpha, a, f_\alpha] = a$  for all  $a \in A$ . A net  $(e_\alpha, f_\alpha)$  is a bounded approximate identity for  $A$  if  $(e_\alpha, f_\alpha)$  is a left, right and middle bounded approximate identity for  $A$ . If ternary Banach algebra  $A$  has a left and right bounded approximate identity, then it has a bounded approximate identity (see [7, Theorem 2.2]).

Let  $A$  be a Banach ternary algebra and  $X$  be a Banach space. Then  $X$  is called a ternary Banach  $A$ -module, if module operations  $A \times A \times X \rightarrow X$ ,  $A \times X \times A \rightarrow X$ , and  $X \times A \times A \rightarrow X$  which are  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear in every variable. Moreover satisfy

- (1)  $[[x, a, b]_X c, d]_X = [x, [a, b, c]_A, d]_X = [x, a, [b, c, d]_A]_X$ ,
- (2)  $[[a, x, b]_X, c, d]_X = [a, [x, b, c]_X, d]_X = [a, x, [b, c, d]_A]_X$ ,
- (3)  $[[a, b, x]_X, c, d]_X = [a, [b, x, c]_X, d]_X = [a, b, [x, c, d]_X]_X$ ,
- (4)  $[[a, b, c]_A, x, d]_X = [a, [b, c, x]_X, d]_X = [a, b, [c, x, d]_X]_X$ ,
- (5)  $[[a, b, c]_A, d, x]_X = [a, [b, c, d]_A, x]_X = [a, b, [c, d, x]_X]_X$ ,

for every  $x \in X$  and all  $a, b, c, d \in A$ . Obviously, the ternary algebra  $A$  is a ternary  $A$ -module. A bounded approximate identity in  $A$  for  $X$  is a bounded net  $(e_\alpha, f_\alpha)$  in  $A$  such that  $\lim_\alpha [x, e_\alpha, f_\alpha] = x$ ,  $\lim_\alpha [e_\alpha, x, f_\alpha] = x$  and  $\lim_\alpha [e_\alpha, f_\alpha, x] = x$  for all  $x \in X$ . For binary Banach algebra  $A$ , and for a fixed positive  $\epsilon > 0$ , if the Banach algebra  $A$  has a bounded approximate identity for  $X$  then every element  $x \in X$  can be written as  $x = ay$  where  $a \in A$  and  $y \in X$ , and  $\|x - ay\| < \epsilon$  (Cohen's factorization theorem, see [2, Theorem 10], pp. 61 or [4, Theorem 2.9.24]). We prove the ternary version of Cohen's factorization theorem for ternary Banach algebras with a different method.

## 2. Main Results

Let  $A$  be a ternary (complex) Banach algebra without identity. Then  $A^\#$  is the linear space  $A \times \mathbb{C}$ , where  $(A \times \mathbb{C}) \times (A \times \mathbb{C}) \times (A \times \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow (A \times \mathbb{C})$  or  $A^\# \times A^\# \times A^\# \rightarrow A^\#$  together with

$$((a, \alpha), (b, \beta), (c, \gamma)) \mapsto [(a, \alpha), (b, \beta), (c, \gamma)]_{A^\#}$$

which is associative in the sense that

$$\begin{aligned} [[(a, \alpha), (b, \beta), (c, \gamma)]_{A^\#}, (x, \lambda), (y, \mu)]_{A^\#} &= [(a, \alpha), (b, \beta), [(c, \gamma), (x, \lambda), (y, \mu)]_{A^\#}]_{A^\#} \\ &= [(a, \alpha), [(b, \beta), (c, \gamma), (x, \lambda)]_{A^\#}, (y, \mu)]_{A^\#}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $(a, \alpha)(b, \beta) = (ab + \beta a + \alpha b, \alpha\beta)$  for every  $a, b, c, x, y \in A$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{C}$ . We denote the identity of  $A^\#$  by  $e (= (0, 1))$ , and we write  $a + \alpha e$  and  $a$  for the

elements  $[(a, \alpha), (0, 1), (0, 1)]_{A^\sharp}$  and  $[(a, 0), (0, 1), (0, 1)]_{A^\sharp}$  of  $A^\sharp$ , respectively. By easy calculation one can show that  $A^\sharp$  satisfies

$$\|[(a, \alpha), (b, \beta), (c, \gamma)]_{A^\sharp}\| \leq (\|a\| + |\alpha|)(\|b\| + |\beta|)(\|c\| + |\gamma|).$$

Now; define  $A := \{[(x, 0), (y, 0), (z, 0)] \mid x, y, z \in A\}$ . Then

$$[(a, \alpha), (b, \beta), [(x, 0), (y, 0), (z, 0)]]$$

is in  $A$ . By the above argued statements, we have the following result:

**Proposition 2.1.** *Every non-unital ternary Banach algebra can be embedded in a unital ternary Banach algebra.*

Now, we prove the main result of paper, which can be regarded as Cohen's factorization theorem for ternary Banach algebras.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a ternary Banach algebra and  $X$  be a ternary Banach  $\mathcal{A}$ -module. If  $\mathcal{A}$  possess a bounded approximate identity for  $X$ , then for all  $x \in X$  and each  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $y \in X$  such that  $x = ay$  and  $\|x - y\| < \epsilon$ .*

PROOF. Let  $(e_\alpha, f_\alpha)$  be a bounded approximate identity for  $\mathcal{A}$ , bounded by  $C > 1$ . Choose the positive numbers  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$  which satisfy the following conditions:

$$0 < \frac{\gamma}{1 + \gamma} < \frac{1}{2C}, \quad \text{and} \quad 1 < \beta < 1 + \gamma. \quad (1)$$

Let  $a$  be an arbitrary element in  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\|z\| \leq 1$ . The above mentioned conditions imply that  $\frac{1}{C^n} \|[e_\alpha, f_\alpha, z]\|^n < 1$ , for  $n \geq 1$ . Therefore

$$(2^n(\gamma(1 + \gamma)^{-1})^n \|[e_\alpha, f_\alpha, z]\|^n) < \frac{1}{C^n} \|[e_\alpha, f_\alpha, z]\|^n < 1,$$

and thereby we have

$$(\gamma(1 + \gamma)^{-1})^n \|[e_\alpha, f_\alpha, z]\|^n < \frac{1}{2^n} \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \longrightarrow \infty.$$

Now, suppose that  $S_n = \sum_{i=0}^n (\gamma(1 + \gamma)^{-1})^i [e_\alpha, f_\alpha, z]^i$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_{n+1} - S_n\| &= \|(\gamma(1 + \gamma)^{-1})^n [e_\alpha, f_\alpha, z]^n\| \leq (\gamma(1 + \gamma)^{-1})^{n+1} \|[e_\alpha, f_\alpha, z]\|^{n+1} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \longrightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

as  $n \longrightarrow \infty$ . This means that  $(S_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence. Thus, the series  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (\gamma(1 + \gamma)^{-1})^i [e_\alpha, f_\alpha, z]^i$  converges in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_\alpha, f_\alpha, e])$  is invertible in  $A^\sharp$ , and we have

$$\begin{aligned} ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_\alpha, f_\alpha, e])^{-1} &= (1 + \gamma)^{-1} ([e, e, e] - \frac{\gamma}{1 + \gamma} [e_\alpha, f_\alpha, e])^{-1} \\ &= (1 + \gamma)^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (\gamma(1 + \gamma)^{-1})^i [e_\alpha, f_\alpha, e]^i. \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\|([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_\alpha, f_\alpha, e])^{-1}\| \leq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{\gamma(1+\gamma)^{-1}}{2^n} < 2. \quad (2)$$

Assume that  $[e_n, f_n, e] = [e_{\alpha_n}, f_{\alpha_n}, e]$  such that  $\|\gamma[e, e, x] - \gamma[e_n, f_n, x]\| < \epsilon/2^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Define  $t_n = ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_1, f_1, e]) \cdots ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_n, f_n, e])$ . Since every  $([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_j, f_j, e])$  is invertible for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $t_n$  is invertible. Now, set  $a_n = t_n^{-1} - ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e])^{-n} \in A$  and  $y_n = [t_n, e, x]_X$ . Choose an element  $(e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}) \in A \times A$  such that

$$\|[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, a_n] - a_n\| < \frac{1}{\beta^n} \quad \text{and} \quad \|\gamma[t_n, e, x]_X - \gamma[t_n, e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}x]_X\|_X < \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}. \quad (3)$$

By definition of  $a_n$ , relations (1), (2) and (3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|a_{n+1} - a_n\| &= \|([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1}a_n \\ &\quad + \left( ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1} - ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e])^{-1} \right) \\ &\quad \times ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e])^{-n} \\ &\quad - ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1}[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, a_n] \\ &\quad + ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1}[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, a_n] \\ &\quad \quad - [e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, a_n] + [e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, a_n] - a_n\| \\ &\leq \|([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1}\| \|a_n - [e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, a_n]\| \\ &\quad + \|([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1} - ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e])^{-1}\| \\ &\quad \times \|([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e])^{-n}\| \\ &\quad + \|([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1} - [e, e, e]\| \| [e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, a_n] \| \\ &\quad + \| [e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, a_n] - a_n \| \\ &< \frac{2}{\beta^n} + \frac{M}{\beta^n} + \frac{N}{\beta^n} + \frac{1}{\beta^n} \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \longrightarrow \infty, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where  $M = \|([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1} - ([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e])^{-1}\|$  and  $N = \|([e, e, e] + \gamma[e, e, e] - \gamma[e_{n+1}, f_{n+1}, e])^{-1} - [e, e, e]\|$ . Then by (4), we conclude that  $(a_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence. Therefore there exists an element  $a \in A$  such that  $a = \lim_n a_n$  (it is clear that  $t_n^{-1} \longrightarrow a$ ). By the above obtained results it is easy to see that  $(y_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ . Thereupon, there exists  $y \in X$  such that  $y = \lim_n y_n$ . By gathering the obtained results, we have  $x = ay$  and  $\|x - y\| < \epsilon$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a ternary Banach algebra with a left bounded approximate set. Then, for all  $a \in A$  and each  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist  $b, c \in A$  such that  $a = bc$  and  $\|a - c\| < \epsilon$ .*

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YOUNG RESEARCHERS AND ELITE CLUB, ARDABIL BRANCH, ISLAMIC AZAD UNIVERSITY,  
ARDABIL, IRAN

*Email address:* jabbari\_al@yahoo.com