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for a convolution Feller semi-group**

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ON DENY'S CHARACTERIZATION  
OF THE POTENTIAL KERNEL  
FOR A CONVOLUTION  
FELLER SEMI-GROUP <sup>(1)</sup>

by J. C. TAYLOR

*Dédié à Monsieur M. Brelot à l'occasion  
de son 70<sup>e</sup> anniversaire.*

**Introduction.**

Let  $G$  be an abelian locally compact group and let  $\nu$  be a positive Radon measure with the property that the kernel  $V$  defined by  $Vf(x) = (f * \nu)(x) = \int f(xy^{-1})\nu(dx)$  satisfies the domination principle. In [1] Deny characterized those measures  $\nu$  for which  $V = \int_0^\infty P_t dt$  where  $(P_t)$  is a convolution semigroup such that  $(x, t) \rightarrow P_t(x, \Phi)$  is continuous for all  $\Phi \in C_c(G)$ . In particular, if  $V$  satisfies the complete maximum principle, his result characterizes the convolution Feller semi-groups.

The purpose of this article is to extend Deny's result, when  $V$  is assumed to satisfy the complete maximum principle, to the case where  $G$  is replaced by a homogeneous space  $E = G/K$  with  $G$  an arbitrary locally compact group and  $K$  a compact subgroup of  $G$ . Specifically, the following is proved (see theorem 3.10):

**THEOREM.** — *Assume that  $G$  is  $\sigma$ -compact. Let  $(P_t)$  be a Feller semigroup on  $E$  that commutes with the action of  $G$*

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on  $E$ . Assume that for any compact set  $A \subset E$ ,

$$V1_A = \int_0^\infty P_t 1_A dt$$

is finite. Let  $\kappa$  be the  $K$ -invariant measure on  $E$  defined by  $\langle \kappa, \Phi \rangle = V\Phi(0)$ .

Then  $\kappa$  satisfies the following condition:

D) There is a base  $\mathcal{B}$  for the neighbourhood filter of 0 such that for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  there exists  $\sigma \in M^+(E)$  with

- (1)  $\sigma * \kappa \leq \kappa$ ;
- (2)  $\sigma * \kappa \neq \kappa$ ,  $\sigma * \kappa = \kappa$  on  $\int B$ ; and
- (3)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma * \kappa^n = 0$ .

Conversely, if  $\kappa$  satisfies D) and the kernel  $Vf = f * \kappa$  satisfies the complete maximum principle then there is a unique convolution Feller semi-group  $(P_t)$  with

$$V = \int_0^\infty P_t dt.$$

The condition of  $\sigma$ -compactness is not essential but for the sake of simplicity the detailed proofs are given under this assumption. The measure-theoretic complements needed to permit arguments to carry over in the general case are outlined in the appendix.

Let  $X$  be a locally compact space. Then  $\mathcal{X}$  denotes the  $\sigma$ -ring generated by the compact subsets of  $X$  and  $f \in \mathcal{X}^+$  if  $\{f > 0\} = A \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $f|_A$  is measurable and non-negative relative to  $\mathcal{X}|_A$ . The set of non-negative Radon measures is denoted by  $M^+(X)$  and  $C_c^+(X)$  (resp.  $C_0^+(X)$ ) denotes the set of non-negative continuous functions with compact support (resp. vanishing at infinity).

A kernel is viewed as an operator on functions as in [2] rather than as an operator on measures as in [1].

### 1. The resolvent defined by a convolution kernel.

Let  $G$  be a locally compact group whose topology is  $\sigma$ -compact and denote by  $K$  a compact subgroup. Let  $E$  denote the locally compact quotient space  $G/K$  of right cosets and

denote by  $\pi$  the projection of  $G$  onto  $E$  (let  $\pi(t)$  be also denoted by  $[t]$ ). Let  $0 = [e]$ ,  $e$  the identity of  $G$ .

Denote by  $\kappa$  a positive Radon measure on  $E$  and let  $m$  be the left-invariant probability measure on  $K$ . Define the measure  $\tilde{\kappa}$  on  $G$  by setting

$$\langle \tilde{\kappa}, f \rangle = \int \left[ \int f(tx^{-1})m(dx) \right] \kappa(d[t]),$$

for  $f \in \mathcal{G}^+$  (note that  $t \rightarrow f^\#(t) = \int f(tx^{-1})m(dx)$  is constant on each right coset since a compact group is unimodular).

Define the translation kernels  $T_t$  and  $S_t$  by the formulas  $(T_t f)(x) = f(t^{-1}x)$  and  $(S_t f)(x) = f(xt^{-1})$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{G}^+$ . A Radon measure  $\alpha$  on  $G$  is said to be *K-right-invariant* if

$$\langle \alpha, S_t f \rangle = \langle \alpha, f \rangle$$

for all  $t \in K$  and  $f \in \mathcal{G}^+$ . The measure  $\tilde{\kappa}$  is then the unique *K-right invariant* measure  $\alpha$  on  $G$  whose image  $\pi(\alpha) = \kappa$  and the map  $\kappa \rightarrow \tilde{\kappa}$  identifies  $M^+(E)$  with the set of *K-right-invariant* measures on  $G$  (note that  $\langle \tilde{\kappa}, f \rangle = \langle \kappa, \bar{f} \rangle$ , where  $f^\# = \bar{f} \circ \pi$  and  $(S_t f)^\# = \bar{f}$  if  $t \in K$ ).

If  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$  let  $\tilde{f} = f \circ \pi$ . Then  $g \in \mathcal{G}^+$  is of the form  $g = \tilde{f}$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$ , if and only if  $S_t g = g$  for all  $t \in K$ . Consequently, if  $g \in \mathcal{G}^+$  and  $\kappa \in M^+(E)$  the function  $h$  defined by  $h(x) = (g * \tilde{\kappa})(x) = \int g(xt^{-1})\tilde{\kappa}(dt)$  is of the form  $h = \tilde{l}$ ,  $l \in \mathcal{E}^+$ . As a result, if  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$  there is a unique function  $g \in \mathcal{E}^+$  with  $\tilde{g} = \tilde{f} * \tilde{\kappa}$ . Define  $g$  to be  $f * \kappa$ . Clearly  $f \rightarrow f * \kappa$  defines a kernel  $N$  such that  $NT_t = T_t N$  for all  $t \in G$  and  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$  (note that  $T_t f([x]) = f([t^{-1}x])$ ). Such a kernel will be called a *convolution kernel*.

A measure  $\mu$  on  $E$  is said to be *K-invariant* if

$$\langle \mu, f \rangle = \langle \mu, T_t f \rangle$$

for all  $t \in K$  and  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$ . This is equivalent to requiring that  $\langle \tilde{\mu}, g \rangle = \langle \tilde{\mu}, S_t g \rangle = \langle \tilde{\mu}, T_t g \rangle$  for all  $t \in K$  and  $g \in \mathcal{G}^+$ , i.e.  $\tilde{\mu}$  is *K-bi-invariant*.

LEMMA 1.1. — *Let  $N$  be a convolution kernel on  $E$ . Then there exists a unique *K-invariant* measure  $\alpha$  on  $E$  such*

that  $Nf = f * \alpha$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$ . In case  $Nf = f * \alpha$  the measure  $\alpha = \pi((\tilde{\beta})^\vee)$ , where  $\beta = \pi((\tilde{\alpha})^\vee)$ .

*Proof.* — Define  $\langle \beta, f \rangle = Nf(0)$ . Then, if  $t \in K$ ,

$$\langle \beta, f \rangle = Nf(0) = (T_t Nf)(0) = N(T_t f)(0) = \langle \beta, T_t f \rangle.$$

Hence,  $\beta$  is  $K$ -invariant.

Clearly,  $N([x], f) = \int \tilde{f}(xs)\tilde{\beta} ds$  if  $x \in G$  and  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$ . Further,  $\tilde{\beta}$  is  $K$ -biinvariant and so  $\alpha = \pi((\tilde{\beta})^\vee)$  is  $K$ -invariant. Hence,  $\tilde{\alpha} = (\tilde{\beta})^\vee$  and so

$$N([x], f) = (\tilde{f} * \tilde{\alpha})(x) = (f * \alpha)[x].$$

The uniqueness of  $\alpha$  is clear as is the fact that  $N = * \alpha$  implies  $\beta = \pi((\tilde{\alpha})^\vee)$ .

Let  $\alpha \in M^+(E)$  be such that the kernel  $V$  defined by  $Vf = f * \alpha$  satisfies the complete maximum principle (note that  $\alpha$  is not assumed to be  $K$ -invariant). Since  $\alpha$  is Radon,  $V$  is proper and so, as remarked in [3], it is reasonable to define  $u \in \mathcal{E}^+$  as *excessive* if  $u = \sup_n Vf_n$  with  $(f_n) \subset \mathcal{E}^+$  and  $(Vf_n)$  increasing. Also,  $u \in \mathcal{E}^+$  is said to be *supermedian* if, for all  $f$  and  $g \in \mathcal{E}^+$ ,  $u + Vf \geq Vg$  on  $\{g > 0\}$  implies  $u + Vf \geq Vg$ .

If  $\alpha, \beta \in M^+(G)$  and  $\beta$  is  $K$ -right invariant then an easy calculation shows that  $\alpha * \beta$  is also  $K$ -right-invariant. Hence, if  $\mu, \nu \in M^+(E)$  the Radon measure  $\tilde{\mu} * \tilde{\nu}$  (when defined) equals  $\tilde{\eta}$  where  $\pi(\tilde{\mu} * \tilde{\nu}) = \eta \in M^+(E)$ . The measure  $\eta$  is defined to be  $\mu * \nu$ .

*Remark.* — If  $N$  is a convolution kernel on  $E$  and

$$\mu \in M^+(E)$$

then  $\mu N = \mu * \beta$  where  $\beta = \pi((\tilde{\alpha})^\vee)$  if  $Nf = f * \alpha$ . In the case of a group the convolution kernels are associated with  $\beta$  rather than  $\alpha$  so that the formula  $\langle \mu N, f \rangle = \langle \mu, Nf \rangle$  holds.

Assume that the following condition is satisfied by  $\alpha$ :

(D<sub>1</sub>) there is a compact neighbourhood  $B$  of  $0$  and  $\sigma \in M^+(E)$  such that

$$(1) \sigma * \alpha \leq \alpha;$$

- (2)  $\sigma * \kappa = \kappa$  on  $\int B$ ; and
- (3)  $\sigma^n * \kappa$  tends to zero weakly (where  $\sigma^n$  is the  $n$ -fold convolution of  $\sigma$  with itself).

PROPOSITION 1.2. — Let  $\Phi \in C_c^+(E)$ ,  $x_0 \in E$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there exists an excessive function  $s$  and a compact set  $K \subset E$  with

- (1)  $s(x_0) < \varepsilon$ ; and
- (2)  $s \geq V\Phi$  on  $\int K$ .

In other words,  $V\Phi$  vanishes at the natural boundary of  $E$  in the sense of [3].

Proof. — If  $\psi \in C_c^+(G)$  then there exists  $\Phi \in C_c^+(E)$  with  $\psi \leq \tilde{\Phi}$ . Hence, in view of  $D_1$ ) (3) it suffices to prove that, for each  $n \geq 0$ , for all  $\Phi \in C_c^+(E)$  and for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists an excessive function  $\nu = \nu(n, \Phi, \varepsilon)$  and a compact set  $L_n = L_n(\nu, \Phi, \varepsilon)$  with (a)  $\Phi * (\sigma^n * \kappa) + \nu \geq \Phi * \kappa$  on  $\int L_n$  and (b)  $\nu(x_0) < \varepsilon$ . Let  $P(n)$  denote this statement.

First, let  $n = 1$ . From  $D_1$ ) (2) it follows that if  $\Phi \in C_c^+(E)$  then  $\Phi * (\sigma * \kappa) = \Phi * \kappa$  on  $\int D$ ,  $D = \pi(\tilde{A}\tilde{B})$ , where

$$\tilde{A} = \pi^{-1}(\text{supp } \Phi)$$

and  $\tilde{B} = \pi^{-1}(B)$ . Since  $D$  is compact,  $P(1)$  is established with  $\nu = 0$ .

Assume  $P(n)$ . Let  $\sigma = \sigma' + \tau$  where  $\sigma'$  has compact support and  $(\Phi * (\tau * \kappa))(x_0) < \varepsilon/2$ . Then,

$$\Phi * (\sigma^{n+1} * \kappa) \geq (\Phi * \sigma') * (\sigma^n * \kappa)$$

and  $\Phi * \sigma' \in C_c^+(E)$ . If  $\omega = \nu(n, \Phi * \sigma', \varepsilon/2)$  then

$$\Phi * (\sigma^{n+1} * \kappa) + \omega \geq (\Phi * \sigma') * \kappa$$

on  $\int L_n(\nu, \Phi * \sigma', \varepsilon/2) = \int L_n$ . Hence, if

$$\nu = \omega + \Phi * (\tau * \kappa)$$

it follows that  $\nu + \Phi * (\sigma^{n+1} * \kappa) \geq \Phi * (\sigma * \kappa)$  on  $\int L_n$  and  $\nu(x_0) < \varepsilon$ .

In view of  $P(1)$  this establishes  $P(n + 1)$ .

LEMMA 1.3. — Let  $V$  and  $T$  be proper kernels on a measurable space  $(E, \mathcal{E})$  such that  $VT = TV$ . If  $V = \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} V_\lambda$ , where  $(V_\lambda)$  is a sub-Markovian resolvent of kernels  $V_\lambda$ , then  $TV_\lambda = V_\lambda T$  for all  $\lambda > 0$ , providing  $T1 < \infty$ .

*Proof.* — Let  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$  be such that  $f, Vf, Tf$  and  $VTf$  are all finite. Now  $V_\lambda f$  is the unique function  $h$  such that  $(I + \lambda V)h = Vf$ . Hence,

$$VTf = TVf = T(I + \lambda V)h = (I + \lambda V)Th$$

implies that  $V_\lambda(Tf) = T(V_\lambda f)$ . Since each  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$  is of the form  $f = \sum_n f_n$ , where each  $f_n$  satisfies the above hypotheses, the result follows.

THEOREM 1.4. — Let  $V$  be the kernel defined by  $Vf = f * \kappa$ ,  $\kappa \in M^+(E)$ . Assume that  $V$  satisfies the complete maximum principle. If  $\kappa$  satisfies  $D_1$ ) then there is a unique family  $(\kappa_\lambda)$  of  $K$ -invariant measures  $\kappa_\lambda$  such that the kernels

$$V_\lambda f = f * \kappa_\lambda$$

form a sub-Markovian resolvent  $(V_\lambda)$  of kernels  $V_\lambda$  on  $E$  with  $V = \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} V_\lambda$ .

Further, if  $\tilde{V}$  is the kernel defined by  $\tilde{V}g = g * \tilde{\kappa}$  (where  $\tilde{\kappa}$  also denotes the  $K$ -invariant measure for which  $Vf = f * \kappa$ ), the kernels  $\tilde{V}_\lambda$  defined by  $\tilde{V}_\lambda g = g * \tilde{\kappa}_\lambda$  form the unique sub-Markovian resolvent  $(\tilde{V}_\lambda)$  on  $G$  with  $\tilde{V} = \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \tilde{V}_\lambda$ .

*Proof.* — From Proposition 1.1 and Theorem 2 in [3] it follows that there is a unique sub-Markovian resolvent  $(\tilde{V}_\lambda)$  with  $\tilde{V} = \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \tilde{V}_\lambda$ . From Lemma 1.3 it follows that each  $V_\lambda$  is a convolution kernel. For all  $\lambda \geq 0$ , let  $\kappa_\lambda$  be the unique  $K$ -invariant measure on  $E$  such that  $V_\lambda f = f * \kappa_\lambda$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$ .

The resolvent equation,  $0 \geq \lambda \geq \mu$ ,

$$\kappa_\lambda = \kappa_\mu + (\mu - \lambda)\kappa_\lambda * \kappa_\mu = \kappa_\mu + (\mu - \lambda)\kappa_\mu * \kappa_\lambda$$

holds when each measure  $\eta$  is replaced by  $\tilde{\eta}$ . Define

$$\tilde{V}_\lambda g = g * \tilde{\kappa}_\lambda, \quad g \in \mathcal{G}^+.$$

Then  $(\tilde{V}_\lambda)$  is a sub-Markovian resolvent and  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$  implies  $\tilde{V}_\lambda \tilde{f} = V_\lambda f$ . Also,  $\tilde{V}g = g * \tilde{\alpha} \geq \tilde{V}_\lambda g = g * \tilde{\alpha}_\lambda$  for all  $g \in \mathcal{G}^+$  and since  $V = \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} V_\lambda$ ,  $\tilde{V} = \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \tilde{V}_\lambda$  (note that if  $\psi \in C_c^+(G)$  there exists  $\Phi \in C^+(E)$  with  $\tilde{\Phi} \geq \psi$ ).

*Remark.* — Since  $\alpha$  is  $K$ -invariant it can be directly verified that  $\tilde{V}$  satisfies the complete maximum principle (note that  $\tilde{V}f = \tilde{V}f^\#$ , for all  $f \in \mathcal{G}^+$ ).

### 2. The existence of a Feller semigroup.

The measure  $\alpha$  on  $E$  will be assumed to satisfy the following condition :

$D_2$ ) there is a base  $\mathcal{B}$  of compact neighbourhoods of 0 such that for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  there exists  $\sigma \in M^+(E)$  with

- (1)  $\sigma * \alpha \leq \alpha$ ;
- (2)  $\sigma * \alpha \neq \alpha$ ; and
- (3)  $\sigma * \alpha = \alpha$  on  $\int B$ .

*Remark.* — If, in addition, one requires in  $D_2$ ) that each  $\sigma^n * \alpha$  converge weakly to zero as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and that each  $\sigma$  is carried by  $\int \bar{B}$  then there is a family associated with  $\alpha$  in the sense of Deny [1].

Since the resolvent  $(V_\lambda)$  maps  $C_0(E)$  into itself the Hille-Yosida theorem can be applied if  $D = \overline{V_\lambda(C_0(E))} = C_0(E)$ .

This fact is established by the following sequence of lemmas and propositions.

LEMMA 2.1. — Assume  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . Then  $\alpha = \beta$  if

$$(\Phi * \alpha)(0) = (\Phi * \beta)(0)$$

for all  $\Phi \in C_c^+(E)$ .

*Proof.* —  $(\Phi * \alpha)(0) = (\Phi * \beta)(0)$  for all  $\Phi \in C_c^+(E)$  implies that  $\tilde{\alpha}(\tilde{A}^{-1}) = \tilde{\beta}(\tilde{A}^{-1})$  for every compact set  $A \subset E$ .

If  $B \subset G$  is compact then  $B^{-1} \subset \tilde{A}$  where  $A = \pi(B^{-1})$  is compact. Hence,  $B \subset \tilde{A}^{-1}$ . Since  $\tilde{\alpha} \leq \tilde{\beta}$  it follows that

$\tilde{\alpha}(B) = \tilde{\beta}(B)$  for all compact sets  $B \subset G$ . Consequently,  $\alpha = \beta$ .

LEMMA 2.2. — *If  $\sigma * \kappa \leq \kappa$  then  $V(\Phi * \sigma) = \Phi * (\sigma * \kappa)$  is continuous and excessive whenever  $\Phi \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$ .*

*Proof.* — Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $x_0 \in \mathbb{E}$  and  $\Phi \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$ . Let  $O$  be a compact neighbourhood of  $e$  such that  $t \in O$  implies  $\|T_t \Phi - \Phi\| < \varepsilon$ . If  $\pi(t_0) = x_0$  then  $\pi(Ot_0)$  is a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x_0$ .

Let  $\psi \in C_c^+(G)$  be such that

$$\{\psi = 1\} \supset \bigcup_{t \in O} \{T_t \tilde{\Phi} \neq \tilde{\Phi}\}.$$

Then, if  $x \in U$ , where  $x = [tt_0]$  with  $t \in O$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |V(\Phi * \sigma)(x) - V(\Phi * \sigma)(x_0)| &\leq \int |\tilde{\Phi}((tt_0s^{-1}) \\ &\quad - \tilde{\Phi}(t_0s^{-1})|(\tilde{\sigma} * \tilde{\kappa})(ds) \leq \varepsilon \int \psi(t_0s^{-1})(\tilde{\sigma} * \tilde{\kappa})(ds). \end{aligned}$$

Since there exists  $\theta \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$  with  $\tilde{\theta}(s) \geq \psi(t_0s^{-1})$ , for all  $s \in G$ , the last integral is finite.

PROPOSITION 2.3. — *Let  $U$  be a neighbourhood of  $0$ . Then there exists  $\psi \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$  such that:*

- (1)  $\psi = u - \nu$ ,  $u$  and  $\nu$  both continuous excessive functions;
- (2)  $0 \neq \psi(0) = \|\psi\|$ ; and
- (3)  $\text{supp } \psi \subset U$ .

*Proof.* — There exists a compact neighbourhood  $D$  of  $0$  such that  $\tilde{D}^{-1}\tilde{D} \subset \tilde{U}$ . Further, there exist compact neighbourhoods  $A$  and  $B$  of  $0$  with  $A = \text{supp } \psi$ ,  $\psi \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $\tilde{A}\tilde{B} \subset \tilde{D}$ .

Let  $\sigma$  be a measure satisfying the conditions in  $D_2$ ) relative to  $B$ . Then, if

$$X = \text{supp } (\kappa - \sigma * \kappa), \quad \Phi * \kappa - \Phi * (\sigma * \kappa) \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$$

(its support lies in  $\pi(\tilde{A}\tilde{B})$ ) and attains its maximum at a point

$$x_0 \in \pi(\{\tilde{\Phi} > 0\}\tilde{X}) \subset \pi(\tilde{A}\tilde{B}) \subset D.$$

Choose  $s_0 \in \{\tilde{\Phi} > 0\} \tilde{X}$  with  $\pi(s_0) = x_0$  and let  $\theta = T_{s_0} \Phi$ . Then  $\psi = \theta * \kappa - \theta * (\sigma * \kappa)$  is a function that satisfies (1), (2) and (3) above.

**COROLLARY 2.4.** — *The functions  $V_\lambda \Phi, \lambda > 0$  and  $\Phi \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$  separate the points of  $\mathbb{E}$ .*

*Proof.* — If  $u$  is lower semicontinuous and excessive then  $u = \sup \{\lambda V_\lambda \Phi \mid \lambda > 0 \text{ and } \Phi \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E}) \text{ with } \Phi \leq u\}$ . Hence, the functions  $V_\lambda \Phi$  separate 0 from any other point  $x \in \mathbb{E}$ . Since  $V_\lambda T_s = T_s V_\lambda$ , for all  $s \in G$ , the result follows.

*Remark.* — As pointed out by Faraut and Harzallah, given Corollary 2.4. the theory of Ray semigroups can be applied (in the metrisable case) to give a proof of the fact that  $(V_\lambda)$  is the resolvent of a Feller semigroup. For example, Corollary 2.4 implies that the hypotheses of Theorem 1.7 in [4] are verified. Hence,  $(V_\lambda)$  is the resolvent of a semigroup  $(P_t)$  of kernels  $P_t$ . The set  $D$  of non-branching points is non-void (corollary 2.6 in [4]) and since one can show that, for all  $s \in G$  and  $t > 0$ ,  $T_s P_t = P_t T_s$ ,  $D = \mathbb{E}$ . From this it follows, since  $C_0(\mathbb{E})$  is invariant under  $(P_t)$ , that  $(P_t)$  is a Feller semigroup.

A direct proof of this fact (which does not use metrizable or  $\sigma$ -compactness) continues with the following result.

**COROLLARY 2.5.** — *If  $U$  is an open Baire neighbourhood of 0 then  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda V_\lambda(0, U) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* — Let  $\psi \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$  satisfy conditions (1), (2) and (3) of Proposition 2.3. Then, since  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda V_\lambda(0, \psi) = \psi(0)$  the result follows as  $\lambda V_\lambda(0, \psi) \leq \lambda V_\lambda(0, U)\psi(0)$ .

**COROLLARY 2.6.** — *Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two lower semicontinuous excessive functions. Then  $w = u \wedge v$  is also excessive.*

*Proof.* — If  $x_0 \in \mathbb{E}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  let  $U = \{w > w(x_0) - \varepsilon\}$ . Then,  $U$  is open and  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda V_\lambda(x_0, U) = 1$ . Hence,

$$\hat{w}(x_0) \geq w(x_0) - \varepsilon.$$

**PROPOSITION 2.7.** — *Let  $A \subset E$  be compact. Then there is a compact neighbourhood  $O$  of  $A$  and  $\lambda_0 > 0$  such that, for  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,*

$$\lambda V_\lambda(x, A) < \varepsilon \quad \text{if} \quad x \notin O \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda \geq \lambda_0.$$

*Proof.* — Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and let  $U$  be a compact neighbourhood of  $O$ . Let  $\lambda_0 > 0$  be such that

$$1 - \varepsilon < \lambda V_\lambda(0, U) = \lambda(1_U * \kappa_\lambda)(0) \quad \text{for} \quad \lambda \geq \lambda_0.$$

Let  $O = \pi(\tilde{A}\tilde{U})$ .

Denote by  $\beta$  any one of the measures  $\lambda\kappa_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \geq \lambda_0$ . Then, if  $x = \pi(t)$

$$\begin{aligned} (1_A * \beta)(x) &= \int 1_{\tilde{A}}(ts^{-1})\tilde{\beta}(ds) \\ &= \int 1_{\tilde{A}}(ts^{-1})1_{\tilde{U}}(s)\tilde{\beta}(ds) + \int 1_{\tilde{A}}(ts^{-1})1_{\tilde{U}^c}(s)\tilde{\beta}(ds) \\ &\leq \int 1_{\tilde{U}}(s)\tilde{\beta}(ds) < \varepsilon, \quad \text{if} \quad t \notin \tilde{A}\tilde{U}. \end{aligned}$$

**COROLLARY 2.8.** — *Let  $u, \nu$ , be two continuous excessive functions on  $E$  with  $u - \nu \in C_c^+(E)$ . Then,*

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \|\lambda V_\lambda(u - \nu) - (u - \nu)\| = 0.$$

*Proof.* — Let  $A = \text{supp}(u - \nu)$  and let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Denote by  $O$  a compact neighbourhood of  $A$  such that

$$\lambda V_\lambda(x, A) < \varepsilon \quad \text{if} \quad x \notin O \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda \geq \lambda_0.$$

Then  $|\lambda V_\lambda(x, u - \nu)| \leq \varepsilon \|u - \nu\|$  if  $x \notin O$ . Since  $\lambda V_\lambda u$  and  $\lambda V_\lambda \nu$  are lower semicontinuous,  $\lambda V_\lambda(u - \nu)$  converges uniformly to  $u - \nu$  on  $O$ . The result follows.

The above results imply that  $\overline{V_\lambda(C_0(E))} = C_0(E)$  and hence the following result.

**THEOREM 2.9.** — *Let  $G$  be a locally compact group (that is  $\sigma$ -compact) and let  $K \subset G$  be a compact subgroup. Let  $V = * \kappa$  be a convolution kernel on the homogeneous space  $E = G/K$ ,  $\kappa \in M^+(E)$ . Assume that  $V$  satisfies the complete maximum principle.*

*If  $\kappa$  satisfies  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  then there is a unique Feller semigroup  $(P_t)$  on  $E$  with  $V = \int_0^{+\infty} P_t dt$ .*

*Proof.* — Let  $u_i, v_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$  be continuous excessive functions such that  $\psi_i = u_i - v_i \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$ . Then

$$\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2 = (u_1 + v_2) \wedge (u_2 + v_1) - (v_1 + v_2)$$

is of the same form. Hence, the vector space generated by functions  $\psi \in C_c^+(\mathbb{E})$ , which are differences of continuous excessive functions, is dense in  $C_0(\mathbb{E})$ .

Corollary 2.8 implies that  $D = \overline{V_\lambda(C_0(\mathbb{E}))} = C_0(\mathbb{E})$ . The result then follows from the Hille-Yosida theorem (c.f. [2]).

As an immediate corollary one has the following restricted version of a result of Deny [1].

**COROLLARY 2.10.** — *Let  $G$  be a locally compact abelian group (that is  $\sigma$ -compact) and let  $V = * \kappa$  be a convolution kernel on  $G$  that satisfies the complete maximum principle.*

*Then,  $V$  is the potential kernel of a Feller semigroup if the following condition is verified:*

D) *for a base  $\mathcal{B}$  of compact neighbourhoods of the identity  $e$  of  $G$  there is, for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , a measure  $\sigma \in M^+(\mathbb{E})$  with*

(1)  $\sigma * \kappa \leq \kappa$  and  $\sigma * \kappa \neq \kappa$ ;

(2)  $\sigma * \kappa = \kappa$  on  $\int B$ ; and

(3)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sigma^n) * \kappa = 0$  (weakly).

*Remarks.* — Deny's result is more general. He not only did not require  $G$  to be  $\sigma$ -compact (a hypothesis that can be removed from all the above results as indicated in the appendix) but also did not assume that the kernel  $* \kappa$  satisfied the complete maximum principle. Further, while in the commutative case it is immaterial whether one writes  $\sigma * \kappa$ , or  $\kappa * \sigma$  it seems to be necessary in general to have  $\sigma * \kappa \leq \kappa$  if the kernel  $V$  commutes with the left action of  $G$  on  $\mathbb{E}$ .

### 3. The characterization of convolution Feller semi-groups.

Let  $(P_t)$  be a Feller semigroup on  $\mathbb{E}$  that commutes with the action of  $G$  on  $\mathbb{E}$ , i.e., if  $s \in G$  and  $t > 0$  then

$$T_s P_t = P_t T_s.$$

Further, assume that if  $A \subset E$  is compact,

$$V1_A = \int_0^\infty P_t 1_A dt$$

is finite.

Denote by  $\check{x}$  the unique  $K$ -invariant measure on  $E$  defined by  $\langle \check{x}, \Phi \rangle = V\Phi(0)$ . Then  $Vf = f * x$  and  $\mu V = \mu * \check{x}$  (note that  $(\check{x})^\sim$  is  $K$ -biinvariant and so  $((\check{x})^\sim)^\vee$ , being  $K$ -right invariant, is of the form  $\tilde{x}$  for a unique  $x \in M^+(E)$ ). It will be shown first that  $\check{x}$  satisfies conditions  $D_1$ ) and  $D_2$ ).

Note that  $\mu \rightarrow \mu P_t$ ,  $\mu \in M_c^+(E)$ , defines a continuous Hunt semigroup in the terminology of Deny [1]. Hence, all the results of paragraphs 3 and 4 in [1] hold.

To begin with it is proved that 1 is an excessive function.

LEMMA 3.1. —  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} P_t 1 = 1$ .

*Proof.* — Obviously, it suffices to show that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} P_t(0, 1) = 1$ . Choose  $\Phi \in C_c^+(E)$  with  $\Phi(0) = 1$  and  $\Phi \leq 1$ . Then  $1 = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} P_t(0, \Phi) \leq \limsup_{t \rightarrow 0} P_t(0, 1) \leq 1$ .

COROLLARY 3.2. — Let  $\sigma \in M^+(E)$  be such that  $\sigma * \check{x} \leq \check{x}$ . Then  $\langle \sigma, 1 \rangle \leq 1$ .

*Proof.* — Since by Lemma 3.1 1 is excessive there exists  $(f_n) \subset E$  with  $(f_n * x)$  increasing to 1. Hence,  
 $\langle \sigma, 1 \rangle = \lim_n \langle \sigma, f_n * x \rangle = \lim_n \langle \sigma * \check{x}, f_n \rangle$   
 $\leq \lim_n \langle \check{x}, f_n \rangle = \lim_n f_n * x(0) = 1$ .

LEMMA 3.3. — Let  $(\alpha_i)$  and  $(\beta_j) \subset M^+(E)$  be two nets that converge weakly to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  respectively. Assume

$$\langle \alpha_i, 1 \rangle \leq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \beta_j, 1 \rangle \leq 1$$

for all  $i$  and  $j$ . In addition assume that each  $\beta_j$  is  $K$ -invariant. Then,

$$\alpha * \beta = \lim_i \lim_j \alpha_i * \beta_j = \lim_j \lim_i \alpha_i * \beta_j.$$

*Proof.* — Let  $\Phi \in C_c^+(E)$ . Then  $\langle \alpha_i * \beta_j, \Phi \rangle = \langle \alpha_i, \Phi * \check{\beta}_j \rangle$  implies  $\lim_i \alpha_i * \beta_j = \alpha * \beta_j$ . Further, since  $(\tilde{\alpha}_i)^\vee * \tilde{\Phi} = \tilde{\Psi}$ ,

with  $\psi \in C_0(E)$ , it follows from  $\langle \alpha_i * \beta_j, \Phi \rangle = \langle \tilde{\beta}_j, \tilde{\Psi} \rangle$  that  $\lim_j \alpha_i * \beta_j = \alpha_i * \beta$ . Applying both these arguments to  $\alpha_i * \beta$  and  $\alpha * \beta_j$  respectively gives the result.

**COROLLARY 3.4.** — *If  $\beta$  is K-invariant and  $\langle \beta, 1 \rangle \leq 1$  then  $\lim_i \alpha_i * \beta = \alpha * \beta$ . If  $\langle \beta, 1 \rangle \leq 1$  and each  $\alpha_i$  is K-invariant then  $\lim_i \beta * \alpha_i = \beta * \alpha$ .*

*Proof.* — Let  $\beta_j = \beta$  for all  $j$ .

**COROLLARY 3.5.** — *Let  $\mu$  be a weak accumulation point of  $\{\sigma^n | n \in \mathbf{N}\}$ , where  $\sigma * \check{x} \leq \check{x}$  and  $\sigma$  is K-invariant. Then  $\mu * \sigma = \sigma * \mu$ .*

*Proof.* — Let  $\sigma^n = \alpha_i$  be a net converging to  $\mu$ . Then

$$\mu * \sigma = \lim_i \alpha_i * \sigma = \lim_i \sigma * \alpha_i = \sigma * \mu.$$

A Radon measure  $\xi$  is said to be *excessive* if it is  $\geq 0$  and  $\xi * \lambda x_\lambda \leq \xi$  for all  $\lambda > 0$ . It is said to be a *potential* if  $\xi = \gamma * \check{x}$  for some  $\gamma \in M^+(E)$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.6.** — *Let  $(\xi_i)$  be a net of potentials*

$$\xi_i = \gamma_i * \check{x}$$

*each dominated by a potential  $\beta * \check{x}$  with  $\langle \beta, 1 \rangle < \infty$ . Assume that  $\xi$  is the weak limit of  $(\xi_i)$ .*

*Then  $\xi$  is a potential  $\gamma * \check{x}$  and  $\gamma = \lim_i \gamma_i$  if  $\langle \gamma_i, 1 \rangle \leq 1$  for all  $n$ .*

*Proof* (cf. the proofs of Theorem 6.1 and Lemma 7.1 in [1]). — The measure  $\xi$  is excessive and since  $\xi \leq \beta * \check{x}$  its invariant part is zero (see [1]). Let  $\mu_\lambda = \lambda \xi * (\delta - \lambda \check{x}_\lambda)$ .

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mu_\lambda, 1 \rangle &\leq \lambda \langle \beta * \check{x} * (\delta - \lambda \check{x}_\lambda), 1 \rangle \\ &= \langle \beta * \lambda \check{x}_\lambda, 1 \rangle \leq \langle \beta, 1 \rangle < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by Lemma 3.3, if  $\gamma$  is a weak accumulation point

of  $\{\mu_n | n > 0\}$  and equals  $\lim_j \mu_{n_j}$ , where  $j \rightarrow \mu_{n_j}$  is a net, then  $\lim_j \mu_{n_j} * \check{x}_\lambda = \gamma * \check{x}_\lambda$ .

Deny's argument in [1] is now used to show  $\xi = \gamma * \check{x}$  (see proof of his Theorem 6.1). Specifically, since for any  $\lambda > 0$   $\lim_j \mu_\lambda * \check{x}_{n_j} = 0$  (the net  $j \rightarrow n_j$  is unbounded) it follows that

$$\mu_\lambda * \check{x} = \lim_j \mu_\lambda * (\check{x} - \check{x}_{n_j}) = \lim_j \mu_{n_j} * (\check{x} - \check{x}_\lambda) = \xi - \gamma * \check{x}_\lambda,$$

since  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda(\xi * \check{x}_\lambda) = \xi$  follows from the fact that for all  $\Phi \in C_c(E)$   $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda(\Phi * \kappa_\lambda) = \Phi$ .

Following Deny, let  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  in this identity. Since

$$\mu_\lambda * \check{x} = \xi * \lambda \check{x}_\lambda$$

implies  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \mu_\lambda * \check{x} = 0$  (the invariant part of  $\xi$  is zero) it follows that  $\xi = \gamma * \check{x}$ .

It remains to show that  $\gamma = \lim_i \gamma_i$ . Since

$$\xi_i * \lambda \check{x}_\lambda = \xi_i - \gamma_i * \check{x}_\lambda,$$

by lemma 3.3,  $\lim_i \gamma_i * \check{x}_\lambda$  exists and equals

$$\xi - \xi * \lambda \check{x}_\lambda = \gamma * \check{x}_\lambda.$$

Let  $j \rightarrow \gamma_{n_j}$  be a net converging to  $\alpha$ . Then

$$\alpha * \check{x}_\lambda = \lim_j \gamma_{n_j} * \check{x}_\lambda = \gamma * \check{x}_\lambda.$$

Hence, as  $\overline{V_\lambda(C_c(E))} = C_0(E)$ ,  $\alpha = \gamma$  and so  $(\gamma_i)$  converges weakly to  $\gamma$ .

**COROLLARY 3.7.** — *If  $U \subset E$  is open and  $\beta \in M_b^+(E)$  there exists a measure  $\beta' \in M^+(E)$  with (1)  $\beta' * \check{x} \leq \beta * \check{x}$ ; (2)  $\beta'$  carried by  $\overline{U}$  and (3)  $\beta' * \check{x} = \beta * \check{x}$  on  $U$ .*

*Proof.* — The argument used by Deny to prove Lemma 7.2 in [1] applies without change once it is noted that

$$\mu * \check{x} \leq \beta * \check{x} \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \beta, 1 \rangle = b$$

implies  $\langle \mu, 1 \rangle \leq b$  (see the proof of Corollary 3.2).

**COROLLARY 3.8.** — Assume  $\sigma * \check{\nu} \leq \check{\nu}$ . The excessive measure  $\xi = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^n * \check{\nu}$  is a potential  $\mu * \check{\nu}$  and  $\mu = \lim_n \sigma^n$ .

*Proof.* — Let  $\xi_n = \sigma^n * \check{\nu}$ .

From these results one can quickly deduce the following key fact.

**PROPOSITION 3.9.** — Let  $\sigma \in M^+(E)$  be such that  $\sigma * \check{\nu} \leq \check{\nu}$  and  $\sigma * \check{\nu} \neq \check{\nu}$ . Then,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^n * \check{\nu} = 0$ .

*Proof* (cf. the proof of Theorem 7.1 in [1]). — Let

$$\xi = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^n * \check{\nu}.$$

Then  $\sigma * \xi = \xi$  and  $\xi = \mu * \check{\nu}$  where  $\mu = \lim_n \sigma^n$  (see Proposition 3.6). Hence,

$$\mu * \xi = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu * \sigma^n * \check{\nu} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^n * \mu * \check{\nu} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^n * \xi = \xi$$

(note that the first equality holds by monotonicity).

Since  $\sigma * \check{\nu} \neq \check{\nu}$  the positive measure  $\check{\nu} - \xi$  is not zero. Hence,  $\mu * (\check{\nu} - \xi) = 0$  implies  $\mu = 0$  and so  $\xi = 0$ .

Deny's Proposition 3.3 in [1] states that if  $\mu, \nu \in M^+(E)$  are such that  $\mu * \check{\nu}, \nu * \check{\nu} \in M^+(E)$  and  $\mu * \check{\nu} = \nu * \check{\nu}$  then  $\mu = \nu$ . Hence, Corollary 3.7 (applied to  $\beta = \delta$ ) and Proposition 3.9 imply that  $\eta = \check{\nu}$  satisfies the following condition :

D) for a base  $\mathcal{B}$  of compact neighbourhoods  $B$  of 0 there is, for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , a measure  $\sigma \in M^+(E)$  with

- (1)  $\sigma * \eta \leq \eta$  and  $\sigma * \eta \neq \eta$ ;
- (2)  $\sigma * \eta = \eta$  on  $\int B$ ;
- (3)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sigma^n) * \eta = 0$  (weakly).

One can now state and prove the following characterization of Feller semigroups on  $E$  whose potential kernel is proper and which commute with the action of  $G$  on  $E$ .

**THEOREM 3.10.** — Let  $G$  be a locally compact group (that is  $\sigma$ -compact) and let  $E$  be the homogeneous space  $G/K$

of right cosets of  $K$ , a compact subgroup of  $G$ . Denote by  $\kappa$  a positive  $K$ -invariant Radon measure on  $E$ .

The following conditions are equivalent:

(1) there is a family  $(\alpha_t)_{t > 0}$  of  $K$ -invariant Radon measures  $\alpha_t$  on  $E$  such that  $\kappa = \int_0^\infty \alpha_t dt$  and  $(*\alpha_t)_{t > 0}$  is a Feller semigroup;

(2) the kernel  $*\kappa$  satisfies the complete maximum principle and  $\kappa$  satisfies  $D$ );

(2 $\vee$ ) the kernel  $*\check{\kappa}$  satisfies the complete maximum principle and  $\check{\kappa}$  satisfies  $D$ ).

Further, if  $D'$ ) denotes the condition obtained from  $D$ ) by reversing all the convolutions then (1) implies:

(3) the kernel  $*\kappa$  satisfies the complete maximum principle and  $\kappa$  satisfies  $D'$ ); and

(3 $\vee$ ) the analogue of (2 $\vee$ ) with  $D$ ) replaced by  $D'$ ).

*Proof.* — Theorem 2.9 states that (2)  $\implies$  (1).

(1)  $\implies$  (2). As noted above the measure  $\check{\kappa}$  satisfies  $D$ ). Further, if  $\kappa_\lambda = \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \alpha_t dt$ , the family  $(*\check{\kappa}_\lambda)$  of convolution kernels is a sub-Markovian resolvent family. Lemma 3.11 shows that  $*\check{\kappa} = \lim_{\lambda \searrow 0} *\check{\kappa}_\lambda$  and so  $*\check{\kappa}$  satisfies the complete maximum principle. Hence, from Theorem 2.9 and the above remark  $\kappa = (\check{\kappa})^\vee$  satisfies  $D$ ).

The statement (1) is equivalent to the statement obtained by replacing each measure  $\eta$  by  $\check{\eta}$ . Hence, (1)  $\iff$  (2 $\vee$ ).

LEMMA 3.11. — Assume  $(*\kappa_\lambda)$  is a sub-Markovian resolvent family of convolution kernels  $V_\lambda = *\kappa_\lambda$  with each  $\kappa_\lambda$  a  $K$ -invariant measure on  $E$  and  $\lim_{\lambda \searrow 0} V_\lambda = *\kappa$ . Then,

$$*\kappa = \lim_{\lambda \searrow 0} *\kappa_\lambda \iff \kappa = \lim_{\lambda \searrow 0} \kappa_\lambda.$$

*Proof.* — Since  $\langle \beta, g \rangle = \langle \check{\beta}, \check{g} \rangle$ , it suffices to show that  $*\kappa = \lim_{\lambda \searrow 0} *\kappa_\lambda$  if for all  $g \in \mathcal{G}^+$ ,  $\lim_{\lambda \searrow 0} \langle \check{\kappa}_\lambda, g \rangle = \langle \check{\kappa}, g \rangle$ .

One implication is obvious. Now assume that, for all  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$ ,  $\lim_{\lambda \searrow 0} f * \kappa_\lambda = f * \kappa$ . Let  $g_1 \in \mathcal{G}^+$  be bounded and vanish

outside a compact set. Then there exists  $\Phi \in C^+(\mathbb{E})$  with  $(\tilde{\Phi})^\vee \geq \tilde{g}_1$ . Since  $\Phi * \kappa_\lambda(0) = \langle \tilde{x}_\lambda, (\tilde{\Phi})^\vee \rangle$  and  $\tilde{x}_\lambda \leq \tilde{x}$ , for all  $\lambda > 0$  it follows that  $\lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \langle \tilde{x}_\lambda, g_1 \rangle = \langle \tilde{x}, g_1 \rangle$ . Since  $\tilde{x}$  is a Radon measure this implies that  $\lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \langle \tilde{x}_\lambda, g \rangle = \langle \tilde{x}, g \rangle$  for all  $g \in \mathcal{G}^+$ .

LEMMA 3.12. — Let  $\sigma \in M^+(\mathbb{E})$  and set

$$\langle \nu, f \rangle = \int \langle \sigma, T_s f \rangle m(ds).$$

Then  $\nu \in M^+(\mathbb{E})$  is a  $K$ -invariant measure. Further, if

$$\alpha \in M^+(\mathbb{E})$$

and  $\alpha * \sigma \in M^+(\mathbb{E})$  so too is  $\alpha * \nu$  and  $\alpha * \nu = \alpha * \sigma$ . If, in addition,  $\alpha$  is  $K$ -invariant then  $\nu * \alpha = \sigma * \alpha$  when  $\sigma * \alpha \in M^+(\mathbb{E})$ .

*Proof.* — Clearly  $\nu$  is  $K$ -invariant. Let  $f \in \mathcal{E}^+$ . Then  $\langle \nu, f \rangle = \langle \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{f} \rangle = \iint \tilde{f}(s^{-1}z) \tilde{\sigma}(dz) m(ds)$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \alpha * \nu, f \rangle &= \langle \tilde{\alpha} * \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{f} \rangle \\ &= \int \left[ \int \tilde{f}(xy) \tilde{\nu}(dy) \right] \tilde{\alpha}(dx) = \int \left[ \iint \tilde{f}(xs^{-1}z) \tilde{\sigma}(dz) m(ds) \right] \tilde{\alpha}(dx) \\ &\text{(because the function } y \rightarrow \tilde{f}(xy) = \tilde{g}(y), g \in \mathcal{E}^+) \\ &= \iint \left[ \int \tilde{f}(xs^{-1}z) \tilde{\alpha}(dx) \right] \tilde{\sigma}(dz) m(ds) \\ &= \iint \left[ \int \tilde{f}(xz) \tilde{\alpha}(dx) \right] \tilde{\sigma}(dz) m(ds) \\ &\text{(because } s \in K \text{ and } \tilde{\alpha} \text{ is } K\text{-right invariant)} \\ &= \langle \tilde{\alpha} * \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{f} \rangle = \langle \alpha * \sigma, f \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

The calculation that proves  $\nu * \alpha = \sigma * \alpha$  when  $\alpha$  is  $K$ -invariant is entirely similar.

COROLLARY 3.13. — Let  $\kappa * \sigma \leq \kappa$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \kappa * \sigma^n = 0$  where  $\kappa, \sigma \in M^+(\mathbb{E})$  and  $\kappa$  is  $K$ -invariant. Then the  $K$ -invariant measure  $\nu$  of Lemma 3.12 is such that  $\kappa * \nu \leq \kappa$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \kappa * \nu^n = 0$ . Further, if  $\kappa * \sigma = \kappa$  on  $A$  then  $\kappa * \nu = \kappa$  on  $A$ .

*The corresponding results hold if the convolutions are done in the reverse order.*

*Proof.* — For the first statement it suffices to note that

$$\chi * \sigma^n = (\chi * \sigma^{n-1}) * \sigma = (\chi * \sigma^{n-1}) * \nu$$

and so  $\chi * \sigma^n = \chi * \nu^n$ . For the second one note that if

$$\nu^{n-1} * \chi = \sigma^{n-1} * \chi = \alpha$$

then  $\alpha$  is  $K$ -invariant and so  $\nu^n * \chi = \sigma * \alpha = \sigma^n * \chi$ .

The proof of the theorem is now completed by the above lemmas and corollary.

*Remarks.* — The conditions (3) and (3<sup>∨</sup>) do not appear to imply condition (1). By considering the situation on the space  $F$  of left cosets one could show (3)  $\implies$  (1) providing that the kernel  $\chi *$  on  $F$  satisfies the complete maximum principle. However one only knows that  $\check{\chi} *$  has this property.

To prove the last statement it suffices to show that  $\chi$  satisfies  $D'$  whenever  $\chi$  satisfies  $D$ ).

First of all if  $\mathcal{B}$  is a neighbourhood base for  $0$  satisfying  $D$  the measures  $\sigma$  can, by corollary 3.13 below, be assumed to be  $K$ -invariant. Now  $(\sigma * \chi)^\vee = \check{\chi} * \check{\sigma}$  and so since the sets of the form  $\pi((\check{A})^\vee)$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , also from a base for the neighbourhoods of  $0$  it follows that  $\check{\chi}$  satisfies  $D'$ ).

### Appendix.

In the non  $\sigma$ -compact case the complications arise because theorem 2 of [4] no longer applies and has to be replaced by theorem 3 of [5]. In the terminology of [5] if  $V = * \chi$  then every Baire set is  $\sigma$ -bounded. This condition replaces the hypothesis that  $V$  is a proper kernel in the  $\sigma$ -compact case.

In proposition 1.2 « excessive » should be replaced by « supermedian » as defined in [5]. Now, as  $V$  is sub-Markovian,  $1$  is supermedian and so, in view of theorem 3 in [5], theorem 1.4 holds. Note that in lemma 1.3 « proper » should be replaced by « every Baire set is  $\sigma$ -bounded ».

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