# THE STRUCTURE, APPROXIMATE IDENTITIES, AND DUALS OF $\ell^{p}$-MUNN ALGEBRAS 

M. Lashkarizadeh Bami and S. Naseri

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#### Abstract

In the present paper we first introduce the notion of $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ of a Banach space $\mathcal{A}$, where $I$ is an index set, and $1 \leq p<\infty$. In the case where $\mathcal{A}$ is a Banach algebra and $1 \leq p \leq 2$ we find necessary and sufficient conditions for which $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity. We also find the second dual of $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ for an arbitrary index set $I$. In the case where $1 \leq p \leq 2$ and $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity we prove that $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{* *}$ is unital if and only if $\mathcal{A}^{* *}$ is unital.


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Introduction The properties of $\ell^{1}$-Munn algebras is investigated by G. H. Esslamzadeh (for example, see [1]). The aim of the present paper is to introduce and investigate the properties of $\ell^{p}$-Munn algebras. The organization of this paper is as follows. The preliminaries and notations are given in section 1. In section 2 we introduce and investigate the structure of $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$, where $\mathcal{A}$ is a Banach space, $I$ is an index set, and $1 \leq p<\infty$. The Banach space $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ is the vector space of all $I \times I$-matrices $A$ over $\mathcal{A}$ such that $\|A\|_{p}=\left(\sum_{i, j \in I}\left\|A_{i j}\right\|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}<\infty$. We find necessary and sufficient conditions for which $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ is a Banach algebra. We prove that if $\mathcal{A}$ is a Banach algebra such that $\mathcal{A}^{2} \neq 0$, then $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ is a Banach algebra if and only if $1 \leq p \leq 2$. We also prove that for $1 \leq p \leq 2$, the Banach algebra $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity if and only if $I$ is finite and $\mathcal{A}$ has a bounded approximate identity. Finally, in section 3 for an arbitrary index set $I$, we study the second dual of $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ over a unital Banach algebra $\mathcal{A}$. In the case where $1 \leq p \leq 2$ and $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity we prove that $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{* *}$ is unital if and only if $\mathcal{A}^{* *}$ is unital.

1 Preliminaries Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an algebra, a norm $\|$. $\|$ on $\mathcal{A}$ is said to be submultiplicative if

$$
\|a b\| \leq\|a\|\|b\| \quad(a, b \in \mathcal{A})
$$

In this case the pair $(\mathcal{A},\|\|$.$) is called a normed algebra. A complete normed$ algebra is called a Banach algebra. The radical of $\mathcal{A}$ is the subset $\operatorname{rad}(\mathcal{A})$ of $\mathcal{A}$ given by

$$
\operatorname{rad}(\mathcal{A})=\cap\left\{\operatorname{ker}(\phi) \mid \phi \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{A}}\right\}
$$

where $\Sigma_{\mathcal{A}}$ is the class of all irreducible representations of $\mathcal{A}$. $\mathcal{A}$ is called semisimple if $\operatorname{rad}(\mathcal{A})=\{0\}$.

If $\mathcal{A}$ admits a unit $e_{\mathcal{A}}$ (i.e. $a e_{\mathcal{A}}=e_{\mathcal{A}} a=a$, for all $a \in \mathcal{A}$ ) and $\left\|e_{\mathcal{A}}\right\|=1$ we say that $\mathcal{A}$ is a unital Banach algebra.

Let $(\mathcal{A},\|\|$.$) be a normed algebra. A left (respectively, right ) approximate$ identity for $\mathcal{A}$ is a net $\left(e_{\alpha}\right)$ in $\mathcal{A}$ such that $\lim _{\alpha} e_{\alpha} a=a\left(\lim _{\alpha} a e_{\alpha}=a\right.$, respectively) for each $a \in \mathcal{A}$. An approximate identity for $\mathcal{A}$ is a net $\left(e_{\alpha}\right)$ which is both a left and a right approximate identity. An approximate identity is bounded by $M$, whenever $M>0$ and $\sup _{\alpha}\left\|e_{\alpha}\right\| \leq M$.

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an arbitrary Banach algebra. The first and second Arens multiplications on $\mathcal{A}^{* *}$ that we denote by $\Delta$ and. respectively, are defined by the following relations:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\langle f \Delta a, b\rangle=\langle f, a b\rangle, \quad\langle a \cdot f, b\rangle=\langle f, b a\rangle, \\
\langle m \Delta f, a\rangle=\langle m, f \Delta a\rangle, \quad\langle f . m, b\rangle=\langle m, b \cdot f\rangle, \\
\langle m \Delta n, f\rangle=\langle m, n \Delta f\rangle, \quad\langle m \cdot n, f\rangle=\langle n, f . m\rangle,
\end{gathered}
$$

where $a, b \in \mathcal{A}, f \in \mathcal{A}^{*}$ and $m, n \in \mathcal{A}^{* *}$.
2 The structure of the Banach space $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})(1 \leq p<\infty)$ over a Banach algebra $\mathcal{A}$

Definition 2.1. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a Banach space, $1 \leq p<\infty$, and $I$ be an arbitrary index set, let $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ be the vector space of all $I \times I$-matrices $A$ over $\mathcal{A}$ such that

$$
\|A\|_{p}=\left(\sum_{i, j \in I}\left\|A_{i j}\right\|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}<\infty
$$

Then it is easy to check that $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ with scaler multiplication, matrix addition, and the norm $\|.\|_{p}$ is a Banach space.

The space $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{1}(\mathcal{A})$ over a unital Banach algebra $\mathcal{A}$ is called $\ell^{1}$-Munn algebra (see [1]).

In the rest of the paper we suppose that $\mathcal{A}$ is a Banach algebra.

Theorem 2.2. Let $1 \leq p \leq 2$. The Banach space $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ with matrix multiplication and the norm $\|.\|_{p}$ is a Banach algebra.
Proof. Let $A, B \in \mathcal{L M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$, and $i, j \in I$. Since $1 \leq p \leq 2$, so for $q$ with $\frac{1}{p}+\frac{1}{q}=1, q \geq 2 \geq p$. Hence $\ell^{p}(I) \subseteq \ell^{q}(I)$ and $\|f\|_{q} \leq\|f\|_{p}\left(f \in \ell^{p}(I)\right)$. Now, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left(\sum_{k \in I}\left\|A_{i k}\right\|\left\|B_{k j}\right\|\right)^{p} & =\left\|\left(\left\|A_{i k}\right\|\right)_{k}\left(\left\|B_{k j}\right\|\right)_{k}\right\|_{1}^{p} \\
& \leq\left\|\left(\left\|A_{i k}\right\|\right)_{k}\right\|_{p}^{p}\left\|\left(\left\|B_{k j}\right\|\right)_{k}\right\|_{q}^{p} \\
& \leq\left\|\left(\left\|A_{i k}\right\|\right)_{k}\right\|_{p}^{p}\left\|\left(\left\|B_{k j}\right\|\right)_{k}\right\|_{p}^{p} \\
& =\left(\sum_{k \in I}\left\|A_{i k}\right\|^{p}\right)\left(\sum_{l \in I}\left\|B_{l j}\right\|^{p}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Therefore

$$
\begin{aligned}
\|A B\|_{p}^{p} & =\sum_{i, j \in I}\left\|\sum_{k \in I} A_{i k} B_{k j}\right\|^{p} \\
& \leq \sum_{i, j \in I}\left(\sum_{k \in I}\left\|A_{i k}\right\|\left\|B_{k j}\right\|\right)^{p} \\
& \leq \sum_{i, j \in I}\left(\sum_{k \in I}\left\|A_{i k}\right\|^{p}\right)\left(\sum_{l \in I}\left\|B_{l j}\right\|^{p}\right) \\
& =\left(\sum_{i, k \in I}\left\|A_{i k}\right\|^{p}\right)\left(\sum_{j, l \in I}\left\|B_{l j}\right\|^{p}\right) \\
& =\|A\|_{p}^{p}\|B\|_{p}^{p} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Hence $\|A B\|_{p} \leq\|A\|_{p}\|B\|_{p}$. It shows that $\|.\|_{p}$ is an algebra norm. Hence $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ is a Banach algebra.

Proposition 2.3. Let $I$ be an infinite set and $\mathcal{A}$ be a Banach algebra such that $\mathcal{A}^{2} \neq 0$. Then for each $2<p<\infty, \mathcal{L M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ is not an algebra.
Proof. Since $\mathcal{A}^{2} \neq 0$, so there exist $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $a b \neq 0$. Let $\left\{i_{n}\right\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be an infinite subset of distinct elements of $I$. Define the $I \times I$-matrix $A$ over $\mathcal{A}$ by $A_{i_{1} i_{n}}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} a(n \in \mathbb{N})$ and $A_{i j}=0$ for other $i, j \in I$. Also define the $I \times I$-matrix $B$ over $\mathcal{A}$ by $B_{i_{n} i_{1}}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} b(n \in \mathbb{N})$ and $B_{i j}=0$ for other $i, j \in I$. It is easy to see that $A, B \in \mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$. But $A B$ is not even well defined, since

$$
(A B)_{i_{1} i_{1}}=\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_{i_{1} i_{n}} B_{i_{n} i_{1}}=\left(\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{1}{n}\right) a b .
$$

Theorem 2.4. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a Banach algebra and $1 \leq p \leq 2$.
(i) If $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity, then $\mathcal{A}$ has a bounded approximate identity and the index set I is finite.
(ii) If $\mathcal{A}$ has a bounded approximate identity and the index set I finite, then $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity.
Proof. (i) Let $\left\{E_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in \Lambda\right\}$ be a bounded approximate identity for $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ bounded by $M>0$. For $i, j \in I$, and $a \in \mathcal{A}$, let $\varepsilon_{i j} a$ be an $I \times I$ matrix over $\mathcal{A}$ that has $a$ as its $(i, j)$-th entry and 0 elsewhere. For $i, j \in I$, and $a \in \mathcal{A}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
0 & =\lim _{\alpha}\left\|E_{\alpha} \cdot a \varepsilon_{i j}-a \varepsilon_{i j}\right\|_{p}^{p}=\lim _{\alpha}\left\|\sum_{k, l \in I}\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{k l} \varepsilon_{k l} a \varepsilon_{i j}-a \epsilon_{i j}\right\|_{p}^{p} \\
& =\lim _{\alpha}\left\|\sum_{k \in I}\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{k i} a \varepsilon_{k j}-a \epsilon_{i j}\right\|_{p}^{p} \\
& =\lim _{\alpha}\left\|\sum_{k \in I, k \neq i}\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{k i} a \varepsilon_{k j}+\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i} a \varepsilon_{i j}-a \varepsilon_{i j}\right\|_{p}^{p} \\
& =\lim _{\alpha}\left(\sum_{k \in I, k \neq i}\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{k i} a\right\|^{p}+\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i} a-a\right\|^{p}\right) \\
& \geq \limsup _{\alpha}\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i} a-a\right\|^{p} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus $\lim _{\alpha}\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i} a-a\right\|=0$. If we let $e_{i}^{\alpha}=\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i}$, then for every $a \in$ $\mathcal{A}, \lim _{\alpha}\left\|e_{i}^{\alpha} a-a\right\|=\lim _{\alpha}\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i} a-a\right\|=0$. Similarly one can prove that $\lim _{\alpha}\left\|a e_{i}^{\alpha}-a\right\|=0$. Moreover,

$$
\left\|e_{i}^{\alpha}\right\|=\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i}\right\| \leq\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)\right\|_{p} \leq M
$$

Therefore $\left\{e_{i}^{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in \Lambda\right\}$ is a bounded approximate identity for $\mathcal{A}$.
Let $a \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $\|a\|=1$. Suppose on the contrary that $I$ is infinite. Let $\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{\alpha}$ be an approximate identity for $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$. For every finite subset $F$ of $I$, define $A_{F}$ by $\left(A_{F}\right)_{i i}=a$ if $i \in F,\left(A_{F}\right)_{i i}=0$ if $i \in I-F$ and $\left(A_{F}\right)_{i j}=0$ if $i \neq j$ then

$$
\begin{aligned}
(\operatorname{Card} F)^{\frac{1}{p}} & =\left(\sum_{i \in F}\|a\|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \\
& =\left\|A_{F}\right\|_{p} \\
& =\lim _{\alpha}\left\|A_{F} E_{\alpha}\right\|_{p} \\
& =\lim _{\alpha}\left(\sum_{i \in F, j \in I}\left\|a\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i j}\right\|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \leq \liminf _{\alpha}\left(\sum_{i \in F, j \in I}\|a\|^{p}\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i j}\right\|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \\
& =\liminf _{\alpha}\left(\sum_{i \in F, j \in I}\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i j}\right\|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \\
& \leq \liminf _{\alpha}\left\|E_{\alpha}\right\|_{p}
\end{aligned}
$$

Therefore $\lim _{\alpha}\left\|E_{\alpha}\right\|_{p}=\infty$. Thus the Banach algebra $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ does not have a bounded approximate identity. This is a contradiction. Therefore the index set $I$ is finite.
(ii) Let $|I|=n$ and $\left\{e^{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in \Lambda\right\}$ be a bounded approximate identity for $\mathcal{A}$, bounded by $K>0$. Define $\left\{E^{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in \Lambda\right\}$ in $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ by $\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i}=e_{\alpha}$, and $\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i j}=0$, if $i \neq j$ for $i, j \in I$. Now, for every $A \in \mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\lim _{\alpha}\left\|A E_{\alpha}-A\right\|_{p}^{p} & =\lim _{\alpha} \sum_{i, j \in I}\left\|\left(A E_{\alpha}\right)_{i j}-A_{i j}\right\|^{p} \\
& =\lim _{\alpha} \sum_{i, j \in I}\left\|\sum_{k \in I} A_{i k}\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{k j}-A_{i j}\right\|^{p} \\
& =\lim _{\alpha} \sum_{i, j \in I}\left\|A_{i j} e_{\alpha}-A_{i j}\right\|^{p} \\
& =0
\end{aligned}
$$

By a similar method one can prove that $\lim _{\alpha}\left\|E_{\alpha} A-A\right\|_{p}=0$, for every $A \in \mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$. Moreover,

$$
\left\|E_{\alpha}\right\|_{p}^{p}=\sum_{i, j \in I}\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i j}\right\|^{p}=\sum_{i \in I}\left\|\left(E_{\alpha}\right)_{i i}\right\|^{p} \leq n \cdot M^{p}
$$

and so $\left\|E_{\alpha}\right\|_{p} \leq n^{\frac{1}{p}} M$. Therefore $\left\{E^{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in \Lambda\right\}$ is a bounded approximate identity for $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$.
Corollary 2.5. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a Banach algebra with unit $e_{\mathcal{A}}$, and $1 \leq p \leq 2$. The following conditions are equivalent:
(i) If $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity.
(ii) I is finite.

Remark 2.6. If $I$ is finite, then $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ is semisimple if and only if $\mathcal{A}$ is semisimple (see for example [3] section IX. 2 exercise 13).

3 Duals of $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ for $1 \leq p \leq 2$.
Let $X$ be an arbitrary Banach space and $\mathcal{A}$ be a Banach algebra and $I$ be an arbitrary index set. It is well known that $\ell^{p}(I, X)^{*}=\ell^{q}\left(I, X^{*}\right)$ whenver $1 \leq p<\infty$ and $\frac{1}{p}+\frac{1}{q}=1$.

Theorem 3.1. Let I be an arbitrary index set and $1 \leq p \leq 2$. Then $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{* *}$ is topologically algebra isomorphic to $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}\left(\mathcal{A}^{* *}\right)$ when both of $\mathcal{A}^{* *}$ and $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{* *}$ are equipped with the first [second] Arens product.

Proof. If we define $\psi: \mathcal{L M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{*} \rightarrow \ell^{p}\left(I \times I, \mathcal{A}^{*}\right)$ by $\langle\psi(F)(i, j), a\rangle=\left\langle F, a \varepsilon_{i j}\right\rangle$, where $a \varepsilon_{i j}$ is an $I \times I$ matrix on $\mathcal{A}$ which has $a$ as $(i, j)$ - th entry and 0 elsewhere. We will denote $\psi(F)$ by $\widetilde{F}$. It is now obvious what we mean by $\ell^{p}\left(I \times I, \mathcal{A}^{* *}\right)$ and its elements. We can identify the two Banach spaces $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{* *}$ and $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}\left(\mathcal{A}^{* *}\right)$. Therefore we need only to show that the linear isomorphism $\psi: \mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{* *} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{I}^{p}\left(\mathcal{A}^{* *}\right)$ is multiplicative. Throughout we will use the fact that the restriction of the Arens product of $\mathcal{A}^{* *}$ to $\mathcal{A}$ agrees with the multiplication of $\mathcal{A}$. Let $A, X \in \mathcal{L M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A}), F \in \mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{*}$ and $M, N \in \mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{* *}$, then we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle(\widetilde{F \Delta A})_{i j}, X_{i j}\right\rangle & =\left\langle F \Delta A, X_{i j} \varepsilon_{i j}\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle F, A\left(X_{i j} \varepsilon_{i j}\right)\right\rangle \\
& =\sum_{k}\left\langle F, A_{k i} X_{i j} \varepsilon_{k j}\right\rangle \\
& =\sum_{k}\left\langle\widetilde{F}_{k j}, A_{k i} X_{i j}\right\rangle \\
& =\sum_{k}\left\langle\widetilde{F}_{k j} \Delta A_{k i}, X_{i j}\right\rangle .
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus

$$
(\widetilde{F \Delta A})_{i j}=\sum_{k} \widetilde{F}_{k j} \Delta A_{i k}
$$

Now applying this relation to $\widetilde{M \Delta F}$ we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle(\widetilde{M \Delta F})_{i j}, A_{i j}\right\rangle & =\left\langle M \Delta F, A_{i j} \varepsilon_{i j}\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle M, F \Delta\left(A_{i j} \varepsilon_{i j}\right)\right\rangle \\
& =\sum_{k}\left\langle\widetilde{M}_{j k}, \widetilde{F}_{i k} \Delta A_{i j}\right\rangle \\
& =\sum_{k}\left\langle\widetilde{M}_{j k} \Delta \widetilde{F}_{i k}, A_{i j}\right\rangle .
\end{aligned}
$$

So

$$
(\widetilde{M \Delta F})_{i j}=\sum_{k} \widetilde{M}_{j k} \Delta \widetilde{F}_{i k}
$$

Using this relation to $\widetilde{N \Delta M}$ we obtain

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle(\widetilde{N \Delta M})_{i j}, \widetilde{F}_{i j}\right\rangle & =\left\langle N \Delta M, \widetilde{F}_{i j} \varepsilon_{i j}\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle N, M \Delta\left(\widetilde{F}_{i j} \varepsilon_{i j}\right)\right\rangle \\
& =\sum_{k}\left\langle\widetilde{N}_{i k}, \widetilde{M}_{k j} \Delta \widetilde{F}_{i j}\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle\sum_{k} \widetilde{N}_{i k} \Delta \widetilde{M}_{k j}, \widetilde{F}_{i j}\right\rangle .
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus

$$
(\widetilde{N \Delta M})_{i j}=\sum_{k} \widetilde{N}_{i k} \Delta \widetilde{M}_{k j}
$$

It is now easy to see that $\psi(N \Delta M)=\psi(N) \Delta \psi(M)$. Similarly we can prove that $\psi(N . M)=\psi(N) . \psi(M)$.

Theorem 3.2. Let $1 \leq p \leq 2$ and $\mathcal{A}$ be a Banach algebra such that $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity. Then $\mathcal{L M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{* *}$ is unital if and only if $\mathcal{A}^{* *}$ is unital.

Proof. We first note that since $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})$ has a bounded approximate identity, from Theorem 2.4 it follows that $I$ is finite. So without loss of generality we may assume that $p=2$. Then from the following identities,

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathcal{L M}_{I}^{2}(\mathcal{A})^{*}=\ell^{2}\left(I \times I, \mathcal{A}^{*}\right) \\
\mathcal{L M}_{I}^{2}(\mathcal{A})^{*} \mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{2}(\mathcal{A})=\ell^{2}\left(I \times I, \mathcal{A}^{*} \mathcal{A}\right) \\
\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{2}(\mathcal{A}) \mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{2}(\mathcal{A})^{*}==\ell^{2}\left(I \times I, \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A}^{*}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

we conclude that $\mathcal{A}^{*}$ factors on one side if and only if $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{M}_{I}^{p}(\mathcal{A})^{*}$ factors on the same side. Now the result follows from Proposition 2.2 of [4].

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The address of both authors:
Department of Mathematics
University of Isfahan
Isfahan
Iran

Email adddress of the first author:
lashkari@sci.ui.ac.ir

