

*THE INVARIANCE PRINCIPLE FOR RANDOM VARIABLES  
WITH VALUES IN LOCALLY COMPACT GROUPS*

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Let  $G$  be a locally compact group satisfying the second axiom of countability. Let  $D_G = D_G[0, 1]$  be the space of all functions  $f$  defined on  $[0, 1]$  with values in  $G$  that are right-continuous and have left-hand limits.  $D_G$  endowed with the so-called Skorohod topology is a *separable topologically complete space*. Let

$$\{X_j^{(n)}: j = 1, \dots, n; n = 1, 2, \dots\}$$

be an infinitesimal triangular array of symmetric,  $G$ -valued, independent and identically distributed random variables. Let us put

$$S_k^{(n)} = X_1^{(n)} X_2^{(n)} \dots X_k^{(n)}.$$

This (double) sequence defines a sequence of  $G$ -valued stochastic processes  $\{\xi_n\}$  with the sample paths in  $D_G$ :

$$\xi_n(t) = S_{[nt]}^{(n)}.$$

Assume that  $\xi_n(1)$  converges in distribution to a  $G$ -valued Gaussian random variable.

Is the sequence  $\{\xi_n\}$  (considered as a sequence of random elements with values in  $D_G$ ) convergent in distribution to a stochastic process with continuous sample paths?

The positive answer to this question was given by Donsker in [3] for  $G$  being the real line, and by Byczkowski in [2] for  $G$  being an LCA group (satisfying the second axiom of countability).

The aim of this paper\* is to extend this result for non-Abelian locally compact groups  $G$ . The proof of the invariance principle is based on methods developed in [2]. However, we have to deal with the operator-valued characteristic functions of probability measures and the situation becomes more complicated.

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At the end of the paper we consider  $G$ -valued homogeneous stochastic processes with independent increments, having continuous sample paths, and we prove that every such process is Gaussian.

**1. Preliminaries.** Throughout the paper,  $G$  will always denote a locally compact group. We will assume that  $G$  satisfies the second axiom of countability, unless otherwise stated.

Let  $\rho$  be a left-invariant metric generating the topology of  $G$ . It is well known (and not hard to verify) that  $\rho$  is complete.

Let  $\|\cdot\|$  denote the distance from the identity  $e$  of  $G$ :  $\|x\| = \rho(x, e)$ .

By  $D_G = D_G[0, 1]$  we will denote the space of all functions  $f$  defined on  $[0, 1]$  with values in  $G$  that are right-continuous and have left-hand limits.

Let  $\Lambda$  denote the class of all strictly increasing, continuous mappings of  $[0, 1]$  onto itself taking 0 onto 0. For  $f$  and  $g$  in  $D_G$  define  $d(f, g)$  to be the infimum of those positive  $\varepsilon$  for which in  $\Lambda$  there exists a  $\lambda$  such that

$$\sup_t |\lambda t - t| \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_t \|(f(t))^{-1}g(\lambda t)\| \leq \varepsilon.$$

The space  $D_G$  is a separable, topologically complete metric space with the topology generated by the metric  $d$  (the so-called Skorohod topology).

A mapping  $\xi$  defined on a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{S}, P)$  with values in  $D_G$  is called a *random element* if it is measurable with respect to  $\mathfrak{S}$  and the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra in  $D_G$ .

$\xi$  is a random element (with values in  $D_G$ ) if and only if  $\xi(t)$  is a random variable with values in  $G$  (i.e.,  $\xi(t)$  is measurable with respect to  $\mathfrak{S}$  and the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra in  $G$ ).

For further information concerning the space  $D_G$  as well as characterizations of the uniform tightness of families of probability measures on  $D_G$ , the reader is referred to [1] (the arguments used there apply to our general situation without almost any change).

Now, let us remind some basic facts about representations of locally compact groups and about the Fourier transform of probability measures.

Let  $U$  be a unitary representation of a locally compact group  $G$ , that is, a homomorphism  $g \rightarrow U(g)$  of  $G$  into the group of unitary operators on certain Hilbert space  $H$ . The representation  $U$  is called (*weakly*) *continuous* if the mapping

$$g \rightarrow \langle U(g)x, y \rangle$$

is continuous for every  $x, y \in H$ . A subspace  $L \subset H$  is called an *invariant subspace* of  $U$  if  $UL \subset L$ , that is,  $U(g)x \in L$  for every  $g \in G$  and every  $x \in L$ . We say that  $U$  is *irreducible* if there exists no proper invariant subspace of  $U$ .

Two unitary representations  $U$  and  $V$  of  $G$  are called *equivalent* if there exists a linear isometry  $T$  such that

$$U_g T = T V_g \quad \text{for all } g \in G.$$

Let  $\mathcal{U}'(G)$  be the set of all equivalence classes of continuous, irreducible unitary representations of  $G$ . By  $\mathcal{U}(G)$  we will denote a fixed selector of  $\mathcal{U}'(G)$ .

Now, if  $\mu$  is a probability measure on  $G$  (that is, a positive Borel measure satisfying  $\mu(G) = 1$ ) we can define the Fourier transform  $\hat{\mu}$  by the formula

$$\langle \hat{\mu}(U)x, y \rangle = \int_G \langle U(g)x, y \rangle \mu(dg), \quad U \in \mathcal{U}(G), x, y \in H.$$

It is well known that the mapping  $\mu \rightarrow \hat{\mu}$  is one-to-one and that  $(\mu_1 * \mu_2)^\wedge = \hat{\mu}_1 \hat{\mu}_2$  (see [5]). Moreover,  $\hat{\mu}(U)$  is a self-adjoint operator for every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(G)$  if and only if  $\mu$  is symmetric, that is, if  $\mu(E) = \mu(E^{-1})$  for every Borel  $E \subset G$ .

It is also known that if  $\mu_n$  is weakly convergent to  $\mu$ , then

$$\hat{\mu}_n(U)x \rightarrow \hat{\mu}(U)x \quad \text{for every } x \in H \text{ and every } U \in \mathcal{U}(G).$$

Conversely, if

$$\langle \hat{\mu}_n(U)x, y \rangle \rightarrow \langle \hat{\mu}(U)x, y \rangle \quad \text{for every } x, y \in H \text{ and every } U \in \mathcal{U}(G),$$

then  $\mu_n$  converges weakly to  $\mu$ .

Now, a family  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  is called a *semigroup of probability measures* if  $\mu_t * \mu_s = \mu_{t+s}$  for every  $t, s > 0$ ; it is called a *continuous semigroup* if the mapping  $t \rightarrow \mu_t$  is continuous.  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  is called *e-continuous* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} \mu_t = e$$

(the point measure concentrated at the identity of  $G$ ). It is known [11] that a semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  is continuous if and only if  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} \mu_t$  exists. If this limit exists, it is the identity of the semigroup (hence idempotent).

A probability measure  $\mu$  will be called *embeddable* if there exists a continuous semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  of probability measures such that  $\mu_1 = \mu$ .

A probability measure  $\mu$  is called *Gaussian* if it is embeddable into an e-continuous semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  of probability measures having the property

$$(1) \quad \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \mu_t(G \setminus V) = 0$$

for every open neighbourhood  $V$  of the identity of  $G$  (see Section 4 in [7]). More precisely, we will call  $\mu$  a *Gaussian measure with embedding semigroup*  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$ .

For an equivalent definition in terms of Lévy-Khintchine representation, see [6] and [10].

**2. The invariance principle.** Let  $\{S_k^{(n)}: k = 1, \dots, n; n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  be a triangular array of  $G$ -valued random variables. Let  $\nu_k^{(n)}$  denote the distribution of  $S_k^{(n)}$ .

LEMMA 1. *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\overline{\lim}_{h \downarrow 0} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{k \leq nh} P\{\|S_k^{(n)}\| \geq \delta\} = 0$  for every  $\delta > 0$ .
- (ii)  $\overline{\lim}_{h \downarrow 0} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{k \leq nh} \sigma(\nu_k^{(n)}, e) = 0$ , where  $\sigma$  is a metric generating the topology of weak convergence of probability measures on  $G$ .
- (iii)  $\overline{\lim}_{h \downarrow 0} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{k \leq nh} \|\hat{\nu}_k^{(n)}(U)x - x\| = 0$  for every  $x \in H$  and every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(G)$ .

*Proof.* Observe that condition (i) can be stated equivalently:

- (i)'  $\forall_{\{h_j\} \downarrow 0} \forall_{\{n_j\} \uparrow \infty} \forall_{\{k_j\} (0 \leq k_j \leq n_j h_j)} S_{k_j}^{(n_j)} \rightarrow 0$  in probability.

Since the convergence in probability to a constant is equivalent to the convergence in distribution to a point measure, conditions (i)' and (ii) are equivalent.

Next, it is obvious that (ii) implies (iii).

Finally, assume that (iii) is satisfied. Let  $\{h_j\}$ ,  $\{n_j\}$  and  $\{k_j\}$  have the properties as in (i)'. Then  $\hat{\nu}_{k_j}^{(n_j)}(U)x \rightarrow x$  for every  $x \in H$  and every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(G)$ . In virtue of the properties of the Fourier transform we infer that  $\nu_{k_j}^{(n_j)}$  converges weakly to  $e$ , which is equivalent to (ii).

The next lemma is taken from [2].

LEMMA 2. *Let  $\{X_j^{(n)}: j = 1, \dots, n; n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  be a triangular array of  $G$ -valued, independent and identically distributed random variables. Let  $S_k^{(n)} = X_1^{(n)} X_2^{(n)} \dots X_k^{(n)}$ . Suppose that*

(a)  $S_{[nt]}^{(n)}$  converges weakly for  $t \in F$ , where  $F$  is a dense subset of  $[0, 1]$  containing 1;

(b) for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  and a certain sequence  $\delta_n$ ,  $0 < \delta_n < 1$ ,  $\delta_n \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$\frac{1}{\delta_k} \overline{\lim}_n P\{\|S_{[n\delta_k]}^{(n)}\| > \varepsilon\} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty;$$

(c) for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $h > 0$  such that

$$\overline{\lim}_{n} \max_{1 \leq r \leq nh} P\{\|S_r^{(n)}\| > \varepsilon\} < 1.$$

Let  $\xi_n(t) = S_{[nt]}^{(n)}$ . Then the sequence of random elements  $\xi_n$  converges weakly to a certain random element of  $D_G$  with continuous sample paths.

Let a probability measure  $\mu$  be embedded into a continuous semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  of probability measures. We prove that there exists at most one symmetric semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  with the properties above. This is an immediate

consequence of the following well-known lemma, applied to the Fourier transforms of  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$ :

LEMMA 3. *Let  $(T_t)_{t>0}$  be a strongly continuous semigroup of self-adjoint operators on a Hilbert space. Then  $T_t \geq 0$  for every  $t > 0$  and*

$$T_t = \int_{\sigma(T_1)} \lambda^t E(d\lambda),$$

where  $E$  is the spectral measure of  $T_1$ , and  $\lambda^t, t > 0$ , is the real power of  $\lambda \geq 0$ .

COROLLARY 1. *Let  $\mu$  be a symmetric probability measure on  $G$ . There exists at most one continuous semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  of symmetric probability measures such that  $\mu_1 = \mu$ .*

Let  $T$  be a self-adjoint bounded operator on a Hilbert space  $H$ . Let  $f$  be a bounded, Borel measurable function defined on the spectrum of  $T$ . By  $f(T)$  we denote the operator defined by the formula

$$f(T) = \int f(\lambda) E(d\lambda),$$

where  $E$  is the spectral measure of  $T$  (see [4], X, Section 2). If  $T$  is, in addition, non-negative, then by  $T^\alpha$  ( $\alpha > 0$ ) we will denote the operator  $f(T)$ , where  $f(\lambda) = \lambda^\alpha$  ( $\lambda \geq 0$ ) is the real power of  $\lambda$ .

The next lemma is a consequence of Theorem 2 in [4], X, Section 8.

LEMMA 4. *Let  $T_n$  and  $T$  be bounded operators on a Hilbert space  $H$ . Assume that  $T_n$  is non-negative and that  $T_n$  converges strongly to  $T$ . Let  $\alpha_n \rightarrow \alpha, \alpha_n, \alpha > 0$ . Then  $T_n^{\alpha_n}$  converges strongly to  $T^\alpha$ .*

LEMMA 5. *Let  $S_n$  and  $T$  be bounded operators on a Hilbert space. Assume that  $S_n$  are self-adjoint,  $\|S_n\| \leq 1, S_n$  converges strongly to  $I$  (the identity operator) and  $S_n^n$  converges strongly to  $T$ . Then  $T \geq 0$  ( $T$  is non-negative) and if  $k_n/n \rightarrow t$  for  $t > 0$  and some integers  $k_n$ , then  $S_n^{k_n}$  converges strongly to  $T^t$ .*

Proof. Let  $k_n = k'_n + \varepsilon_n$ , where  $k'_n$  is an even integer and  $\varepsilon_n = 0$  or  $\varepsilon_n = 1$ . Then  $S_n^{k_n} = S_n^{k'_n} S_n^{\varepsilon_n}$  and

$$S_n^{k'_n} = \begin{cases} (S_n^n)^{k'_n/n} & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ (S_n^{n+1})^{k'_n/(n+1)} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Let us put

$$T_n = \begin{cases} S_n^n & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ S_n^{n+1} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

By assumption,  $T_n$  is strongly convergent to  $T$ . Since  $T_n$  are non-negative,  $T$  is also non-negative. It follows from Lemma 4 that  $S_n^{k'_n} = T_n^{k'_n/n}$  converges strongly to  $T^t$ . Since  $S_n$  converges strongly to  $I$ , we infer that  $S_n^{k_n} = S_n^{k'_n} S_n^{\varepsilon_n}$  converges strongly to  $T^t$ , which completes the proof.

**THEOREM 1.** Let  $\{X_k^{(n)}: k = 1, \dots, n; n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  be an infinitesimal triangular array of  $G$ -valued, symmetric, independent and identically distributed random variables. Let  $\nu_n$  be the distribution of  $X_k^{(n)}$ . Assume that  $\nu_n^{*n}$  converges weakly to  $\mu$ . Then  $\hat{\mu}(U) \geq 0$  for every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(G)$  and  $\nu_n^{*[nt]}$  converges weakly to  $\mu_t$ , where  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  is a continuous semigroup of probability measures such that  $\hat{\mu}_t(U) = \int \lambda^t E(d\lambda)$ , and  $E$  is the spectral measure of  $\hat{\mu}(U)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $U \in \mathcal{U}(G)$ . Let us write  $S_n = \hat{\nu}_n(U)$  and  $T = \hat{\mu}(U)$ . Since the considered array is symmetric and infinitesimal,  $S_n = S_n^*$  and  $S_n$  converges strongly to  $I$ . By assumption,  $S_n^{*n}$  converges strongly to  $T$ . Let  $k_n = [nt]$  for  $t > 0$ . Since  $k_n/n \rightarrow t$ , we infer from Lemma 5 that  $T \geq 0$  and

$$S_n^{[nt]} \text{ converges strongly to } T^t = \int_{\sigma(T)} \lambda^t E(d\lambda),$$

where  $E$  is the spectral measure of  $T$ . Clearly,  $T^t T^s = T^{t+s}$  for  $t, s > 0$ .

Next, we show that  $\{\nu_n^{*[nt]}\}$  is weakly compact for every fixed  $t > 0$ . To show this, let us write  $[nt] = 2m_n + \varepsilon_n$ , where  $\varepsilon_n = 0$  or  $\varepsilon_n = 1$ . Since  $\nu_n^{*m_n} * \nu_n^{*(n-m_n)}$  converges weakly to  $\mu$ , we infer from Theorem 2.1, III, in [8] that there exists  $\{g_n\}$ ,  $g_n \in G$ , such that  $\{\nu_n^{*m_n} * g_n\}$  is weakly compact. Then  $\{(-g_n) * \nu_n^{*m_n}\}$  is also weakly compact, hence so is

$$\nu_n^{*[nt]} = (\nu_n^{*m_n} * g_n) * ((-g_n) * \nu_n^{*m_n}) * \nu_n^{*\varepsilon_n}.$$

Since we have just shown that  $(\hat{\nu}_n(U))^{[nt]}$  is strongly convergent to  $\hat{\mu}_t(U)$ ,  $(\hat{\mu}_t)$  is the Fourier transform of a probability measure  $\mu_t$  and  $\mu_t * \mu_s = \mu_{t+s}$  for every  $t, s > 0$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

**Remark 1.** Let  $\mu$  be embedded into a continuous semigroup of probability measures  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$ . Then  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  is  $e$ -continuous if and only if  $\hat{\mu}_t(U)x$  converges to  $x$  for every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(G)$  and every  $x \in H$ .

If  $\hat{\mu}_t(U) = \int \lambda^t E(d\lambda)$  for  $t > 0$ , where  $E$  is concentrated on  $[0, 1]$ , then the condition above is satisfied if and only if for every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(G)$  the spectral measure  $E$  of  $\hat{\mu}(U)$  has no atom at 0. Hence we have

**COROLLARY 2.** The following conditions are equivalent:

(i)  $\mu$  is embeddable into an  $e$ -continuous symmetric semigroup of probability measures.

(ii)  $\mu$  has no non-trivial idempotent factors and there exists an infinitesimal triangular array of symmetric, independent and identically distributed random variables  $\{X_k^{(n)}: k = 1, \dots, n; n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  such that  $S_n^{(n)}$  converges in distribution to  $\mu$ .

**LEMMA 6.** Let  $T_n$  and  $T$  be bounded non-negative operators on a Hilbert space. Assume that  $T_n \leq I$  and that  $T_n$  converges strongly to  $T$ . Let  $E$  be the spectral measure of  $T$ . If  $E(\{0\}) = 0$ , then

$$\lim_{h \downarrow 0} \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\alpha \leq h} \|T_n^\alpha x - x\| = 0.$$

Proof. Let  $0 < a < h$ . Then  $T_n^h \leq T_n^a$  and  $I - T_n^a \leq I - T_n^h$ . Hence

$$\langle (I - T_n^a)x, x \rangle \leq \langle (I - T_n^h)x, x \rangle.$$

Since for normal operator  $A$

$$\|A\| = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \langle Ax, x \rangle,$$

we obtain

$$\sup_{a \leq h} \|T_n^a x - x\| = \|T_n^h x - x\|.$$

Since, by assumption,  $T_n$  converges strongly to  $T$ , we have

$$\overline{\limsup}_n \sup_{a \leq h} \|T_n^a x - x\| = \|T^h x - x\|.$$

Moreover, since  $E(\{0\}) = 0$ , we infer that  $T^h$  converges strongly to  $I$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$ , hence

$$\lim_{h \downarrow 0} \overline{\limsup}_n \sup_{a \leq h} \|T_n^a x - x\| = 0,$$

which completes the proof.

**LEMMA 7.** *Let  $S_n$  and  $T$  be bounded operators on a Hilbert space. Assume that  $\|S_n\| \leq 1$ ,  $S_n^* = S_n$ ,  $S_n$  converges strongly to  $I$  and that  $S_n^n$  converges strongly to  $T$ . Let  $E$  be the spectral measure of  $T$ . If  $E(\{0\}) = 0$ , then*

$$\lim_{h \downarrow 0} \overline{\limmax}_n \|S_n^{k_n} x - x\| = 0.$$

Proof. Let  $h \leq 1$  be a positive real and let  $k_n \leq nh$  be an integer. Then

$$S_n^{k_n} = S_n^{k'_n} S_n^{\varepsilon_n} = T_n^{\alpha_n} S_n^{\varepsilon_n},$$

where  $k'_n$ ,  $\varepsilon_n$  and  $T_n$  have the same meanings as in the proof of Lemma 5 and

$$\alpha_n = \begin{cases} k'_n/n & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ k'_n/(n+1) & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Observe that

$$\|S_n^{k_n} x - x\| \leq \|T_n^{\alpha_n} x - x\| + \|T_n^{\alpha_n} S_n^{\varepsilon_n} x - T_n^{\alpha_n} x\| \leq \|T_n^{\alpha_n} x - x\| + \|S_n x - x\|.$$

$T_n$  are non-negative and  $T_n \leq I$ , hence, in virtue of Lemma 6, we obtain the conclusion.

**LEMMA 8.** *Let  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  be an  $e$ -continuous semigroup of symmetric probability measures on  $G$  and let  $\{X_k^{(n)}\}$  be an infinitesimal triangular array of  $G$ -valued, symmetric, independent and identically distributed random variables. Let  $\nu_n$  be the distribution of  $X_j^{(n)}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Assume that  $\nu_n^{*n}$  converges weakly to  $\mu_1$ . Then for every  $x \in H$  and every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(G)$  we have*

$$\lim_{h \downarrow 0} \overline{\limmax}_n \|\hat{\nu}_n(U)^{k_n} x - x\| = 0.$$

**Proof.** Applying Lemma 7 together with Remark 1 to  $S_n = \hat{\nu}_n(U)$  and  $T = \hat{\mu}_1(U)$  we obtain the conclusion.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $\mu$  be a symmetric Gaussian measure on  $G$  with an  $e$ -continuous symmetric embedding semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$ . Let  $\{X_k^{(n)}: k = 1, \dots, n; n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  be an infinitesimal triangular array of symmetric, independent and identically distributed  $G$ -valued random variables. Assume that  $S_n^{(n)} = X_1^{(n)} X_2^{(n)} \dots X_n^{(n)}$  converges in distribution to  $\mu$ . Let  $\xi_n(t) = S_{[nt]}^{(n)}$ . Then the sequence of  $D_G$ -valued random elements  $\xi_n$  converges in distribution to a random element  $W$  with continuous sample paths.*

**Proof.** Let  $\nu_n$  be the distribution of  $X_k^{(n)}$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n$ . From Theorem 1 we infer that  $\nu_n^{*[nt]}$  converges weakly to  $\nu_t$ , where  $(\nu_t)_{t>0}$  is a continuous semigroup of probability measures such that  $\hat{\nu}_t(U) = \int \lambda^t E(d\lambda)$  ( $E$  is the spectral measure of  $\hat{\mu}(U)$ ). By Corollary 1 we obtain  $\nu_t = \mu_t$ . Thus condition (a) of Lemma 2 is satisfied. Since  $\mu$  is a Gaussian measure with an embedding semigroup  $(\mu_t)$ , we obtain (1) for every open neighbourhood  $V$  of the identity of  $G$ . Since  $\nu_n^{*[nt]}$  converges weakly to  $\mu_t$ , we obtain

$$\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \{ \|S_{[nt]}^{(n)}\| \geq \varepsilon \} \leq \mu_t \{ g: \|g\| \geq \varepsilon \}.$$

Hence and from (1) we infer that condition (b) of Lemma 2 is satisfied. Finally, by Lemmas 1 and 8, condition (c) of Lemma 2 also holds, which completes the proof.

**Remark 2.** It is easy to observe that Theorem 2 ensures the existence of a homogeneous stochastic process  $W$  with the continuous sample paths and one-dimensional distributions  $\mu_t$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ . The process  $W$  has the independent increments; this follows from the fact that for every system  $0 \leq t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_k \leq 1$  there exists an  $n_0$  such that for  $n \geq n_0$  the increments

$$S_{[nt_2]}^{(n)} (S_{[nt_1]}^{(n)})^{-1}, \dots, S_{[nt_k]}^{(n)} (S_{[nt_{k-1}]}^{(n)})^{-1}$$

consist of the different independent random variables  $X_k^{(n)}$ .

In the next remark, which is essentially due to Professor C. Ryll-Nardzewski, we show that Theorem 2 remains valid if  $G$  is only metrizable, if we restrict ourselves to tight probability measures.

**Remark 3.** (i) Let  $G$  be a metrizable locally compact group, non-necessarily separable. A measurable mapping of a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{S}, P)$  into  $(G, \mathfrak{B})$  ( $\mathfrak{B}$  is the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra in  $G$ ) will be called a *random element* if its distribution is tight. It is known that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are random variables defined on a complete probability space, then  $XY$  is also a random variable (see [9]).

(ii) Every separable subset of  $G$  is contained in an open (hence closed) separable subgroup  $G_0 \subseteq G$ .

(iii) If  $\mu$  is a tight measure, then its support is separable, hence, in virtue of (ii), is contained in an open separable subgroup  $G_0 \subseteq G$ .

(iv) Let  $M$  be a separable subset in the space of all tight distributions on  $G$  (endowed with the weak topology). Then there exists an open separable subgroup  $G_0 \subseteq G$  such that  $C(\mu)$  (the support of  $\mu$ ) is contained in  $G_0$  for every  $\mu \in M$ . In particular, if  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  is a continuous semigroup of tight probability measures, then  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$  is a separable family; hence, there exists an open separable subgroup  $G_0 \subseteq G$  such that  $C(\mu_t) \subseteq G_0$  for every  $t > 0$ .

(v) The space  $D_G$ , defined as in the Preliminaries (for non-necessarily separable  $G$ ), is metric. Every separable subset of  $D_G$  is contained in  $D_{G_0}$ , where  $G_0$  is an open separable subgroup of  $G$ .

(vi) A measurable mapping defined on a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{S}, P)$  into a space  $D_G$  with the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra is called a *random element* (with values in  $D_G$ ) if its distribution is tight. It is easy to see that if  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  is a finite family of random variables defined on a complete probability space, then the mapping

$$\xi_n(t) = X_1 X_2 \dots X_{[nt]}$$

defines a random element with values in  $D_G$ .

(vii) Countable families of random elements with values in  $D_G$  are concentrated on  $D_{G_0}$ , where  $G_0$  is an open separable subgroup of  $G$ . Observe that  $D_{G_0}$  is a closed subspace of  $D_G$ .

(viii) Using (i)-(vii) we see that Theorem 2 remains valid without assumption of separability of  $G$  whenever the probability space, on which considered random variables (elements) are defined, is complete.

**COROLLARY 3.** *Let  $\mu$  be a Gaussian measure with a continuous symmetric embedding semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$ . Let  $\{\xi(t): t \in [0, 1]\}$  be a  $G$ -valued homogeneous and separable (in the sense of Doob) stochastic process with independent increments. Assume that  $\xi(t)$  has the distribution  $\mu_t$  for  $t \in [0, 1]$ . Then  $\xi$  has the continuous sample paths with probability one whenever  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{S}, P)$  is a complete measure space.*

**Proof.** This follows from Theorem 9.2 in [1] and from the existence of a homogeneous random element  $W$  with independent increments and continuous sample paths, which is guaranteed by Theorem 2.

**COROLLARY 4.** *Let  $\{\xi(t): t \in [0, 1]\}$  be a homogeneous  $G$ -valued stochastic process with independent increments and continuous sample paths. Then  $\xi$  is Gaussian.*

**Proof.** Let  $\mu_t$  be the distribution of  $\xi(t)$ . Using Lemma 2 from [2] we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t_n} \mu_{t_n}(G \setminus V) = 0$$

for every open neighbourhood  $V$  of the identity of  $G$  and for every sequence  $t_n \rightarrow 0$ . Hence  $\mu_1$  (and also every  $\mu_t$ ) is a Gaussian measure with an embedding semigroup  $(\mu_t)_{t>0}$ .

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