
Hypergroups with compact translation operators

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We consider commutative hypergroups with translation operators which are compact on L^2 resp. L^1 modulo identity. It will be shown that such hypergroups are necessarily discrete and that in the case of compact translations on L^1 the support of the Plancherel measure coincides with the set of all characters and the hypergroup must be symmetric. We will consider some polynomial hypergroups which have this type of translation operators.