

A Banach algebra with an unbounded approximate identity.

Consider l^p as a Banach algebra with coordinatewise operations. Let $e_n = (\underbrace{1, 1, 1, \dots, 1}_n, 0, 0, \dots)$. Then $\sup_n \|e_n\| = \sup\{\sqrt[p]{n} ; n \in N\} = \infty$, and for every $x = (\alpha_n) \in l^2$, $\lim_n \|xe_n - x\| = \lim_n (\sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} |\alpha_k|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} = 0$. Thus (e_n) is required approximate identity.