

A STUDY ON REAL FUNCTION ALGEBRA

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ABSTRACT

In this paper aim of researcher is to study on real function algebras. It is possible to associate a complex function algebra with a given real function algebra by complexifying it. This technique of complexification is often employed to study the properties of a real function algebra. A good deal of work has been done in the field of real function algebras. Kulkarni and Srinivasan have defined the Bishop decomposition for real v function algebras. We introduce the Silov decomposition for real function algebras and prove some basic properties of it.

Keywords: function algebra, real function, Hausdorff space, silov decomposition

INTRODUCTION

Let X be a compact Hausdorff space and let $C(X)$ ($C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$) denote the set of all complex-valued (real-valued) continuous functions on X . With usual operations of addition, multiplication and the norm defined by

$$\|f\| = \sup\{|f(x)| : x \in X\}$$

for $f \in C(X)$ ($C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$), $C(X)$ ($C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$) is a complex (real) Banach algebra with identity. A function algebra on X is a closed subalgebra of $C(X)$ which contains and separates the points of X .

A decomposition of X is a collection of disjoint closed subsets of X whose union is X . Subalgebras of $C(X)$ ($C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$) and the decompositions of X are closely related. For example, a closed ideal of is determined by a closed subset of X . Now, if F is a closed subset of X , then we can associate with it the decomposition

$$\alpha = |F| \cup \{|x|, x \in X - F\}$$

Thus every closed ideal is associated with a decomposition of X consisting of a closed set and singletons outside the closed set. If A is a closed subalgebra of $C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$ (a self-conjugate closed subalgebra of $C(X)$ containing constants, then the sets of constancy of A gives a decomposition which is upper semicontinuous. Conversely, if α is an upper semicontinuous decomposition of X , then there exists a unique closed subalgebra of $C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$ containing constants whose sets of constancy are precisely the members of α [50, Ex. 7.5.7(F)]. This association of decompositions of X and subalgebras of $C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$ has been found very useful in the study of $C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$ as a direct sum of two subalgebras ([1], [2], [3], [4]).

The role of decompositions in the study of function algebras was highlighted by Silov and more so by Bishop [5]. The Silov decomposition for a function algebra A on X consists of sets of constancy of $A_{\mathbb{R}} = A \cap C_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$. The Bishop decomposition for A consists of maximal sets of antisymmetry. Both these decompositions have the following crucial property:

If $f \in C(X)$ and $f|_E \in (A|_E)$ for every member E in the decomposition, then $f \in A$.

The above property is known as the (D)-property in the literature [6]. Once the importance of decompositions is recognised, it is natural to ask further questions. Some of the questions are :

- Are there decompositions, other than Silov and Bishop, associated with a function algebra which also have the (D)-property?
- Does a Bishop (Silov) decomposition have a stronger property than the (D)-property ?
- How are Bishop, Silov and other decompositions related to each other ? Do some of these decompositions determine the others ?
- Does every member of a decomposition satisfying property such as (D)-property have any special property in relation to a function algebra ? (For example, every member of Bishop decomposition of a function algebra is an intersection of peak sets).
- How are the decompositions of A and \hat{A} related, where \hat{A} is the algebra of Gelfand transforms of A ?
- Can the decompositions analogous to Silov and Bishop for a function algebra be defined for a function space ? What are their properties ?
- How about the decompositions for a real function algebra ? for an algebra of vector-valued continuous functions ?

Throughout the paper, X denotes a compact Hausdorff space, A denotes a function algebra on X , i.e., a closed subalgebra of $C(X)$ which contains constants and separates the points of X and $A_{\mathbb{R}}$ denotes the algebra of real-valued functions in A .

SILOV DECOMPOSITION

The Bishop decomposition was introduced by Bishop in 1961 [5] and has been studied by various authors since then ([7], [8], [9], [10]). The Silov decomposition was introduced by Silov earlier [11], but appears to have received less attention in literature. We first prove some results for Silov decomposition analogous to those known for Bishop decomposition and then give conditions under which these two decompositions are equal. Note that, in general, these decompositions are not equal ([12], [13]). We recall some definitions

Definitions

- (i) A subset K of X is called a set of antisymmetry for A if $f \in A$ and $f|_K$ is real-valued implies that $f|_K$ is constant. The collection of all maximal sets of antisymmetry for A forms a decomposition of X , called the Bishop decomposition for A . We denote this decomposition by $K(A)$.
- (ii) A set of constancy of $A_{\mathbb{R}}$ is called a Silov set for A . The collection of all maximal Silov sets for A is called the Silov decomposition for A and we denote it by $F(A)$.

We shall write only K (respectively F) in place of $K(A)$ (respectively $F(A)$) if it is clear from the context which function algebra A is being referred to.

Example 1: A function algebra A is said to be antisymmetric if $K(A) = (X)$. Hence for an antisymmetric function algebra, the Bishop and Silov decompositions coincide. But the following example shows that in general the Bishop and Silov decompositions are not equal.

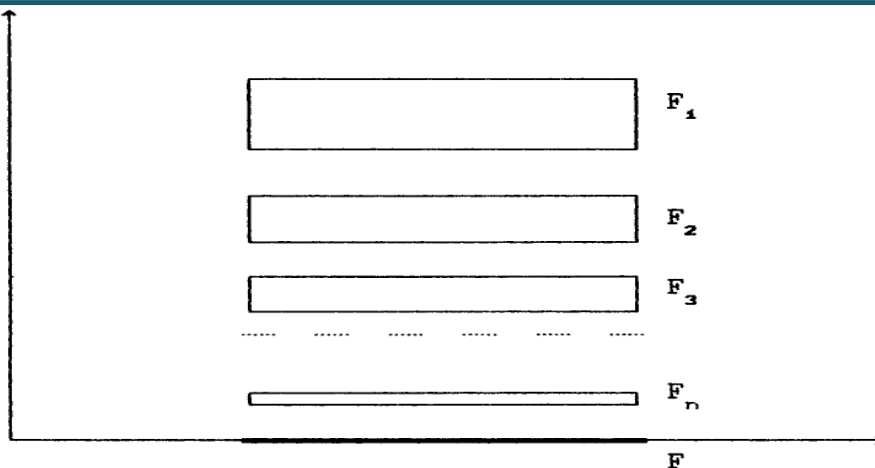


FIGURE 1

Let X be the union of a line segment F and a sequence of disjoint solid rectangles $\{F_n: n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ converging to F (see the Figure 1). Let $A = P(X)$, the algebra of all functions in $C(X)$ which can be uniformly approximated by polynomials in z . Then every real-valued function in A is constant on each F and hence on F . Therefore, the Silov decomposition $F = \{F_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\} \cup \{x\} : x \in F\}$.

For a decomposition δ of X and a closed subset S of X , we have defined $\delta \cap S = \{E \cap S : E \in \delta \text{ and } \delta \cap S \neq \emptyset\}$. Then $\delta \cap S$ is a decomposition of S .

The following results about the Bishop decomposition can be found in [14].

Theorem 1: Let A and B be function algebras on compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y respectively and $\%$ denote the Gelfand transform of A . Then

- (i) Each $K \in \mathcal{K}$ is a p -set for A and hence K is a closed restriction set for A ;
- (ii) $K(\widehat{A}) = \{\tilde{K} : K \in \mathcal{K}(A), \text{ where } \tilde{K} \text{ is the } A\text{-hull of } K \text{ and } K(A) = K(\widehat{A}) \cap X = \{\tilde{K} \cap X : \tilde{K} \in K(\widehat{A})\}$;
- (iii) $K(A \widehat{\otimes} B) = K(A) \times K(B)$.

Note that by definition, $K(\widehat{A}) \cap X = \{\tilde{K} \cap X : \tilde{K} \in K(\widehat{A}), \tilde{K} \cap X \neq \emptyset\}$ and hence $K(\widehat{A}) \cap X = \{\tilde{K} \in K(\widehat{A})\}$.

We show that similar results remain valid for the Silov decomposition also.

Theorem 2: Let A be a function algebra on X . Then each $F \in \mathcal{f}$ is a p -set for A .

Proof Let $F \in \mathcal{f}$ and $f \in A_{\mathbb{R}}$. Then $f|_F$ is constant, say α . Also, let $F_f = \{x \in X : f(x) = \alpha\}$. Then F_f is a peak set for A with $g = 1 - \frac{(f-\alpha)^2}{\|(f-\alpha)^2\|}$ as a peaking function for F_f . Since this is true for every $f \in A_{\mathbb{R}}$, it is enough to show that $F = \bigcap \{F_f : f \in A_{\mathbb{R}}\}$. Clearly, $F \subset \bigcap \{F_f : f \in A_{\mathbb{R}}\}$. Suppose $F \subsetneq \bigcap \{F_f : f \in A_{\mathbb{R}}\}$. Then there exists $x \in X$ such that $x \in F_f$ for all $f \in A_{\mathbb{R}}$ but $x \notin F$. Hence there exists $h \in A_{\mathbb{R}}$ such that $h(x) \neq h(F)$ and therefore, $x \notin F_h$ which is a contradiction. Hence $F = \bigcap \{F_f : f \in A_{\mathbb{R}}\}$.

Theorem 3: Let A be a function algebra on X . Then $\mathcal{F}(\widehat{A}) = \{\tilde{F} : F \in \mathcal{f}(A)\}$ and $\mathcal{f}(A) = \mathcal{F}(\widehat{A}) \cap X = \{\tilde{F} \cap X : \tilde{F} \in \mathcal{F}(\widehat{A})\}$.

Proof Let $F \in \mathcal{f}(A)$. First we shall show that \tilde{F} is a set of constancy of $(\widehat{A})_{\mathbb{R}}$. Using [14, Theorem 8, p.166], it can be checked that $(\widehat{A})_{\mathbb{R}} = (A_{\mathbb{R}})^{\wedge}$. Let $\hat{f} \in (A_{\mathbb{R}})^{\wedge}$ where $f \in A_{\mathbb{R}}$. Then $f|_F$ is

constant, say α . Let $\emptyset \in \tilde{F}$. Then there exists a representing measure μ for \emptyset which is concentrated on F [7, Theorem 8, p.166]. Hence $\hat{f}(\emptyset) = \int_X f d\mu = \int_F f d\mu = \alpha$. Since this is true for any $\emptyset \in \tilde{F}$, \hat{f} is constant on \tilde{F} . Hence \tilde{F} is a set of constancy of $(\hat{A})_R$. So, $\tilde{F} \subset K$ for some $K \in f(\hat{A})$. Therefore, $\{\tilde{F}: F \in f(A)\} \subset f(\hat{A})$.

Conversely, let $G \in f(\hat{A})$ and $G \cap X = H$. Also, let $g \in A_R$. Then $\hat{g} \in (A_R)^\wedge = (\hat{A})_R$ and hence $\hat{g}|_G$ is constant. Therefore, $\hat{g}|_{G \cap X} = \hat{g}|_{G \cap X} = \hat{g}|_H$ is constant and so, H is a set of constancy of A_R . Thus $H \subset K$ for some $K \in f(A)$. But $G = (G \cap X)^\sim$, as G is a p-set for \hat{A} [29, Theorem 11(a), p. 167]. Hence $G = \tilde{H} \subset \tilde{K}$ and we get $f(\hat{A}) \subset \{\tilde{F}: F \in f(A)\}$. Thus $f(\hat{A}) = \{\tilde{F}: F \in f(A)\}$.

Since the members of $f(A)$ are p-sets for A , $\tilde{F} \cap X = F$ for $F \in f(A)$ [15]. Hence $f(A) = \{\tilde{F} \cap X: \tilde{F} \in f(\hat{A})\} = \mathcal{F}(\hat{A}) \cap X$.

Theorem4: Let A and B be function algebras on X and Y respectively. Then $f(A \hat{\otimes} B) = f(A) \times f(B)$.

Proof Let $F \in f(A)$ and $G \in f(B)$. Also, let $f \in (A \hat{\otimes} B)_R$ and $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$ be in $F \times G$. Then $f_{x_1} \in B_R$ and $f_{y_2} \in A_R$, where $f_{x_1}(y) = f(x_1, y)$ ($y \in Y$) and $f_{y_2}(x) = f(x, y_2)$ ($x \in X$). So, f_{x_1} is constant on G and f_{y_2} is constant on F . Therefore, $f(x_1, y_1) = f_{x_1}(y_1) = f_{x_1}(y_2) = f(x_1, y_2) = f_{y_2}(x_1) = f_{y_2}(x_2) = f(x_2, y_2)$ and hence f is constant on $F \times G$. Thus $f(A) \times f(B) \subset f(A \hat{\otimes} B)$.

Conversely, let $H \in f(A \hat{\otimes} B)$. First we show that $\pi_1(H)$ is a set of constancy of A_R , where: $X \times Y \rightarrow X$ is the projection map. Let $g \in A_R$. Then $g \hat{\otimes} 1 \in (A \hat{\otimes} B)_R$ and so, $g \hat{\otimes} 1$ is constant on H , i.e., g is constant on $\pi_1(H)$. Thus $\pi_1(H)$ is a set of constancy of A_R . Hence $\pi_1(H) \subset F$ for some $F \in f(A)$. Similarly, we can show that $\pi_2(H) \subset G$ for some $G \in f(B)$, where $\pi_2: X \times Y \rightarrow Y$ is the projection map. Thus $H \subset \pi_1(H) \times \pi_2(H) \subset F \times G \in f(A) \times f(B)$. Hence $f(A \hat{\otimes} B) \subset f(A) \times f(B)$.

Remarks

(i) By the same argument as above, one can show that $f(A \# B) = f(A) \times f(B)$.

(ii) It is clear that $(A \hat{\otimes} B)_R, A_R \hat{\otimes} B_R, (A \# B)_R$ and $A_R \# B_R$ are closed sub-algebras of $C_R(X \times Y)$. Also, by the above remark and Theorem 1.1.6, all these sub-algebras have the same sets of constancy. Hence $(A \hat{\otimes} B)_R = A_R \hat{\otimes} B_R = (A \# B)_R = A_R \# B_R$, by [16].

The importance of the Bishop decomposition is due to the Bishop's generalization of the Stone-Weierstrass theorem.

Theorem 5: [5] Let A be a function algebra on X and k be the Bishop decomposition for A . If $f \in C(X)$ and $f|_K \in A|_K$ for every $K \in k$, then $f \in A$.

In our terminology, it is equivalent to saying that k has the (D)-property for A . Recall that a decomposition δ of X has the (D)-property for A if $f \in C(X)$ and $f|_E \in (A|_E)^\sim$ for every $E \in \delta$, then $f \in A$. Since $k < \delta$, by Remark 0.1.11 (ii), f also has the (D)-property for A . On the other hand, if ℓ is a decomposition consisting of closed antisymmetric sets for A , then ℓ may not have the (D)-property for A , as the following example shows.

Example 2: Let $D = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq 1\}$ and $S_r = \{z \in D : |z| = r\}$ for $0 \leq r \leq 1$. Also, let $A = A(D)$, the disk algebra on the unit disk, i.e., $A = \{f \in C(D) : f \text{ is analytic in the interior of } D\}$. Then each $S_r, 0 \leq r \leq 1$, is a set of anti-symmetry for A [16, p.40]. Also, $\ell = \{S_r : 0 \leq r \leq 1\}$ is a decomposition

of D . Define $f : D \rightarrow C$ by $f(z) = |z|$. Then $f \in C(D)$ and $f|_{S_r} = r \in A|_{S_r}$ for each r , $0 \leq r \leq 1$. But $f \in A$ and hence ℓ does not have the (D) -property for A .

The essential set E of A and k are related [16, Corollary 2, p.65]. We shall prove that a similar relation holds between E and f .

Proposition 1: Let P denote the union of all singleton sets in f and E denote the essential set of A . Then E is the closure of $X-P$.

Proof Let \hat{P} denote the union of all singleton sets in k . Then, clearly $P \subset \hat{P}$ and so, $X-\hat{P}$ and so $\subset X-P$. Since $E = X-\hat{P}$ [16, Corollary 2, p.65], $E \subset \overline{X-P}$. Conversely, let $x \in X-P$ and if possible, suppose that $x \in E$. Since $x \in X-P$, there exists a nonsingleton member F of f such that $x \in F$. Let $y \in F$, $y \neq x$. By Urysohn's lemma, there exists $f \in C_R(X)$ such that $f|_{E \cup \{y\}} = 0$ and $f(x) = 1$. Then $f \in A_R$ [16, p.64] and $f(x) \neq f(y)$, which is a contradiction, since $x, y \in F \in f$. Hence $X-P \subset E$ and since E is closed, we have $\overline{X-P} \subset E$.

We have seen that, in general, k is finer than f and there are examples where $k \neq f$. We now give conditions under which $k = f$.

Theorem 6: If ℓ is an u.s.c. decomposition of X having the (D) -property for A , then $f < \ell$.

Proof. Let X/ℓ denote the quotient space of X obtained by ℓ and $q : X \rightarrow X/\ell$ be the corresponding quotient map. Then, for $f \in C_R(X/\ell)$, $f \circ q \in C_R(X)$. Also, $(f \circ q)|_S$ is constant for each $S \in \ell$. Therefore, $(f \circ q)|_S \in A|_S$ for each $S \in \ell$. Since ℓ has the (D) -property for A , $f \circ q \in A$. Thus $f \circ q \in A_R$ for each $f \in C_R(X/\ell)$.

Let $F \in f$ and $f \in C_R(X/\ell)$. Then $f \circ q$ is constant on F , i.e., f is constant on $q(F)$ for every $f \in C_R(X/\ell)$. Now, X/ℓ is Hausdorff, as ℓ is u.s.c. [6, p.177]. Hence $q(F)$ must be a singleton set and so, $F \subset S$ for some $S \in \ell$, which proves that $f < \ell$.

The following corollary is immediate.

Corollary 1: [17, p.433]. If k is u.s.c., then $k = f$,

It also follows from the above theorem that the Bishop decomposition determines the Silov decomposition, as the next corollary shows.

Corollary 2: Let A and B be function algebras on X . If $k(A) = k(B)$, then $f(A) = f(B)$

Proof Suppose $k(A) = k(B)$. Then $k(B)$ is finer than $f(A)$ and hence $f(A)$ has the (D) -property for B . Also, $f(A)$ is u.s.c. . Therefore, by Theorem 1.1.11, $f(B)$ is finer than $f(A)$. By the same argument, $f(A)$ is finer than $f(B)$. Hence $f(A) = f(B)$

Example 3: Let $I = [0,1]$ and $D = \{ z \in C : |z| \leq 1 \}$, Let $X = \{ (r, z) \in I \times D : |z| \leq \frac{r}{2} \}$ For a fixed $r \in I$, let $X_r = \{ z \in D : (r, z) \in (XX) \}$ and $r \in I$, let f_r be defined on X_r by $f_r(z) = f(r, z)$. Let $A = \{ f \in (XX) : f_r \in A(X_r) \text{ for } 0 \leq r \leq 1 \}$ and $B = \{ f \in (XX) : f_r \in B(X_r) \text{ for } 0 \leq r \leq 1 \}$. Then A and B are function algebras on X . It can be checked that $f(A) = \{ \{x\} \times X_r : 0 \leq r \leq 1 \} = f(B) = k(B)$. Further, $k(A) = \{ \{x\} \times X_r : 0 \leq r \leq 1 \} \cup \{ \{0, z\} : |z| = 1 \}$ [18, Example 5.1]. Hence $f(B) = k(A)$ but $k(B) \neq k(A)$.

We give some additional results asserting the equality of k and f .

Theorem 8: If \mathcal{K} has finitely many members, then $k = f$.

Proof Suppose that $f = \{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n\}$. We shall show that each F_i is a set of anti-symmetry for A , which proves the result.

For F_1 and F_j , $j \neq 1$ there exists $f_{1j} \in A_{\mathbb{R}}$ such that $f_{1j} = 1$ on F_1 and $f_{1j} = 0$ on F_j . Take $f_1 = f_{12}f_{13} \dots f_{1n}$. Then $f_1 \in A_{\mathbb{R}}$, $f_1 = 1$ on F_1 and $f_1 = 0$ on F_j for all $j \neq 1$. Similarly, for each $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$; there exists $f_i \in A_{\mathbb{R}}$ such that $f_i = 1$ on F_i and $f_i = 0$ on F_j for all $j \neq i$.

Let $g \in A$ and $g|_{F_i}$, be real-valued. Then $h_i = gf_i$ is in $A_{\mathbb{R}}$ and hence h_i is constant on F_i . But $h_i = g$ on F_i and therefore, g is constant on F_i . Thus F_i is a set of anti-symmetry for A . This completes the proof.

Since $k < f$, it is immediate from Theorem 8 that if k has finitely many members, then $k = f$. In fact, we shall show in Theorem 4.2 that even when \mathcal{K} has countable number of members then also $k = f$.

OTHER DECOMPOSITIONS

In this section, we consider decompositions of X associated with a function algebra other than those of Bishop and Silov. We study their interrelations and show that some of these decompositions determine the others. Arenson [7] and Ellis [18] have defined and discussed weakly analytic sets and weakly prime sets for A . We introduce the weakly essential, integral domain and analytic decompositions for A . A function algebra A is called an essential function algebra if X is the essential set of A . A is an integral domain if whenever $f, g \in A$ and $fg = 0$, then $f = 0$ or $g = 0$. A is an analytic function algebra if $f \in A$ and $f = 0$ on a nonempty open set in X , then $f = 0$.

We have already considered the Bishop and Silov decompositions in detail. For the sake of completeness and for comparing these decompositions with others, we also define below, along with other concepts, the Silov set and a set of antisymmetry for A .

For a closed subset S of X , let A_S denote the uniform closure of $A|_S$ in $C(S)$.

Definitions Let S be a closed subset of X and A be a function algebra on X .

- (1) S is said to be a weakly essential set for A if A_S is an essential function algebra.
- (2) S is said to be a Silov set for A if it is a set of constancy of $A_{\mathbb{R}}$.
- (3) S is said to be a set of antisymmetry for A , if whenever $f \in A$ and $f|_S$ is real-valued, then $f|_S$ is constant.
- (4) S is said to be a weakly prime set for A if G is a peak set for A_S implies either $G = S$ or the interior of G , $G^\circ = \emptyset$ in the peak set topology (i.e., there is no peak set H , other than S , such that $G \cup H = S$).
- (5) S is said to be a weakly analytic set for A if G is a peak set for A_S , then either $G = S$ or the interior of G , $G^\circ = \emptyset$.
- (6) S is said to be an integral domain set (i.d. set) for A if A_S is an integral domain.
- (7) S is said to be an analytic set for A if A_S is an analytic algebra.

It is clear that for the disk algebra $A(D)$, D is an analytic set.

Proposition 1: Each of the above type of sets is contained in a maximal one of the same type.

Proof First we prove that a weakly essential set is contained in a maximal weakly essential set. Let F be a weakly essential set for A and $\{S_\alpha : \alpha \in \Lambda\}$ be the collection of all weakly essential sets for A which contain F . Also, let $S = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} S_\alpha$. To show that A_S is an essential algebra, let I be a closed ideal of $C(S)$ contained in A_S . Then $(I|_{S_\alpha})^-$ is a closed ideal contained in A_{S_α} and hence either $I|_{S_\alpha} = \{0\}$ or $(I|_{S_\alpha})^- = C(S_\alpha)$, for each $\alpha \in \Lambda$. Suppose for some α , $I|_{S_\alpha} = \{0\}$ and for some β ,

$(I|_{S_\beta})^- = C(S_\beta)$. Then $I|_F = \{0\}$ and also, $(I|_F)^- = C(F)$, since $F \subset S_\alpha \cap S_\beta$. That is, $C(F) = \{0\}$ which is not possible. Hence for all α , either $I|_{S_\alpha} = \{0\}$ or $(I|_{S_\alpha})^- = C(S_\alpha)$. If $I|_{S_\alpha} = \{0\}$ for all α , then $I = \{0\}$. Now, suppose $(I|_{S_\alpha})^- = C(S_\alpha)$ for all α . Then $C(S_\alpha) = A_{S_\alpha}$, as $(I|_{S_\alpha})^- \subset A_{S_\alpha}$. Since A_{S_α} is an essential observed that δ_5 has the (D)-property for A. Imitating the proof given by Ellis [19, Theorem 1] for weakly prime sets, we prove that δ_5 has actually the (GA)-property for A.

Theorem 1: Let A be a function algebra on X. Then δ_5 has the (GA)-property for A. Consequently, each δ_i has the (GA)-property for A, $i = 1,2,3,4$.

Proof Let $\mu \in b(A^\perp)^e$ and $S = \text{supp } \mu$. It is enough to show that S is a weakly analytic set for A. Let G be a peak set for A_S and suppose that $G^\circ \neq \emptyset$. Then there is a closed set H such that $G \cup H = S$. Let $\mu_1 = \mu|_G$ and $\mu_2 = \mu - \mu_1$. Then μ_1 and hence μ_2 are in A_S^\perp . Also, $\|\mu_1\| + \|\mu_2\| = \|\mu\|$, since μ_1 and μ_2 are singular measures. Suppose $\|\mu_1\| \neq 0 \neq \|\mu_2\|$. Then $\mu = \|\mu_1\| \frac{\mu_1}{\|\mu_1\|} + \|\mu_2\| \frac{\mu_2}{\|\mu_2\|}$ and $\frac{\mu_1}{\|\mu_1\|}, \frac{\mu_2}{\|\mu_2\|} \in b(A^\perp)$ with $\|\mu_1\| + \|\mu_2\| = 1$ which is contradiction, since $\mu \in b(A^\perp)^e$. Therefore, $\mu_1 = 0$ or $\mu_2 = 0$, i.e., $S = H$ or $G = S$. But $H \neq S$, as $G^\circ \neq \emptyset$. Hence $G = S$ and S is a weakly analytic set for A.

Remark Since the (GA)-property implies the (S)-property and the (D)-property, it also follows that each $\delta_i, i \leq 5$, has the (S)-property and the (D)-property for A.

The following example shows that δ_7 does not have even the CD}-property for A.

Example 1 Consider the function algebra A of Example 1 (ii), i.e., $A = A(D)|_S$ with $S = T \cup \{0\}$. Then we have seen that $\delta_7 = \{T, \{0\}\}$. Now, define a function $g: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by $g(z) = |z|$. Then $g \in C(S)$, $g(0) = 0 \in A|_{\{0\}}$ and $g|_T = 1 \in A|_T$. But $g \notin A$. Therefore, δ_7 does not have the CD)-property for A.

Remark It is proved in [16, Theorem 25, p.175] that if a maximal function algebra A is essential, then A is analytic. Hence, by Proposition 4.4.1, if A is a maximal function algebra, then all δ_i 's coincide, i.e., $\delta_7 = \delta_6 = \delta_5 = \delta_4 = \delta_3 = \delta_2 = \delta_1$.

The results similar to Proposition 2 and 3 are true for all δ_i 's.

Proposition 2: Let S be a CR set for a function algebra A on X. Then $\delta_i(A|_S) < \delta_i(A|_S) \cap S$ for $i \leq 7$.

Proof We have proved the result for $i = 2$ and 3. Fix i. First we shall show that $f_i(A|_S) < f_i(A) \cap S$. Let $F \in f_i(A|_S)$. Since $F \subset S$, it is enough to show that F is an (1)-set for A. Now, $F \in f_i(A|_S)$ implies that $((A|_S)|_F)^-$ is an (i)-algebra, i.e., $(A|_F)^-$ is an (i)-algebra and therefore, F is an (i)-set for A. Consequently, $f_i(A|_S) < f_i(A) \cap S$. Now, $\delta_i(A) \cap S$ is a decomposition of S. Also, if $F \in f_i(A|_S)$, then $F \subset K \cap S$ for some $K \in f_i(A)$. By the construction of $\delta_i(A)$, $K \subset E$ for some $E \in \delta_i(A)$. Therefore, $F \subset E \subset S$ with $E \in \delta_i(A)$. But $\delta_i(A|_S)$ is the finest decomposition of S with such property. Hence $\delta_i(A|_S) < \delta_i(A) \cap S$.

Proposition 3: Let S be a CR set for A which is saturated with $\delta_i(A)$. Then $\delta_i(A|_S) = \delta_i(A) \cap S$ for $i \neq 2$.

Proof By 2, $\delta_i(A|_S) < \delta_i(A) \cap S$. Fix i, $i \neq 2$. Since S is saturated with $\delta_i(A)$, S is saturated with $f_i(A)$ also. Therefore, $f_i(A) \cap S = \{F \in f_i(A) : F \cap S \neq \emptyset\}$. Let $F \in f_i(A) \cap S$, i.e., $F \in f_i(A)$ and $F \subset S$. Then $(A|_F)^-$ is an (i)-algebra. But $((A|_S)|_F)^- = (A|_F)^-$ and therefore, F is an (i)-set for $A|_S$. Hence $f_i(A) \cap S < f_i(A|_S)$.

Suppose $\delta_i(A|_S) \subseteq \delta_i(A) \cap S$. Let $\ell_i = \delta_i(A|_S) \cup \{E \in \delta_i(A) : E \cap S = \emptyset\}$. Then ℓ_i is a decomposition of X and $\ell_i < \delta_i(A)$. Let $F \in f_i(A)$. Then either $F \subset S$ or $F \cap S = \emptyset$. If $F \subset S$, then $F \in f_i(A|_S)$ and so, $F \subset G$ for some $G \in \delta_i(A|_S)$. If $F \cap S = \emptyset$, then $F \subset E$ for some $E \in \delta_i(A)$ with $E \cap S = \emptyset$, since S is saturated with $\delta_i(A)$. In either case, F is contained in some member of $\delta_i(A)$ and hence $X \in \delta_i(A)$. Therefore, $\ell_i = \delta_i(A)$ and $\delta_i(A|_S) = \delta_i(A) \cap S$.

We have seen that the above result is not true for $i = 2$.

Let S be a CR set for A and $I_S = \{g \in C(X) : g|_S = 0\}$. Then $A + I_S = \{f + g : f \in A, g \in I_S\}$ is a function algebra on X [6, p.147]. In fact, $A + I_S = \{f \in C(X) : f|_S \in A|_S\}$. Hence it is natural to expect that the decompositions for $A + I_S$ should be related with the corresponding decompositions for $A|_S$ and this does happen as we shall prove now.

Proposition 4: Let S be a CR set for A . Then $\delta_i(A + I_S) = \delta_i(A|_S) \cup \{\{x\} : x \notin S\}$ for $1 \leq i \leq 7$.

Proof Since the essential set of $A + I_S$ is the essential set of $A|_S$ [22], it is clear that $\delta_1(A + I_S) = \delta_1(A|_S) \cup \{\{x\} : x \notin S\}$. Also, $\delta_2(A + I_S) < \delta_1(A + I_S)$ and so, $\delta_2(A + I_S) = \delta_2(A|_S) \cup \{\{x\} : x \notin S\}$. Let $F \subset S$. Then it is enough to show that $F \in \delta_2(A|_S)$ if and only if $F \in \delta_2(A + I_S)$. But that is true by Proposition 4, since $\delta_2 = f$. Hence $\delta_2(A + I_S) = \delta_2(A|_S) \cup \{\{x\} : x \notin S\}$.

Fix i ($i \geq 3$). Since $\delta_1(A + I_S) < \delta_2(A + I_S)$, $\{\{x\} : x \notin S\} \in \delta_i(A + I_S)$. Let $F \subset S$. Then F is an (i) -set for $A + I_S$ if and only if F is an (i) -set for $A|_S$, as $(A + I_S)|_S = A|_S$ and $F \subset S$. Hence $F \in f_i(A + I_S)$ if and only if $F \in f_i(A|_S)$ and it can be proved that $\delta_i(A + I_S) = \delta_i(A|_S) \cup \{\{x\} : x \notin S\}$.

Definitions (i) A decomposition δ of X is said to be of the first type if there exists only one nontrivial member in δ .

For example, the Bishop decomposition for an antisymmetric algebra is of the first type.

(ii) Let $1 \leq i \leq 7$. If the decomposition $\delta_i(A)$ is of the first type, then the function algebra A is called an almost (i) -algebra.

The above definitions generalize the definitions given by Tomiyama [23, Definition 1] for an antisymmetric decomposition.

Remarks (i) By Proposition 4.4.9, if S is an (i) -set for A which is also a CR set for A , then $A + I_S$ is an almost (i) -algebra, for $1 \leq i \leq 7$.

(ii) By Proposition 3, every function algebra is an almost weakly essential algebra.

(iii) By Remark, a maximal function algebra is always an almost (i) -algebra, for $1 \leq i \leq 7$.

Now, we discuss the decompositions δ_i for the tensor product $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ of function algebras A and B on X and Y respectively.

Theorem 2: Let A and B be function algebras on X and Y respectively. Then $f_i(A \widehat{\otimes} B) = f_i(A) \times f_i(B)$ for $2 \leq i \leq 7$.

Proof We have seen that $f_i(A \widehat{\otimes} B) = f_i(A) \times f_i(B)$ for $i = 2$ and 3 .

Let $i \geq 4$. To prove the required result, it is enough to prove the following:

[a_i] If S and T are (i) -sets for A and B respectively, then $S \times T$ is an (i) -set for $A \widehat{\otimes} B$, i.e., if $(A|_S)^-$ and $(B|_T)^-$ are (i) -algebras, then $(A \widehat{\otimes} B|_{S \times T})^-$ is an (i) -algebra. Since $(A \widehat{\otimes} B|_{S \times T})^- = (A|_S)^- \widehat{\otimes} (B|_T)^-$, we shall prove that if A and B are (i) -algebras, then $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ is an (i) -algebra.

[b_i] If G is an (i) -set for $A \widehat{\otimes} B$, then $\pi_1(G)$ and $\pi_2(G)$ are (i) -sets for A and B respectively, where $\pi_1 : X \times Y \rightarrow X$ and $\pi_2 : X \times Y \rightarrow Y$ are projection maps.

Case i = 4 Let A and B be weakly prime algebras and E be a peak set for $A \widehat{\otimes} B$. Suppose that $E^\circ \neq \emptyset$ in the peak set topology, i.e., there is a peak set F, $F \neq X \times Y$, for $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ such that $E \cup F = X \times Y$. Let f and g be peaking functions for F and E respectively and $G = (X \times Y) - F$. Since G is open in $X \times Y$, there are open sets $U \subset X$ and $V \subset Y$ such that $U \times V \subset G$. Also, $g = 1$ on $U \times V$, as $U \times V \subset G \subset E$. Fix $y_0 \in V$. Then $g_{y_0} = 1$ on U and therefore, $U \subset \{x \in X : g_{y_0}(x) = 1\} = S \subset X$. Now, if $x \notin S$, then $g_{y_0}(x) = g(x, y_0) \neq 1$ and therefore, $(x, y_0) \notin E$, i.e., $(x, y_0) \in F$ and so, $f_{y_0}(x) = 1$. Thus $X - S \subset \{x \in X : f_{y_0}(x) = 1\} = T \subset X$. Also, S and T are peak sets for A and $S \cup T = X$. Since A is a weakly prime algebra, $S = X$ or $T = X$. Suppose $S = X$. Then $g_{y_0} = 1$ on X or $g = 1$ on $X \times \{y_0\}$, So, $g = 1$ on $X \times V$, as y_0 was an arbitrary point of V. Let $(x, y) \in X \times Y$. Then $g_x = 1$ on V. By the same argument as above, $V \subset \{y' \in Y : g_x(y') = 1\} = Z \subset Y$, $Y - Z \subset \{y' \in Y : f_x(y') = 1\} = W \subset Y$, $Z \cup W = Y$ and Z, W are peak sets for B. Since B is a weakly prime algebra, $Z = Y$ or $W = Y$. If $W = Y$, then $f_x(y) = f(x, y) = 1$, i.e., $f = 1$ on $X \times Y$ or $F = X \times Y$ which is a contradiction. Therefore, $Z = Y$ and so, $g(x, y) = 1$, i.e., $g = 1$ on $X \times Y$ or $E = X \times Y$. Similarly, if $T = X$, then we can show that $E = X \times Y$ which shows that $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ is a weakly prime algebra and this completes the proof of $[a_4]$.

To prove $[b_4]$, let G be a weakly prime set for $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ and S be a peak set for $(A|_{\pi_1(G)})^-$ with a peaking function f for S. Then $(f \otimes 1)|_G \in (A \widehat{\otimes} B|_G)^-$ and it can be checked that $(f \otimes 1)|_G$ is a peaking function for $(S \times Y) \cap G$, i.e., $(S \times Y) \cap G$ is a peak set for $(A \widehat{\otimes} B|_G)^-$ which is a weakly prime algebra. Therefore, either $(S \times Y) \cap G = G$ or $((S \times Y) \cap G)^\circ = \emptyset$ in the peak set topology. If $(S \times Y) \cap G = G$, then $f \otimes 1 = 1$ on G, i.e., $f = 1$ on $\pi_1(G)$ and so, $\pi_1(G) = S$. Now, if $S^\circ \neq \emptyset$ in the peak set topology, then there is a peak set T, $T \neq \pi_1(G)$, for $(A|_{\pi_1(G)})^-$ such that $S \cup T = \pi_1(G)$. But then $(T \times Y) \cap G \neq G$: $(T \times Y) \cap G$ is a peak set for $(A \widehat{\otimes} B|_G)^-$ and $((S \times Y) \cap G) \cup ((T \times Y) \cap G) = G$, i.e., $((S \times Y) \cap G)^\circ \neq \emptyset$ in the peak set topology. Thus if $((S \times Y) \cap G)^\circ = \emptyset$ in the peak set topology, then $S^\circ = \emptyset$ in the peak set topology. Therefore, we have either $S = \pi_1(G)$ or $S^\circ = \emptyset$ in the peak set topology and hence $\pi_1(G)$ is a weakly prime set for A. Similarly, we can prove that $\pi_2(G)$ is a weakly prime set for B.

Case i = 5. By the same argument, we can prove $[a_5]$ and $[b_5]$.

Case i = 6. Suppose that A and B are integral domains. Let $f, g \in A \widehat{\otimes} B$ and $f \neq 0 \neq g$. Then there exist (x, y) and (r, s) in $X \times Y$ such that $f(x, y) \neq 0$ and $g(r, s) \neq 0$, i.e., $f_y \neq 0$ and $g_s \neq 0$. Also, f_y and g_s are in A which is an integral domain. Therefore, $f_y g_s \neq 0$ and so, $(f_y g_s)(p) \neq 0$ for some point $p \in X$. Thus $f_p(y) = f(p, y) = f_y(p) \neq 0$ and $g_p(s) = g(p, s) = g_s(p) \neq 0$. Since f_p and g_p are in B and B is an integral domain, $f_p g_p \neq 0$, i.e., for some $q \in Y$, $(f_p g_p)(q) \neq 0$ or $(fg)(p, q) \neq 0$. Hence $fg \neq 0$ and so, $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ is an integral domain which proves $[a_6]$.

To prove $[b_6]$, let G be an i.d. set for $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ and $f, g \in (A|_{\pi_1(G)})^-$ such that $f \neq 0 \neq g$. Then $(f \otimes 1)|_G$ and $(g \otimes 1)|_G$ are in $(A \widehat{\otimes} B|_G)^-$ and it is clear that $(f \otimes 1)|_G \neq (g \otimes 1)|_G$. Since $(A \widehat{\otimes} B|_G)^-$ is an integral domain, $(f \otimes 1)(g \otimes 1) \neq 0$ on G and so, $fg \neq 0$. Hence $\pi_1(G)$ is an i.d. set for A. Similarly, $\pi_2(G)$ is an i.d. set for B.

Case i = 7. Finally, we prove $[a_7]$ and $[b_7]$. Assume that A and B are analytic algebras. Let $h \in A \widehat{\otimes} B$ be zero on a nonempty open subset G of $X \times Y$. There are nonempty open sets $U \subset X$ and $V \subset Y$ such that $U \times V \subset G$. Fix $y_0 \in V$. Then $h_{y_0} = 0$ on U which is a nonempty open subset

of X . But $h_{y_0} \in A$ which is analytic and hence $h_{y_0} = 0$ on X , i.e., $h = 0$ on $X \times \{y_0\}$. Since y_0 is an arbitrary point of V , $h=0$ on $X \times V$. Now, let $(x, y) \in X \times Y$. Then $h_x \in B$ and $h_x = 0$ on V . Thus $h_x = 0$ on Y , as $h_x \in B$ and B is analytic, i.e., $h(x, y) = h_x(y) = 0$. Hence $h = 0$ on $X \times Y$ and consequently, $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ is an analytic algebra.

To prove $[b_7]$, let G be an analytic set for $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ and $f \in (A|_{\pi_1(G)})^-$ be zero on a nonempty open set U of $\pi_1(G)$. Then $(U \times Y) \cap G$ is open in G , $(U \times Y) \cap G \neq \emptyset$ and $(f \otimes 1)|_G \in (A \widehat{\otimes} B|_G)^-$ is zero on $(U \times Y) \cap G$. Hence $(f \otimes 1)|_G = 0$, since $(A \widehat{\otimes} B|_G)^-$ an analytic algebra. Thus $f = 0$ on $\pi_1(G)$ and so, $\pi_1(G)$ is an analytic set for A which completes the proof of the theorem.

Remarks

- (i) It can be shown that for $2 \leq i \leq 7$, $f_i(A) \times f_i(B) = f_i(A \widehat{\otimes} B)$, then $\delta_i(A \widehat{\otimes} B) < \delta_i(A) < \delta_i(B)$. Hence, in view of Theorem 1.3.15, we always have $\delta_i(A \widehat{\otimes} B) < \delta_i(A) < \delta_i(B)$ for $2 \leq i \leq 7$.
- (ii) It is shown in [37, Proposition 2.3] that the essential set of $A \widehat{\otimes} B$ is $(E_A \times Y) \cup (X \times E_B)$, where E_A and E_B denote the essential sets of A and B respectively. Thus $\delta_1(A \widehat{\otimes} B) = \{(E_A \times Y) \cup (X \times E_B) \cup \{(x, y) : x \notin E_A, y \notin E_B\}\}$. But $\delta_1(A) \times \delta_1(B) = \{E_A \times E_B\} \cup (\{X\} \times E_B : x \notin E_B) \cup \{E_A \times \{y\} : y \notin E_B\} \cup \{(x, y) : x \notin E_A, y \notin E_B\}$. Hence $\delta_1(A) \times \delta_1(B) \cong \delta_1(A \widehat{\otimes} B)$, if $E_A \neq X$ or $E_B \neq Y$.

If A is a function algebra on X , then \hat{A} , the Gelfand transform of A , is a function algebra on $m(A)$. To investigate the relation between decompositions of X and of $m(A)$, we need the following proposition due to Hayashi [6, Theorem 4.5]. We recall that a JL closed subset E of X is a p -set for A if $\pi \in A^\perp$ implies that $\mu_E \in A^\perp$.

Proposition 4: There is a one-to-one correspondence between peak sets (p -sets) E for A and peak sets (p -sets) F for \hat{A} such that $\tilde{E} = F$ and $F \cap X = E$. Further, $(\bigcap_\alpha E_\alpha)^\sim = \bigcap_\alpha E_\alpha^\sim$ where E_α is a peak set C_p -set for A for each α .

CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we deal with certain decompositions of a compact Hausdorff space X associated with a function algebra A . The most well known decompositions are those of Bishop and Silov. While the two decompositions coincide in case of many known function algebras, there are function algebras where the two differ. It is natural to look for conditions under which these decompositions are coincident. Section 1 is devoted to the study of this problem. In section 2, we study the Bishop and Silov decompositions for restriction algebras. The last section is devoted to the study of several other decompositions such as analytic, weakly analytic, weakly prime etc. In addition to proving certain properties of these decompositions, we discuss these decompositions for the tensor product. Finally, we show that some of these decompositions determine some of the others.

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