

## ISOMORPHISMS OF FUNCTION ALGEBRAS AND ALGEBRAS OF ANALYTIC FUNCTIONS

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**ABSTRACT.** Let  $R$  be a finite open Riemann surface with analytic boundary  $\Gamma$ . Set  $\bar{R} = R \cup \Gamma$  and define  $A(R) = \{f \in C(\bar{R}) : f \text{ is analytic on } R\}$ . Conditions are given on a function algebra  $A$  on a compact Hausdorff space  $X$  which imply that  $A$  is isomorphic to a subalgebra of  $A(R)$  of finite codimension.

**§1 Introduction.** Let  $R$  be a connected finite open Riemann surface with analytic boundary  $\Gamma$  and set  $\bar{R} = R \cup \Gamma$ . Let  $C(\bar{R})$  denote the complex-valued continuous functions on  $\bar{R}$ . We define  $A(R) = \{f \in C(\bar{R}) : f \text{ is analytic on } R\}$ . Then  $A(R)$  is a function algebra on  $\bar{R}$ . The goal of this paper is to give an abstract function algebraic characterization of the subalgebras of finite codimension of the function algebra  $A(R)$ . This work will employ the results of “ $f$ -regularity” theory introduced by E. Bishop. The main result of the paper will be related to a theorem of T. Gamelin on embedding a Riemann surface in the maximal ideal space of a function algebra.

**§2 Definitions and statement of results.** Throughout this paper  $A$  will be a function algebra on a compact Hausdorff space  $X$ . We list some definitions and facts about function algebras and refer the reader to the references [8] and [18] for details. We let  $M_A$  denote the maximal ideal space of  $A$  and give  $M_A$  the weak-star topology which is inherited from the dual space of  $A$ . If  $f \in A$ , then  $\hat{f}$  will be the Gelfand transform of  $f$ . If  $f$  is a map from  $Y$  to  $Z$ , then  $\#f^{-1}(z)$  denotes the cardinality of the set  $f^{-1}(z)$ . In particular, if  $f \in A$ , then  $\#\hat{f}^{-1}(s)$  denotes the cardinality of the set  $\{\sigma \in M_A : \hat{f}(\sigma) = s\}$ .

We next define the notion of an analytic embedding  $\Psi$  from  $R$  into  $M_A$ . Let  $H^\infty(R)$  be the set of bounded analytic functions on  $R$ . Let  $W \subset M_A$ . If there is a continuous mapping  $\Psi$  of  $R$  onto  $W$  (where  $W$  has the relative topology of  $M_A$ ) such that  $\hat{f}(z) = \hat{f} \circ \Psi(z) \in H^\infty(R)$  for  $f \in A$ , then we will call  $\Psi$  an *analytic mapping from  $R$  onto  $W$* . We will be concerned with analytic maps  $\Psi$  for which the set  $\{(a, b) : a \neq b, \Psi(a) = \Psi(b)\}$  is finite. In this case we will say that  $\Psi$  *identifies a finite number of points*.

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As further notation we use  $T = \{z : |z| = 1\}$  and  $\Delta = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ . Our principal result is stated below:

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $A$  be a function algebra on  $X$ . Assume that*

- (i) *There is  $W \subset M_A$  and an analytic map  $\Psi : R \rightarrow W$  such that  $\Psi$  identifies at most a finite number of points.*
- (ii)  $\bar{W} \setminus W = X$
- (iii) *The set  $S = \{g \in A : |g| = 1 \text{ on } X\}$  separates points on  $X$  and there is  $F \in S$ , nonconstant on  $X$ , such that  $E = \{x \in T : \#\hat{F}^{-1}(x) < \infty\}$  contains a set of positive Lebesgue measure in  $T$ .*

*Then  $\Psi$  extends continuously to  $\bar{R}$  and maps  $\Gamma$  onto  $X$ . Let  $\tilde{\Psi} : A \rightarrow A(R)$  be defined by  $\tilde{\Psi}(f) = \hat{f} \circ \Psi$  and define  $A' = \tilde{\Psi}(A)$ . Then  $\tilde{\Psi}$  is an isomorphism of  $A$  onto  $A'$  and as a vector subspace  $A'$  has finite codimension in  $A(R)$ . Moreover,  $M_A = \bar{W}$ .*

**REMARK.** Let  $f$  be analytic in a neighborhood of  $\bar{R}$ . If there is an integer  $n$  such that  $f$  maps  $\bar{R}$  onto  $\bar{\Delta}$  in an  $n$ -to-one manner counting multiplicity with  $f(\Gamma) = T$ , then we will call  $f$  a *unimodular function*. That such functions exist was proved by Ahlfors. Stout [17] showed that the unimodular functions separate points on  $\bar{R}$ . In light of these remarks, it is clear that  $A(R)$  satisfies the hypotheses (i), (ii), (iii) of the theorem above.

For later reference we define the *order of a unimodular function  $f$*  to be  $n$  if  $f$  is an  $n$ -to-one (counting multiplicity) map of  $\bar{R}$  onto  $\bar{\Delta}$ .

**§3. Preliminary lemmas.** Let the boundary  $\Gamma$  of  $R$  consist of simple closed analytic curves  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$ . We call  $B \subset R$  a *boundary strip* if  $B$  consists of  $n$  pairwise disjoint annular domains  $K_1, \dots, K_n$  such that  $\Gamma_j \subset \bar{K}_j$  and such that there is a coordinate map  $\phi_j$  from an annulus  $\{z : s < |z| < 1\}$  onto  $K_j$  which extends to map  $T$  onto  $\Gamma_j$ .

The lemma below appears to be straightforward; however, a careful proof becomes somewhat detailed. This result does not seem to appear in standard references.

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $f : R \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be an analytic map. Suppose there is a positive integer  $m$  such that  $\#f^{-1}(x) \leq m$  for all  $x \in f(R)$  and suppose  $E = \{x \in f(R) : \#f^{-1}(x) < m\}$  is a discrete set in  $f(R)$ . Then  $f$  is a proper map. (That is, if  $L \subset f(R)$  is compact, then  $f^{-1}(L)$  is compact in  $R$ .)*

**Proof.** It suffices to show that if  $x_0 \in f(R)$ , then there is a compact neighborhood  $N$  of  $x_0$  such that  $f^{-1}(N)$  is compact in  $R$ . The case where  $x_0 \in f(R) \setminus E$  is straightforward and we consider the case where  $x_0 \in E$ . Let  $G$  be an open set with compact closure in  $R$  such that  $f^{-1}(x_0) \subset G$ . Pick a disk  $V(r)$  about  $x_0$  of radius  $r$  so that  $V(r) \subset f(G)$  and  $V(r) \cap E = \{x_0\}$ . We wish to show that  $r$  may be picked so small that  $f^{-1}(\bar{V}(r)) \subset \bar{G}$  which will prove the Lemma.

Given a boundary strip  $B$  such that  $\bar{B} \cap \bar{G} = \emptyset$ , it is easy to prove that  $r$  may

be chosen so small that  $f^{-1}(V(r)) \subset G \cup B$ . Suppose  $B$  and  $r$  are selected as above. We wish to show that  $f^{-1}(V(r)) \cap B = \emptyset$ . We suppose the contrary.

Let  $V_0(r) = V(r) \setminus \{x_0\}$ . Then  $f$  is an  $m$ -to one map of  $f^{-1}(V_0(r))$  onto  $V_0(r)$ . It follows that if  $f$  is restricted to any component  $U$  of  $f^{-1}(V_0(r))$ , then  $f$  is a regular covering map of  $U$  onto  $V_0(r)$  ([1] p. 29). Let  $U$  be a component which lies in  $B$ . Since  $U$  is connected, there is a single annular domain  $K_j \subset B$  with  $U \subset K_j$ . In what follows we will identify  $K_j$  with  $W = \{z : s < |z| < 1\}$  and  $\Gamma_j$  with  $T$ .

Given any  $\varepsilon > 0$  we claim that we can find a neighborhood  $\Omega$  of  $T$  such that if  $a \in \varepsilon\Omega \cap W$ , then  $|f(a) - x_0| < \varepsilon$ . Once we have shown this, then  $f$  can be extended continuously to  $T$  by setting  $f(z) = x_0$  for  $z \in T$ . In this case  $f$  must reduce to a constant function giving us a contradiction.

We now proceed to find the desired neighborhood  $\Omega$ . We may suppose that  $\varepsilon < r$  and thus the conclusions above apply to the punctured disk  $V_0(\varepsilon)$ . Let  $\gamma(t)$  be the circle about  $x_0$  of radius  $\varepsilon/2$ . Since  $f: U \rightarrow V_0(\varepsilon)$  is a finite-to-one covering, a suitable multiple of  $\gamma$  lifts to a closed curve  $\tilde{\gamma}$  lying in  $U$ . Moreover,  $\tilde{\gamma}$  is not null-homotopic in  $W$  since otherwise  $f \circ \tilde{\gamma}$  would be null-homotopic in  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{x_0\}$ . Thus  $\tilde{\gamma}$  is homotopic to a multiple of a generator of the fundamental group of  $W$ .

Consequently, if  $\Omega$  is the unbounded component of  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \tilde{\gamma}$ , then  $T \subset \Omega$  and  $\{z : |z| \leq s\} \cap \Omega = \emptyset$ . We claim that  $\Omega$  is our sought-after neighborhood of  $T$ . Take a  $\varepsilon\Omega \cap W$ . We must show that  $|f(a) - x_0| < \varepsilon$ .

Let  $W' = \{z : s' < |z| < 1\}$  be chosen so that  $a \notin W'$ . By the arguments given earlier, there is an  $\varepsilon' < \varepsilon$  such that  $f^{-1}(V_0(\varepsilon')) \cap W \subset W'$ . Furthermore, if  $\gamma'$  is the circle about  $x_0$  of radius  $\varepsilon'/2$ , then a suitable multiple of  $\gamma'$  lifts to a closed curve  $\tilde{\gamma}'$  lying in  $W'$  which is not null-homotopic in  $W'$ . Now let  $\Omega'$  be the component of  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \tilde{\gamma}'$  which contains the origin. Then  $\Omega' \subset \Delta$ . Thus,  $\Omega \cap \Omega'$  is a subset of  $W$  with  $\partial(\Omega \cap \Omega') \subset (\partial\Omega \cup \partial\Omega') \subset \tilde{\gamma} \cup \tilde{\gamma}'$ . Since  $|f(z) - x_0| < \varepsilon$  on  $\tilde{\gamma} \cup \tilde{\gamma}'$  and  $a \in \Omega \cap \Omega'$ , it follows by the maximum principle that  $|f(a) - x_0| < \varepsilon$ . This completes the proof.

In the next lemma important use is made of the results of “ $f$ -regularity”. See the references [3, 4] and [9] for an exposition of this theory.

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $A$  be a function algebra on  $X$ . Let  $W \subset M_A$  satisfy  $\bar{W} \setminus W \subset X$  and suppose  $\Psi: R \rightarrow W$  is an analytic map of  $R$  onto  $W$  which identifies a finite number of points. Let  $F \in A$  be nonconstant on  $W$  with  $|F| = 1$  on  $X$  and suppose that the set  $\{x \in T : \#\hat{F}^{-1}(x) < \infty\}$  contains a set of positive Lebesgue measure. Then  $\Psi$  is a proper map of  $R$  onto  $W$  (where  $W$  has the relative topology of  $M_A$ ) and  $\tilde{F}(z) = \hat{F} \circ \Psi(z)$  is a unimodular function on  $\bar{R}$ . Furthermore, if  $\Psi$  is a 1-1 map, then  $\Psi$  is a homeomorphism.*

**Proof.** Since  $\tilde{F}$  is analytic and nonconstant on  $R$  and since the topological boundary of  $\hat{F}(M_A)$  is contained in  $F(X)$ , it follows that  $F(X) = T$  and

$\hat{F}(M_A) = \bar{\Delta}$ . From the analyticity of  $\hat{F}$  on  $W$  we see that  $W \cap X = \emptyset$  and  $W \subset \hat{F}^{-1}(\Delta)$ .

The hypotheses on  $F$  imply that  $\Delta$  is  $F$ -regular of some multiplicity  $n_0 > 0$  ([9] p. 62). Since  $\Psi$  identifies only a finite number of points, we may therefore conclude that there is some integer  $M > 0$  where  $M = \max \{ \# \tilde{F}^{-1}(z) : z \in \tilde{F}(R) \}$ . Let  $V = \{ z \in \tilde{F}(R) : \# \tilde{F}^{-1}(z) = M \}$ . Since  $\tilde{F}$  is an open map, it follows that  $V$  is open.

Since  $\Delta$  is  $F$ -regular of order  $n_0$ , the set  $\{ z \in \Delta : \hat{F}^{-1}(z) < n_0 \}$  is discrete in  $\Delta$ . Moreover, since  $\Psi$  identifies only a finite number of points, it then follows that there exists  $z' \in V$  and  $g \in A$  such that  $\tilde{g} = \hat{g} \circ \Psi$  separates  $\tilde{F}^{-1}(z')$ . Then for  $z \in V$ , let  $\tilde{F}^{-1}(z) = \{ a_1, \dots, a_M \}$  and define

$$\Phi(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \in \tilde{E}(R) \setminus V \\ \prod_{i < j} (\tilde{g}(a_i) - \tilde{g}(a_j))^2 & z \in V \end{cases}$$

Then  $\Phi(z') \neq 0$  and  $\Phi(z)$  is analytic on  $V$ . We claim that  $\Phi$  is analytic on all of  $\tilde{F}(R)$ . By Rado's theorem we need prove only that  $\Phi(z)$  is continuous on  $\tilde{F}(R)$  ([18] p. 302).

Let  $z_0$  be a boundary point of  $V$  as a subset of  $\tilde{F}(R)$ . It suffices to prove that if  $\{z_n\}$  is a sequence in  $V$  which converges to  $z_0$ , then  $\Phi(z_n)$  converges to  $\Phi(z_0) = 0$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given. We will find an  $N$  such that if  $n \geq N$ , then  $|\Phi(z_n)| < \epsilon$ .

Let  $U$  be a neighborhood in  $M_A$  of  $\hat{F}^{-1}(z_0)$  such that if  $\sigma \in U$ , then

$$\min \{ |\hat{g}(\sigma) - \hat{g}(\alpha)| : \alpha \in \hat{F}^{-1}(z_0) \} < \epsilon'$$

where

$$\epsilon' = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon}{(2\|g\|)^{M^2 - M - 2}}}$$

Now as a preliminary step we wish to show that there is an integer  $N'$  such that if  $n \geq N'$ , then  $\Psi(\tilde{F}^{-1}(z_n)) \subset U$ .

We suppose the contrary. Then it follows that there is a subsequence  $\{s_n\}$  of  $\{z_n\}$  and a sequence  $\{w_n\}$  in  $R$  with  $w_n \in \tilde{F}^{-1}(s_n)$  such that  $\Psi(w_n) \notin U$  for all  $n$ . Now  $\{\Psi(w_n)\}$  is a net in  $M_A$ . Let  $\Theta \in M_A$  be an accumulation point and let  $\{\Psi(w_{j(\alpha)})\}$  be a subnet converging to  $\Theta$ . The continuity of  $\hat{F}$  implies that  $\hat{F}(\Psi(w_{j(\alpha)}))$  converges to  $\hat{F}(\Theta)$ . Since  $\hat{F}(\Psi(w_{j(\alpha)})) = \tilde{F}(w_{j(\alpha)}) = s_{j(\alpha)}$ , we may conclude that  $\hat{F}(\Theta) = z_0$ . Therefore,  $\Theta \in \hat{F}^{-1}(z_0)$  and for some  $\alpha'$  we have  $\Psi(w_{j(\alpha')}) \in U$  giving us a contradiction.

Finally, since  $\Psi$  identifies only a finite number of points, we can find  $N \geq N'$  such that if  $n \geq N$ , then  $\Psi(\tilde{F}^{-1}(z_n)) \subset U$  and, additionally, so that  $\Psi$  is 1-1 when restricted to  $\tilde{F}^{-1}(z_n)$ .

Since  $z_0 \notin V$ , it follows that  $\hat{F}^{-1}(z_0) \cap W$  contains less than  $M$  points. Meanwhile, for  $n \geq N$  we have  $\Psi(\tilde{F}^{-1}(z_n)) \subset U$  and  $\Psi(\tilde{F}^{-1}(z_n))$  contains  $M$  points. Therefore, for each  $n \geq N$ , there exists some  $\alpha^* \in \hat{F}^{-1}(z_0) \cap W$  such that at least two points  $\alpha'_n$  and  $\alpha''_n \in \Psi(\tilde{F}^{-1}(z_n))$  satisfy the conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} |\hat{g}(\alpha'_n) - \hat{g}(\alpha^*)| &< \varepsilon' \\ |\hat{g}(\alpha''_n) - \hat{g}(\alpha^*)| &< \varepsilon' \end{aligned}$$

which together imply that  $|\Phi(z_n)| < \varepsilon$ . Now by Rado's theorem we conclude that  $\Phi(z)$  is analytic on  $\tilde{F}(R)$ .

Since  $\Phi(z)$  is not the zero function, the zero set of  $\Phi(z)$  is discrete in  $\tilde{F}(R)$ . In particular, the complement of  $V$  is discrete in  $\tilde{F}(R)$ . Then as a consequence of Lemma 1 we conclude that  $\tilde{F}: R \rightarrow \tilde{F}(R)$  is a proper map.

We next prove that  $\Psi: R \rightarrow W$  is a proper map. Let  $K \subset W$  be compact. Then  $\hat{F}(K)$  is compact in  $\tilde{F}(R)$ . Since  $\tilde{F}$  is proper, we conclude that  $\tilde{F}^{-1}(\hat{F}(K))$  is compact in  $R$ . Then  $\Psi^{-1}(K)$  is a closed subset of  $\tilde{F}^{-1}(\hat{F}(K))$  and is therefore compact.

Let  $\lambda \in \Gamma$  and let  $\{z_n\}$  be a sequence in  $R$  converging to  $\lambda$ . Since  $\Psi$  is proper and  $\bar{W} \setminus W \subset X$ , we conclude that the accumulation points of  $\{\Psi(z_n)\}$  are all contained in  $X$ . Consequently,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\tilde{F}(z_n)| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\hat{F} \circ \Psi(z_n)| = 1$ . Applying the reflection principle, we see that  $\tilde{F}$  extends as a meromorphic function on the doubled surface  $\hat{R}$  of  $R$ . It follows that  $\tilde{F}$  is unimodular on  $\bar{R}$ .

The set  $W$  is locally compact in the relative topology of  $M_A$ . To see this we note that  $\tilde{F}^{-1}(\Delta_r)$  is compact in  $R$  where  $\Delta_r = \{z : |z| < r\}$  and  $r < 1$ . Hence  $\Psi(\tilde{F}^{-1}(\Delta_r))$  is compact in  $W$ . Since  $\hat{F}^{-1}(\Delta_r) \cap W \subset \Psi(\tilde{F}^{-1}(\Delta_r))$ , it follows that  $W$  is locally compact. Consequently, if we assume in addition that  $\Psi$  is 1-1, then  $\Psi$  is a homeomorphism ([14] p. 285). This completes the proof.

The remarks above contain a proof of the following Lemma.

**LEMMA 3.** *Let  $A$  be a function algebra on  $X$ . Let  $W \subset M_A$  satisfy  $\bar{W} \setminus W \subset X$  and suppose  $\Psi: R \rightarrow W$  is a proper analytic map of  $R$  onto  $W$ . Then if  $g \in A$  satisfies  $|g| = 1$  on  $X$ , then  $\tilde{g}(z) = \hat{g} \circ \Psi(z)$  is a unimodular function on  $\bar{R}$  or  $\tilde{g}$  is a constant function.*

The assumption of continuity for an analytic map  $\Psi$ , rather than assuming further that  $\Psi$  is also a proper map, is natural since various embedding theorems which give analytic structure to certain types of subsets  $W$  in  $M_A$  produce a map  $\Psi: R \rightarrow W$  which need only be continuous. (See [8] p. 154-161 and [18] p. 170-187 for a discussion of analytic structure in Gleason parts. This topic will be developed in §4.) Lemma 2 then gives conditions on  $A$  and  $W$  which imply that an analytic mapping  $\Psi: R \rightarrow W$  is proper. The papers [11] and [13] discuss this topic and related problems.

**LEMMA 4.** *Let  $A$  be a function algebra on  $X$ . Let  $W \subset M_A$  satisfy  $\bar{W} \setminus W \subset X$  and suppose  $\Psi: R \rightarrow W$  is an analytic mapping of  $R$  onto  $W$  which identifies a*

finite number of points. Assume that  $S = \{g \in A : |g| = 1 \text{ on } X\}$  separates points on  $X$  and that there is  $F \in S$ , nonconstant on  $W$ , such that  $\{x \in T : \#\hat{F}^{-1}(x) < \infty\}$  contains a set of positive Lebesgue measure. Then

- (i)  $\Psi$  extends continuously to  $\bar{R}$  and maps  $\Gamma$  into  $X$ .
- (ii) If  $f \in A$ , then  $\tilde{f} = \hat{f} \circ \Psi \in A(R)$ .
- (iii) If  $L = \{(a, b) \in \bar{R} \times \bar{R} : a \neq b, \Psi(a) = \Psi(b)\}$ , then  $(a, b) \in L$  if and only if  $\tilde{f}(a) = \tilde{f}(b)$  for all  $f \in A$ .

**Proof.** By the preceding lemmas it follows that  $\Psi$  is proper. We now prove (i). Let  $\lambda \in \Gamma$  and let  $\{a_n\} \subset R$  converge to  $\lambda$ . We may assume that  $\{a_n\}$  does not meet the set of points identified by  $\Psi$ . Since  $\Psi$  is proper and  $\bar{W} \setminus W \subset X$ , it follows that the accumulation points of  $\{\Psi(a_n)\}$  are contained in  $X$ . Suppose there exist distinct accumulation points  $x$  and  $y$ . By assumption there is  $g \in S$  so that  $g(x) \neq g(y)$ .

Let  $\{\alpha_\beta\}$  be a subnet of  $\{\Psi(a_n)\}$  which converges to  $x$ . By continuity  $\hat{g}(\alpha_\beta)$  converges to  $\hat{g}(x)$ . Since  $\hat{g}(\alpha_\beta) = \tilde{g}(\Psi^{-1}(\alpha_\beta))$  and  $\tilde{g} \in A(R)$  by Lemma 3, we may conclude that  $\hat{g}(x) = \tilde{g}(\lambda)$ . Likewise, we may show that  $\hat{g}(y) = \tilde{g}(\lambda)$ . Hence, we must have  $x = y$ . We let  $\Psi(\lambda)$  denote the unique accumulation point of  $\{\Psi(a_n)\}$ . If  $\{b_n\} \subset R$  is another sequence which converges to  $\lambda$ , a similar argument will show that  $\Psi(\lambda)$  is the only accumulation point of  $\{\Psi(b_n)\}$ .

We use  $\Psi(\lambda)$  to extend  $\Psi$  to  $\Gamma$ . We have  $\Psi(\Gamma) \subset X$  and a straightforward argument shows that  $\Psi$  is continuous on  $\bar{R}$ . The proofs of (ii) and (iii) are now immediate.

**Proof of Theorem 1.** Since  $\bar{W} \setminus W = X$ , we conclude that  $\Psi(\Gamma) = X$ . Let  $\tilde{\Psi} : A \rightarrow A(R)$  be defined by  $\tilde{\Psi}(f) = \hat{f} \circ \Psi$ . Then  $\Psi$  is an isomorphism of  $A$  onto  $\tilde{\Psi}(A)$ . Set  $A' = \tilde{\Psi}(A)$ .

Let  $g \in S$  be nonconstant. Then  $\tilde{g}$  is unimodular of some order  $n$ . Since  $\Psi$  identifies only finitely many points of  $R$ , we can find some  $w_0 \in \Delta$  and  $f \in A$  such that  $\tilde{f}$  separates  $\tilde{g}^{-1}(w_0)$ . Let  $\tilde{g}^{-1}(w) = \{z_1, \dots, z_n\}$  (including repetitions) for  $w \in \mathbb{C}$ . Set  $w \in \bar{\Delta}$  and let  $z_1 = z$ . Then  $\Theta(z) = \prod_{i=2}^n (\tilde{f}(z) - \tilde{f}(z_i)) \in A(R)$  and  $\Theta(z) \neq 0$ . In particular, there is some  $t \in T$  such that  $\tilde{f}$  separates the  $n$  distinct points of  $\tilde{g}^{-1}(t)$ . By (iii) of Lemma 4 we conclude that  $\Psi$  is 1-1 on  $\tilde{g}^{-1}(t)$ .

Since  $S$  separates points on  $X$ , there is a polynomial  $Q$  in elements of  $S$  such that  $Q$  separates the points of  $\Psi(\tilde{g}^{-1}(t))$ . Note that both  $\tilde{g}$  and  $\tilde{Q}$  extend meromorphically to  $\bar{R}$ . It follows that  $\Omega(z) = \prod_{i=2}^n (\tilde{Q}(z) - \tilde{Q}(z_i))$  is analytic on a neighborhood of  $\bar{R}$  and  $\Omega(z) \neq 0$ . In this case the singular part of  $\Omega(z)$  as an element of  $A(R)$  in the sense of [16] is zero. This property of  $\Omega(z)$  is evident if  $\Omega(z)$  has no zeros on  $\Gamma$  and can be established by localization and the use of the inner-outer factorization for  $A(\Delta)$  if  $\Omega(z)$  has zeros on  $\Gamma$ .

If  $J = \{f \in A(R) : fA(R) \subset A'\}$ , then  $J$  is a closed ideal of  $A(R)$  with  $J \subset A'$  and  $\Omega(z) \in J$  ([12]). Since  $\Omega(z)$  has zero singular part and only a finite number

of zeros in  $R$ , it follows that  $J$ , and hence  $A'$ , has finite codimension in  $A(R)$  ([16], Theorem I and [15], Lemma 2.5).

We recall that  $M_{A(R)} = \bar{R}$  ([2]). The maximal ideal space of  $A'$  is obtained by identifying the points of  $\bar{R}$  which are identified by  $\Psi$  ([7], Theorem 9.8). We see then that  $\tilde{\Psi}^*: M_{A'} \rightarrow M_A$  defined by  $\tilde{\Psi}^*(\sigma)(f) = \sigma(\tilde{\Psi}(f))$  for  $\sigma \in M_{A'}$  and  $f \in A$  is a homeomorphism and  $M_A = \tilde{\Psi}^*(M_{A'}) = \Psi(\bar{R}) = \bar{W}$ . Therefore,  $\bar{W} = M_A$  as required. That completes the proof.

REMARK. In the proof of Theorem 1 we constructed two functions  $\tilde{g}$  and  $\tilde{Q}$  that separate all but a finite subset of  $\bar{R}$ . Hence, according to Lemma 4 (iii), we may conclude that the set  $L = \{(a, b) \in \bar{R} \times \bar{R} : a \neq b, \Psi(a) = \Psi(b)\}$  is finite. This remark will be used in §4.

§4 **Analytic maps and Gleason parts.** In this section we apply Gamelin's theorem on embedding analytic structure in certain subsets of the maximal ideal space of a function algebra to Theorem 1 to obtain entirely "internal" conditions on  $A$  which imply that  $A$  is isomorphic to a finite codimensional subalgebra of  $A(R)$ . We will use standard definitions and results in function algebras which are found in the references [8] or [18].

THEOREM (Gamelin [8] p. 161 and [7]). *Let  $A$  be a function algebra on  $X$ . Suppose the set of representing measures supported on  $X$  for  $\phi \in M_A$  is finite dimensional and that  $\phi$  has a unique logmodular measure on  $X$ . Suppose the Gleason part  $P$  which contains  $\phi$  contains more than one point. Then there is a 1-1 analytic mapping  $\Psi$  of  $R$  onto  $P$ .*

The mapping  $\Psi$  need not be a homeomorphism nor even a proper map (see [5] p. 251 and [13] p. 1095). By combining Theorem 1 and Gamelin's theorem we obtain the following result:

THEOREM 2. *Let  $A$  be a function algebra on  $X$ . Assume that*

(i) *There is  $\phi \in M_A$  such that the set of representing measures on  $X$  for  $\phi$  is finite dimensional and that  $\phi$  has a unique logmodular measure  $m$  on  $X$ . Furthermore, suppose that the Gleason part  $P$  which contains  $\phi$  satisfies  $\bar{P} \setminus P = X$ .*

(ii) *The set  $S = \{g \in A : |g| = 1 \text{ on } X\}$  separates points on  $X$  and there is  $F \in S$ , nonconstant on  $X$ , such that  $E = \{x \in T : \#\hat{F}^{-1}(x) < \infty\}$  contains a set of positive Lebesgue measure in  $T$ .*

*Then there is a finite set  $L$  contained in  $\{(a, b) \in \Gamma \times \Gamma : a \neq b\}$  such that  $A$  is isomorphic to the algebra  $A' = \{f \in A(R) : f(a) = f(b) \text{ for } (a, b) \in L\}$ .*

Before beginning the proof of Theorem 2, we will briefly discuss the analytic mapping of Gamelin's theorem as well as the necessary background from function algebra theory. If  $\phi \in M_A$  we will let  $M_\phi(X)$  denote the set of representing measures supported on  $X$  for  $\phi$ . If  $M_\phi(X)$  is finite dimensional

and if  $\phi$  has a unique logmodular measure on  $X$ , then all the representing measures for  $\phi$  are mutually absolutely continuous ([7] p. 129–130). Now let  $\phi$  have finite dimensional  $M_\phi(X)$  with unique logmodular measure  $m$  on  $X$ . If  $\Theta \in M_A$  belongs to the same Gleason part as  $\phi$ , then  $M_\Theta(X)$  is also finite dimensional and each  $\mu \in M_\Theta(X)$  is mutually absolutely continuous with  $m$  ([8] p. 143).

We now fix  $\phi \in M_A$  such that  $M_\phi(X)$  is finite dimensional and contains a unique logmodular measure  $m$  and we suppose that the part  $P$  containing  $\phi$  contains more than one point. We let  $H^\infty(m)$  denote the weak-star closure of  $A$  in  $L^\infty(m)$ . Let  $\iota: A \rightarrow H^\infty(m)$  be the inclusion map and let the continuous map  $\iota^*: M_{H^\infty(m)} \rightarrow M_A$  be given by  $\iota^*(\Theta)(f) = \Theta(\iota(f))$  and  $f \in A$  and  $\Theta \in M_{H^\infty(m)}$ .

Each  $\Theta \in P$  extends to a homomorphism  $\Theta' \in M_{H^\infty(m)}$  by setting  $\Theta'(f) = \int f d\mu$  for  $f \in H^\infty(m)$  where  $\mu \in M_\Theta(X)$ . Let  $\Pi$  be the part of  $M_{H^\infty(m)}$  which contains  $\phi'$ . If  $\Theta' \in \iota^{*-1}(P)$ , then the representing measures for  $\Theta'$  can be identified with  $M_\Theta(X)$  ([8], p. 102). By a short argument it follows that  $\iota^*$  is a 1–1 map of  $\Pi$  onto  $P$ . Furthermore, if  $f_n \in A$  converges weak-star to  $f \in H^\infty(m)$ , then  $\iota(\widehat{f_n})$  converges pointwise to  $\widehat{f}$  on  $\Pi$ . (cf [18] p. 183–184).

Gamelin’s theorem produces a 1–1 analytic map  $\chi$  from  $R$  onto  $\Pi$  with respect to the algebra  $H^\infty(m)$ . Then  $\Psi = \iota^* \circ \chi$  is a 1–1 analytic map from  $R$  onto  $P$  for the algebra  $A$ . Notice that  $\iota(\widehat{f}) \circ \chi = \widehat{f} \circ \Psi$  for  $f \in A$ . We remark that if a bounded sequence  $\{f_n\}$  in  $A$  converges weak-star to  $f \in H^\infty(m)$ , then  $\iota(\widehat{f_n}) \circ \chi$  converges uniformly on compact subsets of  $R$  to  $\widehat{f} \circ \chi$ .

**Proof of Theorem 2.** Gamelin’s theorem supplies a 1–1 analytic map  $\Psi$  of  $R$  onto  $P$ , and this map extends continuously to  $\bar{R}$  to map  $\Gamma$  onto  $X$  according to Theorem 1. The map  $\tilde{\Psi}: A \rightarrow A(R)$  defined by  $\tilde{\Psi}(f) = \widehat{f} \circ \Psi$  is an isomorphism of  $A$  onto  $\tilde{\Psi}(A)$ . Set  $A' = \tilde{\Psi}(A)$ . Let  $L = \{(a, b) \in \bar{R} \times \bar{R} : a \neq b \text{ and } \Psi(a) = \Psi(b)\}$ . By the remark following the proof of Theorem 1 we know that  $L$  is finite. Also, since  $\Psi$  restricted to  $R$  is 1–1, we conclude that  $L \subset \Gamma \times \Gamma$ .

Define  $B' = \{f \in A(R) : f(a) = f(b) \text{ if } (a, b) \in L\}$ . Then  $A' \subset B'$ . To complete the proof we must show that  $A' = B'$ . Assume instead that  $A'$  is properly contained in  $B'$ . By Theorem 1 we know that  $A'$  has finite codimension in  $A(R)$ , and hence, in  $B'$ . Consequently, there is a nonzero continuous point derivation  $D$  on  $B'$  such that  $A' \subset \ker D$  ([7], Theorem 9.8).

Since  $M_{A(R)} = \bar{R}$ , the maximal ideal space for  $B'$  is the quotient space obtained by identifying the points of  $\bar{R}$  which are identified by  $\Psi$ . Each level set of the restriction of  $\Psi$  to  $\Gamma$  is a peak set for  $B'$  and such sets are peak points when  $B'$  is regarded as a function algebra on  $M_{B'}$ . It follows that  $D$  must be a point derivation at some point  $s \in R$  ([5], Corollary 1.6.7). Consequently,  $A' \subset \ker D = M_s^2 + \mathbb{C}$  where  $M_s = \{f \in B' : f(s) = 0\}$  and  $M_s^2 = \{fg : f \text{ and } g \in M_s\}$ . As a result we conclude that if  $h \in A$ , then  $d\tilde{h}(s) = 0$  where  $\tilde{h} = \widehat{h} \circ \Psi$  and  $d\tilde{h}(s)$  is the differential of  $\tilde{h}$  at  $s$ .



According to hypothesis there is a unique logmodular measure  $m$  on  $X$  for  $\phi \in P$ . Let  $\Psi^{-1}(\phi) = z_0$ . There is a logmodular measure  $m_0$  for  $z_0$  supported on  $\Gamma$  for the algebra  $A(R)$  ([8] p. 33 and 110). We may define a Borel measure  $m'$  on  $X$  by setting  $m'(K) = m_0(\Psi^{-1}(K))$  for Borel sets  $K \subset X$ . Then it follows that  $m'$  is a logmodular measure for  $\phi$ . Consequently,  $m' = m$ .

Let  $B = \{f \in C(M_A) : f \circ \Psi \in B'\}$ . Then  $m$  is multiplicative with respect to  $B$ . Let  $H^\infty(B)$  be the weak-star closure of  $B$  in  $L^\infty(m)$ . Then  $H^\infty(m) \subset H^\infty(B)$ . According to a maximality theorem ([8] p. 115) we have  $H^\infty(m) = H^\infty(B)$ .

If  $f \in H^\infty(m)$ , then there is  $\{f_n\} \subset A$  such that  $\|f_n\| \leq \|f\|$  and  $f_n$  converges to  $f$  a.e.  $[m]$  ([10], p. 137 and p. 149). In this case  $\widehat{\iota(f_n) \circ \chi}$  converges uniformly on compact subsets of  $R$  to  $\widehat{f \circ \chi}$ . As a result  $d(\widehat{f \circ \chi})(s) = 0$  for all  $f \in H^\infty(m)$ . However, it is easy to construct a  $G \in B$  such that for  $g = G \circ \Psi \in B'$  we have  $dg(s) \neq 0$ . Furthermore,  $\iota(G) \in H^\infty(m)$  and  $\widehat{\iota(G) \circ \chi}(z) = g(z)$ . Consequently,  $d(\widehat{\iota(G) \circ \chi})(s) \neq 0$  giving a contradiction. This completes the proof.

Let  $A$  be a function algebra on  $X$ . We say that  $A$  is a Dirichlet algebra on  $X$  if  $\{\text{Re}(f) : f \in A\}$  is uniformly dense in the set of real-valued continuous functions on  $X$ . An algebra  $A$  is a Dirichlet algebra on  $X$  if and only if there are no nonzero real annihilating measures of  $A$  supported on  $X$ .

Let  $A^\perp = \{\mu : \mu \text{ is a finite regular Borel measure on } X \text{ such that } \int f d\mu = 0 \text{ for all } f \in A\}$ .

**COROLLARY 1.** *In addition to the assumptions of Theorem 2 suppose that  $\phi \in M_A$  has a unique representing measure supported on  $X$ . Then  $A$  is a Dirichlet algebra on  $X$ .*

**Proof.** The Riemann surface  $R$  of Gamelin's theorem is now the open unit disk  $\Delta$ . ([8], p. 158) and  $\Gamma$  becomes  $T$ . Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{K \subset T : \Psi(K) \text{ is Borel}\}$ . It is straightforward to show that  $\mathcal{S}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra which contains the Borel sets. Suppose that  $\mu \in A^\perp$  is a nonzero real measure on  $X$ . Let  $E = \{t \in T : \text{there is } t' \neq t \text{ with } \Psi(t') = \Psi(t)\}$ . By Theorem 2 we know that  $E$  is a finite set. Now for  $t \in E$  we let  $E_t = \{t' \in E : \Psi(t') = \Psi(t)\}$ . Using Theorem 2 we see that  $\Psi(E_t)$  is a peak point for the function algebra  $A$  and therefore  $\mu(\Psi(E_t)) = 0$ . Furthermore, we see that  $|\mu|(\Psi(E)) = 0$ . It now follows that we may define a finite regular Borel measure  $\tilde{\mu}$  on  $T$  by setting  $\tilde{\mu}(K) = \mu(\Psi(K))$  for Borel sets  $K \subset T$ . Then  $\tilde{\mu}$  is real and  $\tilde{\mu}$  annihilates  $A'$ .

Let  $f \in A'$  be an outer function which vanishes precisely on  $E$ . Then  $fA(\Delta) \subset A'$  and so  $f\tilde{\mu} \in A(\Delta)^\perp$ . By the F. and M. Riesz theorem there is  $h \in H_0^1(\Delta)$  such that  $f\tilde{\mu} = h\lambda$  where  $\lambda$  is Lebesgue measure on  $T$ . As a result we have  $\tilde{\mu} = (h/f)\lambda + \tilde{\mu}|_E$ . Since  $|\tilde{\mu}|(E) = 0$ , we obtain  $\tilde{\mu} = (h/f)\lambda$ . Now  $h/f$  is real a.e.  $[\lambda]$  and  $h/f \in L^1(T)$ . But then  $h/f \in H^1(\Delta)$  ([6] p. 28). But a function in  $H^1(\Delta)$  which is real a.e. must be constant. Since  $0 = \int d\tilde{\mu} = \int (h/f) d\lambda$ , we see that  $h/f = 0$  a.e.  $[\lambda]$ . Therefore,  $\tilde{\mu}$  is the zero measure and it follows that  $\mu$  is the zero measure on  $X$ . This proves the Corollary.

REMARK. One may check that the algebra  $A = \{f \in A(\Delta) : f(1) = f(-1)\}$  regarded as a function algebra on the set  $X$  obtained from  $T$  by identifying the points 1 and  $-1$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 2. (A point  $z \in \Delta$  has a unique representing measure on  $X$  since  $A$  is Dirichlet on  $X$  as shown by the proof of Corollary 1.) As a result we see that the hypotheses of Theorem 2 do not allow us to capture the entire algebra  $A(R)$  through the isomorphism  $\tilde{\Psi}$ . A condition which implies that  $\tilde{\Psi}$  maps  $A$  onto  $A(R)$  is given in the Corollary below.

COROLLARY 2. *In addition to the assumptions of Theorem 2 suppose there is a positive integer  $n$  such that  $F: X \rightarrow T$  is precisely an  $n$ -to-one map. Then  $A$  is isomorphic to  $A(R)$ .*

**Proof.** We will prove that  $\Psi: \bar{R} \rightarrow M_A$  is a 1-1 map which will establish the Corollary. The order of the unimodular function  $\tilde{F} = \hat{F} \circ \Psi$  is at most  $n$  ([9] p. 62). If  $t \in T$ , then  $\Psi(\tilde{F}^{-1}(t)) \subset \hat{F}^{-1}(t)$ . Since  $\Psi$  maps  $\Gamma$  onto  $X$ , we may conclude that  $\tilde{F}$  has order  $n$  and that  $\Psi$  is 1-1 on  $\tilde{F}^{-1}(t)$ . By Lemma 4 (iii), we conclude that  $\Psi$  is 1-1 on  $\Gamma$ . Consequently, using Theorem 2 we see that  $\Psi$  is 1-1 on all of  $\bar{R}$ . This completes the proof.

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