

# SUBORDINATE AND PSEUDO-SUBORDINATE SEMI-ALGEBRAS. II

EDWARD J. BARBEAU

**1. Introduction.** This paper is a sequel to (1), to which the reader is referred for definitions and known results. As before,  $E$  is a compact Hausdorff space and  $C^+(E)$  is the semi-algebra of all continuous non-negative functions defined on  $E$ . Recall that, for a uniformly closed subsemi-algebra  $A$  of  $C^+(E)$ , the semi-algebra  $A_u$  is the uniform closure of the set  $\{f_1 \cup f_2 \cup \dots \cup f_k; f_i \in A, k \text{ a positive integer}\}$  where  $\cup$  denotes the pointwise supremum operation; the semi-algebra  $A$  is *pseudo-subordinate* if and only if  $A_u \neq C^+(E)$ . It was conjectured in (1) that every proper closed subsemi-algebra of  $C^+(E)$  is pseudo-subordinate. My aim in this note is to provide a counter-example for the conjecture. In addition, two other results are proved: one giving a peak point characterization of pseudo-subordinate semi-algebras, the second showing that for finitely generated closed semi-algebras the property of being pseudo-subordinate is equivalent to the property of being subordinate (i.e., contained in a maximal closed subsemi-algebra of  $C^+(E)$ ). The latter result is a small step towards discovering whether every proper finitely generated closed subsemi-algebra is subordinate; cf. (1, Theorem 8).

**2. A characterization of pseudo-subordinate semi-algebras.** The proof of one of the implications in the following theorem is due essentially to Bishop and de Leeuw. Following (2, p. 49), we say that the semi-algebra  $A \subseteq C^+(E)$  satisfies Condition II at the point  $\xi \in E$  if and only if, given any  $G_\delta$ -set  $S$  containing  $\xi$ , there exists a function  $f \in A$  such that  $f(\xi) = \|f\|$  (the uniform norm) and  $f$  attains its maximum value only within  $S$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $A$  be a uniformly closed subsemi-algebra of  $C^+(E)$ . Then  $A_u = C^+(E)$  if and only if  $A$  satisfies Condition II at each point  $\xi$  of  $E$ .*

*Proof.* If  $A_u \neq C^+(E)$ , then by (1, Theorem 5, Corollary), there exists a point  $\xi$  of  $E$  and a positive measure  $\mu$  on  $E$  with no mass at  $\xi$  such that  $f(\xi) \leq \int f d\mu$  ( $\forall f \in A$ ). Choose an open neighbourhood  $U$  of  $\xi$  such that  $\mu(U) < \frac{1}{2}$ . Then, for any function  $g \in A$  with  $1 = g(\xi) = \|g\|$ ,  $g^n \in A$  and

$$1 < \frac{1}{2} + \int_{\setminus U} g^n d\mu \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots),$$

whence one deduces that  $g$  must attain its maximum on  $\setminus U$ . Hence Condition II is sufficient for a semi-algebra to be non-pseudo-subordinate.

---

Received March 27, 1967. The author was a NATO Post-doctoral Fellow visiting Yale University during the academic year 1966–1967.

Suppose that  $A_u = C^+(E)$ . For  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ ,  $\xi \in E$ , and  $U$  an open neighbourhood of  $\xi$ , choose  $g \in C^+(E)$  such that  $\|g\| = 1$ ,  $g(\xi) = 1$ , and  $g(\setminus U) = \{0\}$ . Since  $g \in A_u$ , there exist  $f_i \in A$  with  $\|g - f_1 \cup f_2 \cup \dots \cup f_k\| < \epsilon(2 - \epsilon)^{-1}$ . One of these functions,  $f_1$  say, satisfies  $f_1(\xi) > 1 - \epsilon(2 - \epsilon)^{-1}$ . This function must also satisfy  $\|f_1\| \leq 2(2 - \epsilon)^{-1}$  and  $f_1(\setminus U) \subseteq [0, \epsilon]$ . Taking

$$f = \frac{1}{2}(2 - \epsilon)f_1,$$

we see that Condition I (2, p. 49) holds for  $A$ . Hence Condition II holds, since the proof given in (2, p. 51), involves only operations permissible in a semi-algebra.

**COROLLARY.** *If  $E$  is a metric space, then  $A_u = C^+(E)$  if and only if every point of  $E$  is a peak point for  $A$ .*

**3. The counter-example.** Let  $X_1X_2X_3X_4$  be a square of area 1 in the Euclidean plane, and  $a \equiv A_1A_2$  a segment of length  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  contained in the side  $X_1A_1A_2X_2$ . The *pinnacle* of  $a$  is the unique point  $A_0$  on  $X_1X_2$  such that  $X_1A_0 : A_0X_2 = A_1A_0 : A_0A_2$ ; let  $\lambda = l(X_1A_0)$ , the length of the segment  $X_1A_0$ . Each segment  $a$  is characterized by the pair  $(\lambda, \alpha) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ . A trapezoid  $\tau(a)$  is associated with the segment  $a$  as follows: choose  $A_5$  inside the square such that  $A_0A_5 \perp X_1X_2$  and  $l(A_0A_5) = 2\alpha(\alpha + \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1}$ ; then choose  $A_3, A_4$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} l(A_3A_5) &= \lambda\alpha^{\frac{1}{2}}, & A_3A_5 \parallel A_1A_2, \\ l(A_5A_4) &= (1 - \lambda)\alpha^{\frac{1}{2}}, & A_4A_5 \parallel A_1A_2. \end{aligned}$$

$\tau(a)$  is the trapezoid  $A_1A_2A_4A_3$ . (Note that if  $\alpha = 0$ , all the  $A_i$  are taken to be coincident.) Observe that: (1) the area of  $\tau(a)$  is equal to the length of  $a$ ; (2)  $l(A_0A_5)$  is a strictly increasing function of  $\alpha$  mapping  $[0, 1]$  onto  $[0, 1]$ ; (3) cotangent angle  $A_1A_3A_5 = \frac{1}{2}\lambda(1 - \alpha)$ ; (4) if  $a$  and  $b$  are two segments contained in  $X_1X_2$ , then  $b \subseteq a \Rightarrow \tau(b) \subseteq \tau(a)$ , and the intersection of the boundaries of  $\tau(a)$  and  $\tau(b)$  is  $a \cap b$  unless  $a$  and  $b$  have an endpoint in common. The proof of (4) is as follows. Let  $a \sim (\lambda, \alpha)$ ,  $b \sim (\rho, \beta)$ ,  $\tau(a) = A_1A_2A_4A_3$ ,  $\tau(b) = B_1B_2B_4B_3$ ,  $b \subseteq a$ . The point  $C_1$  such that

$$C_1B_1 \perp X_1X_2, \quad l(B_1C_1) = 2\beta(\beta + \beta^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1}$$

is collinear with  $B_3B_4$  and lies inside  $\tau(a)$ . If  $A_1A_3$  and  $B_4B_3$  intersect in  $D_1$ , then  $D_1$  and  $B_3$  lie on the same side of  $C_1B_1$  and

$$\begin{aligned} l(D_1C_1) - l(B_3C_1) &= l(A_1B_1) \\ &\quad + l(C_1B_1)(\cotangent\ angle\ A_1A_3A_4) - l(B_3C_1) \\ &= l(A_1B_1) + \lambda(1 - \alpha)\beta(\beta + \beta^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} - \rho(\beta^{\frac{1}{2}} - \beta) \\ &= l(A_1B_1) + \beta(\beta + \beta^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1}[\lambda(1 - \alpha) - \rho(1 - \beta)] \\ &= l(A_1B_1)[1 - \beta(\beta + \beta^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1}] \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, if  $C_2B_2 \perp X_1X_2$ ,  $l(C_2B_2) = 2\beta(\beta + \beta^3)$ , and  $C_2B_4$  intersects  $A_2A_4$  in  $D_2$ , then  $l(C_2D_2) - l(C_2B_4) \geq 0$ . Hence, the segment  $B_3B_4$  is contained in the segment  $D_1D_2$ . We are now in a position to state the following fact.

(5) For  $s$  segments  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_s$  in  $X_1X_2$  with non-void intersection,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area}[\tau(a_1) \cap \tau(a_2) \cap \dots \cap \tau(a_s)] &\geq \text{Area}[\tau(a_1 \cap a_2 \cap \dots \cap a_s)] \\ &= l(a_1 \cap a_2 \cap \dots \cap a_s). \end{aligned}$$

**THEOREM 2.** *There exists a compact Hausdorff space  $E$  such that  $C^+(E)$  contains a proper closed non-pseudo-subordinate subsemi-algebra.*

*Construction.* Let  $E$  be the square  $X_1X_2X_3X_4$  of area 1,  $Y_1$  the set of functions in  $C^+(E)$  which vanish on side  $X_1X_2$ , and  $Y_2$  the set of functions  $f$  in  $C^+(E)$  such that for each  $\gamma \in [0, \|f\|]$ ,

$$\{\eta: f(\eta) \geq \gamma\} = \tau(a)$$

for some segment  $a$  contained in  $X_1X_2$ . Let  $Z$  be the closed semi-algebra generated by the set  $Y_1 \cup Y_2$ ; this is the required semi-algebra.

*Proof that  $Z_u = C^+(E)$ .* It will be shown that the set  $Y_1 \cup Y_2 \subseteq Z$  contains a function which peaks exactly at any prescribed point of  $E$ , so that the corollary of Theorem 1 can be applied. If  $\xi \in E \setminus \text{side } X_1X_2$ , then, clearly,  $Y_1$  contains a function whose maximum value is attained only at  $\xi$ . Now let  $\xi \in \text{side } X_1X_2$ . If  $\xi \neq X_1$  or  $X_2$ , then  $Y_2$  contains a function which, when restricted to  $X_1X_2$ , vanishes at  $X_1$ , increases linearly to the value 1 at  $\xi$ , and decreases linearly to the value 0 at  $X_2$ ; if  $\xi$  is either  $X_1$  or  $X_2$ , then  $Y_2$  contains a function which is linear on  $X_1X_2$ , takes the value 1 at  $\xi$ , and vanishes at the other endpoint.

*Proof that  $Z$  is proper.* Let  $\mu_1$  be the two-dimensional Lebesgue measure on the square  $E$  and  $\mu_2$  the linear Lebesgue measure on the side  $X_1X_2$ ; let  $\mu \equiv \mu_1 - \mu_2$ . Then  $\mu \notin M^+(E)$ . It will be shown that if  $g$  is a finite product of elements in  $Y_1 \cup Y_2$ , then  $\int g \, d\mu \geq 0$ , so that  $\mu$  belongs to the dual cone of the closed convex cone generated by such products, i.e., the semi-algebra  $Z$ . Suppose then that  $g = f_1 f_2 \dots f_s$ . If any of the  $f_i$  belong to  $Y_1$ , then clearly  $\int g \, d\mu \geq 0$ . Assume now that each of the  $f_i$  is a member of  $Y_2$ . For integers  $i, m$ , and  $n$  with  $1 \leq i \leq s$ ,  $1 \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq 2^n - 1$ , define segments  $a_{i,m,n}$  such that

$$\tau(a_{i,m,n}) \equiv \{\eta: f_i(\eta) \geq m \cdot 2^{-n} \|f_i\|\}$$

and let

$$f_i^{(n)} = 2^{-n} \sum_{m=1}^{2^n-1} k(a_{i,m,n}),$$

where  $k(a)$  denotes the characteristic function of the trapezoid  $\tau(a)$ . Since  $\prod k(a_i)$  is the characteristic function of  $\cap \tau(a_i)$  (a set whose intersection with the side  $X_1X_2$  is  $\cap a_i$ ), it is a consequence of the Beppo Levi theorem and the fact stated in (5) above that

$$\int f_1 f_2 \dots f_s d\mu = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int f_1^{(n)} f_2^{(n)} \dots f_s^{(n)} d\mu$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{-sn} \sum_{(m_i)} \int \prod_{i=1}^s k(a_{i,m_i,n}) d\mu \geq 0.$$

The proof of Theorem 2 is now complete. The reason for making the conjecture originally was to permit us to state that each finitely generated closed semi-algebra is subordinate if it is proper; this result may indeed still hold. It will be indicated in Theorem 3 that it suffices to prove this with the property ‘subordinate’ replaced by the weaker property ‘pseudo-subordinate’.

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $A$  be a closed subsemi-algebra of  $C^+(E)$  generated by a finite set. Then  $A$  is subordinate if and only if  $A$  is pseudo-subordinate.*

*Proof.* Let  $A$  be the closed semi-algebra generated by  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ , and suppose that  $A$  is pseudo-subordinate.  $A_1$  is defined to be the least closed semi-algebra containing  $A$  and all positive powers of the function  $f_1$ ; for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$ ,  $A_i$  is defined to be the least closed semi-algebra containing  $A_{i-1}$  and all positive powers of the function  $f_i$ . The semi-algebra  $A_n$  is the closed semi-algebra generated by all positive real powers of the functions  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ , so that  $A_n$  is generated by a power-closed set.

Since  $A$  is pseudo-subordinate, there exists a point  $\xi$  in  $E$ , and a positive measure  $\mu$  on  $E$  with  $\mu(\{\xi\}) = 0$  and  $f(\xi) \leq \int f d\mu$  ( $\forall f \in A$ ). If  $f_1(\xi) = 0$ , then for  $\lambda_i > 0$ ,  $g_i \in A$ , and  $k$  a positive integer, we have that

$$\left(g_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k g_i f_1^{\lambda_i}\right)(\xi) = g_0(\xi) \leq \int g_0 d\mu \leq \int \left(g_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k g_i f_1^{\lambda_i}\right) d\mu$$

so that  $\mu - \delta_\xi \in A_1'$ . On the other hand, if  $f_1(\xi) \neq 0$ , then, as in the proof of Proposition 5 in (1), we have that

$$(f_1(\xi))^{-1} \mu - \delta_\xi = f_1(\xi)^{-1} (\mu - f_1 \cdot \delta_\xi) \in A_1'.$$

In either case, by (1, Theorem 5, Corollary),  $A_1$  is pseudo-subordinate. Continuing in the same manner, one proves inductively that  $A_2, \dots, A_n$  are all pseudo-subordinate. But  $A_n$  is generated by a power-closed set, and hence, by (1, Theorem 7), is subordinate. This implies that  $A$ , being contained in  $A_n$ , is subordinate. Since the reverse implication is trivial, the theorem is proved.

REFERENCES

1. E. J. Barbeau, *Subordinate and pseudo-subordinate semi-algebras*, Can. J. Math. 19 (1967), 212-224.
2. R. R. Phelps, *Lectures on Choquet's theorem* (Van Nostrand, Princeton, 1966).

Yale University,  
 New Haven, Connecticut;  
 University of Toronto,  
 Toronto, Ontario