

M - ideals in complex function spaces  
and algebras.

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Introduction.

The aim of this note is to give a characterization of the M-ideals of a complex function space  $A \subseteq \mathcal{C}_0(X)$ .

The concept of an M-ideal was defined for real Banach spaces by Alfsen and Effros [AE], but it can be easily transferred to the complex case [Th. 1.3].

The main result is the following: Let  $J$  be a closed subspace of a complex function space  $A$ , then  $J$  is an M-ideal in  $A$  if and only if

$$J = \{a \in A \mid a \equiv 0 \text{ on } E\},$$

where  $E \subseteq X$  is an  $A$ -convex set having the properties:

- (i)  $\mu \in M_1^+(\partial_A X)$ ,  $\nu \in M_1^+(E)$ ,  $\mu - \nu \in A^\perp \implies \text{Supp}(\mu) \subseteq E$
- (ii)  $\mu \in A^\perp \cap M(\partial_A X) \implies \mu|_E \in A^\perp$

In case  $A$  is a uniform algebra these sets are precisely the  $p$ -sets (generalized peak sets).

Following the lines of [AE] we shall study M-ideals in  $A$  by means of the corresponding L-ideals in  $A^*$ , which in turn are studied by geometric and analytic properties of the closed unit ball  $K$  in  $A^*$ .

Although we have an isometric complex-linear representation of the given function space as the space of all complex-valued linear functions on  $K$ , it turns out that the smaller compact, convex set  $Z = \text{conv}(S_A \cup -iS_A)$ , where  $S_A$  denotes the state space of  $A$ , will contain enough structure to determine the L-ideals. The set  $Z$  was first studied by Azimow in [Az]. Note

also that the problems which always arise in the presence of complex orthogonal measures can to a certain extent be given a geometric treatment when we consider the compact, convex set  $Z$  [Prop. 2.4].

Another useful tool in this context is the possibility of representing complex linear functionals by complex boundary measures of same norm, as was recently proved by Hustad in [Hu].

Specializing to uniform algebras we characterize the  $M$ -summands (see [AE, §5]), and we conclude by pointing out that the structure-topology of Alfsen and Effros [AE, §6] coincides with the symmetric facial topology studied by Ellis in [E].

This result yields a description of the structure space,  $\text{Prim } A$  (see [AE, §6]), in terms of concepts more familiar to function algebraists. Specifically,  $\text{Prim } A$  is (homeomorphic to) the Choquet-boundary of  $X$  endowed with the  $p$ -set topology.

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## 1. Preliminaries and notation.

Let  $W$  denote a real Banach space. Following [AE, §3] we define an L-projection  $e$  on  $W$  to be a linear map of  $W$  into itself such that,

$$\text{i) } e^2 = e$$

$$\text{ii) } \|p\| = \|e(p)\| + \|p - e(p)\| \quad \forall p \in W$$

and we define the range of an L-projection to be an L-ideal in  $W$ .

To every L-ideal  $N = eW$  there is associated a complementary L-ideal  $N' = (I-e)W$ , cf [AE, §3].

We say that a closed subspace  $J$  of a real Banach space  $V$  is an M-ideal if the polar of  $J$  is an L-ideal in  $W = V^*$ .

Also, we define a linear map  $e$  of  $V$  into itself to be an M-projection if

$$i) \quad e^2 = e$$

$$ii) \quad \|v\| = \max\{\|e(v)\|, \|v - e(v)\|\} \quad \forall v \in V$$

and we define a subspace of  $V$  to be an M-summand if it is the range of an M-projection. It follows from [AE, Cor.5.16] that M-summands are M-ideals.

Lemma 1.2. Let  $N$  be an L-ideal in a real Banach-space  $W$ , and let  $e$  be the corresponding L-projection. If  $T$  is an isometry of  $W$  onto itself, then  $TN$  is an L-ideal and the corresponding L-projection  $e_T$  is given by

$$(1.1) \quad e_T = T e T^{-1}$$

Also

$$(TN)' = T(N')$$

Proof: Straightforward verification.

If  $V$  is a complex Banach space, then we shall denote by  $V_r$  the subordinate real space, having the same vectors but equipped with real scalars only. By an elementary theorem [P, §6] it follows that there is a natural isometry  $\varphi$  of  $(V^*)_r$  onto  $(V_r)^*$ , defined by

$$(1.2) \quad \varphi(p)(v) = \operatorname{Re} p(v) \quad v \in V.$$

Theorem 1.2. (Effros) Let  $W$  be a complex Banach space with subordinate real space  $W_r$ . If  $N$  is an L-ideal in  $W_r$  then

$N$  is a complex linear subspace of  $W$ .

Proof: It suffices to prove that  $ip \in N$  for all  $p \in N$ . Let  $p \in N$  and consider

$$q = p - e_T p$$

where  $T$  is the isometry  $T(p) = ip \quad \forall p \in W$  and  $e_T$  is defined as in (1.1).

Then

$$q = e(p) - e_T e(p) = e(p - e_T(p)) \in N$$

since  $L$ -projections commute [AE, §3].

Also we shall have

$$iq = i(I - e_T)(p) \in i(T(N')) = N'$$

Thus

$$\sqrt{2} \|q\| = \|q + iq\| = \|q\| + \|iq\| = 2\|q\|$$

such that  $q = 0$  and hence  $ip \in N$ .

Corollary 1.3. Let  $V$  be a complex Banach space with subordinate real space  $V_r$ . If  $J$  is an  $M$ -ideal in  $V_r$ , then  $J$  is a complex linear subspace of  $V$ .

Proof: By the bipolar theorem it suffices to show that the polar  $J^{\circ}$  of  $J$  in  $W = V^*$  is a complex subspace of  $W$ . To this end, we first consider  $J$  as a real linear subspace of  $V_r$ , and we denote by  $J_r^{\circ}$  the polar of  $J$  in  $(V_r)^*$ .  $J_r^{\circ}$  is an  $L$ -ideal in  $(V_r)^*$  since  $J$  is an  $M$ -ideal in  $V_r$ . If  $\varphi: W_r \rightarrow (V_r)^*$  is the isometry defined in (1.2), then  $\varphi^{-1}(J_r^{\circ})$  is an  $L$ -ideal in  $W_r$ .

Moreover  $J^0 = \varphi^{-1}(J_r^0)$  since  $\varphi^{-1}(J_r^0)$  is a complex linear subspace of  $W$  according to theorem 1.2.

The above results justify the use of the terms L- and M-ideals for complex Banach spaces to denote L- and M-ideals in the subordinate real spaces.

Let  $V$  be a complex Banach space,  $W = V^*$ , and  $K$  the closed unit ball of  $W$ . If  $N$  is a  $w^*$ -closed L-ideal in  $W$  with corresponding L-projection  $e$ , then it follows from [AE, Cor.4.2] that for a given  $v \in V$  considered as a complex linear function in  $W$  one has:

$$(1.3) \quad (v \circ e)(p) = \int_K (v \circ e) d\mu \quad \forall p \in K, \forall \mu \in M_p^+(K)$$

and

$$(1.4) \quad (v \circ e)(p) = \int_{N \cap K} v d\mu \quad \forall p \in K, \forall \mu \in M_p^+(\partial_e K)$$

where  $M_p^+(K)$  denotes the set of all probability measures on  $K$  with barycenter  $p$ , and  $M_p^+(\partial_e K)$  the set of all measures in  $M_p^+(K)$  which are maximal in Choquet's ordering (boundary measures).

## 2. M-ideals in complex function spaces.

In this section  $X$  shall denote a compact Hausdorff space and  $A$  a closed, linear subspace of  $\mathcal{C}_\mathbb{C}(X)$ , which separates the points of  $X$  and contains the constant functions. The state-space of  $A$  i.e.

$$S_A = \{p \in A^* \mid p(\mathbb{1}) = \|p\| = 1\}$$

is a  $w^*$ -closed face of the closed unit ball  $K$  of  $A^*$ , We shall assume that  $K$  is endowed with  $w^*$ -topology.

Since  $A$  separates the points of  $X$ , we have a homeomorphic embedding  $\Phi$  of  $X$  into  $S_A$ , defined by

$$(2.1) \quad \Phi(x)(a) = a(x) \quad \forall a \in A .$$

We use  $\theta a$  to denote the function on  $A^*$  defined by

$$(2.2) \quad \theta a(p) = \operatorname{Re} p(a) \quad \forall p \in A^* .$$

For convenience we shall use the same symbol  $\theta a$  to denote the restriction of this function to various compact, convex subsets of  $A^*$ .

An enlargement of  $S_A$ , which was introduced by Azimow, is the following set

$$(2.3) \quad Z = \operatorname{conv}(S_A \cup -iS_A)$$

Appealing to [Az, Prop 1] the embedding  $a \rightarrow \theta a$  is a bicontinuous real linear isomorphism of  $A$  onto the space  $A(Z)$  of all real-valued  $w^*$ -continuous affine functions on  $Z$ .

We shall denote by  $M_1^+(S_A)$  resp.  $M_1^+(Z)$  the  $w^*$ -compact convex set of probability measures on  $S_A$  resp.  $Z$ . The set of extreme points of  $S_A$  resp.  $Z$ ,  $K$  will be denoted by  $\partial_e S_A$  resp.  $\partial_e Z$ ,  $\partial_e K$  and the Choquet boundary of  $X$  with respect to  $A$  is defined as the set

$$\partial_A X = \{x \in X \mid \Phi(x) \in \partial_e S_A\}$$

It follows from [P, p.38] that  $\partial_e S_A \subseteq \Phi(X)$ . Moreover,

$$\partial_e K = \{\lambda \Phi(x) \mid |\lambda| = 1, x \in \partial_A X\}$$

cf [DS, p.441 ].

Also we agree to write  $M_p^*(S_A)$  resp.  $M_Z^+(Z)$  for the  $w^*$ -compact convex set of probability measures on  $S_A$  resp.  $Z$  which has barycenter  $p \in S_A$  resp.  $z \in Z$ . By  $M_p^+(\partial_e S_A)$  resp.  $M_Z^+(\partial_e Z)$  we denote the maximal representing measures for  $p$  resp.  $z$  (boundary measures).

A real measure  $\mu$  on  $S_A$  resp.  $Z$ ,  $K$  is said to be a boundary measure on  $S_A$  resp.  $Z$ ,  $K$  if the total variation  $|\mu|$  is a maximal element in the Choquet ordering, and we denote them by  $M(\partial_e S_A)$  resp.  $M(\partial_e Z)$ ,  $M(\partial_e K)$ .

Finally we denote by  $M(\partial_A X)$  those complex measures  $\mu$  on  $X$  for which the direct image measure  $\mathfrak{F}(|\mu|)$  on  $S_A$  is an element of  $M(\partial_e S_A)$ .

It is well-known (see e.g. [A, Prop. I.4.6]) that boundary measures are supported by the closure of the extreme boundary.

As mentioned we shall study  $M$ -ideals in  $A$  by considering the corresponding  $L$ -ideals in  $A^*$ . Let  $N$  be a  $w^*$ -closed  $L$ -ideal in  $A^*$  with corresponding  $L$ -projection  $e$ .

Lemma 2.1. Let  $p \in S_A$ . Then

$$e(p) \in \text{conv}(\{0\} \cup S_A)$$

Proof: Let  $p \in S_A$  and decompose

$$p = q + r$$

where  $q = e(p)$  and  $r = (I - e)(p)$ . If  $q = 0$  or  $r = 0$  there is nothing to prove.

Otherwise

$$p = \|q\| \left( \frac{q}{\|q\|} \right) + \|r\| \left( \frac{r}{\|r\|} \right)$$



is a convex combination of points in  $K$ . Since  $S_A$  is a face of  $K$  we obtain  $\frac{q}{\|q\|} \in S_A$ . Hence

$$e(p) = q \in \text{conv}(\{0\} \cup S_A).$$

Lemma 2.2. Let  $p \in N \cap Z$  be of the form

$$p = \lambda p_1 + (1-\lambda)(-ip_2),$$

where  $p_1, p_2 \in S_A$  and  $0 < \lambda < 1$ .

Then  $p_1, p_2 \in N \cap Z$ .

Proof: Let  $p \in N \cap Z$  be of the form

$$p = \lambda p_1 + (1-\lambda)(-ip_2), \quad p_i \in S_A \quad i = 1, 2 \text{ and } 0 < \lambda < 1$$

Decompose  $p_i$  as

$$p_i = q_i + r_i,$$

where  $e(p_i) = q_i$  and  $r_i = (I-e)(p_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .

Since  $e(p) = p$  it follows that

$$(2.4) \quad 0 = \lambda r_1 + (1-\lambda)(-ir_2)$$

Hence  $q_i \neq 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .

Now assume  $r_1 \neq 0$ ; then

$$p_1 = \|q_1\| \left( \frac{q_1}{\|q_1\|} \right) + \|r_1\| \left( \frac{r_1}{\|r_1\|} \right)$$

is a convex combination, and we conclude that  $\frac{r_1}{\|r_1\|} \in S_A$  which contradicts (2.4). Thus  $r_i = 0$  and  $p_i \in N$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .

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If  $Q$  is a closed face of a compact, convex set  $H$ , then the complementary face  $Q'$  is the union of all faces disjoint

from  $Q$ .  $Q$  is said to be a split face of  $H$  if  $Q'$  is convex and each point in  $K \setminus (Q \cup Q')$  can be expressed uniquely as convex combination of a point in  $Q$  and a point in  $Q'$ , cf [A,p.33].

We denote by  $A_S(H)$  the smallest uniformly closed subspace of the space of all real valued bounded functions on  $H$  containing the bounded u.s.c. affine functions. According to [A, Th.II 6.12] and [An, Prop 3] we have that for a closed face  $Q$  of  $H$  the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $Q$  is a split face
- (ii) If  $\mu \in M(\partial_e H)$  annihilates all continuous affine functions, then  $\mu|_Q$  has the same property.
- (iii) If  $a \in A_S(Q)$  then  $a$  has an extension  $\tilde{a} \in A_S(H)$  such that  $\tilde{a} \equiv 0$  on  $Q'$ .

We remark that the functions in  $A_S(H)$  satisfy the barycentric calculus.

Theorem 2.3. Let  $N$  be a  $w^*$ -closed  $L$ -ideal of  $A^*$  and let  $F = N \cap Z$ . Then  $F$  is a split face of  $Z$ , and  $F' = N' \cap Z$ .

Proof: Applying lemma 2.2 twice it follows that  $F$  is a face of  $Z$ . Let  $z \in F'$  and  $\mu \in M_Z^+(\partial_e Z)$ , then  $\mu(F) = 0$  [H,Lem. 2.11].

Moreover, the Milman theorem implies that  $\partial_e Z \subseteq (S_A U - i S_A)$  and hence  $\text{Supp}(\mu) \subseteq (S_A U - i S_A)$ .

Since these two sets are faces of  $K$  we may consider  $\mu$  as a boundary measure on  $K$ .

According to (1.4) we also have

$$(\theta a \circ e)(z) = \int_F \theta a d\mu = 0 \quad \forall a \in A,$$

where  $e$  is the  $L$ -projection corresponding to  $N$ .

Thus  $e(z) = 0$ , which in turn implies  $z \in N' \cap Z$ .

Conversely, assume  $z \in N' \cap Z$ . Decompose

$$z = \lambda p_1 + (1-\lambda)p_2$$

where  $p_1 \in F$ ,  $p_2 \in F'$  and  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ .

Hence

$$z - (1-\lambda)p_2 = \lambda p_1 \in N \cap N' = \{0\},$$

and so  $z = p_2 \in F'$ . Thus we have proved that  $F' = N' \cap Z$ .

In particular,  $F'$  is convex.

From the above results we may establish the splitting property by proving

$$\mu \in A(Z)^\perp \cap M(\partial_e Z) \implies \mu|_F \in A(Z)^\perp.$$

To this end we consider  $\mu \in A(Z)^\perp \cap M(\partial_e Z)$ . As before  $\mu \in M(\partial_e K)$ , and also

$$\int_K \theta a \, d\mu = \int_Z \theta a \, d\mu = 0 \quad \forall a \in A,$$

i.e.  $\mu \in A_0(K)^\perp \cap M(\partial_e K)$ , where  $A_0(K)$  is the space of all real-valued  $w^*$ -continuous linear functions on  $K$ . By virtue of [AE, Th.4.5]  $\mu|_F \in A_0(K)^\perp$ , or equivalently  $\mu|_F \in A(Z)^\perp$ . q.e.d.

Remark: Under the hypothesis of Theorem 2.3 we have:

$$F = \text{conv}((F \cap S_A) \cup -i(F \cap S_A))$$

Following Ellis [E] we shall say that a subset of  $Z$  of the form

$$\text{conv}(C \cup -iC), \quad C \subseteq S_A$$

is symmetric.

Let  $F$  be a closed face of  $S_A$ , and put

$$(2.5) \quad E = \phi^{-1}(F \cap \phi(X)) ,$$

Then  $F = \overline{\text{conv}(\phi(E))}$  and  $F \cap \phi(X) = \phi(E)$  .

Proposition 2.4. Let  $F$  be a closed face of  $S_A$  for which  $S_F = \text{conv}(F \cup -iF)$  is a split face of  $Z$  . Then  $E$  satisfies the condition:

$$\mu \in A^\perp \cap M(\partial_A X) \implies \mu|_E \in A^\perp .$$

Proof: Let  $\mu \in A^\perp \cap M(\partial_A X)$  and put  $\sigma = \phi\mu$  . Then  $\sigma$  is a complex maximal measure on  $S_A$  . Decompose  $\sigma$  as

$$\sigma = \lambda_1 \sigma_1 - \lambda_2 \sigma_2 + i \lambda_3 \sigma_3 - i \lambda_4 \sigma_4$$

where  $\sigma_i \in M_1^+(\partial_e S_A)$  and  $\lambda_i \geq 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$  . Since  $\mu \in A^\perp$  ,  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_3 = \lambda_4$  .

Define  $p_i = \text{barycenter of } \sigma_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$  . Since  $\mu \in A^\perp$  it follows that

$$(2.6) \quad 0 = \lambda_1 p_1 - \lambda_2 p_2 + i \lambda_3 p_3 - i \lambda_4 p_4$$

Rewrite (2.6) as

$$(2.7) \quad \lambda_1 p_1 + \lambda_4 (-i p_4) = \lambda_2 p_2 + \lambda_3 (-i p_3) \in Z$$

if we assume  $\lambda_1 + \lambda_4 = \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 1$  .

Define  $\psi: S_A \rightarrow -i S_A$  by

$$\psi(p) = -i p \quad \forall p \in S_A$$

Let  $a \in A$  and put  $\theta a|_{S_F} = b \in A_S(S_F)$  .

Since  $S_F$  is assumed to be a split face of  $Z$  we can find a function  $\tilde{b} \in A_S(Z)$  which extends  $b$  and such that  $\tilde{b} \equiv 0$  on  $S_F'$  . Moreover,

$$\lambda_1 \tilde{b}(p_1) + \lambda_4 \tilde{b}(-ip_4) = \lambda_2 \tilde{b}(p_2) + \lambda_3 \tilde{b}(-ip_3) ,$$

and since  $\tilde{b}$  satisfies the barycentric calculus we may rewrite this as

$$(2.8) \quad \lambda_1 \int_Z \tilde{b} d\sigma_1 + \lambda_4 \int_Z \tilde{b} d(\psi \sigma_4) - \lambda_2 \int_Z \tilde{b} d\sigma_2 - \lambda_3 \int_Z \tilde{b} d(\psi \sigma_3) = 0 .$$

Since every maximal measure on  $Z$  is carried by  $S_{\mathbb{F}}$  and  $S_{\mathbb{F}'}$  and since  $S_{\mathbb{F}} \cap S_A = \mathbb{F}$ , we may rewrite (2.8) as

$$(2.9) \quad \lambda_1 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta a d\sigma_1 + \lambda_4 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta a \circ \psi d\sigma_4 - \lambda_2 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta a d\sigma_2 - \lambda_3 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta a \circ \psi d\sigma_3 = 0$$

The measure  $\mu$  can be decomposed as

$$(2.10) \quad \mu = \lambda_1 \mu_1 - \lambda_2 \mu_2 + i \lambda_3 \mu_3 - i \lambda_4 \mu_4$$

where  $\mu_i = \tilde{\Phi}^{-1} \sigma_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{E}} a d\mu &= (\lambda_1 \int_{\mathbb{E}} \operatorname{Re} a d\mu_1 - \lambda_2 \int_{\mathbb{E}} \operatorname{Re} a d\mu_2 - \lambda_3 \int_{\mathbb{E}} \operatorname{Im} a d\mu_3 + \lambda_4 \int_{\mathbb{E}} \operatorname{Im} a d\mu_4) \\ &\quad + i(\lambda_1 \int_{\mathbb{E}} \operatorname{Im} a d\mu_1 - \lambda_2 \int_{\mathbb{E}} \operatorname{Im} a d\mu_2 + \lambda_3 \int_{\mathbb{E}} \operatorname{Re} a d\mu_3 - \lambda_4 \int_{\mathbb{E}} \operatorname{Re} a d\mu_4) \end{aligned}$$

Transforming the above integrals by the embedding map  $\tilde{\Phi}$  and using the identity  $\theta a(-ip) = \operatorname{Im} a(p)$ , we rewrite this as follows:

$$(2.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{E}} a d\mu &= (\lambda_1 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta a d\sigma_1 - \lambda_2 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta a d\sigma_2 - \lambda_3 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta a \circ \psi d\sigma_3 + \lambda_4 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta a \circ \psi d\sigma_4) \\ &\quad + i(\lambda_1 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta(-ia) d\sigma_1 - \lambda_2 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta(-ia) d\sigma_2 - \lambda_3 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta(-ia) \circ \psi d\sigma_3 + \\ &\quad + \lambda_4 \int_{\mathbb{F}} \theta(-ia) \circ \psi d\sigma_4) \end{aligned}$$

Combining (2.11) with (2.9) we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{E}} a d\mu = 0 \quad \forall a \in A .$$

Theorem 2.5. Let  $F$  be a closed face of  $S_A$  for which  $S_F = \text{conv}(FU - iF)$  is a split face of  $Z$ . Then

$$N = \text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}} F$$

is a  $w^*$ -closed  $L$ -ideal in  $A^*$ .

Proof: Since  $S_F$  is a split face,  $N$  may be considered as a  $w^*$ -closed real linear subspace of  $A(Z)^*$  and from the connection between  $A$  and  $A(Z)$  cf. §1 it follows that  $N$  is  $w^*$ -closed in  $A^*$ .

According to proposition 2.4 the following definition is legitimate,

$$e(p)(a) = \int_E a \, d\mu \quad \forall a \in A,$$

where  $E$  is as in (2.5) and  $\mu$  is a maximal complex measure representing the point  $p \in A^*$ .

Clearly  $e(A^*) \subseteq N$ . Let  $p \in N$  i.e.

$$p = \lambda_1 p_1 + \lambda_2 (-p_2) + \lambda_3 (ip_3) + \lambda_4 (-ip_4)$$

where  $p_i \in F$  and  $\lambda_i \geq 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ .

Choose measures  $\sigma_i \in M_{p_i}^+(\partial_e S_A)$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . Then  $\text{Supp}(\sigma_i) \subseteq \Phi(E)$  since  $F$  is a face of  $S_A$ . Define  $\mu_i = \Phi^{-1} \sigma_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$  and

$$\mu = \lambda_1 \mu_1 - \lambda_2 \mu_2 + i \lambda_3 \mu_3 - i \lambda_4 \mu_4$$

Now  $\mu$  is a complex representing measure for  $p$  and  $\text{Supp}(\mu) \subseteq E$ , i.e.

$$e(p) = p.$$

To prove that  $e$  is an  $L$ -projection, we shall need the fact that we may represent  $p \in A^*$  by a measure  $\mu \in M(\partial_A X)$  such

that  $\|p\| = \|\mu\|$  . This follows by a slight modification of a theorem of Hustad [Hu].

Having chosen  $\mu \in M(\partial_A X)$  representing  $p \in A^*$  with  $\|p\| = \|\mu\|$  , we shall have

$$\|p\| \leq \|e(p)\| + \|p - e(p)\| \leq \|\mu\|_E + \|\mu\|_{X \setminus E} = \|\mu\| = \|p\| ,$$

which implies

$$\|p\| = \|e(p)\| + \|p - e(p)\| \quad \forall p \in A^*$$

i.e.  $e$  in an  $L$ -projection with range  $N$  .

A compact subset  $E \subseteq X$  is said to be  $A$ -convex if it satisfies:

$$E = \{x \in X \mid |a(x)| \leq \|a\|_E \quad \forall a \in A\}$$

If  $F$  is a closed face of  $S_A$  such that  $S_F = \text{conv}(F \cup -iF)$  is a split face of  $Z$  then the set  $E = \phi^{-1}(F \cap \phi(X))$  is  $A$ -convex and has the following properties:

- (i)  $\mu \in M_1^+(\partial_A X)$  ,  $\nu \in M_1^+(E)$  ,  $\mu - \nu \in A^\perp \implies \text{Supp}(\mu) \subseteq E$  .
- (ii)  $\mu \in A^\perp \cap M(\partial_A X) \implies \mu|_E \in A^\perp$  .

If an  $A$ -convex subset  $E$  of  $X$  satisfies (i) and (ii) then we say that  $E$  is an  $M$ -set .

If  $E \subseteq X$  is a compact subset then we denote by  $S_E$  the following subset of  $S_A$  ,

$$(2.12) \quad S_E = \overline{\text{conv}}(\phi(E)) .$$

Clearly, if  $E$  is an  $M$ -set  $S_E$  is a closed face of  $S_A$  and  $S_E \cap \phi(X) = \phi(E)$  .

Moreover,

Corollary 2.6. Let  $E$  be an  $M$ -set of  $X$  . Then

$$N = \overline{\text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}} \Phi(E)}^{w^*}$$

is a  $w^*$ -closed L-ideal of  $A^*$ .

Proof: Observe that  $\text{conv}(S_E \cup -iS_E)$  is a split face of  $Z$  and define

$$e(p)(a) = \int_E a \, d\mu \quad \forall a \in A,$$

where  $\mu$  is a maximal representing measure for  $p \in A^*$ . Proceed as in the proof of Th. 2.5.

Corollary 2.7. Let  $E$  be an  $A$ -convex subset of  $X$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $E$  is an  $M$ -set.
- (ii)  $\text{conv}(S_E \cup -iS_E)$  is a split face of  $Z$ .
- (iii)  $N = \text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}} S_E$  is a  $w^*$ -closed L-ideal.

Proof: Combine Th. 2.3 and Cor. 2.6.

Remark. Cf. [Az, Th.2,3] and [E] for similar results.

Remark. A closed face  $F$  of  $S_A$  is a split face of  $Z$  if and only if the following condition is satisfied:

$$\mu \in A^\perp \cap M(\partial_A X) \implies \begin{cases} (\mu_1 - \mu_2)|_E \in A^\perp \\ (\mu_3 - \mu_4)|_E \in A^\perp \end{cases}$$

where  $\mu = \mu_1 - \mu_2 + i(\mu_3 - \mu_4)$  and  $E$  as in (2.5).

Thus we see that not all split faces of  $Z$  are symmetric.

Cf. [E].

Turning to the  $M$ -ideals in  $A$  we now have the following



Theorem 2.8. Let  $J$  be a closed subspace of  $A$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $J$  is an M-ideal.
- (ii)  $J = \{a \in A \mid a \equiv 0 \text{ on } E\}$ ,

where  $E$  is an M-set of  $X$ .

Proof: Assume  $J$  is an M-ideal of  $A$ , then  $J^\circ \cap Z$  is a split face of  $Z$  since  $J^\circ$  is an L-ideal. Moreover, we claim that

$$J^\circ = \text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}}(J^\circ \cap S_A)$$

Trivially,  $\text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}}(J^\circ \cap S_A) \subseteq J^\circ$ . If  $p \in \partial_e(J^\circ \cap K)$  then

$$p \in \partial_e(J^\circ \cap K) = J^\circ \cap \partial_e K$$

Hence

$$p = \lambda q, \quad |\lambda| = 1, \quad q \in \partial_e S_A$$

Thus

$$q = \lambda^{-1} p \in J^\circ \cap S_A$$

such that

$$p \in \text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}}(J^\circ \cap S_A)$$

It follows from theorem 2.5 that  $\text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}}(J^\circ \cap S_A)$  is  $w^*$ -closed and hence

$$\overline{\text{conv}(\partial_e(J^\circ \cap K))} \subseteq \text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}}(J^\circ \cap S_A).$$

This in turn implies

$$J^\circ = \text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}}(J^\circ \cap S_A)$$

Equivalently

$$J^\circ = \overline{\text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}}(\Phi(E))}^{w^*},$$

where  $E = \Phi^{-1}(J^\circ \cap \Phi(X))$ .

Thus we see that

$$J = \{a \in A \mid a \equiv 0 \text{ on } E\},$$

and clearly  $E$  is an  $M$ -set.

Conversely, if  $J$  is of the form

$$J = \{a \in A \mid a \equiv 0 \text{ on } E\},$$

where  $E$  is an  $M$ -set, then  $J^0 = \overline{\text{lin}_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{1}(E)}^{w*}$  is an  $L$ -ideal according to Corollary 2.6.

### 3. The uniform algebra case.

In this section we make the further assumption that  $A$  is a uniform algebra  $[G]$ .

A peak set  $E$  for  $A$  is a subset of  $X$  for which there exists a function  $a \in A$  such that

$$a(x) = 1 \quad \forall x \in E, \quad |a(x)| < 1 \quad \forall x \in X \setminus E$$

A p-set (generalized peak set) for  $A$  is an intersection of peak-sets for  $A$ . If  $X$  is metrizable then every p-set is a peak set  $[G, \S 12]$ .

It follows from  $[G, \text{Th.12.7}]$  that the following is equivalent for a compact subset  $E$  of  $X$ :

- (i)  $E$  is a p-set.
- (ii)  $\mu \in A^{\perp} \implies \mu|_E \in A^{\perp}$ .

Clearly, p-sets are  $M$ -sets.

Moreover, since  $M$ -sets are  $A$ -convex it follows by a slight modification of  $[AH, \text{Th.7.4}]$  that  $M$ -sets are p-sets i.e. we may state

Theorem 3.1. Let  $A$  be a uniform algebra and  $J$  a closed sub-

space of  $A$  . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $J$  is an M-ideal.
- (ii)  $J = \{a \in A \mid a \equiv 0 \text{ on } E\}$  ,

where  $E$  is a p-set for  $A$  .

Turning to the M-summands of  $A$  we shall have,

Theorem 3.2. Let  $J$  be a closed subspace of  $A$  . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $J$  is an M-summand
- (ii)  $J = \{a \in A \mid a \equiv 0 \text{ on } E\}$  where  $E$  is an open-closed p-set for  $A$  .

Proof: Trivially ii)  $\implies$  i) by virtue of theorem 3.1.

Conversely, assume  $J$  is an M-summand. Then

$$J = \{a \in A \mid a \equiv 0 \text{ on } E\} ,$$

where  $E$  is a p-set for  $A$  . To prove that  $E$  is open it suffices to prove that

$$\{x \in X \mid e(\mathbb{1})(x) = 1\} = X \setminus E$$

where  $e$  is the M-projection corresponding to  $J$  . Clearly

$$\{x \in X \mid e(\mathbb{1})(x) = 1\} \subseteq X \setminus E .$$

Let  $x \notin E$  , and  $\mu$  a maximal measure on  $X$  representing  $x$  . Then  $(\mu - \epsilon_x) \in A^\perp$  and hence  $\mu(E) = 0$  .

Moreover, if  $e^*$  denotes the adjoint of  $e$  then  $(eA)^0 = (I - e^*)A^*$  and hence

$$\mathbb{1} \circ (I - e^*)(\mathbb{1}(x)) = \int_E \mathbb{1} d\mu = 0$$

Thus

$$0 = (I - e^*)(\phi(x))(\mathbb{1}) = 1 - e(\mathbb{1})(x)$$

and we are done, cf [AE, Cor.5.16].

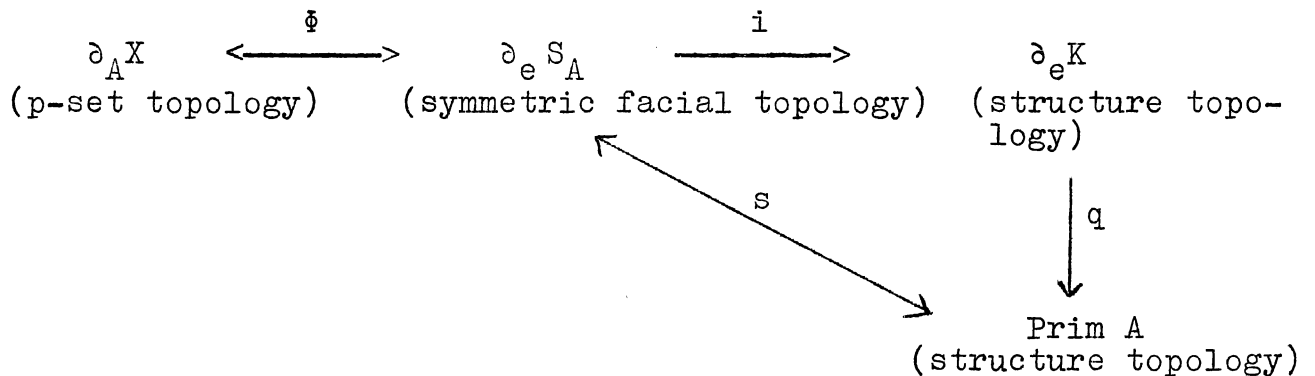
Finally we point out that since every point  $x \in \partial_A X$  is a p-set for  $A$  and

$$J_x = \{a \in A \mid a(x) = 0\}$$

is the largest M-ideal contained in the kernel of  $\phi(x)$  then the Structure-topology [AE, §6] on  $\partial_e K$  restricted to  $\partial_e S_A$  coincides with the symmetric facial topology studied by Ellis in [E]. This follows from theorems 2.3 - 2.5.

Moreover, this topology coincides with the well known p-set topology.

Specifically, if  $p \in \partial_e K$  then there exists a unique point  $x_p \in \partial_A X$  and  $\lambda_p \in \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| = 1\}$  such that  $p = \lambda_p \phi(x_p)$  and hence the largest M-ideal contained in the kernel of  $p$  is  $J_{x_p}$  i.e. the above can be summed up in the following diagram:



where all the maps are continuous,  $q$  open,  $\phi$  and  $s$  homeomorphisms.

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