

75. On Ring Homomorphisms of a Ring of Continuous Functions. II

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Anderson and Blair [1] have investigated representations of certain rings as subalgebras of $C(X)$.¹⁾ In this paper, we shall in §1 also consider such representations of certain rings and we shall improve Theorems 2.2 and 3.2 in [1] using results obtained in [2, 3]. From results in §1, we obtain in §2 new characterizations of locally Q -complete spaces, Q -spaces, locally compact spaces and compact spaces.

Let R be a ring of all real numbers. A subset A of $C(X)$ is said, according to [1], to be *weakly pseudoregular* if X has a subbase \mathfrak{U} of open sets such that for any $U \in \mathfrak{U}$ and $x \in U$ there are an $\alpha > 0$ (in R) and an f in A such that $|f(x) - f(y)| > \alpha$ for $y \notin U$. A is *pseudoregular*²⁾ if for any $x \in X$ and any open neighborhood U of x , there is an $f \in A$ such that $f(x) = 0$ and $f(y) \geq 1$ for $y \notin U$. An element f in A is said to be *strictly positive* if there exists an $\alpha > 0$ (in R) such that $f(x) \geq \alpha$ for every $x \in X$. Next suppose that A is an arbitrary algebra over R . A maximal ideal M of A is said to be *real* if the residue class algebra A/M is isomorphic to R . \mathfrak{R}_A denotes the totality of real maximal ideals of A . An element f in A is said to be *strictly positive* if there exists $\alpha > 0$ (in R) such that $M(f) \geq \alpha$ for every $M \in \mathfrak{R}_A$ where $M(f) = f \bmod M$. Let us put $S(f) = \{M(f); M \in \mathfrak{R}_A\}$ which is called a *spectrum* of f . If A is a subset of $C(X)$, and for any $M \in \mathfrak{R}_A$, there is a unique point x in X such that $M = M_x = \{f; f(x) = 0\}$ then A is said to be *point-determining*; in other words, A has the property (H^*) in [3], that is, any ring homomorphism φ of A onto R is a point ring homomorphism φ_x and $x \neq y$ implies $\varphi_x \neq \varphi_y$.

1. Now suppose that A is a ring such that $\mathfrak{R}_A \neq \emptyset$ and $\bigcap_{M \in \mathfrak{R}_A} M = \theta$ (written $\bigcap \mathfrak{R}_A = \theta$). We define a function f^* on \mathfrak{R}_A by $f^*(M) = M(f)$, moreover, introduce a weak topology on \mathfrak{R}_A , that is, we take as a subbase of open sets of \mathfrak{R}_A , $\mathfrak{U} = \{U_M(f, \varepsilon); f \in A, \varepsilon \in R, \varepsilon > 0\}$ where $U_M(f, \varepsilon) = \{N; |M(f) - N(f)| < \varepsilon, N \in \mathfrak{R}_A\}$. Then, by [1, Theorem 2.1], for any given X , a weakly pseudoregular point-determining subring A of $C(X)$

1) In the following, X is always a completely regular T_1 -space and other terminologies used here, for instance $C(X)$, ring homomorphisms and local Q -completeness, are the same as in [2, 3].

2) The definition of pseudoregular in [1] requires moreover that A contains a constant function e which takes value 1 on X .