

Stone-Weierstrass:  $X$  cpt Hausdorff, so  $C(X)$  a Banach alg.

Let  $A \subset C(X)$  be a sub alg s.t.  $A$

- separates pts:  $\forall x, y \in X, \exists a \in A$  s.t.  $a(x) \neq a(y)$ .
- is closed under conjugation.

① If  $A$  contains a non-vanishing fn,  $\overline{A}^{\|\cdot\|_\infty} = C(X)$ .

② If every  $a \in A$  vanishes at  $x_0 \in X$ ,  $\overline{A} = \{f \in C(X) \mid f(x_0) = 0\}$ .

Step 1: the fn  $x \mapsto |x|$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  can be uniformly approximated by a polynomial which vanishes at 0 on any cpt  $K \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

pf: We'll show for  $R > 0$ ,  $\exists$  seq  $(p_n)$  of poly's s.t.  $p_n \rightarrow | \cdot |$  unif on  $[-R, R]$  &  $p_n(0) = 0 \ \forall n$ . Wlog,  $R=1$ .

Define  $q(t) = 1 - |t|$  on  $[-1, 1]$ . It suffices to find  $q_n \xrightarrow{\text{poly's}} q$  unif s.t.  $q_n(0) = 1$ . Observe:

(\*)  $q$  takes values in  $[0, 1]$  and  $(1 - q(t))^2 = t^2 \ \forall t \in [-1, 1]$ .

For given  $t \in [-1, 1]$ , consider  $(1-s)^2 = t^2$ .

It has two solutions:  $s = 1 \pm |t|$ . exactly one solution,  $1 - |t|$ , lies in  $[0, 1]$ . Hence  $q(t)$  is the unique fn on  $[-1, 1]$  satisfying (\*). Rewrite (\*) as

(\*\*)  $q$  takes values in  $[0, 1]$  and  $q(t) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - t^2 + q(t)^2)$ .

Define  $q_n$  inductively by

$$\bullet q_0(t) = 1 \quad \forall |t| \leq 1$$

$$\bullet q_{n+1}(t) = \frac{1}{2} (1 - t^2 + q_n(t)^2)$$

$$\begin{cases} q_1(t) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}t^2 \\ q_0 - q_1 = \frac{1}{2}t^2 \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

By induction,  $\forall n \geq 0$ ,

$$\bullet q_n \text{ takes values in } [0, 1]$$

$$\bullet q_n(0) = 1$$

$$\bullet q_n - q_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} (q_{n-1}^2 - q_n^2) = \frac{1}{2} (q_{n-1} - q_n)(q_{n-1} + q_n) > 0$$

So  $(q_n)$  is monotone decreasing by construction

Let  $\tilde{q}$  be the ptwise limit, which exists.

observe  $\tilde{q}$  takes values in  $[0, 1]$  and by construction

$\tilde{q}$  satisfies  $(**)$ . So  $\tilde{q} = q$  by uniqueness.

As  $q_n \searrow q$  on  $[-1, 1]$ ,  $q_n \rightarrow q$  uniformly by Dini.  $\square$

Step 2: If  $A \subset C(X, \mathbb{R})$  is a closed (in  $\infty$ -norm) subalgebra, then  $A$  is a lattice: i.e.  $\forall a, b \in A$ ,  $\max\{a, b\}$  and  $\min\{a, b\} \in A$ .

Pf: Suppose  $a \in A$  and  $a \neq 0$ . Then  $\frac{a}{\|a\|_\infty} : X \rightarrow [-1, 1]$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

by step 1,  $\exists$  polynomial  $p$  on  $[-1, 1]$  s.t.  $p(0) = 0$  and

$$|t| - p(t) < \varepsilon \quad \forall t \in [-1, 1]. \text{ Hence}$$

$$\left| \frac{|a(x)|}{\|a\|_\infty} - p\left(\frac{a(x)}{\|a\|_\infty}\right) \right| < \varepsilon \quad \forall x \in X.$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\| \frac{|a|}{\|a\|_\infty} - p\left(\frac{a}{\|a\|_\infty}\right) \right\|_\infty < \varepsilon.$$

Since  $p(0) = 0$ ,  $p\left(\frac{a}{\|a\|_\infty}\right) \in \text{span}\{a^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subset A$ .

Since  $A$  is closed &  $\varepsilon > 0$  was arbitrary,

$$\frac{|a|}{\|a\|_\infty} \in A \rightsquigarrow |a| \in A.$$

$$\text{Now if } a, b \in A, \quad \max\{a, b\} = \frac{1}{2} [a + b + |a - b|]$$

$$\min\{a, b\} = \frac{1}{2} [a + b - |a - b|] \quad \square$$

Step 3: Suppose  $A \subset C(X, \mathbb{R})$  is a real vector space & a lattice.  
if  $f \in C(X, \mathbb{R})$  can be approximated at every  $x \neq y \in X$   
by some  $a_{xy} \in A$ , then  $f \in \overline{A}^{\|\cdot\|_\infty}$ .

pf: Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . For  $x \neq y \in X$ , pick  $a_{xy} \in A$  s.t.

$$|f(x) - a_{xy}(x)| < \varepsilon, \quad |f(y) - a_{xy}(y)| < \varepsilon.$$

Then  $x, y$  are both in

$$U_{xy} := \{z \in X \mid f(z) < a_{xy}(z) + \varepsilon\}$$

$$V_{xy} := \{z \in X \mid a_{xy}(z) < f(z) + \varepsilon\}$$

Fix  $x \in X$ . The sets  $(U_{xy})_{y \in X}$  cover  $X$ .

Since  $X$  cpt,  $X \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^m U_{xy_i}$ . Set  $a_x := \sup_{i=1}^m a_{xy_i} \in A$

By construction,  $f(z) < a_x(z) + \varepsilon$  for all  $z \in X$ .

Also,  $a_x(z) < f(z) + \varepsilon \quad \forall z \in \bigcap_{i=1}^m V_{xy_i} \leftarrow \text{all this } W_x.$

Varying  $x \in X$ ,  $(W_x)_{x \in X}$  is an open cover. So  $X \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n W_{x_j}$ .

Now  $a := \bigwedge_{j=1}^n a_{x_j}$  satisfies  $\|f - a\|_\infty < \varepsilon$ . □

Step 4: Suppose  $A \subset C(X, \mathbb{R})$  is a subalg which separates points.

① if  $A$  contains a nonvanishing  $f_n$ ,  $\bar{A} = C(X, \mathbb{R})$

② if every  $a \in A$  has a zero,  $\exists x_0 \in X$  s.t.  $\bar{A} = \{f \mid f(x_0) = 0\}$ .

Pf Suppose  $x \neq y$  in  $X$ . Since pt eval is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -alg hom  $A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$A_{xy} = \{(a(x), a(y)) \mid a \in A\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  is a sub algebra.

The only sub algebras of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are:

$$\mathbb{R}^2, (0,0), \mathbb{R} \times \{0\}, \{0\} \times \mathbb{R}, \Delta = \{(x,x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

Since  $A$  separates pts,  $A_{xy} \neq (0,0)$  or  $\Delta$ .

claim:  $A = \mathbb{R}^2 \quad \forall x \neq y$  except for at most one possible  $x_0 \in X$ .

Case 1:  $A_{xy} = \mathbb{R}^2 \quad \forall x \neq u$ . [This is the case for ①].

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$\forall f \in C(X, \mathbb{R}), \exists a_{xy} \in A$  s.t.  $f(x) = a_{xy}(x)$  and  $f(y) = a_{xy}(y)$ .

by step 2,  $\bar{A}$  is a lattice, and by step 3,  $f$

can be unif approx by  $\bar{A}$ , so  $f \in \bar{A}$ .

Case 2:  $\exists x_0 \in X$  s.t.  $A_{x_0 y} = \{0\} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Then the argument in case 1 applies  $\forall f \in C(X, \mathbb{R})$  s.t.  $f(x_0) = 0$ .

Step 5:  $A \subset C(X, \mathbb{C})$  sep pts & closed under complex conj.

pf Apply Step 4 to  $A_{sa} = \{a \in A \mid a = \bar{a}\}$ .

Since  $A$  closed under complex conj,  $\operatorname{Re} a, \operatorname{Im} a \in A$ . So

$A = A_{sa} \oplus iA_{sa}$  and  $C(X, \mathbb{C}) = C(X, \mathbb{R}) \oplus iC(X, \mathbb{R})$ .  $\square$