

# Gleason Parts for Uniform Algebras without Analytic Discs

D. Papathanasiou joint work with A. Izzo  
University of Mons

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$X =$  compact Hausdorff space

$C(X) = \{f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \text{continuous}\}$  endowed with  $\|f\|_\infty = \sup\{|f(x)| : x \in X\}$

A **uniform algebra**  $A$  on  $X$  is a uniformly closed subalgebra of  $C(X)$  that contains the constants and separates the points on  $X$ .

The maximal ideal space of  $A$  is

$$\mathfrak{M}_A = \{\phi : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \phi \neq 0, \text{multiplicative, linear}\}$$

topologized with the relative weak\* topology.

$\mathfrak{M}_A =$  compact subset of  $S(0, 1) \subset A^*$

$X \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{M}_A$ , by  $x \mapsto \phi_x, \phi_x(f) = f(x)$ .

$A \cong \hat{A} \subset C(\mathfrak{M}_A)$ , by  $f \mapsto \hat{f}, \hat{f}(\phi) = \phi(f)$ .

Notice, for  $x \in X, \hat{f}(\phi_x) = \phi_x(f) = f(x)$ ,

so we may think  $X \subset \mathfrak{M}_A, A = \hat{A}$  and the functions of  $A$  extend from  $X$  to  $\mathfrak{M}_A$ .

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## Example

For  $X$  a compact,  $T_2$  space,  $C(X)$  is a uniform algebra with  $\mathfrak{M}_{C(X)} = X$ .

The disc algebra

If  $D = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$  then

$$A(D) = \{f \in C(\bar{D}) : f \in H(D)\}$$

is a uniform algebra with  $\mathfrak{M}_{A(D)} = \bar{D}$ .

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Let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  compact. Consider

$$P(K) = \{f \in C(K) : f \text{ is a uniform limit of polynomials in } z_1, \dots, z_n\}$$

which is a uniform algebra with  $\mathfrak{M}_{P(K)} = \hat{K}$ , the **polynomial hull** of  $K$ ,

$$\hat{K} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n : |p(z)| \leq \|p\|_K, \forall p \in \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]\}.$$

For  $n = 1$ ,  $\hat{K} = K \cup$  bounded components of  $\mathbb{C} \setminus K$ .

Note that  $P(\partial D) \cong P(\bar{D}) = A(D)$ .

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For  $K \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ ,

$R(K) = \{f \in C(K) : f \text{ is a uniform limit of rational functions with poles off } K\}$

is a uniform algebra with  $\mathfrak{M}_{R(K)} = h_r(K)$ , the **rational hull** of  $K$ ,

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For every  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$ ,  $h_r(K) = K$ .



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## Definition

If  $A$  is a uniform algebra, an **analytic disc** in  $\mathfrak{M}_A$  is a 1 – 1 continuous map  $\sigma : D \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_A$  so that  $f \circ \sigma : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is holomorphic, for all  $f \in A$ .

## Conjecture

If  $\mathfrak{M}_A \neq X$  there must be an analytic disc in  $\mathfrak{M}_A$ .

## Stolzenberg 1963

There exists  $X \subset \mathbb{C}^2$  compact so that  $\hat{X} \setminus X \neq \emptyset$ , but  $\hat{X}$  contains no analytic disc.

## Wermer 1970

There exists  $X \subset \mathbb{C}^2$  compact so that  $h_r(X) \setminus X \neq \emptyset$  but  $h_r(X)$  contains no analytic disc.

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If  $\mathfrak{M}_A \neq X$  is there a weaker form of analyticity in  $\mathfrak{M}_A$ ?

Gleason, 1957

For  $\phi, \psi \in \mathfrak{M}_A$  define

$$\phi \sim \psi \text{ iff } \|\phi - \psi\| = \sup\{|\phi(f) - \psi(f)| : f \in A, \|f\| \leq 1\} < 2.$$

Then  $\sim$  is an equivalence relationship on  $\mathfrak{M}_A$  and the equivalence classes of  $\sim$  are called **Gleason Parts**.

Disc Algebra

If  $|s|, |t| < 1, f \in A(D)$  and  $\|f\| \leq 1$  then by Schwarz's Lemma

$$|f(s) - f(t)| \leq \left| \frac{s-t}{1-\bar{s}t} \right| |1 - \bar{f}(s)f(t)|$$

so  $s \sim t$ .

If  $|s| = 1$  and  $|t| \leq 1$  using automorphisms of  $D$  we may show  $s \not\sim t$ .

Gleason parts for  $A(D) : D, \{z\}, z \in \partial D$ .

Example

For  $X$  a compact  $T_2$  space,  $C(X)$  has only trivial Gleason parts.

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Example

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## Wermer, Hoffman

If  $A$  is a Dirichlet or logmodular algebra (e.x.  $A(D)$ ,  $P(X)$  for  $X \subset \mathbb{C}$  compact with  $\mathbb{C} \setminus X$  connected,  $H^\infty(D)$ ), then every Gleason part for  $A$  is either trivial or an analytic disc.

## Conjecture

If the uniform algebra  $A$  on  $X$  has only trivial Gleason parts then  $A = C(X)$ .

Cole, 1968

There exists  $A$  on  $X$  such that  $A \neq C(X)$  but it has only trivial Gleason parts.

Cole, Ghosh, Izzo, 2000

There is  $X \subset \mathbb{C}^3$  compact such that  $\hat{X} \setminus X \neq \emptyset$  but  $P(X)$  has only trivial Gleason parts.

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## Cole, 1968

There exists  $A$  on  $X$  such that  $A \neq C(X)$  but it has only trivial Gleason parts.

## Cole, Ghosh, Izzo, 2000

There is  $X \subset \mathbb{C}^3$  compact such that  $\hat{X} \setminus X \neq \emptyset$  but  $P(X)$  has only trivial Gleason parts.

## Gamelin, Rossi

There are not known examples of disconnected Gleason parts but their existence seems very likely.

### Question

What spaces can occur as Gleason parts for a uniform algebra?

If  $P$  is a Gleason part for  $A$  it is completely regular (since  $P \subset \mathfrak{M}_A$ ).

$P$  is also  $\sigma$ -compact since if  $\phi \in P$ ,  $P = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \{\psi \in \mathfrak{M}_A : \|\phi - \psi\| \leq 2 - 1/n\}$ .

### Garnett, 1967

If  $P$  is a completely regular,  $\sigma$ -compact space there is uniform algebra  $A$  such that  $\mathfrak{M}_A$  contains a homeomorphic image of  $P$  which is a Gleason part for  $A$ , and such that  $A|_P = C_b(P)$  (the space of continuous and bounded functions on  $P$ ).

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Which spaces occur as Gleason parts for a uniform algebra without analytic discs?

Izzo, P.

If  $P$  is a completely regular,  $\sigma$ -compact space, there is a uniform algebra  $A$  on a compact  $T_2$  space  $X$  without analytic discs, but having a part homeomorphic to  $P$  lying in  $\mathfrak{M}_A \setminus X$ . Furthermore,  $A|_P = C_b(P)$ .

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## Question

Which spaces occur as a Gleason part for a uniform algebra without analytic discs over a metrizable space?

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Let  $P$  be a  $\sigma$ -compact, metrizable space. There exists a uniform algebra  $A$  (necessarily separable) on a metrizable, compact space  $X$ , without analytic discs, and such that  $\mathfrak{M}_A \setminus X$  contains a homeomorphic image of  $P$  constituting a Gleason part. Furthermore,  $A|_P = C(X)|_P$ .

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## Question

Which spaces can occur as a Gleason part for a finitely generated uniform algebra? Equivalently for a  $P(X)$ ,  $X \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  compact?

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If  $P$  is a locally compact space of finite topological dimension, there exists an  $X \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  compact, such that  $\hat{X}$  contains no analytic discs, but does contain a part homeomorphic to  $P$  lying in  $\hat{X} \setminus X$ .

## Open question

Can  $\mathbb{Q}$  occur as a Gleason part for a finitely generated uniform algebra?

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THANK YOU!