

## HOMOMORPHISMS BETWEEN LATTICES OF ZERO-SETS

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**ABSTRACT.** For a completely regular Hausdorff topological space  $X$ , let  $Z(X)$  denote the lattice of zero-sets of  $X$ . If  $\tau$  is a continuous map from  $X$  to  $Y$ , then there is a lattice homomorphism  $\tau'$  from  $Z(Y)$  to  $Z(X)$  induced by  $\tau$  which is defined by  $\tau'(A) = \tau^{-1}(A)$ . A characterization is given of those lattice homomorphisms from  $Z(Y)$  to  $Z(X)$  which are induced in the above way by a continuous function from  $X$  to  $Y$ .

**1. Introduction.** The theory of duality linking topology and algebra has been studied in depth in the past. Most notably in this area, is the work of M. H. Stone in [3], which describes the duality between compact, Hausdorff, 0-dimensional spaces (i.e. spaces with a base of open-and-closed sets) and Boolean algebras. In particular, it is shown that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are compact, Hausdorff, 0-dimensional spaces and  $B(X)$  and  $B(Y)$  are their Boolean algebras of clopen sets then if  $t: B(Y) \rightarrow B(X)$  is a homomorphism such that  $t(Y) = X$ , then there is a continuous map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $t(A) = f^{-1}(A)$  for all  $A \in B(Y)$ . In chapter 10 of [1] this aspect of duality is studied where the algebraic object is  $C(X)$ , the ring of continuous functions of a completely regular, Hausdorff space. It is shown that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are realcompact spaces and if  $t: C(Y) \rightarrow C(X)$  is a homomorphism such that  $t(1_Y) = 1_X$  (where  $1$  denotes the constant function whose range is  $\{1\}$ ), then there is a continuous function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $t(g) = g \circ f$  for all  $g \in C(Y)$ .

In this paper we consider the lattice  $Z(X)$ , of zero-sets of a completely regular, Hausdorff space and characterize these lattice homomorphisms between zero-set lattices that arise, in the natural way described above, from continuous functions.

1.1. DEFINITION. (a) Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be spaces and let  $Z(X)$  and  $Z(Y)$  denote their respective zero-set lattices. By a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism  $t$  from  $Z(Y)$  to  $Z(X)$

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we will mean a lattice homomorphism  $t: Z(Y) \rightarrow Z(X)$  such that  $t$  preserves countable meets (i.e. if  $\{A_i\}_{i=1}^\infty \subseteq Z(Y)$ , then  $t(\bigcap_{i=1}^\infty A_i) = \bigcap_{i=1}^\infty t(A_i)$ ), and such that  $t(\phi) = \phi$ ,  $t(Y) = X$ .

(b) Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be spaces and let  $\tau: X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map. Then the “homomorphism induced by  $\tau$ ” is the map  $\tau': Z(Y) \rightarrow Z(X)$  defined by  $\tau'(A) = \tau^{-1}(A)$  for  $A \in Z(Y)$ .

Note that in 1.1(b)  $\tau'$  is actually a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism in the sense of 1.1(a). In section 2 it is shown that these are precisely the homomorphisms induced by continuous maps.

The notation will be that of [1]. The set of integers is denoted by  $N$ . All spaces discussed are assumed to be completely regular and Hausdorff.

**2. The homomorphism induced by a continuous map.** Before getting to the main characterization theorem, some results of general interest on the induced homomorphism are obtained.

2.1 DEFINITION. (a) A subspace  $W$  of  $X$  is  $G_\delta$ -dense in  $X$  if every  $G_\delta$  in  $X$  meets  $W$  in a non-empty set.

(b) A subspace  $W$  of  $X$  is  $z$ -embedded in  $X$  if every zero-set in  $W$  is the restriction to  $W$  of a zero-set in  $X$ .

2.2. THEOREM. Let  $\tau$  be a continuous map from  $X$  to  $Y$  and let  $\tau'$  be the induced homomorphism from  $Z(Y)$  to  $Z(X)$ . Then

(a)  $\tau'$  is one-to-one iff  $\tau(X)$  is  $G_\delta$ -dense in  $Y$ , and

(b)  $\tau'$  is onto iff  $\tau$  is a homeomorphism onto a  $z$ -embedded subset of  $Y$ .

**Proof.** (a) Necessity. Suppose  $\tau(X)$  is not  $G_\delta$ -dense in  $Y$ . Then there is a non-empty  $G_\delta$  set  $H = \bigcap_{i \in N} U_i$  in  $Y$  (where  $U_i$  is open in  $Y$  for all  $i \in N$ ) such that  $H \cap \tau(X) = \phi$ . Let  $y \in H$ . Then there is a zero-set  $Z$  in  $Y$  such that  $y \in Z \subseteq H$  (for each  $i \in N$  there is a zero-set  $Z_i$  in  $Y$  such that  $y \in Z_i \subseteq U_i$  since  $Y$  is completely regular, thus  $y \in Z = \bigcap_{i \in N} Z_i \subseteq \bigcap_{i \in N} U_i = H$ ). Hence  $\tau'(Z) = \tau^{-1}(Z) = \phi = \tau^{-1}(\phi) = \tau'(\phi)$  and thus  $\tau'$  is not one-to-one.

Sufficiency. Suppose  $\tau'$  is not one-to-one. Then there exist  $Z_1, Z_2 \in Z(Y)$  such that  $\tau^{-1}(Z_1) = \tau^{-1}(Z_2)$  but  $Z_1 \neq Z_2$ . Let  $p \in Z_1 - Z_2$ . Then there is a  $Z_3 \in Z(Y)$  such that  $p \in Z_3$  and  $Z_3 \cap Z_2 = \phi$  (as  $Y - Z_2$  is a neighborhood of  $p$ ). Let  $Z = Z_1 \cap Z_3$ . Then  $\tau'(Z) = \tau^{-1}(Z_1 \cap Z_3) = \tau^{-1}(Z_1) \cap \tau^{-1}(Z_3) = \tau^{-1}(Z_2) \cap \tau^{-1}(Z_3) = \tau^{-1}(Z_2 \cap Z_3) = \tau^{-1}(\phi) = \phi$ . Thus  $Z \cap \tau(X) = \phi$  and hence  $\tau(X)$  is not  $G_\delta$  dense in  $Y$ .

(b) This result has been obtained independently by Mandelker in [2, p. 619], to which the reader is referred for a proof.

2.3. DEFINITION. Let  $X$  be a space. A  $z$ -filter  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  is a filter on the lattice  $Z(X)$ . That is  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq Z(X)$  such that i)  $\phi \notin \mathcal{F}$ , ii) if  $Z_1, Z_2 \in \mathcal{F}$  then  $Z_1 \cap Z_2 \in \mathcal{F}$ , and iii) if  $Z_1 \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $Z \in Z(X)$  such that  $Z_1 \subseteq Z$ , then  $Z \in \mathcal{F}$ . A  $z$ -filter  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$

is *prime* if  $Z_1 \cup Z_2 \in \mathcal{F}$  implies that either  $Z_1 \in \mathcal{F}$  or  $Z_2 \in \mathcal{F}$ . A *z-ultrafilter* is a maximal *z-filter*. A *real z-ultrafilter* is a *z-ultrafilter* closed under countable intersection (i.e. if  $\{Z_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ , then  $\bigcap_{i \in \mathbb{N}} Z_i \in \mathcal{F}$ ).

2.4. REMARK. If  $\{p\}$  is the one point space, then  $Z(\{p\}) = \{\phi, \{p\}\}$  is the two-point lattice which will be referred to here as  $\{0, 1\}$ . There is a one-to-one correspondence between  $\sigma$ -homomorphisms from  $Z(Y)$  onto  $\{0, 1\}$  and real *z-ultrafilters* on  $Y$ . Clearly if  $\mathcal{F}$  is a real *z-ultrafilter* on  $Y$ , then  $t: Z(Y) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  defined by  $t(Z) = 1$  if  $Z \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $t(Z) = 0$  otherwise, is a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism. On the other hand, if  $t: Z(Y) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism, then clearly  $\mathcal{F} = t^{-1}(\{1\})$  is a prime *z-filter* on  $Y$ . Since  $t$  is a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism,  $\mathcal{F}$  is closed under countable intersection. Thus, by [1, 7H4],  $\mathcal{F}$  is a real *z-ultrafilter*. It is also apparent that there is a one-to-one correspondence between all homomorphisms from  $Z(Y)$  to  $\{0, 1\}$  and all prime *z-filters* on  $Y$ .

2.5. THEOREM. Let  $Y$  be a realcompact space and let  $t$  be a homomorphism from  $Z(Y)$  to  $Z(X)$ . The following are equivalent.

- (i)  $t$  is a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism.
- (ii)  $t = \tau'$  for a unique continuous map  $\tau: X \rightarrow Y$ .

**Proof.** (ii) implies (i). We have already noted in the introduction that this implication is true.

(i) implies (ii). Let  $x \in X$ . Let  $A_x = \{Z \in Z(X) \mid x \in Z\}$ . Then  $A_x$  is a real *z-ultrafilter* on  $X$ . Let  $t^{-1}(A_x) = \{Z \in Z(Y) \mid t(Z) \in A_x\}$ . Then  $t^{-1}(A_x)$  is clearly a prime *z-filter* on  $Y$ . Furthermore,  $t^{-1}(A_x)$  is closed under countable intersection (since  $t$  is a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism). Thus, by [1, 7H4],  $t^{-1}(A_x)$  is a real *z-ultrafilter* on  $Y$ . Since  $Y$  is realcompact, there is a unique  $y \in Y$  such that  $\bigcap t^{-1}(A_x) = \{y\}$ . Define  $\tau(x) = y$ . Then  $\tau$  is a well-defined map from  $X$  to  $Y$ .

Let  $Z \in Z(Y)$ . Then  $t(Z) = \tau^{-1}(Z)$ , for  $x \in t(Z)$  iff  $t(Z) \in A_x$  iff  $Z \in t^{-1}(A_x)$  iff  $x \in \tau^{-1}(Z)$ . This shows that  $t = \tau'$  and  $\tau$  is continuous, as every closed subset of  $Y$  is an intersection of zero-sets.

If  $\sigma: X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $\sigma' = \tau' = t$ , then  $\sigma^{-1}(Z) = \tau^{-1}(Z)$  for every  $Z \in Z(Y)$ . Thus  $\sigma^{-1}(\{y\}) = \sigma^{-1}(\bigcap A_y) = \tau^{-1}(\bigcap A_y) = \tau^{-1}(\{y\})$ . Hence  $\sigma = \tau$ , and  $\tau$  is unique.

The condition “ $Y$  is realcompact” in 2.5 cannot be dropped because, as is shown in [1, 8D2],  $Z(X) \cong Z(\nu X)$  (lattice isomorphic by the isomorphism  $Z \rightarrow cl_{\nu X} Z$ , where  $\nu X$  denotes the Hewitt realcompactification of  $X$ ) for any space  $X$ , thus  $Z(X)$  does not distinguish between  $X$  and  $\nu X$ . This immediately gives the following corollary to 2.5.

2.6. COROLLARY. If  $t$  is a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism from  $Z(Y)$  to  $Z(X)$ , then there is a unique continuous map  $\tau: X \rightarrow \nu Y$  such that  $t(Z) = \tau^{-1}(cl_{\nu Y} Z)$  for all  $Z \in Z(Y)$ .

Theorem 2.5 also yields the following results.

2.7. COROLLARY. *If  $X$  and  $Y$  are two spaces then  $Z(X) \cong Z(Y)$  (lattice isomorphic) iff  $\nu X \cong \nu Y$ .*

**Proof.** Sufficiency. This follows from the fact, noted above, that  $Z(X) \cong Z(\nu X)$  and  $Z(Y) \cong Z(\nu Y)$ .

Necessity. Let  $t: Z(\nu Y) \rightarrow Z(\nu X)$  be an isomorphism. Then  $s: Z(\nu X) \rightarrow Z(\nu Y)$  defined by  $s(Z) = t^{-1}(Z)$  is also an isomorphism. By 2.5 there are continuous maps  $\tau: \nu X \rightarrow \nu Y$  and  $\sigma: \nu Y \rightarrow \nu X$  such that  $t = \tau'$  and  $s = \sigma'$  (as an isomorphism is, in particular, a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism). Then  $\sigma' \circ \tau' = s \circ t = 1_{Z(\nu Y)}$  (the identity map) and  $\tau' \circ \sigma' = t \circ s = 1_{Z(\nu X)}$ , i.e.  $\sigma' \circ \tau' = (1_{\nu Y})'$  and  $\tau' \circ \sigma' = (1_{\nu X})'$ . But  $\sigma' \circ \tau' = (\tau \circ \sigma)'$  (as  $\sigma' \circ \tau'(Z) = \sigma'^{-1}(\tau'^{-1}(Z)) = (\tau \circ \sigma)^{-1}(Z) = (\tau \circ \sigma)'(Z)$ ), and  $\tau' \circ \sigma' = (\sigma \circ \tau)'$ . Thus  $(\tau \circ \sigma)' = (1_{\nu Y})'$  and  $(\sigma \circ \tau)' = (1_{\nu X})'$ . By uniqueness  $\tau \circ \sigma = 1_{\nu Y}$ ,  $\sigma \circ \tau = 1_{\nu X}$ . Thus  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are homeomorphisms.

2.8. COROLLARY.  *$\nu Y$  contains a continuous image of  $X$  iff  $Z(X)$  contains a  $\sigma$ -homomorphic image of  $Z(Y)$ .*

2.2 together with 2.5 yield the following results.

2.9. COROLLARY.  *$Z(X)$  contains a  $\sigma$ -isomorphic copy of  $Z(Y)$  iff  $\nu Y$  contains a  $G_\delta$ -dense continuous image of  $X$ .*

2.10. COROLLARY.  *$\nu Y$  contains a  $Z$ -embedded copy of  $X$  iff  $Z(X)$  is a  $\sigma$ -homomorphic image of  $Z(Y)$ .*

Results 2.5 to 2.10 are the  $Z(X)$ -analogues of 10.6 and 10.9 in [1].

**3. The continuous map induced by a homomorphism.** In section 2 we were concerned only with  $\sigma$ -homomorphisms. We now show that any lattice homomorphism  $t: Z(Y) \rightarrow Z(X)$  (such that  $t(Y) = X$  and  $t(\phi) = \phi$ ) induces a continuous map  $\tau: \beta X \rightarrow \beta Y$ .

3.1. DEFINITION. Let  $X$  be a space. Let

$$M^p = \{Z \in Z(X) \mid p \in cl_{\beta X} Z\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$0^p = \{Z \in Z(X) \mid cl_{\beta X} Z \text{ is a neighborhood in } \beta X \text{ of } p\}.$$

3.2. PROPOSITION. *Let  $t: Z(Y) \rightarrow Z(X)$  be a lattice homomorphism. Then there exists a continuous map  $\tau: \beta X \rightarrow \beta Y$  such that  $\tau^{-1}(cl_{\beta Y} Z) \supseteq cl_{\beta X} t(Z)$ . For a given  $Z \in Z(Y)$ , the above containment is equality if  $t^{-1}(M^p) = M^{\tau(p)}$  for every  $p \in \tau(cl_{\beta Y} Z)$  (i.e.  $t^{-1}(M^p)$  is an ultrafilter for every  $p \in \tau^{-1}(cl_{\beta Y} Z)$ ).*

**Proof.** Let  $t: Z(Y) \rightarrow Z(X)$  be as hypothesized and let  $x \in \beta X$ . Then  $t^{-1}(M^x)$  is a prime  $z$ -filter on  $Y$ . Thus, by [1.2.11],  $t^{-1}(M^x)$  is contained in a unique  $z$ -ultrafilter  $M^p$ , on  $Y$ . Let  $\tau: \beta X \rightarrow \beta Y$  be defined by  $\tau(x) = p$ . Let  $Z \in Z(Y)$ . Let  $x \in cl_{\beta X} t(Z)$ . Then  $t(Z) \in M^x$ , and thus  $Z \in t^{-1}(M^x) \subseteq M^{\tau(x)}$ . So  $\tau(x) \in cl_{\beta Y} Z$ ,

and hence  $x \in \tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}Z)$ , i.e.  $cl_{\beta X}t(Z) \subseteq \tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}Z)$ . Now we show that  $\tau$  is continuous.

First we show that  $t(0^{\tau(x)}) \subseteq 0^x$  for every  $x \in X$ . Let  $x \in X$ . Consider  $A = \{P \subseteq Z(X) \mid 0^x \subseteq P, \text{ and } P \text{ is a prime } z\text{-filter}\}$ . Then  $t^{-}(P)$  is prime for every  $P \in A$ , and  $t^{-}(P) \subseteq t^{-}(M^x) \subseteq M^{\tau(x)}$  (as  $0^x$  is contained in only one  $z$ -ultrafilter, namely  $M^x$ ). Thus, by [1, 7.15],  $t^{-}(P) \supseteq 0^{\tau(x)}$  for every  $P \in A$ . But by [1, 2.8]  $0^x = \bigcap_{P \in A} P$ . Therefore  $t(0^{\tau(x)}) \subseteq \bigcap_{P \in A} P = 0^x$ .

Let  $x \in \beta X$ , and let  $W \in 0^{\tau(x)}$  (i.e.  $cl_{\beta Y}W$  is a neighborhood of  $\tau(x)$ ). Then  $t(W) \in 0^x$ . However,  $cl_{\beta X}t(W) \subseteq \tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}W)$ , and the former set is a neighborhood of  $x$  in  $\beta X$  (as  $t(W) \in 0^x$ ). Thus  $\tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}W)$  is a neighborhood of  $x$ . Since the closures in  $\beta Y$  of the sets in  $0^{\tau(x)}$  form a neighborhood base  $\tau(x)$ , this shows that  $\tau$  is a continuous map.

Suppose  $Z \in Z(Y)$  and  $t^{-}(M^p)$  is maximal for every  $p \in \tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}Z)$ . If  $p \in \tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}Z)$ , then  $\tau(p) \in cl_{\beta Y}Z$  and hence  $Z \in M^{\tau(p)}$ . Since  $t^{-}(M^p)$  is maximal and is contained in  $M^{\tau(p)}$  we must have  $t^{-}(M^p) = M^{\tau(p)}$ . Thus  $Z \in t^{-}(M^p)$  and so  $t(Z) \in M^p$  and  $p \in cl_{\beta X}t(Z)$ . Hence  $cl_{\beta X}t(Z) = \tau^{-}(cl_{\beta X}Z)$ .

It is evident that distinct homomorphisms from  $Z(Y)$  to  $Z(X)$  may induce the same map from  $\beta X$  to  $\beta Y$ . All that is required for two homomorphisms  $t_\alpha$  and  $t_\beta$  from  $Z(Y)$  to  $Z(X)$  to induce the same map from  $\beta X$  to  $\beta Y$  is that given  $x \in \beta X$ , there is a point  $p \in \beta Y$  such that  $t_\alpha^{-}(M^x), t_\beta^{-}(M^x) \subseteq M^p$ .

The continuous map  $\tau$  induced by  $t$  in 3.2 in turn induces a homomorphism  $t': Z(\beta Y) \rightarrow Z(\beta X)$  defined by  $t'(Z) = \tau^{-}(Z)$ . Thus if  $Z \in Z(\beta Y)$ , then  $t'(Z) \cap X = \tau^{-}(Z) \cap X \supseteq \tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}(Z \cap Y)) \cap X \supseteq t(Z \cap Y)$ . So if  $Z \in Z(Y)$  and  $W \in Z(\beta Y)$  such that  $Z = W \cap Y$  then  $t'(W) \cap X \supseteq t(W \cap Y) = t(Z)$ .

Thus it can be seen that if  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous, then  $t: Z(Y) \rightarrow Z(X)$  defined by  $t(Z) = f^{-}(Z)$  is a  $(\sigma-)$  homomorphism. Then by Proposition 3.2 there is a map  $\tau: \beta X \rightarrow \beta Y$  such that  $\tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}Z) \supseteq cl_{\beta X}t(Z) = cl_{\beta X}(f^{-}(Z))$  for any  $Z \in Z(Y)$ . Thus  $\tau$  must agree with  $f$  on  $X$ . For if  $\tau(x) \neq f(x)$ , let  $Z \in Z(Y)$  be such that  $f(x) \in Z$  and  $\tau(x) \notin cl_{\beta Y}Z$ . Clearly  $x \in cl_{\beta X}(f^{-}(Z))$ , hence,  $x \in \tau^{-}(cl_{\beta Y}Z)$ . But then  $\tau(x) \in cl_{\beta Y}Z$  contrary to assumption. Therefore  $\tau$  is precisely the Stone extension of  $f$ . Since  $t$  is also a  $\sigma$ -homomorphism it follows that  $\tau(\nu X) \subseteq \nu Y$ .

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