## JOINT TOPOLOGICAL DIVISORS AND NONREMOVABLE IDEALS IN A COMMUTATIVE REAL BANACH ALGEBRA

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Abstract.

The concept of joint topological zero divisors (JTZD) in a real Banach algebra was discussed in [4]. In this paper we study the concepts of cortex, Šilov boundary and non-removable ideals and relating them with ideals consisting of JTZD.

1 Introduction and Preliminaries The concepts of ideals consisting of JTZD, cortex and non removable ideals for a complex Banach algebra are studied in detail [5, 6, 7, 8]. Here we extend some of these results for a real Banach algebra. We have modified certain concepts and used the complexification technique to prove some results which was applied effectively in [3].

Throughout the paper, A denotes a real commutative Banach algebra with identity, Car(A) and  $\mathfrak{M}(A)$  denote the space of all nonzero (real) homomorphisms from A to  $\mathbb{C}$ called the carrier space and the space of all maximal ideals of A respectively. We refer to [5] and [3] for the basic definitions.

**Definition 1.1.** Let A be a real Banach algebra with identity 1 and  $cxA = \{(a, b) : a, b \in A\}$ . Then with the following operations, cxA becomes a complex algebra with identity (1, 0).

$$\begin{array}{l} (a,b) + (c,d) = (a+c,b+d) \\ (\alpha+i\beta)(a,b) = (\alpha a - \beta b, \alpha b + \beta a) \\ (a,b)(c,d) = (ac-bd,ad+bc) \end{array} \right\} for all  $a,b,c,d \in A \\ \alpha,\beta \in \mathbb{R} \end{array}$$$

It is called the *complixification* of A. Further, there exists a norm  $\|\cdot\|_{cxA}$  on cxA [3], making cxA a Banach algebra and satisfying,

(i)  $\max\left(\left\|a\right\|,\left\|b\right\|\right) \le \left\|\left(a,b\right)\right\|_{\operatorname{cx} A} \le 2 \max\left(\left\|a\right\|,\left\|b\right\|\right)$  for all  $a,b \in A$ .

(ii)  $\|(a,0)\|_{cxA} = \|a\|$  for all  $a \in A$ .

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Note that  $a \to (a, 0)$  embeds A into cxA isometrically. Now onwards we use ||(a, b)||instead of  $||(a, b)||_{cxA}$ .

We associate Car(cxA) and  $\mathfrak{M}(cxA)$  with A. The following diagram (Figure 1) shows their interrelations.



Figure 1:

We list the properties of the maps shown in the diagram.

(i)  $R: Car(cxA) \to Car(A)$  defined as  $R(\psi) = \psi_{/A}$ , is a one-to-one, onto, continuous and open mapping.

(ii)  $cx^* : \mathfrak{M}(cxA) \to \mathfrak{M}(A)$  defined by  $cx^*(M) = M \bigcap A$  is a two to one, onto continuous and open mapping. Also,  $cx^*(\Gamma(cxA)) = \Gamma(A)$  where,  $\Gamma(A)$  denote the Šilov boundary of A [3].

(iii) ker :  $Car(A) \to \mathfrak{M}(A)$  defined by  $\psi \mapsto \ker \psi$  is a two to one, onto, continuous mapping [3].

(iv) If A is a complex Banach algebra, then the map ker is a one to one mapping.

Further, we define,  $\sigma : cxA \to cxA$  by  $\sigma(f,g) = (f,-g)$ . Then  $\sigma$  is a linear map which is also isometry.

We shall need the next proposition to prove the main result.

**Proposition 1.2.** If N is a closed ideal in A, then  $N_{cxA}$  is a closed ideal in cxA where,  $N_{cxA} = \{(x, y) : x, y \in N\}$ . Further if N is maximal, then  $N_{cxA}$  is contained in exactly two maximal ideals of cxA namely ker  $\psi$  and ker  $(\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma)$ , where  $\psi = R^{-1}(\phi)$ ,  $\bar{\psi}(x) = \bar{\psi}(x)$  and  $N = \ker \phi$ .

*Proof.* It is easy to verify that  $N_{cxA}$  is a closed ideal in cxA. Let  $N \in \mathfrak{M}(A)$ . Then,  $N = \ker \phi$  for some  $\phi \in Car(A)$ . Note that  $\ker \phi = \ker \overline{\phi}$  and if  $R^{-1}(\phi) = \psi$ , then  $R^{-1}\left(\bar{\phi}\right) = \bar{\psi} \circ \sigma.$ 

Claim 1:  $N_{cxA} = \ker \psi \bigcap \ker (\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma).$ 

Let  $(x,y) \in N_{cxA}$  with  $x, y \in N$ . Then  $\phi(x) = \phi(y) = 0 = \overline{\phi}(x) = \overline{\phi}(y)$ , which implies  $\psi(x,y) = \phi(x) + i\phi(y) = 0$  and  $(\overline{\psi} \circ \sigma)(x,y) = \overline{\phi}(x) + i\overline{\phi}(y) = 0$ . Hence,  $(x,y) \in \ker \psi \bigcap \ker (\overline{\psi} \circ \sigma)$ . Thus,  $N_{cxA} \subset \ker \psi \bigcap \ker (\overline{\psi} \circ \sigma)$ .

Conversely, if  $(x, y) \in \ker \psi \bigcap \ker (\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma)$ , then  $0 = \psi (x, y) = \phi (x) + i\phi (y)$  and  $0 = (\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma) (x, y) = \bar{\phi} (x) + i\bar{\phi} (y)$ . So,  $\phi (x) - i\phi (y) = 0$ . Therefore,  $\phi (x) = 0 = \phi (y)$ . Hence,  $x, y \in N$  and so,  $(x, y) \in N_{cxA}$ . Therefore,  $\ker \psi \bigcap \ker (\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma) \subset N_{cxA}$ . Hence,  $N_{cxA} = \ker \psi \bigcap \ker (\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma)$ .

**Claim 2:**  $N_{cxA}$  is contained in only two maximal ideals namely ker  $\psi$  and ker  $(\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma)$ .

Suppose  $N_{cxA} \subset M'$ , where  $M' \in \mathfrak{M}(cxA)$ , then  $M' = \ker \psi'$  for some  $\psi' \in Car(cxA)$ . Let  $\phi' = \psi'_{|A} = R(\psi')$ . Then, we show that  $\ker \phi = \ker \phi'$ .

Let  $x \in \ker \phi = N$ . Then  $(x, x) \in N_{cxA} \subset M'$ . So,  $\psi'(x, x) = 0$ , i.e.,  $\phi'(x) + i\phi'(x) = 0$ . Hence,  $\phi'(x) = 0$ . Thus,  $x \in \ker \phi'$ . Hence,  $\ker \phi \subset \ker \phi'$ . Therefore,  $\ker \phi = \ker \phi'$  as both of them are maximal ideals in A. So,  $\phi = \phi'$  or  $\overline{\phi} = \phi'$ . Hence,  $\psi = \psi'$  or  $\overline{\psi} \circ \sigma = \psi'$ .

**2** Joint topological zero divisor In this section, we have defined joint topological zero divisor for a real Banach algebra. Also, we have proved some results similar to that of complex Banach algebras [6].

**Definition 2.1.** Let A be a real commutative Banach algebra. A subset S of A is said to be consisting of *joint topological zero divisors* (JTZD) if for every finite subset  $\{x_1, ..., x_n\}$ of S

$$d(x_1, ..., x_n) = \inf\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i z\| : z \in A, \|z\| = 1\right\} = 0.$$

Equivalently, there exists a net  $(z_{\alpha})$  in A with  $||z_{\alpha}|| = 1$  such that  $\lim_{\alpha} xz_{\alpha} = 0$  for each  $x \in S$  [4]. In particular, if S is an ideal, then it is called an ideal consisting of JTZD. Note that if  $S = \{x\}$ , then the above definition coincides with topological zero divisor.

**Theorem 2.2.** If A is a real commutative Banach algebra and  $I \subset A$  is a nonzero ideal consisting of JTZD, then there exists a maximal ideal N in A consisting of JTZD and  $I \subset N$ .

To prove the above result we need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.3.** If I is an ideal in A consisting of JTZD, then  

$$I_{cxA} = \{(x, y) : x, y \in I\}$$
 is an ideal in cxA consisting of JTZD.

*Proof.* As we have noted in Proposition 1.2,  $I_{cxA}$  is an ideal in cxA. To show that  $I_{cxA}$  consists of JTZD, let  $(x, y) \in I_{cxA}$ . Then  $x, y \in I$ . Since, I consists of JTZD, there exists a net  $(x_{\alpha})$  in A with  $||x_{\alpha}|| = 1$  such that  $||xx_{\alpha}|| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_x$  and  $||yx_{\alpha}|| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_y$ . Let  $\alpha_{\varepsilon} \ge \alpha_x$  and  $\alpha_{\varepsilon} \ge \alpha_y$ . Then  $||xx_{\alpha}|| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  and  $||yx_{\alpha}|| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_{\varepsilon}$ .

Consider  $z_{\alpha} = (x_{\alpha}, 0)$ . Then,  $(z_{\alpha})$  is a net in cxA. Also,  $||z_{\alpha}|| = ||(x_{\alpha}, 0)|| = ||x_{\alpha}|| = 1$ and  $||z_{\alpha}(x, y)|| = ||(x_{\alpha}x, x_{\alpha}y)|| \le 2 \max(||x_{\alpha}x||, ||x_{\alpha}y||) < \varepsilon$  for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_{\varepsilon}$ . So,  $\lim_{\alpha} z_{\alpha}(x, y) = 0$ for each  $(x, y) \in I_{cxA}$ . Hence,  $I_{cxA}$  consists of JTZD.

**Lemma 2.4.** If J is an ideal in cxA consisting of JTZD, then  $J \cap A$  is an ideal in A consisting of JTZD.

*Proof.* Clearly,  $I = J \bigcap A$  is an ideal in A. Let  $x \in I$ . Then,  $(x, 0) \in J$ . Therefore, there exists a net  $(z_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  in cxA with  $||z_{\alpha}|| = 1$  such that  $||z_{\alpha}(x, 0)|| < \varepsilon$  for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_{\varepsilon}$ .

Let  $z_{\alpha} = (x_{\alpha}, y_{\alpha})$ . Then  $||(x_{\alpha}, y_{\alpha})(x, 0)|| < \varepsilon$  for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_{\varepsilon}$ . Therefore,  $||(x_{\alpha}x, y_{\alpha}x)|| < \varepsilon$ for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_{\varepsilon}$ . So, max  $(||x_{\alpha}x||, ||y_{\alpha}x||) \le ||(x_{\alpha}x, y_{\alpha}x)|| < \varepsilon$  for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_{\varepsilon}$ . Hence,  $||x_{\alpha}x|| < \varepsilon$  and  $||y_{\alpha}x|| < \varepsilon$  for  $\alpha \ge \alpha_{\varepsilon}$ . So,  $\lim_{\alpha} x_{\alpha}x = 0$  and  $\lim_{\alpha} y_{\alpha}x = 0$ .

Now,  $\max(\|x_{\alpha}\|, \|y_{\alpha}\|) \leq \|z_{\alpha}\| = 1 \leq 2 \max(\|x_{\alpha}\|, \|y_{\alpha}\|)$  for each  $\alpha$ . Therefore,  $\frac{1}{2} \leq \max(\|x_{\alpha}\|, \|y_{\alpha}\|) \leq 1$  for each  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ .

Let

$$z_{\alpha'} = \begin{cases} \frac{x_{\alpha}}{\|x_{\alpha}\|}, & \text{if } \|x_{\alpha}\| \ge \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{y_{\alpha}}{\|y_{\alpha}\|}, & \text{if } \|x_{\alpha}\| < \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

It is clear that  $\{z_{\alpha'}\}$  is a net of norm one and  $\lim_{\alpha} z_{\alpha'} x = 0$ . Hence, I consists of JTZD.

Proof. (Theorem 2.2) Let I consist of JTZD. Then by Lemma 2.3,  $I_{cxA}$  consists of JTZD. Hence, there exists a maximal ideal M in cxA consisting of JTZD such that  $I_{cxA} \subset M$  [6]. Let  $N = M \bigcap A$ . Then by Lemma 2.4, N is in A and it consists of JTZD, and  $I \subset N$ . This N is the required maximal ideal. **3** Cortex The concept of cortex for a complex Banach algebra has been studied in [5]. The cortex for a complex Banach algebra A is defined as a subset of Car(A). Here, we define the cortex slightly in a different manner.

**Definition 3.1.** Let A be a real commutative Banach algebra with identity. The set  $\{M \in \mathfrak{M}(A) : M \text{ consists of JTZD}\}$  is called the *cortex* of A and is denoted by *Cor*(A).

Note that for a complex Banach algebra A, Cor(A) can also be looked upon as a subset of Car(A) as  $Car(A) \cong \mathfrak{M}(A)$ . Here we have considered cortex of a complex Banach algebra A as a subset of  $\mathfrak{M}(A)$ . The following result for a real Banach algebra A follows immediately from the result of §2.

**Theorem 3.2.**  $cx^*(Cor(cxA)) = Cor(A)$ . Consequently Cor(A) is a nonempty compact subset of  $\mathfrak{M}(A)$ .

**Corollary 3.3.**  $\Gamma(A) \subset Cor(A)$ .

Proof. 
$$\Gamma(A) = cx^* (\Gamma(cxA))[3] \subset cx^* (Cor(cxA))[5] = Cor(A).$$

**Lemma 3.4.** Let  $\psi \in Car(cxA)$ . Then ker  $\psi \in Cor(cxA)$  if and only if ker  $(\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma) \in Cor(cxA)$ .

Proof. Let  $(f,g) \in cxA$ . Then, $(f,g) \in \ker \psi \Leftrightarrow \psi(f,g) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \overline{\psi}(f,g) = 0$  $\Leftrightarrow (\overline{\psi} \circ \sigma) (f,-g) = 0 \Leftrightarrow (f,-g) \in \ker (\overline{\psi} \circ \sigma).$ 

Let ker  $\psi \in Cor(cxA)$ . To show that ker  $(\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma) \in Cor(cxA)$ , let  $(f_i, g_i) \in \text{ker}(\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma)$ for i = 1, ..., n. Therefore,  $(f_i, -g_i) \in \text{ker } \psi$  for i = 1, ..., n. But ker  $\psi$  consists of JTZD. Hence, for given  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $(x, y) \in cxA$  with ||(x, y)|| = 1 such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \left\| \left( f_k, -g_k \right) (x, y) \right\| < \varepsilon.$$

Now,  $\|(f_k, -g_k)(x, y)\| = \|(f_k, g_k)(x, -y)\|$  as  $\sigma(f, g) = (f, -g)$  is an isometry. So,  $\sum_{k=1}^{n} \|(f_k, g_k)(x, -y)\| < \varepsilon.$  Hence,  $\ker(\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma) \in Cor(cxA).$ 

The converse follows from the fact  $\overline{\overline{\psi} \circ \sigma} \circ \sigma = \psi$ .

**Remark 3.5.** If we consider  $F = \ker^{-1}(\Gamma(A))$  and  $K = \ker^{-1}(Cor(A))$ , then it is clear from the definition of  $\Gamma(A)$  that  $\ker|_F$  is also two to one onto  $\Gamma(A)$ . The following result shows that  $\ker|_K$  is also two to one onto Cor(A). **Proposition 3.6.**  $R(\ker^{-1}(Cor(cxA))) = \ker^{-1}(Cor(A))$ 

*Proof.* Let  $\psi \in \ker^{-1}(Cor(cxA))$ . Then  $\ker \psi \in Cor(cxA)$ . Now,  $R(\psi) = \psi_{|A} = \phi$ . To prove  $\phi \in \ker^{-1}(Cor(A))$ , we have to show that  $\ker \phi \in Cor(A)$ . Now,  $\ker \phi = \ker \psi \bigcap A$ . Therefore, by Lemma 2.4,  $\ker \phi$  consists of JTZD. Hence,  $\phi \in \ker^{-1}(Cor(A))$ .

Conversely, let  $\phi \in \ker^{-1}(Cor(A))$ . Then  $\ker \phi = N \in Cor(A)$ . Then, by Lemma 2.3,  $N_{cxA}$  consists of JTZD. Hence, there exists a maximal ideal  $M \in Cor(cxA)$  such that  $N_{cxA} \subset M$ . But  $N_{cxA}$  is contained in only two maximal ideals,  $\ker \psi$  and  $\ker(\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma)$ . Therefore, either  $\ker \psi$  or  $\ker(\bar{\psi} \circ \sigma)$  consists of JTZD. So, by Lemma 3.4 in any case,  $\ker \psi \in Cor(cxA)$ . Therefore,  $R(\ker^{-1}(Cor(cxA))) = \ker^{-1}(Cor(A))$ .

**4** Extension and Non-removable ideals In this section, we characterize the cortex of a real Banach algebra. For this, we define the concepts of extensions and non-removable ideals for a real Banach algebra. Also, we have shown that the smallest complex extension for a real Banach algebra is its complexification.

**Definition 4.1.** Let A and B be Banach algebras. We say that B is an *extension* of A if there exists an isometrical into isomorphism  $\rho : A \to B$ . In this case, we write  $A \subset B$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** Let A be a real commutative Banach algebra.

(i) If B is a real extension of A, then cxB is an extension of cxA with an equivalent norm.
(ii) If B is a complex extension of A, then B is also an extension of cxA, i.e., cxA is the smallest complex extension of A.

*Proof.* (i) Let *B* be a real extension of *A*. Then there exists a real into isometrical isomorphism  $\rho : A \to B$ . Define  $\rho' : cxA \to cxB$  by  $\rho'(a,b) = (\rho(a), \rho(b))$ . Then it is easy to check that  $\rho'$  is an algebra homomorphism. Further,  $\|\rho'(a,b)\| = \|(\rho(a), \rho(b))\|$ 

 $\leq 2 \max \left( \|\rho(a)\|, \|\rho(b)\| \right) = 2 \max \left( \|a\|, \|b\| \right) \leq 2 \left( \|(a, b)\| \right) \text{ and } \|(a, b)\| \leq 2 \max \left( \|a\|, \|b\| \right)$  $= 2 \max \left( \|\rho(a)\|, \|\rho(b)\| \right) \leq 2 \left( \|(\rho(a), \rho(b))\| \right) = 2 \|\rho'(a, b)\|.$ 

Hence,  $\frac{1}{2} \|(a,b)\| \leq \|\rho'(a,b)\| \leq 2(\|(a,b)\|)$ . Therefore, there exists an algebra norm  $\||\cdot|\|$  on cxB equivalent to the above norm on cxB such that  $\||\rho'(a,b)|\| = \|(a,b)\|$  for every  $(a,b) \in cxA$  [5]. Hence, cxB is an extension of cxA.

(ii) Let B be a complex extension of A. Then  $cxB \cong B$ . So, as in part (1), we get B is an extension of cxA.

**Definition 4.3.** An ideal I in a commutative Banach algebra A is called *non-removable*, if in every commutative Banach algebra  $B \supset A$ , there exists a proper ideal J of B such that  $J \supset I$ .

We shall need the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.4.** If I is non-removable in A, then  $I_{cxA}$  is non-removable in cxA.

*Proof.* Let I be a non-removable ideal in A. To show that  $I_{cxA}$  is non-removable in cxA, let B be an extension of cxA. Then B is also an extension of A. Therefore, there exists a proper ideal  $J \subset B$  such that  $I \subset J$ . So,  $I_{cxA} \subset J$ . Hence,  $I_{cxA}$  is non-removable in cxA.

**Theorem 4.5.** An ideal in a real commutative Banach algebra is non-removable if and only if it consists of JTZD.

*Proof.* Let A be a real commutative Banach algebra and I be an ideal consisting of JTZD. Then there exists a net  $(z_{\alpha})$  in A with  $||z_{\alpha}|| = 1$  and  $\lim xz_{\alpha} = 0$  for every  $x \in I$ .

Let  $B \supset A$  be a commutative extension of A and let

$$J = \{x_1b_1 + \dots + x_nb_n : x_1, \dots, x_n \in I, b_1, \dots, b_n \in B, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

be the smallest ideal in B containing I. Suppose J is not proper. Then  $1 \in J$ . Therefore, there exists  $x_1, ..., x_n \in I$  and  $b_1, ..., b_n \in B$  such that  $\sum_{k=1}^n x_k b_k = 1$ .

Then,  $1 = ||z_{\alpha}|| = ||\sum_{k=1}^{n} z_{\alpha} x_k b_k|| \le \sum_{k=1}^{n} ||z_{\alpha} x_k|| ||b_k|| \to 0$  a contradiction. Hence, J is proper and so I is non-removable.

Conversely, let I be a non-removable ideal in A. Then  $I_{cxA}$  is non-removable ideal in cxA by the above Lemma. Therefore,  $I_{cxA}$  consists of JTZD [5]. Hence,  $I = I_{cxA} \bigcap A$  also consists of JTZD by Lemma 2.4.

The next theorem gives characterization of Cor(A).

**Theorem 4.6.** Let A be a real commutative Banach algebra and  $\phi \in Car(A)$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i) ker  $\phi \in Cor(A)$ .

(ii) For every commutative Banach algebra  $B \supset A$ , there exists a multiplicative linear functional  $\psi \in Car(B)$  such that  $\phi = \psi_{|A}$ .

(iii) For every commutative Banach algebra  $B \supset A$ , there exists a multiplicative linear functional  $\psi$  such that ker  $\psi \in Cor(B)$  and  $\phi = \psi_{|A}$ .

Proof. First we prove  $(i) \Rightarrow (iii)$ . Let ker  $\phi \in Cor(A)$ . Then, there exists a net  $(z_{\alpha})$  in A with  $||z_{\alpha}|| = 1$  and  $\lim_{\alpha} xz_{\alpha} = 0$  for every  $x \in \ker \phi$ . Let B be a commutative Banach algebra with  $B \supset A$  and  $I = \{y \in B : yz_{\alpha} \to 0\}$ . Then  $I \supset \ker \phi$  and I consists of JTZD in B, so by Theorem 2.2, there exists a maximal ideal J consists of JTZD in B such that  $I \subset J$ . Let  $J = \ker \psi$ . Then  $\psi_{|A} = \phi$ .

 $(iii) \Rightarrow (ii)$  is clear.

Finally, we prove  $(ii) \Rightarrow (i)$  If  $B \supset A$  and  $\psi \in Car(B)$  extends  $\phi$ , then ker  $\phi \subset \ker \psi$ . Hence, ker  $\phi$  is a non-removable ideal in A. Hence, by Theorem 4.5, ker  $\phi$  consists of JTZD. Therefore, ker  $\phi \in Cor(A)$ .

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