

Role of Ideals and Homomorphisms in Banach Algebra

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Abstract- In the present paper we discuss ideal, maximal ideal, theorem homomorphism.

Keywords- Ideal in commutative Banach algebra, maximal proper ideal, All complex, algebra, complex homeomorphisms.

I. INTRODUCTION

Commutative Banach algebras make an interesting reading. The Banach algebras have a nice theory in themselves. The ones that occur to our mind in a natural way are the Banach algebras $C[a,b]$ or $C[X]_{\mathbb{C}}$ (a,b) or $C[X]$ which denote the continuous real (complex) valued functions on $[a,b]$ or a compact T2 space X respy. The theory of Gelfand looks very natural

II. DEFINITION

A subset J of a commutative Banach algebra A is said to be an ideal if

- 1) J is a subspace of A (as a vector space) and
- 2) $xy \in J$ if $x \in A$ and $y \in J$

If $J \neq A$, then J is called a proper ideal.

Ex.:

Let $A = C[0,1]$. Let

$$J = \{f \in C[0,1] / f(0) = 0\}$$

It is easy to check that is an ideal.

In general if $E \subset [0,1]$,
 consider

$$J_E = \{f \in C[0,1] / f(E) = 0\},$$

Clearly if $f, g \in J_E$ then $f + g \in J_E$.

Also iff $f \in J_E$ and $g \in A$, then

consider $gf(E)$

$$gf(E) = \{gf(x) / x \in E\} = \{g(x) \cdot f(x) / x \in E\} =$$

Hence $gf \in J_E$.

Therefore J_E is an ideal in $C[0,1]$

2.1 Definition :

An ideal $J \subset A$, where A is a commutative Banach algebra is said to be a maximal ideal if J is not contained in any larger proper ideal.

Remark :

Every Commutative Banach algebra A with identity e contains a maximal ideal. For let \mathfrak{I} denote the set of all proper ideals of A . \mathfrak{I} is partially ordered by set inclusion. Let $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \dots$ be any chain (Totally ordered sub collection) of \mathfrak{I} . Then each A_i

is a proper ideal of A and $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$ is also a proper

ideal. For $e \notin A_i$ for any i and hence $e \notin \bigcup A_i$. Hence any chain in \mathfrak{I} has an upper bound. Hence by Zorn's Lemma, there exists a maximal element in \mathfrak{I} . But elements of \mathfrak{I} are proper ideals and hence \mathfrak{I} has a maximal proper ideal for A .

2.1 Theorem:

Any proper ideal J in a Commutative Banach algebra A with unit element contains any invertible element.

Proof:

Let u be an invertible element. Then u^{-1} exists. If J contains u , then $uu^{-1} \in J$ for $u \in J$ and $u^{-1} \in A$ (Since J is an ideal)

(i.e.) $e \in J$

Hence if $x \in A$, then $xe \in J$, (ie) $x \in J$.

$\therefore A \subset J$. This is contradiction to the fact that J is a proper ideal of A . Hence the result.

2.2 Theorem :

It is an ideal in a commutative Banach algebra, then \bar{J} is also an ideal.

Proof:

Let $x \in \bar{J}$ and $y \in A$. Since $x \in \bar{J}$ there exists a sequence of elements $x_n \in J$ such that $x_n \rightarrow x$.

Clearly $x_n y \rightarrow xy$ as multiplication in A is continuous. Further $x_n y \in J \forall n$ is an ideal.

Hence $xy \in \bar{J}$. Therefore \bar{J} is an ideal.

2.3 Theorem :

- (1) If A is a commutative Banach algebra with unit e , then every proper ideal of A contained in a maximal proper ideal of A .
- (2) If A is a commutative Banach Algebra, then every maximal ideal is closed.

Proof:

Let J be a proper ideal of A . Let $\mathfrak{S} = \{\text{The set of all proper ideals of } A \text{ which contain } J\}$. Then $\mathfrak{S} \neq \emptyset$ since $J \in \mathfrak{S}$. Partially order \mathfrak{S} by inclusion (ie) Define $J_1 \geq J_2$ if $J_1 \supset J_2$. Then we can apply Hausdorff maximality principle for \mathfrak{S} . Let L be a maximal total ordered sub collection of \mathfrak{S} . Let I be the Union of members of L . Clearly I is an ideal for if

$x, y \in I$, then $x \in D_1$ and $y \in D_2$ for some $D_1, D_2 \in L$.

Since L is totally ordered either $D_1 \subset D_2$ or $D_2 \subset D_1$. Without loss of generality let us assume that $D_1 \subset D_2$. Then $x, y \in D_2$.

Since D_2 is an ideal $x + y \in D_2$. Hence $x + y \in I$. Similarly if $x \in I$ and $y \in A$, then $xy \in D$ for some $D \in L$. But D is an ideal therefore $xy \in D$. Hence $xy \in I$. Therefore I is an ideal. Obviously $J \subset I$ and $I \neq A$ since no

member of \mathfrak{S} contains the unit element and $e \notin I$. This maximality of L implies that I is a maximal ideal. For if M is containing proper ideal such that $M \supset J$. then, since

$M \supset J, M \in \mathfrak{S}$ and $M \notin L$.

Hence

$L \cup \{M\}$ is a bigger chain than contradicting the maximality of L .

(2) Suppose M is a maximal ideal of A . Then M does not contain any invertible elements. But the set G of invertible elements is an open set. Hence $M \cap G = \emptyset$. Hence $M \subset A - G$. Hence \bar{M} does not contain any invertible element. Hence \bar{M} is a proper ideal on A . But M is a maximal proper ideal and hence $\bar{M} = M$. $\therefore M$ is closed.

Now let us look at the remark that we have made, namely it is a proper ideal, so \bar{J} . Clearly \bar{J} is an ideal. It remains to be seen that \bar{J} is proper. Since J is proper ideal J is contained in a proper maximal ideal M . But M is closed. Hence $\bar{J} \subset M$. Hence \bar{J} is proper

III. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Definition :

Let A and B be commutative Banach algebras over \mathbb{C} . Let $\phi: A \rightarrow B$.

ϕ is said to be a homomorphism if

$\phi(x+y) = \phi(x) + \phi(y)$, for all ϕ

$\phi(\alpha x) = \alpha \phi(x)$, for $x \in A, \alpha \in \mathbb{C}$.

$\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) \forall x, y \in A$

Let N be the null space of ϕ

$N = \{x \in A / \phi(x) = 0\}$.

Now N is an ideal in A . Since ϕ is linear. N is clearly subspace. But, if

$x \in N$ and $y \in A$, then $\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) = 0$

Hence $xy \in N$. Consequently N is an ideal in A .

Now we can see that if ϕ is continuous, then $N = \phi^{-1}\{0\}$ and since $\{0\}$ is closed in B , N is a closed ideal in A .

Suppose J is a proper closed ideal in A and $\pi: A \rightarrow A/J$ is the quotient map given by $xy \in N$.

then A/J is a Banach space with $\|x + y\|$ defined as $\inf \{\|x + y\| : y \in J\}$.

We can define a multiplication on A/J and make it into an algebra. Further the norm defined above on A/J makes it into a Banach algebra.

The map $\pi: A \rightarrow A/J$ is a homomorphism.

The multiplication in A/J is defined as $(x + y)(y + J) = xy + J$. This is a well defined product on A/J for the following reason. If $x + J = x' + J$ then $x - x' \in J$. Similarly if $y + J = y' + J$, then $y - y' \in J$.

We claim that

$$(x + J)(y + J) = (x' + J)(y' + J)$$

(i.e) $xy + J = x'y' + J$. This is true if and only if $xy - x'y' \in J$. Hence it and only if $x'y' - xy \in J$.

But we have the following identity namely

$$(x'y' - xy) = (x' - x)y' + x(y' - y)$$

Since $x' - x \in J$ and $y' - y \in J$, we see that the right side of the above equation is in J and consequently the left side of the above equation is in J . Hence the left side is an element of J . Hence the multiplication is well defined.

It can be now easily checked that A/J is a complex algebra. For we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (x + J)[(y + J)(z + J)] \\ &= (x + J)[yz + J] \\ &= x(yz) + J \\ &= (xy)z + J \\ &= (xy + J)(z + J) \\ &= [(x + J)(y + J)](z + J) \end{aligned}$$

Hence the product is associative. Similarly we can prove the other requirements of algebra and hence A/J is a complex Banach algebra.

Now $\pi: A \rightarrow A/J$ is the usual quotient map.

Since $\|\pi(x)\| \leq \|x\|$, by the definition of norm on A/J we get that π is continuous. Further we have that if $x_1, x_2 \in A$ and $\delta > 0$

then $\|x_i + y_i\| \leq \|\pi(x_i)\| + \delta$ for some $y_i \in J$ ($i = 1, 2$)

Since $(x_1 + y_1)(x_2 + y_2) \in x_1x_2 + J$

we have

$$\|\pi(x_1 \cdot x_2)\| \leq \|\pi(x_1 + y_1)x_2 + y_2\| \leq \|x_1 + y_1\| \cdot \|x_2 + y_2\|$$

so that

$$\|\pi(x_1)\pi(x_2)\| \leq \|\pi(x_1)\| \cdot \|\pi(x_2)\| \quad (*)$$

Since π is an onto map, we have $\|z_1z_2\| \leq \|z_1\| \|z_2\|$ in A/J .

Further if e is the identity of A , then $\pi(e)$ is the identity of A/J .

But $\pi(e) = e + J \neq J$ and hence $\pi(e) \neq 0$

Since $\|\pi(x)\| \leq \|x\|$ for every x , we have that

$$\|\pi(e)\| \leq \|e\| = 1. \quad (*)$$

But we have

$$\|\pi(e)\pi(e)\pi(e)\| \leq \|\pi(e)\| \cdot \|\pi(e)\| \text{ from } (*)$$

$$\|\pi(e^2)\| \leq \|\pi(e)\|^2$$

$$\|\pi(e)\| \leq \|\pi(e)\|^2$$

$$\|\pi(e)\| \geq 1.$$

By combining with (*) (*) we get that $\|\pi(e)\| = 1$

$\therefore \pi(e)$ is the identity of A/J

$\therefore A/J$ is a Banach algebra.

Remark :

As has been remarked earlier, any complex nonzero homomorphism of $A \rightarrow C$ is called a multiplicative linear functional. These multiplicative linear functionals (complex homomorphisms) play an important role in the study of the Banach algebras.

We now consider the set A of all complex homomorphisms of A . We now give a topology on A and make it into a compact T_2 space. Each element of A will be viewed as a continuous

function on Δ and hence A will be viewed as a subset of $C[\Delta] = \text{set of all continuous complex functions on } \Delta$. One will be naturally tempted to ask whether $A = C[\Delta]$? If not what conditions on A will make it equal to $C(\Delta)$?

3.1 Theorem:

Let A be a commutative Banach algebra with e . Let Δ be the set of all complex homomorphisms of A then every maximal ideal of A is the kernel of some $h \in \Delta$.

Proof:

Let M be a maximal ideal of A . Then we know that M is closed in A . Hence A/M is a Banach algebra. Choose $x \in A - M$.

Let $J = \{ax + y \mid a \in A \text{ and } y \in M\}$

Then $x \in J$. Also J is an ideal. It clearly contains M and hence J strictly contains M as $x \in J - M$. This forces J to be equal to A . Since M is the maximal ideal in A .

Hence $ax + y = e$ for some $a \in A, y \in M$

If $\pi: A \rightarrow A/M$ is the quotient map, we have $\pi(a)\pi(x) = \pi(e)$. Hence every non zero

elements $\pi(x)$ of the Banach algebra A/M has an inverse in A/M . By Gelfand-Mazur theorem, there exists an isomorphism $\phi: A/M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. Put $h = \phi \circ \pi$.

Then $h: A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and since both π and ϕ are homomorphisms h is a homomorphism of $A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. The null space of this homomorphism is clearly M . Hence we have the A whose null space is M .

3.2 Theorem:

Let A be a commutative Banach algebra with e and let Δ be the set of all complex homomorphisms on A . If $h \in \Delta$ then kernel h is a maximal ideal of A .

Proof:

Clearly $\ker h = \text{Null space of } h$ is an ideal of A . Algebraically $(A/\ker h)$ is isomorphic to complex numbers. Hence $\ker h$ is a maximal ideal. For if

$M \supsetneq \ker h$ is an ideal and $\phi: \frac{A}{\ker h} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

given by $x + \ker h \rightarrow \phi(x + \ker h)$ is an ideal in \mathbb{C} . But since \mathbb{C} has no proper ideals, either $\phi^{-1}(\phi(M)) = M$ is the whole of A or zero.

Hence $\ker h$ is clearly a maximal ideal.

3.3 Theorem:

Let A be a commutative Banach algebra and Δ denote the set of all complex homomorphisms on A . An element $x \in A$ is invertible in A if and only if $h(x) \neq 0$ for every $h \in \Delta$.

Proof:

Let $x \in A$ be invertible. Then $\exists x^{-1} \in A$. If h is a complex homomorphism then $h(x, x^{-1}) = h(e) = 1 = h(x)h(x^{-1})$. Hence $h(x) \neq 0$. Conversely if $h(x) \neq 0$ for any $h \in \Delta$, then $x \notin$ any maximal ideal of A .

Suppose x be not invertible. Then $I = \{ax \mid a \in A\}$ is an ideal of A .

But this ideal is contained in a maximal ideal M and hence there exist a complex homomorphism $h \in \Delta$ such that $h(M) = 0$ and hence $h(x) = 0$: contradiction. $\therefore x \in A$ is invertible.

3.4 Theorem:

Let A be a commutative Banach algebra and let Δ be the set of all complex homomorphisms of A . An element $x \in A$ is invertible if and only if x lies in no proper ideal of A .

Proof:

If x lies in no proper ideal of A , then x does not lie in any maximal ideal. Hence, for so $h \in \Delta, h(x) \neq 0$. Hence by previous theorem x is invertible. Conversely if x is invertible and $x \in I$, for a proper ideal I . then since $x^{-1} \in A, x.x^{-1} \in I \Rightarrow e \in I$ and hence $I = A$. which contradicts the fact I is a proper ideal. Hence the theorem.

3.5 Theorem:

Let A be a commutative Banach algebra and Let Δ denote the set of all complex homomorphisms on A . $\lambda \in \sigma(x)$ if and only if $h(x) = \lambda$ for some $h \in \Delta$.

Let $\lambda \in \sigma(x)$. Thus $(x - \lambda e)$ is not invertible. Hence for some $h \in \Delta, h(x - \lambda e) = 0$ (ie) $h(x) = \lambda h(e) = \lambda$. Conversely if $h(x) = \lambda$ for some h , then $h(x - \lambda e) = 0$. Hence $(x - \lambda e)$ belongs to the null space of h which is a maximal ideal. Therefore by the above theorem $(x - \lambda e)$ is not invertible and hence $\lambda \in \sigma(x)$.

Examples

Find the maximal ideals of $C[0,1]$. It is an exercise for the student to prove that for any $x_0 \in [0,1]$, if $h_{x_0} : C[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is given by $h_{x_0}(f) = f(x_0)$, then h is a complex any $C[0,1]$ its kernel is $M_{x_0} = \{f \in C[0,1] / f(x_0) = 0\}$. By the theorems we have proved M_{x_0} is a maximal ideal of $C[0,1]$. It is interesting to note that any maximal ideal of $C[0,1]$ occurs in this form. Further if $x_0 \neq y_0$ are elements of $[0,1]$ then $M_{x_0} \neq M_{y_0}$. Since by Urysohn's lemma we can always find a continuous function on $[0,1]$ which vanishes at x_0 but not at y_0 . Hence we find a one-one correspondence between points of $[0,1]$ and the points of Δ .

algebra, complex homomorphism and maximal ideal.

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II. CONCLUSION

It is clear that ideal is contained maximal ideal M and there exist complex homomorphism. Every element in commutative Banach algebra A is invertible if it is no proper ideal of A . It is there is relation between commutative clear that Banach