

Research Article

Biseparating Maps on Fréchet Function Algebras

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Let A and B be strongly regular normal Fréchet function algebras on compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y , respectively, such that the evaluation homomorphisms are continuous on A and B . Then, every biseparating map $T : A \rightarrow B$ is a weighted composition operator of the form $Tf = h \cdot (f \circ \varphi)$, where φ is a homeomorphism from Y onto X and h is a nonvanishing element of B . In particular, T is automatically continuous.

1. Introduction and Preliminaries

Assume that A and B are spaces of complex functions on topological spaces X and Y , respectively. A linear map $T : A \rightarrow B$ is called separating or disjointness preserving whenever $\text{coz}(f) \cap \text{coz}(g) = \emptyset$ implies $\text{coz}(Tf) \cap \text{coz}(Tg) = \emptyset$, for all $f, g \in A$, where the cozero set of an element $f \in A$ is defined by $\text{coz}(f) = \{x \in X : f(x) \neq 0\}$. Equivalently, a linear map $T : A \rightarrow B$ is separating if for every $f, g \in A$, the equality $f \cdot g = 0$ implies the equality $Tf \cdot Tg = 0$. Moreover, T is called *biseparating* if it is bijective and both T and T^{-1} are separating.

The concept of disjointness preserving operators was introduced for the first time in 1940s (see [1, 2]). Since then, many authors have extended this concept to various kinds of Banach algebras. For example in [3], Jarosz has studied separating maps between spaces of continuous scalar-valued functions. He showed that if X and Y are compact Hausdorff spaces, $A = C(X)$, the space of all continuous scalar-valued functions on X and $B = C(Y)$, then every bijective separating map $T : A \rightarrow B$ is a weighted composition operator of the form $Tf(y) = h(y)f(\varphi(y))$, $y \in Y$ and $f \in A$, where φ is a homeomorphism from Y onto X and h is a nonvanishing continuous complex-valued function on Y . Later, Font extended this result to the case where A and B are regular commutative semisimple Banach

algebras satisfying Ditkin's condition [4]. On the other hand, Gau et al. used an algebraic method to study separating maps between spaces of continuous scalar as well as vector-valued functions in [5, 6]. For more information about separating maps one, can refer to [7–15].

In this paper, we generalize the results of Jarosz in [3] to Fréchet function algebras using a similar method as in [5, 6]. Then, we define the concept of a cozero preserving map and show that if A and B are Banach function algebras on compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y , respectively, and $T : A \rightarrow B$ is a unital cozero preserving map, then T is automatically continuous. Finally, we will find the relation between cozero preserving, separating and biseparating maps between certain Fréchet function algebras. Recently, Li and Wong have obtained several Banach-Stone type theorems for the vector-valued functions, specially in the case that the bijective linear map $T : C(X, E) \rightarrow C(Y, F)$ preserves zero set containments, that is,

$$Z(f) \subseteq Z(g) \iff Z(T(f)) \subseteq Z(T(g)) \quad (f, g \in C(X, E)), \quad (1.1)$$

where X, Y are realcompact or metric spaces and E, F are locally convex spaces [16]. In fact, T preserves zero set containments if and only if T and T^{-1} are cozero preserving. In Corollary 2.6, we obtain similar results for Ff-algebras.

We now present some definitions and known results which we need in the sequel.

A Fréchet algebra (F -algebra) is a locally multiplicatively convex algebra (LMC-algebra) A which is also a complete metrizable space. The topology of a Fréchet algebra can be defined by an increasing sequence (p_n) of submultiplicative seminorms and without loss of generality; we may assume that $p_n(1) = 1$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if A has unit. An F -algebra A with a defining sequence of seminorms (p_n) is denoted by $(A, (p_n))$. The set of all characters (nonzero complex homomorphisms) of an F -algebra $(A, (p_n))$ is denoted by S_A , and the continuous character space, or the spectrum of $(A, (p_n))$, denoted by M_A , is the set of all continuous characters on A . We always endow S_A and M_A with the Gelfand topology, and \hat{A} is the set of all Gelfand transforms \hat{f} of elements f in A . The algebra A is called functionally continuous whenever $S_A = M_A$.

Note that a sequence $(f_k)_k$ in an F -algebra $(A, (p_n))$ converges to an element $f \in A$ if and only if for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $p_n(f_k - f) \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Definition 1.1. Let X be a nonempty topological space. A subalgebra A of $C(X)$ is a function algebra on X if A contains the constants and separates the points of X . The algebra A is a Fréchet function algebra (Ff-algebra) or a Banach function algebra (Bf-algebra) on X if A is a function algebra which is also an F -algebra or a Banach algebra, respectively, with respect to some topology.

Clearly every Bf-algebra is a Ff-algebra. Let A be an Ff-algebra (Bf-algebra) on X such that the evaluation homomorphisms $\delta_x : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ are all continuous, where $\delta_x(f) = f(x)$ for $f \in A$ and $x \in X$. It is clear that the map $J : X \rightarrow M_A$, $x \mapsto \delta_x$ is continuous and injective. If this map is also surjective and its inverse is continuous, then it is a homeomorphism, and in this case, we say that A is a natural Ff-algebra (Bf-algebra) on X , and we identify X with M_A , through this map.

Note that the evaluation homomorphisms are always continuous in Bf-algebras, but they may not be continuous in Ff-algebras. By [17, Lemma 3.2.5], the class of natural Ff-algebras and the class of unital commutative semisimple Fréchet algebras are the same. Moreover, all Ff-algebras as well as Bf-algebras are semisimple.

Example 1.2. Let (X, d) be a compact metric space and $\alpha > 0$. The algebra of all complex-valued functions f on X for which

$$p_\alpha(f) = \sup \left\{ \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|}{d^\alpha(x, y)} : x, y \in X, x \neq y \right\} < \infty \quad (1.2)$$

is denoted by $\text{Lip}(X, \alpha)$, and its subalgebra of those functions with the property $\lim_{d(x, y) \rightarrow 0} (|f(x) - f(y)| / d^\alpha(x, y)) = 0$ is denoted by $\text{lip}(X, \alpha)$. It is known that $\text{Lip}(X, \alpha)$ for $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ and $\text{lip}(X, \alpha)$ for $0 < \alpha < 1$ are Bf-algebras on X under the norm $\|f\|_\alpha = \|f\|_X + p_\alpha(f)$.

In the case that X is a perfect compact plane set which is a finite union of regular sets (see [18] for the definition), the algebra of all functions f with derivatives of all orders (resp., $f^{(k)} \in \text{Lip}(X, \alpha)$) $f^{(k)} \in \text{lip}(X, \alpha)$ for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$) is denoted by $D^\infty(X)$ (resp., $\text{Lip}^\infty(X, \alpha)$ $\text{lip}^\infty(X, \alpha)$) (see, e.g., [19]). It is interesting to note that $D^\infty(X)$, $\text{Lip}^\infty(X, \alpha)$ and $\text{lip}^\infty(X, \alpha)$ are natural Ff-algebras on X which are not Bf-algebras.

For a function algebra A on a nonempty topological space X and for each nonempty closed subset S of X , we consider the following subsets of A :

$$\begin{aligned} A_{00} &= \{f \in A : \text{supp } f \text{ is compact in } X\}, \\ I(S) &= \{f \in A_{00} : (\text{supp } f) \cap S = \emptyset\}, \\ M(S) &= \{f \in A : f(S) = 0\}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.3)$$

For $x \in X$, we usually write I_x for $I(\{x\})$ and M_x for $M(\{x\})$. Note that A_{00} is an ideal in A and $A = A_{00}$ whenever X is compact.

Definition 1.3. Let A be an Ff-algebra on a topological space X .

(i) A is said to be regular on X if for any nonempty closed subset S of X and each $x \in X \setminus S$, there exists $f \in A$ such that $f(x) = 1$ and $f(S) = \{0\}$, and it is normal if for each nonempty closed subset E and nonempty compact subset F of X with $E \cap F = \emptyset$, there exists $f \in A$ such that $f(E) = \{1\}$ and $f(F) = \{0\}$.

A commutative F -algebra is regular (normal) if $S_A \neq \emptyset$ and \hat{A} is a regular (normal) Ff-algebra on S_A .

(ii) A is said to be a strongly regular algebra if for every $f \in A$ and $x \in X$ with $f(x) = 0$, there exists a sequence $\{f_n\}$ in A_{00} and open neighborhoods V_n of x such that $f_n|_{V_n} = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and $f_n \rightarrow f$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, or equivalently, $M_x = \overline{I_x}$ for each $x \in X$.

(iii) An Ff-algebra A on X is said to satisfy Ditkin's condition if for every $f \in A$ and $x \in X$ with $f(x) = 0$, there exists a sequence $\{f_n\}$ in A_{00} and open neighborhoods V_n of x such that $f_n|_{V_n} = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and $f_n f \rightarrow f$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, or equivalently, $f \in f I_x$ for all $x \in X$ and $f \in M_x$.

It is clear that every strongly regular algebra is regular. Moreover, if an Ff-algebra satisfies Ditkin's condition, then A is strongly regular. In general, the converse is not true as the following example shows.

Recall that a Banach sequence algebra on a nonempty set S is a Banach algebra A such that $c_{00}(S) \subset A \subset \mathbb{C}^S$, where $c_{00}(S)$ is the linear span of the set $\{\chi_s : s \in S\}$ consisting of all characteristic functions χ_s of the singleton subsets $\{s\}$ of S .

Example 1.4 (see [20, Example 4.5.33]). Consider the Banach space $(L^2(\mathbb{T}), \|\cdot\|_2)$ where $\mathbb{T} = [-\pi, \pi]$. Let $S = [-\pi/2, \pi/2]$ and set

$$W = \left\{ f \in L^2(\mathbb{T}) : f|_S \in C(S) \right\}. \quad (1.4)$$

For each $f, g \in W$ and $\theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$, set

$$\begin{aligned} (f \star g)(\theta) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(\theta - \phi) g(\phi) d\phi, \\ \|f\| &= \|f\|_2 + \|f\|_S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |f(\theta)|^2 d\theta \right)^{1/2} + \|f\|_S. \end{aligned} \quad (1.5)$$

Then, $(W, \star, \|\cdot\|)$ is a commutative Banach algebra (for an equivalent norm).

Identifying W with its algebra of Fourier transforms on \mathbb{Z} , W is a strongly regular Banach sequence algebra on \mathbb{Z} . Moreover, $W^\#$, the unitization of W , is a strongly regular Bf-algebra on \mathbb{Z}_∞ , the one point compactification of \mathbb{Z} . Now, we show that $W^\#$ does not satisfy Ditkin's condition. In the following, we write $r\mathbb{Z} + s$ for the subset $\{rn + s : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ of \mathbb{Z} . Set $F_1 = 4\mathbb{Z} \cup \{\infty\}$, $F_2 = (4\mathbb{Z} + 2) \cup \{\infty\}$, and $F = F_1 \cup F_2 = 2\mathbb{Z} \cup \{\infty\}$. Define g_0 on \mathbb{T} by

$$g_0(\theta) = 1 \quad \left(|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \right), \quad g_0(\theta) = -1 \quad \left(\frac{\pi}{2} < |\theta| \leq \pi \right). \quad (1.6)$$

Then, $g_0 \in W$ and

$$\widehat{g_0}(k) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi g_0(\theta) \cos k\theta d\theta = \frac{2}{k\pi} \sin\left(\frac{k\pi}{2}\right) \quad (k \in \mathbb{Z}, k \neq 0), \quad (1.7)$$

with $\widehat{g_0}(0) = 0$, and so $\widehat{g_0} \in M(F)$. By [20, Example 4.5.33(v)], $\widehat{g_0} \in M(F) \setminus \overline{I(F)}$. Since $\widehat{g_0} \in M(F)$, necessarily $\overline{\widehat{g_0} I_\infty} \subset \overline{I(F)}$, and so $\widehat{g_0} \notin \overline{\widehat{g_0} I_\infty}$, where I_∞ is the set of all functions in A_{00} which are zero on a neighborhood of ∞ .

2. Main Results

We first state the following useful result, which is, in fact, the generalization of [6, Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 2.2].

Lemma 2.1. *Let X and Y be compact Hausdorff spaces, A and B normal Ff-algebras on X and Y , respectively, and $T : A \rightarrow B$ a biseparating map. Then, for each $x \in X$, there exists a unique $y \in Y$ such that $TI_x = I_y$. If we define $\varphi : Y \rightarrow X$ by $\varphi(y) = x$, then φ is a homeomorphism.*

Proof. We omit the proof, since it is similar to the proofs of [6, Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 2.2]. \square

We now bring the following theorem, which is an extension of the results of Jarosz and Font.

Theorem 2.2. *Let $(A, (p_n))$ and $(B, (q_n))$ be strongly regular normal Ff-algebras on compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y , respectively, such that the evaluation homomorphisms on A and B are continuous. Then, every biseparating map $T : A \rightarrow B$ is a weighted composition operator of the form*

$$Tf = h \cdot (f \circ \varphi), \quad (f \in A), \quad (2.1)$$

where φ is a homeomorphism from Y onto X and h is a nonvanishing element of B . In particular, T is automatically continuous.

Proof. By Lemma 2.1, there exists a homeomorphism φ from Y onto X defined by $\varphi(y) = x$, where $TI_x = I_y$. We first show that $TM_x \subseteq M_y$. Suppose on the contrary that there exists $f \in M_x$ such that $Tf(y) \neq 0$. If x belongs to the interior of $f^{-1}(0)$, then $f \in I_x$, and thus $Tf(y) = 0$, since $TI_x = I_y$. Therefore, we may assume that there exists a net $\{x_\lambda\}_\lambda$ of distinct elements of X converging to x such that $f(x_\lambda)$ is never zero. Consider the net $\{y_\lambda\}_\lambda$ in Y such that $\varphi(y_\lambda) = x_\lambda$. Clearly, y_λ converges to y , and by passing through a subnet if necessary, we may assume that there exists a constant ε such that

$$|Tf(y_\lambda)| \geq \varepsilon > 0, \quad (2.2)$$

for all λ . Since $f(x_\lambda) \rightarrow 0$, we can find a subsequence $\{f(x_n)\}$ such that $f(x_n) \rightarrow 0$. Since $x_\lambda \rightarrow x$, it follows that $x_n \rightarrow x$. By the normality of X , there exists a neighborhood W_n of x_n such that $W_n \cap W_m = \emptyset$ if $n \neq m$. Let V_n be a neighborhood of x_n such that $V_n \subseteq \overline{V_n} \subseteq W_n$. Consider the sequence $\{y_n\}$ in Y such that $\varphi(y_n) = x_n$, for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. By (2.2), without loss of generality, we may assume that $|T(f - f(x_n)1)(y_n)| \geq \delta$ for some positive δ and for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Since A is normal, for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $s_n \in A$ such that $s_n = 1$ on V_n and $s_n = 0$ on $X \setminus W_n$. If we take $f_n = n(f - f(x_n)1)$, then $f_n(x_n) = 0$, and since A is strongly regular, we can find h_n in A and a neighborhood U_n of x_n in X such that $U_n \subseteq V_n$, $h_n = 0$ on U_n and $p_n(f_n - h_n) \leq 1/n^2(p_n(s_n) + 1)$. If we set $\varphi_n = (f_n - h_n)s_n$, then $p_n(\varphi_n) \leq 1/n^2$, and hence for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $k \geq 2$, we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_k(\varphi_n) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{k-1} p_k(\varphi_n) + \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} p_n(\varphi_n) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{k-1} p_k(\varphi_n) + \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} < \infty. \quad (2.3)$$

Therefore, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi_n$ converges to an element $\varphi \in A$. On the other hand, for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\varphi_n = f_n$ on U_n , which implies that $\varphi_n - f_n \in I_{x_n}$ and $T(\varphi_n - f_n) \in I_{y_n}$. Consequently, $T\varphi_n(y_n) = Tf_n(y_n)$. Since the evaluation homomorphisms are continuous on A , the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi_n(x)$ converges to $\varphi(x)$ for each $x \in X$. Hence, $\varphi = \varphi_n$ on W_n , since the elements of the sequence $\{W_n\}$ are pairwise disjoint and $\text{coz}\varphi_n \subset W_n$. Therefore,

$$|T\varphi(y_n)| = |T\varphi_n(y_n)| = |Tf_n(y_n)| = n|T(f - f(x_n)1)(y_n)| \geq n\delta, \quad (2.4)$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, which is a contradiction, since $y_n = \varphi^{-1}(x_n) \rightarrow \varphi^{-1}(x)$ and $T\varphi(y_n) \rightarrow T\varphi(\varphi^{-1}(x))$. Therefore, $TM_x \subseteq M_y$.

By a similar argument, we can show that $T^{-1}M_y \subseteq M_x$ and hence $TM_x = M_y$. Thus $\ker \delta_x = \ker(\delta_y \circ T)$, and so there exists a scalar $h(y)$ such that $\delta_y \circ T = h(y)\delta_x$. Equivalently, $Tf(y) = h(y)f(\varphi(y))$ for all f in A and y in Y . In particular, when $f = 1$, we have $h = T1$, which is a nonvanishing element of B , since T is surjective. \square

Definition 2.3. Let A and B be Ff-algebras on compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y respectively. A linear map $T : A \rightarrow B$ is called cozero preserving, whenever $\text{coz}(f) \subseteq \text{coz}(g)$ implies $\text{coz}(Tf) \subseteq \text{coz}(Tg)$.

In [21], Font has studied the automatic continuity of cozero preserving maps between Fourier algebras. In the following theorems, we generalize the results of Font to Bf-algebras as well as Ff-algebras.

Theorem 2.4. Let A and B be Bf-algebras on compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y , respectively, such that B is inverse closed. If $T : A \rightarrow B$ is a unital cozero preserving surjective map, then T is automatically continuous.

Proof. Let $\lambda \notin \text{sp}_A(f)$. Then, $(\lambda 1 - f) \in \text{Inv}(A)$, and so $\text{coz}(\lambda 1 - f) = X$. Therefore, we have $X = \text{coz}(1) \subseteq \text{coz}(\lambda 1 - f)$. Since $T1 = 1$ and T is cozero preserving, we conclude that $Y = \text{coz}(1) \subseteq \text{coz}(\lambda 1 - Tf)$. Since B is inverse closed and $(\lambda 1 - Tf)(y) \neq 0$ for all $y \in Y$, it follows that $\lambda \notin \text{sp}_B(Tf)$, which implies that $\text{sp}_B(Tf) \subseteq \text{sp}_A(f)$, for every $f \in A$. Thus by [20, Theorem 5.1.9(iii)], $\mathfrak{S}(T) \subseteq \text{rad}(B) = \{0\}$, and hence T is automatically continuous. \square

We now adopt a similar method as in the proof of [6, Lemma 3.3] to obtain the following results.

Theorem 2.5. Let A and B be function algebras on compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y , respectively, and $T : A \rightarrow B$ a cozero preserving injection. If A is regular, then T^{-1} is separating.

Proof. Suppose on the contrary that there exist f and g in A such that $TfTg = 0$ but $f(x)g(x) \neq 0$ for some $x \in X$. So, we can find an open neighborhood V of x such that $V \subseteq \text{coz}(f) \cap \text{coz}(g)$. Since A is regular, there exists $h \in A$ such that $h(x) = 1$ and $h|_{X \setminus V} = 0$. It is clear that $\text{coz}(h) \subseteq \text{coz}(f) \cap \text{coz}(g)$. So by hypothesis, $\text{coz}(Th) \subseteq \text{coz}(Tf) \cap \text{coz}(Tg)$. On the other hand, $TfTg = 0$ implies that $\text{coz}(Tf) \cap \text{coz}(Tg) = \emptyset$. It follows that $\text{coz}(Th) = \emptyset$, that is, $Th = 0$. Now injectivity of T shows that $h = 0$, which is a contradiction. Therefore, T^{-1} is separating. \square

Corollary 2.6. Let A and B be strongly regular normal Ff-algebras on compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y , respectively, such that evaluation homomorphisms are continuous on A and B . If $T : A \rightarrow B$ is a linear bijection, then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) T is separating and cozero preserving;
- (ii) T is biseparating;
- (iii) T and T^{-1} are both cozero preserving;
- (iv) T and T^{-1} are weighted composition operators.

Proof. It suffices to prove (ii) \Rightarrow (i). The other implications are direct consequences of Theorems 2.2 and 2.5. If (ii) is satisfied, then all hypotheses of Theorem 2.2 are satisfied.

Let for $f, g \in A$ and $y \in Y$, we have $\text{coz}(f) \subseteq \text{coz}(g)$ and $y \notin \text{coz}(Tg)$. By Theorem 2.2, $TM_x = M_y$. Since $Tg(y) = 0$, it follows that $g(x) = 0$, and hence $f(x) = 0$, that is, $f \in M_x$. Thus, $Tf(y) = 0$ and consequently $y \notin \text{coz}(Tf)$. \square

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