

## THE HULLS OF $C(Y)$

MARLOW ANDERSON and PAUL CONRAD

**Introduction.** Let  $C(Y)$  be the set of all continuous real-valued functions on a completely regular space  $Y$ . Then  $C(Y)$  can be considered as an  $\ell$ -group  $G_1$  or as a semiprime ring  $G_3$ , and in each case it admits various  $X$ -hulls, which are minimal essential extensions with some property  $X$ . We show that  $G_1^X$  is essentially the same as  $G_3^X$  and investigate the structure of these  $X$ -hulls. All of these hulls are contained in the complete ring of quotients  $Q(Y)$  of  $G_3$ , and, in fact,  $Q(Y)$  is the lateral completion of  $G_1$  or of  $G_3$ .

In the first two sections we summarize the theory known for abelian  $\ell$ -group and commutative semiprime ring  $X$ -hulls. The third section contains a description of the hulls of  $C(Y)$ , and their relationships with one another. §4 contains characterizations of  $C(Y)$  considered as an abstract  $\ell$ -group.

For further information about lattice-ordered groups ( $\ell$ -groups), see [9] or [14]; for semiprime rings, see [26]; for  $C(Y)$ , see [24].

We will use  $\sum T_\lambda (\prod T_\lambda)$  to represent the restricted (unrestricted) direct product of the groups or rings  $T_\lambda$ ; in the case of  $\ell$ -groups, these groups are equipped with the cardinal order.

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**1. The hulls of semiprime rings.** Throughout this section let  $G$  be a commutative semiprime ring (that is,  $G$  is a subdirect product of integral domains) with identity. We summarize some of the  $X$ -hull theory of  $G$  that is developed in [18], [19], and [20]. Actually, this theory also holds for non-commutative semiprime rings.

For  $a, b \in G$  define  $a \alpha b$  if  $a^2 = ab$ . This is a partial order for  $G$  (introduced in [1]) with smallest element 0 and for  $a, b, x \in G$ ,  $a \alpha b$  implies that  $ax \alpha bx$ . Moreover,  $a \alpha b$  if and only if in each representation of  $G \cong \prod T_\lambda$  as a subdirect product of integral domains  $T_\lambda$ ,  $a_\lambda \neq 0$  implies that  $a_\lambda = b_\lambda$ .

One says that  $a$  is *disjoint* from  $b$  or that  $a$  is *orthogonal* to  $b$  if  $ab = 0$  (notation:  $a \perp b$ ). This is equivalent to the fact that  $a$  and  $b$  have disjoint

support in each representation of  $G$  as a subdirect product of integral domains. Note that  $a \underline{\alpha} b$  if and only if  $a \perp b - a$ , and  $a \perp b$  if and only if  $a \underline{\alpha} a + b$ . If  $X$  is a subset of  $G$ , then  $X' = \{g \in G : g \perp x \text{ for each } x \in X\}$  is the annihilator ideal of  $X$ . The set  $P(G)$  of all these annihilator ideals is a complete Boolean algebra [26, p. 43].

One says that  $\{a, b\} \subseteq G$  is *boundable* if  $ab \underline{\alpha} a^2$ , and this is the case if and only if  $a$  and  $b$  agree on their common support in each representation of  $G$  as a subdirect product of integral domains. A subset  $S$  of  $G$  is *boundable* if each pair in  $S$  is boundable.  $G$  will be called a *P-ring* if  $G = g'' \oplus g'$  for each  $g \in G$  (*projectable*); an *SP-ring* if  $G = X'' \oplus X'$  for each subset  $X \subseteq G$  (*strongly projectable*); an *L-ring* if each pairwise disjoint set has a l.u.b. (*laterally complete*); an *O-ring* if  $G$  is both an *L-ring* and an *SP-ring* (*orthocomplete*); a *CC-ring* if each bounded set has a l.u.b. (*conditionally complete*); a *CL-ring* if each bounded disjoint set has a l.u.b. (*conditionally laterally complete*); an *FC-ring* if each finite boundable set has a l.u.b. (*finitely complete*); and a *C-ring* if each boundable set has a l.u.b. (*complete*).

A commutative overring  $H$  is an *essential extension* of  $G$  if this is the case when  $H$  is considered as a  $G$ -module. In this case  $H$  is also semiprime and the po of  $G$  is induced by the po of  $H$ . Also, if  $S$  is a boundable subset of  $G$ , then it is boundable in  $H$ .

For a commutative semiprime ring  $G$  and  $X = P, SP, L, O, CC, CL, FC$  or  $C$  we have the following theorems.

**THEOREM.** *If  $H$  is an essential extension of  $G$  that is an  $X$ -ring, then the intersection of all the subrings of  $H$  that contain  $G$  and are  $X$ -rings is a minimal essential extension of  $G$  that is an  $X$ -ring; it is called an  $X$ -hull of  $G$ .*

**THEOREM.**  *$G$  admits a unique  $X$ -hull  $G^X$ . Furthermore,  $G \subseteq G^P \subseteq G^{SP} \subseteq (G^{SP})^L = (G^P)^L = G^O, G^{CL} \subseteq G^L \subseteq G^C \subseteq G^O, G^{CL} \subseteq G^{CC} \subseteq G^C, G^{FC} \subseteq G^C$ , and  $G^O \subseteq Q(G)$ , the complete ring of quotients of  $G$ .*

**THEOREM.** *Suppose  $G$  is an FC-ring.*

(a)  *$G$  is an L-ring if and only if  $G$  is a C-ring.*

(b)  *$G$  is a CL-ring if and only if  $G$  is a CC-ring.*

*Furthermore, if  $G$  is a P-ring, so is  $G^{CL}$  and  $G^{CL} = G^{CC}$ .*

**2. The hulls of  $\wedge$ -groups and f-rings.** Throughout this section let  $G = (G, +, \wedge, \vee, \leq)$  be an abelian  $\wedge$ -group. We summarize some of the  $X$ -hull theory of  $G$  that is developed in [16] and [20]. Actually, this theory also holds for representable  $\wedge$ -groups.

For  $a, b \in G$  define  $a \beta b$  if  $|a| \wedge |b - a| = 0$ . This is a partial order for  $G$  with smallest element 0. Moreover,  $a \beta b$  if and only if in each

representation of  $G \cong \prod T_\lambda$  as a subdirect product of  $\sigma$ -groups  $T_\lambda$ ,  $a_\lambda \neq 0$  implies that  $a_\lambda = b_\lambda$ .

One says that  $a$  is disjoint from  $b$  or that  $a$  is orthogonal to  $b$  if  $b \beta a + b$  (notation  $a \perp b$ ). This is equivalent to the fact that  $|a| \wedge |b| = 0$  and so disjointness is the same as  $\perp$ -group disjointness. If  $X$  is a subset of  $G$ , then  $X' = \{g \in G: g \perp x \text{ for each } x \in X\}$  is the polar of  $X$ . The set  $P(G)$  of all these polars is a complete Boolean algebra [14, p.2.4].

One says that  $\{a, b\} \cong G$  is *boundable* if  $a \wedge b \beta b \wedge b$  and  $a \wedge b \beta a \wedge a$ , and this is the case if and only if  $a$  and  $b$  agree on their common support in each representation of  $G$  as a subdirect product of  $\sigma$ -groups. A subset  $S$  of  $G$  is *boundable* if each pair in  $S$  is boundable. We can now define  $X$ -group, where  $X = P, SP, L, O, CC, CL, FC$  and  $C$  in a way directly analogous to the definition of  $X$ -ring in §1.

Note that if  $\{a, b\} \cong G$  is boundable, then  $h = a^+ \vee b^+ - (a^- \vee b^-)$  is the l.u.b. of  $\{a, b\}$  with respect to  $\beta$ . Thus all  $\perp$ -groups are finitely complete.

If  $G$  is an  $\perp$ -subgroup of the abelian  $\perp$ -group  $H$ , then  $H$  is an *essential extension* of  $G$  (or  $G$  is *large* in  $H$ ) if  $L \cap G \neq 0$  for each non-zero  $\perp$ -ideal  $L$  of  $H$ .

For an abelian  $\perp$ -group  $G$  and  $X = P, SP, L, O, CC, CL, FC$  or  $C$  we have the following theorems.

**THEOREM.** *If  $H$  is an essential extension of  $G$  that is an  $X$ -group, then the intersection of all the  $\perp$ -subgroups of  $H$  that contain  $G$  and are  $X$ -groups is a minimal essential extension of  $G$  that is an  $X$ -group; it is called an  $X$ -hull of  $G$ .*

**THEOREM.**  *$G$  admits a unique  $X$ -hull  $G^X$ . Moreover, if  $G$  is Archimedean, then so is  $G^X$ . Furthermore,  $G \cong G^P \cong G^{SP} \cong (G^{SP})^L = (G^P)^L = G^O$ , and  $G = G^{FC} \cong G^{CL} = G^{CC} \cong G^C = G^L$ .*

Note that  $G^L$  is the minimal extension of  $G$  in which each pairwise disjoint set has a l.u.b. with respect to  $\beta$ ; it is also the minimal essential extension of  $G$  in which each set of pairwise disjoint elements in  $(G^L)^+$  has a l.u.b. with respect to  $\leq$ . Also, if  $G$  is Archimedean, then  $G^L = G^O$  [8], and  $G \cong G^O \cong G^e$ , the *essential closure* of  $G$  which is the unique essential extension of  $G$  that is essentially closed in the category of Archimedean  $\perp$ -groups (i.e., admits no Archimedean essential extensions). Now  $G^e$  is of the form  $D(Y)$ , the  $\perp$ -group of almost finite continuous functions to the extended reals on the compact extremally disconnected (or Stonean) space  $Y$ , which corresponds to the complete Boolean algebra of polars of  $G$  [15, p. 155].

The conditional lateral completion  $G_{\leq}^{CL}$  of  $G$  with respect to  $\leq$  is not

the same as  $G^{CL}$  and if  $G$  is Archimedean, then the Dedekind completion  $G^\wedge$  is not the same as  $G^{CC}$ .

In [20] it is shown that for a boundable set  $U \subseteq G^+$ ,  $\bigvee_{\leq} U$  exists if and only if  $\bigvee_{\beta} U$  exists, and if this is the case these joins are equal. Now suppose that  $G$  is Archimedean; then  $G \subseteq G^{CC} \subseteq G^\wedge$  and  $G \subseteq G^P \subseteq G^{SP} \subseteq G^\wedge$ . In particular, if  $G$  is a subdirect product of reals, then so is  $G^\wedge$  [21, p. 189] and hence so are  $G^P$ ,  $G^{SP}$  and  $G^{CC}$ .

However, if  $G$  is a laterally complete  $\ell$ -group with nonmeasurable cardinality, then  $G$  is a subdirect product of reals if and only if  $G \cong \prod T_\lambda$ , with each  $T_\lambda \subseteq \mathbf{R}$  [3, p. 74]. Thus, if  $G$  is a subdirect product of reals, then so is  $G^L$  if and only if  $\sum T_\lambda \subseteq G \subseteq G^L = \prod T_\lambda$ . Hence, in general, if  $G$  is a subdirect product of reals, then  $G^L$  need not be.

Recall that an  $f$ -ring  $G$  is a lattice-ordered ring such that  $x \wedge y = 0$  implies that  $dx \wedge y = xd \wedge y = 0$  for all  $s, y, d \in G^+$ . We shall make some remarks here about the existence of  $f$ -cones.

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *Suppose that  $G$  is a ring with no non-zero nilpotent elements.*

(a) *If  $Q$  is an  $f$ -cone for  $G$  and  $Q \subseteq P$ , a ring lattice order for  $G$ , then  $Q = P$ .*

(b) *If  $S = \{g^2: g \in G\}$  is an  $f$ -cone for  $G$ , then it is the unique  $f$ -cone.*

**PROOF.** (a) Suppose by way of contradiction that  $P \supset Q$  and pick  $g \in P \setminus Q$ . Then  $g = a - b$ , with  $a \wedge b = 0$  and  $b > 0$ , with respect to  $Q$ . Thus  $g, b \in P$  and so  $gb = -b^2 \in P$ . But  $b^2 \in Q \subseteq P$ , a contradiction.

(b) This follows from the fact that  $S$  must be contained in any  $f$ -cone.

**PROPOSITION 2.2.** *If  $G$  is a commutative semiprime ring and  $P$  is a ring lattice order for  $G$  that induces  $\alpha$ , then  $P$  is an  $f$ -cone.*

**PROOF.** Now  $|a| \wedge |b| = 0$  if and only if  $a \perp b$ , and so the polars are the annihilator ideals. In particular, each polar is a ring ideal and so  $P$  is an  $f$ -cone.

If  $G$  is an  $f$ -ring, then there is a unique multiplication on  $G^X$  so that it is an  $f$ -ring and  $G$  is a subring, for  $X = P, SP, L$  or  $O$  [16, Theorem 4.6].

Now, using the fact that  $G^O$  is an  $f$ -ring it is easy to show that there exists a unique minimal extension  $G^{Xf}$  of the  $f$ -ring  $G$  that is an  $X$ -group and also an  $f$ -ring. Moreover,  $G^{Xf}$  is isomorphic to the intersection of all  $X$ -subgroups of  $G^O$  that contain  $G$  and are  $f$ -subrings of  $G^O$ , for  $X = P, SP, L, O, CC, CL, FC$  or  $C$  (see [16, Theorem 3.3]), and  $G^X$  with the above ring structure equals  $G^{Xf}$  for  $X = P, SP, L$  or  $O$  [16, Theorem 4.6]; if  $G$  is Archimedean, this is also true for  $X = \wedge$ . In §3 we show that this is also true for  $X = CL$ .

**3. The hulls of  $C(Y)$ .** Let  $Y$  be a Tychonoff space and let  $G = C(Y)$

be the set of all continuous real-valued functions on  $Y$ . Consider  $G$  as an  $\ell$ -group  $G_1(G, +, \leq)$  with induced po  $\beta$ , as an  $f$ -ring  $C_2(G, +, \cdot, \leq)$  with induced po  $\beta$ , or as a semiprime ring  $G_3(G, +, \cdot)$ . Since  $G_1$  is archimedean,  $G_1^L = G_1^O$  [8] and so  $G_1^O = G_1^C = G_1^L \cong G_1^{CL} = G_1^{CC}$ . Now  $|a| \wedge |b| = 0$  in  $G_1$  if and only if  $a \perp b$  in  $G_3$  and so it follows that  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  are the same partial order and the polars in  $G_1$  are the same as the annihilator ideals in  $G_3$ .

Since the positive cone of  $G_2$  consists of squares, it follows from Proposition 2.1 that  $\leq$  is the unique  $f$ -order on  $G_3$  and also the unique ring lattice order on  $G_3$  that induces  $\alpha$ .

Let  $e$  be the identity of  $G_3$ . Then by Theorem 1.1 in [17] the multiplication of  $G_3$  is the unique multiplication so that  $G_1$  is an  $f$ -ring with  $e^2 = e$ . Also, this is the unique multiplication so that  $G_1$  is an  $\ell$ -ring with identity  $e$ . For in this case  $G_1$  is an  $f$ -ring by Corollary 3 of Theorem 15 in [10].

Note that an  $\ell$ -cone for  $G_3$  need not be an  $f$ -cone. For  $\mathbf{R}$  admits a lattice order that is not total and hence not an  $f$ -order [34].

An  $\ell$ -cone for the additive group  $(G, +)$  that induces  $\beta$  need not be a ring  $\ell$ -cone. For  $(\mathbf{R}, +)$  admits a non-Archimedean total order, and such an order induces  $\beta$  but is not a ring order.

Now, we shall show that  $G_1^X$  and  $G_3^X$  (and also  $G_2^{Xf}$ ) are essentially the same for  $X = P, SP$  and  $O$ , in the following sense.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *There exists a unique multiplication  $\#$  on  $G_1^X$  so that it is an  $f$ -ring and  $e \# e = e$ . Moreover,  $\#$  is the unique multiplication so that  $G_1^X$  is an  $\ell$ -ring with identity  $e$  and  $(G_1^X, +, \#)$  is the  $X$ -hull of  $G_3$ .*

**QUESTION.** Is  $\#$  the unique multiplication so that  $G_1^X$  is an  $\ell$ -ring and  $e \# e = e$ ?

**THEOREM 3.2.** *There exists a unique ring lattice order  $P$  on  $G_3^X$  that induces  $\alpha$ . Moreover,  $P$  is the unique  $f$ -order on  $G_3^X$  and  $(G_3^X, +, P)$  is the  $X$ -hull of  $G_1$ .*

Preliminary to the proofs of these theorems, we make the following observations. Since the Boolean algebras of polars and annihilator ideals coincide for  $G = C(Y)$ , when  $X = P, SP$  or  $O$ , the additive groups  $(G_3^X, +)$  and  $(G_1^X, +)$  can be constructed using the same direct limits of products of quotients of  $G$  by polars (see [16] and [19]). Thus we can and shall assume that  $(G_3^X, +) = (G_1^X, +)$ , for these  $X$ . Furthermore, if  $A$  is a polar of  $G_1$  and  $a, b \in G$ , then  $a^2 = ab \pmod{A}$  if and only if  $|a| \wedge |b - a| = 0 \pmod{A}$ , and so from the direct limit construction we have that  $(G_1^X, +, \beta) = (G_3^X, +, \alpha)$ , for  $X = P, SP$  or  $O$ .

**PROOF OF THEOREM 3.1.**  $G_1^X$  is Archimedean, and since  $G_1$  is large in  $G_1^X$ ,  $e$  is an order unit in  $G_1^X$ . Then by Theorem 1.1 of [17] there exists a

unique minimal  $f$ -ring with identity  $e$  and containing  $(G_1^X, +, \leq)$  as a large  $\wedge$ -subgroup. By Theorem 4.6 in [16] there exists a unique multiplication  $\#$  on  $G_1^X$  so that it is an  $f$ -ring with identity  $e$  and  $G_2$  as a subring. By Theorem 2.2 in [17],  $\#$  is the unique multiplication so that  $(G_1^X, +, \#, \leq)$  is an  $f$ -ring with  $e \# e = e$ .

Now suppose that  $*$  is a multiplication so that  $(G_1^X, +, *, \leq)$  is an  $\wedge$ -ring with identity  $e$ . Then since it is Archimedean and  $e$  is positive and a weak order unit, it is an  $f$ -ring by Corollary 3 of Theorem 15 in [10]. Thus  $\#$  is the unique multiplication so that  $(G_1^X, +, \#, \leq)$  is an  $\wedge$ -ring with identity  $e$ .

Now  $(G_1^X, +, \#, \leq)$  is the  $X_f$ -hull of  $G_2$  by Theorem 4.6 in [16] and so it can be embedded as an  $f$ -ring in the  $f$ -ring  $D(S)$ , where  $S$  is the Stonean space for  $G_1$ . In particular,  $(G_1^X, +, \#)$  is semiprime and since  $(G_1^X, +, \beta) = (G_3^X, +, \alpha)$  we have, for  $a, b \in G_1^X$ ,  $a \alpha b$  if and only if  $a \beta b$  if and only if  $|a| \wedge |b - a| = 0$  if and only if  $a(y) \neq 0$  implies  $a(y) = b(y)$  if and only if  $a \# a = a \# b$ . Therefore  $\#$  induces the po  $\alpha$  on  $G_3^X$  and hence by Theorem 7.4 of [19],  $(G_1^X, +, \#)$  is the  $X$ -hull of  $G_3$ .

PROOF OF THEOREM 3.2. By Theorem 3.1,  $(G_3^X, +, \cdot, \leq)$  is an  $f$ -ring and from the proof of Theorem 3.1  $\leq$  induces  $\alpha$ . Now each positive element in  $G_2$  is a square and it follows from the direct limit construction that each positive element in  $(G_3^X, +, \cdot, \leq)$  is a square. Thus  $\leq$  is the unique  $f$ -order for  $G_3^X$ .

If  $P$  is a ring lattice order for  $G_3^X$  that induces  $\alpha$ , then the polars with respect to  $P$  are the annihilator ideals in  $G_3^X$  and so  $P$  is an  $f$ -order. Thus  $P$  must be the positive cone for  $\leq$ . In particular,  $(G_3^X, +, P)$  is the  $X$ -hull of  $G_3$ .

We shall now show that for  $C(Y) = G$ , all of the ring and group  $X$ -hulls are contained in the ring of quotients  $Q(Y)$ . In fact, we shall prove that  $Q(Y) = G_3^o = G_1^o$ .

In [23] the following construction is given for  $Q(Y)$ . Let  $F$  be the set of all continuous real-valued functions on any dense open subset of  $Y$ . Define  $f \sim g$  if  $f$  and  $g$  agree on some dense open subset. Then  $Q(Y)$  consists of all the equivalence classes  $\tilde{f}$ ; that is, it is the direct limit of  $\{C(V) : V \text{ is dense open in } Y\}$ . We may define a partial order on  $Q(Y)$  by making  $\tilde{f}$  positive if  $f(y) \geq 0$  for all  $y$  on some dense open subset of  $Y$ . Then  $\tilde{f}$  is positive if and only if it is a square. It is easily checked that this is an  $f$ -cone for  $Q(Y)$  and hence is the unique  $f$ -order, which extends the  $f$ -order on  $C(Y)$ . In summary then, we have the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 3.3. *The squares form an  $f$ -cone for  $Q(Y)$  and hence a unique  $f$ -cone. Moreover,  $Q(Y)$  is Archimedean and an essential extension of the*

$f$ -ring  $G_2$ , and so  $G_3 \cong G_3^0 \cong Q(Y) \cong G_2^0 = D(S)$ , where  $S$  is the Stonean space of the Boolean algebra of annihilator ideals of  $G_3$ .

If  $R$  is a commutative semiprime ring, then there exists an embedding

$$R \rightarrow \prod \{D_y : y \in Y\} \rightarrow \prod \{Q(D_y)\},$$

where the  $D_y$ 's are integral domains, the first map makes  $R$  a subdirect product of the  $D_y$ 's, and  $Q(D_y)$  is the quotient field of  $D_y$ . Now  $R$  induces a Zariski topology on  $Y$ . We say that  $R$  is locally inversion closed if for any  $f \in R$  and  $y$  in the support  $F(f)$  of  $f$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U \cong S(f)$  of  $y$  and  $ag \in R$  so that  $g(x) = 1/f(x)$  for all  $x \in U$ . Banaschewski [6] has shown that if  $R$  is locally inversion closed, then its ring of fractions consists of the direct limit  $\varinjlim F(V)$ , where  $V$  ranges over all dense open subsets of  $Y$ , and  $F(V)$  is the set of all  $f \in \prod Q(D_y)$  such that for all  $x \in V$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$  and  $g \in R$  such that  $g|U = f|U$ . We can apply this to  $C(Y)$ , because  $Y$  is Tychonoff and so the topology on  $Y$  is the Zariski topology, and because  $C(Y)$  is locally inversion closed (see Lemma 3.5 below). Also, note that for  $C(Y)$ , its ring of fractions is its complete ring of quotients. Thus, we have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 3.4.**  $G_3^0 = G_1^0 = Q(Y)$ .

**PROOF.** The direct limit  $\varinjlim F(V)$  is exactly the direct limit which Bleier (implicitly) constructs as the orthocompletion of a representable  $\mathcal{L}$ -group in [11]. The proof is completed by the following lemma.

**LEMMA 3.5.** *For a Tychonoff space  $Y$ ,  $C(Y)$  is locally inversion closed.*

**PROOF.** (Stephan Carlson). Let  $f \in C(Y)$ , and  $f(p) \neq 0$ . Then choose  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$  so that  $0 < \varepsilon_1 < \varepsilon_2 < |f(p)|$ . Set  $Z_1 = \{y \in Y : |f(y)| \leq \varepsilon_1\}$  and  $Z_2 = \{y \in Y : |f(y)| \geq \varepsilon_2\}$ . Then  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are disjoint zero sets and so there exists  $h \in C(Y, [0, 1])$  such that  $h(Z_1) \cong \{0\}$  and  $h(Z_2) \cong \{1\}$ . Let  $N = \text{int } Z_2$ , which is a neighborhood of  $p$ . Define  $g: Y \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  by

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in Z_1 \\ h(x)/f(x) & \text{if } x \in Y \setminus \text{int } Z_1. \end{cases}$$

By the pasting lemma [22, page 82],  $g \in C(Y)$ ; if  $x \in N$ , then  $g(x) = h(x)/f(x) = 1/f(x)$ .

This theorem enables us to characterize those  $C(Y)$  which are already orthocomplete.

**COROLLARY 3.6.** *For  $G = C(Y)$  with nonmeasurable cardinality, the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $G = G^0$ ,

- (2)  $G_1 = G_1^e$ , and  
 (3)  $Y$  is discrete.

PROOF. (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) is clear, because if  $Y$  is discrete, then  $G = \Pi\{R_y : y \in Y\}$ , which is essentially closed.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) follows since  $G_1 \subseteq G_1^0 \subseteq G_1^e = G_1$ .

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). It is shown in [23] that  $C(Y) = Q(Y)$  if and only if  $Y$  is an extremally disconnected  $p$ -space; this means  $Y$  is discrete, if the cardinality of  $Y$  is nonmeasurable ([23], [24]). Thus this follows from Theorem 3.4.

In [13] Burgess and Raphael introduce an orthogonal completion  $S$  of a commutative semiprime ring  $R$ . They require that  $S$  be laterally complete and that each element of  $S$  be the join of a disjoint set from  $R$ . In this case  $R$  is a large  $R$ -submodule of  $S$ , and so  $R \subseteq R^o = S$ . Such completions need not exist; if one does exist for  $C(Y)$ , it is just the orthocompletion. Such a completion does exist precisely when  $G_3$  is an  $\iota$ -dense ring (that is, each annihilator ideal contains an idempotent). Equivalently,  $G_1$  is a subprojectable  $\iota$ -group (that is, for all  $g \in G^+$  and polars  $0 \neq Q \subseteq Q''$  there exists polar  $P \neq 0$  such that  $g \in P \oplus P'$ ). See [12] and [4].

We can now identify three hulls of  $G$  as convexifications.

- (1)  $G^{SP}$  is the smallest  $\underline{\alpha}$ -convex (or  $\underline{\beta}$ -convex) subgroup of  $G^o$  containing  $G$ .

PROOF. Now  $G_1^{SP}$  is generated as a group by  $\{g[P] : P \text{ is a polar and } g \in G\}$ , where

$$g = g[P] + g[P'] \in P \oplus P' = G^o.$$

But  $h \underline{\alpha} g$  if and only if  $h = g[P]$  for some polar of  $G^o$ .

- (2)  $G_{\leq}^{CL}$ , the conditional lateral completion of  $G$  with respect to  $\leq$ , is the smallest  $\leq$ -convex subgroup of  $G^o$  containing  $G$ .

PROOF. Let  $H$  be the smallest  $\leq$ -convex subgroup of  $G^o$  containing  $G$ . Then  $H$  is conditionally laterally complete, and so  $G_{\leq}^{CL} \subseteq H$ . Let  $0 < g \in G^o$  and  $g \leq h \in G_{\leq}^{CL}$ . Now  $g = \vee g_{\alpha}[P_{\alpha}]$ , where  $g_{\alpha} \in G$ . But conditional lateral completeness implies strong projectability for Archimedean  $\iota$ -groups [31], and so  $g \in G_{\leq}^{CL}$ .

- (3)  $G^{\wedge}$  is the smallest  $\leq$ -convex subgroup of  $G^e$  containing  $G$ .

PROOF. Since  $G$  is divisible, this follows from Lemma 2.3 of [21].

NOTE. In fact, if  $Y$  is a weak  $cb$ -space, then  $C(Y)^{\wedge} \cong C(eY)$ , where  $eY$  is the absolute or minimal projective extension of  $Y$  [28].

If  $G$  equals any one of these three hulls, it equals the others and in this case  $Y$  is extremally disconnected. This famous theorem appears as Theo-

rems 4.3 and 43.11 of [27], excepting the assertion concerning  $G = G_{\leq}^{CL}$ , which is obvious, since  $G_1^{SP} \subseteq G_{\leq}^{LC}$  [31].

A similar theorem (appearing as Theorems 43.2 and 43.8 in [27]) asserts that  $G = G^P$  if and only if  $Y$  is basically disconnected or equivalently, if  $G$  is  $\sigma$ -conditionally complete with respect to  $\leq$ .

The first statement of a theorem like these was by Stone [32]. Nakano's proofs of these or similar results appeared in [29]. Stone's proofs are in [33].

We shall now discuss the remaining various completions and conditional completions of  $G_1$  and  $G_3$ .

In [5, p. 251] it is shown that  $G_1^0$  is generated as a group by joins of disjoint subsets of positive elements of  $G_1$ . But  $G_3^L$  is a subgroup of  $(G^0, +)$  which contains the joins of disjoint subsets of  $G_3$  and hence the group generated by them. Thus  $G_3^L = G_3^C = G^0$ , since we know that  $G_3^L \subseteq G_3^C \subseteq G_3^0$ .

Finally, we turn to the conditional completions  $G_1^{CC}$ ,  $G_1^{CL}$ ,  $G_3^{CC}$ , and  $G_3^{CL}$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.7.**  *$G_1^{CL}$  is a subring of  $G_1^{\hat{}}$  and so  $G_1^{CL} = G_1^{CC} \cong G_3^{CC} \cong G_3^{CL}$  as groups and hence they are all subdirect products of reals.*

**PROOF.** If  $\{a_\mu\}$  and  $\{b_\nu\}$  are disjoint subsets of  $G_1$  that are bounded by  $a$  and  $b$  respectively in  $G_1$ , then  $\{a_\mu b_\nu\}$  is a disjoint subset of  $G_1$  bounded by  $ab$ , and  $(\bigvee a_\mu)(\bigvee b_\nu) = \bigvee a_\mu b_\nu$  in  $G_1^{\hat{}}$ . Hence the set  $T$  of all joins in  $G_1^{\hat{}}$  of bounded disjoint subsets of  $G_1$  is a multiplicative semigroup. Therefore, the subgroup  $[T]$  of  $G_1^{\hat{}}$  generated by  $T$  is a subring of  $G_1^{\hat{}}$ . Moreover, the  $\wedge$ -subgroup of  $G_1^{\hat{}}$  generated by  $T$  is a subring of  $G_1^{\hat{}}$  [25, p. 542]. It follows that  $G_1^{CL}$  is a subring of  $G_1^{\hat{}}$ .

We can now extend Theorem 4.6 in [16] to include  $X = CL$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.8.** *Let  $H$  be any  $f$ -ring with  $H^{CL}$  the  $CL$ -hull of the  $\wedge$ -group  $(H, +)$  and  $H^{CLf}$  the  $CL$ -full of the  $f$ -ring  $H$ . There exists a unique multiplication on  $H^{CL}$  so that it is an  $f$ -ring with  $H$  as an  $f$ -subring. Moreover,  $H^{CL}$  with this multiplication is the  $CL$ -hull  $H^{CLf}$ . If  $e$  is the identity for  $H$ , then it is also the identity for  $H^{CLf}$ .*

**PROOF.** The proof of Proposition 3.7 shows that  $H^{CL}$  is in fact a subring of  $H^0$ , for any  $f$ -ring  $H$ . Now suppose we have any multiplication on  $H^{CL}$  so that it is an  $f$ -ring with  $H$  as a subring. Then since  $H^0$  is the orthocompletion of  $H^{CL}$ , there exists by the analogous result for  $O$  a multiplication on  $H^0$  so that it is an  $f$ -ring and  $H^{CL}$  is a subring. But this is an  $f$ -ring multiplication on  $H^0$  so that  $H$  is a subring and so unique. Thus, the multiplication on  $H^{CL}$  is unique.

As a consequence of Proposition 3.8, in order to extend Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 to all of the hulls of  $G_1$  and  $G_3$  we need to show that  $G_1^{CC} = G_3^{CC} =$

$G_3^{GL}$  and that each positive element in  $G_1^{CC}$  is a square. This we have been unable to do.

QUESTIONS. Is  $[T] = G_1^{CL}$ ? If so, then  $G_1^{CL} = [T] \subseteq G_3^{GL}$ . Is  $[T]$  an  $\wedge$ -group? If so, then it follows that  $G_3^{GL}$  is an  $\wedge$ -group and hence  $G_1^{CL} = G_3^{GL}$ . Is  $[T]$  a  $CL$ -ring? If so, then  $[T] = G_3^{GL}$ . Note that it is known that  $G_1^Q$  is generated as a group by joins of disjoint subsets of  $G_1^+$  [5].

A topological space  $Y$  is said to be locally connected at a point  $p \in Y$  if each neighborhood of  $p$  contains a connected neighborhood of  $p$ ; it is extremally disconnected at  $p$  if for each pair of disjoint open sets  $U$  and  $V$ ,  $p \notin ClU \cap ClV$ .

**THEOREM 3.9.** (Jack Porter). *If  $Y$  is either locally connected or extremally disconnected at each of its points, then  $C(Y) = C(Y)_3^{CC}$ . If  $Y$  is locally connected, then the join of an  $\alpha$ -bounded set is pointwise.*

**PROOF.** Suppose that  $T$  is a subset of  $C(Y)$  which is  $\alpha$ -bounded by  $t$ . Without loss of generality, all elements of  $T$  are positive. Let  $\text{coz } T = \bigcup \{\text{coz}(s) : s \in T\}$ . Define

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} t(x), & x \in Cl(\text{coz } T) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

First, we show that  $h$  is continuous by showing that  $h(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in Cl(Y \setminus Cl(\text{coz } T))$ . Now, if  $x \in Cl(\text{coz } T) \cap Cl(Y \setminus Cl(\text{coz } T))$ , then  $Y$  is not extremally disconnected at  $x$ . So,  $Y$  is locally connected at  $x$ . Since  $x \in Cl(Y \setminus Cl(\text{coz } T)) \subseteq T \setminus \text{coz } T$ , then  $s(x) = 0$  for all  $s \in T$ . Assume, by way of contradiction, that  $h(x) = t(x) > 1/n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then there is a connected neighborhood  $W$  of  $x$  such that  $t(y) > 1/n$  for all  $y \in W$ . Since  $W \cap \text{coz } T \neq \emptyset$ , there is an  $s \in T$  and a  $y \in W$  such that  $s(y) > 0$ . Because  $s(x) = 0$  and  $W$  is connected, there exists  $z \in W$  such that  $0 < s(z) < 1/n$ . Because  $s(z) > 0$ ,  $t(z) = s(z) < 1/n$ , which is a contradiction. Thus,  $h$  is continuous. Now, we show that  $T \alpha h$ . Let  $s \in T$  and  $s(x) > 0$ . Then  $x \in \text{coz } T$ , and so  $s(x) = t(x) = h(x)$ . Finally, suppose that  $T \alpha g$ . If  $x \in \text{coz } T$ , then  $g(x) = t(x) = h(x)$ . Let  $x \in Cl(\text{coz } T) \setminus \text{coz } T$ . Choose a net  $\{x_\alpha\} \subseteq \text{coz } T$  such that  $\{x_\alpha\} \rightarrow x$ . For each  $\alpha$ , there is an  $s_\alpha \in T$  such that  $s_\alpha(x_\alpha) > 0$ . Now  $s_\alpha(x_\alpha) = h(x_\alpha) = t(x_\alpha) = g(x_\alpha)$ . Because  $g$  and  $h$  are continuous,  $h(x) = g(x)$ . This shows that  $h \alpha g$ .

**COROLLARY. [12].** *If  $Y$  is locally connected, then  $C(Y) = C(Y)_3^{CC}$ .*

The converse of Theorem 3.9 is false; see example 3.12. However, we do have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 3.10.**  *$Y$  is locally connected if and only if  $C(Y) = C(Y)_3^{CC}$ , and each join of a pairwise disjoint set is pointwise.*

PROOF.  $(\Rightarrow)$  is just Theorem 3.10.

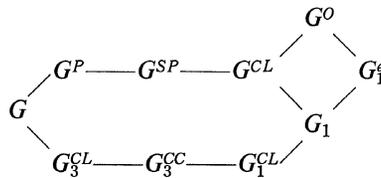
$(\Leftarrow)$  Call  $h \alpha g$  an atom of  $g$  if  $0 \neq k \alpha h$  implies that  $k = h$ . Notice that if  $h \alpha g$ , then  $\text{coz } h$  is clopen in  $\text{coz } g$ . Conversely, if  $C$  is clopen in  $\text{coz } g$ , then  $h|C \in C(Y)$  and  $h|C \alpha g$ . We first show that each  $g \in C(Y)$  has atoms. For suppose that  $g$  does not. Choose  $z \in \text{coz } g$ . Then we may pick a maximal disjoint set  $\mathfrak{M}$  of sets clopen in  $\text{coz } g$ , such that  $x \notin \bigcup \mathfrak{M}$ . Now  $h = \bigvee \{g|M: M \in \mathfrak{M}\} \in C(Y)$ , because  $C(Y)$  is conditionally complete. If  $h \neq g$ , then  $g - h = a + b$ , where  $a \neq 0 \neq b$  and  $a$  and  $b$  are disjoint, because  $g - h$  is not an atom of  $g$ . But we may assume that  $x \in \text{coz } a$ , and so the existence of  $\text{coz } b$  contradicts the maximality of  $\mathfrak{M}$ . Thus  $h = g$ . But joins are pointwise and so  $\text{coz } g = \bigcup \mathfrak{M}$ , a contradiction. Thus,  $g$  has atoms. Now suppose that  $x \in Y$  and let  $\text{coz } g$  be a basic neighborhood of  $x$ , where  $g \in C(Y)$ . Now  $g = \bigvee \{g_\alpha: g_\alpha \text{ is an atom of } g\}$ , and  $\text{coz } g = \bigcup \text{coz } g_\alpha$ , because joins are pointwise. Therefore  $x \in \text{coz } g_\alpha$ , for some  $\alpha$ . But since  $g_\alpha$  is an atom,  $\text{coz } g_\alpha$  is connected, and so  $Y$  is locally connected.

Finally, we note that  $C(Y)_3 = C(Y)_3^{FC}$ .

PROPOSITION 3.11.  $C(Y)_3$  and  $C(Y)_3^X$  are FC-rings, for  $X = P, SP$  and  $O$ .

PROOF. Let  $\{a, b\}$  be a boundable set in one of these rings. Each such ring is also an  $\ell$ -group, and so  $a = a^+ - a^-$  and  $b = b^+ - b^-$ . Then  $h = (a^+ \vee b^+) - (a^- \vee b^-)$  is the l.u.b. of  $\{a, b\}$  with respect to  $\alpha$ .

In summary, we have the following containment relations for the possibly distinct ring and group hulls of  $G = C(Y)$ .



EXAMPLE 3.12 (Jack Porter). Let  $N \subset Z \cong \beta N$ , and  $Y$  be the cone over  $Z$  (that is  $Y = I \times Z/\{0\} \times Z$ , the quotient space of  $I \times Z$  with  $\{0\} \times Z$  identified to a point). The  $C(Y) = C(Y)_3^{CC}$ , but  $Y$  is neither locally connected nor extremally disconnected at any point of the form  $\pi(s, z)$  where  $\pi: I \times Z \rightarrow Y$  is the quotient map,  $0 < s \leq x$ , and  $z \in Z \setminus N$ .

4. Lattice-ordered group characterizations of  $C(Y)$ . We first characterize  $C(Y)$  for  $Y$  a Stonean space.

THEOREM 4.1. For an  $\ell$ -group  $G$ , the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $G \cong C(Y)$ , where  $Y$  is a Stonean space;
- (2)  $G$  is a complete vector lattice with a strong order unit;
- (3)  $G$  is complete, divisible and has a strong order unit; and

(4)  $G$  is Archimedean with a strong order unit  $e$ , and  $e$  is not a strong order unit for any proper essential extension of  $G$ .

In particular, two such  $\ell$ -groups are isomorphic if and only if their Boolean algebras of polars are isomorphic.

PROOF. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). This follows from the Nakano-Stone theorem.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) is clear.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4). Let  $H$  be an essential extension of  $G$  with  $e$  as a strong order unit. We first show that  $H$  is Archimedean. If not, then  $0 < h_1 \ll h_2$  in  $H$ , and since  $G$  is dense in  $H$ ,  $0 < g \leq h_1 \ll h_2 < me$  for some  $g \in G$  and positive integer  $m$ . But then  $g \ll me$ , which contradicts the fact that  $G$  is Archimedean. Then

$$G \begin{array}{c} \subseteq \\ \text{dense} \end{array} H \begin{array}{c} \subseteq \\ \text{dense} \end{array} H^\wedge$$

and so  $G = G^\wedge$  is an  $\ell$ -ideal of  $H$  [21; p. 184]; thus  $G \cong H(e) = H$ .

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). By Bernau's embedding theorem [7, p. 617], there exists an  $\ell$ -isomorphism  $\tau$  of  $G$  onto a large  $\ell$ -subgroup of  $C(Y)$ , so that  $e\tau = \bar{1}$ , where  $Y$  is the Stonean space of  $G$  and  $\bar{1}(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in Y$ . Since  $\bar{1}$  is a strong order unit for  $C(Y)$ , it follows that  $G\tau = C(Y)$ .

Note that  $C(Y)$  is the  $\ell$ -ideal of  $D(Y)$  generated by  $\bar{1}$ . If  $G$  is Archimedean and  $R(G) = 0$  (where  $R(G)$  is the radical of  $G$ ; see [14; p. 5.3]), then the associated Stonean space  $Y$  has a dense discrete set  $S$  and so  $D(Y) = \Pi\{R_s : s \in S\}$ . Thus  $C(Y)$  consists of all the bounded functions in  $\Pi R_s$ .

COROLLARY I. If  $R(G) = 0$ , then each of (2), (3) and (4) is equivalent to

$$(1') \quad G \cong \{f \in \Pi_S \mathbf{R}_s : f \text{ is bounded}\}, \text{ for some set } S.$$

COROLLARY II. A divisible  $\ell$ -group  $G$  is complete if and only if for each  $g \in G$ ,  $G(g) \cong C(Y)$ , for some Stonean space  $Y$ .

PROOF. This follows from the theorem and the fact that  $G$  is complete if and only if each  $G(g)$  is complete.

COROLLARY III. For an archimedean  $\ell$ -group  $G$ , the following are equivalent:

- (a)  $(G^d)^\wedge \cong C(Y)$ , for a Stonean space  $Y$ ; and
- (b)  $G$  has a strong order unit.

PROOF.  $G$  has a strong order unit if and only if  $(G^d)^\wedge$  does. Thus (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) follows. For (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a), use (3) of Theorem 4.1.

COROLLARY IV. For an  $\ell$ -group  $G$ , the following are equivalent:

- (a)  $G$  is complete, divisible and has weak order unit  $e$ ; and

(b)  $G$  is ( $\ell$ -isomorphic to)  $\ell$ -ideal of  $D(Y)$  that contains  $C(Y)$ , for some Stonean space  $Y$ .

PROOF. (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). Now  $G(e) \cong C(Y)$ , where  $Y$  is the Stonean space for  $G$ . Thus we may assume that  $e = \bar{1}$  and  $G(e) = C(Y) \subseteq G \subseteq D(Y)$ . But since  $G$  is complete, it must be an  $\ell$ -ideal of  $D(Y)$ .

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a). Each  $\ell$ -ideal of  $D(Y)$  is complete and divisible.

THEOREM 4.2. For an  $\ell$ -group  $G$ , the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $G \cong D(Y)$ , for some Stonean space  $Y$ ;
- (2)  $G$  is Archimedean and admits no Archimedean essential extensions;
- (3)  $G$  is a complete, laterally complete vector lattice;
- (4)  $G$  is divisible, complete and laterally complete;
- (5)  $G$  is divisible, complete and each disjoint set is bounded;
- (6)  $G$  is divisible, complete and has the splitting property;
- (7)  $G = ((H^d)^\wedge)^L$  for some Archimedean  $\ell$ -subgroup  $H$ ;
- (8)  $G = ((H^d)^L)^\wedge$  for some Archimedean  $\ell$ -subgroup  $H$ ; and
- (9) If  $G$  is an  $\ell$ -subgroup of an Archimedean  $\ell$ -group,  $H$  and  $G$  are large in  $G''$ , then  $H = G \oplus G'$ .

In particular, such  $\ell$ -groups are  $\ell$ -isomorphic if and only if their Boolean algebras of polars are isomorphic.

PROOF. A complete  $\ell$ -group is a vector lattice if and only if it is divisible; so (3)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4).

Bernau [7, page 617] remarks that (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4). Bernau [8] shows that  $(H^\wedge)^L = (H^L)^\wedge$  for each Archimedean  $\ell$ -group and so (7)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (8).

Pinsker [30] shows that (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3).

Clearly (4)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (5).

See Conrad [15] for a proof that (1), (2), (4), (6) and (7) are equivalent.

(6)  $\Rightarrow$  (9).  $G$  is divisible and complete and large in  $G''$  implies that  $G$  is an  $\ell$ -ideal of  $G''$ , and hence of  $H$ . Thus, by the splitting property,  $H = G \oplus G'$ .

(9)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). We may assume that  $G$  is large in  $D(Y)$ , and since  $G'' = D(Y)$ , we have that  $D(Y) = G \oplus G' = G$ .

We will now obtain an  $\ell$ -group characterization of  $C(Y)$  for any Tychonoff space. We need two lemmas.

LEMMA 1. Let  $G$  be an archimedean  $\ell$ -group with weak order unit  $e$ . Let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be the collection of all maximal primes of  $G$  such that  $e \notin M$ , for all  $M \in \mathfrak{M}$ . Suppose that  $\bigcap \mathfrak{M} = 0$ . Then  $G$  may be embedded as a large  $\ell$ -subgroup of  $C(\mathfrak{M})$ , where  $\mathfrak{M}$  has been equipped with the Zariski topology induced by  $G$ ; in this case  $\mathfrak{M}$  is real compact and Tychonoff.

PROOF. We may embed  $G \rightarrow \prod \{G/M : M \in \mathfrak{M}\} \subseteq \prod \mathbb{R}$  so that  $e \rightarrow (1, 1, 1, \dots)$ . It is straightforward to check that  $G \subseteq C(\mathfrak{M})$ , that  $G$  is large,

and that  $\mathfrak{M}$  is Tychonoff. It remains to show that  $\mathfrak{M}$  is realcompact. If  $P$  is a real ideal of  $C(\mathfrak{M})$  which is not fixed, then  $e \notin P$ , and so  $P \cap G \in \mathfrak{M}$ . Thus we may define a map  $\pi: \upsilon \mathfrak{M} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ , where  $\upsilon \mathfrak{M}$  is the real compactification of  $\mathfrak{M}$ . This map is continuous, because  $\pi^{-1}(\text{coz}_{\mathfrak{M}}(g)) = \text{coz}_{\upsilon \mathfrak{M}}(g^\upsilon)$ , where  $g \rightarrow g^\upsilon$  is the natural isomorphism between  $C(\mathfrak{M})$  and  $C(\upsilon \mathfrak{M})$ . But then  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a retract of  $\upsilon \mathfrak{M}$  and hence closed in  $\upsilon \mathfrak{M}$ , and so  $\mathfrak{M} = \upsilon \mathfrak{M}$ .

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $M$  be a maximal prime of the  $\ell$ -group  $C(Y)$ , where  $Y$  is real-compact and Tychonoff. Then  $M$  is a real ring ideal.*

**PROOF.** We first show that  $\bar{1} \notin M$ . For if  $\bar{1} \in M$ , choose  $f \notin M$  such that  $f \geq \bar{1}$ . Then  $f^2 \notin M$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 \leq (f - n)^2 = f^2 - 2nf + n^2$ , and so  $2nf \leq f^2 + n^2$ . Thus  $2n(M + f) \leq M + f^2$ . But this cannot be, since  $C(Y)/M$  is Archimedean.

If  $M$  is fixed at a point of  $Y$ , we are done. If not, we may embed  $C(Y) \rightarrow C(X)$ , where  $X = Y \cup \{M\}$  is equipped with the Zariski topology,  $\bar{1} \rightarrow \bar{1}$ . But  $Y$  is dense in  $X$  and has the subspace topology, and so this embedding is an isomorphism. Since  $M$  corresponds to a (fixed) real ring ideal of  $C(X)$ , it is a ring ideal of  $C(Y)$ .

The following definition will enable us to state our characterization of  $C(Y)$ . Let  $G$  be an Archimedean  $\ell$ -group with weak order unit  $e$ . Then  $H \cong G$  is an  $e$ -extension if

- (i)  $H$  is Archimedean,
- (ii)  $G$  is large in  $H$ ,
- (iii)  $M \rightarrow M \cap G$  is a one-to-one correspondence between the maximal primes of  $H$  and of  $G$ , and
- (iv) if  $P$  is a polar of  $H$  and  $P \not\subseteq M$ , a maximal prime of  $H$ , then there exists  $g \in P \cap G^+$  such that  $g \notin M$ .

**THEOREM 4.3.** *The following are equivalent for an  $\ell$ -group  $G$ :*

- (a)  $G \cong C(Y)$ ,  $Y$  a Tychonoff space; and
- (b)  $G$  is an Archimedean  $\ell$ -group with a weak order unit  $e$  such that  $e \notin P$ , for all  $P \in Y$ , the set of maximal primes of  $G$ . Furthermore,  $\bigcap Y = 0$ , and  $G$  admits no proper  $e$ -extensions.

**PROOF.** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). If we assume that  $Y$  is real compact and  $e = \bar{1}$ , we need only show that  $G$  admits no proper  $e$ -extensions. Suppose that  $H$  is an  $e$ -extension. Then by (1) we have  $G = C(Y_\sigma) \subseteq H \rightarrow C(Y_\tau)$ , where  $\sigma$  is the topology on  $Y$  induced by  $G$ , and  $\tau$  is the topology on  $Y$  induced by  $H$ . Note that  $\sigma \subseteq \tau$ . We may assume that  $e = \bar{1} \rightarrow \bar{1}$ . Let  $U \in \tau$  be regularly open. Then  $U = \text{coz } P$ , where  $P$  is a polar of  $H$ . If  $x \in U$ ,  $x$  corresponds to  $M$ , a maximal prime of  $H$ . But  $x \in U$  if and only if  $P \not\subseteq M$ . Since  $H$  is an  $e$ -extension, there exists  $g \in P \cap C(Y_\sigma)$  such that  $g \notin M$ . Thus  $x \in \text{coz } g \subseteq \text{coz } P = U$ , and so  $U \in \sigma$ . Thus  $\sigma = \tau$  and so  $C(Y_\sigma) = H = C(Y_\tau)$ .

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a). By (1) we may assume that  $G \subseteq C(Y)$ , with  $e \rightarrow \bar{1}$ , and  $Y$  real compact Tychonoff. Since each maximal prime of  $C(Y)$  is a real ideal and so fixed, we have (i), (ii) and (iii) satisfied, and we need only check (iv) in order to show that  $C(Y)$  is an  $e$ -extension of  $G$ . Let  $P$  be a polar of  $C(Y)$  and suppose  $P \not\subseteq M$ , a maximal prime of  $C(Y)$  which is fixed at  $y$ . Then  $y \in \text{coz } P = U \text{ coz } g_\gamma$ , with each  $g_\gamma \in G^+$ , since the topology on  $Y$  is induced by  $G$ . Then  $x \in \text{coz } g_\gamma$ , some  $\gamma$ , and so  $g_\gamma \in P \cap G^+$  and  $g_\gamma \notin M \cap G$ . But since  $G$  admits no  $e$ -extensions, this means that  $G = C(Y)$ .

**COROLLARY.** *The following are equivalent for an  $\ell$ -group  $G$ :*

- (a)  $G \cong C(Y)$ ,  $Y$  compact Hausdorff; and
- (b)  $G$  is an Archimedean  $\ell$ -group with strong order unit  $e$ , which admits no  $e$ -extensions.

**REMARK.** This theorem is similar in flavor to the characterization of  $C(Y)$  in [2] as a real algebra.

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, INDIANA-PURDUE UNIVERSITY AT FT. WAYNE, FT. WAYNE, IN 46805

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, LAWRENCE, KS 66044