

A CLASS OF LATTICE ORDERED ALGEBRAS¹

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1. Our purpose is to characterize those lattice ordered algebras which may be represented as algebras of Carathéodory functions. This work is, accordingly, a sequel to [1] where the same problem was considered for lattice ordered groups. The rings considered here are more restrictive than those of Birkhoff and Pierce in [2], where an “ F -ring” is shown to be isomorphic to a subring of the direct union of totally ordered rings (but the multiplication in [2] is not necessarily that which may be expected for functions; indeed, all products may be zero. In our case, the axioms compel the algebra multiplication to conform to that of the Carathéodory functions). Brainerd [3] has considered a class of algebras which have function space representations, but his emphasis is different from ours.

2. In this section, we define a Carathéodory algebra. Let B be a relatively complemented distributive lattice. Let E be the set of forms $f = a_1\alpha_1 + \cdots + a_n\alpha_n$, where $\alpha_i \in B$, a_i real, $i = 1, \dots, n$. With $f \geq 0$ if $a_i \geq 0$ for all i , and addition and multiplication defined by $f + g = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m (a_i + b_j)(\alpha_i \wedge \beta_j) + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(\alpha_i - \bigcup_{j=1}^m \beta_j) + \sum_{j=1}^m b_j(\beta_j - \bigcup_{i=1}^n \alpha_i)$ and $fg = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m a_i b_j (\alpha_i \wedge \beta_j)$ where $f = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \alpha_i$ and $g = \sum_{j=1}^m b_j \beta_j$, E is a lattice ordered algebra, which we call the algebra of elementary Carathéodory functions. Let \bar{E} be the conditional completion of E . \bar{E} is the set of bounded Carathéodory functions. In order to define the general Carathéodory function, we need the notion of carrier. In a lattice ordered group, for every $x \geq 0$, $y \geq 0$, we say $x \sim y$ if $x \wedge z = 0$ when and only when $y \wedge z = 0$. The equivalence classes obtained in this way are called carriers (filets by Jaffard [4]) and form a relatively complemented distributive lattice. The equivalence class to which x belongs is called the carrier of x . In \bar{E} , consider pairwise disjoint sequences $\{f_n\}$ whose carriers have an upper bound, and consider the formal sums $\sum f_n$. With order, addition, and multiplication defined appropriately, these formal sums constitute a lattice ordered algebra—the Carathéodory algebra C generated by B . (For details on related matters see [5; 6] and [1].)

3. Let R be an archimedean lattice ordered algebra. Then R is a lattice with positive cone P such that $x, y \in P$, $a \geq 0$ real, implies

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