

Pacific Journal of Mathematics

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SYSTEM**

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Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system such that X is locally compact and every open subset of X is σ -compact. Let \mathcal{A} be the sheaf on X generated by the presheaf $\{U \rightarrow A_U \equiv \overline{A|U}\}$. If $p \in X$, V is a subvariety of an open set in C^n which contains 0 and if there exists an algebra homomorphism $\varphi: \mathcal{A}_p \rightarrow {}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ having rank greater than one, then there exists a neighborhood U of p in X , a neighborhood ω of 0 in C^n and a continuous map $\tau: V \cap \omega \rightarrow U$ such that (1) $\tau(0) = p$, (2) if $f \in A_U$, then $f \circ \tau$ is holomorphic on $V \cap \omega$, and (3) if $f \in A_U$, then $(f \circ \tau)_0 = \varphi((f)_p)$, where $(f \circ \tau)_0$ is the germ at 0 of $f \circ \tau$ and $(f)_p$ is the element of \mathcal{A}_p (the stalk of \mathcal{A} above p) determined by f .

The theorem quoted above is the main result of the paper. The crucial steps leading to it are Theorems 1.6, 1.7, and 1.8, successive generalizations of a theorem of B. E. Johnson [9, Theorem 9.3], who considered the $n = 1$ case of Theorem 1.6, and Theorem 2.12. Previous work closely related to the results of this paper has been done by Carpenter [2] (F -algebras and $n = 1$), Clayton [3, 4] (B -algebras and maps into ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$), and Loy [10] (F -algebras and special maps into ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ ($n \geq 1$)). Each of the three used a sheaf somewhat different from the one used in this paper. We shall discuss the question of "which sheaf to use" at the end of § 3.

1. On the continuity of certain linear maps. In this section we obtain the crucial results of the paper, to be applied in the next section to the problem under study. We begin with some notation and basic results on spaces of formal power series.

We denote by ${}_nF$ the algebra of formal power series (over C) in n variables X_1, \dots, X_n . A typical element of ${}_nF$ is a formal series $\sum_J a_J X^J$, where J runs through N^n , $J = (j_1, \dots, j_n)$ with each $j_i \in N$, and $X^J = X_1^{j_1} \dots X_n^{j_n}$. For each $J \in N^n$ we define a linear functional $p_J: {}_nF \rightarrow C$ by $p_J(\sum_I a_I X^I) \equiv a_J$. We endow ${}_nF$ with the coarsest locally convex topology with respect to which each p_J is continuous; i.e., the one determined by the family $\{|p_J|: J \in N^n\}$ of seminorms. This topology will be referred to below as the ${}_nF$ -topology.

Let F be a subspace of ${}_nF$ equipped with the ${}_nF$ -topology and let M be a (relatively) closed subspace of F . Then $(F/M, \text{quot}({}_nF))$ is a separated locally convex LTS (see [8, p. 105]). The quotient topology on F/M is determined by the family $\{p_J: J \in N^n\}$ as follows. For each $J \in N^n$ we define $|p_J|^\wedge$ on F/M by $|p_J|^\wedge([y]) = \inf \{|p_J|(y +$

$m): m \in M\} = \inf \{|p_J(y + m)|: m \in M\} = \inf \{|p_J(y) + p_J(m)|: m \in M\}$. Thus, unless $p_J \equiv 0$ on M the seminorm $|p_J|^\wedge$ is identically zero on F/M . Hence, the topology $\text{quot } ({}_n F)$ is determined by the subfamily $\{\hat{p}_J: J \in (N^n)_M\}$ consisting of those linear functionals which can be defined on F/M , $(N^n)_M$ being the set of those $J \in N^n$ such that $p_J \equiv 0$ on M and \hat{p}_J being the induced map on F/M to C .

DEFINITION. A locally convex $TVS(F, \mathcal{S})$ is called an $LC-K^n$ space provided that $F \subseteq {}_n F$ and each of the maps $p_J|_F$ is \mathcal{S} -continuous. An $LC-K^n$ space F will be called an $LC(Eq)-K^n$ space if there exists a family $\{C_J: J \in N^n\} \subseteq \mathbf{R}^+$ such that the family $\{C_J^{-1} p_J: J \in N^n\}$ is equicontinuous (relative to the topology \mathcal{S} on F). If F is an $LC-K^n$ space we shall refer to the two topologies on F as the “ F -topology” and the “ ${}_n F$ -topology”.

DEFINITION. Let E and F be $LCTVS$'s. We shall say that “[E, F] is a CG -pair” provided that every linear map from E to F which has a closed graph is continuous.

REMARK. If E is an inductive limit of F -spaces and F is a countable inductive limit of F -spaces, then $[E, F]$ is a CG -pair (see [5, Theorem 6.7.1]).

DEFINITION. Let F be an $LC-K^n$ space. If $T: F \rightarrow F$ is a linear map, then for each $y \in F$ we have $Ty \in F \subseteq {}_n F$; hence, $p_K(Ty) = \sum_J a_{KJ} p_J(y)$ for some family (a_{KJ}) of complex numbers. If $a_{KJ} \neq 0$ only when $J \leq K$ ($j_1 \leq k_1, \dots, j_n \leq k_n$), we shall call T a *lower triangular operator* on F .

LEMMA 1.1. Let E be an $LCTVS$ and F an $LC-K^n$ space such that $[E, F]$ is a CG -pair. If $u: E \rightarrow (F, {}_n F\text{-topology})$ is continuous, then $u: E \rightarrow (F, F\text{-topology})$ is continuous.

Proof. Since the ${}_n F$ -topology is separated it is easily proved that the graph of u is closed.

LEMMA 1.2. If F is an $LC-K^n$ space such that $[F, F]$ is a CG -pair, then every lower triangular operator on F is continuous.

Proof. It suffices to show that if T is a lower triangular operator on F , then $p_K \circ T$ is continuous for each $K \in N^n$ (Lemma 1.1). Now $p_K \circ T(y) = \sum_{J \leq K} a_{KJ} p_J(y)$. This is clearly continuous, since each p_J is continuous and the sum is finite.

LEMMA 1.3. (Johnson [9, Theorem 7.3].) Suppose $[E, F]$ is a

CG-pair of LCTVS's $\{G_i\}_{i \in I}$ is a family of LCTVS's, $u: E \rightarrow F$ is a linear map and for each i $w_i: F \rightarrow G_i$ is a continuous linear map. If for each $i \in I$ the map $w_i \circ u$ is continuous, then $\pi \circ u: E \rightarrow F/N$ is continuous, where $N = \bigcap \{\text{Ker } w_i; i \in I\}$ and $\pi: F \rightarrow F/N$ is the natural projection.

Proof. See [9].

A useful special case of this lemma is

COROLLARY 1.4. Suppose $[E, F]$ is a CG-pair of LCTVS's. If $u: E \rightarrow F$ is a linear map, $w: F \rightarrow F$ is a continuous, linear injection, and if $w \circ u$ is continuous, then u is continuous.

For easy reference we state Theorem 6.5.1 of [5]:

LEMMA 1.5. Let $E, \{F_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ be F -spaces and let F be a separated LCTVS. Suppose $u: E \rightarrow F$, $v_n: F_n \rightarrow F$ ($n \in \mathbb{N}$) are continuous linear maps. If $u(E) \subseteq \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty v_n(F_n)$, then there exists $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $u(E) \subseteq v_m(F_m)$ and if W_m is a neighborhood of 0 in F_m , then $u^{-1}(v_m(W_m))$ is a neighborhood of 0 in E . In particular, if each v_n is injective, then $v_m^{-1} \circ u: E \rightarrow F_m$ is continuous.

Our first main result is an extension of Johnson's Theorem 9.1 (see [9]) from the $n = 1$ case to arbitrary finite n .

THEOREM 1.6. Let E be an F -space and F an $LC(Eq)$ - K^n space such that $[E, F]$ and $[F, F]$ are CG-pairs. Suppose (1) $S: E \rightarrow E$ is a continuous linear map and (2) $T: F \rightarrow F$ is a lower triangular linear map with empty point spectrum. If $u: E \rightarrow F$ is a linear map such that $uS = Tu$, then u is continuous.

Proof. We begin by observing that if P is any monic polynomial with complex coefficients, then $P(T)$ is injective. We can write $P(T) = \prod_{j=1}^m (T - a_j I)$. If $P(T)y = 0$, then $(T - a_m I)(\prod_{j=1}^{m-1} (T - a_j I)y) = 0$. Since the point spectrum of T is empty we must have $\prod_{j=1}^{m-1} (T - a_j I)y = 0$. The argument can be completed by induction on the degree of P .

We let (a_{KJ}) denote the "lower triangular" matrix corresponding to T and we define $Q_K: E \rightarrow E$ and $R_K: F \rightarrow F$ ($K \in \mathbb{N}^n$)

$$Q_K = \prod_{J \leq K} (S - a_{JJ} I)$$

$$R_K = \prod_{J \leq K} (T - a_{JJ} I) .$$

If $J \leq K$ we set $Q_{K \setminus J} = \prod_{I \leq K, I \not\leq J} (S - a_{II}I)$ so that we have $Q_K = Q_J \circ Q_{K \setminus J}$. One defines $R_{K \setminus J}$ similarly. We note that (1) $uQ_K = R_K u$ for each $K \in N^n$ and (2) each R_K is injective (since it is a monic polynomial in T). Fix $K \in N^n, y \in F$. Then $p_K(Ty) = \sum_{J \leq K} a_{KJ} p_J(y)$. Hence, $p_K((T - a_{KK}I)y) = \sum_{J < K} a_{KJ} p_J(y)$.

We next show that if $J \leq K$, then $p_J \circ R_K \equiv 0$. We shall induct on $|K| (= k_1 + \dots + k_n)$. If $|K| = 0$ and $J \leq K$, then $J = K = (0, \dots, 0) = \underline{0}$, and $p_0(R_0 y) = p_0((T - a_{00}I)y) = 0$ since T is lower triangular. Suppose we have established the claim whenever $|K| < q$. Fix $K \in N^n$ such that $|K| = q$ and $y \in F$. If $J < K$, then $p_J(R_K y) = p_J(R_J R_{K \setminus J} y) = 0$ since $|J| < q$. If $J = K$, then

$$p_K(R_K y) = p_K((T - a_{KK}I)R'_K y),$$

where $R'_K = \prod_{J < K} (T - a_{JJ}I)$. Thus, $p_K(R_K y) = \sum_{J < K} a_{KJ} p_J(R'_K y)$. Now for each $J < K$ we have $p_J(R'_K y) = p_J(R_J \circ R'_{K \setminus J} y)$ where $R'_{K \setminus J} = \prod_{I < K, I \not\leq J} (T - a_{II}I)$. Hence, $p_J(R'_K y) = 0$ (again $J < K$ so $|J| < q$).

Since each R_K is a continuous linear injection it is sufficient to find one R_K such that $R_K u$ (equivalently, uQ_K) is continuous, (Corollary 1.4 above). In fact, either all the operators $R_K u$ are continuous or none are. Suppose $R_K u$ is continuous. If $J \leq K$, then $R_K = R_J \circ R_{K \setminus J}$ and $R_K u = R_{K \setminus J} \circ R_J u$. Since $R_{K \setminus J}$ is injective we conclude that $R_J u$ is continuous. If $J \geq K$, then $R_J u = R_{J \setminus K} \circ R_K u$, a composition of two continuous maps; hence $R_J u$ is continuous. Let $J \in N^n$ and let $L = J + K$. Then $K \leq L$ so $R_L u$ is continuous. But $J \leq L$, so $R_J u$ is continuous.

We assume that no operator $R_J u$ is continuous; i.e., no operator uQ_J is continuous. Hence, for each $J \in N^n$ there exists $K \in N^n$ such that $p_K \circ uQ_J$ is not continuous (Lemma 1.1 above). Set $J_0 = (0, \dots, 0)$, and fix $J_1 \geq J_0$. Choose K_1 such that $p_{K_1} \circ uQ_{J_1}$ is not continuous. Fix $J_2 \geq J_1, K_1$ and choose K_2 such that $p_{K_2} \circ uQ_{J_2}$ is not continuous. Continue the process inductively. Fix an increasing sequence $\{|| \cdot ||_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ of seminorms for E : $||x||_i \leq ||x||_{i+1} (x \in E, i \in N)$. We choose inductively a sequence $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ in E such that for each $l \in N$

$$(1) \quad ||Q_{J_l \setminus J_i} x_i||_l < 2^{-l} (i = 0, 1, \dots, l-1).$$

$$(2) \quad |p_{K_l}(uQ_{J_l} x_i)| > l \cdot C_{K_l} + \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} |p_{K_l}(uQ_{J_i} x_i)|,$$

where $\{C_J\}$ is the family of positive real numbers chosen so that $\{C_J^{-1} p_J\}$ is equicontinuous on F . We can make such a choice since each $Q_{J_l \setminus J_i}$ is continuous ($i = 0, 1, \dots, l-1$) and $p_{K_l} \circ uQ_{J_l}$ is not (hence, takes on arbitrary large absolute values on elements arbitrarily close to 0 in E). Let $x = \sum_{i=1}^\infty Q_{J_i} x_i$. The series converges absolutely in E (condition (1) guarantees this). Fix $l \in N$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{K_l}(ux) &= p_{K_l} \left[\sum_{i \leq l} u Q_{J_i} x_i + u \left(\sum_{i > l} Q_{J_i} x_i \right) \right] \\
&= p_{K_l} \left(\sum_{i \leq l} u Q_{J_i} x_i \right) + p_{K_l} \left[u Q_{J_{l+1}} \left(\sum_{i > l} Q_{J_i \setminus J_{l+1}} x_i \right) \right].
\end{aligned}$$

This last step is possible because $Q_{J_{l+1}}$ is continuous and the series $\sum_{i > l} Q_{J_i \setminus J_{l+1}} x_i$ converges in E : $\|Q_{J_i \setminus J_{l+1}} x_i\|_i < 2^{-i}$ ($i > l$). Now

$$p_{K_l}(u Q_{J_{l+1}} x') = p_{K_l}(R_{J_{l+1}} u x')$$

for $x' \in E$. Since $K_l \leq J_{l+1}$ this number is zero. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{K_l}(ux) &= \sum_{i=1}^l p_{K_l}(u Q_{J_i} x_i), \quad \text{so} \\
|p_{K_l}(ux)| &\geq |p_{K_l}(u Q_{J_l} x_l)| - \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} |p_{K_l}(u Q_{J_i} x_i)|
\end{aligned}$$

and we have $|p_{K_l}(ux)| > l \cdot C_{K_l}$.

There exists a neighborhood V of 0 in F such that if $y \in V$ and $J \in N^n$, then $|p_J(y)| < C_J$. Since $u(x) \in F$ there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that $\lambda u(x) \in V$. Hence, for each $l \in N$ we must have $|p_{K_l}(\lambda u(x))| < C_{K_l}$. Combining this with our previous inequality we obtain $l\lambda < 1$ for each $l \in N$, a contradiction. Thus, $u Q_J$ is continuous for some $J \in N^n$ and u is continuous.

THEOREM 1.7. *Let E be an F -space and F an $LC(E_q) - K^n$ space such that $[F, F]$ is a CG-pair. Let M be a subspace of F such that (1) M is both F - and ${}_n F$ -closed and (2) $[E, F/M]$ is a CG-pair. Suppose (3) $S: E \rightarrow E$ is a continuous linear map and (4) $T: F \rightarrow F$ is a lower triangular operator on F such that $T(M) \subseteq M$ and such that the induced map $\hat{T}: F/M \rightarrow F/M$ has empty point spectrum. If $u: E \rightarrow F/M$ is a linear map such that $uS = \hat{T}u$, then u is continuous.*

Proof. Let (a_{KJ}) be the lower triangular matrix corresponding to T . We define Q_K, R_K as in the proof of Theorem 1.6 and define \hat{R}_K on F/M to be the map naturally induced by R_K , since $R_K(M) \subseteq M$. It is clear that $uQ_K = \hat{R}_K u$ for $K \in N^n$ and that each \hat{R}_K is a monic polynomial in \hat{T} ; hence, each \hat{R}_K is injective. It is easily verified that \hat{T} and the operators \hat{R}_K are continuous on F/M , equipped with the $\text{quot}(F)$ -topology. Recall that the $\text{quot}({}_n F)$ -topology on F/M is determined by the linear maps $\{\hat{p}_J: J \in (N^n)_M\}$, where $(N^n)_M = \{J: p_J \equiv 0 \text{ on } M\}$. Since $[(E, F/M)]$ is a CG-pair we are in the same situation as in Theorem 1.6: we need only show that for one $J \in N^n$ the operator $\hat{R}_J u$ (equivalently, uQ_J) is continuous. Assume that none is. Let $J_0 = (0, \dots, 0)$. Fix $J_1 \in N^n$. Choose $K_1 \in (N^n)_M$ so that $\hat{p}_{K_1} \circ uQ_{J_1}$ is not continuous. Continue as in Theorem 1.6. The sequence $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ is

chosen as in that theorem (with \hat{p}_{K_l} in place of p_{K_l}). The proof is completed as before, with two small problems to be resolved. We must show that (a) $\hat{p}_{K_l}[uQ_{J_{l+1}}(\sum_{i>l} Q_{J_i \setminus J_{l+1}} x_i)] = 0$ and (b) the family $\{C_J^{-1}\hat{p}_J: J \in (N^n)_M\}$ is equicontinuous on F/M .

Re (a). Let x' denote the sum in parentheses. We have $\hat{p}_{K_l}(uQ_{J_{l+1}}x') = \hat{p}_{K_l}([\hat{R}_{J_{l+1}}(ux')])$. Now $u(x') = [y']$ for some $y' \in F$, and $\hat{p}_{K_l}(\hat{R}_{J_{l+1}}[y']) = \hat{p}_{K_l}([R_{J_{l+1}}y']) = p_{K_l}(R_{J_{l+1}}y') = 0$ (proved in Theorem 1.6), since $K_l \leq J_{l+1}$.

Re (b). There exists a continuous seminorm q on F such that if $q(y) < 1$ and $J \in N^n$, then $|p_J(y)| < C_J$. Let \hat{q} be the corresponding seminorm on F/M . Fix $[y] \in F/M$ such that $\hat{q}([y]) < 1$ and $J \in (N^n)_M$. Then there exists $m \in M$ such that $q(y+m) < 1$. Hence, $|p_J(y+m)| < C_J$, or $|p_J(y) + p_J(m)| < C_J$. However, $m \in M$ and $J \in (N^n)_M$. Thus $p_J(y) < C_J$ and $|\hat{p}_J([y])| < C_J$.

We now show that there is a large class of spaces F for which our hypotheses regarding CG-pairs are satisfied.

LEMMA 1.8. *Let E be an F -space and let G be a vector space with two locally convex topologies \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 , where $\mathcal{T}_1 \leq \mathcal{T}_2$. If $[E, (G, \mathcal{T}_2)]$ is a CG-pair, then so is $[E, (G, \mathcal{T}_1)]$.*

Proof. Let $u: E \rightarrow G$ be a linear map such that $Gr(u)$ is closed in $E \times (G, \mathcal{T}_1)$. If $\{(x_n, u(x_n))\}$ is a sequence in $Gr(u)$ which converges in $E \times (G, \mathcal{T}_2)$ to (x, z) , then $x_n \rightarrow x$ in E and $u(x_n) \rightarrow z(\mathcal{T}_2)$. But $\mathcal{T}_1 \leq \mathcal{T}_2$, so $u(x_n) \rightarrow z(\mathcal{T}_1)$ and our hypotheses imply that $z = u(x)$. Hence, $Gr(u)$ is closed in $E \times (G, \mathcal{T}_2)$ and u is \mathcal{T}_2 -continuous. Since $\mathcal{T}_1 \leq \mathcal{T}_2$ we have also that u is \mathcal{T}_1 -continuous.

DEFINITION. An LC space (F, \mathcal{T}) is an *injective inductive limit* of F -spaces provided there exists an increasing sequence $\{F_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ of subspaces of F such that (1) $F = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty F_n$, (2) each F_n is an F -space with respect to some topology \mathcal{T}_n , and (3) \mathcal{T} is the (LC) inductive topology determined by the continuous injections $i_n: (F_n, \mathcal{T}_n) \hookrightarrow F$.

An example of such a space is ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$, the space of germs of holomorphic functions at 0 in \mathbb{C}^n . Let $\{\omega_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ be a base for the topology at 0 in \mathbb{C}^n , then ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0 = \bigcup_{k=1}^\infty \mathcal{O}(\omega_k)$ and is the injective inductive limit of the sequence $\{\mathcal{O}(\omega_k)\}$.

PROPOSITION 1.9. *Let F be an LC space which is an injective inductive limit of F -spaces. If M is a closed subspace of F , then $[E, (F/M, \text{quot}(F))]$ is a CG-pair for every F -space E .*

Proof. Let $\{(F_n, \mathcal{T}_n)\}$ be the ascending sequence of F -spaces which determines the F -topology. For each n we let M_n be $M \cap F_n$,

a \mathcal{T}_n -closed subspace of F_n . Hence, F_n/M_n is an F -space, and there exists a continuous map $r_n: F_n/M_n \rightarrow (F/M, \text{quot}(F))$. Moreover, $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} r_n(F_n/M_n) = F/M$, and the sequence $\{F_n/M_n\}$ defines an inductive topology \mathcal{T}_2 on F/M . We let \mathcal{T}_1 be $\text{quot}(F)$. Then $\mathcal{T}_1 \leq \mathcal{T}_2$ since each r_n is continuous. Now $(F/M, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is an inductive limit of F -spaces, so $[E, (F/M, \mathcal{T}_2)]$ is a CG-pair for every F -space. Apply Lemma 1.9.

REMARK. If in Theorem 1.7 the $LC(Eq) - K^n$ space is an injective inductive limit of F -spaces, then (1) $[F, F]$ is a CG-pair and (2) if M is any subspace of F which is both F - and ${}_nF$ -closed, then F/M satisfies the required hypotheses.

2. Analytic structure theorems for F -algebras. The results in this are concerned with continuous maps and polydiscs and varieties into the spectrum of an F -algebra in such a way that Gelfand transforms “are” holomorphic functions. We begin by fixing our notation, defining the relevant concepts and stating (mostly without proof) some results on varieties and holomorphic functions thereon.

DEFINITION. An F -algebra is a separated topological algebra whose topology is determined by a countable family of submultiplicative seminorms and which is complete. A uniform F -algebra is a commutative F -algebra A such that the Gelfand transform is a topological isomorphism onto a subalgebra of $C(M(A))$, where the latter is equipped with the topology of compact convergence. ($M(A)$ is the spectrum of A , the space of nonzero \mathbb{C} -valued homomorphisms of A equipped with the relative weak $*$ topology.)

DEFINITION. Let Ω be an open subset of \mathbb{C} . A subset V of Ω is called a *subvariety* of Ω if for each $z \in \Omega$ there is a neighborhood U of z and a family $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(U)$ (the algebra of holomorphic functions on U) such that

$$V \cap U = \{\zeta \in U: f(\zeta) = 0 \quad (f \in \mathcal{F})\}.$$

It follows from [6, p. 87] that the family \mathcal{F} may be taken to be finite.

DEFINITION. ${}_n\mathcal{V} = \{V \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n: V \text{ is a subvariety of a neighborhood of } 0 \text{ and } 0 \in V\}$.

DEFINITION. If V is a subvariety of Ω we say that V is *globally determined in Ω* if there exists $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ such that $V = \{x \in \Omega: f(x) = 0 \quad (f \in \mathcal{F})\}$.

We note that if V is a subvariety of Ω (and is globally determined

in Ω), and if ω is an open subset of Ω , then $V \cap \omega$ is a subvariety of ω (and is globally determined in ω).

DEFINITION. Let V be a subvariety of Ω , and let $f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a continuous function. We say that f is *holomorphic on V* provided that for each $z \in V$ there exists a neighborhood U of z in \mathbb{C}^n and $F \in \mathcal{O}(U)$ such that $F|_{U \cap V} = f|_{U \cap V}$. We denote by $\mathcal{O}(V)$ the algebra of all holomorphic functions on V .

PROPOSITION 2.1. *Let V be a globally determined subvariety of an open set Ω in \mathbb{C}^n . We give $\mathcal{O}(V)$ the topology of uniform convergence on compact subsets of V . Then $\mathcal{O}(V)$ is a uniform F -algebra with identity. If Ω is holomorphically convex, then $\mathcal{O}(V) \cong \mathcal{O}(\Omega)/\mathcal{I}(V)$, where $\mathcal{I}(V) = \{f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega): f = 0 \text{ on } V\}$. Moreover, the isomorphism is also topological when $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)/\mathcal{I}(V)$ is given the quotient topology. Finally, in this case the spectrum of $\mathcal{O}(V)$ is V .*

Proof. Since Ω is locally compact and σ -compact and V is closed in Ω , all we need to do to prove that $\mathcal{O}(V)$ is an F -algebra is show that $\mathcal{O}(V)$ is complete in this topology. This is Theorem III, 7 of [12, p. 61].

Now assume that Ω is holomorphically convex. Since $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ is an F -algebra and $\mathcal{I}(V)$ is a closed ideal, we have that $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)/\mathcal{I}(V)$ with the quotient topology is an F -algebra and its spectrum is V (see [2, p. 453]). We have maps $\mathcal{O}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V)$ (restriction) and $\mathcal{O}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\Omega)/\mathcal{I}(V)$, each of which has kernel $\mathcal{I}(V)$. The latter map is clearly surjective and that the former is surjective is an immediate consequence of Cartan's Theorem B (see [6, p. 245]). Thus, the Gelfand transform maps $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)/\mathcal{I}(V)$ onto $\mathcal{O}(V)$ (if we identify $M(\mathcal{O}(\Omega)/\mathcal{I}(V))$ and V , and is injective. Now each of $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)/\mathcal{I}(V)$ and $\mathcal{O}(V)$ is an F -space. Thus, the Gelfand transform is a topological isomorphism.

DEFINITION. Let $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ and define a relation \sim on $\bigcup \{\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega): \omega \text{ is a neighborhood of } 0\}$ by $f \sim g$ if, and only if, there exists a neighborhood ω of 0 such that $V \cap \omega \subseteq \text{Dom}(f) \cap \text{Dom}(g)$ and $f|_{V \cap \omega} = g|_{V \cap \omega}$. Let ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ be the algebra of equivalence classes of $\bigcup \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$ modulo this relation with the obvious operation; i.e., ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0 = \lim_{\omega \in \mathcal{N}} \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$.

PROPOSITION 2.2. *Let $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$. There exists a sequence $\{\omega_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ of open neighborhoods of 0 such that*

- (1) $\omega_1 \supseteq \omega_2 \supseteq \dots$.
- (2) $\{\omega_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ is a base at 0 .
- (3) $V \cap \omega_k$ is globally determined in ω_k ($k \geq 1$).

(4) if $f \in \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_k)$ and $f|V \cap \omega_l = 0$ for some $l > k$, then $f = 0$ on $V \cap \omega_k$.

(5) for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$ the natural map $i_k: \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_k) \rightarrow {}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ is injective.

Proof. Fix a basis $\{U_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ at 0. Choose a neighborhood Ω of 0 such that $V \cap \Omega$ is globally determined in Ω . Then $U_1 \cap \Omega$ is a neighborhood of 0 and Lemma 1.8 of [4, p. 14] yields the existence of a neighborhood ω_1 of 0 such that $\omega_1 \subseteq U_1 \cap \Omega$ and such that if $f \in \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_1)$ and if $f = 0$ in some neighborhood of 0, then $f = 0$ in $V \cap \omega_1$. Now $U_2 \cap \omega_1$ is a neighborhood of 0. Continue inductively to apply Clayton's Lemma 1.8. The resulting sequence $\{\omega_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ has the desired properties.

DEFINITION. If $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ and $\{\omega_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ satisfies the conclusions of Proposition 2.2 we shall call $\{\omega_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ a V -basis at 0.

We need an alternate description of ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$.

DEFINITION. ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ is the algebra of germs (at 0) of functions holomorphic near 0 in \mathbb{C}^n . If $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$, we define $\text{id } V = \{\alpha \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0: \text{there exists a representative } f \text{ of } \alpha \text{ with domain } \omega \text{ such that } V \cap \omega \subseteq \{z \in \omega: f(z) = 0\}\}$.

PROPOSITION 2.3. If $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$, then $\text{id } V$ is an ideal in ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ which is closed with respect to both the inductive and ${}_nF$ -topologies on ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$. Moreover, ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0/\text{id } V$ is algebraically isomorphic to ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$, and if we identify them, then for each open ω containing 0 the natural map of $\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$ into $({}_V\mathcal{O}_0, \text{quot}({}_n\mathcal{O}_0))$ is continuous.

Proof. It is clear that $\text{id } V$ is an ideal in ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$. That $\text{id } V$ is ${}_nF$ -closed is a consequence of the version of the "closure of modules theorem" found in Hörmander's book [7, p. 152]. Since the ${}_nF$ -topology is dominated by the ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ -topology (inductive topology) $\text{id } V$ must also be closed in this finer topology. We now show that ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0/\text{id } V$ and ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ are algebraically the same. Define $\psi: {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow {}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ by $\psi((f, \omega)_0) \equiv (f|V \cap \omega, V \cap \omega)_0$, where we denote by $(f, \omega)_0$ the germ of $f \in \mathcal{O}(\omega)$, etc. It is clear that ψ is a well-defined homomorphism. If $\psi((f, \omega)_0) = 0$, then $(f|V \cap \omega, V \cap \omega)_0 = 0$ in ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ and there exists a neighborhood $\omega' \subseteq \omega$ of 0 such that $f|V \cap \omega' \equiv 0$. But then $(f| \omega', \omega')$ is a representative of $(f, \omega)_0$ and $V \cap \omega' \subseteq \{z \in \omega': f(z) = 0\}$. Hence, $(f, \omega)_0 \in \text{id } V = \text{Ker } \pi$, where π is the natural map of ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ onto ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0/\text{id } V$. Clearly, $\text{Ker } \pi = \text{id } V \subseteq \text{Ker } \psi$. That ψ is surjective is a direct consequence of the definition of ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$. Thus π and ψ are each surjective and they

have the same kernel. Hence, ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0/\text{id } V$ and ${}_v\mathcal{O}_0$ are isomorphic.

Fix a neighborhood ω of 0. If ω is holomorphically convex then $V \cap \omega$ is globally determined in ω , and $\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega) = \mathcal{O}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}(V \cap \omega)$ (and the given topology (compact convergence) is the quotient topology). We have the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}(\omega) & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \\ \varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi \\ \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega) & \xrightarrow{\hat{\gamma}} & {}_v\mathcal{O}_0. \end{array}$$

We know that φ, γ , and π are continuous, when ${}_v\mathcal{O}_0$ is given the quotient topology (carried from ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0/\text{id } V$ by the isomorphism produced above). Hence, the induced map $\hat{\gamma}$ is continuous. But $\hat{\gamma}$ is just the natural map of $\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$ into ${}_v\mathcal{O}_0$.

If ω is an arbitrary neighborhood of 0 we choose $\omega' \subseteq \omega$, a holomorphically convex neighborhood such that $V \cap \omega'$ is globally determined in ω' . Then we have

$$\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega') \longrightarrow {}_v\mathcal{O}_0,$$

where the first map is just a (continuous) restriction map and the second is continuous (by our argument above). The composition is the natural map of $\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$ into ${}_v\mathcal{O}_0$.

DEFINITION. Fix $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$. We say that V is *irreducible at 0* provided that whenever ω is a neighborhood of 0 and V_1, V_2 are elements of ${}_n\mathcal{V}$ such that $V \cap \omega = (V_1 \cap \omega) \cup (V_2 \cap \omega)$, then there exists a neighborhood ω' of 0 such that either $V \cap \omega' = V_1 \cap \omega'$ or $V \cap \omega' = V_2 \cap \omega'$.

PROPOSITION 2.4. *If $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$, then there exists a neighborhood ω of 0 and $V_1, \dots, V_m \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ such that*

- (1) *each V_j is irreducible at 0.*
- (2) *$V \cap \omega = \bigcup_{j=1}^m (V_j \cap \omega)$.*

Proof. See [6, pp. 89–90]. We shall call $\{V_1, \dots, V_m\}$ an irreducible family for V .

REMARK. In [6] a stronger result is proved using germs of varieties. We shall not need the strengthened conclusion.

PROPOSITION 2.5. *If $V, V_1, \dots, V_m \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ and if*

$$V \cap \omega = \bigcup_{j=1}^m (V_j \cap \omega)$$

for some neighborhood ω of 0, then $\text{id } V = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{id } V_j$ in ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$.

Proof. This is an easy “representative chase.”

PROPOSITION 2.6. $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ is irreducible at 0 if, and only if, $\text{id } V$ is a prime ideal in ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$.

Proof. See [6, p. 89].

PROPOSITION 2.7. Let $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ and let $\{V_1, \dots, V_m\}$ be an irreducible family for V . Then there exists a family $\{\rho_j: {}_v\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow {}_{V_j}\mathcal{O}_j\}$ of $\text{quot}({}_n\mathcal{O}_0)$ -continuous homomorphisms such that

- (1) $\bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{Ker } \rho_j = \{0\}$, and
- (2) the following diagrams commute ($j = 1, \dots, m$):

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 & \\ \pi \swarrow & & \searrow \pi_j \\ {}_v\mathcal{O}_0 & \xrightarrow{\rho_j} & {}_{V_j}\mathcal{O}_j \end{array}$$

where π and π_j are the natural maps determined by the ideals $\text{id } V$ and $\text{id } V_j$, respectively.

Proof. Since for each $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ there is a unique homomorphism ρ_j which makes the appropriate diagram commutative and since each of these induced maps is continuous, we need only verify (1). Suppose $\pi\alpha \in \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{Ker } \rho_j$ for some $\alpha \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$. Then for each j , $\rho_j\pi(\alpha) = 0$. But $\rho_j\pi(\alpha) = \pi_j(\alpha)$. Hence, $\alpha \in \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{Ker } \pi_j = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{id } V_j = \text{id } V = \text{Ker } \pi$. Thus, we see that $\pi\alpha = 0$.

LEMMA 2.8. We define $\eta: {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ to be the evaluation map $\eta: (f, \omega)_0 \rightarrow f(0)$ for $(f, \omega)_0 \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$. The map $e: {}_v\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ induced by η and $\pi: {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow {}_n\mathcal{O}_0/\text{id } V \cong {}_v\mathcal{O}_0$ is a continuous homomorphism of ${}_v\mathcal{O}_0$ for every $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$. (${}_v\mathcal{O}_0$ has the $\text{quot}({}_n\mathcal{O}_0)$ -topology.) (We shall call e the evaluation map for ${}_v\mathcal{O}_0$.)

Proof. The map η is a continuous homomorphism of ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ (with respect to the ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ -topology) whose kernel is the maximal ideal of ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$. Thus, $\text{Ker } \pi \subseteq \text{Ker } \eta$ and the map e is well-defined continuous homomorphism of ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0/\text{id } V$ to \mathcal{C} .

LEMMA 2.9. Let $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ and let $\{V_1, \dots, V_m\} \subseteq {}_n\mathcal{V}$ be an irre-

ducible family for V . For each $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ we have $e_j \circ \rho_j = e$. In particular, if $\gamma \in {}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ and if $\rho_j(\gamma) \in C \cdot (1)_{V_j}$, then $\rho_j(\gamma) = e(\gamma) \cdot (1)_{V_j}$.

Proof. We have the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 & & \\
 \pi \downarrow & \searrow \pi_j & \searrow \eta \\
 & {}_{V_j}\mathcal{O}_0 & \xrightarrow{e_j} C \\
 & \uparrow \rho_j & \nearrow e \\
 {}_V\mathcal{O}_0 & &
 \end{array}$$

The second part of the conclusion follows from the *first part*.

PROPOSITION 2.10. *Let $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ and let $\{V_1, \dots, V_m\}$ be an irreducible family for V . If $\gamma \in {}_V\mathcal{O}_0 \setminus C \cdot (1)_V$, then there exists $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ such that $\rho_j(\gamma) \in {}_{V_j}\mathcal{O}_0 \setminus C \cdot (1)_{V_j}$.*

Proof. If $\gamma \in {}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ and if for each $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ $\rho_j(\gamma) \in C \cdot (1)_{V_j}$, then $\rho_j(\gamma) = e(\gamma) \cdot (1)_{V_j}$. Consider the element $\gamma - e(\gamma) \cdot (1)_V$ of ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$. It is clear that it belongs to $\bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{Ker } \rho_j (= \{0\})$. Hence, $\gamma = e(\gamma)(1)_V$.

We now have all the requisite information about the algebras ${}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ to allow us to proceed with our applications.

We note that we require a homomorphism from one algebra with identity to another to map the identity of the first onto the identity of the second.

We first extend Loy's results on F -algebras which admit maps into ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ (see [10]).

If $\beta \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \setminus C(1)_0$, then the map $T: {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ defined by $T(\alpha) = \beta\alpha$ has empty point spectrum since ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ is an integral domain. Also, ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ is an injective inductive limit of F -spaces and is an $LC(E_q) - K^n$ space (see [10]); hence, satisfies the hypotheses required of the " F " of Theorem 1.6.

THEOREM 2.11. *Let A be a commutative F -algebra with identity. If there exists a homomorphism $\varphi: A \rightarrow {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ such that $\text{rank } \varphi > 1$, then there exists a neighborhood ω of 0 in C^n and a continuous map $\tau: \omega \rightarrow M(A)$ such that if $a \in A$, then $\hat{a} \circ \tau \in \mathcal{O}(\omega)$ and $(\hat{a} \circ \tau)_0 = \varphi(a)$.*

Proof. Choose $x \in A$ such that $\varphi(x) \notin C \cdot (1)_0$. Define $S: A \rightarrow A$ and $T: {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ by $S(a) = xa$ ($a \in A$) and $T(\alpha) = \varphi(x)\alpha$ ($\alpha \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$). It is clear that (1) S is a continuous linear map, (2) T is a lower triangular operator with empty point spectrum, and (3) $\varphi S = T\varphi$. In the light

of our comments preceding the statement of this theorem we can apply Theorem 1.6 and conclude that φ is continuous. Let $\{\omega_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ be a base at 0 in C^n consisting of holomorphically convex open sets and let $i_k: \mathcal{O}(\omega_k) \rightarrow {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ be the natural injection for each $k \in N$. We apply Lemma 1.5. There exists $l \in N$ such that $\varphi(A) \subseteq i_l(\mathcal{O}(\omega_l))$ and $i_l^{-1} \circ \varphi$ is a continuous homomorphism of A into $\mathcal{O}(\omega_l)$. Call this map ψ , let $\omega = \omega_l$ and let $\tau: \omega \rightarrow M(A)$ be the dual map of ψ restricted to $\omega = M(\mathcal{O}(\omega)) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\omega)^*$. We have used here the fact that $M(\mathcal{O}(\omega)) = \omega$, a direct corollary of Theorem 7.2.10 of Hörmander's book ([7, p. 171]) which implies that $\omega \ni \zeta \rightarrow (\text{evaluation at } \zeta) \in M(\mathcal{O}(\omega))$ is surjective. That this map is topological follows from the fact that the weak topology on ω determined by $\mathcal{O}(\omega)$ is exactly the C^n topology on ω . If $\zeta \in \omega$, then $\tau(\zeta) \in M(A)$ is defined by $\tau(\zeta): a \rightarrow \psi(a)(\zeta)$. Hence, $(\hat{a} \circ \tau)(\zeta) = \tau(\zeta)(a) = \psi(a)(\zeta)$ and $\hat{a} \circ \tau = \psi(a) \in \mathcal{O}(\omega)$. Also, $(a \circ \tau)_0 = (\psi(a))_0 = i_l(\psi(a)) = \varphi(a)$.

Let $W \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ be irreducible at 0. Suppose $\beta \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ has the property that $\pi\beta \in {}_w\mathcal{O}_0 \setminus C(1)_w$. Then the map $T: {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ defined by $T(\alpha) = \beta\alpha$ ($\alpha \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$) leaves $\text{id } W$ invariant; hence, induces $\hat{T}: {}_w\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow {}_w\mathcal{O}_0$ and since $\text{id } W$ is a prime ideal, the algebra ${}_w\mathcal{O}_0$ is an integral domain and \hat{T} has empty point spectrum (\hat{T} is multiplication by $\pi\beta$). Also, ${}_w\mathcal{O}_0$ satisfies the conclusions of Proposition 1.9. Thus, there is no obstruction to our applying Theorem 1.7 to a situation like the one we have described here.

THEOREM 2.12. *Let A be a commutative F -algebra with identity. Suppose $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ and there exists a homomorphism $\varphi: A \rightarrow {}_r\mathcal{O}_0$ such that $\text{rank } \varphi > 1$. Then there exists a neighborhood ω of 0 in C^n and a continuous map $\tau: V \cap \omega \rightarrow M(A)$ such that if $a \in A$, then $\hat{a} \circ \tau \in \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$ and $(\hat{a} \circ \tau)_0 = \varphi(a)$.*

Proof. Fix an irreducible family $\{V_1, \dots, V_m\} \subseteq {}_n\mathcal{V}$ for V . Let $E = \{j \in \{1, \dots, m\}: \rho_j\varphi \text{ has rank } > 1\}$. We note that Proposition 2.10 and our hypothesis regarding the rank of φ imply that E is nonempty. Fix $j \in E$. We shall show that $\rho_j\varphi$ is continuous. Choose $x \in A$ such that $\rho_j\varphi(x) \notin C \cdot (1)_{V_j}$, and choose $\beta \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ such that $\pi_j\beta = \rho_j\varphi(x)$. We define $S: A \rightarrow A$ and $T: {}_n\mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ by $S(a) = xa$ ($a \in A$) and $T(\alpha) = \beta\alpha$ ($\alpha \in {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$). Clearly (1) S is a continuous linear map, (2) T is a lower triangular operator on ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ and (3) $\rho_j\varphi S = \hat{T}_j\rho_j\varphi$ ($\rho_j\varphi S(a) = \rho_j(\varphi(xa)) = \rho_j(\varphi(x)\varphi(a)) = \rho_j\varphi(x)\rho_j\varphi(a) = \pi_j\beta\rho_j\varphi(a) = \hat{T}_j(\rho_j\varphi(a))$). Since ${}_r\mathcal{O}_0$ is an integral domain and $\pi_j\beta \notin C \cdot (1)_{V_j}$ we conclude that \hat{T}_j (which is just multiplication by $\pi_j\beta$) has empty point spectrum. Theorem 1.7 implies that $\rho_j\varphi$ is continuous. We select one $k \in E$.

Let $j \in \{1, \dots, m\} \setminus E$. We shall show that $\rho_j\varphi$ is continuous. Since $j \notin E$ we have $\rho_j\varphi(A) \subseteq C(1)_{V_j}$; hence, for each $a \in A$ we must

have $\rho_j(\varphi(a)) = e(\varphi(a)) \cdot (1)_{V_j}$ by Lemma 2.9. But $e(\varphi(a)) = e_k(\rho_k \varphi(a))$ (also by Lemma 2.9). Hence, $\rho_j \circ \varphi(a) = e_k \circ \rho_k \varphi(a) \cdot (1)_{V_j}$. But e_k and $\rho_k \varphi$ are continuous maps (e_k is continuous by Lemma 2.8 and $\rho_k \varphi$ is continuous by the first part of this proof). Thus, $\rho_j \varphi$ is continuous. Since $\bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{Ker } \rho_j = \{0\}$ (by Proposition 2.7) we can apply Lemma 1.3 to conclude that φ is continuous.

We now fix a V -basis $\{\omega_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ at 0 (see the Definition following Proposition 2.2), and for each i_k we let $i_k: \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_k) \rightarrow {}_V \mathcal{O}_0$ be the natural (continuous, by Proposition 2.3) injection of $\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_k)$ into ${}_V \mathcal{O}_0$ (with the quot $({}_N \mathcal{O}_0)$ -topology). Since A and the spaces $\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_k)$ are all F -spaces and the maps $\varphi, i_k (k \in N)$ are all continuous and since $({}_V \mathcal{O}_0, \text{quot } ({}_N \mathcal{O}_0))$ is separated we can apply Lemma 1.5. Thus, there exists $l \in N$ such that $\varphi(A) \subseteq i_l(\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_l))$ and $i_l^{-1} \circ \varphi: A \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_l)$ is continuous. Choose a holomorphically convex open neighborhood ω of 0 such that $\omega \subseteq \omega_l$, noting that $V \cap \omega$ is globally determined in ω , and let $j: \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega_l) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$ be the (continuous) restriction map. We set $\psi = j \circ i_l^{-1} \circ \varphi: A \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$ and note that ψ is a continuous homomorphism of F -algebras with identity. We let τ be the restriction of the dual map of ψ to $V \cap \omega = M(\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega))$. The other conclusions of the theorem are obtained exactly as in the proof of Theorem 2.11.

3. Analytic structure theorems for natural systems. In this section we apply Theorems 2.11 and 2.12 in order to extend these results to natural systems.

DEFINITION. A *natural system* is a pair $[X, A]$ such that

- (1) X is a Hausdorff space,
- (2) A is an algebra of continuous functions on X containing the constant functions.
- (3) The weak topology on X generated by A is the given topology on X , and
- (4) if $\varphi: A \rightarrow C$ is a k -continuous homomorphism, then there exists $x \in X$ such that $\varphi(f) = f(x)$ for each $f \in A$, where “ k ” denotes the topology of compact convergence on A (inherited from $C(X)$).

NOTE. We shall call X the *spectrum* of the natural system $[X, A]$.

DEFINITION. A natural system $[X, A]$ satisfies (*) provided that (1) X is locally compact, and (2) every open subset of X is σ -compact.

DEFINITION. Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system, and let K be a compact subset of X . The A -convex hull of K is the set $\text{hull}_A(K) = \{x \in X: |f(x)| \leq \|f\|_K \text{ for every } f \in A\}$, where $\|\cdot\|_K$ is the supremum-

on- K seminorm on A . A subset E of X is called A -convex provided that $\text{hull}_A(K) \subseteq E$ whenever K is a compact subset of E .

PROPOSITION 3.1. *Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system. An open subset U of X is A -convex if, and only if, $[U, A|U]$ (equivalently, $[U, \overline{A|U^k}]$) is a natural system.*

Proof. This is just Proposition 1.3 of [13].

PROPOSITION 3.2. *Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system. If $p \in X$, then there exists a base for the topology at p which consists of A -convex open sets.*

Proof. Fix $p \in X$ and let U be a neighborhood of p . Since the topology of X is the A -topology there exist $f_1, \dots, f_m \in A$ such that each $f_j(p) = 0$ and $V(f_1, \dots, f_m) = \{x \in X : |f_j(x)| < 1, j = 1, \dots, m\} \subseteq U$. It is easily verified that $V(f_1, \dots, f_m)$ is A -convex.

Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system with X a locally compact space. For each open subset U of X we set $A_U = \overline{A|U^k}$, the k -completion of $A|U$. Since X is locally compact, so is U . Hence, $\overline{A|U^k}$ is just the closure of $A|U$ in $C(U)$. If U and V are open and $U \subseteq V$, we define $r_V^U: A_U \rightarrow A_V$ by $r_V^U(f) = f|U$ for $f \in A_U$. It is easily verified that each r_V^U is a continuous homomorphism of algebras. Moreover, $\{(A_U; U \text{ open}), (r_V^U; U, V \text{ open}, U \subseteq V)\}$ is a presheaf on X . We denote by \mathcal{A} the sheaf generated by this presheaf and by \mathcal{A}_p the stalk of \mathcal{A} at p . We make some observations about \mathcal{A}_p . First, $\mathcal{A}_p = \lim_{\leftarrow} \{(A_U; p \in U \text{ open}), (r_V^U; U, V \text{ open}, p \in U \subseteq V)\}$, and \mathcal{A}_p is a local algebra whose maximal ideal consists of all $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_p$ such that there exists an open set U containing p and $f \in A_U$ for which $f(p) = 0$ and $r_U(f) = \alpha$. We note also that \mathcal{A} is a subsheaf of \mathcal{C} (the sheaf of germs of continuous functions on X) and obtain another way of regarding \mathcal{A}_p : the germ of $f \in C(U)$ at p belongs to \mathcal{A}_p if, and only if, there exists a neighborhood V of p such that $V \subseteq U$ and $f|V \in A_V$. We shall use the "germ" notation, writing " $(f)_p$ " for " $r_U(f)$ " whenever $f \in A_U$ (r_U being the natural map of A_U into \mathcal{A}_p), and " $f|V$ " instead of " $r_V^U(f)$ " ($f \in A_U, V \subseteq U$). We refer the reader to Chapter IV of [6] for material on sheaves and presheaves.

THEOREM 3.3. *Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system which satisfies (*). Suppose $p \in X$ and there exists a homomorphism $\varphi: \mathcal{A}_p \rightarrow {}_n\mathcal{O}_0$ having rank > 1 . Then there exists an A -convex open set U in X containing p , a polydisc Δ about 0 in \mathbb{C}^n , and a continuous map $\tau: \Delta \rightarrow U$ such that*

- (1) $\tau(0) = p$,
- (2) if $f \in A_U$, then $f \circ \tau \in \mathcal{O}(\Delta)$, and
- (3) if $f \in A_U$, then $(f \circ \tau)_0 = \mathcal{P}((f)_p)$.

Proof. Fix a base $\mathcal{U}_p = \{U\}$ for the topology at p consisting of A -convex open sets. If $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A}_p)$ has dimension >1 , then there exists $U \in \mathcal{U}_p$ such that $\mathcal{P} \circ r_U(A_U)$ has dimension >1 . Since U is σ -compact, A_U is an F -algebra. We apply Theorem 2.11 and obtain a polydisc Δ about 0 in \mathbb{C}^n and a continuous map $\tau: \Delta \rightarrow M(A_U) = U$ (by Proposition 3.1), such that $f \circ \tau \in \mathcal{O}(\Delta)$ and $(f \circ \tau)_0 = \mathcal{P}r_U(f) = \mathcal{P}((f)_p)$. We know that $\tau(0) = q \in U$. If $q \neq p$, then we can choose $f \in A_U$ such that $f(q) = 0, f(p) \neq 0$. Since $f(p) \neq 0$ we have that $(f)_p$ has an inverse in \mathcal{A}_p . Hence, $\mathcal{P}((f)_p)$ is invertible in ${}_n\mathcal{O}_0$. But $\mathcal{P}((f)_p) = (f \circ \tau)_0$ and $f \circ \tau(0) = 0$ since $\tau(0) = q$ and $f(q) = 0$. Thus, we must have $q = p$.

THEOREM 3.4. *Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system which satisfies (*). Suppose $p \in X$ and there exist $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$ and a homomorphism $\mathcal{P}: \mathcal{A}_p \rightarrow {}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ having rank >1 . Then there exists an A -convex open neighborhood U of p in X , a holomorphically convex open neighborhood ω of 0 in \mathbb{C}^n and a continuous map $\tau: V \cap \omega \rightarrow U$ such that*

- (1) $\tau(0) = p$,
- (2) if $f \in A_U$, then $f \circ \tau \in \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$, and
- (3) if $f \in A_U$, then $(f \circ \tau)_0 = \mathcal{P}((f)_p)$.

Proof. The proof is essentially the same as that of the preceding theorem: Theorem 2.12 rather than 2.11 is invoked at the appropriate place.

LEMMA 3.5. *Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system with X locally compact and let U be an A -convex open subset of X . If $h_1, \dots, h_n \in A_U$ and if we set $h = (h_1, \dots, h_n): U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$, then $h^{-1}(\Delta)$ is an A -convex open set for each polydisc Δ in \mathbb{C}^n .*

Proof. Fix a compact subset K of $h^{-1}(\Delta)$. If $x \in \text{hull}_{A_U}(K)$, then for each polynomial p we have $|ph(x)| \leq \|ph\|_K = \|p\|_{h(K)}$ and conclude that $h(x) \in \text{hull}_{\text{poly}}(h(K)) \subseteq \Delta$. Thus, $x \in h^{-1}(\Delta)$. Now, if $x \in \text{hull}_A(K)$, then $x \in U$ (U is A -convex) and if $f \in A_U$, then for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $f_\varepsilon \in A$ such that $\|f - f_\varepsilon\|_{K \cup \{x\}} < \varepsilon$. But then $|f(x)| \leq |f(x)| \leq |f_\varepsilon(x)| + \varepsilon \leq \|f_\varepsilon\|_K + \varepsilon \leq \|f\|_K + 2\varepsilon$. Since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrary, we conclude that $x \in \text{hull}_{A_U}(K)$. Hence, $x \in h^{-1}(\Delta)$.

We now include a sketch of an extension of Proposition 3.25 of [3a] to F -algebras.

LEMMA 3.6. *Let A be a uniform F -algebra with identity and*

assume that the spectrum X of A is locally compact. Let p be a G_δ -point in X , U a neighborhood of p , Y a topological space, and $h: U \rightarrow Y$. If for each $a \in A$ there exists a complex-valued function g defined in a neighborhood of $h(p)$ such that $a = g \circ h$ in some neighborhood of p , then h is injective in some neighborhood of p .

Proof. Using the local compactness of X we choose a nested base $\{U_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ at p such that $U_1 \subseteq U$. Fix an ascending sequence $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ of compact sets such that $U \subseteq K_1$, $K_n \subseteq K_{n+1}^0$ ($n \geq 1$), and $\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty K_n = X$ (we may assume that U is relatively compact by intersecting it with K_1^0).

If h is not injective in any neighborhood of p , then as in [3a] we may choose sequences $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ and $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ in X such that for each j we have $x_j \neq y_j$, and (#) for each $a \in A$ there exists $j(a)$ such that $a(x_j) = a(y_j)$ ($j \geq j(a)$). Construct a sequence $\{a_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ in A such that for each j we have $\|a_j\|_j = 1$, $a_j(x_j) \neq a_j(y_j)$, and $a_j(x_k) = a_j(y_k)$ ($k > j$). (It may be necessary to use a subsequence of the x_j 's to accomplish this.) The estimates which finish the proof can be obtained by the same procedures used in [3a]. We state the main steps. Let $b_1 = a_1$ and define $b_{j+1} = 6^{-1}a_{j+1}[b_j(x_j) - b_j(y_j)]$ for $j \geq 1$. It is easily checked that (1) $b_j(x_j) \neq b_j(y_j)$ for each j , (2) $\|b_j\|_j \leq 3^{-j+1}$ for each j , and (3) $\|b_{j+k}\|_{j+k} \leq 2^{-1}3^{-k} \|b_j(x_j) - b_j(y_j)\|$ for each j and k . We conclude from (2) that $\sum_j b_j$ converges in A (say, to b), and from (3) that for each j we have $|b(x_j) - b(y_j)| \geq 2^{-1} \|b_j(x_j) - b_j(y_j)\| > 0$, a violation of (#).

LEMMA 3.7. Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system which satisfies (*). Suppose $p \in X$ and $\varphi: \mathcal{A}_p \rightarrow {}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ is a surjective homomorphism. Choose an A -convex neighborhood U of p and h_1, \dots, h_n such $\varphi((h_j)_p) = (z_j | V)_0$ ($j = 1, \dots, n$). There exists a polydisc Δ about 0 in \mathbb{C}^n and a continuous map $\tau: V \cap \Delta \rightarrow U$ such that (1) $\tau(0) = p$, and (2) if $f \in A_U$, then $f \circ \tau \in \mathcal{O}(V \cap \Delta)$ and $(f \circ \tau)_0 = \varphi((f)_p)$. (Theorem 3.4.)

Suppose W is an A -convex neighborhood of p which is contained in U . Then there exists a neighborhood ω of 0 in \mathbb{C}^n such that (1) $\omega \subseteq \Delta$, (2) $\varphi \circ r_W(A_W) \subseteq i_\omega(\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega))$, and (3) i_ω is injective. Let $\psi_W = i_\omega^{-1} \circ \varphi \circ r_W: A_W \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)$, and let $\tau_W: V \cap \omega \rightarrow W$ be the dual of ψ_W restricted to $V \cap \omega$ ($\subseteq M_{\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega)}$). Then (4) if $f \in A_U$, then $\psi_W(f | W) = \psi_U(f) | V \cap \omega$, and (5) $\tau_W = \tau | V \cap \omega$.

Proof. Statements (1), (2), and (3) follow from Theorem 3.4 and the fact that $\varphi(r_W(A_W))$ has dimension greater than one. We next consider statement (4). Recall that we obtain Δ and $\psi_U: A_U \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V \cap \Delta)$ by first choosing a neighborhood ω' of 0 such that $\varphi \circ r_U(A_U) \subseteq i_{\omega'}(\mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega'))$ and $i_{\omega'}$ is injective, with $\psi'_U: A_U \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega') (= i_{\omega'}^{-1} \circ \varphi \circ r_U)$.

We have the following diagram (unlabelled arrows are restriction maps).

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \psi_U & & \\
 & \swarrow & & \searrow & \\
 A_U & \xrightarrow{\psi'_U} & \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega') & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{O}(V \cap A) \\
 \downarrow & & \searrow & \swarrow & \\
 A_W & \xrightarrow{\psi_W} & \mathcal{O}(V \cap \omega) & &
 \end{array}$$

Statement (4) follows.

If $\zeta \in V \cap \omega$, then $\tau_W(\zeta) \in W$ satisfies $f(\tau_W(\zeta)) = \psi_W f(\zeta)$ ($f \in A_W$). In particular, for $f \in A_U$ we have $f(\tau_W(\zeta)) = (\psi_U(f) | V \cap \omega)(\zeta) = \psi_U(f(\zeta)) = f(\tau(\zeta))$. Since $A_U | W$ separates the points of W we conclude that $\tau_W = \tau$ on $V \cap \omega$.

THEOREM 3.8. *Let $[X, A]$ be a natural system which satisfies (*). Suppose $p \in X$ is a G_δ -point and $\varphi: \mathcal{A}_p \rightarrow {}_V\mathcal{O}_0$ is an isomorphism (onto) for some $V \in {}_n\mathcal{V}$. Then there exists an A -convex open neighborhood W_0 of p , a polydisc Δ_0 about 0 in \mathbb{C}^n , and a homeomorphism τ_0 of $V \cap \Delta_0$ onto W_0 such that (1) $\tau_0(0) = p$, (2) $f \mapsto f \circ \tau_0$ is a topological isomorphism of A_{W_0} onto $\mathcal{O}(V \cap \Delta_0)$, and (3) if $f \in A_{W_0}$, then $\varphi((f)_p) = (f \circ \tau_0)_0$.*

Proof. Fix an A -convex open neighborhood U of p and $h_1, \dots, h_n \in A_U$ such that $\varphi((h_j)_p) = (z_j | V)_0$ ($j = 1, \dots, n$). Choose a polydisc Δ about 0 in \mathbb{C}^n and $\tau: V \cap \Delta \rightarrow U$ a continuous map such that $\tau(0) = p$ and $f \circ \tau \in \mathcal{O}(V \cap \Delta)$ and $(f \circ \tau)_0 = \varphi((f)_p)$ for each $f \in A_U$. Let ψ be the map $f \mapsto f \circ \tau$ of A_U into $\mathcal{O}(V \cap \Delta)$. Then $\psi(A_U)$ contains $\{z_1 | V, \dots, z_n | V\}$; hence τ is a relative homeomorphism. Let $h = (h_1, \dots, h_n): U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$. The map h is continuous and $h\tau$ is the identity on $V \cap \Delta$.

We now verify two facts: (1) $p \in \text{int}[h^{-1}(V \cap \Delta)]$ and (2) h is injective in some neighborhood of p .

(1) Let $U_0 = h^{-1}(\Delta)$. Then, by Lemma 3.5, U_0 is an A -convex neighborhood of p . Let $\{U_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ be a nested base at p such that $U_1 \subseteq U_0$, let $E = h^{-1}(V \cap \Delta)$ and define for $S \subseteq U_0$ the closed ideal $I(S)$ in A_{U_0} by setting $I(S) = \{f \in A_{U_0}; f | S = 0\}$. If $f \in I(E)$, then $f | E = 0$. By Lemma 3.7 we have $\tau_{U_0} = \tau$ on $V \cap \omega_0$ (ω_0 an appropriate neighborhood of 0 in \mathbb{C}^n corresponding to U_0). If $\zeta \in V \cap \omega_0$, then $\tau_{U_0}(\zeta) \in E$, since $h(\tau_{U_0}(\zeta)) = h(\tau(\zeta)) = \zeta \in V \cap \Delta$. Thus, $f \circ \tau_{U_0} = 0$ and $\varphi((f)_p) = (f \circ \tau_{U_0})_0 = 0$. But φ is injective; hence, $(f)_p = 0$ and $f | U_j = 0$ for some j . We have shown that $I(E) = \bigcup_{j=1}^\infty I(E \cup U_j)$. Now $I(E)$ is an F -space and each $I(E \cup U_j)$ is a closed subspace of $I(E)$. Since $I(E)$ is a Baire space and proper closed subspaces must have empty interior

we conclude that $I(E) = I(E \cup U_k)$ for some k . If there exists $x \in U_k \setminus E$, then $h(x) \in \mathcal{A} \setminus V \cap \mathcal{A}$ and there exists $g \in \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{A})$ such that $g(h(x)) = 1$ and $g|_{V \cap \mathcal{A}} = 0$. Since $g \circ h \in A_{U_0}$ we have $I(E) \neq I(E \cup U_k)$. (Approximate g on \mathcal{A} by polynomials $\{p_m\}$, then $p_m(h_1, \dots, h_n) \in A_{U_0}$ and $p_m(h_1, \dots, h_n) \rightarrow g \circ h$ in A_{U_0}).

(2) We shall apply Lemma 3.6 with $X = U$, U_0 the neighborhood of p , and $h: U_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ the function in question. Fix $f \in A_U$. Then $f \circ \tau \in \mathcal{O}(V \cap \mathcal{A})$ and there exists $g \in \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{A})$ such that $f \circ \tau = g|_{V \cap \mathcal{A}}$. Consider $g \circ h \in A_{U_0}$. We claim that $\mathcal{P}((f)_p) = \mathcal{P}((g \circ h)_p)$. The latter is $(g \circ h \circ \tau_{U_0})_0$ (Lemma 3.7) $= (g|_{V \cap \omega_0})_0$. The former is $(f \circ \tau)_0$. But $(f \circ \tau)_0 = (g|_{V \cap \mathcal{A}})_0 = (g|_{V \cap \omega_0})_0$. Thus, $(g \circ h)_p = (f)_p$ and $f = g \circ h$ near p . Apply Lemma 3.6.

We now choose an A -convex open neighborhood W of p such that $W \subseteq h^{-1}(V \cap \mathcal{A})$ and h is injective on W . Choose a polydisc \mathcal{A}_0 about 0 in \mathbb{C}^n such that $V \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \subseteq \tau^{-1}(W)$. We set $W_0 = h^{-1}(V \cap \mathcal{A}_0) \cap W$ ($= h^{-1}(\mathcal{A}_0) \cap W$). Then W_0 is an A -convex open neighborhood of p and (1) $V \cap \mathcal{A}_0 = \tau^{-1}(W_0)$, (2) $h(W_0) \subseteq V \cap \mathcal{A}_0$, (3) τh is the identity on W_0 , and (4) $h\tau$ is the identity on $V \cap \mathcal{A}_0$. Statements (2) and (4) are clear. The first follows from

$$\begin{aligned} \tau^{-1}(W_0) &= \tau^{-1}(h^{-1}(V \cap \mathcal{A}_0) \cap W) = \tau^{-1}h^{-1}(V \cap \mathcal{A}_0) \cap \tau^{-1}(W) \\ &= (h\tau)^{-1}(V \cap \mathcal{A}_0) \cap \tau^{-1}(W) = (V \cap \mathcal{A}_0) \cap \tau^{-1}(W) = V \cap \mathcal{A}_0. \end{aligned}$$

The third is proved as follows. If $x \in W_0$, then $\tau h(x) \in W_0 \subseteq W$ and $h(\tau h(x)) = h\tau(h(x)) = h(x)$. But h is injective on W , so $\tau h(x) = x$.

Let τ_0 be the surjective homeomorphism $\tau|_{\mathcal{A}_0 \cap V}: \mathcal{A}_0 \cap V \rightarrow W_0$. This map satisfies the conclusions of the theorem.

REMARKS. We close with some remarks on the preceding results.

(1) There is an obvious corollary to the special natural system $[M(A), A]$ where A is a uniform F -algebra with identity. This corollary is in the spirit of Clayton's localization of Gleason's theorem, although we do not use the same sheaf.

(2) It is clear that the condition (*) could be replaced by a weaker condition concerning only the nature of the topology of X near p . For example, one alternative would be $(*p)$: there exists a base for the topology at p consisting of A -convex, σ -compact open sets (X is assumed locally compact).

(3) We assumed in the four main theorems that the rank of the homomorphism φ was > 1 . There are two reasons for this assumption. First, it now appears that in Theorems 2.11 and 2.12 the assumption is necessary in order to guarantee that φ is continuous: Benedetto (see [1]) asserts the existence of commutative F -algebras which admit discontinuous complex-valued homomorphisms. Second, even if φ is continuous, the conclusion is guaranteed to be meaningless: $\tau(\omega)$ (or

$\tau(V \cap \omega)$) will be a single point in $M(A)$ (or in U) and $f \circ \tau$ will be a constant function for any f defined on $M(A)$ (or U). Thus, some restriction on the nature of φ is essential in order to avoid the certainty of a trivial conclusion.

(4) The sheaf used by Carpenter and Loy in the case $[M(A), A]$ was constructed so that each algebra A'_U was an F -algebra (without topological restrictions on $M(A)$). However, there are two reasons we choose our approach rather than theirs. First, their algebras A'_U are *not* in general algebras of continuous functions on $C(U)$ (they are completions of $A|U$ relative to a topology with respect to which $C(U)$ is not in general complete). Second, the spectrum of A'_U will be unrelated to $M(A)$ unless the open set U is of the type we choose to consider.

(5) The example given in [3a] to show the necessity of the assumption that p be a G_δ -point remains valid in our setting.

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Received August 30, 1972. Research for this paper was supported in part by NSF Grant GP 18729A1.

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The *Pacific Journal of Mathematics* is issued monthly as of January 1966. Regular subscription rate: \$48.00 a year (6 Vols., 12 issues). Special rate: \$24.00 a year to individual members of supporting institutions.

Subscriptions, orders for back numbers, and changes of address should be sent to Pacific Journal of Mathematics, 103 Highland Boulevard, Berkeley, California, 94708.

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Printed at Kokusai Bunken Insatsusha (International Academic Printing Co., Ltd.), 270, 3-chome Totsuka-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160, Japan.

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Pacific Journal of Mathematics

Vol. 49, No. 2

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