

Larry Harris, University of Kentucky.

Title: Removable singularities of analytic functions and real rank zero

Abstract: Let A be a Banach algebra with identity and let D be the intersection of the open unit ball B of A and the identity component of the set of invertible elements of A . We say that A has the removable singularity property if every bounded holomorphic function on D has a holomorphic extension to B . We discuss examples and show that any C^* -algebra of real rank zero has the removable singularity property. We conjecture that this property characterizes the C^* -algebras of real rank zero.