

A commutative  $C^*$ -algebra,  $\Gamma: A \rightarrow C_0(\Delta(A))$   
its Gelfand transform.

Then  $\Gamma$  is an isometric  $*$ -isomorphism of  $A$  onto  $C_0(\Delta(A))$

Proof:

- ① Thm X.25(g)  $\Rightarrow \forall x \in A \quad \|\Gamma(x)\| = r(x)$   
 $A$  commutative  $\Rightarrow$  each  $t \in A$  is normal, thus  
 $r(t) = \|t\|$  by Prop. XI.3

It follows that  $\Gamma$  is an isometry of  $A$  onto  $C_0(\Delta(A))$

- ②  $\Gamma$  is a homomorphism by Thm X.25(a)  
Further, for  $t \in A, h \in \Delta(A)$  we have  
 $\Gamma(t^*)(h) = h(t^*) = \overline{h(t)} = \overline{\Gamma(t)(h)}$   
 $\uparrow$   
Prop. XI.8(c)

So,  $\Gamma$  is a  $*$ -homomorphism.

- ③  $\Gamma(A)$  is a subalgebra of  $C_0(\Delta(A))$  separating points  
of  $\Delta(A)$  (Thm X.25(j)) and, moreover

$f \in \Gamma(A) \Rightarrow \bar{f} \in \Gamma(A)$  by ②. The Stone-Weierstrass  
theorem says that  $\Gamma(A)$  is dense in  $C_0(\Delta(A))$

$\Uparrow$  more precisely:  $A$  unital  $\Rightarrow 1 \in \Gamma(A)$ , so  
 $\Gamma(A)$  contains constants,  
so we can use S-W theorem,  
for non-unital case see ④ below  $\Downarrow$

By ① we get that  $\Gamma(A)$  is closed in  $C_0(\Delta(A))$ ,  
so  $\Gamma(A) = C_0(\Delta(A))$  if  
 $A$  is unital

(4)  $A$  unital, take  $\Gamma^+ : A^+ \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(\Delta(A^+))$

We know already that  $\Gamma^+$  is onto.

It follows from Th. X.25(5) that

$$\Gamma^+(\{(a, 0), a \in A\}) = \{f \in \Gamma^+(A^+) ; f(\infty) = 0\}$$

$$\text{So, } \Gamma(A) = \mathcal{C}_0(\Delta(A)).$$

(5) It follows that  $A$  is unital if and only if  $\Delta(A)$  is compact  
( $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{C}_0(\Delta(A))$  is unital)

□

Corollary X1.10  $A, B$  commutative  $C^*$ -algebras

$A, B$  are  $*$ -isomorphic  $\Leftrightarrow \Delta(A)$  and  $\Delta(B)$  are homeomorphic

Proof:  $\Rightarrow$ :  $T: A \rightarrow B$   $*$ -isomorphism onto

By Prop. X1.6  $\|T\| \leq 1$  and  $\|T^{-1}\| \leq 1$ ,

so  $T$  is an isometry

Thus  $T': B^* \rightarrow A^*$  is a  $W^*$ - $W^*$  homeomorphism

Moreover,  $T'(\Delta(B)) = \Delta(A)$  as

$T$  is an isomorphism of Banach algebras

$\Leftarrow$   $\Delta(A)$  homeomorphic to  $\Delta(B) \Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_0(\Delta(A))$  is  
 $*$ -isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_0(\Delta(B))$

Hence  $A \cong \mathcal{C}_0(\Delta(A))$  is  $*$ -isomorphic

to  $B \cong \mathcal{C}_0(\Delta(B))$