



# Representation of $H$ -closed monoreflections in archimedean $\ell$ -groups with weak unit

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**Abstract.** The category of the title is called  $\mathcal{W}$ . This has all free objects  $F(I)$  ( $I$  a set). For an object class  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $H\mathcal{A}$  consists of all homomorphic images of  $\mathcal{A}$ -objects. This note continues the study of the  $H$ -closed monoreflections  $(\mathcal{R}, r)$  (meaning  $H\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}$ ), about which we show (*inter alia*):  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  if and only if  $A$  is a countably up-directed union from  $H\{rF(\omega)\}$ . The meaning of this is then analyzed for two important cases: the maximum essential monoreflection  $r = c^3$ , where  $c^3F(\omega) = C(\mathbb{R}^\omega)$ , and  $C \in H\{c(\mathbb{R}^\omega)\}$  means  $C = C(T)$ , for  $T$  a closed subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^\omega$ ; the epicomplete, and maximum, monoreflection,  $r = \beta$ , where  $\beta F(\omega) = B(\mathbb{R}^\omega)$ , the Baire functions, and  $E \in H\{B(\mathbb{R}^\omega)\}$  means  $E$  is an epicompletion (not “the”) of such a  $C(T)$ .

## 1 Introduction

$\mathcal{W}$  is the category of archimedean  $\ell$ -groups  $G$  with distinguished weak order unit  $e_G$ , and morphisms  $G \xrightarrow{\varphi} H$  the  $\ell$ -group homomorphisms with  $\varphi(e_G) =$

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$e_H$ . We compress the discussion in §1 of [11], which see for more detail. “ $A \leq B$ ” means  $A$  is a  $\mathcal{W}$ -subobject of  $B$ .

The forgetful functor  $\mathcal{W} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$  has the left adjoint  $F$ . An  $F(I)$  is the free object on the set  $I$ , and this is the  $\mathcal{W}$ -subobject of  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}^I}$  generated by the constant function 1, and all projections  $\pi_i : \mathbb{R}^I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  ( $i \mapsto \pi_i$  is the “insertion of generators”  $I \hookrightarrow F(I)$ ).

A full subcategory  $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{W}$  is monoreflective if  $\forall A \in \mathcal{W} \exists$  monic  $A \xrightarrow{r_A} rA$ ,  $rA \in \mathcal{R}$ , with the property:  $\forall A \xrightarrow{\varphi} R$ ,  $R \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $\exists!$   $rA \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} R$  with  $\bar{\varphi}r_A = \varphi$ . We usually write  $A \leq rA$  for the  $r_A$ . We abuse language and notation by saying as convenient  $(\mathcal{R}, r)$  or  $\mathcal{R}$ , or  $r$ , is a monoreflection.

The class of monoreflections is ordered by:  $r \leq s$  means  $\forall A \exists$  monic  $f$  with  $s_A = fr_A$ .

Let  $M \xrightarrow{m} M' \in \mathcal{W}$ . Then,  $A \in \text{inj}\{m\}$  means:  $\forall M \xrightarrow{\varphi} A \exists M' \xrightarrow{\varphi'} A$  with  $\varphi'm = \varphi$ .

“ $\omega$ ” stands for the natural numbers, or any countable set, or the ordinal or cardinal.

**Theorem 1.1** ([11], 2.7). *Suppose  $(\mathcal{R}, r)$  is an  $H$ -closed monoreflection. Then  $\mathcal{R} = \text{inj}\{F(\omega) \leq rF(\omega)\}$ .*

Theorem 1.1 is one of the main results of [11] and is the cornerstone of that paper. It devolves from categorical generalities, and many special features of  $\mathcal{W}$ , some of which we describe below, and some later when needed.

Another main result of [11] is the characterization of the  $rF(\omega)$  in Theorem 1.1. Namely, 3.6 there says these are exactly the  $S$  with  $F(\omega) \stackrel{\sigma}{\leq} S \leq B(\mathbb{R}^\omega)$  ( $B$  the Baire functions), with  $\sigma$  epic and  $S \circ S^\omega = S$  (that is,  $\forall s$  and countable  $\{s_n\}$  from  $S$ , the function  $\mathbb{R}^\omega \xrightarrow{\langle s_n \rangle} \mathbb{R}^\omega \xrightarrow{s} \mathbb{R}$  lies in  $S$ ). The cases for  $c^3$  and  $\beta$  are mentioned in the Abstract, and will be deployed below.

Let  $\bigcup^\omega$  denote a countably up-directed union, in Sets or in  $\mathcal{W}$ . For  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \text{Sets}$  or  $\mathcal{W}$ ,  $A \in \bigcup^\omega \mathcal{A}$  means there is a family  $\mathcal{A}'$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ -subobjects of  $A$  with  $A = \bigcup^\omega \mathcal{A}'$ .

For  $I \in \text{Sets}$ , let  $\mathcal{P}_0(I) = \{J \subseteq I \mid |J| \leq \omega\}$ . Then  $I = \bigcup^\omega \mathcal{P}_0(I)$ . For  $A \in \mathcal{W}$ ,  $A = \bigcup^\omega \{B \leq A \mid |B| \leq \omega\}$ . From the form of the  $F(I)$ , and the fact that any  $f \in C(\mathbb{R}^I)$  factors through a countable subproduct, we have  $F(I) = \bigcup^\omega \{F(J) \mid J \in \mathcal{P}_0(I)\}$ .

A crucial ingredient to what we have said so far, and necessary later, is the Yosida representation of  $\mathcal{W}$ -objects:

$\mathbb{R}$  is the real numbers, and  $\overline{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  under the obvious topology and order. For  $X$  a topological space,  $D(X) = \{f \in C(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}}) \mid f^{-1}\mathbb{R} \text{ dense in } X\}$ . This is a lattice containing  $C(X)$ , but has only partly defined  $+$ . For  $A \in \mathcal{W}$ ,  $A \leq D(X)$  means  $A \overset{\mathcal{W}}{\approx} A' \subseteq D(X)$ , where  $A'$  is closed under the partly defined data required to make  $A' \in \mathcal{W}$ .

The Yosida representation of  $A \in \mathcal{W}$  (see [12]) says:

- (1)  $A \leq D(\mathcal{Y}A)$  for a unique compact Hausdorff  $\mathcal{Y}A$  for which  $A$  separates the points.
- (2) For  $A \xrightarrow{\varphi} B \in \mathcal{W}$ , there is a unique continuous  $\mathcal{Y}A \xleftarrow{\mathcal{Y}\varphi} \mathcal{Y}B$  for which  $\varphi(a) = a \circ \mathcal{Y}\varphi \ \forall a \in A$ . If  $\varphi$  is onto, then  $\mathcal{Y}\varphi$  is an embedding,  $\mathcal{Y}A \hookrightarrow \mathcal{Y}B$ .

The Yosida representation of  $C(X)$ ,  $X$  Tychonoff, is Čech-Stone extension  $C(X) \ni f \mapsto \beta f \in D(\beta X)$ .

## 2 Main Theorem

We expand on Theorem 1.1.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Suppose  $(\mathcal{R}, r)$  is an  $H$ -closed monoreflection in  $\mathcal{W}$ . For  $A \in \mathcal{W}$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $A \in \mathcal{R}$ .
- (2) There is  $I$  with a surjection  $rF(I) \twoheadrightarrow A$ .
- (3)  $A \in \text{inj}\{F(\omega) \leq rF(\omega)\}$ .
- (4) Each countable  $B \overset{i_B}{\leq} A$  ( $i_B$  labels the inclusion) has the property

$$\text{there is } rB \xrightarrow{\bar{i}_B} A \text{ with } \bar{i}_B rB = i_B. \quad (*)$$

- (5)  $A \in \bigcup_{\omega}^{\omega} H\{rF(\omega)\}$ .
- (6)  $A \in \bigcup^{\omega} \mathcal{R}$ .

*Proof.* (1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (2) is quite general: For (1)  $\implies$  (2), take  $F(I) \xrightarrow{\varphi} A$ . We have  $rF(I) \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} A$  with  $\bar{\varphi} r_{F(I)} = \varphi$  because  $A \in \mathcal{R}$ , and  $\bar{\varphi}$  is a surjection.

(2)  $\implies$  (1) because  $\mathcal{R} = H\mathcal{R}$ .

(1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) is exactly Theorem 1.1.

(1)  $\implies$  (2) is obvious (in fact, for any  $B \leq A$ ).

(4)  $\implies$  (5). We isolate two steps of the proof, just assuming  $(\mathcal{R}, r)$  monoreflective (not assuming  $(H\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R})$ . Proofs of these items are obvious.

Step (i). Suppose  $B \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $|B| \leq \omega$ . Take any  $F(\omega) \xrightarrow{\varphi} B$ . We then take  $\bar{\varphi}$  as shown

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(\omega) & \leq & rF(\omega) \\ \varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow \bar{\varphi} \\ B & \leq & rB \end{array}$$

commuting, so  $B \leq \bar{\varphi}(rF(\omega)) \leq rB$ .

Step (ii). Suppose  $A = \bigcup_{\alpha}^{\omega} B_{\alpha}$ , where each  $B_{\alpha} \leq A$  has the property (\*) in (4), with corresponding  $\bar{i}_{B_{\alpha}}$ . Then  $A = \bigcup_{\alpha}^{\omega} \bar{i}_{B_{\alpha}}(rB_{\alpha})$ .

Now suppose  $H\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}$ . In Step (i), we then have  $\bar{\varphi}_R(rF(\omega)) \in \mathcal{R}$ , thus  $\bar{\varphi}_R(rF(\omega)) = rB$ , because the embedding  $B \leq rB$  is “minimal to  $\mathcal{R}$ ” (see [10]). This makes  $rB \in H\{rF(\omega)\}$ .

Finally: Write  $A = \bigcup_{\alpha}^{\omega} \{B \mid B \leq A, |B| \leq \omega\}$ . By (4), step (ii) applies and  $A = \bigcup_{\alpha}^{\omega} \{\bar{i}_B(rB) \mid B \leq A, |B| \leq \omega\}$ . Since each  $rB \in H\{rF(\omega)\}$ , also each  $\bar{i}_B(rB) \in H\{rF(\omega)\}$ . Thus, (5).

(5)  $\implies$  (6) because  $H\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}$ .

(6)  $\implies$  (3) This amounts to showing that  $\text{inj}\{F(\omega) \leq rF(\omega)\}$  is closed under  $\bigcup_{\alpha}^{\omega}$ , since we already noted (3)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (1). So suppose  $A = \bigcup_{\alpha}^{\omega} R_{\alpha}$ ,  $R_{\alpha} = \text{inj}\{F(\omega) \leq rF(\omega)\}$ , and take  $F(\omega) \xrightarrow{\varphi} A$ . Since  $|F(\omega)| = \omega$ , also  $|\varphi(F(\omega))| \leq \omega$ , and  $\varphi(F(\omega)) \leq$  some  $R_{\alpha}$ . So there is  $rF(\omega) \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} R_{\alpha} \in A$  extending  $\varphi$ .  $\square$

We now examine 2.1 for the important cases  $r = c^3$  and  $r = \beta$ .

### 3 $c^3$ (Closed under countable composition)

“ $c^3$ ” stands for “closed under countable composition”, originally studied in [13]. The definition goes as follows.

Each  $A \in \mathcal{W}$  has its Yosida representation  $A \leq D(\mathcal{Y}A)$ . A sequence  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  from  $A$  has  $\bigcap a^{-1}\mathbb{R}$  dense in  $\mathcal{Y}A$  (Baire Category Theorem) and

let  $\langle a_n \rangle = \bigcap_n a_n^{-1}\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\omega$  be the function defined by  $\pi_j(\langle a_n \rangle(x)) = a_j(x)$   $\forall j$ . For  $f \in C(\mathbb{R}^\omega)$ , we have the composition  $\bigcap_m a_n^{-1}(\mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{\langle a_n \rangle} \mathbb{R}^\omega \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R}$ .  $A$  is  $c^3$  if each such  $f \circ \langle a_n \rangle$  extends over  $\mathcal{Y}A$  to an element of  $A$ .

$c^3$  will denote either the object class, or reflections  $A \leq c^3 A$ . We assemble known facts.

**Theorem 3.1.** (Each item without specific reference can be located in [11] §1, with reference to original sources.)

(a) ([13]).  $A$  is  $c^3$  if and only if  $A = \overset{\omega}{\bigcup}\{C(\bigcap_n a_n^{-1}\mathbb{R}) \mid a_1, a_2, \dots \in A\}$  if and only if there is a Tychonoff space  $X$  and a surjection  $C(X) \rightarrow A$ .

(b)  $A$  is  $c^3$  if and only if  $A \approx C(\mathcal{L})$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  a locale (aka, the  $f$ -ring of real-valued continuous functions on a frame  $\mathcal{L}$ ).

(c)  $c^3$  is monoreflective, with reflections  $A \leq c^3 A = \varinjlim\{C(\bigcap_n a_n^{-1}\mathbb{R}) \mid a_1, a_2, \dots \in A\}$ , and is an essential monoreflection (meaning that  $A \leq c^3 A$  is a essential monic).

The class  $c^3$  is  $H$ -closed.

(d)  $c^3$  is the largest essential monoreflection (with the smallest class of objects).

(e)  $\forall$  set  $I$ ,  $c^3 F(I) = C(\mathbb{R}^I) = \overset{\omega}{\bigcup}\{C(\mathbb{R}^J) \mid J \in \mathcal{P}_0(I)\}$ .

We consider the meaning of 2.1 (4) for  $r = c^3$ .

A Tychonoff space  $X$  is called Čech-complete if  $X$  is  $G_\delta$  in  $\beta X$  (see [7]).

We abbreviate “Lindelöf and Čech-complete” to “ $L\check{C}$ ”.

**Theorem 3.2.** If  $X$  is  $L\check{C}$ , then  $H\{C(X)\} = \{C(T) \mid T \text{ closed in } X\}$ .

*Proof.* First note: For any Tychonoff space  $X$  and  $T \subseteq X$ , the restriction  $C(X) \ni f \mapsto f|_T \in C(T)$  defines a  $\mathcal{W}$ -homomorphism  $C(X) \xrightarrow{\rho_T} C(T)$ , and  $\rho_T$  is onto if and only if  $T$  is  $C$ -embedded in  $X$  (which entails the closure  $\overline{T}$  is  $C$ -embedded.) (See [8].)

Now suppose  $X$  is  $L\check{C}$ . Then  $X$  is normal, so any closed  $T$  is  $C$ -embedded, thus  $C(T) \in H\{C(X)\}$ .

For the converse, we shall use details of the Yosida representation; see §1. Any  $A \xrightarrow{\varphi} B$  has the quasi-dual embedding  $\mathcal{Y}A \leftrightarrow \mathcal{Y}B$  for which  $\varphi(a) = a|_{\mathcal{Y}B} \forall a \in A$ . This entails  $a^{-1}\mathbb{R} \cap \mathcal{Y}B$  dense in  $\mathcal{Y}B$ , and thus  $\forall a_1, a_2, \dots \in A$ ,  $(\bigcap_n a_n^{-1}(\mathbb{R})) \cap \mathcal{Y}B = \bigcap_n (a_n^{-1}\mathbb{R} \cap \mathcal{Y}B)$  dense in  $\mathcal{Y}B$  (Baire Category Theorem).

Now, the Yosida representation of a  $C(X)$  is extension over Čech-Stone compactification  $\beta X$ , as  $C(X) \approx \{\beta a \mid a \in C(X)\}$ . And  $X$  is  $\check{L}\check{C}$  if and only if  $\exists a_1, a_2, \dots \in C(X)$  with  $X = \bigcap_n (\beta a_n)^{-1}\mathbb{R}$ .

Suppose  $X$  is  $\check{L}\check{C}$ , and  $C(X) \xrightarrow{\varphi} B$  with Yosida dual embedding  $\beta X \leftarrow \mathcal{Y}B$ . Take  $\{a_n\} \subseteq C(X)$  with  $X = \bigcap_n (\beta a_n)^{-1}\mathbb{R}$  as above. Then  $T = X \cap \mathcal{Y}B = \bigcap_n (\beta a_n)^{-1}\mathbb{R} \cap \mathcal{Y}B$  is dense in  $\mathcal{Y}B$ . (So we can view  $B \leq C(T)$ ), and closed in the normal  $X$  (thus  $C$ -embedded) so  $B = C(T)$ .  $\square$

Summing up, we interpret Theorem 2.1 for  $c^3$  through Theorem 3.2 and some of Theorem 3.1.

**Corollary 3.3.** *For  $A \in \mathcal{W}$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $A \in c^3$ .
- (2) There is  $I$  with a surjection  $C(\mathbb{R}^I) \twoheadrightarrow A$ .
- (3)  $A \in \text{inj}\{F(\omega) \leq C(\mathbb{R}^\omega)\}$ .
- (4) For any countable  $B \leq A$ , also  $c^3 B \leq A$ .
- (5)  $A \subseteq \bigcup_{\omega} \{C(T) \mid T \text{ closed in } \mathbb{R}^\omega\}$ .
- (6)  $A \in \bigcup c^3$ .

*Proof.* This is all quite immediate. We just note: (4) is just Theorem 2.1(5), using Theorem 3.2 for  $X = \mathbb{R}^\omega$ .

(4) is the statement that in Theorem 2.1(4) the  $\bar{i}_B$  are one-to-one. This follows solely from the essentiality of the reflection maps  $B \leq c^3 B$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.4.** (a)  $A \in \bigcup c^3 \not\Rightarrow A \in \bigcup_{\omega} c^3$ . An example is  $A = \{f \in C(\mathbb{R}^\omega) \mid \exists \text{ finite } F \subseteq \omega \text{ s.t. } f = \bar{f} \circ \pi_F\}$ .

(b) Corollary 3.3 (3) and (5) are to be compared with Theorem 3.1(a). The  $X$  in Theorem 3.1(a) is  $\mathcal{Y}A \times \mathbb{N}$ .

(c) We note [7], p. 74:  $T$  is ( $\approx$ ) a closed subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^\omega$  if and only if  $T$  is completely metrizable and separable.

(d) In Corollary 3.3 (5), the  $A = \bigcup_{\omega} C(T)$ 's is a countably directed direct limit,  $A = \varinjlim_{\omega} C(T)$ 's. The Yosida functor converts this to an inverse limit  $\mathcal{Y}A = \varprojlim_{\omega} \beta T$ 's. Using  $A = C(X)$  with  $X$  real compact, and a little fiddling yields  $\bar{X} = \varprojlim_{\omega} T$ 's, and if  $X$  is compact, so are the  $T$ 's. This is more or less a result of Pásynkov [15]. See also [7], p. 220.

(e) An essential reflection  $(\mathcal{R}, r)$  has  $r \leq c^3$  (Theorem 3.1 (d)), and if  $\mathcal{R} = H\mathcal{R}$ , Corollary 3.3 holds *mutatis mutandis*. For  $rF(\omega) = S$  (see

the second paragraph after Theorem 1.1), we have  $F(\omega) \stackrel{\sigma}{\leq} S \leq C(\mathbb{R}^\omega)$ , and “ $\sigma$  epic” is automatic. Examples of this are:  $\mathcal{R}$  = “rings” ( $\mathcal{W}$ -objects  $A$  with a compatible  $f$ -ring multiplication with identity the  $\mathcal{W}$ -unit  $e_A$ ), vector lattices, algebras,  $\dots$ . For example: for rings,  $rF(\omega)$  is the sub- $f$ -ring of  $C(\mathbb{R}^\omega)$  generated by  $F(\omega)$ . In Corollary 3.3 (4), each  $C(T)$  is to be replaced by the set of restrictions  $rF(\omega)|T$ . An additional feature of any essential  $r$  is that  $rF(\omega)|T = r(F(\omega)|T)$ .

(f) The present paper began with an analysis of a version of Corollary 3.3 and some related matters, in the view of a  $c^3$ -object as the  $f$ -ring of real-valued continuous functions on a frame. As such, it was reported in [6]: where  $c^3$  was taken as condition 3.3(3), thus avoiding a reference to the Yosida representation and the reflection is then given an explicit frame-theoretic form. See [4] for details.

#### 4 $\beta$ (Epicomplete)

$E$  is called epicomplete if  $E \xrightarrow{\varphi} \bullet$  monic and epic implies  $\varphi$  an isomorphism. The class of epicomplete objects is denoted  $EC$ .

Recall that, for a Tychonoff space  $X$ ,  $B(X)$  denotes the  $\mathcal{W}$ -object of real-valued Baire functions on  $X$ .

We summarize known features of  $EC$ , prior to the interpretation of Theorem 2.1 for  $\mathcal{R} = EC$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** (Each item without specific reference can be located in [11], with reference to original sources.)

(a)  $E \in EC$  if and only if  $E$  is  $\sigma$ -complete both conditionally, and laterally if and only if  $E \approx D(X)$  with  $X$  basically disconnected (the  $X$  is  $\mathcal{Y}E$ ). Thus, any  $B(X) \in EC$ .

(b) ([3]).  $E \approx C(\mathcal{P})$  with  $\mathcal{P}$  a  $P$ -locale. (Such a  $\mathcal{P}$  is the localic intersection of  $\{S \mid S \text{ is dense cozero in } \mathcal{Y}E\}$ .)

(c)  $EC$  is monoreflective, thus the maximum monoreflection. The reflection of  $A$  is  $\beta A = B(\mathcal{Y}A)/N$ , for a certain  $\sigma$ -ideal  $N$ .

$EC$  is  $H$ -closed, thus  $EC = H\{B(K) \mid K \text{ compact}\}$ .

(d) If  $X$  is Lindelöf and Čech-complete, then  $\beta C(X) = B(X)$ .

(e) For every set  $I$ ,  $\beta F(I) = B(\mathbb{R}^I) = \bigcup_{\omega} \{B(\mathbb{R}^J) \mid J \in \mathcal{P}_0(I)\}$ .

We now interpret Theorem 2.1. Most of this is the routine writing-down of items in Theorem 2.1 using information in Theorem 4.1. An exception is Theorem 2.1 (5), which says  $A \in H\{B(\mathbb{R}^\omega)\}$ . “An” epicompletion of  $A \in \mathcal{W}$  is an epic  $A \leq E$ , with  $E \in EC$ . These are exactly the quotients over  $A$  of  $\beta A$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** *Suppose  $X$  is  $L\check{C}$  (as is  $\mathbb{R}^\omega$ ).*

(a)  $E \in H\{B(X)\}$  if and only if there is  $F$  closed in  $X$  such that  $E$  is an epicompletion of  $C(F)$ .

(b) (Note that an  $F$  in (a) is again  $L\check{C}$ .)  $C(X)$  has a unique epicompletion if and only if  $X$  is discrete and countable (and thus  $X \approx \mathbb{N}$ ,  $C(X) \approx C(\mathbb{N})$ , is already  $EC$ ).

(c) If  $X$  is not countable discrete, there are many epicompletions of  $C(X)$ .

*Proof.* (a) Suppose  $E \in H\{B(X)\}$ , as  $B(X) \xrightarrow{\varphi} E$ . We have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C(X) & \xrightarrow{\beta_C} & \beta C(X) = B(X) \quad (\text{by Theorem 4.1(d)}) \\ \varphi_0 \downarrow & & \downarrow \varphi \\ \varphi(C(X)) & \xrightarrow{e} & E \end{array}$$

where  $\varphi_0$  is the restriction of  $\varphi$ ,  $e$  labels the inclusion, and  $\varphi\beta_C = e\varphi_0$  (obviously), so  $e$  is epic (as a second factor of the epic  $\varphi\beta_C$ ).

By Theorem 3.2,  $\varphi(C(X))$  is the desired  $C(F)$ .

Suppose  $F$  is closed in  $X$  and  $C(F) \xrightarrow{e} E$  is an epicompletion. We then have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C(X) & \xrightarrow{\beta_C} & \beta C(X) \\ \rho \downarrow & & \downarrow \bar{\rho} \\ C(F) & \xrightarrow{e} & E \end{array}$$

where  $\rho$  is the restriction map described at the beginning of the proof of Theorem 3.2, and then  $\exists \bar{\rho}$  with  $\bar{\rho}\beta_C = e\rho$  by the universal mapping property of  $\beta$ .

We have  $C(F) \xrightarrow{i} \bar{\rho}(\beta C(X)) \xrightarrow{j} E$  ( $i, j$  are labels) with  $ji = e$ . But  $\bar{\rho}(\beta C(X)) \in EC$  (by Theorem 4.1(c)), and  $e$  is epic, thus also  $j$ . So  $j$  is equality.



(b) If  $C(X) \approx C(\mathbb{N})$ , already  $C(X) \in EC$ , so is its only epicompletion.

If  $C(X)$  has a unique epicompletion, it must be  $C(X) \leq B(X)$  (Theorem 4.1 (d)), and this must be an essential embedding (because any  $A \in \mathcal{W}$  has a (unique) essential epicompletion ([2], §9)). If  $X$  has a non-void nowhere dense zero-set  $Z$ , then the characteristic function  $\chi(Z) \in B(X)$ , and there is no  $0 < a \in C(X)$  with  $a \leq \chi(Z)$ :  $C(X) \leq B(X)$  is not essential. Thus there is no such  $Z$ , so  $X$  is what is called an almost  $P$ -space. But the only almost  $P$ -space which is  $\check{L}\check{C}$  is ( $\approx$ )  $\mathbb{N}$ .

(c) See [1] and [2] for several constructions. We omit details.  $\square$

Referring to Theorem 4.2, let  $\mathcal{ECS}(\mathbb{R}^\omega)$  stand for the family of epicompletions of objects of the form  $C(T)$ , for  $T$  closed in  $\mathbb{R}^\omega$ .

Summing up, we write down Theorem 2.1 for  $\mathcal{W} \xrightarrow{\beta} EC$  using Theorem 4.2 and some of Theorem 4.1.

**Corollary 4.3.** *For  $A \in \mathcal{W}$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $A \in EC$ .
- (2) There is  $I$  with a surjection  $B(\mathbb{R}^I) \twoheadrightarrow A$ .
- (3)  $A \in \text{inj}\{F(\omega) \leq B(\mathbb{R}^\omega)\}$ .
- (4) Each countable  $B \stackrel{i_B}{\leq} A$ , has the property

$$\text{there is } \beta B \xrightarrow{\bar{i}_B} A \text{ with } \bar{i}_B \beta B = i_B. \quad (*)$$

- (5)  $A \in \bigcup_{\omega}^{\omega} \mathcal{ECS}(\mathbb{R}^\omega)$ .
- (6)  $A \in \bigcup_{\omega}^{\omega} EC$ .

The comparison of Corollary 4.3 (4) and (5) with Corollary 3.3 (4) and (5), shows a huge difference between  $c^3$  (or any essential reflection) with  $\beta$  and identifies some special classes of  $EC$  objects which might deserve further study. (It is quite rare that any  $A \leq \beta A$  is essential; see [2], §9.)

We consider the analogue of Corollary 3.3 (4) for  $\beta$ . Recall that for  $B \leq A$ ,  $\beta B \leq A$  means that the  $\bar{i}_B$  in 2.8 (4) is one-to-one.

**Theorem 4.4.** *Suppose  $A \in \mathcal{W}$ . For every countable  $B \leq A$ ,*

$$\beta B \leq A \text{ if and only if } A \approx \mathbb{R}^n \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (*)$$

*Proof.* Notice that either the condition implies  $A \in EC$ : for  $A \in EC$  (or just a vector lattice),  $A \approx \mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) means  $|\mathcal{Y}A| = n$  (and  $\mathbb{R}^n = C(\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\})$ ).

( $\Leftarrow$ ) We omit the easy proof.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) We show that  $\mathcal{Y}A$  infinite  $\Rightarrow A$  fails (\*).

(i)  $A = C(\mathbb{N})$  fails (\*).

(ii) If  $A \in EC$  and  $\mathcal{Y}A$  is infinite, then there is an embedding  $C(\mathbb{N}) \leq A$ .

(iii) If  $A \in EC$  and  $\mathcal{Y}A$  is infinite, then  $A$  fails (\*).

For (i): Let  $B \leq C(\mathbb{N})$  be generated by rational multiples of the characteristic functions  $\chi_p$  of the  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ . A little thought reveals that the uniform completion  $uB = c^3B = C(\alpha\mathbb{N})$ , where  $\alpha\mathbb{N} = \mathbb{N} \cup \{\alpha\}$  the one-point compactification of  $\mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\beta C(\alpha\mathbb{N}) = B(\alpha\mathbb{N})$  (Theorem 4.1 (d)). Then, the  $\bar{i}_B$  is not one-to-one:  $\bar{i}_B(\psi_\alpha) = 0$ .

For (ii): As with any infinite Hausdorff space, there is countable  $L = \{x_n\} \subseteq \mathcal{Y}A$  on pairwise disjoint open sets  $\{U_n\}$  in  $\mathcal{Y}A$  with  $U_n \cap L = \{x_n\} \forall n$ . We have  $L \approx \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $\mathcal{Y}A$  is basically disconnected, thus zero-dimensional ([8]). The  $U_n$  may be chosen clopen, and  $\bar{U} \approx \beta\bar{U}$  (Čech-Stone). Choose any  $p_0 \in U$ , and retract  $\mathcal{Y}A \xrightarrow{\rho} \bar{U}$  as  $\rho(x) = [x, \text{ if } x \in \bar{U}; p_0 \text{ if } x \notin \bar{U}]$ . Since  $\bar{U}$  is clopen,  $\rho$  is continuous.

Let  $f \in C(L)$ . Extend to  $\bar{f} \in C(U)$  by  $f(U_n) = \{f(x_n)\}$ . Then extend  $\bar{f}$  to  $\bar{\bar{f}} \in D(\beta\bar{U})$  (since  $\bar{U} = \beta U$ ). Now  $\bar{\bar{f}} \circ \rho \in D(\mathcal{Y}A)$  ( $(\bar{\bar{f}} \circ \rho)^{-1}\mathbb{R} = \bar{f}^{-1}(\mathbb{R}) \subseteq \bar{U} - u$ , which is nowhere dense). Define  $C(L) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\rho}} D(\mathcal{Y}A) \in A$  as  $\tilde{\rho}(f) = \bar{\bar{f}} \circ \rho$ . Such compositions preserve  $\ell$ -group operations (and multiplication) and constants, so  $\tilde{\rho}(1) = 1$ , and  $\tilde{\rho} \in \mathcal{W}$ .

For (iii): In (ii) we have  $C(L) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\rho}} A$ , which we re-name  $C(\mathbb{N}) \xrightarrow{k} A$ . In (i), we have countable  $B \xrightarrow{i_B} C(\mathbb{N})$  with  $\bar{i}_B$  not 1-1. We have

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 B & & \xrightarrow{i_B} & c(\mathbb{N}) & \xrightarrow{k} & A \\
 \beta_B \downarrow & & \nearrow \bar{i}_B & & \nearrow \bar{j}_B & \\
 \beta B & & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

with the inclusion  $B \stackrel{j_B}{\leq} A$  being  $j_B = ki_B$  and with  $\bar{i}_B\beta_B = i_B$ ,  $\bar{j}_B\beta_B = j_B = ki_B$ . Thus  $\bar{j}_B\beta_B = k\bar{i}_B\beta_B$ , so  $\bar{j}_B = k\bar{i}_B$  since  $\beta_B$  is epic. Since  $\bar{i}_B$  is not one-to-one, neither is  $\bar{j}_B$ .  $\square$

Let  $BS(\mathbb{R}^\omega) \equiv \{B(T) \mid T \text{ dense in } \mathbb{R}^\omega\}$ . The analogue of Corollary 3.3(5) for  $\beta$  is the condition

$$A \in \bigcup_{\omega} \{B(T) \mid T \text{ closed in } \mathbb{R}^\omega\}. \quad (**)$$

All we have to say is: sometimes this happens, sometimes not.

**Remark 4.5.** (a) There are  $A$  satisfying (\*\*): Obviously, any  $B(T)$ ; less trivially, ([11]) for uncountable  $I$ ,  $B(\mathbb{R}^I) = \bigcup_{\omega} \{B(\mathbb{R}^J) \mid J \in \mathcal{P}_0(I)\}$ .

(b) There are many  $A$  failing (\*\*). The countable chain condition, ccc, of a space or  $\mathcal{W}$ -object is relevant here.  $X$  (resp.,  $A$ ) has ccc if there is no uncountable pairwise disjoint family of non-void open sets in  $X$  (respectively, non-zero positive elements in  $A$ ).  $A$  has ccc if and only if  $\mathcal{Y}A$  does (because  $\text{coz}A$  is a base in  $\mathcal{Y}A$ ).

If  $A$  has ccc and satisfies (\*\*), then in the Yosida representation  $A \approx D(\mathcal{Y}A)$ , each  $a \in A$  is locally constant on a dense open subset of  $\mathcal{Y}A$ . (If  $A = \bigcup_{\omega} B(T_\alpha)$ , then each  $B(T_\alpha)$  has ccc, and it follows that  $T_\alpha$  is a copy  $\mathbb{N}_\alpha$  of  $\mathbb{N}$ . For each  $\alpha$ ,  $C(\mathbb{N}_\alpha) = \beta\mathbb{N}_\alpha \stackrel{\tilde{c}}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{Y}A$ ). If  $a \in C(\mathbb{N}_\alpha)$ , then  $a \text{ " = " } a \circ \tau$  is locally constant on  $\tau^{-1}(\mathbb{N}_\alpha)$ .)

Consider the absolute (projective cover)  $[0, 1] \stackrel{\pi}{\leftarrow} a[0, 1]$ . Using irreducibility of  $\pi$ : Since  $[0, 1]$  has ccc, so do  $a[0, 1]$ , and also  $A = D(a[0, 1])$ . Here  $C([0, 1]) \leq A$ , as  $f \mapsto f \circ \pi$ .  $\underline{\mathbb{N}}_0$  continuous nonconstant  $f$  has  $f \circ \pi$  locally constant on a dense subset of  $a[0, 1]$ . Thus  $A$  fails (\*\*).

(c) The class  $EC$  consists exactly of the  $D(X)$ ,  $X$  compact and basically disconnected. The class  $\sigma BA$  of  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebras consists exactly of the clopen algebras  $\text{clop}X$  for the same  $X$  [16]. So, the various properties of  $EC$ 's considered here have direct translations to  $\sigma BA$ . For example, corresponding to 4.6 are the  $\sigma BA$ 's of the form  $A \in \bigcup_{\omega} \{\mathcal{B}(T) \mid T \text{ closed in } \mathbb{R}^\omega\}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  denoting the  $\sigma$ -field of Baire sets.

We leave the subject for now.

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