

# Franz Halter-Koch's contributions to ideal systems: a survey of some selected topics

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## §0. Introduction

What is now called *Multiplicative Ideal Theory* has its origin in **R. Dedekind's work** published in 1871 and was later developed in a more general context by **W. Krull, E. Noether** and **H. Prüfer** about 1930.

P. Lorenzen in 1939 was probably the first to take a new point of view: investigate the multiplicative structure without making reference, as far as possible, to the additive structure. He presented an axiomatic treatment of the theory of ideal systems in monoids and groups generalizing parts of the results obtained by Dedekind and Krull.

With a similar point of view, P. Jaffard in 1960 in his book “*Les Systèmes d'Idéaux*” provided a systematic study of the multiplicative theory of ideal systems. However, his original style, not easy to read, greatly limited the diffusion of his work and several of his results were rediscovered later by various authors.

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In the 70ties, the books "*Multiplicative Theory of Ideals*" by Larsen-McCarty published in 1971 and "*Multiplicative Ideal Theory*" by R. Gilmer (1968 & 1972) provide a more modern and systematic approach to Dedekind, Kronecker, Krull, Prüfer classical multiplicative ideal theory in the context of integral domains.

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## §1. Notation and Basic Definitions

An **hereditary torsion theory for a commutative ring**  $R$  is characterized by the family  $\mathcal{F}$  of the ideals  $I$  of  $R$  for which  $R/I$  is a torsion module (for more details cf. B. Stenström's book "Rings of Quotients", Springer, Berlin 1975; Ch. VI).

It turns out that such a family  $\mathcal{F}$  of ideals is the family of the neighborhoods of 0 for a certain linear topology of  $R$ .

The notion of **localizing system** (or **topologizing system**) was introduced (in a more general context) by P. Gabriel in order to characterize such topologies from an ideal-theoretic point of view (cf. Pierre Gabriel, La localisation dans les anneaux non commutatifs Exposé No. 2, in Séminaire Dubreil, Algèbre et théorie des nombres, 1959-1960; N. Bourbaki, 1961, Ch. II, §2, Exercises 17-25).

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Let  $D$  be an integral domain with quotient field  $K$ . Let

- $\bar{\mathcal{F}}(D)$  be the set of all nonzero  $D$ -submodules of  $K$ ,
- $\mathcal{F}(D)$  be the set of all nonzero fractional ideals of  $D$ , and
- $\mathbf{f}(D)$  be the set of all nonzero finitely generated  $D$ -submodules of  $K$ .

Then, obviously,

$$\mathbf{f}(D) \subseteq \mathcal{F}(D) \subseteq \bar{\mathcal{F}}(D).$$

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A *localizing system*  $\mathcal{F}$  of an integral domain  $D$  is a family of integral ideals of  $D$  such that

- (LS1) If  $I \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $J$  is an ideal of  $D$  such that  $I \subseteq J$ , then  $J \in \mathcal{F}$ ;
- (LS2) If  $I \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $J$  is an ideal of  $D$  such that  $(J :_D iD) \in \mathcal{F}$  for each  $i \in I$ , then  $J \in \mathcal{F}$ .

Note that axioms (LS1) and (LS2) ensure, in particular, that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a filter: It is easy to see that if  $I, J \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $IJ \in \mathcal{F}$  (and, thus,  $I \cap J \in \mathcal{F}$ ).

To avoid uninteresting cases, assume that a *localizing system*  $\mathcal{F}$  is *nontrivial*, i.e.,  $(0) \notin \mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  is nonempty.

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If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a localizing system of  $D$ , then

$$D_{\mathcal{F}} := \{x \in K \mid (D :_D xD) \in \mathcal{F}\} = \bigcup \{(D : I) \mid I \in \mathcal{F}\}$$

is an overring of  $D$  called *the ring of fractions of  $D$  with respect to  $\mathcal{F}$* .

and, more generally, if  $E$  belongs to  $\overline{\mathcal{F}}(D)$ ,

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For instance, if  $S$  is a multiplicative subset of  $D$ , then  $\mathcal{F} := \{I \text{ ideal of } D \mid I \cap S = \emptyset\}$  is a localizing system of  $D$  and  $D_{\mathcal{F}} = S^{-1}D$ .

### Lemma

If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a localizing system of an integral domain  $D$ , then

- (1)  $(E \cap H)_{\mathcal{F}} = E_{\mathcal{F}} \cap H_{\mathcal{F}}$ , for each  $E, H \in \overline{\mathcal{F}}(D)$ ;
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Localizing systems and star or semistar operations are strictly related notions.

Recall that, in 1994, Okabe and Matsuda introduced the terminology of *semistar operation*  $\star$  of an integral domain  $D$ , as a natural generalization of the Krull's notion of star operation (allowing  $D \neq D^*$ ). However, a general notion of a “closure operation” on submodules of the total ring of fractions of a commutative ring, that includes the notion semistar operation, was previously introduced by J. Huckaba in 1988.

• A mapping  $\star : \bar{\mathcal{F}}(D) \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{F}}(D)$ ,  $E \mapsto E^*$  is called *a semistar operation of  $D$*  if, for all  $0 \neq z \in K$  and for all  $E, F \in \bar{\mathcal{F}}(D)$ , the following properties hold:

$$(\star_1) \quad (zE)^* = zE^*;$$

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- When  $D^* = D$ , we say that  $\star$  restricted to  $\mathcal{F}(D)$  defines *a star operation of D*

i.e.,  $\star : \mathcal{F}(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(D)$  verifies the properties  $(\star_2)$ ,  $(\star_3)$  and

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$$E^{*f} := \bigcup \{F^* \mid F \subseteq E, F \in \mathbf{f}(D)\} \quad \text{for all } E \in \bar{\mathcal{F}}(D).$$

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$$(E \cap H)^* = E^* \cap H^*, \text{ for all } E, H \in \bar{\mathcal{F}}(D) \quad \text{or, equivalently,}$$

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## §2. Localizing Systems, Module Systems and Semistar Operations

For every overring  $T$  of  $D$  the operation  $\star_{\{T\}}$  *defined for all  $E \in \overline{\mathcal{F}}(D)$  by setting*

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Note that, given a localizing system  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $D$ , we have two canonical semistar operations in  $D$ ,

- $\star_{\mathcal{F}}$  defined, for all  $E \in \bar{\mathcal{F}}(D)$ , by setting  $E^{\star_{\mathcal{F}}} := E_{\mathcal{F}}$ ;
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In general,  $E_{\mathcal{F}} \supseteq ED_{\mathcal{F}}$ , and maybe  $E_{\mathcal{F}} \supsetneq ED_{\mathcal{F}}$  even if  $E$  is a proper integral ideal of  $D$ . In other words,  $\star_{\{D_{\mathcal{F}}\}} \leq \star_{\mathcal{F}}$ .

For instance, let  $V$  be a valuation domain with idempotent maximal ideal  $M$ , of the type  $V := K + M$ , where  $K$  is a field. Let  $k$  be a proper subfield of  $K$  and define  $R := k + M$ . Since  $M$  is idempotent it is easy to see that  $\mathcal{F} = \{M, R\}$  is a localizing system of  $R$ . Then  $M_{\mathcal{F}} = R_{\mathcal{F}} = (M : M) = V$  and  $MR_{\mathcal{F}} = MV = M$ .

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The following result characterizes when the equality holds.

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Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a localizing system of an integral domain  $D$ . The following are equivalent:

- (i)  $\star_{\{D_{\mathcal{F}}\}} = \star_{\mathcal{F}}$ ;
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- The condition that  $D_{\mathcal{F}}$  is  $D$ -flat is not equivalent to (i) and (ii) in the previous result.

Let  $V$  be a valuation domain and  $P$  a nonzero idempotent prime ideal of  $V$ , and set  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}(P) := \{I \mid I \text{ ideal of } V \text{ and } I \supseteq P\}$ .

Then  $V_{\hat{\mathcal{F}}(P)} = V_P$  and  $PV_{\hat{\mathcal{F}}(P)} = PV_P = P$ . Moreover,  $P_{\hat{\mathcal{F}}(P)} = (P : P) = V_P$ , since  $P \in \hat{\mathcal{F}}(P)$ , by the previous observation. Therefore,

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Similarly, in case of semistar operations of finite type, we can consider the localizing system  $\mathcal{F}^*_f$ .

On the other hand, a localizing system  $\mathcal{F}$  is called *a localizing system of finite type* if for each ideal  $I \in \mathcal{F}$  there exists a finitely generated ideal  $J$  of  $D$  such that  $J \subseteq I$  and  $J \in \mathcal{F}$ . It is easy to see that, *for each localizing system  $\mathcal{F}$ ,*

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$$\mathcal{F}_f := \{I \in \mathcal{F} \mid I \supseteq J \text{ for some finitely generated ideal } J \in \mathcal{F}\}$$

*is a localizing system, called **the localizing system of finite type associated to  $\mathcal{F}$** .*

It is easy to verify that  $\mathcal{F}^*_f$  *is a localizing system of finite type and*  $\mathcal{F}^*_f = (\mathcal{F}^*)_f$ .

## Theorem

(A) Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a localizing system of an integral domain  $D$  and let  $\star_{\mathcal{F}}$  be the semistar operation on  $D$  associated with  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}^{\star_{\mathcal{F}}} = \{I \text{ ideal of } D \mid I_{\mathcal{F}} \cap D = D\}.$$

(B) Let  $\star$  be a semistar operation on  $D$  and let  $\mathcal{F}^*$  be the localizing system associated with  $\star$ . Then  $\star_{\mathcal{F}^*} \leq \star$ . Moreover,

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Both notions of *semistar operation* and *localizing system* were greatly extended in the setting of cancellative monoids.

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- Let  $H$  be a cancellative monoid and let  $q$  be an ideal system of finite type on  $H$ . Denote by  $\mathfrak{I}_q$  the set of  $q$ -ideals of  $H$  and define a  *$q$ -multiplication of  $q$ -ideals* by setting  $I \cdot_q J := (IJ)_q$ .

A subset  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathfrak{I}_q$  is called a  *$q$ -localizing system on  $H$*  if

**( $q$ -LS1)** If  $I \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $J \in \mathfrak{I}_q$  is such that  $I \subseteq J$ , then  $J \in \mathcal{L}$ ;

**( $q$ -LS2)** If  $I \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $J \in \mathfrak{I}_q$  such that  $(J : iH) \in \mathcal{L}$  for each  $i \in I$ , then  $J \in \mathcal{L}$ .

## Proposition

If  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $q$ -localizing system on a cancellative monoid  $H$  having  $G$  as a quotient groupoid, then

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Kronecker's theory holds in a larger context than that of ring of integers of algebraic numbers and solves a more general problem.

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Main references for the "classical" Kronecker function ring

L. Kronecker (1882), W. Krull (1936), H. Weyl (1940), H.M. Edwards (1990).

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With a modern terminology and notation, *the Kronecker function ring of a Dedekind domain  $D$*  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Kr}(D) &:= \left\{ \frac{f}{g} \mid f, g \in D[X] \text{ and } \mathbf{c}(f) \subseteq \mathbf{c}(g) \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \frac{f'}{g'} \mid f', g' \in D[X] \text{ and } \mathbf{c}(g') = D \right\},\end{aligned}$$

(where  $\mathbf{c}(h)$  denotes *the content* of a polynomial  $h \in D[X]$ , i.e. the ideal of  $D$  generated by the coefficients of  $h$ ).

Note that the previous equality holds since we are assuming that  $D$  is a Dedekind domain (e.g., the integral closure of a PID  $D_0$  in a finite field extension  $K$  of the quotient field  $K_0$  of  $D_0$ ).

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The fundamental properties of the Kronecker function ring are the following:

(1)  *$\text{Kr}(D)$  is a Bézout domain (i.e. each finite set of elements has a GCD and the GCD can be expressed as linear combination of these elements) and  $D[X] \subseteq \text{Kr}(D) \subseteq K(X)$  (in particular, the field of rational functions  $K(X)$  is the quotient field of  $\text{Kr}(D)$ ).*

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Kronecker function rings play a special role in the investigation of spaces of valuation domains.

The motivations for studying, from a topological point of view, spaces of valuation domains come from various directions and, historically, mainly

- from Zariski's work for the reduction of singularities of an algebraic surface and, more generally, for establishing new foundations of algebraic geometry by algebraic means  
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- Let  $K$  be a field and  $A$  a subring (possibly, a subfield) of  $K$
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$$\text{Zar}(K|A) := \{V \mid V \text{ valuation domain with } A \subseteq V \subseteq K = \text{qf}(V)\}.$$

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The topological structure on  $Z := \text{Zar}(K|A)$  is defined by taking, as a basis for the open sets, the subsets  $\mathcal{U}_F := \{V \in Z \mid V \supseteq F\}$  for  $F$  varying in the finite subsets of  $K$ , i.e., if  $F := \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ , with  $x_i \in K$ , then

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- Note that recently B. Olberding, 2014 has introduced and studied also a natural structure of locally ringed space on  $Z = \text{Zar}(K|A)$ , which realizes the Zariski-Riemann space as a projective limit of projective integral schemes over  $\text{Spec}(A)$  whose function field is a subfield of  $K$ .

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- First we proved, using a purely topological approach that:  
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(see **[Dobbs-Fedder-Fontana, 1987]**).

This result was later proved by several authors with a variety of different techniques:

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- A first generalization of the Kronecker function ring *for any integral domain* (not necessarily integrally closed) and *for any semistar operation* (non necessarily e.a.b., as the  $b$ -operation is) was given and studied by **Fontana-Loper** in two papers published in [2001](#) and [2003](#).
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More precisely, Halter-Koch gives the following “abstract” definition:

Let  $K$  be a field,  $X$  an indeterminate over  $K$ ,  $R$  a subring of  $K(X)$  and  $A := R \cap K$ . If

- $X \in \mathbf{U}(R)$  (i.e.  $X$  is a unit in  $R$ );
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Let  $A$  be any subring of  $K$ , and let

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In [B. Olberding, 2010] the author –inspired by Zariski's ideas– considers an extension of the Zariski topology on

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Let  $\text{SStar}(A)$  be the set of all the semistar operations on an integral domain  $A$  with quotient field  $K$ . For each nonzero sub- $A$ -module  $E$  of  $K$ , set

$$\mathcal{U}_E := \{\star \in \text{SStar}(A) \mid 1 \in E^\star\}.$$

The collection  $\mathcal{U}_E$ , for  $E$  varying in the set of nonzero sub- $A$ -modules of  $K$ , form a subbasis for the open sets of a topology on  $\text{SStar}(A)$ , called the *Zariski topology*.

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Let  $\text{SStar}(A)$  be the set of all the semistar operations on an integral domain  $A$  with quotient field  $K$ . For each nonzero sub- $A$ -module  $E$  of  $K$ , set

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It can be shown that

#### Lemma 4

- For each  $\star \in \text{SStar}(A)$ ,  $\text{Cl}(\star) = \{\star' \in \text{SStar}(A) \mid \star' \leq \star\}$ .
- The canonical map  $\text{SStar}(A) \rightarrow \text{SStar}_f(A)$ ,  $\star \mapsto \star_f$ , is a continuous retraction.
- The canonical map  $\text{Overr}(A) \rightarrow \text{SStar}_f(A)$ ,  $B \mapsto \star_{\{B\}}$ , is a topological embedding (where  $\star_{\{B\}} \in \text{SStar}_f(A)$  is defined by  $E^{\star_{\{B\}}} := EB$ , for each nonzero sub- $A$ -module  $E$  of  $K$ ).

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We collect in the following theorem some results that can be obtained from the work by [Finocchiaro, 2013], by [C. Finocchiaro-D. Spirito, 2014] and by [C. Finocchiaro-M. Fontana-D. Spirito, in preparation]

### Theorem 5

Let  $A$  be an integral domain. Then,

$\text{SStar}_f(A)$ ,  $\text{SStar}(A)$ ,  $\text{Overr}(A)$ ,  $\overline{\text{Overr}}(A)$ ,  $\text{OverLoc}(A)$  and  $\overline{\text{OverLoc}}(A)$ , endowed with their Zariski topologies, are spectral spaces.

These results were obtained by means of new techniques and, in particular, by means of a characterization, given in [Finocchiaro, 2013], for a topological space to be a spectral space using “appropriate” ultrafilter topologies.

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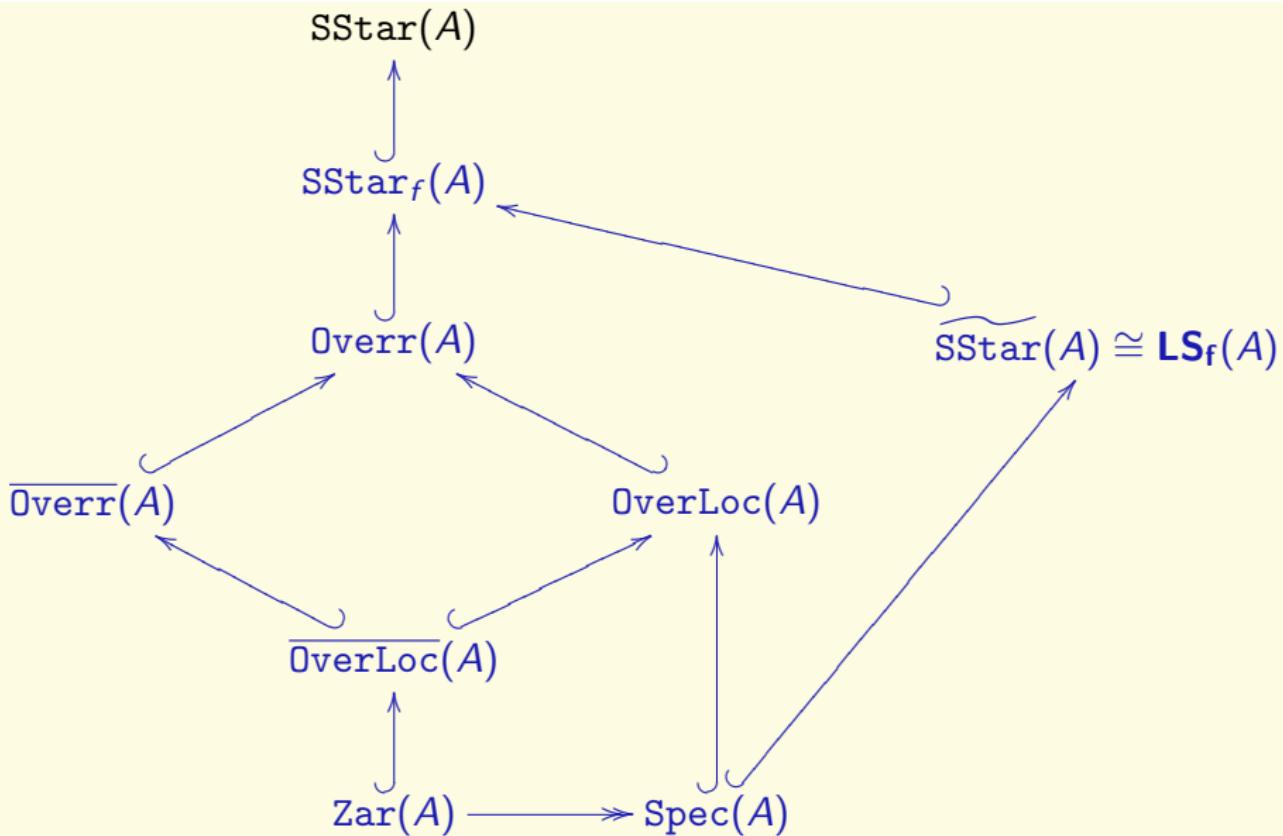
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# Canonical embeddings of spectral spaces



Let  $\mathcal{B}$  denote a non-empty collection of overrings of  $A$  and, for any  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , let  $\star_B$  be a semistar operation on  $B$ . An interesting question posed in [Chapman-Glaz, 2000, Problem 44] is the following:

**Problem.** Find conditions on  $\mathcal{B}$  and on the semistar operations  $\star_B$  under which the semistar operation  $\star_{\mathcal{B}}$  on  $A$  defined by  $E^{\star_{\mathcal{B}}} := \bigcap \{(EB)^{\star_B} \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$ , for all  $E \in \overline{\mathcal{F}}(A)$ , is of finite type.

Note that, if  $A = \bigcap \{B \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$  is locally finite and each  $\star_B$  is a star operation on  $B$  of finite type, then in [D. D. Anderson, 1988, Theorem 2] the author proved that  $\star_{\mathcal{B}}$  is a star operation on  $A$  of finite type.

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Through the years, several partial answers to this question were given and they are mainly topological in nature.

- For example, in [Fontana-Huckaba, 2000, Corollary 4.6], a (topological) description of when the semistar operation  $\star_{\mathcal{B}}$  is of finite type was given when  $\mathcal{B}$  is a family of localizations of  $A$  and  $\star_B$  is the identity semistar operation on  $B$ , for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ .
- More recently, in [Finocchiaro-Fontana-Loper, 2013b], it was proved that *if  $\mathcal{B}$  is a quasi-compact subspace in  $\text{Zar}(K|A)$  (endowed with the Zariski topology) and  $\star_B$  is the identity (semi)star operation on  $B$ , for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , then  $\star_{\mathcal{B}}$  is of finite type.*

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Another more natural way to see the problem stated above is the following.

**Problem.** Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be any non-empty collection of semistar operations on  $A$  and let  $\wedge_{\mathcal{S}}$  be the semistar operation defined by  $E^{\wedge_{\mathcal{S}}} := \bigcap\{E^* \mid *\in \mathcal{S}\}$  for all  $E \in \bar{\mathbf{F}}(A)$ .

Find conditions on the set  $\mathcal{S}$  for the semistar operation  $\wedge_{\mathcal{S}}$  on  $A$  to be of finite type.

Note that it is not so difficult to show that the constructions of the semistar operations of the type  $\star_{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $\wedge_{\mathcal{S}}$  are essentially equivalent, in the sense that every semistar operation  $\star_{\mathcal{B}}$  can be interpreted as one of the type  $\wedge_{\mathcal{S}}$ , and conversely.

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# Thanks!



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