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John Wermer* (wermer@math.brown.edu), 128 Irving Ave, Providence, RI 02906. *Function Algebras on Levi flat Sets*. Preliminary report.

Let X be a compact 3-manifold with boundary, contained in C^2 , such that X is exhausted by a family of finite Riemann surfaces $S(t)$ where for each t $\text{bd}(S(t))$ lies in $\text{bd}X$. A denotes the algebra of all functions f in $C(X)$ such that for each t the restriction of f to $S(t)$ is holomorphic on $S(t)$. Let M be the maximal ideal space of A . Each point of X gives a point in M . Are there any other points in M ? In "Function Theory on Certain 3-manifolds" (to appear) we showed that the answer is Yes when X has the equation: $|w| = |G(z)|$, (z,w) in the unit bidisk, with G holomorphic on the unit disk. John Anderson suggested that this result could be generalized.

Let H, K be holomorphic functions on the bidisk $D(2)$. Put $X = \{(z,w) \mid |H(z,w)| = |K(z,w)|\}$ on $D(2)$. X is foliated by the Riemann surfaces: $H(z,w) = K(z,w)\exp(it)$ and A is defined as above. Conjecture: Let M be the maximal ideal space of A . Then M coincides with X . In this talk, we shall discuss partial results towards the conjecture. (Received February 02, 2011)