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*Katedra algebry a geometrie přírodovědecké fakulty Univerzity Palackého v Olomouci  
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## A CHARACTERIZATION OF ORDERED GROUPS BY MEANS OF SEGMENTS

JIŘÍ RACHŮNEK

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*Dedicated to Prof. Miroslav Látoch on his 60th birthday*

If  $G \neq \emptyset$  is a set, then any  $I : G \times G \rightarrow \exp G$  is called a *binary multioperation on  $G$* . For  $a \in G$  we shall write  $I(a)$  instead of  $I(a, a)$ . Let  $G = (G, +)$  be a group,  $I$  a binary multioperation on  $G$ . Let us denote the following conditions:

- (I1)  $\forall a, b \in G \exists c \in G; I(a, c) \cap I(b, c) \neq \emptyset$
- (I2)  $\forall a, b, c, x, y \in G; c \in I(a, b) \Rightarrow x + c + y \in I(x + a + y, x + b + y)$
- (I3)  $\forall a, b \in G; a \neq b \Rightarrow (I(a, b) \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow I(b, a) = \emptyset)$
- (I4)  $\forall a \in G; a \in I(a)$
- (I5)  $\forall a, b, c \in G; c \in I(a, b) \Rightarrow (I(a, c) \neq \emptyset \ \& \ I(c, b) \neq \emptyset)$

**Theorem 1.** *Conditions I1 – I5 are mutually independent.*

**Proof.** a) The independence of I1: Let  $(G, +)$  be an arbitrary group such that  $\text{card } G \geq 2$ . Let us define  $I$  on  $G$  as follows:  $x \in G \Rightarrow I(x) = \{x\}$ ,  $x, y \in G$ ,  $x \neq y \Rightarrow I(x, y) = \emptyset$ . Then I2 – I5 are satisfied, but  $I$  has not property I1.

b) The independence of I2: Let  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  be the group of numbers 0, 1 with the addition mod 2. We put  $G = \mathbf{Z}_2$ ,  $I(0) = \{0\}$ ,  $I(1) = \{1\}$ ,  $I(0, 1) = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $I(1, 0) = \emptyset$ . Then  $1 \in I(0, 1)$ , but  $0 = 1 + 1 \notin I(1 + 0, 1 + 1)$ . Obviously I1 and I3 – I5 are satisfied here.

c) The independence of I3 is clear if  $G = \mathbf{Z}_2$  and  $I(x, y) = \{0, 1\}$  for each  $x, y \in G$ .

d) The independence of I4: Let  $\mathbf{Q}$  be the additive group of the rationals, „<“ the relation „to be strictly less than“ in the natural ordering of  $\mathbf{Q}$  and let  $\langle x, y \rangle = \{z \in \mathbf{Q}; x < z < y\}$  for  $x, y \in \mathbf{Q}$ ,  $x < y$  and  $I(x, y) = \emptyset$  for  $x \geq y$ . Then I1 – I3 and I5 hold, but I4 is not satisfied.

e) The independence of I5: Let  $G = \mathbf{Q}$  and let  $\langle x, y \rangle = \{z \in \mathbf{Q}; x \leq z < y\}$  for  $x, y \in \mathbf{Q}$ ,  $x < y$ . Let us define  $I(x, y) = \langle x, y \rangle$  for  $x < y$ ,  $I(x) = \{x\}$  for each  $x$

and  $I(x, y) = \emptyset$  for  $y < x$ . Then for  $x < y$  it holds  $I(x, y) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $I(y, y) \neq \emptyset$  and  $y \notin I(x, y)$ . Evidently, I1 – I4 are satisfied.

For a binary multioperation  $I$  on a group  $(G, +)$  let us consider also the condition

$$(I6) \quad \forall a, b \in G \exists c \in G \forall x \in G; I(c, x) = I(a, x) \cap I(b, x).$$

If  $(G, +, \leq)$  is an ordered group, then we put  $\langle x, y \rangle = \{z \in G; x \leq z \leq y\}$  for  $x \leq y$  and  $\langle x, y \rangle = \emptyset$  for  $y \not\leq x$ .

**Theorem 2.** a) Let  $G = (G, +)$  be a group,  $I$  a binary multioperation on  $G$  satisfying I2 – I5. Let  $\forall a, b \in G; a \leq b \Leftrightarrow_a I(a, b) \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $(G, +, \leq)$  is an ordered group.

b) A group  $G = (G, +)$  admits a directed (lattice) order if and only if there exists a binary multioperation  $I$  on  $G$  satisfying I1 – I5 (I2 – I6).

c) Moreover, if  $I$  is a binary multioperation on a group  $G = (G, +)$  satisfying I2 – I5 (I1 – I5, I2 – I6), then there exists an order (a directed order, a lattice order)  $\leq$  on  $(G, +)$  such that in  $(G, +, \leq)$  it holds  $\langle x, y \rangle = I(x, y)$  for each  $x, y \in G$ .

*Proof.* a) If  $a \in G$ , then by I4  $a \in I(a)$ , hence  $a \leq a$ .

Let  $a, b \in G$ ,  $a \leq b$ ,  $b \leq a$ . Then  $I(a, b) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $I(b, a) \neq \emptyset$ , thus by I3  $a = b$ .

Let  $a, b, c \in G$ ,  $a \leq b$ ,  $b \leq c$ . Then  $I(a, b) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $I(b, c) \neq \emptyset$ , hence by I5  $b \in I(a, c)$ , therefore  $a \leq c$ .

Let  $a, b, x, y \in G$ ,  $a \leq b$  and let  $c \in I(a, b)$ . Then by I2  $x + c + y \in I(x + a + y, x + b + y)$ , and so  $x + a + y \leq x + b + y$ .

b) Let  $I$  satisfy I2 – I5 and let  $\leq$  be the order on  $G$  defined in a). If  $a, b, c \in G$ ,  $a \leq b$ , then  $c \in \langle a, b \rangle$  if and only if  $I(a, c) \neq \emptyset$  and  $I(c, b) \neq \emptyset$ . By I5, this is equivalent with  $c \in I(a, b)$ . Evidently for  $a \not\leq b$  we have  $\langle a, b \rangle = I(a, b) = \emptyset$ .

If I1 – I5 are satisfied, then the ordered group  $(G, +, \leq)$  is directed.

Let I2 – I6 be satisfied and let  $a, b \in G$ . Let us suppose that  $c \in G$  is such that  $I(c, x) = I(a, x) \cap I(b, x)$  for each  $x \in G$ . Then  $I(c, c) = I(a, c) \cap I(b, c)$ , hence by I4  $I(a, c) \neq \emptyset$  and  $I(b, c) \neq \emptyset$ , therefore in the order  $\leq$  defined in a) it is  $a \leq c$  and  $b \leq c$ . Let  $y \in G$ ,  $a \leq y$ ,  $b \leq y$ . Then  $I(a, y) \neq \emptyset$  and  $I(b, y) \neq \emptyset$  imply  $I(a, y) \cap I(b, y) \neq \emptyset$ , and so  $I(c, y) \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore  $c \leq y$ , i.e.  $c = a \vee b$ . This means that the order  $\leq$  is a lattice one.

Conversely, if  $(G, +, \leq)$  is an ordered group and if we put  $I(a, b) = \langle a, b \rangle$  for each  $a, b \in G$ , then evidently I2 – I4 are satisfied. Moreover, if  $(G, +, \leq)$  is directed, then also I1 is satisfied. Let  $(G, +, \leq)$  be lattice ordered,  $a, b, x, y \in G$ . Then  $y \in \langle a \vee b, x \rangle \Leftrightarrow a \vee b \leq y \leq x \Leftrightarrow (a \leq y \leq x \& b \leq y \leq x) \Leftrightarrow y \in \langle a, x \rangle \cap \langle b, x \rangle$ . Therefore in this case I2 – I6 are satisfied.

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*Souhrn*

### CHARAKTERIZACE USPOŘÁDANÝCH GRUP POMOCÍ INTERVALŮ

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V článku jsou definována uspořádání grup pomocí výsledků binárních multioperací. Speciálně jsou charakterizované grupy, které připouštějí usměrněná, resp. svazová, uspořádání. Přitom je dokázáno, že výsledky multioperací splývají s intervaly v uspořádaných grupách.

*Резюме*

### ХАРАКТЕРИЗАЦИЯ УПОРЯДОЧЕННЫХ ГРУПП ПРИ ПОМОЩИ ИНТЕРВАЛОВ

ЙИРЖИ РАХУНЕК

В статье определяются порядки групп при помощи бинарных мультиопераций. В частности характеризованы группы, которые допускают направленные или решёточные порядки. Притом показано, что результатами мультиопераций являются интервалы упорядоченных групп.