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A CHARACTERIZATION OF POLARITIES WHOSE POLAR
LATTICE IS ORTHOMODULAR

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In this note the pairs (X, δ) where X is a set and δ is a symmetric irreflexive relation on X are studied. The relation δ endows X with the closure operation **Cl** in the following way. For any $A \subseteq X$ define its *polar* $A^\delta \subseteq X$ as

$$A^\delta = \{x \in X \mid \forall a \in A \quad a\delta x\}.$$

Define the operation **Cl** on subsets of X as

$$\mathbf{Cl}A = A^{\delta\delta}$$

and call it the closure *induced* on X by the relation δ .

Theorem 1. *The operation **Cl** is a closure on subsets of X , namely*

$$A \subseteq \mathbf{Cl}A,$$

$$\mathbf{Cl}\mathbf{Cl}A = \mathbf{Cl}A,$$

$$A \subseteq B \Rightarrow \mathbf{Cl}A \subseteq \mathbf{Cl}B.$$

Proof. See [1], Section V.7. □

The collection of all closed with respect to **Cl** subsets of X always forms the complete orthocomplemented lattice $\Gamma_\delta(X)$ with set intersections serving as meets and the operation $A \mapsto A^\delta$ as orthocomplements (see also [1]).

The necessary and sufficient condition for the relation δ to make the lattice $\Gamma_\delta(X)$ Boolean was established in [2]. In this note the necessary and sufficient condition for δ to provide the *orthomodularity* of $\Gamma_\delta(X)$ is given.

Definition. An orthocomplemented lattice \mathcal{L} is called *orthomodular* if for any $a, b \in \mathcal{L}$

$$b \leq a \quad \Rightarrow \quad a = b \vee (b' \wedge a)$$

or, in the form convenient for further purposes

$$(1) \quad b \leq a \quad \Rightarrow \quad b = a \wedge (a \wedge b)'$$

To set up the orthomodularity condition for $\Gamma_\delta(X)$, some further definitions are to be introduced. Let $A \subseteq X$ be a closed subset of X , $A \in \Gamma_\delta(X)$. Consider the pair (A, δ_A) where δ_A is the restriction of the relation δ on A . The pair (A, δ_A) can be, in turn, considered polarity: for any $B \subseteq A$ define

$$B^{\delta_A} = \{a \in A \mid \forall b \in B \quad a\delta b\} = A \cap B^\delta.$$

Define the *induced closure* \mathbf{Cl}_A on subsets of A as

$$(2) \quad \mathbf{Cl}_A B = B^{\delta_A \delta_A}.$$

Since A is closed with respect to the initial closure \mathbf{Cl} on X , it possesses one more closure operation: the restriction of \mathbf{Cl} onto A , let us call it the *relative closure*. The following lemma evidently holds:

Lemma 2. (i) Any \mathbf{Cl}_A -closed subset of A is \mathbf{Cl} -closed.
(ii) For any $B \subseteq A$ we have $\mathbf{Cl}B \subseteq \mathbf{Cl}_A B$.

Now everything is ready to prove the main result of this note.

Theorem 3. The lattice $\Gamma_\delta(X)$ is orthomodular if and only if on each closed subset $A \in \Gamma_\delta(X)$ the operations of relative and induced closure coincide:

$$(3) \quad \mathbf{Cl}_A = \mathbf{Cl} \upharpoonright_A.$$

Proof. Let A be a \mathbf{Cl} -closed subset of X , and $B \subseteq A$ an arbitrary subset of A . By virtue of Lemma 2(i) it suffices to verify (3) only for \mathbf{Cl} -closed subsets of A . Thus (3) reads

$$(4) \quad \forall A, B \in \Gamma_\delta(X) \quad B \subseteq A \Rightarrow B = \mathbf{Cl}_A B.$$

Now note that by definition (2)

$$\mathbf{Cl}_A B = B^{\delta_A \delta_A} = A \cap (A \cap B^\delta)^\delta$$

since set intersections are meets and $(\cdot)^\delta$ is the orthocomplement in $\Gamma_\delta(X)$. Therefore (4) is exactly the orthomodularity condition (1). □

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References

- [1] *G. Birkhoff*: Lattice Theory. Providence, Rhode Island, 1967.
- [2] *F. Šik*: A characterization of polarities whose lattice of polars is Boolean. Czechoslovak Mathematical Journal *98 (106)* (1981), 31.

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