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ON PRODUCT *MV*-ALGEBRAS

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*Abstract.* In this paper we apply the notion of the product *MV*-algebra in accordance with the definition given by B. Riečan. We investigate the convex embeddability of an *MV*-algebra into a product *MV*-algebra. We found sufficient conditions under which any two direct product decompositions of a product *MV*-algebra have isomorphic refinements.

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In this paper we apply the notion of the product *MV*-algebra in accordance with the article [11]; it is defined to be an *MV*-algebra with a further binary operation (called product) satisfying certain axioms. The definition is recalled in Section 1 below.

Different definitions of the operation of product in *MV*-algebras have been used in [4] and [5]. If a binary operation satisfies the postulates from [5] then it will be called a *DR*-product.

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is an *MV*-algebra, then its underlying set will be denoted by  $A$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}_1$  be the class of all *MV*-algebras  $\mathcal{A}$  such that there exists a binary operation  $\cdot$  on  $A$  having the property that the algebraic system  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  turns out to be a product *MV*-algebra. Further, let  $\mathcal{M}_2$  be the class of all product *MV*-algebras.

For  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{M}_1$  we denote by  $P(\mathcal{A})$  the set of all binary operations  $\text{op}$  on  $A$  such that  $(\mathcal{A}, \text{op})$  belongs to  $\mathcal{M}_2$ . Put

$$\mathcal{P} = \{\text{card } P(\mathcal{A}) : \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{M}_1\}.$$

In the present paper we show that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a proper class. We prove that each *MV*-algebra can be convexly embedded into an *MV*-algebra which is an element of  $\mathcal{M}_1$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an  $MV$ -algebra and let  $\cdot$  be a  $DR$ -product defined on  $A$ . We investigate some relations between the direct product decompositions of the  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and the properties of the operation of the  $DR$ -product under consideration. In particular, we find sufficient conditions under which any two direct product decompositions of  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  have isomorphic refinements.

## 1. PRELIMINARIES

For  $MV$ -algebras several different (but equivalent) systems of axioms have been applied (cf., e.g., [1], [7], [11]).

In this paper the system from [7] will be used; cf. also the articles [8] and [9].

Hence an  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined to be a nonempty set  $A$  with binary operations  $\oplus, *$ , a unary operation  $\neg$  and nulary operations  $0, 1$  on  $A$  such that the conditions  $(M_1)$ – $(M_8)$  from [7] are satisfied.

For lattice ordered groups we apply the notation and the terminology from [3].

Let  $G$  be an abelian lattice ordered group with a strong unit  $u$ . Let  $A$  be the interval  $[0, u]$  of  $G$ . For  $a, b \in A$  we put

$$\begin{aligned} a \oplus b &= (a + b) \wedge u, & \neg a &= u - a, \\ 1 &= u, & a * b &= \neg(\neg a \oplus \neg b). \end{aligned}$$

Then (cf. Mundici [10]) the algebraic system  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \oplus, *, \neg, 0, 1)$  is an  $MV$ -algebra. In accordance with [2] we denote this  $MV$ -algebra by  $\Gamma(G, u)$ . (In [8] and [9] the notation  $\mathcal{A}_0(G, u)$  has been used.)

Further, for each  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  there exists an abelian lattice ordered group  $G$  with a strong unit  $u$  such that  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(G, u)$ . (Again, cf. Mundici [10].)

Let  $X$  be a partially ordered set. A sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $X$  is called decreasing if  $x_n \geq x_{n+1}$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . For  $x \in X$ , the symbol  $x_n \searrow x$  has the usual meaning.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $G$  be as above.

**1.1. Definition** (cf. [11]). Assume that a binary operation  $\cdot$  is defined on the set  $A$  such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i)  $u \cdot u = u$ .
- (ii) The operation  $\cdot$  is commutative and associative.
- (iii) If  $a, b \in A$  and  $a + b \leq u$ , then  $c \cdot (a + b) = c \cdot a + c \cdot b$  for any  $c \in A$ .
- (iv) If  $a_n \searrow 0$  and  $b_n \searrow 0$ , then  $a_n \cdot b_n \searrow 0$ .

The  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with the operation  $\cdot$  is called a product  $MV$ -algebra.

Let  $a, b \in A$ . If  $a + b \leq u$ , then we say that  $a + b$  exists in  $A$  or that  $a + b$  is defined in  $A$ .

**1.2. Definition** (cf. [5]). A binary operation  $\cdot$  on the set  $A$  will be called a *DR-product* if the following condition is satisfied for each  $a, b, c \in A$ :

Whenever  $a + b$  is defined in  $A$ , then  $a \cdot c + b \cdot c$  and  $c \cdot a + c \cdot b$  exist in  $A$  and

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b) \cdot c &= a \cdot c + b \cdot c, \\ c \cdot (a + b) &= c \cdot a + c \cdot b.\end{aligned}$$

**1.3. Definition.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an *MV-algebra*. Assume that a binary operation  $\cdot$  is defined on the set  $A$  such that

- a) the conditions (i), (ii) and (iv) from 1.1 are satisfied;
  - b) if  $a, b \in A$  and  $a + b \leq u$ , then  $c \cdot (a + b) = c \cdot a \oplus c \cdot b$  for any  $c \in A$ .
- Under these assumptions  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  is called a *weak product MV-algebra*.

Recall that whenever  $x, y \in A$  and  $x + y \leq u$ , then  $x \oplus y = x + y$ . Hence each product *MV-algebra* is a *weak product MV-algebra*.

## 2. EXAMPLES

**2.1. Example.** Let  $R$  be the additive group of all reals with the natural linear order and let  $u = 1$ . Put  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(R, u)$ . Let  $\cdot$  be the usual multiplication of reals. Then  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  is a product *MV-algebra*.

**2.2. Example.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a finite *MV-algebra* with  $\text{card } A \geq 2$ . For  $x, y \in A$  the product  $x \cdot y$  is defined as follows:

$$x \cdot y = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if either } x = 0 \text{ or } y = 0, \\ u & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  is a *weak product MV-algebra*.

The following example shows that there exist infinite *weak product MV-algebras* with the operation  $\cdot$  defined as in 2.2.

**2.3. Example.** Let  $Z$  be the additive group of all integers with the natural linear order and  $G_1 = G_2 = Z$ . Consider the lexicographic product  $G = G_1 \circ G_2$  (we apply the notation as in Fuchs [6]). Denote  $u = (1, 0)$ ,  $\bar{0} = (0, 0)$  and let  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(G, u)$ . Then  $A$  is the interval  $[\bar{0}, u]$  of  $G$ . If  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $A$  with  $x_n \searrow \bar{0}$ , then there is a positive integer  $m$  such that  $x_n = \bar{0}$  whenever  $n \geq m$ . Let us define the product  $x \cdot y$  analogously as in 2.2. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is an infinite *weak product MV-algebra*.

For an  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  we denote by  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$  the underlying lattice. We remark that the validity of the condition (iv) from 1.1 in the previous example is due to the fact that the linearly ordered set  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$  has an atom.

The following example shows that an analogous situation can occur also in the case when  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$  has no atom.

Let  $J$  be a linearly ordered set such that

- (i)  $J$  has the greatest element  $j_0$ ;
- (ii) if  $(j_n)$  is a decreasing sequence in  $J$ , then there exists  $\bar{j} \in J$  such that  $\bar{j} < j_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

There exists a proper class of linearly ordered sets satisfying (i) and (ii); in fact, for each cardinal  $\alpha$  there exists  $J$  with the above properties such that  $\text{card } J \geq \alpha$ .

**2.4. Example.** Let  $J$  be as above and for each  $j \in J$  let  $G_j = R$ . If  $r_1, r_2 \in R$ , then the multiplication  $r_1 r_2$  has the usual meaning. Let

$$G = \Gamma_{j \in J} G_j$$

(the lexicographic product of linearly ordered groups  $G_j$ ; cf. [6]). For  $g \in G$  and  $j \in J$  let  $g_j$  be the component of  $g$  in  $G_j$ .

Let  $u \in G$  be such that  $u_{j_0} = 1$  and  $u_j = 0$  whenever  $j \neq j_0$ . Hence  $u$  is a strong unit of  $G$ . Consider the  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(G, u)$ . Then  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$  is a linearly ordered set and it has no atom. Similarly as in 2.3, if  $x_n \searrow 0$  in  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ , then there is  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x_n = 0$  for each  $n \geq m$ . Let us define the operation  $\cdot$  in  $A$  analogously as in 2.2. Then  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  is a weak product  $MV$ -algebra.

**2.5. Example.** Let  $G$  be an abelian lattice ordered group,  $G \neq \{0\}$ , and let  $Z$  be the additive group of all integers with the natural linear order. Put  $H = Z \circ G$ . For  $h \in H$  let  $h(Z)$  and  $h(G)$  be the components of  $h$  in  $Z$  and in  $G$ , respectively. Let  $u \in H$  be such that  $u(Z) = 1$  and  $u(G) = 0$ . Then  $u$  is a strong unit of  $H$ . Consider the  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(H, u)$ . Denote

$$X = \{a \in A : a(Z) = 1\}, \quad Y = \{a \in A : a(Z) = 0\}.$$

Then  $X \cup Y = A$  and  $X \cap Y = \emptyset$ .

If  $x_1, x_2 \in X$ , then  $x_1 + x_2 > u$ , hence  $x_1 + x_2 \notin A$ .

We define a binary operation  $\cdot$  on  $A$  as follows. Let  $z_1, z_2 \in A$ . We put  $z_1 \cdot z_2 = u$  if both  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  belong to  $X$ . Otherwise we set  $z_1 \cdot z_2 = 0$ .

It is obvious that the conditions (i), (ii) and (iv) from 1.1 are satisfied. Let us verify that (iii) holds as well.

Let  $a, b, c \in A$ ,  $a + b \leq u$ . Hence we cannot have  $a, b \in X$ . If  $c \in Y$ , then

$$(a + b) \cdot c = 0 = a \cdot c + b \cdot c.$$

The same holds if both  $a$  and  $b$  belong to  $Y$ . In the remaining case we can suppose that  $c \in X$ ,  $a \in X$  and  $b \in Y$ . Thus  $a + b \in X$  and  $a \cdot c = u$ ,  $b \cdot c = 0$ , whence

$$(a + b) \cdot c = u = a \cdot c + b \cdot c.$$

**2.6. Example.** Let  $G, H$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  be as in 2.5; we use also  $X$  and  $Y$  in the same sense as in 2.5.

Consider the binary operation  $\cdot(1)$  on  $A$  which is defined as follows. Let  $z_1, z_2 \in A$ .

- a) If  $z_1, z_2 \in X$ , then we put  $z_1 \cdot(1)z_2 = (1, z_1(G) + z_2(G))$ .
- b) In the case  $z_1 \in X$ ,  $z_2 \in Y$  we set  $z_1 \cdot(1)z_2 = z_2 \cdot(1)z_1 = z_2$ .
- c) For  $z_1, z_2 \in Y$  we put  $z_1 \cdot(1)z_2 = 0$ .

Let us remark that in the case a) we have  $z_1(G) \leq 0$ ,  $z_2(G) \leq 0$ , whence  $(1, z_1(G) + z_2(G)) \in A$ ; therefore the operation  $\cdot$  is correctly defined.

Then we have  $u \cdot(1)u = u$ . The commutativity of the operation  $\cdot(1)$  is obvious. Let  $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in A$ .

If  $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in X$ , then

$$(z_1 \cdot(1)z_2) \cdot(1)z_3 = (1, z_1(G) + z_2(G) + z_3(G) = z_1 \cdot(1)(z_2 \cdot(1)z_3).$$

If at least two indices  $i_1, i_2$  of the set  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  have the property that  $z_{i_1}, z_{i_2} \in Y$ , then

$$(z_1 \cdot(1)z_2) \cdot(1)z_3 = 0 = z_1 \cdot(1)(z_2 \cdot(1)z_3).$$

Let  $i_1, i_2$  and  $i_3$  be distinct indices belonging to the set  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ . Suppose that  $z_{i_1}, z_{i_2} \in X$  and  $z_{i_3} \in Y$ . Then we have

$$(z_1 \cdot(1)z_2) \cdot(1)z_3 = z_{i_3} = z_1 \cdot(1)(z_2 \cdot(1)z_3).$$

Hence the operation  $\cdot(1)$  is associative.

Again, let  $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in A$  and suppose that  $z_1 + z_2 \leq u$ .

First suppose that both  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  belong to the set  $Y$ . Then  $z_1 + z_2 \in Y$ . The case  $z_3 \in Y$  yields

$$z_3 \cdot(1)(z_1 + z_2) = 0 = z_3 \cdot(1)z_1 + z_3 \cdot(1)z_2;$$

if  $z_3 \in X$ , then

$$z_3 \cdot(1)(z_1 + z_2) = z_1 + z_2 = z_3 \cdot(1)z_1 + z_3 \cdot(1)z_2.$$

The case  $z_1, z_2 \in X$  cannot occur. Suppose that  $z_1 \in X$  and  $z_2 \in Y$ . Put  $z_1 + z_2 = z_4$ . Hence  $z_4 \in X$ ,  $z_4(G) = z_1(G) + z_2(G)$ .

If  $z_3 \in Y$ , then

$$z_3 \cdot (1)(z_1 + z_2) = z_3 = z_3 \cdot (1)z_1 + z_3 \cdot (1)z_2;$$

in the case  $z_3 \in X$  we have

$$z_3 \cdot (1)(z_1 + z_2) = (1, z_3(G)) \cdot (1)(1, z_1(G) + z_2(G)) = (1, z_1(G) + z_2(G) + z_3(G)),$$

and at the same time

$$z_3 \cdot (1)z_1 + z_3 \cdot (1)z_2 = (1, z_3(G) + z_1(G)) + (0, z_2(G)) = (1, z_3(G) + z_1(G) + z_2(G)).$$

Hence the condition (iii) from 1.1 is satisfied.

Let  $(z_n)$  be a sequence in  $A$  such that  $z_n \searrow 0$ . From the construction of  $\mathcal{A}$  we easily obtain that there is  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $z_n \in Y$  for each  $n \geq m$ . This yields that the condition (iv) from 1.1 is satisfied.

Therefore  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot (1))$  is a product  $MV$ -algebra.

Since the operations  $\cdot$  and  $\cdot (1)$  on  $A$  are distinct, we infer

$$\text{card } P(\mathcal{A}) \geq 2.$$

### 3. THE CLASS $\mathcal{P}$ AND CONVEX EMBEDDINGS

The notion of the direct product of  $MV$ -algebras is defined in the usual way. Cf., e.g., [8].

Let  $(\mathcal{A}_i)_{i \in I}$  be an indexed system of  $MV$ -algebras. Consider the direct product

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{A} = \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{A}_i.$$

Assume that for each  $i \in I$  a binary operation  $\text{op}_i$  is defined on  $A_i$  such that  $(\mathcal{A}_i, \text{op}_i)$  is a product  $MV$ -algebra.

For  $x \in A$  and  $i \in I$  let  $x_i$  be the component of  $x$  in  $\mathcal{A}_i$ . We define a binary operation  $\text{op}$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  by putting  $x \text{ op } y = z$ , where

$$z_i = x_i \text{ op}_i y_i \quad \text{for each } i \in I.$$

**3.1. Lemma.**  $(\mathcal{A}, \text{op})$  is a product  $MV$ -algebra.

*Proof.* Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $A$ . Then  $x \searrow 0$  if and only if  $(x_n)_i \searrow 0$  for each  $i \in I$ . Hence the condition (iv) from 1.1 is valid for  $(\mathcal{A}, \text{op})$ . It is clear that the conditions (i), (ii) and (iii) from 1.1 are valid as well.  $\square$

**3.2. Corollary.** *The class  $\mathcal{M}_1$  is closed with respect to the direct products.*

Let  $\alpha$  be an infinite cardinal and let  $I$  be a linearly ordered set having the cardinality  $\alpha$ . Further, let  $\mathcal{A}$  be as in 2.5. Put

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_i &= \mathcal{A} \quad \text{for each } i \in I, \\ \mathcal{B} &= \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{B}_i. \end{aligned}$$

Choose a fixed element  $i(0) \in I$ . For each  $i \in I$  we define a binary operation

$$\text{op}_{(i(0),i)}$$

on the set  $B_i$  as follows:

- a) If  $i \leq i(0)$  then  $\text{op}_{(i(0),i)}$  is the operation described in 2.5.
- b) If  $i > i(0)$  then  $\text{op}_{(i(0),i)}$  is defined as in 2.6.

Further, we define the binary operation  $\text{op}_{i(0)}$  on  $B$  by putting

$$x \text{ op}_{i(0)} y = z,$$

where

$$z_i = x_i \text{ op}_{(i(0),i)} y_i \quad \text{for each } i \in I.$$

**3.3. Lemma.** *For each  $i(1) \in I$ ,  $(\mathcal{B}, \text{op}_{i(1)})$  is a product  $MV$ -algebra.*

*Proof.* This is a consequence of 3.1 (in view of 2.5 and 2.6). □

If  $i(0)$  and  $i(1)$  are distinct elements of  $I$ , then the operations  $\text{op}_{i(0)}$  and  $\text{op}_{i(1)}$  are distinct as well. Hence we have

$$P(\mathcal{B}) \geq \alpha.$$

Therefore we obtain

**3.4. Theorem.** *For each cardinal  $\alpha$  there exists a cardinal  $\beta$  belonging to  $\mathcal{P}$  such that  $\beta \geq \alpha$ .*

We conclude that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a proper class.

Let  $G_1$  be an abelian lattice ordered group with a strong unit  $u_1$ . Put  $\mathcal{A}_1 = \Gamma(G_1, u_1)$ . Further, let  $0 < u_2 \in A_1$ . The convex  $\ell$ -subgroup of  $G_1$  which is generated by  $u_2$  will be denoted by  $G_2$ . Then  $u_2$  is a strong unit in  $G_2$ . Consider the  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}_2 = \Gamma(G_2, u_2)$ . The lattice  $\ell(\mathcal{A}_2)$  is a convex sublattice of  $\ell(\mathcal{A}_1)$ . Under these assumptions  $\mathcal{A}_2$  is said to be convexly embedded into the  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}_1$ .



Let  $X$  be a lattice with the least element  $0$  and let  $X_1$  be a sublattice of  $X$  such that

- (i)  $0 \in X_1$ ;
- (ii) if  $x \in X$  and  $x \wedge x_1 = 0$  for each  $x_1 \in X_1$ , then  $x = 0$ .

Then  $X_1$  will be called a dense sublattice of  $X$  (an analogous terminology is applied in the theory of lattice ordered groups).

**3.5. Theorem.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}_1$  be an MV-algebra with  $\text{card } \mathcal{A}_1 > 1$ . Then there exists an MV-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  such that*

- (i)  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is convexly embedded into  $\mathcal{A}$ ;
- (ii)  $\ell(\mathcal{A}_1)$  is a dense sublattice of  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ ;
- (iii)  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{M}_1$ ;
- (iv)  $\text{card } P(\mathcal{A}) \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* There is an abelian lattice ordered group  $G$  with a strong unit  $u_1$  such that  $\mathcal{A}_1 = \Gamma(G, u_1)$ . Then  $\text{card } G > 1$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $H$  be as in 2.5. The convex  $\ell$ -subgroup of  $H$  which is generated by the element  $u_1$  is  $G$ . The lattice  $\ell(\mathcal{A}_1)$  is a convex sublattice of the lattice  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ . Hence (i) is valid.

Let  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and suppose that  $x \wedge x_1 = 0$  for each  $x_1 \in \mathcal{A}_1$ . If  $x(Z) \neq 0$ , then  $x \wedge x_1 = x_1$  for each  $x_1 \in \mathcal{A}_1$ ; hence  $x(Z) = 0$ . Suppose that  $x(G) > 0$ . Since  $u_1$  is a strong unit in  $G$  we obtain  $u_1 \wedge x(G) > 0$ , whence

$$(0, u_1) \wedge x > 0$$

and  $(0, u_1) \in \mathcal{A}_1$ . Thus we have arrived at a contradiction. Therefore  $x = 0$ . Hence (ii) is satisfied.

In view of 2.5, (iii) holds. Finally, according to 2.6, the condition (iv) is valid.  $\square$

#### 4. DIRECT PRODUCT DECOMPOSITIONS

We denote by  $\mathcal{M}_0$  the class of all algebraic systems  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$ , where  $\mathcal{A}$  is an MV-algebra and  $\cdot$  is a DR-product defined on the set  $A$ . Then  $x \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot x = 0$  for each  $x \in A$ .

For elements  $(\mathcal{A}_i, \cdot)$  ( $i \in I$ ) of  $\mathcal{M}_0$  the direct product

$$(1) \quad \prod_{i \in I} (\mathcal{A}_i, \cdot)$$

is defined in the standard way (i.e., all operations are performed componentwise).

Suppose that  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{M}_0$  and that

$$(2) \quad \varphi: (\mathcal{A}, \cdot) \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} (\mathcal{A}_i, \cdot)$$

is an epimorphism. Then we say that  $\varphi$  (or the relation (2)) is a direct product decomposition of  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$ .

An analogous terminology will be applied also for other types of algebraic structures.

If (2) is valid,  $x \in A$ ,  $\varphi(x) = (x_i)_{i \in I}$  and  $i(0) \in I$ , then we denote

$$(3) \quad \varphi_{i(0)}(x) = x_{i(0)}.$$

Suppose that (1) is valid. By dropping the operation  $\cdot$  we infer that

$$(4) \quad \varphi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{A}_i$$

is a direct product decomposition of the  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ .

We say that the direct product decomposition (4) of  $\mathcal{A}$  is determined by the direct product decomposition (2) of  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$ .

The question arises whether each direct product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$  is determined by some direct product decomposition of  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$ .

Below we show by an example that the answer is negative in general. Further, we prove

**4.1. Theorem.** *Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) *Each direct product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$  is determined by some direct product decomposition of  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$ .*
- (ii) *Whenever  $b$  and  $c$  are complementary elements of the lattice  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ , then*
  - a) *the interval  $[0, b]$  is closed with respect to the operation  $\cdot$ ;*
  - b) *if  $b_1 \in [0, b]$  and  $c_1 \in [0, c]$ , then  $b_1 \cdot c_1 = 0$ .*

It is easy to verify that the condition (i) from 4.1 is equivalent to the condition

- (\*) *Whenever (4) is a direct product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$ , then*
  - a<sub>1</sub>) *for each  $i \in I$  we can define an operation  $\cdot$  on  $A_i$  such that  $(\mathcal{A}_i, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$ ;*
  - b<sub>1</sub>) *if  $i \in I$  and  $x, y \in A$ , then  $\varphi_i(x \cdot y) = \varphi_i(x) \cdot \varphi_i(y)$ .*

For proving 4.1 we need some lemmas.

**4.2. Lemma.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an  $MV$ -algebra and let  $b, c$  be complementary elements of the lattice  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ . Let the mapping*

$$\varphi: A \rightarrow [0, b] \times [0, c]$$

be defined by  $\varphi(x) = (x \wedge b, x \wedge c)$  for each  $x \in A$ . Then  $\varphi$  is a direct product decomposition of the lattice  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ .

*Proof.* This is an immediate consequence of the fact that the lattice  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$  is distributive.  $\square$

As above, let  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(G, u)$  and let  $b, c$  be as in 4.2. Let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be the convex  $\ell$ -subgroups of  $G$  which are generated by the elements  $b$  and  $c$ , respectively. Then  $b$  is a strong unit in  $G_1$  and, similarly,  $c$  is a strong unit in  $G_2$ . Denote

$$\mathcal{B} = \Gamma(G_1, b), \quad \mathcal{C} = \Gamma(G_2, c).$$

Hence  $\ell(\mathcal{B}) = [0, b]$  and  $\ell(\mathcal{C}) = [0, c]$  (where the intervals are taken with respect to the lattice  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ ).

**4.3. Lemma.** *Under the above assumptions and notation, we have a direct product decomposition*

$$\varphi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{C}.$$

*Proof.* This is a consequence of 4.2 and of Theorem 3.5 in [8].  $\square$

**4.4. Lemma.** *Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$  and let (i), (ii) be as in 4.1. Then (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii).*

*Proof.* Let (i) be valid. Let  $b$  and  $c$  be complementary elements in  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ . Consider the direct product decomposition  $\varphi$  from 4.3. Then (cf. (\*)) we can define the binary operation  $\cdot$  on  $B$  and on  $C$  such that  $(\mathcal{B}, \cdot)$  and  $(\mathcal{C}, \cdot)$  belong to  $\mathcal{M}_0$ ; moreover,  $\varphi$  is a direct product decomposition of the groupoid  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$ .

a) Let  $x, y \in [0, b]$ . Hence  $a \wedge b = x, x \wedge c = 0$ , thus  $\varphi(x) = (x, 0)$  and similarly,  $\varphi(y) = (y, 0)$ . Then

$$\varphi(x \cdot y) = (x \cdot y, 0)$$

(since, in view of (i), the operation  $\cdot$  is performed componentwise; cf. also (\*)). Therefore  $x \cdot y$  must belong to  $[0, b]$ .

b) Let  $b_1 \in [0, b], c_1 \in [0, c]$ . Then  $\varphi(b_1) = (b_1, 0), \varphi(c_1) = (0, c_1)$  and

$$\varphi(b_1 \cdot c_1) = (b_1, 0) \cdot (0, c_1) = 0.$$

Thus  $b_1 \cdot c_1 = 0$ .  $\square$

Now let us assume that  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  is an element of  $\mathcal{M}_0$  satisfying the condition (ii). Let us have a two factor direct product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$

$$(5) \quad \varphi_1: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_1.$$

In view of the definition of the direct product decomposition, all the *MV*-operations are performed componentwise with respect to  $\varphi_1$ . It is well-known that the lattice operations  $\vee$  and  $\wedge$  can be expressed in terms of the operations  $\oplus, *$  and  $\neg$ ; hence  $\vee$  and  $\wedge$  are also performed componentwise.

Analogously as in (3) we denote

$$\varphi_1(x) = (x_{B_1}, x_{C_1})$$

for each  $x \in A$ . We obviously have  $0_{B_1} = 0 = 0_{C_1}$ .

We denote by  $b^1$  and  $c^1$  the greatest elements of  $\ell(\mathcal{B}_1)$  and of  $\ell(\mathcal{C}_1)$ , respectively. Next, we put

$$b = \varphi_1^{-1}((b_1, 0)), \quad c = \varphi_1^{-1}((0, c_1)).$$

Then  $b$  and  $c$  are complementary elements of  $\ell(\mathcal{A})$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  have the same meaning as above.

In view of (ii), the set  $B$  is closed with respect to the operation  $\cdot$ ; let  $x_1, x_2, x_3 \in [0, b]$  be such that  $x_1 + x_2 \leq b$ . Then  $x_1 + x_2 \leq u$ , whence  $(x_1 + x_2) \cdot x_3 = x_1 \cdot x_3 + x_2 \cdot x_3$ . Therefore the algebraic system  $(\mathcal{B}, \cdot)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{M}_0$ . Analogously  $(\mathcal{C}, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$ .

The mapping  $t \rightarrow t_{B_1}$  (where  $t$  runs over the set  $B$ ) is an isomorphism of  $\mathcal{B}$  onto  $\mathcal{B}_1$ . Similarly, the mapping  $z \rightarrow z_{C_1}$  (with  $z$  running over  $C$ ) is an isomorphism of  $\mathcal{C}$  onto  $\mathcal{C}_1$ .

Let  $b'_1$  and  $b'_2$  belong to  $B_1$ . There are uniquely determined elements  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  in  $B$  such that

$$(b_i)_{B_1} = b'_i \quad (i = 1, 2).$$

Put  $b_1 \cdot b_2 = b_3$ . Then  $b_3 \in B$ . We define the operation  $\cdot$  on  $B_1$  by setting

$$(6) \quad b'_1 \cdot b'_2 = (b_3)_{B_1}.$$

Analogously we define the operation  $\cdot$  on the set  $C_1$ .

Under this definition we have

$$(\mathcal{B}_1, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0, \quad (\mathcal{C}_1, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0.$$

We define the operation  $\cdot$  on the set  $B_1 \times C_1$  componentwise; then  $(\mathcal{B}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_1, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$ .

Further, whenever  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  are elements of  $B$ , then in view of (6) we have

$$(6') \quad \varphi_1(b_1 \cdot b_2) = \varphi(b_1) \cdot \varphi(b_2).$$

For  $x \in A$  we put

$$x_1 = x \wedge b, \quad x_2 = x \wedge c.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}(x_1)_{B_1} &= x_{B_1} \wedge b^1 = x_{B_1}, \\ (x_1)_{C_1} &= x_{C_1} \wedge 0 = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$(x_2)_{B_1} = 0, \quad (x_2)_{C_1} = x_{C_1}.$$

Further,  $x_1 \in B$ ,  $x_2 \in C$  and  $x_1 \wedge x_2 = 0$ ,  $x_1 \vee x_2 = x$ . Thus  $x_1 \vee x_2 = x_1 + x_2 = x$ . For  $y \in A$  we apply analogous notation. Hence

$$x \cdot y = (x_1 + x_2) \cdot (y_1 + y_2) = x_1 \cdot y_1 + x_1 \cdot y_2 + x_2 \cdot y_1 + x_2 \cdot y_2.$$

In virtue of the condition b) in (ii) we get

$$x_1 \cdot y_2 = 0 = x_2 \cdot y_1,$$

whence

$$\begin{aligned}x \cdot y &= x_1 \cdot y_1 + x_2 \cdot y_2, \\ \varphi_1(x \cdot y) &= \varphi_1(x_1 \cdot y_1) + \varphi_1(x_2 \cdot y_2).\end{aligned}$$

In view of (6) and (6') we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_1(x_1 \cdot y_1) &= \varphi_1(x_1) \cdot \varphi_1(y_1) = ((x_1)_{B_1}, 0) \cdot ((y_1)_{B_1}, 0) \\ &= ((x_1)_{B_1} \cdot (y_1)_{B_1}, 0) = (x_{B_1} \cdot y_{B_1}, 0).\end{aligned}$$

Analogously,

$$\varphi_1(x_2 \cdot y_2) = (0, (x_2)_{C_1} \cdot (y_2)_{C_1}) = (0, x_{C_1} \cdot y_{C_1}).$$

Therefore

$$\varphi_1(x \cdot y) = (x_{B_1} \cdot y_{B_1}, x_{C_1} \cdot y_{C_1}).$$

Hence the operation  $\cdot$  is performed componentwise with respect to the mapping  $\varphi_1$ . Thus we have

**4.5. Lemma.** *Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$  and suppose that the condition (ii) from 4.1 is satisfied. Let (5) be valid. Then we can define the binary operation  $\cdot$  on  $B_1$  and on  $C_1$  such that*

(i)  $(\mathcal{B}_1, \cdot)$  and  $(\mathcal{C}_1, \cdot)$  belong to  $\mathcal{M}_0$ ;

(ii) *the direct product decomposition*

$$(7) \quad \varphi_1: (\mathcal{A}, \cdot) \rightarrow (\mathcal{B}_1, \cdot) \times (\mathcal{C}_1, \cdot)$$

is valid.

Again, let  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$  and assume that the condition (ii) from 4.1 holds. Assume that

$$(5') \quad \varphi_2: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{A}_i$$

is a direct product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let  $i(0)$  be a fixed element of  $I$ . The case  $I = \{i(0)\}$  being trivial we can suppose that the set  $J = I \setminus \{i(0)\}$  is nonempty. Put

$$\mathcal{A}'_{i(1)} = \prod_{j \in J} \mathcal{A}_j.$$

In view of (5') there exists a direct product decomposition

$$(5'') \quad \varphi_{2i(0)}: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{i(0)} \times \mathcal{A}'_{i(0)}$$

such that, for each  $s \in A$ , the component of  $x$  in  $\mathcal{A}_{i(0)}$  with respect to (5') is the same as the component of  $x$  in  $\mathcal{A}_{i(0)}$  with respect to (5'').

Now we can apply Lemma 4.5 to the direct product decomposition (5''). In view of (\*) we obtain that the condition (i) from 4.1 is valid for  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$ . Thus we have

**4.6. Lemma.** *Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$  and let (i), (ii) be as in 4.1. Then (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i).*

From 4.4 and 4.6 we conclude that Theorem 4.1 is valid.

**4.7. Example.** Let  $G_1 = G_2 = R$ ,  $G = G_1 \times G_2$ . For  $g \in G$  we denote by  $g_i$  the component of  $g$  in  $G_i$ , ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Let  $u = (1, 1)$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(G, u)$ . If  $z_1, z_2 \in R$ , then  $z_1 z_2$  denotes the usual multiplication in  $R$ .

Let  $x, y \in A$ . Denote

$$t = \frac{1}{4}(x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2).$$

Put  $x \cdot y = (t, t)$ . Then  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  is an element of  $\mathcal{M}_0$  which fails to satisfy the condition (ii) from 4.1. The MV-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is directly decomposable, but the algebraic system  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  is directly indecomposable.

**4.8. Theorem.** *Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}_0$  and suppose that the condition (ii) from 4.1 is satisfied. Then any two direct product decompositions of  $(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  have isomorphic refinements.*

**P r o o f.** This is a consequence of 4.1 and of [8], Corollary 3.6. □

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