

Ján Jakubík

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BANASCHEWSKI'S THEOREM FOR GENERALIZED  
*MV*-ALGEBRAS

JÁN JAKUBÍK, Košice

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*Abstract.* A generalized *MV*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called representable if it is a subdirect product of linearly ordered generalized *MV*-algebras. Let  $S$  be the system of all congruence relations  $\varrho$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  such that the quotient algebra  $\mathcal{A}/\varrho$  is representable. In the present paper we prove that the system  $S$  has a least element.

*Keywords:* generalized *MV*-algebra, representability, congruence relation, unital lattice ordered group

*MSC 2000:* 06D35, 06F15

1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of the generalized *MV*-algebra was introduced independently by Georgescu and Iorgulescu [6], [7] and by Rachůnek [10] (in [6] and [7], the term “pseudo *MV*-algebra” was applied).

For the terminology and notation cf. Section 2 below.

Dvurečenskij [4] proved that each generalized *MV*-algebra is an interval of a unital lattice ordered group. This enables one to search for analogies between the theory of lattice ordered groups and the theory of generalized *MV*-algebras.

A lattice ordered group is *representable* if it is a subdirect product of linearly ordered groups. The representability of a generalized *MV*-algebra is defined analogously; this notion was investigated in [7]; cf. also Dvurečenskij and Pulmannová [5], Section 3.4.

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The motivation and the aim of the present paper are as follows.

For a lattice ordered group  $G$  let  $W(G)$  be the union of all normal prime filters of the positive cone  $G^+$  of  $G$ . Put

$$K_0(G) = \{x \in G: |x| \notin W(G)\}.$$

Banaschewski [1] proved that  $K_0(G)$  is an  $\ell$ -ideal of  $G$  and that  $G/K_0(G)$  is the largest quotient lattice ordered group of  $G$  which is representable.

In other words,  $K_0(G)$  is the least  $\ell$ -ideal of  $G$  having the property that  $G/K_0(G)$  is representable.

To each  $\ell$ -ideal of  $G$  there corresponds a congruence relation on  $G$ , and conversely. Let  $S_0$  be the system of all congruence relations  $\varrho$  on  $G$  such that  $G/\varrho$  is representable. Banaschewski's result yields that the system  $S_0$  possesses a least element.

In [1], Banaschewski remarked that it may be of interest to have a characterization of  $W(G)$  and  $K_0(G)$  internally in terms of elements of  $G$  and that it remains an open question whether  $W(G)$  is the set of all elements  $a > 0$  of  $G$  such that, for some  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in G$ , the relation

$$(x_1 + a - x_1) \wedge \dots \wedge (x_n + a - x_n) = 0$$

is valid.

The author [8] showed that the answer to this question is 'No' and presented the desired characterizations of  $W(G)$  and  $K_0(G)$  in terms of elements of  $G$ .

In the present paper we prove

- (\*) Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a generalized  $MV$ -algebra and let  $S$  be the system of all congruence relations  $\varrho$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  such that the quotient algebra  $\mathcal{A}/\varrho$  is representable. Then the system  $S$  has a least element.

In the proof we substantially apply some results of the author's article [9]; these were formulated for  $MV$ -algebras, but remain valid for generalized  $MV$ -algebras as well.

Further, using the results of [8], we give a constructive description of the least element of  $S$  in terms of elements from  $G$ , where  $G$  is a lattice ordered group with a strong unit  $u$  such that  $\mathcal{A}$  is the interval  $[0, u]$  of  $G$ .

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

A generalized  $MV$ -algebra is defined to be an algebraic structure  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \oplus, ^-, \sim, 0, 1)$  of type  $(2,1,1,0,0)$  such that the axioms (A1)–(A8) from [6] are satisfied.

For  $x, y \in A$  we put  $x \leq y$  if  $x^- \oplus y = 1$ . Then  $(A; \leq)$  is a distributive lattice with the least element 0 and with the greatest element 1; we put  $(A; \leq) = \ell(\mathcal{A})$ .

The group operation in a lattice ordered group will be denoted by the symbol  $+$ , though the commutativity of this operation is not assumed (cf. also Birkhoff [2] and Conrad [3]).  $G^+$  denotes the positive cone of a lattice ordered group  $G$ . An element  $u \in G^+$  is a *strong unit* of  $G$  if for each  $g \in G$  there exists a positive integer  $n$  with  $g \leq nu$ .

Let  $u$  be a fixed strong unit of  $G$ ; then  $(G, u)$  is said to be a *unital lattice ordered group*.

For a unital lattice ordered group  $(G, u)$  we set  $A = [0, u]$  (the interval in  $G$  with the end-points 0 and  $u$ ). Further, for  $x, y \in A$  we put

$$\begin{aligned} x \oplus y &= (x + y) \wedge u, \\ x^- &= u - x, \quad x^\sim = -x + u, \quad 1 = u. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $(A; \oplus, ^-, \sim, 0, 1)$  is a generalized  $MV$ -algebra; it will be denoted by  $\Gamma(G, u)$ .

According to Dvurečenskij [4], for each generalized  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  there exists a unital lattice ordered group  $(G, u)$  such that  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(G, u)$ . Also, the partial order defined in  $\mathcal{A}$  coincides with the partial order on  $A$  induced from  $G$ .

Let  $(\mathcal{A}_i)_{i \in I}$  be an indexed system of generalized  $MV$ -algebras. The *direct product*  $\prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{A}_i$  is defined in the usual way; its elements are denoted by  $(a_i)_{i \in I}$ , where  $a_i \in \mathcal{A}_i$ .

A generalized  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is a *subdirect product* of the indexed system  $(\mathcal{A}_i)_{i \in I}$  if there exists a one-to-one homomorphism  $\varphi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{A}_i$  such that, whenever  $i_0 \in I$  and  $z \in \mathcal{A}_{i_0}$ , then there exists  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $\varphi(a) = (a_i)_{i \in I}$ , where  $a_{i_0} = z$ . We also say that  $\varphi$  is a subdirect product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Let  $\text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  be the system of all congruence relations on  $\mathcal{A}$ . For  $\varrho \in \text{Con } \mathcal{A}$ , the symbol  $\mathcal{A}/\varrho$  has the obvious meaning. If  $x \in A$ , we put  $x(\varrho) = \{y \in A: y\varrho x\}$ . Let  $\varrho_1, \varrho_2 \in \text{Con } \mathcal{A}$ ; we set  $\varrho_1 \leq \varrho_2$  if for each  $x \in A$ ,  $x(\varrho_1) \subseteq x(\varrho_2)$ . Under the relation  $\leq$ ,  $\text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  is a complete lattice.

Analogous notions are applied for lattice ordered groups.

For a lattice ordered group  $G$  let  $\mathcal{J}(G)$  be the system of all  $\ell$ -ideals of  $G$ . This system is partially ordered by the set-theoretical inclusion. Further, let  $\text{Con } G$  be the system of all congruence relations on  $G$ . It is well-known that for each  $\varrho \in \text{Con } G$ ,  $0(\varrho)$  is an  $\ell$ -ideal of  $G$  and the mapping  $\text{Con } G \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(G)$  defined by  $\varrho \rightarrow 0(\varrho)$  is an isomorphism of  $\text{Con } G$  onto  $\mathcal{J}(G)$ .

Again, let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a generalized  $MV$ -algebra. A nonempty subset  $X$  of  $A$  is a *normal ideal* of  $\mathcal{A}$  if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $X$  is closed with respect to the operation  $\oplus$ ;
- (ii) if  $x \in X$  and  $x_1 \in A$ ,  $x_1 \leq x$ , then  $x_1 \in X$ ;
- (iii)  $a \oplus X = X \oplus a$  for each  $a \in A$ .

This notion was investigated in [6] and [10]; cf. also [5]. Let  $\mathcal{N}\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  be the system of all normal ideals of  $\mathcal{A}$ ; this system is partially ordered by the set theoretical inclusion. The relation between  $\mathcal{N}\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  is similar to that between  $\mathcal{I}(G)$  and  $\text{Con } G$ , namely: for each  $\varrho \in \text{Con } \mathcal{A}$ ,  $0(\varrho)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{N}\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  and the mapping  $\text{Con } \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  defined by  $\varrho \rightarrow 0(\varrho)$  is an isomorphism of  $\text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  onto  $\mathcal{N}\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ .

### 3. SUBDIRECT PRODUCT DECOMPOSITIONS

In the present section we assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a generalized  $MV$ -algebra and  $(G, u)$  is a unital lattice ordered group with  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(G, u)$ . Recall that if the operation  $\oplus$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is commutative, then  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  *$MV$ -algebra*.

**Proposition 3.1** (Cf. [5]). *For each  $Y \in \mathcal{I}(G)$  we put  $\psi(Y) = Y \cap A$ . Then  $\psi$  is an isomorphism of  $\mathcal{I}(G)$  onto  $\mathcal{N}\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ .*

Let  $\varrho^1 \in \text{Con } G$ . Then  $0(\varrho^1) \in \mathcal{I}(G)$ . Put  $0(\varrho^1) = Y$ ; hence  $\psi(Y) \in \mathcal{N}\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ . There exists a uniquely determined  $\varrho \in \text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  with  $0(\varrho) = \psi(Y)$ . In view of Section 2 and of 3.1 we have

**Lemma 3.2.** *The mapping  $\chi: \text{Con } G \rightarrow \text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  defined by  $\chi(\varrho^1) = \varrho$  for each  $\varrho^1 \in \text{Con } G$  is an isomorphism of  $\text{Con } G$  onto  $\text{Con } \mathcal{A}$ .*

Subdirect product decompositions of  $MV$ -algebras were investigated by the author [9].

A straightforward verification shows that the results of Section 1 and Section 2 of [9] remain valid if

- (a) the  $MV$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is replaced by a generalized  $MV$ -algebra;
- (b) the symbol  $\neg$  is replaced by  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$ ;
- (c) in the proof of 2.3, the argument concerning the operation  $\sim$  is added (which is analogous to the argument used for the operation  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$ ).

In this sense we will understand the quotations concerning the definitions and results of [9].

In view of the well-known Birkhoff's result on the relation between subdirect product decompositions and congruence relation (cf., e.g., [2], Chapter VI), when considering a subdirect product decompositions of any algebra  $X$  we can suppose without loss of generality that the corresponding subdirect factors have the form  $X/\varrho_i$  ( $i \in I$ ), where  $\varrho_i$  are congruence relations on  $X$  such that  $\bigwedge_{i \in I} \varrho_i = \text{Id}_X$  (we denote by  $\text{Id}_X$  the identity on  $X$ ). Moreover, for each  $x \in X$  and each  $i \in I$ , the component of  $x$  in  $X/\varrho_i$  is equal to  $x(\varrho_i)$ . In this situation we say that the subdirect product decomposition under consideration is determined by the system  $(\varrho_i)_{i \in I}$ .

Let  $\varrho^1 \in \text{Con } G$ . The element  $u(\varrho^1)$  is a strong unit of the lattice ordered group  $G/\varrho^1$ , hence we can construct the generalized  $MV$ -algebra

$$\mathcal{A}_{\varrho^1} = \Gamma(G/\varrho^1, u(\varrho^1)).$$

We define a binary relation  $\varrho$  on  $A$  as follows: for any  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  we put  $a_1 \varrho a_2$  iff  $a_1 \varrho^1 a_2$ . It is easy to verify that  $\varrho$  belongs to  $\text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  and that  $\varrho = \chi(\varrho^1)$ , where  $\chi$  is as in 3.2. For each  $g(\varrho^1) \in \mathcal{A}_{\varrho^1}$  we put

$$\psi_{\varrho^1}(g(\varrho^1)) = g(\varrho^1) \cap A.$$

In view of the above remark concerning the validity of results of [9] for generalized  $MV$ -algebras we have

**Proposition 3.3** (Cf. [9], Proposition 2.4). *Let  $\varrho^1 \in \text{Con } G$  and  $\varrho = \chi(\varrho^1)$ . Then  $\psi_{\varrho^1}$  is an isomorphism of  $\mathcal{A}_{\varrho^1}$  onto  $\mathcal{A}/\varrho$ .*

**Theorem 3.4** (Cf. [9], Theorem 2.5). *Let  $(G, u)$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  be as above. If  $\sigma$  is a subdirect product decomposition of  $G$  which is determined by a system  $\{\varrho^i\}_{i \in I} \subseteq \text{Con } G$ , then*

- (i) *there exists a subdirect product decomposition  $\sigma_1 = \psi^*(\sigma)$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  which is determined by the system  $\{\chi(\varrho^i)\}_{i \in I}$ ;*
- (ii) *for each  $i \in I$ , the quotient algebra  $\mathcal{A}/\chi(\varrho^i)$  is isomorphic to  $\Gamma(G/\varrho^i, u(\varrho^i))$ .*

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $\sigma_0$  be a subdirect product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$  which is determined by a system  $\{\varrho_0^i\}_{i \in I} \subseteq \text{Con } \mathcal{A}$ . Let  $\chi$  be as in 3.2. Put  $\varrho^i = \chi^{-1}(\varrho_0^i)$  for each  $i \in I$ . Then the system  $\{\varrho^i\}_{i \in I}$  determines a subdirect product decomposition of  $G$ .*

*Proof.* From the fact that  $\{\varrho_0^i\}_{i \in I}$  determines a subdirect product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$  we obtain  $\bigwedge_{i \in I} \varrho_0^i = \text{Id } A$ . In view of 3.2,  $\chi^{-1}$  is an isomorphism of  $\text{Con } G$  onto  $\text{Con } \mathcal{A}$ , hence  $\bigwedge_{i \in I} \varrho^i = \text{Id } G$ . Then in view of Birkhoff's theorem,  $\{\varrho^i\}_{i \in I}$  determines a subdirect product decomposition of  $G$ . □

**Lemma 3.6.** *Let  $\varrho^1 \in \text{Con } G$ ,  $\varrho = \chi(\varrho^1)$ . Then  $G/\varrho^1$  is linearly ordered if and only if  $\mathcal{A}/\varrho$  is linearly ordered.*

*Proof.* It is well-known that if  $\mathcal{A} = \Gamma(G, u)$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$  is linearly ordered if and only if  $G$  is linearly ordered. Now it suffices to apply Proposition 3.3.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.7.**  *$G$  is representable if and only if  $\mathcal{A}$  is representable.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $G$  is representable. Then there exists a system  $\{\varrho^i\}_{i \in I} \subseteq \text{Con } G$  such that (i) all  $G/\varrho^i$  are linearly ordered, and (ii) this system determines a subdirect product decomposition of  $G$ . For each  $i \in I$  let  $\varrho_0^i = \chi(\varrho^i)$ . Then in view of 3.4, the system  $\{\varrho_0^i\}_{i \in I}$  determines a subdirect product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Moreover, according to 3.3, all generalized  $MV$ -algebras  $\mathcal{A}/\varrho_0^i$  are linearly ordered. Hence  $\mathcal{A}$  is representable.

Conversely, suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is representable; thus there exists  $\{\varrho_0^i\}_{i \in I} \subseteq \text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  determining a subdirect product decomposition of  $\mathcal{A}$  such that all  $\mathcal{A}/\varrho_0^i$  are linearly ordered. Let  $\varrho^i$  be as in 3.5. In view of 3.5, the system  $\{\varrho_0^i\}_{i \in I}$  determines a subdirect product decomposition of  $G$ ; according to 3.3, all  $G/\varrho^i$  are linearly ordered.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.8.** *Let  $\varrho^1 \in \text{Con } G$ ; put  $\varrho = \chi(\varrho^1)$ . Then  $G/\varrho^1$  is representable if and only if  $\mathcal{A}/\varrho$  is representable.*

*Proof.* This is a consequence of 3.3 and 3.7.  $\square$

Let  $S$  and  $S_0$  be as in Section 1.

**Lemma 3.9.** *Assume that  $\bar{\varrho}$  is the least element of  $S_0$ . Then  $\chi(\bar{\varrho})$  is the least element of  $S$ .*

*Proof.* According to 3.8 and 3.2 we conclude that  $\chi$  is a bijection of  $S_0$  onto  $S$ ; moreover, if  $\varrho_1, \varrho_2 \in S_0$ , then

$$\varrho_1 \leq \varrho_2 \Leftrightarrow \chi(\varrho_1) \leq \chi(\varrho_2).$$

Let  $\varrho \in S$ . There exists  $\varrho^1 \in S_0$  with  $\chi(\varrho^1) = \varrho$ . Then  $\varrho^1 \geq \bar{\varrho}$ , whence  $\chi(\varrho^1) \geq \chi(\bar{\varrho})$ . Thus  $\varrho \geq \chi(\bar{\varrho})$ .  $\square$

According to [1], the set  $S_0$  has a least element. Then in view of 3.9, the assertion (\*) from Section 1 is valid.

Using the results of [8], we can give a constructive description of the least element of  $S$  (in terms of elements of  $G$ ). We proceed as follows.

By induction we define subsets  $K_n$  and  $\bar{K}_n$  of  $G$  by putting  $K_1 = \bar{K}_1 = \{0\}$ ; if  $1 < n \in \mathbb{N}$  then let  $K_n$  be the set of all  $0 \leq a \in G$  such that  $(x_1 + a - x_1) \wedge (x_2 + a - x_2) \in$

$\overline{K}_{n-1}$  for some  $x_1, x_2 \in G$ . Further, let  $\overline{K}_n$  be the set of all  $b \in G$  which can be expressed in the form  $b = a_1 + \dots + a_m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in K_n$ . We denote

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \overline{K}_n = \overline{K}, \quad \overline{K}_0 = A \cap \overline{K}.$$

Further, we denote by  $\overline{\varrho}$  the least element of  $S$ . In view of the results of Section 3 of [8] we easily obtain the relation

$$0(\overline{\varrho}) = \overline{K}_0;$$

hence for each  $z \in A$  we have

$$z(\overline{\varrho}) = z \oplus \overline{K}_0.$$

The question of characterizing  $\overline{\varrho}$  internally (in terms of elements of  $A$  and operations in  $\mathcal{A}$ ) remains open.

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*Author's address*: Ján Jakubík, Matematický ústav SAV, Grešáková 6, 040 01 Košice, Slovakia, e-mail: [kstefan@saske.sk](mailto:kstefan@saske.sk).