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## LATTICES WITH A THIRD DISTRIBUTIVE OPERATION

JÁN JAKUBÍK—MILAN KOLIBIAR

### Preliminaries

Two binary operations  $\circ$  and  $*$  in a set  $M$  are said to be mutually distributive (or the operation  $\circ$  is distributive with the operation  $*$ ) if for each  $a, b, c \in M$ ,  $a \circ (b * c) = (a \circ b) * (a \circ c)$ ,  $a * (b \circ c) = (a * b) \circ (a * c)$ .

B. H. Arnold [1] investigated distributive lattices  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$  with an operation  $*$  such that  $(L; *)$  is a semilattice and the operation  $*$  is distributive with  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$ . In [4] there were investigated pairs of distributive lattices  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$ ,  $(L; \cap, \cup)$  such that each of the operations  $\wedge, \vee$  is distributive with each of the operations  $\cap, \cup$ . In this note we shall show that the results of [1, Th. 16] and [4] are valid also without assuming the distributivity of the mentioned lattices.

In the lattices  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$  the order will be denoted by  $\leq$ , that in the semilattice  $(L; \cap)$  by  $\subseteq$  (i.e.  $x \subseteq y$  iff  $x \cap y = x$ ). Lattice operations in the lattice of equivalence relations in a set  $M$  will be denoted by  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$ .  $\omega$  will denote the least equivalence relations (equality),  $\bar{\iota}$  the greatest one.  $\Theta, \Phi$  will denote the product of equivalence relations  $\Theta, \Phi$  in the usual sense.

### 1. Results

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $L = (L; \wedge, \vee)$  be a lattice. There is a 1-1 correspondence between semilattice operations  $\cap$  in  $L$  such that  $\cap$  is distributive with  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$ , and pairs of congruence relations  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  in  $L$  such that  $\Theta_1 \wedge \Theta_2 = \omega$ ,  $(a \wedge b) \vee c \Theta_i (a \vee c) \wedge (b \vee c)$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) for each  $a, b, c \in L$ , and  $a < b$  implies  $a \Theta_i \Theta_2 b$ .*

*The congruence relations  $\Theta_i$  corresponding to  $\cap$  are given as follows.  $a \Theta_1 b$  iff  $a \cap b = a \vee b$ ,  $a \Theta_2 b$  iff  $a \cap b = a \wedge b$ . Conversely, given  $\Theta_1$  and  $\Theta_2$ ,  $a \cap b$  is the uniquely determined element  $c$  for which  $a \wedge b \Theta_1 c \Theta_2 a \vee b$ .*

*If the desired operation  $\cap$  exists, then  $L$  is distributive.*

**Theorem 2.** Let  $L = (L; \wedge, \vee)$  be a lattice. There is a 1-1 correspondence between the operations  $\cap$  as in Theorem 1 and representations of  $L$  as a subdirect product of distributive lattices  $A, B$  such that if  $(a, b), (a', b')$  are elements of the subdirect product and  $(a, b) \leq (a', b')$ , then  $(a, b)$  belongs to this subdirect product. The subdirect representation belonging to an operation  $\cap$  is that given by congruence relations  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  from Theorem 1. The operation  $\cap$  corresponding to a subdirect representation  $\varphi: L \rightarrow A \times B$  is given as follows. If  $\varphi(x) = (a, b), \varphi(y) = (a', b')$ , then  $x \cap y = \varphi^{-1}(a \wedge a', b \vee b')$ .

**Theorem 3.** a) The semilattice  $(L; \cap)$  of Th. 1 turns out to be a lattice<sup>1)</sup> iff the corresponding congruence relations  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  commute.

b) The semilattice  $(L; \cap)$  of Th. 2 turns out to be a lattice if the subdirect factorization is a direct one.

In both cases the lattice  $(L; \cap, \cup)$  is distributive and the operation  $\cup$  is distributive with  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$ , too.

**Theorem 4.** a) If for two lattices,  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$  and  $(L; \cap, \cup)$ , the operation  $\cap$  is distributive with  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$ , then the operation  $\cup$  is distributive with these operations too and both lattices are distributive.

b) Let  $L_1 = (L; \wedge, \vee)$  and  $L_2 = (L; \cap, \cup)$  be lattices. The operation  $\cap$  is distributive with  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  iff there are distributive lattices  $A = (A; \wedge, \vee), B = (B; \wedge, \vee)$  and a map  $\varphi: L \rightarrow A \times B$  such that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism of  $L_1$  onto the direct product  $A \times B$  and an isomorphism of  $L_2$  onto the direct product  $A \times \bar{B}$  ( $\bar{B}$  being the dual of  $B$ ).

Remark 1. In Theorem 1 four distributive laws are postulated:  $x \cap (y \wedge z) = (x \cap y) \wedge (x \cap z), x \wedge (y \cap z) = (x \wedge y) \cap (x \wedge z), x \cap (y \vee z) = (x \cap y) \vee (x \cap z),$  and  $x \vee (y \cap z) = (x \vee y) \cap (x \vee z)$ . None of these laws can be omitted as the following example shows. Let  $L_1, L_2$  be lattices on the set  $\{a, b, c\}$  given by the chains  $L_1: a < b < c, L_2: a < c < b$ . There hold the first three identities but the last does not.

This example shows also that in Theorem 4 it would not be sufficient to suppose only that one of the operations of  $L_1$  is distributive with one operation of  $L_2$ .

Remark 2. From theorems [4, Th. 3.4] and [5, Th. 3.6] there immediately follows the following weakening of Theorem 4b). If each operation of  $L_1$  is distributive with each operation of  $L_2$ , then there is an isomorphism of  $L_1$  onto a direct product of two lattices  $A$  and  $B$  which is also an isomorphism of the lattices  $L_2$  and  $A \times \bar{B}$ .

## 2. Some lemmas

**2.0. Lemma.** Congruence relations  $\Theta, \Phi$  of a lattice  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$  commute iff for each  $a, b \in L, a \leq b, a \Theta \Phi b$  is equivalent with  $a \Phi \Theta b$ .

<sup>1)</sup> i.e. there is an operation  $\cup$  on  $L$  such that  $(L; \cap, \cup)$  is a lattice

Proof. The condition is obviously necessary. Suppose it is satisfied and let  $x, y \in L, x\Theta z$  and  $z\Phi y$ . Then  $x \wedge y \wedge z \Phi x \wedge z \Theta x$ , hence  $t \in L$  exists with  $x \wedge y \wedge z \Theta t \Phi x$ , so that  $y \Theta y \vee t$ . Further,  $x \wedge y \wedge z \Theta y \wedge z \Phi y$ , hence  $y \wedge z \Phi \Theta y \vee t, y \wedge z \Theta \Phi y \vee t$  and  $t \Theta y \wedge z$  so that  $t \Theta \Phi y \vee t, x \Phi t \Phi \Theta y \vee t \Theta y$ , hence  $x \Phi \Theta y$ . This shows that  $\Theta \Phi \leq \Phi \Theta$ , which implies  $\Theta \Phi = \Phi \Theta$ .

In the paragraphs 2.1—2.5.9 we suppose that  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$  is a lattice (with the ordering relation  $\leq$ ),  $(L; \cap)$  is a semilattice (with the ordering relation  $\subseteq$ ) and that the operation  $\cap$  is distributive with both operations  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$ .

**2.1.** From the distributivity of  $\cap$  with the operations  $\wedge, \vee$  it follows immediately (see [1])  $x \wedge y \leq x \cap y \leq x \vee y, x \cap y \subseteq x \wedge y, x \cap y \subseteq x \vee y, x \cap (x \wedge y) = x \wedge (x \cap y), x \cap (x \vee y) = x \vee (x \cap y)$ . These relations will be used freely in what follows.

**2.2.**  $a \leq x \leq b$  and  $a \subseteq b$  imply  $a \subseteq x \subseteq b$ .

Proof.  $a \cap x = a \cap (x \wedge b) = (a \cap x) \wedge (a \cap b) = (a \cap x) \wedge a = (a \wedge x) \cap a = a \cap a = a, b \cap x = (b \vee x) \cap (a \vee x) = (b \cap a) \vee x = a \vee x = x$ .

**2.3.**  $u \leq x, u \leq y, u \subseteq x$  and  $u \subseteq y$  imply  $x \wedge y = x \cap y$ .

Proof.  $u \leq x \wedge y \leq x$  and  $u \subseteq x$  yield, by 2.2,  $u \subseteq x \wedge y \subseteq x$ . Similarly,  $x \wedge y \subseteq y$ . It follows that  $x \wedge y \subseteq x \cap y$ , hence  $x \wedge y = x \cap y$  (using 2.1).

**2.4.** Let the semilattice  $(L; \cap)$  form a lattice  $(L; \cap, \cup)$  (see the footnote<sup>1</sup>). Then  $a \leq a \cup b \leq b$  holds for any  $a \leq b$ .

Proof.  $[a \vee (a \cup b)] \cap [b \wedge (a \cup b)] = ([a \vee (a \cup b)] \cap b) \wedge ([a \vee (a \cup b)] \cap (a \cup b)) = [(a \cap b) \vee b] \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)] = b \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)]$ , hence

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} b \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)] &\subseteq a \vee (a \cup b), \\ b \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)] &\subseteq b \wedge (a \cup b). \end{aligned}$$

Further,  $a \cap (b \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)]) = (a \cap b) \wedge a = a$ , hence

$$(2) \quad a \subseteq b \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)].$$

Using 2.1 we get  $b \cap (b \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)]) \supseteq b \cap (b \cap [a \vee (a \cup b)]) = (b \cap a) \vee b = b$ , hence

$$(3) \quad b \subseteq b \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)].$$

Further,  $[a \vee (a \cup b)] \cap (a \cup b) = a \vee (a \cup b), [b \wedge (a \cup b)] \cap (a \cup b) = b \wedge (a \cup b)$ , hence

$$(4) \quad a \vee (a \cup b) \subseteq a \cup b, b \wedge (a \cup b) \subseteq a \cup b.$$

From (2) and (3) it follows that  $a \cup b \subseteq b \wedge [a \vee (a \cup b)]$ , which combined with (1) and (4) yields  $a \vee (a \cup b) = a \cup b = b \wedge (a \cup b)$ , which proves the assertion.

**2.5.** Define the relations  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  in  $L$  as follows.  $a \Theta_1 b$  iff  $a \cap b = a \vee b, a \Theta_2 b$  iff  $a \cap b = a \wedge b$ .

**2.5.1.**  $\Theta_2$  is an equivalence relation in  $L$ .

Proof. Reflexivity and symmetry are obvious. Let  $a \Theta_2 b, b \Theta_2 c$ . Then

$$a \cap b = a \wedge b, b \cap c = b \wedge c,$$

$$a \wedge b \wedge c = (a \wedge b) \wedge (b \wedge c) = (a \cap b) \wedge (b \cap c) = (a \wedge b) \cap (a \wedge c) \cap b \cap (b \wedge c) =$$

$$= (a \cap b) \cap (a \wedge c) \cap b \cap (b \cap c) = a \cap b \cap c \cap (a \wedge c) = a \cap b \cap c, \text{ since } a \cap c \subseteq a \wedge c.$$

From the relations  $a \wedge b \wedge c \leq a, c$ ;  $a \wedge b \wedge c = a \cap b \cap c \subseteq a, c$  it follows by 2.3 that  $a \cap c = a \wedge c$ , hence  $a \Theta_2 c$ .

**2.5.2.**  $\Theta_2$  is a congruence relation in the lattice  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$ .

Proof. Let  $a \Theta_2 b$ , i.e.,  $a \cap b = a \wedge b$ . Then  $(a \wedge c) \cap (b \wedge c) = (a \cap b) \wedge c = a \wedge b \wedge c = (a \wedge c) \wedge (b \wedge c)$ , hence  $a \wedge c \Theta_2 b \wedge c$ . Further,  $(a \vee c) \wedge (b \vee c) \leq (a \vee c) \cap (b \vee c) = (a \cap b) \vee c = (a \wedge b) \vee c \leq (a \vee c) \wedge (b \vee c)$ , which yields  $a \vee c \Theta_2 b \vee c$ .

**2.5.3.**  $\Theta_1$  is a congruence relation in the lattice  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$ .

Proof. It suffices to consider the semilattice  $(L; \cap)$  and the lattice dual to  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$ , and to use 2.5.2.

**2.5.4.**  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  are congruence relations in the semilattice  $(L; \cap)$ .

Proof.  $a \Theta_1 b$  implies  $(a \cap c) \cap (b \cap c) = (a \cap b) \cap c = (a \vee b) \cap c = (a \cap c) \vee (b \cap c)$ , hence  $a \cap c \Theta_1 b \cap c$ . The proof for  $\Theta_2$  is similar.

**2.5.5.**  $\Theta_1 \wedge \Theta_2 = \omega$ .

The assertion follows immediately from the definition 2.5.

**2.5.6.**  $a \wedge b \Theta_1 a \cap b, a \cap b \Theta_2 a \vee b$ .

The assertion follows immediately from 2.5 and 2.1.

**2.5.7.**  $a \leq b$  implies  $a \Theta_1 \Theta_2 b$ .

The assertion follows from 2.5.6.

**2.5.8.** If the semilattice  $(L; \cap)$  forms a lattice (see the footnote<sup>1</sup>), then  $a \Theta_2 \Theta_1 b$  for each  $a \leq b$ .

Proof. Using 2.4 we get  $a \Theta_2 a \cup b \Theta_1 b$ .

**2.5.9.** The lattice  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$  is distributive.

Proof. Using 2.5.6 we get for arbitrary  $x, y, z \in L$ :  $(x \vee y) \wedge z \Theta_2 (x \cap y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \cap (y \wedge z) \Theta_2 (x \wedge z) \vee (y \wedge z)$ . On the other hand,  $(x \vee y) \wedge z \Theta_1 (x \vee y) \cap z = (x \cap z) \vee (y \cap z) \Theta_1 (x \wedge z) \vee (y \wedge z)$ . This gives  $(x \vee y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \vee (y \wedge z)$  by 2.5.5.

### 3. Proofs of the Theorems

Proof of Th. 1. The existence of the congruence relations  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  for a given semilattice  $(L; \cap)$  and the distributivity of the lattice  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$  are consequences of 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 2.5.5, 2.5.7 and 2.5.9.

Conversely, let  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  be congruence relations in  $L$  satisfying the given conditions. These conditions ensure the existence of the operation  $\cap$ . Obviously  $\cap$  is idempotent and commutative. The elements  $d_1 = (a \cap b) \cap c, d_2 = a \cap (b \cap c)$  satisfy  $d_i \Theta_1 a \wedge b \wedge c, d_i \Theta_2 a \vee b \vee c$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), hence  $d_1 \Theta_1 \wedge \Theta_2 d_2$ , which yields  $d_1 = d_2$ .

To prove the distributivity of the operation  $\cap$  with  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  we use the definition of  $\cap$  (i.e. 2.5.6) and the supposed distributivity of quotient lattices  $L/\Theta_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ). The elements  $u_1=(a \wedge b) \cap c$ ,  $u_2=(a \cap c) \wedge (b \cap c)$  satisfy  $a \wedge b \wedge c \Theta_1 u_1$ ,  $\Theta_2(a \wedge b) \vee c$  ( $i=1, 2$ ), hence  $u_1=u_2$ . Similarly we get  $(a \cap b) \wedge c=(a \wedge c) \cap (b \wedge c)$  and the distributivity of the operations  $\cap$  and  $\vee$ .

One can easily verify that if  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  are congruence relations corresponding to a given operation  $\cap$ , then the semilattice operation corresponding to  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$ , coincides with  $\cap$ . Similarly, if we start with  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$ , construct  $\cap$  and then the corresponding congruence relations, we get  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$ . This yields the correspondence stated in the theorem.

Proof of Theorem 2. Let  $(L; \cap)$  be a semilattice with the property stated in the theorem and  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  the congruence relations from Th. 1. Then the lattice  $L$  is isomorphic to a subdirect product of lattices  $L/\Theta_1, L/\Theta_2$  under the mapping  $\varphi: x \rightarrow ([x]_{\Theta_1}, [x]_{\Theta_2})$  ( $[x]_{\Theta_i}$  is the class of the congruence relation  $\Theta_i$ , containing  $x$ ) (see e.g. [3, § 20]). By Th. 1 the lattices  $L/\Theta_i$  are distributive. Let  $(a, b), (a', b')$  have the same meaning as in the theorem. Then elements  $u, v \in L$  exist with  $\varphi(u)=(a, b)$ ,  $\varphi(v)=(a', b')$ ,  $u \leq v$ . By Th. 1 there is  $t \in L$  with  $u \Theta_1 t \Theta_2 v$ . Then  $\varphi(t)=(a, b')$ .

Conversely, let  $\varphi: L \rightarrow A \times B$  be an isomorphism of the lattice  $L$  to a subdirect product of lattices  $A, B$  having the properties stated in the theorem. Let  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  be the corresponding congruence relations in  $L$  [3, § 20]. Then  $\Theta_1 \wedge \Theta_2 = \omega$  and  $L/\Theta_i$  are isomorphic to  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively, hence they are distributive. If  $a, b \in L$ ,  $a \leq b$ ,  $\varphi(a)=(a, a')$ ,  $\varphi(b)=(b, b')$ , let  $t$  be the element of  $L$  with  $\varphi(t)=(a, b')$ . Then  $a \Theta_1 t \Theta_2 b$ , hence the congruence relations  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  have the properties of Theorem 1 so that there is a semilattice operation  $\cap$  in  $L$  which is distributive with the operations  $\wedge, \vee$ . The relations  $x \wedge y \Theta_1 x \cap y \Theta_2 x \vee y$  yield the last assertion of Th. 2 concerning the operation  $\cap$ .

Proof of Th 3 a) If the lattice  $(L; \cap, \cup)$  exists, then  $\Theta_1 \cdot \Theta_2 = \Theta_2 \cdot \Theta_1$  by 2.0, 2.5.7 and 2.5.8. Conversely, let  $\Theta_1 \cdot \Theta_2 = \Theta_2 \cdot \Theta_1$ . Then for  $a \leq b$  we get by Th. 1  $a \Theta_1 \Theta_2 b$ , hence  $a \Theta_2 \Theta_1 b$ , too. By Th. 1 there is a semilattice operation  $\cup$  in  $L$ , which is distributive with the operations  $\wedge, \vee$ , satisfying  $a \wedge b \Theta_2 a \cup b \Theta_1 a \vee b$ . Hence  $(a \cup b) \cap a \Theta_2 (a \wedge b) \cap a \Theta_2 a$ ,  $(a \cup b) \cap a \Theta_1 (a \vee b) \cap a \Theta_1 a$ , which yields  $(a \cup b) \cap a \Theta_1 \wedge \Theta_2 a$ , i.e.,  $(a \cup b) \cap a = a$ . Similarly we get  $(a \cap b) \cup a = a$  using  $a \wedge b \Theta_1 a \cap b \Theta_2 a \vee b$ . Hence  $(L; \cap, \cup)$  is a lattice. The distributivity of this lattice follows by Th. 1 (or by 2.5.9) from the distributivity of the operation  $\wedge$  with the operations  $\cap, \cup$ .

b) Since  $a \Theta_1 \Theta_2 b$  for  $a \leq b$ , we get  $\Theta_1 \vee \Theta_2 = \iota$ . Hence the subdirect product is a direct product iff  $\Theta_1 \cdot \Theta_2 = \Theta_2 \cdot \Theta_1$ . By a), this is equivalent to the condition that  $(L; \cap)$  forms a lattice.

Proof of Th. 4. The assertion a) follows from Theorems 1 and 3. The assertion b) follows from Theorems 2 and 3.

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## СТРУКТУРЫ С ТРЕТЬЕЙ ДИСТРИБУТИВНОЙ ОПЕРАЦИЕЙ

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### Резюме

Пусть  $(L; \wedge, \vee)$  — структура. В этой статье исследуется бинарная операция  $\circ$  на множестве  $L$  обладающая следующими свойствами: (а)  $(L; \circ)$  является полуструктурой; (б) операция  $\circ$  будет дистрибутивной относительно каждой из операций  $\wedge$  и  $\vee$ . Доказано обобщение одного результата Арнольда.