

## Near $\lambda$ -lattices

IVAN CHAJDA and M. KOLAŘÍK

*Department of Algebra and Geometry, Palacký University Olomouc, Tomkova 40,  
779 00 Olomouc, Czech Republic*

*e-mail: chajda@inf.upol.cz and kolarik@inf.upol.cz*

ABSTRACT. By a near  $\lambda$ -lattice is meant an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice where is defined a partial binary operation  $x \wedge y$  with respect to the induced order whenever  $x, y$  has a common lower bound. Alternatively, a near  $\lambda$ -lattice can be described as an algebra with one ternary operation satisfying nine simple conditions. Hence, the class of near  $\lambda$ -lattices is a quasi-variety. A  $\lambda$ -semilattice  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  is said to have sectional (antitone) involutions if for each  $a \in A$  there exists an (antitone) involution on  $[a, 1]$ , where 1 is the greatest element of  $\mathcal{A}$ . If this antitone involution is a complementation,  $\mathcal{A}$  is called an ortho  $\lambda$ -semilattice. We characterize these near  $\lambda$ -lattices by certain identities.

Nearlattices were studied (under different names) by several authors. Some essential results are collected in [3] where is given also a characterization of nearlattices as algebras with one ternary operation. The concept of a lattice was generalized by V. Snášel [5] by dropping out associativity. The resulting algebra  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee, \wedge)$  satisfying idempotency for  $\vee, \wedge$ , commutativity for  $\vee, \wedge$ , the absorption laws and the so-called skew associativity

$$(SA) \quad x \vee ((x \vee y) \vee z) = (x \vee y) \vee z, \quad x \wedge ((x \wedge y) \wedge z) = (x \wedge y) \wedge z$$

is called a  $\lambda$ -**lattice**. Applying this concept instead of a lattice in the definition of nearlattice, we obtain a near  $\lambda$ -lattice. This is the subject of our next considerations.

In the sequel, we equip these near  $\lambda$ -lattices with the so-called sectional involutions to obtain structures analogous to ortholattices (see [2]). They can be characterized by a new binary operation which is derived “as implication” similarly as it was done by J. C. Abbott [1] for boolean near-lattices.

**Definition 1.** An **upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice** (or a **commutative directoid** in [4]) is an algebra  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  of type (2) satisfying the identities

$$(A1) \quad x \vee x = x \quad (\textit{idempotency});$$

$$(A2) \quad x \vee y = y \vee x \quad (\textit{commutativity});$$

Received February 7, 2006.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification: 06A12, 06C15, 06F35.

Key words and phrases: near  $\lambda$ -lattice,  $\lambda$ -semilattice, ortho  $\lambda$ -lattice, ortho  $\lambda$ -semilattice.

(A3)  $x \vee ((x \vee y) \vee z) = (x \vee y) \vee z$  (*skew associativity*).

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $(A; \vee)$  be an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice. If we define*

$$x \leq y \quad \text{if and only if} \quad x \vee y = y,$$

*then the relation  $\leq$  is a partial order on  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Clearly  $x \leq x$  for each  $x \in A$  by (A1). Further, if  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$ , then  $y = x \vee y = y \vee x = x$  by (A2). Finally, if  $x \leq y$ ,  $y \leq z$ , then, by (A3),

$$x \vee z = x \vee (y \vee z) = x \vee ((x \vee y) \vee z) = (x \vee y) \vee z = y \vee z = z,$$

thus  $x \leq z$ . □

Let  $(A; \leq)$  be an ordered set. Denote by

$$U(a, b) = \{x \in A; a \leq x \text{ and } b \leq x\} \text{ and}$$

$$L(a, b) = \{x \in A; x \leq a \text{ and } x \leq b\} \text{ for } a, b \in A.$$

**Definition 2.** A partial binary operation  $\wedge$  on an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  will be called the **associated operation**, if the following properties hold for all  $x, y, z \in A$ :

- i)  $x \wedge y$  is defined if and only if  $L(x, y) \neq \emptyset$  and
  - a)  $x \wedge y \in L(x, y)$ ;
  - b)  $x \leq y$  implies  $x \wedge y = x$ ;
- ii) If  $x \wedge y$  is defined then  $y \wedge x$  and  $x \vee (x \wedge y)$  are defined and
  - a)  $x \wedge y = y \wedge x$ ;
  - b)  $x \vee (x \wedge y) = x$ ;
- iii) If  $(x \wedge y) \wedge z$  is defined then  $x \wedge ((x \wedge y) \wedge z)$  is defined and
 
$$x \wedge ((x \wedge y) \wedge z) = (x \wedge y) \wedge z.$$

**Remark 1.** It is clear from the definition that the associated operation  $\wedge$  is idempotent, i.e., for each  $x \in A$ ,  $x \wedge x$  exists and  $x \wedge x = x$ . Further, the associated operation  $\wedge$  satisfies the identity  $x \wedge (x \vee y) = x$ , since  $x \leq x \vee y$ .

**Definition 3.** An upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  is called a **near  $\lambda$ -lattice**, if there is defined the associated operation  $\wedge$  on  $A$ .

**Remark 2.** If  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  is a near  $\lambda$ -lattice then it does not mean that for each  $a \in A$  the interval  $[a]$  is a  $\lambda$ -lattice, see e.g. the following example:

**Example 1.** Consider the ordered set  $(\{a, b, c, d, 1\}, \leq)$  as shown in Fig. 1. If

we define  $a \vee b = c$ ,  $c \vee d = 1$  and trivially for comparable elements then  $\mathcal{A} = (\{a, b, c, d, 1\}, \vee)$  is an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice. To convert it into a near  $\lambda$ -lattice, we have two choices for non-comparable elements, namely  $c \wedge d = a$  or  $c \wedge d = b$ . Let e.g.  $c \wedge d = b$  and  $x \wedge y = x$  whenever  $x \leq y$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a near  $\lambda$ -lattice but the interval  $[a, 1] = \{a, c, d, 1\}$  is not a  $\lambda$ -lattice because  $c \wedge d$  is not defined in it. On the contrary  $[b, 1]$  is a  $\lambda$ -lattice as one can easily verify.

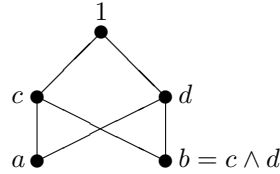


Fig. 1

Now, we show that near  $\lambda$ -lattices can be considered equivalently as algebras with one ternary operation.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{M} = (M; \vee)$  be a near  $\lambda$ -lattice and  $\wedge$  its associated operation. Define a ternary operation  $w(x, y, z) = (x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z)$  on  $M$ . Then  $w(x, y, z)$  is an everywhere defined operation and the following conditions are satisfied :*

- (C) for every  $p, q \in L(x, y)$ ,  $w(x, y, p) = w(x, y, q)$ ;
- (P1)  $w(x, y, x) = x$ ;
- (P2)  $w(x, x, y) = w(y, y, x)$ ;
- (P3)  $w(x, x, w(w(x, x, y), w(x, x, y), z)) = w(w(x, x, y), w(x, x, y), z)$ ;
- (P4)  $w(x, y, z) = w(y, x, z)$ ;
- (P5)  $w(x, w(w(x, y, z), v, z), z) = w(w(x, y, z), v, z)$ ;
- (P6)  $w(x, w(y, y, x), z) = w(x, x, z)$ ;
- (P7)  $w(w(x, x, z), w(x, x, z), w(y, x, z)) = w(x, x, z)$ ;
- (P8)  $w(w(x, x, z), w(y, y, z), z) = w(x, y, z)$ .

*Proof.* Clearly  $z \leq x \vee z$ ,  $z \leq y \vee z$ , hence  $L(x \vee z, y \vee z) \neq \emptyset$ , thus  $(x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z)$  is an everywhere defined operation on  $M$ . To prove the condition (C) we suppose  $p, q \in L(x, y)$ . Then  $L(x, y) \neq \emptyset$  and hence  $x \wedge y$  is defined. This yields

$$w(x, y, p) = (x \vee p) \wedge (y \vee p) = x \wedge y = (x \vee q) \wedge (y \vee q) = w(x, y, q).$$

Prove the identities (P1)–(P8) :

$$(P1) \quad w(x, y, x) = (x \vee x) \wedge (y \vee x) = x \wedge (y \vee x) = x;$$

(P2)

$$\begin{aligned}
w(x, x, y) &= (x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee y) = x \vee y \\
&= y \vee x = (y \vee x) \wedge (y \vee x) \\
&= w(y, y, x);
\end{aligned}$$

(P3)

$$\begin{aligned}
w(x, x, w(w(x, x, y), w(x, x, y), z)) &= x \vee w(w(x, x, y), w(x, x, y), z) \\
&= x \vee (w(x, x, y) \vee z) \\
&= x \vee ((x \vee y) \vee z) \\
&= (x \vee y) \vee z \\
&= w(x, x, y) \vee z \\
&= w(w(x, x, y), w(x, x, y), z);
\end{aligned}$$

$$(P4) \quad w(x, y, z) = (x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z) = (y \vee z) \wedge (x \vee z) = w(y, x, z);$$

(P5)

$$\begin{aligned}
w(x, w(w(x, y, z), v, z), z) &= (x \vee z) \wedge (w(w(x, y, z), v, z) \vee z) \\
&= (x \vee z) \wedge (((w(x, y, z) \vee z) \wedge (v \vee z)) \vee z) \\
&= (x \vee z) \wedge ((w(x, y, z) \vee z) \wedge (v \vee z)) \\
&= (x \vee z) \wedge (((x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z)) \vee z) \wedge (v \vee z) \\
&= (x \vee z) \wedge ((x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z)) \wedge (v \vee z) \\
&= ((x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z)) \wedge (v \vee z) \\
&= (((x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z)) \vee z) \wedge (v \vee z) \\
&= w((x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z), v, z) \\
&= w(w(x, y, z), v, z);
\end{aligned}$$

(P6)

$$\begin{aligned}
w(x, w(y, y, x), z) &= w(x, y \vee x, z) = (x \vee z) \wedge ((y \vee x) \vee z) \\
&= (x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee (x \vee z)) = x \vee z \\
&= w(x, x, z);
\end{aligned}$$

(P7)

$$\begin{aligned}
w(w(x, x, z), w(x, x, z), w(y, x, z)) &= w(x \vee z, x \vee z, w(y, x, z)) \\
&= (x \vee z) \vee w(y, x, z) \\
&= (x \vee z) \vee ((y \vee z) \wedge (x \vee z)) \\
&= x \vee z = w(x, x, z);
\end{aligned}$$

(P8)

$$\begin{aligned}
w(w(x, x, z), w(y, y, z), z) &= w(x \vee z, y \vee z, z) \\
&= ((x \vee z) \vee z) \wedge ((y \vee z) \vee z) \\
&= (x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z) \\
&= w(x, y, z).
\end{aligned}$$

□

We are going to prove the converse. For this, let us state the following

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{M} = (M; w)$  be an algebra of type (3) satisfying the identities (P1), (P2), and (P3). Define  $x \vee y = w(x, x, y)$ . Then  $(M; \vee)$  is an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice.*

*Proof.* Idempotency: by (P1), we have  $x \vee x = w(x, x, x) = x$ .

Commutativity : by (P2),  $x \vee y = w(x, x, y) = w(y, y, x) = y \vee x$ .

Skew associativity : applying (P3), we infer

$$\begin{aligned}
x \vee ((x \vee y) \vee z) &= w(x, x, (x \vee y) \vee z) \\
&= w(x, x, w(x \vee y, x \vee y, z)) \\
&= w(x, x, w(w(x, x, y), w(x, x, y), z)) \\
&= w(w(x, x, y), w(x, x, y), z) \\
&= w(x \vee y, x \vee y, z) = (x \vee y) \vee z.
\end{aligned}$$

□

Due to Lemma 2, we can introduce an order  $\leq$  on an algebra  $\mathcal{M} = (M; w)$  as follows :

$$x \leq y \quad \text{if and only if} \quad w(x, x, y) = y.$$

This order will be called the **induced order** of  $\mathcal{M}$ .

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{M} = (M; w)$  be an algebra of type (3) satisfying (C), (P1) – (P7), and let  $\leq$  be the induced order. Then for  $x \vee y = w(x, x, y)$ ,  $(M; \vee)$  is an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice. For  $x, y, p \in M$ , such that  $p \leq x, y$  we define*

$$x \wedge y = w(x, y, p).$$

*Then  $(M; \vee)$  is a near  $\lambda$ -lattice where  $\wedge$  is the associated operation.*

*If  $\mathcal{M} = (M; w)$  satisfies moreover (P8), then the correspondence between near  $\lambda$ -lattices and algebras  $(M; w)$  satisfying (C), (P1) – (P8) is one-to-one.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 2,  $(M; \vee)$  is an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice. Further, for each  $x \in M$  we have  $x \in L(x, x)$  and hence

$$x \wedge x = w(x, x, x) = x \vee x = x.$$

Suppose now  $L(x, y) \neq \emptyset$ , i.e., there exists  $p \in L(x, y)$ . By (P4) we get

$$x \wedge y = w(x, y, p) = w(y, x, p) = y \wedge x.$$

Since  $(x \wedge y) \wedge z$  is defined, we have  $L(L(x, y), z) \neq \emptyset$ , and thus exist  $p, q$  such that  $p \in L(x, y)$  and  $q \in L(L(x, y), z)$ . Hence also  $q \in L(x, y)$ , by (C),  $w(x, y, p) = w(x, y, q)$ , and by (P5)

$$\begin{aligned}
 x \wedge ((x \wedge y) \wedge z) &= x \wedge (w(x, y, p) \wedge z) = x \wedge (w(w(x, y, p), z, q)) \\
 &= w(x, w(w(x, y, p), z, q), q) = w(w(x, y, q), z, q) \\
 &= (w(x, y, q) \vee q) \wedge (z \vee q) \\
 &= (((x \vee q) \wedge (y \vee q)) \vee q) \wedge (z \vee q) \\
 &= ((x \vee q) \wedge (y \vee q)) \wedge (z \vee q) \\
 &= (x \wedge y) \wedge z.
 \end{aligned}$$

It remains to show the absorption laws. Since  $x \leq y \vee x$ , we have  $x \in L(x, y \vee x)$  and hence  $x \wedge (y \vee x)$  is defined and, by (P6), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x \wedge (y \vee x) &= x \wedge w(y, y, x) = w(x, w(y, y, x), x) \\
 &= w(x, x, x) = x.
 \end{aligned}$$

To prove the second absorption law, suppose  $L(x, y) \neq \emptyset$  and  $p \in L(x, y)$ . Then  $y \wedge x$  is defined, and applying (P7),

$$\begin{aligned}
 x \vee (y \wedge x) &= x \vee w(y, x, p) = (x \vee p) \vee w(y, x, p) \\
 &= w(x, x, p) \vee w(y, x, p) \\
 &= w(w(x, x, p), w(x, x, p), w(y, x, p)) \\
 &= w(x, x, p) = x \wedge x = x.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $(M, \vee)$  is a near  $\lambda$ -lattice.

If  $(M; w)$  is an algebra of type (3) satisfying (C), (P1) – (P8),  $x \vee y := w(x, x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in M$  and  $x \wedge y := w(x, y, p)$  for all  $p \in M$  and all  $x, y \in M$  with  $x, y \geq p$  then  $(x \vee z) \wedge (y \vee z) = w(w(x, x, z), w(y, y, z), z) = w(x, y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in M$ .

Thus the correspondence between near  $\lambda$ -lattices and induced algebras  $\mathcal{M} = (M; w)$  is one-to-one.  $\square$

**Example 2.** Let  $\mathcal{M} = (M; \vee)$  be a near  $\lambda$ -lattice depicted in Fig. 2, such that  $x \wedge y = p_2$ ,  $p_1 \wedge p_2 = p_3$ ,  $p_1 \vee p_2 = x$  and  $p_3 \vee p_4 = p_2$ . Then  $L(x, y) = \{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4\}$  and, by condition (C) from Theorem 1, we have :

$$w(x, y, p_i) = w(x, y, p_j) \text{ for all } i, j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}.$$

Note that  $p_3 \wedge p_4$  is not defined, because  $L(p_3, p_4) = \emptyset$ .

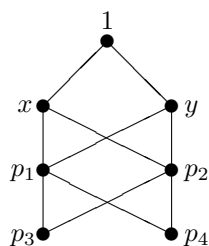


Fig. 2

**Remark 3.** Because of Theorems 1 and 2, near  $\lambda$ -lattices can be alternatively considered as algebras  $\mathcal{M} = (M; w)$  of type (3) satisfying (C), (P1) – (P8) and  $\leq$  will be referred to as the induced order of  $\mathcal{M} = (M; w)$ .

Since (P1) – (P8) are identities and (C) is a quasi-identity, we have

**Corollary.** *The class of all near  $\lambda$ -lattices (considered as ternary algebras) is a quasivariety  $\mathcal{N}$ .*

For varieties which are subquasivarieties of  $\mathcal{N}$ , we can prove

**Theorem 3.** *Every variety of near  $\lambda$ -lattices is congruence distributive.*

*Proof.* Take  $n = 4$ , and  $t_0(x, y, z) = x$ ,  $t_4(x, y, z) = z$  and  $t_1(x, y, z) = w(z, y, x)$ ,  $t_2(x, y, z) = w(x, x, z)$ ,  $t_3(x, y, z) = w(x, y, z)$ .

Then  $t_0(x, y, x) = x$

$t_1(x, y, x) = w(x, y, x) = x$

$t_2(x, y, x) = w(x, x, x) = x$

$t_3(x, y, x) = w(x, y, x) = x$

$t_4(x, y, x) = x$

$i$  even:  $t_0(x, x, y) = x = w(x, y, x) = w(y, x, x) = t_1(x, x, y)$

$t_2(x, x, y) = w(x, x, y) = t_3(x, x, y)$

$i$  odd:  $t_1(x, y, y) = w(y, y, x) = w(x, x, y) = t_2(x, y, y)$

$t_3(x, y, y) = w(x, y, y) = w(y, x, y) = y = t_4(x, y, y)$ .

Then  $t_0, \dots, t_4$  are Jónsson's terms and hence the variety is congruence distributive.  $\square$

### Near $\lambda$ -lattices with sectional antitone involutions

Let  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  be a  $\lambda$ -semilattice with a greatest element 1. We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  is **with sectional involutions** if for each  $a \in A$  there is a mapping  $f_a$  of  $[a, 1]$  into itself such that  $f_a(f_a(x)) = x$  for each  $x \in [a, 1]$  and  $f_a(a) = 1$ ,  $f_a(1) = a$ . We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  is **with sectional antitone involutions** if for each  $a \in A$ , the mapping  $f_a$  is antitone, i.e. if  $x, y \in [a, 1]$  with  $x \leq y$  then  $f_a(y) \leq f_a(x)$ .

For the sake of brevity, we will denote  $f_a(x) = x^a$ .

**Example 3.** Consider the near  $\lambda$ -lattice  $\mathcal{A}$  from Fig. 1. Define e.g.

$$c^a = c, d^a = d, a^a = 1, 1^a = a, c^b = d, d^b = c, b^b = 1, 1^b = b$$

and trivially for 2-element intervals. One can easily check that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a near  $\lambda$ -lattice with sectional antitone involutions.

Let  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  be a near  $\lambda$ -lattice with sectional involutions. Introduce new binary operation  $\circ$  on  $A$  as follows :

$$x \circ y = (x \vee y)^y.$$

Since  $x \vee y \in [y, 1]$ ,  $\circ$  is everywhere defined operation on  $A$ .

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  be a near  $\lambda$ -lattice with sectional involutions. Then  $x \circ y = 1$  if and only if  $x \leq y$ .*

*Proof.* If  $x \leq y$  then  $x \circ y = (x \vee y)^y = y^y = 1$ . Conversely, suppose  $x \circ y = 1$ . Then  $(x \vee y)^y = 1$ . Since the involution is a bijection with  $y^y = 1$ , we conclude  $x \vee y = y$  thus also  $x \leq y$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  be a near  $\lambda$ -lattice with sectional involutions. Then the operation  $\circ$  satisfies the following identities:*

$$(I1) \quad x \circ 1 = 1, 1 \circ x = x, x \circ x = 1;$$

$$(I2) \quad (x \circ y) \circ y = (y \circ x) \circ x;$$

$$(I3) \quad ((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ y = x \circ y;$$

$$(I4) \quad x \circ (((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ z) \circ z = 1;$$

$$(I5) \quad x \circ (y \circ x) = 1.$$

*In this case we have  $x \vee y = (x \circ y) \circ y$ .*

*If, moreover, the sectional involutions are antitone then  $\circ$  satisfies also*

$$(I6) \quad (((((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ z) \circ z) \circ x) \circ (y \circ x)) \circ x = 1.$$

*Proof.*

(I1) :

$$x \circ 1 = (x \vee 1)^1 = 1^1 = 1;$$

$$1 \circ x = (1 \vee x)^x = 1^x = x;$$

$$x \circ x = (x \vee x)^x = x^x = 1.$$

(I2) :  $(x \circ y) \circ y = ((x \vee y)^y \vee y)^y = (x \vee y)^{yy} = x \vee y$  thus also  $(y \circ x) \circ x = y \vee x = x \vee y = (x \circ y) \circ y$ .



(I3) : By the previous we have

$$((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ y = (x \vee y) \circ y = ((x \vee y) \vee y)^y = (x \vee y)^y = x \circ y.$$

(I4) : Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is a near  $\lambda$ -lattice, it satisfies the identity (A3) whence  $x \leq (x \vee y) \vee z$ . Applying the previous result  $x \vee y = (x \circ y) \circ y$ , we obtain  $x \leq (((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ z) \circ z$ . Due to Lemma 3 we get (I4).

(I5) :  $x \circ (y \circ x) = (x \vee (y \vee x)^x)^{(y \vee x)^x} = ((y \vee x)^x)^{(y \vee x)^x} = 1$ .

Suppose now that the sectional involutions are antitone. Evidently  $x \leq y \vee x$ ,  $x \vee y \leq (x \vee y) \vee z$  and  $x \leq x \vee ((x \vee y) \vee z) = (x \vee y) \vee z$  thus

$$\begin{aligned} (((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ z) \circ z \circ x &= ((x \vee y) \vee z) \circ x = (((x \vee y) \vee z) \vee x)^x \\ &= (x \vee ((x \vee y) \vee z))^x = ((x \vee y) \vee z)^x \leq (x \vee y)^x \\ &= (y \vee x)^x = y \circ x. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3 we obtain (I6).  $\square$

**Remark 4.** The third simple identity in (I1), namely  $x \circ x = 1$ , can be derived by the other two remaining and (I2) as follows

$$x \circ x = (1 \circ x) \circ x = (x \circ 1) \circ 1 = 1.$$

We are wonder if our operation  $\circ$  determines also the near  $\lambda$ -lattice with sectional involutions. We can state

**Theorem 5.** Let  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \circ, 1)$  be an algebra of type  $(2, 0)$  satisfying the identities (I1) - (I5). Define

$$x \leq y \quad \text{if and only if} \quad x \circ y = 1.$$

Then  $(A; \leq)$  is an ordered set with the greatest element 1 which is an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice for

$$x \vee y = (x \circ y) \circ y.$$

The involution on each  $[a, 1]$  is defined by  $x^a = x \circ a$  for  $x \in [a, 1]$ .

If  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies, moreover, (I6) then for each  $p \in A$  the involution on  $[p, 1]$  is antitone and  $([p, 1]; \leq)$  is a  $\lambda$ -lattice whose operations are  $\vee$  and  $\wedge_p$  defined by  $x \wedge_p y = (x^p \vee y^p)^p$ .

*Proof.* By (I1), the relation  $\leq$  is reflexive and  $x \leq 1$  for each  $x \in A$ . If  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$  then, by (I2),  $x = 1 \circ x = (y \circ x) \circ x = (x \circ y) \circ y = \circ y = y$  thus  $\leq$  is antisymmetrical. Suppose  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z$ . Then, applying (I1) and (I4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} x \circ z &= x \circ (1 \circ z) = x \circ ((y \circ z) \circ z) \\ &= x \circ (((1 \circ y) \circ z) \circ z) \\ &= x \circ (((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ z) \circ z = 1 \end{aligned}$$

whence  $x \leq z$ . Thus  $\leq$  is transitive and hence an order on  $A$ .

Put  $x \vee y = (x \circ y) \circ y$ . By (I5) and (I2) we have  $x \leq (y \circ x) \circ x = (x \circ y) \circ y$  and, by (I5),  $y \leq (x \circ y) \circ y$  thus  $(x \circ y) \circ y \in U(x, y)$ . If  $x \leq y$  then  $x \circ y = 1$  thus  $(x \circ y) \circ y = 1 \circ y = y$ .

Hence,  $(A; \vee)$  is an upper  $\lambda$ -semilattice with the greatest element 1.

Let  $x \in [a, 1]$  and define  $x^a = x \circ a$ . Then  $x^{aa} = (x \circ a) \circ a = x \vee a = x$ ,  $a^a = a \circ a = 1$  and  $1^a = 1 \circ a = a$  thus it is an involution on  $[a, 1]$  for each  $a \in A$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \circ, 1)$  satisfies also (I6). Then for  $x, y, z \in A$ ,  $x \leq y \leq z$  (i.e.,  $y, z \in [x, 1]$ ) we have by (I6)  $((x \vee y) \vee z) \circ x \leq y \circ x$ , i.e.,  $z^x = z \circ x = ((x \vee y) \vee z) \circ x \leq y \circ x = y^x$ , i.e., every involution on each  $[x, 1]$  is antitone. In this case, define for  $a, b \in [p, 1]$

$$a \wedge_p b = (a^p \vee b^p)^p.$$

Since  $a^p, b^p \leq a^p \vee b^p$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} a &= a^{pp} \geq (a^p \vee b^p)^p = a \wedge_p b \\ b &= b^{pp} \geq (a^p \vee b^p)^p = a \wedge_p b \end{aligned}$$

thus  $a \wedge_p b \in L(a, b)$ . If  $a \leq b$  then  $a^p \geq b^p$  thus  $a \wedge_p b = (a^p \vee b^p)^p = a^{pp} = a$ , i.e.,  $\wedge_p$  satisfies (i) of Definition 2. Of course,  $x \wedge_p y = y \wedge_p x$ . Since  $x \wedge_p y \leq x$ , we have  $x \vee (y \wedge_p x) = x$  thus also (ii) of Definition 2 is satisfied; (iii) is clear. Hence,  $\wedge_p$  is the associated operation and  $([p, 1]; \vee, \wedge_p)$  is a  $\lambda$ -lattice.  $\square$

**Example 4.** The structure derived from  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \circ, 1)$  as shown in Theorem 5 need not be a near  $\lambda$ -lattice. Consider the near  $\lambda$ -lattice from Example 2. Then we have  $c \wedge_a d = (c^a \vee d^a)^a = (c \vee d)^a = 1^a = a$  in  $[a, 1]$  but in  $[b, 1]$  we have  $c \wedge_b d = (c^b \vee d^b)^b = (d \vee c)^b = 1^b = b \neq a$ . Hence,  $\wedge_p$  cannot serve as an associated operation of  $(A; \vee)$ .

On the contrary, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a near  $\lambda$ -lattice, we can prove :

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  be a near  $\lambda$ -lattice with sectional antitone involutions and  $\wedge$  be its associated operation. If for  $b \in A$  the section  $([b, 1], \vee, \wedge)$  is a  $\lambda$ -lattice then*

$$x \wedge y = (((x \circ b) \circ (y \circ b)) \circ (y \circ b)) \circ b$$

for all  $x, y \in [b, 1]$ .

*Proof.* Since the section  $[b, 1]$  is a  $\lambda$ -lattice,  $x \wedge y$  is uniquely determined for each  $x, y \in [b, 1]$ . By Theorem 5 (in the section  $[b, 1]$ ), we have  $x \wedge y = (x^b \vee y^b)^b$ . Moreover, also by Theorem 5, for each  $x, y \in [b, 1]$  it holds:

$$\begin{aligned} (x^b \vee y^b)^b &= (x^b \vee y^b) \circ b = ((x \circ b) \vee (y \circ b)) \circ b \\ &= (((x \circ b) \circ (y \circ b)) \circ (y \circ b)) \circ b. \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

### Ortho $\lambda$ -semilattices

By an **ortholattice** is meant an algebra  $\mathcal{L} = (L; \vee, \wedge, \perp, 0, 1)$  where  $(L; \vee, \wedge, 0, 1)$  is a bounded lattice,  $x^{\perp\perp} = x$ ,  $x \leq y \Rightarrow y^\perp \leq x^\perp$  and  $x \wedge x^\perp = 0$  (which is equivalent to  $x \vee x^\perp = 1$ ).

Hence, it is a complemented lattice where the operation  $\perp$  of complementation is an antitone involution on  $L$ . We can generalize this concept as follows:

**Definition 4.** By an **ortho  $\lambda$ -lattice** is meant an algebra  $\mathcal{L} = (L; \vee, \wedge, \perp, 0, 1)$  such that  $(L; \vee, \wedge, 0, 1)$  is a bounded  $\lambda$ -lattice and  $x \mapsto x^\perp$  is an antitone involution satisfying  $x \vee x^\perp = 1$ ,  $x \wedge x^\perp = 0$ .

By an **ortho  $\lambda$ -semilattice** is meant a  $\lambda$ -semilattice with sectional antitone involutions  $(A; \vee)$  where all sections are ortho  $\lambda$ -lattices, i.e., for each  $p \in A$  ( $[p, 1]; \leq$ ) is an ortho  $\lambda$ -lattice, such that  $x^p$  is the orthocomplement of  $x \in [p, 1]$  in this section.

**Example 5.** The following  $\lambda$ -lattice is an ortho  $\lambda$ -lattice and ortho  $\lambda$ -semilattice as well.

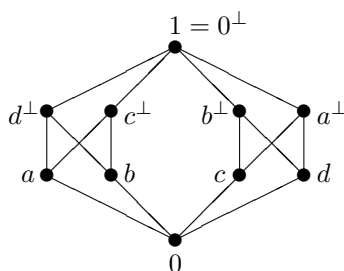


Fig. 3

The orthocomplementation in intervals  $[x, 1]$  for  $x \neq 0$  is determined uniquely and for  $x = 0$  it is pointed in the diagram.

**Theorem 7.** Let  $\mathcal{A} = (A; \vee)$  be a  $\lambda$ -semilattice with sectional antitone involutions. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is an ortho  $\lambda$ -semilattice if and only if the derived operation  $x \circ y = (x \vee y)^y$  satisfies the identity

$$(((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ (x \circ y)) \circ (x \circ y) = 1. \quad (*)$$

*Proof.* Obviously,

$$\begin{aligned} (((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ (x \circ y)) \circ (x \circ y) &= ((x \circ y) \circ y) \vee (x \circ y) \\ &= ((x \circ y) \circ y) \vee (((x \circ y) \circ y) \circ y) \\ &= (x \vee y) \vee (x \vee y)^y, \end{aligned}$$

hence the identity (\*) can be rewritten as

$$(x \vee y) \vee (x \vee y)^y = 1.$$

Trivially,  $x \vee y \in [y, 1]$  thus it is clear that in this case  $a \vee a^y = 1$  for each  $a \in [y, 1]$ . Since  $y \in L(a, a^y)$ , we have for the operation  $\wedge_y$

$$a \wedge_y a^y = (a^y \vee a^{yy})^y = (a^y \vee a)^y = 1^y = y$$

thus  $a^y$  is an orthocomplement of  $a$  in  $[y, 1]$ .

Conversely, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is an ortho  $\lambda$ -semilattice and  $x, y \in A$  then  $x \vee y \in [y, 1]$  and hence

$$(x \vee y) \vee (x \vee y)^y = 1$$

whence the identity is evident.  $\square$

Due to Theorem 7, the class  $\mathcal{O}$  of ortho  $\lambda$ -semilattices (considered in the signature  $(\circ, 1)$ ) forms a variety.

**Theorem 8.** *The variety  $\mathcal{O}$  of ortho  $\lambda$ -semilattices is weakly regular.*

*Proof.* Let  $t_1(x, y) = x \circ y$  and  $t_2(x, y) = y \circ x$ . Then  $t_1(x, x) = t_2(x, x) = x \circ x = 1$  and conversely, if  $t_1(x, y) = t_2(x, y) = 1$  then  $x \circ y = 1 = y \circ x$  thus  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$  whence  $x = y$ . Hence,  $t_1, t_2$  are Csákány's terms for weak regularity and hence  $\mathcal{O}$  is weakly regular.  $\square$

## References

- [1] J. C. Abbott, *Semi-boolean algebras*, *Matem. Vestnik*, **4**(1967), 177-198.
- [2] G. Birkhoff, *Lattice Theory*, (3<sup>rd</sup> edition), *Colloq. Publ.*, 25, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, R. I., 1967.
- [3] I. Chajda and M. Kolařík, *Nearlattices*, *Discrete Math.*, submitted.
- [4] J. Ježek and R. Quackenbush, *Directoids: algebraic models of up-directed sets*, *Algebra Universalis*, **27**(1990), 49-69.
- [5] V. Snášel,  *$\lambda$ -lattices*, *Math. Bohem.*, **122**(1997), 267-272.