

Ján Jakubík

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LEXICOGRAPHIC PRODUCT DECOMPOSITIONS  
OF A LINEARLY ORDERED GROUP

JÁN JAKUBÍK, Košice

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The system of all lexicographic product decompositions of a linearly ordered group  $G$  will be denoted by  $L_0(G)$ . On this set we can define a quasiorder in a natural way (by using the well-known theorem of A. I. Malcev concerning the existence of isomorphic refinements). In this paper we investigate the partially ordered set  $L(G)$  corresponding to the quasiordered set  $L_0(G)$  (in the sense of [1], Chap. II, § 1).

INTRODUCTION

For any two lexicographic product decompositions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of a linearly ordered group  $G$  A. I. Malcev [5] constructed a pair of new lexicographic product decompositions  $\alpha'$  and  $\beta'$  of  $G$  such that

- (i)  $\alpha'$  is a refinement of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta'$  is a refinement of  $\beta$ ;
- (ii)  $\alpha'$  and  $\beta'$  are isomorphic.

This construction was generalized by Fuchs [2] (for lexicographic product decompositions of directed groups) and by the author [3], [4] (for a certain type of lexicographic decompositions of linearly ordered groupoids and for mixed product decompositions of directed groups).

Now let  $L_0(G)$  be the set of all lexicographic product decompositions of linearly ordered group. For  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $L_0(G)$  we put  $\alpha \leq \beta$  if  $\alpha' = \alpha$ . The relation  $\leq$  is a quasiorder on the set  $L_0(G)$ . If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are elements of  $L_0(G)$  such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $\beta \leq \alpha$ , then they will be said to be equivalent. Let  $L(G)$  be the set of all equivalence classes with the natural induced relation  $\leq$ . Then  $L(G)$  is a partially ordered set. For  $\alpha \in L_0(G)$  let  $c(\alpha)$  be the element of  $L(G)$  containing  $\alpha$ .

In [3] it was shown that  $L(G)$  is a lattice and that (under the above notation) we have

$$c(\alpha') = c(\beta') = c(\alpha) \wedge c(\beta).$$

The lattice  $L(G)$  possesses a greatest element which will be denoted by  $I$ . In view of a result of Malcev [5] (concerning the existence of linearly ordered groups which have no lexicographic product decomposition with irreducible factors) the partially

ordered set  $L(G)$  need not have the least element. Hence  $L(G)$  need not be a complete lattice.

In this paper we investigate certain convex  $l$ -subgroups of  $G$  corresponding to a given lexicographic decomposition  $\alpha$  (called *lower sections* of  $\alpha$ ). Next, the following results concerning  $L(G)$  are proved.

The lattice  $L(G)$  is distributive. For each  $\alpha \in L_0(G)$  with  $c(\alpha) < I$  the interval  $[c(\alpha), I]$  of  $L(G)$  is a complete and completely distributive lattice. This lattice is a Boolean algebra if and only if it is finite.

### 1. PRELIMINARIES

The group operation in a linearly ordered group will be denoted by the symbol  $+$  (the commutativity will not be assumed).

For the notion of lexicographic product of partially ordered groups cf., e.g., Fuchs [2], Chap. I, § 7. In accordance with [2], the lexicographic product of linearly ordered groups  $A_\lambda$  (where  $\lambda$  runs over a linearly ordered set  $A$ ) will be denoted by  $\Gamma_{\lambda \in A} A_\lambda$ .

Throughout the whole paper we assume that  $G$  is a nonzero linearly ordered group.

Let  $\varphi$  be an isomorphism of  $G$  onto  $\Gamma_{\lambda \in A} A_\lambda$ . Then the triple  $(G, \varphi, \Gamma_{\lambda \in A} A_\lambda)$  will be said to be a *lexicographic product decomposition* of  $G$ . When no misunderstanding can occur, then we also say that  $\varphi$  is a lexicographic product decomposition of  $G$ .

We put  $A' = \{\lambda \in A: A_\lambda \neq \{0\}\}$ . The set  $A'$  is linearly ordered by the induced linear order. Let  $(G, \varphi, \Gamma_{\lambda \in A} A_\lambda)$  be a lexicographic product decomposition of  $G$ . For  $g \in G$  let  $\varphi(g) = \langle \dots, g_\lambda, \dots \rangle_{\lambda \in A'}$ . Put

$$\varphi'(g) = \langle \dots, g_\lambda, \dots \rangle_{\lambda \in A'}$$

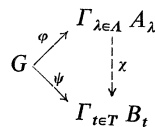
Then  $(G, \varphi', \Gamma_{\lambda \in A'} A_\lambda)$  is also a lexicographic product decomposition of  $G$ .

Let us have lexicographic product decompositions  $(G, \varphi, \Gamma_{\lambda \in A} A_\lambda)$  and  $(G, \psi, \Gamma_{t \in T} B_t)$ .

If there exists an isomorphism  $\mu$  of  $A'$  onto  $T'$  such that for each  $\lambda \in A'$ , there exists an isomorphism of  $A_\lambda$  onto  $B_{\mu(\lambda)}$ , then the lexicographic product decompositions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are said to be *isomorphic*.

The lexicographic product decompositions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  will be considered as equal if there exists an isomorphism  $\chi$  of  $\Gamma_{\lambda \in A} A_\lambda$  onto  $\Gamma_{t \in T} B_t$  such that the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (i) the diagram



is commutative;

(ii) there exists an isomorphism  $i$  of  $A'$  onto  $T'$  (the meaning of  $T'$  is analogous to that of  $A'$ , if  $A$  is replaced by  $T$ ) and for each  $\lambda \in A'$  there is an isomorphism  $\chi_\lambda$  of  $A_\lambda$  onto  $B_{i(\lambda)}$  such that, whenever  $\langle \dots, a_\lambda, \dots \rangle_{\lambda \in A} \in \Gamma_{\lambda \in A} A_\lambda$  and  $\chi(\langle \dots, a_\lambda, \dots \rangle_{\lambda \in A}) = \langle \dots, b_\tau, \dots \rangle_{\tau \in T'}$ , then for each  $\lambda \in A'$  we have  $b_{i(\lambda)} = \chi_\lambda(a_\lambda)$ .

Under this notion of equality, the collection of all lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$  is a set; let us denote this set by  $L_0(G)$ .

Let us remark that if  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are isomorphic lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$ , then  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  need not be equal.

Again, let  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  be lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$ . For  $A_1 \subseteq A$  we denote by  $G(A_1)$  the set of all  $g \in G$  such that  $g_\lambda = 0$  for each  $\lambda \in A \setminus A_1$  (where  $\varphi(g) = \langle \dots, g_\lambda, \dots \rangle_{\lambda \in A}$ ). If  $A_1 = \{\lambda_1\}$  is a one-element set, then we denote  $G(A_1) = G(\lambda_1)$ . A similar notation will be employed for  $T_1 \subseteq T$ .

The lexicographic product decomposition  $\psi$  will be said to be a *refinement* of  $\varphi$  if for each  $\lambda_1 \in A'$  there exists  $T_1 \subseteq T'$  such that the mapping defined by

$$g \rightarrow \langle \dots, g_\tau, \dots \rangle_{\tau \in T'}$$

for each  $g \in G(\lambda_1)$  is a lexicographic product decomposition of  $G(\lambda_1)$ .

Now let

$$\alpha = (G; \varphi, \Gamma_{\lambda \in A} A_\lambda), \quad \beta = (G; \psi, \Gamma_{\mu \in M} B_\mu)$$

be any two lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$ .

For each  $\mu \in M$  and  $\lambda \in A$  let  $C_{\mu\lambda}$  be as in [2], p. 27 (cf. also Section 2 below); further let  $C_{\lambda\mu}$  be defined analogously. Then the following result is valid (cf. [5] (with another notation)):

**1.1. Theorem.** (Małcev [5].) *Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be as above. Then there exist lexicographic product decompositions*

$$\alpha' = (G; \varphi_1; \Gamma_{\lambda \in A} \Gamma_{\mu \in M} C_{\lambda\mu}),$$

$$\beta' = (G; \psi_1; \Gamma_{\mu \in M} \Gamma_{\lambda \in A} C_{\mu\lambda})$$

such that

- (i)  $\alpha'$  is a refinement of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta'$  is a refinement of  $\beta$ ;
- (ii)  $\alpha'$  and  $\beta'$  are isomorphic.

If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are as above, then we denote

$$\alpha' = f(\alpha, \beta).$$

Hence we have  $\beta' = f(\beta, \alpha)$ .

It is easy to verify that if the relations  $\alpha = \alpha_1$  and  $\beta = \beta_1$  hold in  $L_0(G)$  (cf. the above definition of equality in  $L_0(G)$ ), then

$$f(\alpha, \beta) = f(\alpha_1, \beta_1)$$

is valid in  $L_0(G)$ .

For  $\alpha, \beta \in L_0(G)$  we put  $\alpha \leq \beta$  if  $f(\alpha, \beta) = \alpha$ .

**1.2. Lemma.** (Cf. [3].) *The relation  $\leq$  is a quasiorder on the set  $L_0(G)$ .*

If  $\alpha \in L_0(G)$ , then we denote  $c(\alpha) = \{\alpha_1 \in L_0(G) : \alpha \leq \alpha_1 \text{ and } \alpha_1 \leq \alpha\}$ . Let  $L(G)$  be the system  $\{c(\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in L_0(G)}$ . For  $c(\alpha), c(\beta) \in L(G)$  we put  $c(\alpha) \leq c(\beta)$  if  $\alpha \leq \beta$ ; then  $L(G)$  is a partially ordered set under  $\leq$ .

**1.3. Proposition.** (Cf. [4].)  $L(G)$  is a lattice under the relation  $\leq$ . If  $\alpha, \beta \in L_0(G)$ , then in  $L(G)$  we have

$$c(f(\alpha, \beta)) = c(f(\beta, \alpha)) = c(\alpha) \wedge c(\beta).$$

Let  $\alpha$  be as above. Assume that  $A'$  is a one-element set. Then  $c(\alpha)$  is the greatest element in  $L(G)$ ; we denote  $c(\alpha) = I$ .

The linearly ordered group  $G$  is said to be *lexicographically irreducible* if  $L(G) = \{I\}$ .

Let  $\gamma = (G, \varphi_\gamma, \Gamma_{t \in T} C_t) \in L_0(G)$ . It is obvious that the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $c(\gamma)$  is the least element of  $L(G)$ .
- (ii) If  $t \in T$  and  $C_t \neq \{0\}$ , then  $C_t$  is lexicographically irreducible.

There exists a linearly ordered group  $H$  having no lexicographic product decomposition such that all nonzero factors of this decomposition are lexicographically irreducible (see Malcev [5]; cf. also Fuchs [2], p. 28).

Thus in view of the equivalence of the conditions (i) and (ii) we infer that the lattice  $L(G)$  need not have the least element. In particular,  $L(G)$  need not be a complete lattice.

## 2. LOWER SECTIONS

Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be as in Section 1. Let  $A_1$  be a subset of  $A$  such that, whenever  $\lambda_1 \in A_1$ ,  $\lambda \in A$  and  $\lambda > \lambda_1$ , then  $\lambda \in A_1$ . Then  $G(A_1)$  is said to be a *lower section of  $G$  with respect to  $\alpha$* . Properties of lower sections will be investigated in the present Section.

Let  $\lambda$  be a fixed element in  $A$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} I(\lambda) &= \{\lambda_1 \in A : \lambda_1 < \lambda\}, \\ I_1(\lambda) &= \{\lambda_1 \in A : \lambda_1 \leq \lambda\}, \\ D(\lambda) &= G(I(\lambda)), \quad D_1(\lambda) = G(I_1(\lambda)). \end{aligned}$$

For  $\mu \in M$  let  $D(\mu)$  and  $D_1(\mu)$  have analogous meanings (with respect to the lexicographic decomposition  $\beta$ ).

Let  $X \subseteq G$  and  $\lambda \in A$ . We denote by  $X(A_\lambda)$  the natural projection of  $X$  into  $A_\lambda$  (under the lexicographic product decomposition  $\alpha$ ). Hence if  $X$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $X(A_\lambda)$  is a subgroup of  $A_\lambda$ .

Now the linearly ordered group  $C_{\lambda\mu}$  (cf. Thm. 1.1;  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are fixed elements of  $A$  or  $M$ , respectively) can be constructed as follows. We have

$$C_{\lambda\mu} = (D_1(\lambda) \cap G(\mu))(A_\lambda).$$

Analogously we have

$$C_{\mu\lambda} = (D_1(\mu) \cap G(\lambda)) (B_\mu).$$

Let us suppose that  $A_\lambda \neq \{0\}$  and  $B_\mu \neq \{0\}$  for each  $\lambda \in A$  and each  $\mu \in M$ .

From [3] (Sections 41 and 45) we infer:

**2.1. Lemma.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\alpha \leq \beta$ .
- (ii) For each  $\lambda \in A$  there is  $\mu \in M$  such that

$$D(\mu) \subseteq D(\lambda) \subset D_1(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu).$$

**2.1.1. Remark.** It is easy to verify that if  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are as in 2.1 (ii), then  $\mu$  is uniquely determined by  $\lambda$ . If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in A$  and  $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2$ , then for the corresponding elements  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  we have  $\mu_1 \leq \mu_2$  (under the assumption that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  is valid).

The following assertion is obvious.

**2.2. Lemma.** *Let  $\lambda \in A$  and  $\mu \in M$ . Suppose that  $D(\lambda) \subset D(\mu) \subset D_1(\lambda)$  is valid. Then  $D(\mu)$  cannot be expressed as a lower section with respect to  $\alpha$ .*

**2.3. Lemma.** *Let  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . Let  $H$  be a lower section of  $G$  with respect to  $\beta$ . Then  $H$  is a lower section of  $G$  with respect to  $\alpha$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $\lambda_1$  in  $A$  we denote by  $\mu_1$  the corresponding element in  $M$  (cf. 2.1). There exists  $M_1 \subseteq M$  such that  $H = G(M_1)$ . Denote

$$A_1 = \{\lambda_1 \in A: \mu_1 \in M_1\}.$$

If  $\lambda_1 \in A_1, \lambda_2 \in A$  and  $\lambda_2 > \lambda_1$ , then in view of 2.1.1 we have  $\lambda_2 \in A_1$ .

Let  $\lambda_1 \in A_1$ . According to 2.1,

$$D_1(\lambda_1) \subseteq D_1(\mu_1)$$

and clearly  $D_1(\mu_1) \subseteq G(M_1) = H$ . Hence  $D_1(\lambda_1) \subseteq H$  for each  $\lambda_1 \in A_1$ . Moreover, we have

$$G(A_1) = \bigcup_{\lambda_1 \in A_1} D_1(\lambda_1),$$

thus  $G(A_1) \subseteq H$ .

Let  $h \in H$ . Suppose that  $h$  does not belong to  $G(A_1)$ . Hence there is  $\lambda_2 \in A$  such that  $\lambda_2 \notin A_1, h(\lambda_2) \neq 0$  and  $h(\lambda_3) = 0$  for each  $\lambda_3 \in A$  with  $\lambda_3 < \lambda_2$ . Consider the element  $\mu_2$  in  $M$  corresponding to  $\lambda_2$ . In view of 2.1 the element  $\mu_2$  cannot belong to  $M_1$  and hence  $h$  does not belong to  $H$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $H = G(A_1)$ . Thus  $H$  is a lower section in  $G$  with respect to  $\alpha$ .

Let  $\lambda$  be a fixed element of  $A$ . The convex subgroup  $D(\lambda)$  of  $G$  is comparable with all convex subgroups  $D(\mu)$  of  $G$ , where  $\mu$  runs over the set  $M$ . Denote

$$M_1 = \{\mu \in M: D(\mu) \subseteq D(\lambda)\}, \quad M_2 = \{\mu \in M: D(\mu) \supseteq D(\lambda)\}, \\ H_1 = \bigcup_{\mu \in M_1} D(\mu), \quad H_2 = \bigcap_{\mu \in M_2} D(\mu).$$

(In the case  $M_1 = \emptyset$  or  $M_2 = \emptyset$  we set  $H_1 = \{0\}$  or  $H_2 = G$ , respectively.) Clearly  $H_1 \subseteq D(\lambda) \subseteq H_2$ .

**2.4. Lemma.** *Suppose that  $M_1 \neq \emptyset$  and that  $M_1$  has no least element. Then  $H_1 = H_2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $0 < h \in H_2$ . There exists  $\mu \in M$  such that  $h(\mu) > 0$  and  $h(\mu') = 0$  for each  $\mu' \in M$  with  $\mu' < \mu$ . We have  $h \notin D(\mu)$ . If  $\mu \in M_2$ , then  $h \notin H_2$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $\mu$  belongs to  $M_1$ . Since  $M_1$  has no least element, there is  $\mu_1 \in M_1$  with  $\mu_1 < \mu$ . Then  $h \in D(\mu_1)$ , hence  $h \in H_1$ . Therefore  $H_1 = H_2$ .

**2.5. Lemma.** *Assume that each lower section of  $\beta$  is a lower section of  $\alpha$ . Then  $M_1 \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* By way of contradiction, suppose that  $M_1 = \emptyset$ . We always have  $\bigcap_{\mu \in M} D(\mu) = \{0\}$ . In view of the assumption,  $D(\lambda) \subset D(\mu)$  is valid for each  $\mu \in M$ , thus  $D(\lambda) = \{0\}$ . Since  $D(\lambda) \subset D_1(\lambda)$  (because of  $A_\lambda \neq \{0\}$ ), there exists  $\mu \in M$  with  $D(\lambda) \subset D(\mu) \subset D_1(\lambda)$ . According to 2.2 we arrive at a contradiction.

**2.6. Lemma.** *Assume that each lower section of  $\beta$  is a lower section of  $\alpha$ . Then  $M_1$  has a least element.*

*Proof.* According to 2.5,  $M_1 \neq \emptyset$ . By way of contradiction, assume that  $M_1$  has no least element. Then in view of 2.4,  $H_1 = D(\lambda) = H_2$ . Because  $A_\lambda \neq \{0\}$ , we infer that  $D(\lambda) \subset D_1(\lambda)$ .

Hence there exists  $\mu_2 \in M_2$  such that

$$D(\lambda) \subseteq D(\mu_2) \subset D_1(\lambda).$$

The relation  $D(\lambda) = D(\mu_1)$  cannot be valid, because in such a case we would have  $\mu_2 \in M_1$  and hence  $\mu_2$  would be the least element in  $M_1$ . Therefore in view of 2.2 we arrive at a contradiction.

**2.7. Lemma.** *Assume that each lower section of  $\beta$  is a lower section of  $\alpha$ . Suppose that  $\mu \in M$  and  $D(\mu) = D(\lambda)$ . Then  $D_1(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu)$ .*

*Proof.* By way of contradiction, suppose that the relation  $D_1(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu)$  does not hold. Because  $D_1(\lambda)$  and  $D_1(\mu)$  are comparable, we have  $D_1(\mu) \subset D_1(\lambda)$ . But in this case  $D_1(\mu)$  fails to be a lower section in  $\alpha$ ; since  $D_1(\mu)$  is a lower section in  $\beta$ , we arrive at a contradiction.

**2.8. Lemma.** *Assume that each lower section of  $\beta$  is a lower section of  $\alpha$ . Let  $\mu_1$  be the least element of  $M_1$ . Suppose that  $D(\mu_1) \neq D(\lambda) \neq D_1(\mu_1)$ . Then*

$$D(\mu_1) \subset D(\lambda) \subset D_1(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu_1).$$

*Proof.* We only have to verify that the relation  $D_1(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu_1)$  is valid. If  $M_2 = \emptyset$ , then  $D_1(\mu_1) = G$ . Let  $M_2 \neq \emptyset$ .

a) First, suppose that  $M_2$  has no greatest element. Then  $D_1(\mu_1) \subset D(\mu_2)$  for each

$\mu_2 \in M_2$  and thus

$$D_1(\mu_1) \subseteq \bigcap_{\mu_2 \in M_2} D(\mu_2) = H_2.$$

Let  $0 < h \in H_2$ . There exists  $\mu_3 \in M$  such that  $h(\mu_3) > 0$  and  $h(\mu) = 0$  for each  $\mu \in M$  with  $\mu < \mu_3$ . If  $\mu_3 < \mu_1$ , then  $\mu_3 \in M_2$ , hence there is  $\mu_2 \in M_2$  with  $\mu_3 < \mu_2$  and so  $h \notin D(\mu_2)$ , thus  $h$  does not belong to  $H_2$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $\mu_3 \geq \mu_1$ , implying that  $h \in D_1(\mu_1)$ . Thus we have  $H_2 = D_1(\mu_1)$ . Because of  $D(\lambda) \subseteq H_2$  we infer that  $D(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu_1)$ . In view of the assumption,  $D(\lambda) \neq D_1(\mu_1)$ , hence  $D(\lambda) \subset D_1(\mu_1)$ . If  $D_1(\mu_1) \subset D_1(\lambda)$ , then  $D_1(\mu_1)$  fails to be a lower section in  $\alpha$ ; because  $D_1(\mu_1)$  is a lower section in  $\beta$ , we have a contradiction. Therefore  $D_1(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu_1)$ .

b) Now suppose that  $M_2$  has a greatest element  $\mu_2$ . Then

$$D_1(\mu_1) = D(\mu_2) = H_2.$$

Again,  $D(\lambda) \subseteq H_2$ . If  $D_1(\lambda) \supset D_1(\mu_1)$ , then  $D_1(\mu_1)$  is not a lower section in  $\alpha$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $D_1(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu_1)$ . (In this part of the proof the assumption  $D(\lambda) \neq D_1(\mu_1)$  is not needed.)

**2.9. Lemma.** *Assume that each lower section of  $\beta$  is a lower section of  $\alpha$ . Let  $\mu_1$  be the least element of  $M_1$ . Suppose that  $D(\mu_1) \neq D(\lambda)$ . Then  $D(\lambda) \neq D_1(\mu_1)$ .*

*Proof.* The case  $M_2 = \emptyset$  is trivial; let  $M_2 \neq \emptyset$ . First, suppose that  $M_2$  has a greatest element  $\mu_2$ . We apply part b) of the proof of 2.8 and we obtain  $D(\lambda) \subset D_1(\lambda) \subseteq D_1(\mu_1)$ ; hence the relation  $D(\lambda) = D_1(\mu_1)$  cannot hold.

Now suppose that  $M_2$  has no greatest element. In the same way as in part a) of the proof of 2.8 we can verify that  $H_2 = D_1(\mu_1)$ . By way of contradiction, suppose that  $D(\lambda) = D_1(\mu_1)$ . Because  $D(\lambda) \subset D_1(\lambda)$ , there exists  $\mu_2 \in M_2$  such that  $D(\lambda) \subset D(\mu_2) \subset D_1(\lambda)$ . Then  $D(\mu_2)$  fails to be a lower section in  $\alpha$ , which is a contradiction.

From 2.6–2.9 and 2.1 we obtain:

**2.10. Lemma.** *Assume that each lower section of  $\beta$  is a lower section of  $\alpha$ . Then  $\alpha \leq \beta$ .*

Lemmas 2.9 and 2.10 yield:

**2.11. Theorem.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\alpha \leq \beta$ .
- (ii) *Each lower section of  $\beta$  is a lower section of  $\alpha$ .*

If  $c(\alpha) = c(\beta)$ , then in view of 2.11,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  have the same lower sections; these will be called also lower sections of  $c(\alpha)$ .

**2.12. Corollary.** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in L_0(G)$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $c(\alpha) \leq c(\beta)$ .
- (ii) *Each lower section of  $c(\beta)$  is a lower section of  $c(\alpha)$ .*



### 3. COMPLETENESS OF $L(G)$

Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be as above. Let  $R_1$  be a congruence relation on the linearly ordered set  $\Lambda$  and let  $p(R_1)$  be the partition of  $\Lambda$  corresponding to  $R_1$ . The set  $p(R_1)$  is linearly ordered in the natural way (for distinct elements  $A_1, A_2 \in p(R_1)$  we put  $A_1 < A_2$  if  $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2$  for each  $\lambda_1 \in A_1$  and each  $\lambda_2 \in A_2$ ).

For  $A_1 \in p(R_1)$  we put  $A_{A_1} = \Gamma_{\lambda \in A_1} A_\lambda$ . Let  $\varphi_{R_1}$  be the mapping of  $G$  into  $\Gamma_{A_1 \in p(R_1)} A_{A_1}$  such that, whenever  $g \in G$  and

$$\varphi(g) = \langle \dots, g_\lambda, \dots \rangle_{\lambda \in \Lambda},$$

then  $\varphi_{R_1}(g) = \langle \dots, g_{A_1}, \dots \rangle_{A_1 \in p(R_1)}$ , where

$$g_{A_1} = \langle \dots, g_\lambda, \dots \rangle_{\lambda \in A_1}.$$

Then we obtain a lexicographic product decomposition

$$\gamma = (G; \varphi_{R_1}, \Gamma_{A_1 \in p(R_1)} A_{A_1}).$$

Clearly  $\gamma$  is a refinement of  $\alpha$ .

The following assertion is obvious.

**3.1. Lemma.** *Suppose that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are isomorphic lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$ ; let  $\mu$  be the corresponding isomorphism of  $\Lambda$  onto  $M$ . Let  $\gamma$  be as above. Then  $\mu$  induces a partition  $p(R_2)$  on  $M$  and (under analogous notation as above) we have a lexicographic product decomposition*

$$\delta = (G; \psi_{R_2}, \Gamma_{M_1 \in p(R_2)} B_{M_1}).$$

*The lexicographic product decompositions  $\gamma$  and  $\delta$  of  $G$  are isomorphic.*

**3.2. Lemma.** *Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$  such that  $c(\alpha) \leq c(\beta)$ . Then there exists a lexicographic product decomposition  $\beta_1$  of  $G$  such that*

- (i)  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta$  are isomorphic,
- (ii)  $\alpha \leq \beta_1$ .

*Proof.* Denote  $\alpha_{10} = f(\beta, \alpha)$ . Next, let  $\alpha_1$  be the lexicographic product decomposition of  $G$  consisting of nonzero factors of  $\alpha_{10}$ . In view of 1.1,  $\alpha_1$  is a refinement of  $\beta$  and  $\alpha_1$  is isomorphic to  $\alpha$  (because of  $f(\alpha, \beta) = \alpha$ ). Now it suffices to apply Lemma 3.1 for constructing  $\beta_1$ .

Let  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha_i$  ( $i \in I$ ) be lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$  such that  $c(\alpha) \leq c(\alpha_i)$  is valid for each  $i \in I$ . In view of 3.2, for each  $i \in I$  there exists a lexicographic product decomposition  $\alpha_{i0}$  of  $G$  such that  $\alpha_{i0}$  is isomorphic to  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha \leq \alpha_{i0}$ . In particular,  $c(\alpha_i) = c(\alpha_{i0})$ .

Since  $\alpha$  is a refinement of  $\alpha_{i0}$ , there exists a congruence relation  $R_i$  on  $\Lambda$  such that we have

$$\alpha_{i0} = \gamma_i,$$

where

$$\gamma_i = (G; \varphi_{R_i}, \Gamma_{A_1 \in p(R_i)} A_{A_1})$$

(under the notation as above).

Put  $R = \bigvee_{i \in I} R_i$  and

$$\gamma_0 = (G; \varphi_R, \Gamma_{A_1 \in p(R)} A_{A_1}).$$

**3.3. Lemma.** (i) For each  $i \in I$  the relation  $c(\gamma_{i0}) \leq c(\gamma_0)$  is valid. (ii) If  $\delta \in L_0(G)$  such that  $c(\delta) \geq c(\gamma_{i0})$  for each  $i \in I$ , then  $c(\delta) \geq c(\gamma_0)$ .

Proof. The assertion (i) is obvious. The assertion (ii) follows from 2.12.

**3.4. Corollary.**  $c(\gamma_0) = \bigvee_{i \in I} c(\gamma_i)$  in the lattice  $L(G)$ .

Hence we have

**3.5. Theorem.** Let  $\alpha \in L_0(G)$ . Then the interval  $[c(\alpha), I]$  of the lattice  $L(G)$  is a complete lattice.

Under the notation as above let  $R^0 = \bigwedge_{i \in I} R_i$ . Put

$$\delta_0 = (G; \varphi_{R^0}, \Gamma_{A_1 \in p(R^0)} A_{A_1}).$$

By applying 2.12 again we obtain:

**3.6. Lemma.** For each  $i \in I$  we have  $c(\gamma_{i0}) \geq c(\delta_0)$ . (ii) If  $\delta \in L_0(G)$  such that  $c(\delta) \leq c(\gamma_{i0})$  for each  $i \in I$ , then  $c(\delta) \leq c(\delta_0)$ .

Hence  $c(\delta_0) = \bigwedge_{i \in I} c(\alpha_i)$ .

In view of the construction of  $\gamma_0$ , from 2.12 and 3.4 we infer:

**3.7. Proposition.** Let  $\alpha_i$  ( $i \in I$ ) and  $\gamma$  be lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $c(\gamma) = \bigvee_{i \in I} c(\alpha_i)$ ;
- (ii) for each lower section  $d$  in  $G$  we have:  
 $d$  is a lower section in  $\gamma \Leftrightarrow d$  is a lower section in each  $\alpha_i$  ( $i \in I$ ).

Similarly, in view of the construction of  $\delta_0$ , 2.12 and 3.6 yield:

**3.8. Proposition.** Let  $\alpha_i$  ( $i \in I$ ) and  $\delta$  be lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $c(\delta) = \bigwedge_{i \in I} c(\alpha_i)$ ;
- (ii) for each lower section  $d$  in  $G$  we have  
 $d$  is a lower section in  $\delta \Leftrightarrow$  there is  $i \in I$  such that  $d$  is a lower section in  $\alpha_i$ .

#### 4. COMPLETE DISTRIBUTIVITY; COMPLEMENTS

Let  $I$  be a nonempty set and for each  $i \in I$  let  $J_i$  be a nonempty set. Let  $\Phi$  be the system of all functions  $\varphi: I \rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I} J_i$  such that  $\varphi(i) \in J_i$  for each  $i \in I$ . Let  $\alpha_{ij}$  be lexicographic product decompositions of  $G$  ( $i \in I, j \in J_i$ ).

**4.1. Theorem.** For each  $c(\alpha) \in L(G)$ , the interval  $[c(\alpha), I]$  of  $L(G)$  is completely distributive.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $c(\alpha_{ij}) \in [c(\alpha), I]$  for all  $i \in I$  and  $j \in J_i$ . In view of 3.5 and [1], Chap. V, § 5 we have to verify that the relation

$$\text{is valid} \quad \bigwedge_{i \in I} \bigvee_{j \in J_i} c(\alpha_{ij}) = \bigvee_{\varphi \in \Phi} \bigwedge_{i \in I} c(\alpha_{i, \varphi(i)})$$

$$\text{Denote} \quad u = \bigvee_{\varphi \in \Phi} \bigwedge_{i \in I} c(\alpha_{i, \varphi(i)}); \quad v = \bigwedge_{i \in I} \bigvee_{j \in J_i} c(\alpha_{ij}).$$

Since  $u \leq v$ , we have to verify that  $v \leq u$  is valid.

Let  $d$  be a lower section in  $u$ . From 3.7 we infer that for each  $\varphi \in \Phi$ ,  $d$  is a lower section in  $\bigwedge_{i \in I} c(\alpha_{i, \varphi(i)})$ . Hence in view of 3.8, for each  $\varphi \in \Phi$  there exists  $i \in I$  (depending on  $\varphi$ ) such that  $d$  is a lower section of  $c(\alpha_{i, \varphi(i)})$ .

By way of contradiction, assume that  $d$  fails to be a lower section in  $v$ . Hence in view of 3.8, for each  $i \in I$ ,  $d$  fails to be a lower section in  $\bigvee_{j \in J_i} c(\alpha_{ij})$ . Therefore according to 3.7, for each  $i \in I$  there exists  $j = \varphi(i) \in J_i$  such that  $d$  fails to be a lower section in  $c(\alpha_{i, \varphi(i)})$ , which is a contradiction.

**4.2. Corollary.** The lattice  $L(G)$  is distributive. If  $L(G)$  has a least element, then  $L(G)$  is complete and completely distributive.

In the remaining part of this Section (except in 4.4) we assume that there is  $\alpha_0 \in L_0(G)$  such that  $c(\alpha_0)$  is the least element of  $L(G)$ . Let

$$\alpha_0 = (G; \varphi_0; \Gamma_{t \in T} A_t^0).$$

We also suppose that  $A_t^0 \neq \{0\}$  for each  $t \in T$ .

Let  $\alpha \in L_0(G)$  and let us deal with the question under what conditions  $c(\alpha)$  possesses a complement in  $L(G)$ . The distributivity of  $L(G)$  implies that if the complement of  $c(\alpha)$  exists, then it is uniquely determined.

Without loss of generality we can assume that  $\alpha_0$  is a refinement of  $\alpha$  (cf. Lemma 3.2). Hence there is a partition  $R_\alpha$  of  $T$  such that for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  there is a class  $T_\lambda$  of this partition having the property that  $A_\lambda$  is isomorphic to  $\Gamma_{t \in T_\lambda} A_t^0$ . (The situation is analogous to that described in Section 3.) Also,  $R_\alpha$  is linearly ordered in the natural way (again, cf. Sec. 3).

**4.3. Lemma.** Assume that the set  $T$  is finite. Then  $c(\alpha)$  possesses a complement in  $L(G)$ .

*Proof.* We denote by  $t(R_\alpha)$  the class in  $R_\alpha$  containing the element  $t$  of  $T$ . For  $t_1, t_2 \in T$  we put  $t_1 R t_2$  if some of the following conditions is valid:

- (i)  $t_1(R_\alpha)$  covers or is covered by  $t_2(R_\alpha)$  in  $p(R_\alpha)$  and either  $t_1(R_\alpha) \neq t_1$  or  $t_2(R_\alpha) \neq t_2$ ;
- (ii)  $t_1 = t_2$ .

Then  $R$  is a congruence relation on  $T$ ;  $R \wedge R_\alpha$  and  $R \vee R_\alpha$  are the least and the greatest congruence on  $T$ , respectively. There exists  $\beta \in L_0(G)$  such that  $R_\beta = R$ ; we have (cf. 3.7 and 3.8)

$$c(\beta) \wedge c(\alpha) = c(\alpha_0), \quad c(\beta) \vee c(\alpha) = I.$$

The following assertion is obvious.

**4.4. Lemma.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) *The set  $L(G)$  is finite.*
- (ii) *The set  $L(G)$  has a least element  $\alpha_0$  such that (under the notation as above) the set  $T$  is finite.*

**4.5. Corollary.** *Let  $L(G)$  be finite,  $\text{card } L(G) \neq 1$ . Then  $L(G)$  is a Boolean algebra.*

**4.6. Lemma.** *Let  $T$  be infinite. Then there exists  $\alpha \in L_0(G)$  such that  $c(\alpha)$  has no complement in  $L(G)$ .*

Proof. Because  $T$  is infinite there exists  $t_0 \in T$  such that some of the following conditions is fulfilled:

- (i)  $t_0$  fails to be a least element of  $T$  and no element of  $T$  is covered by  $t_0$ .
- (ii)  $t_0$  fails to be a greatest element of  $T$  and no element of  $T$  covers  $t_0$ .

Assume that (i) holds. (In the case when (ii) is valid we proceed analogously.) There exists a subset  $T_0$  of  $T$  such that  $T_0$  is well-ordered (under the induced linear order),  $t_0 \notin T_0$  and  $\sup T_0 = t_0$  holds in  $T$ .

For  $t$  and  $t'$  in  $T$  we put  $tRt'$  if either  $t = t'$  or there exist elements  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  in  $T_0$  such that  $t_1$  is covered by  $t_2$  in  $T_0$  and

$$t_1 \leq t < t_2, \quad t_1 \leq t' < t_2$$

is valid. Then  $R$  is a congruence relation on  $T$ . Let  $\alpha \in L_0(G)$  such that  $R_\alpha = R$ . If  $\beta \in L_0(G)$  such that  $c(\beta)$  is a complement of  $c(\alpha)$  in  $L(G)$ , then  $R_\beta$  is a complement of  $R$  in the lattice of all congruence relations of the linearly ordered set  $T$ . But it is easy to verify that  $R$  has no complement. Hence  $c(\alpha)$  has no complement in  $L(G)$ .

From 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6 we obtain:

**4.7. Theorem.** *Let  $\text{card } L(G) > 1$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  *$L(G)$  is finite.*
- (ii)  *$L(G)$  is a Boolean algebra.*

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*Author's address*: 040 01 Košice, Ždanovova 6, Czechoslovakia (Matematický ústav SAV, dislokované pracovisko).