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DIRECT PRODUCT DECOMPOSITIONS OF INFINITELY  
DISTRIBUTIVE LATTICES

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*Abstract.* Let  $\alpha$  be an infinite cardinal. Let  $\mathcal{T}_\alpha$  be the class of all lattices which are conditionally  $\alpha$ -complete and infinitely distributive. We denote by  $\mathcal{T}'_\alpha$  the class of all lattices  $X$  such that  $X$  is infinitely distributive,  $\alpha$ -complete and has the least element. In this paper we deal with direct factors of lattices belonging to  $\mathcal{T}_\alpha$ . As an application, we prove a result of Cantor-Bernstein type for lattices belonging to the class  $\mathcal{T}'_\alpha$ .

*Keywords:* direct product decomposition, infinite distributivity, conditional  $\alpha$ -completeness

*MSC 1991:* 06B35, 06D10

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $L$  be a partially ordered set and  $s^0 \in L$ . The notion of the internal direct product decomposition of  $L$  with the central element  $s^0$  was investigated in [10] (the definition is recalled in Section 2 below).

We denote by  $F(L, s^0)$  the set of all internal direct factors of  $L$  with the central element  $s^0$ ; this set is partially ordered by the set-theoretical inclusion. In the present paper we suppose that  $L$  is a lattice. Then  $F(L, s^0)$  is a Boolean algebra (cf. Section 3).

Let  $\alpha$  be an infinite cardinal. We denote by  $\mathcal{T}_\alpha$  the class of all lattices which are conditionally  $\alpha$ -complete and infinitely distributive. We prove

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $L \in \mathcal{T}_\alpha$  and  $s^0 \in L$ . Then the Boolean algebra  $F(L, s^0)$  is  $\alpha$ -complete.*

In the particular case when the lattice  $L$  is bounded we denote by  $\text{Cen } L$  the center of  $L$ . For each  $s^0 \in L$ ,  $F(L, s^0)$  is  $\alpha$ -complete and if  $\text{Cen } L$  is a closed sublattice of

$L$ , then  $\text{Cen } L$  is  $\alpha$ -complete and thus  $F(L, s^0)$  is  $\alpha$ -complete as well. Some sufficient conditions under which the center of a complete lattice is closed were found in [2], [11], [12], [13], [14]; these results were generalized in [4]. For related results cf. also [3].

We denote by  $\mathcal{T}'_\sigma$  the class of all lattices  $L$  belonging to  $\mathcal{T}_{\aleph_0}$  which have the least element and are  $\sigma$ -complete.

As an application of Theorem 1 we prove the following result of Cantor-Bernstein type:

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be lattices belonging to  $\mathcal{T}'_\sigma$ . Suppose that*

- (i)  $L_1$  is isomorphic to a direct factor of  $L_2$ ;
- (ii)  $L_2$  is isomorphic to a direct factor of  $L_1$ .

*Then  $L_1$  is isomorphic to  $L_2$ .*

This generalizes a theorem of Sikorski [15] on  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebras (proven independently also by Tarski [17]).

Some results of Cantor-Bernstein type for lattice ordered groups and for  $MV$ -algebras were proved in [5], [6], [7], [8].

## 2. INTERNAL DIRECT FACTORS

Assume that  $L$  and  $L_i$  ( $i \in I$ ) are lattices and that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism of  $L$  onto the direct product of lattices  $L_i$ ; then we say that

$$(1) \quad \varphi: L \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} L_i$$

is a direct product decomposition of  $L$ ; the lattices  $L_i$  are called direct factors of  $L$ .

For  $x \in L$  and  $i \in I$  we denote by  $x(L_i, \varphi)$  the component of  $x$  in  $L_i$ , i.e.,

$$x(L_i, \varphi) = (\varphi(x))_i.$$

Let  $s^0 \in L$  and  $i \in I$ . Put

$$L_i^{s^0} = \{y \in L: y(L_j, \varphi) = s^0(L_j, \varphi) \text{ for each } j \in I \setminus \{i\}\}.$$

Then for each  $x \in L$  and each  $i \in I$  there exists a uniquely determined element  $y_i$  in  $L_i^{s^0}$  such that

$$x(L_i, \varphi) = y_i(L_i, \varphi).$$

The mapping

$$(2) \quad \varphi^{s^0}: L \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} L_i^{s^0}$$

defined by

$$\varphi^{s^0}(x) = (\dots, y_i, \dots)_{i \in I}$$

is also a direct product decomposition of  $L$ . Moreover, the following conditions are valid:

- (i) For each  $i \in I$ ,  $L_i^0$  is a closed convex sublattice of  $L$  and  $s^0 \in L_i^0$ .
- (ii) For each  $i \in I$ ,  $L_i^0$  is isomorphic to  $L_i$ .
- (iii) If  $i \in I$  and  $x \in L_i^0$ , then  $x(L_i^0, \varphi^{s^0}) = x$ .
- (iv) If  $i \in I$ ,  $j \in I \setminus \{i\}$  and  $x \in L_j^0$ , then  $x(L_i^0, \varphi^{s^0}) = s^0$ .

We say that (2) is an internal direct product decomposition of  $L$  with the central element  $s^0$ ; the sublattices  $L_i^0$  are called internal direct factors of  $L$  with the central element  $s^0$ .

The condition (ii) yields that if we are interested only in considerations "up to isomorphisms", then we need not distinguish between (1) and (2).

We denote by  $F(L, s^0)$  the collection of all internal direct factors of  $L$  with the central element  $s^0$ . Then in view of (i),  $F(L, s^0)$  is a set. On the other hand, it is obvious that the collection of all direct factors of  $L$  is a proper class.

### 3. AUXILIARY RESULTS

Assume that the relation (2) is valid. Let  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  be nonempty subsets of  $I$  such that  $I_1 \cap I_2 = \emptyset$  and  $I_1 \cup I_2 = I$ . Denote

$$L(I_1) = \{x \in L : x(L_i^0, \varphi^{s^0}) = s^0 \text{ for each } i \in I_2\},$$

$$L(I_2) = \{x \in L : x(L_i^0, \varphi^{s^0}) = s^0 \text{ for each } i \in I_1\}.$$

Consider the mapping

$$(3) \quad \psi : L \rightarrow L(I_1) \times L(I_2)$$

defined by  $\psi(x) = (x^1, x^2)$ , where

$$x^1 = (\dots, x(L_i^0, \varphi^{s^0}), \dots)_{i \in I_1}, \quad x^2 = (\dots, x(L_i^0, \varphi^{s^0}), \dots)_{i \in I_2}.$$

Then (3) is also an internal direct product decomposition of  $L$  with the central element  $s^0$ .

Further suppose that we have another internal direct product decomposition of  $L$  with the central element  $s^0$ ,

$$(4) \quad \psi^{s^0} : L \rightarrow \prod_{j \in J} P_j^{s^0}.$$

**3.1. Proposition.** Let (2) and (4) be valid. Suppose that there are  $i(1) \in I$  and  $j(1) \in J$  such that  $L_{i(1)}^{s^0} = P_{j(1)}^{s^0}$ . Then for each  $x \in L$  the components of  $x$  in  $L_{i(1)}^{s^0}$  and  $P_{j(1)}^{s^0}$  are equal, i.e.,

$$x(L_{i(1)}^{s^0}, \varphi^{s^0}) = x(P_{j(1)}^{s^0}, \psi^{s^0}).$$

*Proof.* This is a consequence of Theorem (A) in [10]. □

We denote by  $\text{Con } L$  the set of all congruence relations on  $L$ ; this set is partially ordered in the usual way.  $R_{\min}$  and  $R_{\max}$  denote the least element of  $\text{Con } L$  or the greatest element of  $\text{Con } L$ , respectively. For  $x \in L$  and  $R \in \text{Con } L$  we put  $x_R = \{y \in L : yRx\}$ .

From the well-known theorem concerning direct products and congruence relations of universal algebras and from the definition of the internal direct product decomposition of a lattice we immediately obtain:

**3.2. Proposition.** Let  $R(1)$  and  $R(2)$  be elements of  $\text{Con } L$  such that they are permutable,  $R(1) \wedge R(2) = R_{\min}$ ,  $R(1) \vee R(2) = R_{\max}$ . Then the mapping

$$\varphi : L \rightarrow s_{R(1)}^0 \times s_{R(2)}^0$$

defined by

$$\varphi(x) = (x^1, x^2), \text{ where } \{x^1\} = x_{R(2)} \cap s_{R(1)}^0, \{x^2\} = x_{R(1)} \cap s_{R(2)}^0$$

is an internal direct product decomposition of  $L$  with the central element  $s^0$ .

**3.3. Definition.** Congruence relations  $R(1)$  and  $R(2)$  on  $L$  are called *interval permutable* if, whenever  $[a, b]$  is an interval in  $L$ , then there are  $x_1, x_2 \in [a, b]$  such that  $aR(1)x_1R(2)b$  and  $aR(2)x_2R(1)b$ .

The following assertion is easy to verify (cf. also [1], p. 15, Exercise 13).

**3.4. Lemma.** Let  $R(1)$  and  $R(2)$  be interval permutable congruence relations on  $L$ . Then

- (i)  $R(1) \vee R(2) = R_{\max}$ ;
- (ii)  $R(1)$  and  $R(2)$  are permutable.

If the relation (2) from Section 2 above is valid, then in view of 2.1, it suffices to express this fact by writing

$$(5) \quad L = (s^0) \prod_{i \in I} L_i,$$

where  $L_i$  has the same meaning as  $L_i^{s^0}$  in (2) of Section 2.

Also, if  $x \in L$ , then instead of  $x(L_i^0, \varphi^{s^0})$  we write simply  $x(L_i)$ .

If  $A, B$  are elements of  $F(L, s^0)$  and  $x \in L$ , then the symbol  $x(A)(B)$  means  $(x(A))(B)$ .

Let the system  $(F, L, s^0)$  be partially ordered by the set-theoretical inclusion.

**3.5. Lemma.**  $F(L, s^0)$  is a Boolean algebra.

**Proof.** This is a consequence of Proposition 3.14 in [9].  $\square$

It is obvious that if  $L$  is bounded, then  $F(L, s^0)$  is isomorphic to the center of  $L$ .

Further, it is easy to verify that if  $A, B \in F(L, s^0)$  and  $L = (s^0)A \times B$ , then  $B$  is the complement of  $A$  in the Boolean algebra  $F(L, s^0)$ ; we denote  $B = A'$ .

#### 4. $\alpha$ -COMPLETENESS AND INFINITE DISTRIBUTIVITY

Let  $\alpha$  be an infinite cardinal. In this section we suppose that  $L$  is a lattice belonging to  $\mathcal{T}_\alpha$  and that  $s^0$  is an element of  $L$ .

Let  $I$  be a set with  $\text{card } I = \alpha$  and for each  $i \in I$  let  $L_i$  be an element of  $F(L, s^0)$ . Thus for each  $i \in I$  we have

$$(1) \quad L = (s^0)L_i \times L'_i.$$

For each  $x \in L$  and each  $i \in I$  we denote

$$x_i = x(L_i), \quad x'_i = x(L'_i).$$

Let  $x, y \in L$  and  $i \in I$ . We put  $xR_i y$  if  $x'_i = y'_i$ , similarly we set  $xR'_i y$  if  $x_i = y_i$ . Then  $R_i$  and  $R'_i$  belong to  $\text{Con } L$ ,  $R_i \wedge R'_i = R_{\min}$  and  $R_i \vee R'_i = R_{\max}$ . Moreover,  $R_i$  and  $R'_i$  are permutable.

**4.1. Lemma.** Let  $a, b \in L$ ,  $a \leq b$ . There exist elements  $x, y, x^i$  ( $i \in I$ ) in  $[a, b]$  such that

- (i)  $x^i R_i a$  for each  $i \in I$ ;
- (ii)  $y R'_i a$  for each  $i \in I$ ;
- (iii)  $x = \bigvee_{i \in I} x^i$ ,  $x \wedge y = a$  and  $x \vee y = b$ .

**Proof.** Let  $i \in I$ . There exist uniquely determined elements  $x^i$  and  $y^i$  in  $L$  such that

$$x^i \in a_{R_i} \cap b_{R'_i}, \quad y^i \in a_{R'_i} \cap b_{R_i}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}(x^i)'_i &= a'_i, & (x^i)_i &= b_i, \\ (y^i)'_i &= b'_i, & (y^i)_i &= a_i.\end{aligned}$$

Then clearly

$$(2) \quad x^i \wedge y^i = a,$$

$$(3) \quad x^i \vee y^i = b.$$

Denote

$$x = \bigvee_{i \in I} x^i, \quad y = \bigwedge_{i \in I} y^i;$$

these elements exist in  $L$  since  $L$  is  $\alpha$ -complete. By applying the infinite distributivity of  $L$  we get

$$y \wedge x = y \wedge \left( \bigvee_{i \in I} x^i \right) = \bigvee_{i \in I} (y \wedge x^i) = \bigvee_{i \in I} \bigwedge_{j \in I} (y^j \wedge x^i).$$

For  $j = i$  we have  $y^j \wedge x^i = a$  (cf. (2)). Hence for each  $i \in I$  the relation

$$\bigwedge_{j \in I} (y^j \wedge x^i) = a$$

is valid. Thus

$$(4) \quad y \wedge x = a.$$

Further we obtain

$$x \vee y = x \vee \left( \bigwedge_{i \in I} y^i \right) = \bigwedge_{i \in I} (x \vee y^i) = \bigwedge_{i \in I} \bigvee_{j \in I} (x^j \vee y^i).$$

For  $j = i$  we have  $x^j \vee y^i = b$  (cf. (3)). Hence

$$\bigvee_{j \in I} (x^j \vee y^i) = b$$

for each  $i \in I$ . Therefore

$$(5) \quad x \vee y = b.$$

The definition of  $x$  and the relations (4), (5) yield that (iii) is valid. Now, in view of the definition of  $x^i$ , the condition (i) is satisfied. Let  $i \in I$ ; then  $y^i R'_i a$ . Since  $y \in [a, y^i]$ , we obtain  $y R'_i a$ . Thus (ii) holds.  $\square$

By an argument dual to that applied in the proof of 4.1 we obtain:

**4.2. Lemma.** *Let  $a, b \in L$ ,  $a \leq b$ . There exist elements  $z, t, z^i$  ( $i \in I$ ) in  $[a, b]$  such that*

- (i)  $z^i R_i b$  for each  $i \in I$ ;
- (ii)  $t R_i^t b$  for each  $i \in I$ ;
- (iii)  $z = \bigwedge_{i \in I} z^i$ ,  $z \vee t = b$  and  $z \wedge t = a$ .

**4.3. Lemma.** *Let  $a, b, x$  and  $x^i$ ,  $i \in I$  be as in 4.1. Suppose that  $u, v \in [a, x]$ ,  $u \leq v$  and  $u R_i^t v$  for each  $i \in I$ . Then  $u = v$ .*

*Proof.* By way of contradiction, assume that  $u < v$ . From the definition of  $x$  we conclude that

$$v = u \vee (v \wedge x) = u \vee \left( v \wedge \bigvee_{i \in I} x^i \right) = \bigvee_{i \in I} (u \vee (v \wedge x^i)).$$

Hence there exists  $i \in I$  such that  $u < u \vee (v \wedge x^i)$ . From  $a R_i x^i$  we obtain

$$u \vee (v \wedge a) R_i (u \vee (v \wedge x^i)),$$

whence  $u R_i (u \vee (v \wedge x^i))$ . At the same time, since  $u \vee (v \wedge x^i)$  belongs to the interval  $[u, v]$  and  $u R_i^t v$ , we get  $r R_i^t (u \vee (v \wedge x^i))$ . Therefore  $u = u \vee (v \wedge x^i)$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Analogously, by applying 4.2 we obtain

**4.4. Lemma.** *Let  $a, b$  and  $z$  be as in 4.2. Suppose that  $u, v \in [z, b]$ ,  $u \leq v$  and  $u R_i^t v$  for each  $i \in I$ . Then  $u = v$ .*

**4.5. Lemma.** *Let  $a, b, x, y, z$  and  $t$  be as in 4.1 and 4.2. Then  $t = x$  and  $z = y$ .*

*Proof.* a) We have

$$t = t \wedge b = t \wedge (x \vee y) = (t \wedge x) \vee (t \wedge y).$$

The interval  $[t \wedge x, x]$  is projectable to the interval  $[t, t \vee x]$  and  $[t, t \vee x] \subseteq [t, b]$ . Hence in view of 4.2,  $(t \wedge x) R_i^t x$  for each  $i \in I$ . Thus according to 4.3,  $t \wedge x = x$  and therefore  $t \geq x$ .

b) Analogously,

$$y = y \vee a = y \vee (t \wedge z) = (y \vee t) \wedge (y \vee z).$$



The interval  $[y \wedge z, y]$  is projectable to the interval  $[z, z \vee y]$  and  $y \wedge z, y] \subseteq [a, y]$ . Hence in view of 4.1,  $zR'_i(z \vee y)$  for each  $i \in I$ . Then by applying 4.4 we get  $y = z \vee y$ , whence  $z \geq y$ .

c) Since  $L$  is distributive, if either  $t > x$  or  $z > y$  then  $t \wedge z > a$ , which is impossible in view of 4.2 (iii). Thus  $t = x$  and  $z = y$ .  $\square$

## 5. THE RELATIONS $R$ AND $R'$

We apply the same assumptions and the same notation as in the previous section. If  $a, b \in L$ ,  $a \leq b$  and if  $x, y$  are as in 4.1, then we write

$$x = x(a, b), \quad y = y(a, b).$$

Let  $p, q \in L$ . We put  $pRq$  if

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

Further we put  $pR'q$  if

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

Thus  $pR'q$  if and only if  $pR'_i q$  for each  $i \in I$ . Hence we have

**5.1. Lemma.**  *$R'$  is a congruence relation on  $L$ .*

In view of the definition, the relation  $R$  is reflexive and symmetric.

**5.2. Lemma.** *Let  $p, q \in L$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $pRq$ .
- (ii) *There exists no interval  $[u, v] \subseteq L$  such that  $[u, v] \subseteq [p, \wedge q, p \vee q]$ ,  $u < v$  and  $uR'_i v$  for each  $i \in I$ .*

**PROOF.** Denote  $p \wedge q = a$ ,  $p \vee q = b$ . Let (i) be valid. Then in view of 4.2, the condition (ii) is satisfied. Conversely, assume that (ii) holds. Put  $x(a, b) = x$ ,  $y(a, b) = y$ . If  $y > a$ , then by putting  $[u, v] = [a, y]$  we arrive at a contradiction with the condition (ii). Hence  $y = a$ . Then 4.1 yields that  $x = b$ , whence (i) is valid.  $\square$

**5.2.1. Corollary.** *Let  $a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 \in L$ ,  $a_1 \leq b_1 \leq b_2 \leq a_2$ ,  $a_1 R a_2$ . Then  $b_1 R b_2$ .*

**5.3. Lemma.** *Let  $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in L$ ,  $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq a_3$ ,  $a_1 R a_2$ ,  $a_2 R a_3$ . Then  $a_1 R a_3$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $[u, v] \subseteq [a_1, a_3]$  and  $uR'v$ . Denote

$$\begin{aligned} u_1 &= u \wedge a_2, & v_1 &= v \wedge a_2, & u_2 &= u \vee a_2, & v_2 &= v \vee a_2, \\ s &= v_1 \vee u. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $u \leq s \leq v$ . Hence if  $u < v$ , then either  $u < s$  or  $s < v$ .

It is easy to verify that  $[u, s]$  is projectable to a subinterval of  $[a_1, a_2]$  (namely, to the interval  $[v_1 \wedge u, v_1]$ ). Hence  $(v_1 \wedge u)R'v_1$  and thus  $v_1 \wedge u = v_1$ . Therefore  $u = s$ . Analogously we obtain the relation  $s = v$ . Thus  $u = v$ . According to 5.2,  $a_1Ra_2$ .  $\square$

**5.4. Lemma.** Let  $a_1, a_2 \in L$ ,  $s \in L$ ,  $a_1Ra_2$ . Then  $(a_1 \vee s)R(a_2 \vee s)$  and  $(a_1 \wedge s)R(a_2 \wedge s)$ .

**Proof.** If  $[u, v]$  is a subinterval of  $[a_1 \vee s, a_2 \vee s]$ , then  $[u, v]$  is projectable to the interval  $[a_2 \wedge u, a_2 \wedge v]$  and this is a subinterval of  $[a_1, a_2]$ . Hence in view of 5.2, if  $uR'v$ , then  $u = v$ . Therefore  $(a_1 \vee s)R(a_2 \vee s)$ . Similarly we verify that  $(a_1 \wedge s)R(a_2 \wedge s)$ .  $\square$

**5.5. Lemma.** The relation  $R$  is transitive.

**Proof.** Let  $p_1, p_2, p_3 \in L$ ,  $p_1Rp_2$ ,  $p_2Rp_3$ . Denote

$$\begin{aligned} p_1 \wedge p_2 &= u_1, & p_2 \wedge p_3 &= u_2, & u_1 \wedge u_2 &= u_3, \\ p_1 \vee p_2 &= v_1, & p_2 \vee p_3 &= v_2, & v_1 \vee v_2 &= v_3. \end{aligned}$$

In view of 5.4 we have  $p_1Rp_1 \wedge p_2$ , thus  $p_1Ru_1$ . Analogously we obtain  $p_2Ru_2$ . The interval  $[u_3, u_1]$  is projectable to some subinterval of  $[u_2, p_2]$ , hence  $u_3Ru_1$ . Similarly we verify that  $p_1Rv_1$  and  $v_3Rv_1$ . Thus  $u_3Rv_3$  by 5.2.1. Since  $[p_1 \wedge p_3, p_1 \vee p_3] \subseteq [u_3, v_3]$ , 5.2 yields that  $p_1Rp_3$ .  $\square$

From 5.4 and 5.5 we infer

**5.6. Lemma.**  $R$  is a congruence relation on  $L$ .

**5.7. Lemma.**  $R \wedge R' = R_{\min}$ ,  $R \vee R' = R_{\max}$  and  $R, R'$  are permutable.

**Proof.** In view of 5.2 we have  $R \wedge R' = R_{\min}$ . Let  $a, b \in L$ ,  $a \leq b$ . Let  $x$  and  $y$  be as in 4.1. Then we have

$$(1) \quad aRx, \quad aR'y.$$

Further,  $x \wedge y = a$  and  $x \vee y = b$ . Thus in view of the projectability we obtain

$$(2) \quad xR'b, \quad yRb.$$

Hence  $a(R \vee R')b$ . From this we easily obtain  $R \vee R' = R_{\max}$ . Further, from (1), (2) and 3.4 we conclude that  $R$  and  $R'$  are permutable.  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.** Let  $L \in \mathcal{T}_\alpha$  and  $s^0 \in L$ . Let  $\{L_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a subset of  $F(L, s^0)$  such that  $\text{card } I \leq \alpha$ . First we verify that  $\bigvee_{i \in I} L_i$  exists in the Boolean algebra  $F(L, s^0)$ . Let us apply the notation as above.

Consider the lattices  $s_R^0$  and  $s_{R'}^0$ . According to 5.1, 5.6, 5.7 and 3.2 we have

$$(3) \quad L = (s^0)_{s_R^0} \times s_{R'}^0.$$

According to the definition of  $R'$  we obviously have

$$(4) \quad s_{R'}^0 = \bigcap_{i \in I} L'_i.$$

Then (3) and (4) yield

$$(5) \quad s_R^0 = \bigwedge_{i \in I} L'_i.$$

Further, in view of the definition of  $R$ ,  $L_i \subseteq s_R^0$  for each  $i \in I$ . Let  $X \in F(L, s^0)$  and suppose that  $L_i \subseteq X$  for each  $i \in I$ . Put  $Y = X \cap s_R^0$ . Then  $Y \in F(L, s^0)$  and  $L_i \subseteq Y$  for each  $i \in I$ . Moreover,  $Y$  is a closed sublattice of  $L$ .

Let  $p \in s_R^0$ . Put  $a = p \wedge s^0$  and  $b = p \vee s^0$ . Thus  $a, b \in s_R^0$ . Hence  $s^0 R b$ . In view of the definition of  $R$  there exist  $x^i \in [s^0, b]$  ( $i \in I$ ) such that  $x^i \in L_i$  and  $\bigvee_{i \in I} x^i = b$ . Then all  $x^i$  belong to  $Y$ ; since  $Y$  is closed, we get  $b \in Y$ . By a dual argument (using Lemma 4.2) we obtain the relation  $a \in Y$ . Hence, by the convexity of  $Y$ , the element  $p$  belongs to  $Y$ . Therefore,  $s_R^0 \subseteq Y$ . Thus

$$(6) \quad s_R^0 = \bigvee_{i \in I} L_i.$$

Further, we have to verify that each subset of  $F(L, s^0)$  having the cardinality  $\leq \alpha$  possesses the infimum. But this is a consequence of the just proved result concerning the existence of suprema and of the fact that each Boolean algebra is self-dual.  $\square$

**5.8. Corollary.** *Under the assumptions as in Theorem 1 and under the notation as above we have*

$$L = (s^0) \left( \bigvee_{i \in I} L_i \right) \times \left( \bigwedge_{i \in I} L'_i \right).$$

**Proof.** This is a consequence of (3)–(6).  $\square$

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Then (2) yields

$$(S) \quad .L_{n+1} \sim Z_{n+1}, \text{ for each } \ll 6 K$$

1 i i, m )!(2) are distinct positive mtegers. Uren

$$(6) \quad L_{n+1} \sim L_{n+2} = \{s^i\}.$$

oán\*

:cite\*=i \> f:i ;\*\*1.

If  $L$  is a Boolean algebra, then each interval of  $L$  is isomorphic to a direct factor of  $L$ . Further, each Boolean algebra is infinitely distributive and contains the least element. Hence Theorem 2 yields as a corollary the following result:

**6.5. Theorem.** (Sikorski [13]; cf. also Sikorski [14] and Tarski [15].) *Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebras. Suppose that*

- (i) *there exists  $a_2 \in L_2$  such that  $L_1$  is isomorphic to the interval  $[0, a_2]$  of  $L_2$ ;*
  - (ii) *there exists  $a_1 \in L_1$  such that  $L_2$  is isomorphic to the interval  $[0, a_1]$  of  $L_1$ .*
- Then  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are isomorphic.*

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