

## SEMINAR ON CONTINUITY IN SEMILATTICES

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TOPIC: Order generation and distributive laws in complete lattices

## REFERENCES:

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- [BF] G.Birkhoff and O.Frink: Representations of lattices by sets. Trans. AMS 64 (1948) 299 - 316
- [Br] G.Bruns: Verbandstheoretische Kennzeichnung vollstandiger Mengenringe. Arch. Math.10 (1959) 109 - 112
- [CD] P.Crawley and R.P.Dilworth: Algebraic theory of lattices. Prentice Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1973
- [E1] M.Ern e: Order and topology. Preprint Hannover 1978
- [E2] ———: On the existence of decompositions in lattices. Algebra Universalis (to appear)
- [Kah] Karl H. Hofmann: A remark on the complete distributivity of algebraic lattices. SCS - Memo 7 - 16 - 82
- [Me] W.Menzel: uber den Untergruppenverband einer abelschen Operatorgruppe, Teil I:  $\mathfrak{m}$ -Verbande. Math. Zeitschr. 74 (1960) 39 - 51

In a recent Memo [Kah] Karl H. Hofmann asked for references concerning the following equivalent statements on a complete lattice:

- (a) L is "join Brouwerian" and algebraic.
- (b) L is completely distributive and algebraic.
- (c) Every element of L is a join of completely join-primes.

It is well known that these conditions are selfdual, being equivalent to

- (d) L is isomorphic to a complete ring of sets.

For the sake of convenience, we call such lattices A-lattices.

A lattice is weakly atomic (cf. [CD]) if for all  $a < b$  there are elements  $u, v \in [a, b]$  such that  $v$  covers  $u$  (i.e.  $u < v$  and  $|[u, v]| = 2$ ).

Already in the late Fifties, G. Bruns [Br] has shown that a complete lattice  $L$  is an A-lattice iff it is weakly atomic and infinitely distributive (i.e.  $L$  and  $L^{\text{op}}$  are complete Heyting algebras). It is also well known (cf. [BF] and [CD]) that every algebraic lattice is weakly atomic and (meet-)continuous. Hence the above equivalences are immediate consequences of Bruns' theorem. They occur implicitly in [Me, 3.6 and 3.8] and in [GG, Cor.1, Cor.2 and Prop.6], and explicitly in [Av, Thm 5.3] and in [E1, 1.7.59 - 1.7.63] where a list of alternative descriptions of A-lattices can be found. The following more general theorem was established in 1979. It does not require any distributivity assumption (see [E2]).

THEOREM. Consider the following conditions on a complete lattice  $L$ :

- (a) Every element of  $L$  is a join of completely join-irreducibles, and  $L$  is meet-continuous.
- (b)  $L$  is algebraic.
- (c)  $L$  is weakly atomic and continuous.
- (d)  $L$  is weakly atomic and meet-continuous.
- (e)  $L$  is weakly atomic, and whenever  $v$  covers  $u$  in  $L$  then there is a  $q \in L$  maximal subject to  $q \wedge v = u$ .
- (f) Every element is a meet of completely meet-irreducibles (i.e.  $\text{Irr } L$  is "order generating").

In general, (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (e)  $\Rightarrow$  (f), and none of these implications can be inverted. However,

- (1) if  $L$  is modular then (e)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (f),
- (2) if  $L$  is distributive then (d)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (e)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (f),
- (3) if  $L$  is join-continuous then all six conditions are equivalent and imply their duals.

In particular, if  $L$  is "join Brouwerian" then each of these conditions is necessary and sufficient for  $L$  to be an A-lattice.

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