

NOTES ON THE LATTICE OF SUBGROUPS OF A GROUP

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Introduction. Let G be a group. A set $L(G)$ of all subgroups of G forms a lattice by taking, as the join $X \vee Y$ of X and Y in $L(G)$, a subgroup generated by X and Y , and as the meet $X \wedge Y$ a set intersection of X and Y . In this paper, using the representation theorem for partially ordered sets of work [1], we shall find that the necessary and sufficient conditions of $L(G)$ to be isomorphic to a set Boolean algebra 2^S for some set S . And finally, we shall show that if G be a group whose $L(G)$ is disjunctive (def. 2), then the necessary and sufficient conditions that $L(G)$ be isomorphic to a lattice of all closed subsets of a T_1 -space are that G is a generalized cyclic group.

2. Definitions and preliminaries. We assume that $G = \{e, a, b, \dots\}$ be a group with an identity e , X, Y, \dots are subgroups of G , and $\alpha, \mathcal{L}, \dots$ subsets of $L(G)$. If $\alpha \subseteq L(G)$, we let

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha^* &= \{X \in L(G) \mid X \supseteq A \text{ for all } A \in \alpha\} \\ \alpha^+ &= \{X \in L(G) \mid X \subseteq A \text{ for all } A \in \alpha\}\end{aligned}$$

DEFINITION 1 (Frink) A subset α of $L(G)$ is a *dual ideal* if and only if for every finite subset f of α , we have $f^{**} \subseteq \alpha$. we call a dual ideal α *proper* if and only if $\alpha \neq \{G\}$ and $\alpha \neq L(G)$. A proper dual ideal which is a proper subset of no proper dual ideal is called *maximal*. For a fixed $X \in L(G)$, the set $\{Y \in L(G) \mid Y \supseteq X\}$ is a dual ideal which we call the *principal* dual ideal generated by X and which we denoted by $\mathcal{F}(X)$.

DEFINITION 2 $L(G)$ is disjunctive if and only if for each pair element of X and Y of $L(G)$ with $X \not\subseteq Y$, there exists $Z \in L(G)$ such that $X \wedge Z = \{e\}$ and $Y \wedge Z = \{e\}$. [1].

LEMMA 1 If X is a cyclic subgroup of prime order in G , then $\mathcal{F}(X)$ is a maximal dual ideal in $L(G)$.

PROOF Let $X = \{a\}$. We suppose that $\mathcal{F}(\{a\}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}$ for some dual ideal \mathcal{L} of $L(G)$. If $\mathcal{F}(\{a\}) \neq \mathcal{L}$, then let A be a subgroup such that $A \notin \mathcal{F}(\{a\})$ and $A \in \mathcal{L}$. Since $\{a\} \not\subseteq A$ and $\{a\}$ is a minimal subgroup, we see $\{\{a\}, A\}^+ = \{e\}$. Thus $\{\{a\}, A\}^{**} = \{e\}^* (=L(G)) \subseteq \mathcal{L}$.

DEFINITION 3 A set Δ of maximal dual ideals of $L(G)$ is called a *covering family* for $L(G)$ if and only if for each $X(\neq\{e\}) \in L(G)$ there exists $\mathcal{O} \in \Delta$ such that $X \in \mathcal{O}$ [1].

E.S. Wolk has proved the following representation theorem for partially ordered set:

THEOREM A Partially ordered set P with 0 and 1 is isomorphic to 2^S for some set S if and only if

(i) P is disjunctive, and

(ii) there exists a covering family Δ for P such that $\bigcap_{M \in \Sigma} M$ is a principal proper dual ideal for every proper nonempty subset Σ of Δ .

3. Main results. At first we consider the relation between the properties of the group G and the fact that $L(G)$ is disjunctive.

PROPOSITION 1 $L(G)$ is disjunctive if and only if the order of any element of G is finite and not divided by any square number.

PROOF Let $L(G)$ be disjunctive. Suppose that there exists an element $a(\neq e)$ of order infinite in G . Let $\{a\}$ be a cyclic subgroup of generated by a , then $\{ap\} < \{a\}$ for some prime number p . Thus $\{a\} \not\subseteq \{ap\}$. Since $L(G)$ is disjunctive, we can find a subgroup A such that $A \wedge \{a\} \neq \{e\}$. And let $A \wedge \{a\} = \{ar\}$, then $r \neq 0$. And $A \wedge \{ap\} \supseteq \{ar\} \wedge \{ap\} = \{ad\} \neq \{e\}$, where d is the least common multiple of r and p . Hence $A \wedge \{ap\} \neq \{e\}$ for any A with $A \wedge \{a\} \neq \{e\}$, which means that $L(G)$ is not disjunctive. And suppose that there exists an element a of G whose order is divided by a square number. Let the order of a be $p^\lambda q$ for some prime number p , ($\lambda \geq 2$) and $(p, q) = 1$. Since $\{aq\} \not\subseteq \{apq\}$, there exists $A \in L(G)$ such that $A \wedge \{aq\} = \{ar\}$ ($\neq \{e\}$). Thus q is a factor of r . And $A \wedge \{apq\} \supseteq \{ar\} \wedge \{apq\} = \{af\}$ where $f = [r, pq]$. But if $p^\lambda q$ is a factor of f , then $p^\lambda q$ is also a factor of r , which is contrary to $\{ar\} \neq \{e\}$. Hence $\{af\} \neq \{e\}$, and $A \wedge \{apq\} \neq \{e\}$ for any A with $A \wedge \{aq\} \neq \{e\}$. It is also contrary. Conversely, let A, B are subgroups of G with $A \not\subseteq B$. And let $a \in A$ and $a \notin B$. By the hypotheses, the order n of a is a finite product of all distinct prime numbers ($= p \cdots r \cdots s$). But we can take at least one element a of power n/r which is not belonging to B , where r is some prime factor of n . For, otherwise, we have $a \in B$. Because the numbers $n/p, \dots, n/s$ are relative prime, by elementary number theory, there exist the numbers q such that $\sum q(n/p) = 1$. Hence we have the contradiction.

Since the order of the element a of power n/r is prime r , we have $\{a^{n/r}\} \wedge B$

$=\{e\}$. On the other hand, $\{a^{n/r}\} \wedge A = \{a^{n/r}\} (\neq \{e\})$. Hence $L(G)$ is disjunctive.

Clearly, if the order of every element of G is finite, and A is a minimal subgroup of G , then A is a cyclic subgroup of prime order.

DEFINITION 4 $\{A_\lambda\}$ is said to be *subgroup base* for G if and only if $\{A_\lambda\}$ is a minimal family of minimal subgroups such that $\bigvee A_\lambda = G$.

Then we have the following

PROPOSITION 2 *The lattice of subgroups $L(G)$ is isomorphic to 2^S for some set S if and only if*

(i) *the order of any element of G is finite and not divided by any square number*

(ii) *$\{\{a_\alpha\} \mid \text{the order of } a_\alpha \text{ is prime in } G\}$ is a subgroup base for G ,*

PROOF Suppose (i) and (ii) are satisfied in G . By proposition 1 and Wolk's theorem, it is sufficient to show that the condition (ii) of Wolk's theorem is satisfied in $L(G)$. We can take as our covering family Δ the set of all principal dual ideals generated by $\{a_\alpha\}$ of (ii), which are maximal. (see Lemma 1). In fact, let $M \in L(G)$ ($M \neq \{e\}$) and $a \in M$ ($a \neq e$) of order n . Then the order of element a of power n/p is prime p . (where p is prime factor of n). Thus $M \in \mathcal{Z}(\{a^{n/p}\})$. Now let Σ be a proper nonempty subset of Δ . We shall prove that the intersection of $\mathcal{Z}(\{a_\alpha\})$ belonging to Σ is a principal proper dual ideal. In fact, we put $H = \bigvee \{\{a_\alpha\} \mid \mathcal{Z}(\{a_\alpha\}) \in \Sigma\}$. It is then easily shown that $\mathcal{Z}(H)$ is the intersection of $\mathcal{Z}(\{a_\alpha\})$ belonging to Σ , that is, a principal dual ideal. Moreover, $\mathcal{Z}(H)$ is a proper. For, if $\mathcal{Z}(H) = L(G)$, then $H = \{e\}$ which is contrary. If $\mathcal{Z}(H) = G$, then $H = G$, i.e. $G = \bigvee \{\{a_\alpha\} \mid \mathcal{Z}(\{a_\alpha\}) \in \Sigma\}$ which is contrary to that all cyclic groups $\{a_\alpha\}$ of prime order form subgroup base, (but Σ is a proper subset of Δ). Hence the condition (ii) of Wolk's theorem is satisfied. The necessary is obvious. Thus our result follows.

We shall call a group G *generalized cyclic* if any two elements a, b are powers of a suitable third element c of G [2].

COROLLARY 1 *Let G satisfy (i) and (ii) of proposition 2, then G is a generalized cyclic group.*

If G is a finite, then the condition (ii) of proposition is unnecessary.

PROPOSITION 3 *Let G be a finite group. $L(G)$ is isomorphic to for some finite set S if and only if G is cyclic group whose order is not divided by any square number.*

PROOF The necessary is obvious by corollary 1. Let G be a cyclic group $\{a\}$ of order n . By hypotheses the prime factors of n are all distinct. Thus we can easily see that

$$\{\{a^i\} \mid \text{the order of } a^i \text{ is prime}\} = \{\{a^{n/p}\} \mid p \text{ is prime factor of } n\}.$$

And since the numbers n/p are relative prime, we see $\vee\{\{a^{n/p}\}\} = G$. But since $L(G)$ is distributive lattice (see [2]. p.96), $\{a^{n/q}\} \wedge \{\vee_{p \neq q} \{a^{n/p}\}\} = \{e\}$. Hence $\{\{a^{n/p}\} \mid p \text{ is prime factor of } n\}$ is a subgroup base for G . Therefore the proof is complete.

4. Another representation of disjunctive $L(G)$: E.S. Wolk has also proved the following [1].

THEOREM Let L be a complete, atomic, and disjunctive lattice, and S its set of points. A necessary and sufficient condition that L be isomorphic to the lattice of all closed subsets of a T_1 -space X (where X is in 1:1 correspondence with S) is that $P \in S$ and $p \leq a \vee b$ implies $p \leq a$ or $p \leq b$.

Clearly, we see that if $L(G)$ is disjunctive, then $L(G)$ is complete, atomic lattice. Hence if the word "lattice L " in above theorem is everywhere replaced by "lattice $L(G)$ ", then our result may be stated in the form

PROPOSITION 4 Let G be a group whose $L(G)$ is disjunctive. A necessary and sufficient condition that $L(G)$ be isomorphic to the lattice of all closed subsets of a T_1 -space X (where X is in 1:1 correspondence with $\{\{a_\alpha\} \mid \text{the order of } a_\alpha \text{ is prime}\}$) are that G is a generalized cyclic group.

The proof of this proposition is directly given by the following Lemma and Ore's theorem ([2] p.96).

LEMMA 2 Let G be a group whose $L(G)$ is disjunctive. $L(G)$ is distributive if and only if for any cyclic subgroup $\{a\}$ of order prime, if $\{a\} \leq A \vee B$ for some $A, B \in L(G)$, then $\{a\} \leq A$ or $\{a\} \leq B$.

PROOF Suppose $L(G)$ is distributive. If $\{a\} \leq A \vee B$, then $\{a\} = (\{a\} \wedge A) \vee (\{a\} \wedge B)$. Thus if $\{a\} \wedge A = \{e\}$, then $\{a\} \leq B$. Conversely, Suppose that the conditions are satisfied in $L(G)$. By the one-side distributive law, $L(G)$ is distributive if $C \wedge (A \vee B) \leq (C \wedge A) \vee (C \wedge B)$ for any three subgroups A, B, C of G . Let $a (\neq e) \in C \wedge (A \vee B)$. Then $a \in C$ and $a \in A \vee B$. Since element a of power n/p is in $A \vee B$ for any prime factor p of n (where n is the order of a), it is in A or B by hypotheses, i.e. element a of power n/p is in $A \wedge C$ or $B \wedge C$ for any prime factor p of n . But since all numbers n/p (p is prime factor of n) are relative prime, we can choose the numbers q such that $\sum q(n/p) = 1$. Thus we have $a \in (A \wedge C) \vee (B \wedge C)$.

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