

Characterizing algebras and varieties by weak congruence lattices and open problems

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Abstract

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Representation of an algebraic lattice by the weak congruence lattice of an algebra is still an open problem in universal algebra formulated 20 years ago. Its nontrivial version is to locate an element of a lattice representing the diagonal relation and then to find a corresponding algebra. There are solutions for some special cases, e.g., the diagonal being in the center of the lattice. Many sufficient conditions have also been obtained. The aim of the talk is to present the history of the topic and some recent new results.

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The weak congruences on \mathcal{A} form an algebraic lattice under inclusion, denoted by $\text{Con}_w(\mathcal{A})$.

The congruence lattice $\text{Con}(\mathcal{A})$ of \mathcal{A} is a principal filter in $\text{Con}_w(\mathcal{A})$, generated by the diagonal relation Δ of \mathcal{A} .

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Therefore, both the subalgebra lattice and the congruence lattice of an algebra may be recovered and investigated within a single algebraic lattice.

Weak congruences

Some results

Theorem

(Chajda, Šešelja, Tepavčević, 1995) *A variety \mathcal{V} which has a nullary operation in the similarity type is weak congruence modular if and only if \mathcal{V} is polynomially equivalent to the variety of modules over a ring with unit.*

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Open problem

Which (possibly locally finite) Abelian (or Hamiltonian) varieties possess the CIP?

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- for every normal subgroup N of G ,

$$C_N := \{K \in \text{Sub}(G) : \exists H \in \text{Nor}(K) \text{ with } (H)_G = N\}$$

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- for every normal subgroup N of G , C_N is closed with respect to intersection.

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Corollary

(Czédli, Erné, Šešelja, Tepavčević, 2010) *A group is locally cyclic if and only if its weak congruence lattice is distributive.*

Weak congruences

Some results

We call an algebra \mathcal{A} **group-like** if it has a least subuniverse $\{e\}$ and there is some function $q : A^2 \rightarrow A$ such that for all $\theta \in \text{Con}_w(\mathcal{A})$,

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A group-like algebra \mathcal{A} a **Dedekind algebra** if every subalgebra of \mathcal{A} is a kernel, i.e., of the form $e\theta$ for some $\theta \in \text{Con}(\mathcal{A})$.

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Moreover, the weak congruence lattice $\text{Con}_w(\mathcal{A})$ is modular (distributive) if and only if \mathcal{A} is a Dedekind algebra with modular (distributive) subalgebra lattice $\text{Sub}(\mathcal{A})$.

Weak congruences

Some results

Corollary

(Czédli, Erné, Šešelja, Tepavčević, 2010) *A ring is Hamiltonian if and only if it is generated by Hamiltonian subrings and has a modular weak congruence lattice or Δ is a neutral element of it.*

Representation of lattices by weak congruences

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Basic representation problem

Represent an algebraic lattice by the weak congruence lattice of an algebra.

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Easily solved by Grätzer-Schmidt theorem:

Let $\mathcal{B} = (A, F)$ be an algebra such that $\text{Con } \mathcal{B}$ is isomorphic with L . Then the required algebra \mathcal{A} can be obtained by adding to F all the elements from A as nullary operations: $\mathcal{A} = (A, F \cup \{A\})$.

Obviously, $\text{Con}_w(\mathcal{A}) \cong \text{Con } \mathcal{B} \cong L$.

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The above construction by which the diagonal relation of the algebra corresponds to the bottom of the lattice is called the **trivial representation**.

Weak congruence lattice

Representation

Weak congruence lattice representation problem 1

Let L be an algebraic lattice and $\alpha \in L$. Find an algebra such that its weak congruence lattice is isomorphic with L , the diagonal relation being the image of α under the isomorphism.

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Weak congruence lattice representation problem 2

Find a non-trivial representation of an algebraic lattice by a weak congruence lattice of an algebra.

Representation problem

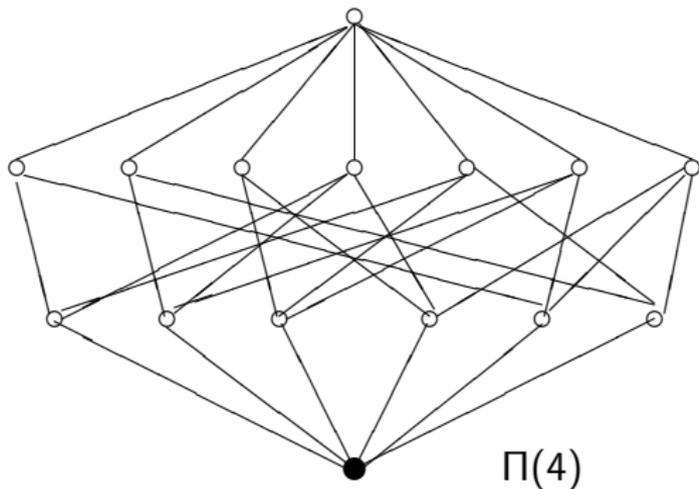
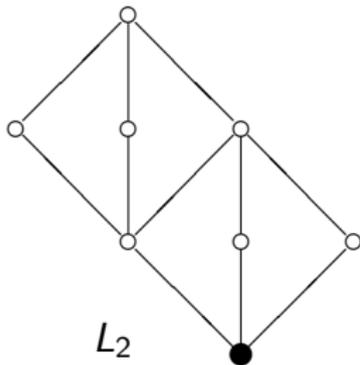
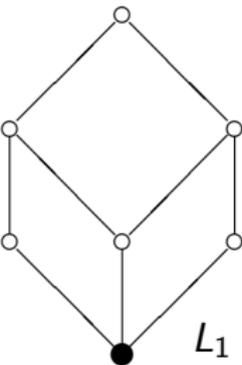
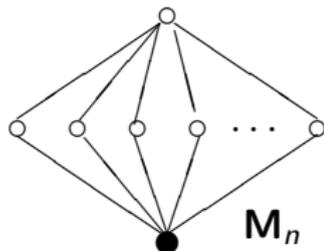
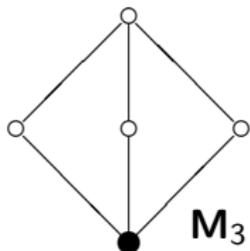
Trivial representations

Examples: lattices without non-trivial representations

Representation problem

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Δ -suitable elements of a lattice

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Let L be an algebraic lattice. An element $a \in L$ is said to be **Δ -suitable** if there is an algebra \mathcal{A} such that the weak congruence lattice $\text{Con}_w(\mathcal{A})$ is isomorphic to L , and Δ corresponds to a under the isomorphism.

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Every Δ -suitable element of a lattice is co-distributive.

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If a is a co-distributive element of L , then the mapping $\mu : x \mapsto x \wedge a$ is an endomorphism on L .

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$M_a := \{\bar{x} \mid x \in L\}$.

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- if $x \prec a$, then $\bigvee (y \in \uparrow a \mid y \vee \bar{x} < \mathbf{1}) \neq \mathbf{1}$;

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- if $x \prec a$, then $\bigvee (y \in \uparrow a \mid y \vee \overline{x} < \mathbf{1}) \neq \mathbf{1}$;
- If $y \in \downarrow a$ and $x \prec y$, then there exists $z \in [y, \overline{y}]$, such that
 - for all $t \in [x, \overline{x}]$, the set $\{c \in \text{Ext}(t) \mid c \leq z\}$ is either empty or has the top element, and
 - for all $t \in [x, \overline{x}]$, the set $\{c \in \text{Ext}(t) \mid c \not\leq z\}$ is an antichain (possibly empty), where

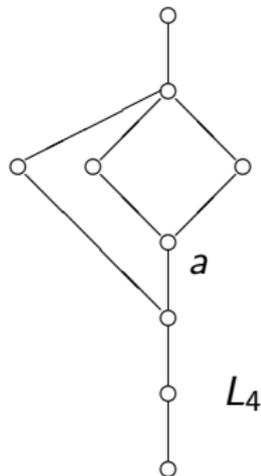
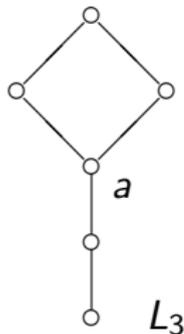
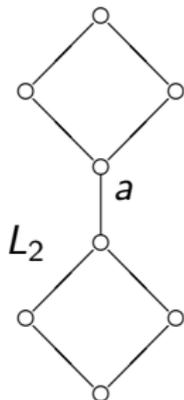
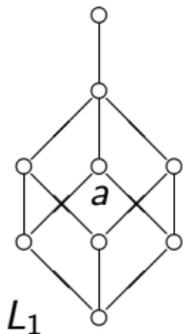
$$\text{Ext}(t) := \{w \in [y, \overline{y}] \mid w \cap \overline{x} = t\}.$$

Examples

Representation problem

Δ -suitable elements

Examples



Representation problem

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If a is a Δ -suitable element of a lattice L and

$$|[\mathbf{0}]_{\theta_a}| > 1 \text{ or there is a single atom in } L ,$$

then M_a is a sublattice of L .

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In a lattice with more than 2 elements, the top element is not Δ -suitable.

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- *a is a distributive element in L if and only if every algebra representing L has the CIP;*
- *$\bar{x} \vee a = \mathbf{1}$ for every $x \in L$ if and only if no congruence on an algebra representing L has a block which is a proper subalgebra;*

Representation problem

Properties of algebras

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- $x \prec a$ implies $\bar{x} \vee a < 1$ for every $x \in L$ if and only if every algebra representing L is quasi-Hamiltonian;
- a has a complement in L if and only if every algebra representing L has at least one nullary operation and has no congruence whose block is a proper subalgebra.

Representation problem

Properties of algebras

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Let $L = \downarrow a \cup \uparrow a$, $a \in L$. If a is Δ -suitable, then:

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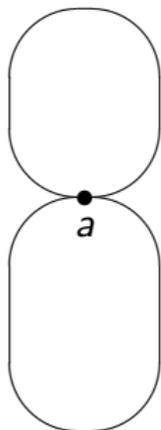
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- any algebra representing L has at most one-element subalgebras, it satisfies the CEP and the CIP, it is Hamiltonian, and if $\downarrow a$ is not a two-element chain then it has no constants.

Representation problem

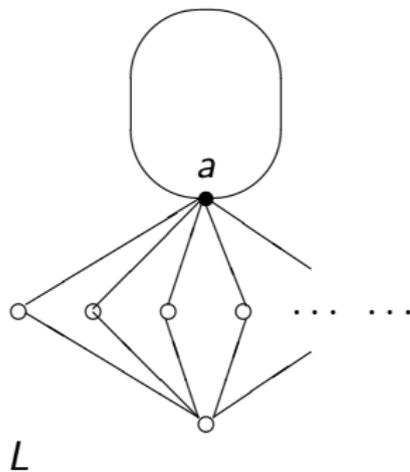
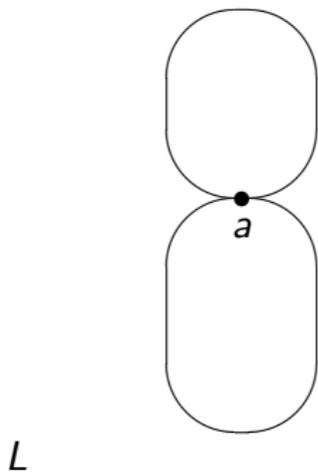
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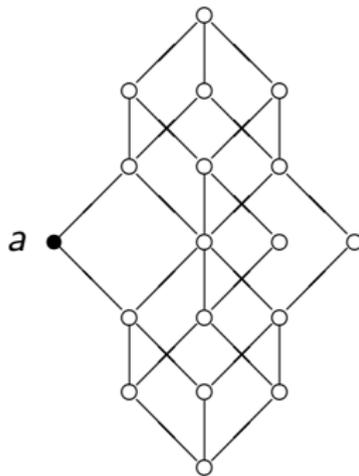
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- *\mathcal{A} is not Hamiltonian, moreover no congruence on \mathcal{A} has a block which is a subalgebra of \mathcal{A} .*

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- *all congruence lattices of subalgebras of \mathcal{A} are isomorphic with $\text{Con } \mathcal{A}$.*

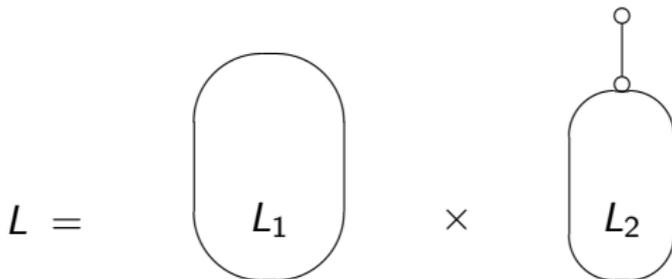
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Let L be an algebraic lattice and $a \in L$ an element from the center of the lattice, such that $\uparrow a$ has a single co-atom.

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Let L be an algebraic lattice and $a \in L$ an element from the center of the lattice, such that $\uparrow a$ has a single co-atom.

Then, there is an algebra \mathcal{A} , whose weak congruence lattice $\text{Con}_w(\mathcal{A})$ is isomorphic with L under a mapping sending Δ to a .

Representation problem

Additional open problem

Open problem

*Find conditions under which $\text{Con}_w(\mathcal{A})$ is isomorphic with $\text{Con}(\mathcal{B})$ for an algebra \mathcal{B} and the following holds:
 $\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{B}/\theta$ for some congruence θ on \mathcal{B} .*

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Thank you for your attention!