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# Derivations and Translations on Trellises

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## Abstract

G. Szász, J. Szendrei, K. Iseki and J. Nieminen have made an extensive study of derivations and translations on lattices. In this paper, the concepts of meet-translations and derivations have been studied in trellises (also called weakly associative lattices or WA-lattices) and several results in lattices are extended to trellises. The main theorem of this paper, namely, that every derivatrion of a trellis is a meet-translation, is proved without using associativity and it generalizes a well-known result of G. Szász.

**Key words:** Pset, trellis, ideal, meet-translation, derivation.

**2010 Mathematics Subject Classification:** 06B05

## 1 Introduction

Any reflexive and antisymmetric binary relation  $\leq$  on a set  $L$  is called a *pseudo-order* on  $L$  and  $\langle L; \leq \rangle$  is called a *pseudo-ordered set* or a *pset*. Two elements  $x$  and  $y$  are comparable if  $x \leq y$  or  $y \leq x$ . For a subset  $B$  of  $L$ , the notions of a *lower bound*, an *upper bound*, the *greatest lower bound* (g.l.b. or meet denoted by  $\bigwedge B$ ), the *least upper bound* (l.u.b. or join denoted by  $\bigvee B$ ) are defined analogously to the corresponding notions in a partially ordered set or a poset.

By a *trellis* we mean a pset, any two of whose elements have a g.l.b. and a l.u.b. Similarly to lattices, trellises can be defined as algebras  $\langle L; \vee, \wedge \rangle$  where  $\vee, \wedge$  and  $\leq$  are related as in lattices: a *trellis* is an algebra  $\langle L; \vee, \wedge \rangle$  where the binary operations  $\vee$  and  $\wedge$  satisfy the following properties:

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- (i)  $a \vee b = b \vee a$  and  $a \wedge b = b \wedge a$ ,
- (ii)  $a \vee (b \wedge a) = a = a \wedge (b \vee a)$ ,
- (iii)  $a \vee ((a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge c)) = a = a \wedge ((a \vee b) \wedge (a \vee c))$ .

The notion of a poset and a trellis are due to E. Fried [1] and H. L. Skala [9]. In [7], it is shown that any poset can be regarded as a digraph (possibly infinite). A *tournament* is a poset in which every two elements are comparable. For the undefined notations and terminology, [7] and [9] may be referred.

A *subtrellis*  $S$  of a trellis  $L$  is a nonempty subset of  $L$  such that  $a, b \in S$  implies that  $a \wedge b, a \vee b$  belong to  $S$ , where  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  are considered in  $L$ . An *ideal*  $I$  of a trellis  $L$  is a subtrellis of  $L$  such that  $i \in I$  and  $a \in L$  imply that  $a \wedge i \in I$ , or equivalently,  $i \in I, a \in L$  and  $a \trianglelefteq i$  imply that  $a \in I$ . H. L. Skala in [9] has included the empty set also as an ideal of a trellis. If  $B$  is a nonempty subset of a trellis  $L$ , then the *ideal generated by  $B$*  is defined to be the intersection of all ideals of  $L$  containing  $B$  and is denoted by  $\langle B \rangle$ . The ideal generated by a single element  $a$  is called the *principal ideal* generated by  $a$  and is denoted by  $\langle a \rangle$ . The dual notions are defined similarly. The set of all ideals of a trellis  $L$  forms a lattice with respect to set inclusion and it is denoted by  $I(L)$ . In fact, for  $I, J \in I(L)$ ,  $I \wedge J = I \cap J$  and  $I \vee J = (I \cup J)$ .

## 2 Meet-translations and derivations on trellises

**Definition 2.1** A mapping  $\lambda$  of a trellis  $L$  into itself is called a

- (i) meet-translation if  $\lambda(x \wedge y) = \lambda(x) \wedge y$  for all  $x, y \in L$ ;
- (ii) join-translation if  $\lambda(x \vee y) = \lambda(x) \vee y$  for all  $x, y \in L$ .

### Examples

- (1) The identity mapping of any trellis is both a join-translation and a meet-translation.
- (2) If a trellis  $L$  with least element  $0$  has at least two elements, then the mapping  $w$  defined by  $w(x) = 0$  for every  $x \in L$  is a meet-translation that is not a join-translation.

The following lemma and the two propositions generalize the corresponding results in lattices [10] to trellises.

**Lemma 2.2** *Let  $\lambda$  be a meet-translation on a trellis  $L$ . Then for all  $x, y \in L$ ,*

- (i)  $x \trianglelefteq y$  implies  $\lambda(x) \trianglelefteq \lambda(y)$ ;
- (ii)  $\lambda(x) \trianglelefteq x$ ;
- (iii)  $\lambda(\lambda(x)) = \lambda(x)$ , i.e.  $\lambda$  is idempotent;
- (iv)  $\lambda(x \wedge y) = \lambda(x) \wedge \lambda(y)$ , i.e.  $\lambda$  is a meet-endomorphism;

(v) the fixed elements of  $\lambda$  ( $x$  is said to be a fixed element of  $\lambda$  if  $\lambda(x) = x$ ) form an ideal of  $L$  which will be called the fixed ideal of  $\lambda$ , denoted by  $\text{Fix } \lambda$ ; also  $\text{Fix } \lambda = \lambda(L)$ .

**Proof** Follows easily.

**Proposition 2.3** Any two meet-translations of a trellis are permutable (two mappings  $f$  and  $g$  are said to be permutable if  $f \circ g = g \circ f$  where  $\circ$  is the composition of mappings).

**Proof** Follows easily because  $f(g(x)) = f(x \wedge g(x)) = f(x) \wedge g(x)$  for any two meet-translations  $f, g$ . □

**Remark 2.4** The set of all meet-translations on a trellis  $L$  forms a commutative monoid with respect to composition of mappings.

**Proposition 2.5** If  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are any two distinct meet-translations of a trellis  $L$ , then  $\text{Fix } \lambda_1 \neq \text{Fix } \lambda_2$ .

**Proof** If  $\text{Fix } \lambda_1 = \text{Fix } \lambda_2$ , then  $\{x \in L \mid \lambda_1(x) = x\} = \{x \in L \mid \lambda_2(x) = x\}$ . This implies  $\lambda_1(x) = \lambda_1(\lambda_2(x)) = \lambda_2(\lambda_1(x)) = \lambda_2(x)$ , a contradiction to the hypothesis that  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ . Therefore  $\text{Fix } \lambda_1 \neq \text{Fix } \lambda_2$ . □

**Proposition 2.6** If  $A$  is an ideal of a trellis  $L$  and  $\lambda: L \rightarrow L$  is a meet-translation, then  $\lambda(A)$  is an ideal of  $A$  and hence an ideal of  $L$ .

**Proof** By (ii) of Lemma 2.2,  $\lambda(A) \subseteq A$ . Hence  $\lambda|_A: A \rightarrow A$  is also a meet-translation. We easily observe that  $\lambda(A) = \{a \in A \mid a = \lambda(a)\}$ . This shows that  $\lambda(A)$  is the set of all fixed elements of  $A$  under the meet-translation  $\lambda|_A: A \rightarrow A$ . Applying (v) of Lemma 2.2 to  $\lambda|_A: A \rightarrow A$  we conclude that  $\lambda(A)$  is an ideal of  $A$ . Hence an ideal of  $L$ . □

**Remark 2.7** By (iv) of Lemma 2.2, every meet-translation on a trellis is a meet-endomorphism. G. Szász [10] has proved that every meet-translation of a lattice  $L$  is a join-endomorphism if and only if  $L$  is distributive.

Remark 2.7 suggests the following open problem.

**Problem** Characterize those trellises in which every meet-translation is a join-endomorphism.

As every distributive trellis is a lattice [9], it is natural to consider the inequality (2.1) which is valid in tournaments. The following proposition answers the problem partially.

**Proposition 2.8** If a trellis  $L$  satisfies the inequality

$$x \wedge (y \vee z) \trianglelefteq (x \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge z), \tag{2.1}$$

then every meet-translation is a join-endomorphism.

**Proof** Let  $L$  be a trellis satisfying the property (2.1) and  $\lambda$  be a meet-translation on  $L$ . For any  $x, y \in L$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(x) \vee \lambda(y) &= \lambda((x \vee y) \wedge x) \vee \lambda((x \vee y) \wedge y) \\ &= (\lambda(x \vee y) \wedge x) \vee (\lambda(x \vee y) \wedge y) \\ &\supseteq \lambda(x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee y) && \text{by (2.1)} \\ &= \lambda(x \vee y). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x, y \leq x \vee y$ , we have  $\lambda(x), \lambda(y) \leq \lambda(x \vee y)$ . Then  $\lambda(x) \vee \lambda(y) \leq \lambda(x \vee y)$ . Therefore  $\lambda(x \vee y) = \lambda(x) \vee \lambda(y)$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.9** The converse of the above proposition is not true. For, the trellis  $L$  of Figure 1 has only three meet-translations  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1$  and  $I$  which are respectively defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_0(x) &= 0 \text{ for every } x \in L, \\ \lambda_1(x) &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x \in \{0, a, b\}, \\ d & \text{for } x \in \{c, d, 1\}, \end{cases} \\ I(x) &= x \text{ for every } x \in L. \end{aligned}$$

Each of these meet-translations is a join-endomorphism, but the trellis does not satisfy (2.1) because  $c \wedge (a \vee d) = c \not\leq d = (c \wedge a) \vee (c \wedge d)$ .

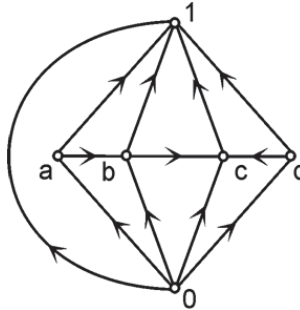


Fig. 1

**Definition 2.10** A mapping  $\beta$  of a trellis  $L$  into itself is called a derivation of  $L$  if it satisfies the following conditions for all  $x, y \in L$ :

- (i)  $\beta(x \vee y) = \beta(x) \vee \beta(y)$ ;
- (ii)  $\beta(x \wedge y) = (\beta(x) \wedge y) \vee (\beta(y) \wedge x)$ .

The mappings given in Examples (1) and (2) are also derivations.

**Lemma 2.11** If  $\beta$  is a derivation on a trellis  $L$ , then for all elements  $x, y \in L$ :

- (i)  $x \leq y$  implies  $\beta(x) \leq \beta(y)$ ;

- (ii)  $\beta(x) \leq x$ ;
- (iii)  $\beta(\beta(x)) = \beta(x)$ ;
- (iv)  $x \leq y$  implies  $\beta(x) = x \wedge \beta(y)$ .

**Proof** (i) to (iii) follow easily. (iv): Let  $x \leq y$ . Then  $\beta(x) \leq \beta(y)$  by (i) and  $\beta(x) \leq x$  by (ii). Therefore  $\beta(x) \leq x \wedge \beta(y)$ . Also

$$\beta(x) = \beta(x \wedge y) = (\beta(x) \wedge y) \vee (\beta(y) \wedge x) \geq x \wedge \beta(y).$$

Hence  $\beta(x) = x \wedge \beta(y)$ . □

Following is the main theorem of this paper generalizing a well-known result that “Every derivatrion of a lattice is a meet-translation” due to G. Szász [10]. The proofs are not similar as  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  are not associative in trellises, the theorem is proved without using associativity.

**Theorem 2.12** *Every derivation of a trellis  $L$  is a meet-translation on  $L$ .*

**Proof** Let  $\beta$  be a derivation of a trellis  $L$ . Then by (ii) of Definition 2.10

$$\beta(u \wedge v) \geq \beta(u) \wedge v \tag{2.2}$$

for all  $u, v \in L$ . Taking  $x = \beta(u) \wedge v$  and  $y = \beta(u)$  in (iv) of Lemma 2.11, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\beta(u) \wedge v) &= (\beta(u) \wedge v) \wedge \beta(\beta(u)) \\ &= (\beta(u) \wedge v) \wedge \beta(u) && \text{by (iii) of Lemma 2.11} \\ &= \beta(u) \wedge v. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\beta(\beta(u) \wedge v) = \beta(u) \wedge v \tag{2.3}$$

which gives us  $(\beta(u) \wedge v) \vee (\beta(u) \wedge \beta(v)) = \beta(u) \wedge v$  implying

$$\beta(u) \wedge v \geq \beta(u) \wedge \beta(v). \tag{2.4}$$

Since  $\beta(u) \wedge v \leq v$ , by (i) of Lemma 2.11,  $\beta(\beta(u) \wedge v) \leq \beta(v)$ . Then, by (2.3),  $\beta(u) \wedge v \leq \beta(v)$ . Also  $\beta(u) \wedge v \leq \beta(u)$ . Therefore

$$\beta(u) \wedge v \leq \beta(u) \wedge \beta(v). \tag{2.5}$$

From (2.4) and (2.5),  $\beta(u) \wedge v = \beta(u) \wedge \beta(v)$ . Thus

$$\beta(u) \wedge v = \beta(u) \wedge \beta(v) \geq \beta(u \wedge v) \tag{2.6}$$

since  $u \wedge v \leq u, v$  implies  $\beta(u \wedge v) \leq \beta(u), \beta(v)$  which in turn implies  $\beta(u \wedge v) \leq \beta(u) \wedge \beta(v)$ . From (2.2) and (2.6),  $\beta(u \wedge v) = \beta(u) \wedge v$  for all  $u, v \in L$ , so that  $\beta$  is a meet-translation. □

By G. Szász [10], Corollary 3, every derivation on a lattice  $L$  is of the form  $\beta(x) = x \wedge c$  for some  $c \in L$  if and only if  $L$  has greatest element. This corollary holds in trellises by Lemma 2.11 (iv).

**Remark 2.13** The converse of Theorem 2.12 is not true. For, in the lattice of Figure 2, the mapping  $\lambda: L \rightarrow L$  defined by  $\lambda(0) = 0 = \lambda(z)$ ,  $\lambda(x) = x$ ,  $\lambda(y) = y$  and  $\lambda(1) = y$  is a meet-translation. It is not a join-endomorphism because  $\lambda(x \vee z) \neq \lambda(x) \vee \lambda(z)$ .

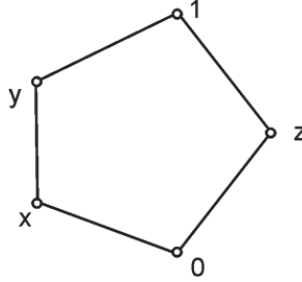


Fig. 2

The following theorem can be easily proved.

**Theorem 2.14** *A meet-translation  $\lambda$  of a trellis  $L$  is a derivation on  $L$  if and only if  $\lambda$  is a join-endomorphism.*

**Remark 2.15** Every meet-translation of a trellis  $L$  satisfying the inequality (2.1) is a derivation on  $L$ .

**Remark 2.16** The set of all derivations on a trellis  $L$  forms a commutative monoid with respect to composition of mappings.

### 3 On the set of all meet-translations on a trellis

G. Szász and J. Szendrei [11] have proved that the set of all meet-translations on a lattice  $L$  forms a meet-semilattice. The next theorem generalizes this result to a trellis  $L$ .

Let  $\Phi(L)$  be the set of all meet-translations on a trellis  $L$ . The binary relation  $\leq$  on  $\Phi(L)$  defined by, for  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \Phi(L)$ ,  $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2$  if and only if  $\lambda_1(x) \leq \lambda_2(x)$  for every  $x \in L$ , is a partial order on  $\Phi(L)$ . Reflexivity and antisymmetry of  $\leq$  follow easily. If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 \in \Phi(L)$  are such that  $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_2 \leq \lambda_3$ , then  $\lambda_1(x) = \lambda_1(x) \wedge \lambda_2(x) = \lambda_1(\lambda_2(x))$  and  $\lambda_2(x) = \lambda_2(x) \wedge \lambda_3(x)$ , whence  $\lambda_1(x) \wedge \lambda_3(x) = \lambda_1(\lambda_2(x)) \wedge \lambda_3(x) = \lambda_1(\lambda_2(x) \wedge \lambda_3(x)) = \lambda_1(\lambda_2(x)) = \lambda_1(x)$  for any  $x \in L$ , thus  $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_3$ .

The identity mapping  $I$  is the greatest element of the poset  $(\Phi(L); \leq)$ . If the trellis  $L$  has the least element  $0$ , then the mapping  $\lambda_0: L \rightarrow L$  defined by  $\lambda_0(x) = 0$  for every  $x \in L$  is the least element of  $(\Phi(L); \leq)$ .

Let  $L$  be a trellis and  $f: \Phi(L) \rightarrow I(L)$  be the mapping defined by  $f(\lambda) = \text{Fix } \lambda$  for  $\lambda \in \Phi(L)$ . Then  $f$  is one-to-one by Proposition 2.5. However  $f$  need not be onto. For, in the trellis of Figure 3, there are only two meet-translations, namely, the identity mapping  $I$  and the mapping  $\lambda_0$  defined by  $\lambda_0(x) = 0$  for

every  $x \in L$ . Now,  $\text{Fix } I = L$  and  $\text{Fix } \lambda_0 = \{0\}$ . Therefore, for the ideals  $\{0, a\}$  and  $\{0, a, b\}$  belonging to  $I(L)$  there are no pre-images in  $\Phi(L)$ .

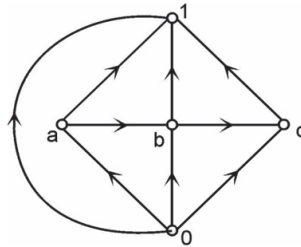


Fig. 3

The fact that  $f$  is isotone is trivial, as  $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2$  obviously implies  $\text{Fix } \lambda_1 \subseteq \text{Fix } \lambda_2$ .

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $\Phi(L)$  be the set of all meet-translations on a trellis  $L$ . Then  $\langle \Phi(L); \leq \rangle$  is a meet-semilattice.*

**Proof** In the poset  $\langle \Phi(L); \leq \rangle$ , clearly  $\lambda_1 \circ \lambda_2 \in \Phi(L)$  whenever  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \Phi(L)$ . Also  $\lambda_1 \circ \lambda_2$  is the g.l.b. of  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  since  $(\lambda_1 \circ \lambda_2)(x) = \lambda_1(x) \wedge \lambda_2(x)$ . Thus  $\langle \Phi(L); \leq \rangle$  is a meet-semilattice.  $\square$

It is known that if  $L$  is a distributive lattice, then  $\Phi(L)$  forms a lattice [6]. The following problem naturally arises and remains open:

**Problem** Characterize trellises  $L$  for which  $\Phi(L)$  forms a lattice.

**Proposition 3.2** *If a trellis  $L$  is a cycle, then  $L$  has exactly one meet-translation (derivation) and it is the identity mapping.*

**Proof** Let the trellis  $L$  be a cycle. Let  $\Phi(L)$  be the set of all meet-translations on  $L$ . Define a mapping  $f: \Phi(L) \rightarrow I(L)$  by  $f(\lambda) = \text{Fix } \lambda$  for every  $\lambda \in \Phi(L)$ .  $f$  is a one-to-one mapping by Proposition 2.5. The identity mapping is a meet-translation of  $L$ . If  $\lambda_1 \neq I$  is any meet-translation, then  $\text{Fix } \lambda_1 \neq \text{Fix } I = L$  in  $I(L)$ , which is not possible as  $L$  is the only ideal of  $L$ . Thus the identity mapping is the only meet-translation.  $\square$

**Remark 3.3** The converse of the above proposition is not true. For, in the trellis of Figure 4, the identity mapping is the only meet-translation, but the trellis is not a cycle.

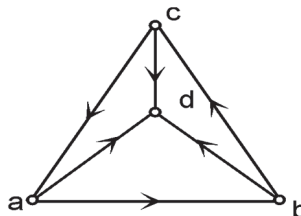


Fig. 4

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