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# DIEUDONNÉ-TYPE THEOREMS FOR LATTICE GROUP-VALUED K-TRIANGULAR SET FUNCTIONS

ANTONIO BOCCUTO AND XENOFON DIMITRIOU

Some versions of Dieudonné-type convergence and uniform boundedness theorems are proved, for k-triangular and regular lattice group-valued set functions. We use sliding hump techniques and direct methods. We extend earlier results, proved in the real case. Furthermore, we pose some open problems.

Keywords: lattice group, (D)-convergence, k-triangular set function, (s)-bounded set function, Fremlin lemma, limit theorem, Brooks–Jewett theorem, Dieudonné theorem, Nikodým boundedness theorem

Classification: 28A12, 28A33, 28B10, 28B15, 40A35, 46G10

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Dieudonné-type theorems (see [34]) are the object of several studies about convergence and uniform boundedness theorems for regular set functions and related topics about (weak) compactness of measures. A historical comprehensive survey can be found in [16]. Among the most important developments existing in the literature about these subjects, see for instance [2, 3, 30, 31, 32, 33, 38, 45], and in particular, concerning the setting of lattice group-valued measures, we quote [6, 9, 10, 12, 13]. In [14, 24] some Dieudonnétype theorems were proved for lattice group-valued finitely additive regular measures in the context of filter convergence, while some versions of uniform boundedness theorems in this setting are proved in [11, 25]. In [39, 40, 41, 47] some Dieudonné-type theorems were proved for k-triangular and non-additive regular set functions. Some examples of k-triangular set functions are the M-measures, that is monotone set functions m with  $m(\emptyset) = 0$ , continuous from above and from below and compatible with respect to supremum and infimum, which have several applications in various branches, among which intuitionistic fuzzy sets and observables (see also [1, 17, 27, 35, 42]). Some examples of non-monotone 1-triangular set functions are the Saeki measuroids (see [43]). In [17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23] some limit theorems were proved for lattice group-valued k-subadditive capacities and k-triangular set functions.

In this paper we prove some Dieudonné convergence theorems and a version of Nikodým boundedness theorem for regular and k-triangular lattice group-valued set functions, extending earlier results proved in the real case in [39, 40, 41] using some

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diagonal matrix theorems. Our techniques are direct and inspired by sliding humptype methods. We use the tool of (D)-convergence, because we can apply the powerful Fremlin lemma (see also [37, 42]), which replaces the  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2^n}$ -technique and allows to replace a sequence of regulators with a single (D)-sequence. Observe that, in the lattice group context, in the Nikodým boundedness theorem we assume the existence of a single increasing sequence of positive elements of the involved lattice group, with respect to which the set functions are supposed to be pointwise bounded on a suitable sublattice, playing a role similar to that of the class of all open subsets of a topological space. We see that in general this condition cannot be replaced by a simple setwise boundedness (see also [11, 25, 46]). Finally, some open problems are posed.

#### 2. PRELIMINARIES

We begin with recalling the following basic facts on lattice groups (see also [16, 28]).

- **Definition 2.1.** (a) A lattice group R is said to be *Dedekind complete* if every nonempty subset of R, bounded from above, has supremum in R.
  - (b) A Dedekind complete lattice group R is super Dedekind complete iff for every nonempty set  $A \subset R$ , bounded from above, there is a countable subset A', with  $\bigvee A' = \bigvee A$ .
  - (c) A nonempty subset S of a lattice group R is bounded iff there exists an element  $u \in R$  with  $|x| \leq u$  for each  $x \in S$ .
  - (d) Let  $(t_n)_n$  be an increasing sequence of positive elements of R, and let  $\emptyset \neq S \subset R$ . We say that S is bounded by  $(t_n)_n$  iff for every  $x \in S$  there is  $n_* \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|x| \leq t_{n_*}$ .
  - (e) A sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in a lattice group R is called an (O)-sequence iff it is decreasing and  $\bigwedge_{p=1}^{\infty} \sigma_p = 0$ .
  - (f) A bounded double sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  in R is a (D)-sequence or a regulator iff  $(a_{t,l})_l$  is an (O)-sequence for any  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ .
  - (g) A lattice group R is weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive iff  $\bigwedge_{\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}} \left( \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)} \right) = 0$  for every (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  in R.
  - (h) A sequence  $(x_n)_n$  in R is said to be order convergent (or (O)-convergent) to x iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is a positive integer  $n_0$  with  $|x_n x| \leq \sigma_p$  for each  $n \geq n_0$ , and in this case we write  $(O) \lim_n x_n = x$ .
  - (i) We say that  $(x_n)_n$  is (O)-Cauchy iff there is an (O)-sequence  $(\tau_p)_p$  in R such that for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is a positive integer  $n_0$  with  $|x_n - x_q| \leq \tau_p$  for each  $n, q \geq n_0$ .
  - (j) A sequence  $(x_n)_n$  in R is (D)-convergent to x iff there is a (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  in R such that for every  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $|x_n x| \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)}$  whenever  $n \geq n_0$ , and we write  $(D) \lim_{n \to \infty} x_n = x$ .

- (k) We say that  $(x_n)_n$  is (D)-Cauchy iff there exists a (D)-sequence  $(b_{t,l})_{t,l}$  in R such that for each  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $|x_n x_q| \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} b_{t,\varphi(t)}$  whenever n,  $q \geq n_0$ .
- (1) A lattice group R is said to be (O)-complete (resp. (D)-complete) iff every (O)-Cauchy (resp. (D)-Cauchy) sequence is (O)-convergent (resp. (D)-convergent).
- (m) We call sum of a series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n$  in R the limit (O)  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{r=1}^{n} x_r$ , if it exists in R.
- (n) If R is a vector lattice, then we say that  $(x_n)_n$  (r)-converges to x iff there exists  $u \in R, u \ge 0$ , such that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $|x_n x| \le \varepsilon u$  whenever  $n \ge n_0$ .
- (o) A vector lattice R satisfies property  $(\sigma)$  iff for every sequence  $(u_n)_n$  of positive elements of R there are a sequence  $(a_n)_n$  of positive real numbers and an element  $u \in R$  with  $a_n u_n \leq u$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (p) A lattice  $\mathcal{E}$  of subsets of an infinite set G satisfies property (E) iff for each disjoint sequence  $(C_h)_h$  in  $\mathcal{E}$  there is a subsequence  $(C_{h_r})_r$ , such that  $\mathcal{E}$  contains the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the sets  $C_{h_r}$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  (see also [44]).

**Remark 2.2.** Note that every Dedekind complete lattice group is both (O)- and (D)complete. Moreover, observe that every (O)-convergent sequence is also (D)-convergent to the same limit in any lattice group, while the converse is true if and only if the involved ( $\ell$ )-group is weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive. Furthermore, it is known that every (r)convergent sequence in any vector lattice is (O)-convergent too (see also [28, 48]). The converse, in general, is not true. For example, let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the  $\sigma$ -algebra of all Borel subsets of [0,1],  $\lambda$  be the Lebesgue measure on [0,1],  $L^0 := L^0([0,1], \mathcal{B}, \lambda)$  be the space of all measurable real-valued functions defined on [0, 1], with the identification of  $\lambda$ -null sets, and  $R := \{f \in L^0([0,1], \mathcal{B}, \lambda): f \text{ is bounded}\}$ . If  $(u_n)_n$  is any sequence of positive elements of R, then there exists a sequence  $(L_n)_n$  of positive real numbers such that  $u_n \leq \underline{L}_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $\underline{L}_n$  denotes the function which assumes the constant value  $\overline{L_n}$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}$  fulfils property  $(\overline{\sigma})$ , there are a sequence  $(a_n)_n$  of positive real numbers and a positive real number v with  $a_n L_n \leq v$ , and hence  $a_n u_n \leq a_n L_n \leq v$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence, R satisfies property ( $\sigma$ ). It is known that in  $L^0$  order and (r)-convergence coincide with almost everywhere convergence, while in R, order convergence coincides with the almost everywhere convergence dominated by a constant function, and (r)convergence coincides with uniform convergence (see also [48]). Moreover, since  $L^0$  is weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive (see also [8]), then in  $L^0$  (O)- and (D)-convergence coincide in  $L^0$ , and so they coincide also in R. Hence, R is weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive too. Finally, observe that, in the space  $L^0$ , order, (D)- and (r)-convergence are equivalent (see also [8, 48]).

We now recall the following property of convergence in lattice groups (see also [22, Proposition 3.1]).

**Proposition 2.3.** Let R be a Dedekind complete lattice group,  $x \in R$ , and  $(x_n)_n$  be a sequence in R, such that

2.3.1) for every subsequence  $(x_{n_q})_q$  of  $(x_n)_n$  there is a sub-subsequence  $(x_{n_{q_r}})_r$ , convergent to x with respect to a single (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ .

Then  $(D) \lim_{n \to \infty} x_n = x$  with respect to  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ .

Proof. Suppose by contradiction that there are  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  and a strictly increasing sequence  $(n_q)_q$  with  $|x_{n_q} - x| \not\leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)}$  for each  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus any subsequence of  $(x_{n_q})_q$  does not (D)-converge to x with respect to  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ , obtaining a contradiction with 2.3.1).

**Remark 2.4.** An analogous of Proposition 2.3 holds, if (D)-convergence is replaced by (O)-convergence.

We now recall the Fremlin lemma, by means of which it is possible to replace a sequence of regulators with a single (D)-sequence, and which will be fundamental in the sequel, to prove our main results, because it has the same role as the  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2^n}$ -argument. This is one of the reasons for which we often prefer to deal with (D)-convergence rather than (O)-convergence.

**Lemma 2.5.** (see also Fremlin [37, Lemma 1C], Riečan and Neubrunn [42, Theorem 3.2.3]) Let R be any Dedekind complete  $(\ell)$ -group and  $(a_{t,l}^{(n)})_{t,l}, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence of regulators in R. Then for every  $u \in R$ ,  $u \ge 0$  there is a (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  in R with

$$u \wedge \left(\sum_{n=1}^{q} \left(\bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t+n)}^{(n)}\right)\right) \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)} \quad \text{for every } q \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } \varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}.$$

We now deal with the main properties of k-triangular lattice group-valued set functions. Let R be a Dedekind complete and weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive lattice group, G be an infinite set,  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{P}(G)$  be an algebra,  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  be a bounded set function and k be a fixed positive integer.

**Definition 2.6.** (a) The *semivariation* of m is defined by setting

$$v(m)(A) := \bigvee \{ |m(B)| : B \in \mathcal{L}, \ B \subset A \}, \quad A \in \mathcal{L}.$$

If  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{L}$  is a lattice, then we put

$$v_{\mathcal{E}}(m)(A) := \bigvee \{ |m(B)| : B \in \mathcal{E}, \ B \subset A \}, \quad A \in \mathcal{L}.$$

The set function  $v_{\mathcal{E}}(m)$  is called the *semivariation of* m with respect to  $\mathcal{E}$ .

(b) We say that m is

$$m(A) - k m(B) \le m(A \cup B) \le m(A) + k m(B) \text{ whenever } A, B \in \Sigma, \ A \cap B = \emptyset$$
(1)

and

$$0 = m(\emptyset) \le m(A) \text{ for each } A \in \Sigma.$$
(2)

- (c) Let  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{L}$  be a sublattice of  $\mathcal{L}$ . We say that a set function  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  is  $\mathcal{E}$ -(s)bounded iff there exists a (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  such that, for every disjoint sequence  $(C_h)_h$  in  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $(D) \lim_h v_{\mathcal{E}}(m)(C_h) = 0$  with respect to  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ . A set function m is (s)-bounded iff it is  $\mathcal{L}$ -(s)-bounded.
- (d) We say that the set functions  $m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R$  are  $\mathcal{E}$ -uniformly (s)-bounded iff there exists a (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  such that, for every disjoint sequence  $(C_h)_h$  in  $\mathcal{E}$ ,

$$(D)\lim_{h} \left(\bigvee_{j} v_{\mathcal{E}}(m_{j})(C_{h})\right) = 0$$

with respect to  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ . The  $m_j$ 's are uniformly (s)-bounded iff they are  $\mathcal{L}$ -uniformly (s)-bounded.

(e) We say that the set functions  $m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , are equibounded on  $\mathcal{L}$  iff there is  $u \in R$  with  $|m_j(A)| \leq u$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $A \subset \mathcal{L}$ .

Now we recall the following

**Proposition 2.7.** (see also Boccuto and Dimitriou [22, Proposition 2.6]) If  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  is k-triangular, then v(m) is k-triangular too.

**Proposition 2.8.** (see also Boccuto and Dimitriou [22, Proposition 2.7]) Let  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  be a k-triangular set function. Then for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , and for every pairwise disjoint sets  $E_1, E_2, \ldots, E_n \in \mathcal{L}$  we have

$$m(E_1) - k \sum_{q=2}^n m(E_q) \le m\left(\bigcup_{q=1}^n E_q\right) \le m(E_1) + k \sum_{q=2}^n m(E_q),$$
(3)

and in particular

$$m(E_1) \le m\left(\bigcup_{q=1}^n E_q\right) + k \sum_{q=2}^n m(E_q).$$
(4)

We now turn to regular lattice group-valued set functions.

**Definition 2.9.** Let  $\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}$  be two sublattices of  $\mathcal{L}$ , such that  $\mathcal{G}$  is closed under countable unions, and the complement of every element of  $\mathcal{H}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{G}$ . A set function  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  is said to be *regular* iff there exists a (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  such that

2.9.1) for every  $E \in \mathcal{L}$  there are two sequences  $(V_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $(K_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  with  $V_n \supset E \supset K_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and such that for any  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$v(m)(V_n \setminus K_n) \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)}$$

whenever  $n \ge n_0$ , and

2.9.2) for every  $W \in \mathcal{H}$  there are two sequences  $(G_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $(F_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  with  $W \subset F_{n+1} \subset G_n \subset F_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and such that for each  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  there is  $n^* \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$v(m)(G_n \setminus W) \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)}$$

whenever  $n \ge n^*$ .

We now prove the following property of regular set functions.

**Proposition 2.10.** (see also Boccuto and Dimitriou [17, Theorem 3.10]) If G is a compact Hausdorff topological space,  $\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}$  are the classes of all Borel, open and compact subsets of G, respectively, and  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  is a k-triangular, increasing and regular set function, then

$$(O)\lim_{n} m(I_n) = 0 \tag{5}$$

whenever  $(I_n)_n$  is a decreasing sequence in  $\mathcal{L}$  with  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n = \emptyset$ , with respect to a single regulator independent of the choice of  $(I_n)_n$ .

Proof. Let  $(I_n)_n$  be as in (5). Let  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  be a (D)-sequence satisfying 2.9.1). For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there is  $K_n \in \mathcal{H}$  with  $K_n \subset I_n$  and  $m(I_n \setminus K_n) \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t+n)}$ . By virtue of Lemma 2.5, there is a (D)-sequence  $(\alpha_{t,l})_{t,l}$  with

$$m(G) \land \left(\sum_{n=1}^{q} \left(\bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t+n)}\right)\right) \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{t,\varphi(t)} \text{ for each } q \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } \varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}.$$

Let  $O_n := G \setminus K_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Note that  $O_n \in \mathcal{G}$  for every n and  $G = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} O_n$ , since  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} K_n = \emptyset$ . As G is compact, there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $G = \bigcup_{i=1}^n O_i$ , and hence  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n K_i = \emptyset$ , whenever  $n \ge n_0$ . For such n's, taking into account (3), we have

$$m(I_n) \leq m(G) \wedge \left( m(I_n \setminus \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n K_i\right)\right) \\ \leq m(G) \wedge \left( m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n (I_i \setminus K_i\right)\right) \right) \\ \leq m(G) \wedge \left( k \sum_{i=1}^n m(I_i \setminus K_i) \right) \leq k \bigvee_{t=1}^\infty \alpha_{t,\varphi(t)}$$
(6)

(see also [39, Lemma 1]). Thus the assertion follows.

**Remark 2.11.** Observe that, if  $\mathcal{L}$  is an algebra with property (E) and  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  is positive, increasing and satisfies (5), then m is also (s)-bounded (with respect to a single regulator). To prove this, let  $(A_n)_n$  be any disjoint sequence in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $(B_n)_n$  be any subsequence of  $(A_n)_n$ . By property (E), there is a subsequence  $(C_n)_n$  of  $(B_n)_n$ , such that  $\bigcup_{n \in P} C_n \in \mathcal{L}$  for every  $P \subset \mathbb{N}$ . Since m is increasing and  $m(\emptyset) = 0$ , we get

$$0 \le m(C_n) \le m\Big(\bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} C_i\Big).$$

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From (5) and (7) we get  $(O) \lim_{n} m(C_n) = 0$  with respect to a single regulator (independent of  $(A_n)_n$ ,  $(B_n)_n$  and  $(C_n)_n$ ). By arbitrariness of the sequence  $(B_n)_n$  and Proposition 2.3 it follows that  $(D) \lim_{n} m(C_n) = 0$  with respect to a single regulator, and this proves the claim.

The converse, in general, is not true (see also [22, Remark 2.12]).  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 2.12.** (see also Boccuto and Dimitriou [17, Proposition 3.4]) If  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  is a k-triangular and increasing set function satisfying (5), then we get

$$m\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n\right) \le m(E_1) + k \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} m(E_n) \tag{7}$$

for every sequence  $(E_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ , such that  $\bigcup_{n \in A} E_n \in \mathcal{L}$  whenever  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$ .

The following proposition will be useful in proving our Dieudonné convergence theorem (see also [10, Lemma 3.1]).

**Proposition 2.13.** With the same notations and assumptions as above, let  $m : \mathcal{L} \to R$  be a regular and k-triangular set function. Then for each  $V \in \mathcal{G}$  we get

$$v_{\mathcal{L}}(m)(V) = v_{\mathcal{G}}(m)(V). \tag{8}$$

Proof. Pick arbitrarily  $V \in \mathcal{G}$ , and let  $(\gamma_{t,l})_{t,l}$  be a (D)-sequence related to regularity of m. Choose  $B \in \mathcal{L}$  with  $B \subset V$ , and fix arbitrarily  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ . By regularity of m, there is  $O \in \mathcal{G}, O \supset B$ , with

$$v_{\mathcal{L}}(m)(O \setminus B) \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} \gamma_{t,\varphi(t)}.$$
(9)

Let  $U := O \cap V$ , then  $U \supset B$ . From (9) and k-triangularity of m we get

$$m(B) \leq m(U) + k m(U \setminus B)$$
  

$$\leq v_{\mathcal{G}}(m)(V) + k v_{\mathcal{L}}(m)(O \setminus B) \qquad (10)$$
  

$$\leq v_{\mathcal{G}}(m)(V) + k \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} \gamma_{t,\varphi(t)}.$$

Taking in (10) the supremum as  $B \in \mathcal{L}, B \subset V$ , we obtain

$$v_{\mathcal{L}}(m)(V) \le v_{\mathcal{G}}(m)(V) + k \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} \gamma_{t,\varphi(t)}.$$
(11)

From (11) and weak  $\sigma$ -distributivity of R we deduce

$$v_{\mathcal{L}}(m)(V) \le v_{\mathcal{G}}(m)(V) + k \bigwedge_{\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}} \left(\bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} \gamma_{t,\varphi(t)}\right) = v_{\mathcal{G}}(m)(V).$$
(12)

Since the converse inequality is straightforward, then (8) follows from (12). This ends the proof.  $\hfill \Box$ 

**Definition 2.14.** A sequence  $m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , of set functions is said to be (RD)regular on  $\mathcal{L}$  iff there is a (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  such that

- 2.14.1) for every  $E \in \mathcal{L}$  there are two sequences  $(V_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $(K_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  such that for every  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  and  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $v(m_j)(V_n \setminus K_n) \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)}$ for every  $n \geq n_0$ , and
- 2.14.2) for every disjoint sequence  $(H_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{L}$  there is a sequence  $(O_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  such that  $O_n \supset H_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $(D) \lim_n v(m_j) \left( \bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} O_i \right) = 0$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  with respect to  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ .

We now recall the following

**Proposition 2.15.** (see also Boccuto and Candeloro [10, Proposition 2.6]) Let R be any Dedekind complete and weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive lattice group, and  $m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence of regular equibounded set functions. Then they satisfy 2.14.1) and the following property:

2.15.1) there exists a regulator  $(\beta_{t,l})_{t,l}$  such that for every  $W \in \mathcal{H}$  there are two sequences  $(G_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $(F_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ , with  $W \subset F_{n+1} \subset G_n \subset F_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and such that for each  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  and  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  there is  $n^* \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$v_{\mathcal{L}}(m_j)(G_n \setminus W) \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} \beta_{t,\varphi(t)}$$

for every  $n \ge n^*$ .

**Definition 2.16.** Let  $\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}$  be as in Definition 2.9. The set functions  $m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , are *uniformly regular* iff there exists a (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  such that

2.16.1) for each  $E \in \mathcal{L}$  there exist two sequences  $(V_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $(K_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  with  $V_n \supset E \supset K_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and such that for each  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$\bigvee_{j} v(m_{j})(V_{n} \setminus K_{n}) \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)}$$

for all  $n \geq n_0$ , and

2.16.2) for any  $W \in \mathcal{H}$  there are two sequences  $(G_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $(F_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  with  $W \subset F_{n+1} \subset G_n \subset F_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and such that for every  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  there exists  $n^* \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$\bigvee_{j} v(m_{j})(G_{n} \setminus W) \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)}$$

whenever  $n \ge n^*$ .

Dieudonné-type theorems...

#### 3. THE MAIN RESULTS

In this section we prove a Dieudonné convergence-type theorem and a Dieudonné-Nikodým boundedness theorem for regular and k-triangular lattice group-valued set functions. Let R be a Dedekind complete and weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive lattice group. We begin with recalling the following Brooks–Jewett–type theorem for k-triangular set functions.

**Theorem 3.1.** (see Boccuto and Dimitriou [22, Theorem 3.3]) Let G be any infinite set,  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{P}(G)$  be an algebra,  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{L}$  be a lattice, satisfying property (E),  $m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence of equibounded, k-triangular and  $\mathcal{E}$ -(s)-bounded set functions. If the limit  $m_0(E) := \lim_j m_j(E)$  exists in R for every  $E \in \mathcal{E}$  with respect to a single regulator, then the  $m_j$ 's are  $\mathcal{E}$ -uniformly (s)-bounded, and  $m_0$  is k-triangular and (s)-bounded.

The following technical lemma will be useful in the sequel.

**Lemma 3.2.** (see Boccuto and Dimitriou [22, Lemma 3.4]) Let  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{P}(G)$  be an algebra,  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  be two sublattices of  $\mathcal{L}$ , such that the complement of every element of  $\mathcal{H}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{G}, m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence of k-triangular and  $\mathcal{G}$ -uniformly (s)-bounded set functions. Fix  $W \in \mathcal{H}$  and a decreasing sequence  $(H_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ , with  $W \subset H_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If

$$(D)\lim_{n} \left(\bigvee_{A \in \mathcal{G}, A \subset H_n \setminus W} m_j(A)\right) = \bigwedge_{n} \left(\bigvee_{A \in \mathcal{G}, A \subset H_n \setminus W} m_j(A)\right) = 0 \text{ for every } j \in \mathbb{N}$$
(13)

with respect to a single (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ , then

$$(D)\lim_{n} \left(\bigvee_{j} \left(\bigvee_{A \in \mathcal{G}, A \subset H_n \setminus W} m_j(A)\right)\right) = \bigwedge_{n} \left(\bigvee_{j} \left(\bigvee_{A \in \mathcal{G}, A \subset H_n \setminus W} m_j(A)\right)\right) = 0$$

with respect to  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ .

The next step is to prove a Dieudonné-type theorem for k-triangular lattice groupvalued set functions, which extends [10, Lemma 3.2].

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{P}(G)$  be an algebra,  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  be two sublattices of  $\mathcal{L}$ , such that  $\mathcal{G}$  is closed under countable unions and the complement of every element of  $\mathcal{H}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{G}, m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence of equibounded, regular, k-triangular and  $\mathcal{G}$ -uniformly (s)-bounded set functions. Then the  $m_j$ 's are  $\mathcal{L}$ -uniformly (s)-bounded and uniformly regular on  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Proof. Let  $(H_n)_n$  be a disjoint sequence of elements of  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$  be a (D)-sequence, satisfying 2.14.1),  $u = \bigvee_{j \in \mathbb{N}, A \in \mathcal{L}} m_j(A)$ , and according to Lemma 2.5, let  $(b_{t,l})_{t,l}$  be a regulator in R, with

$$u \wedge \left(\sum_{h=1}^{q} \left(\bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t+h)}\right)\right) \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} b_{t,\varphi(t)} \quad \text{for every } \varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \text{ and } q \in \mathbb{N}.$$
(14)

Let  $(c_{t,l})_{t,l}$  be a (D)-sequence associated with  $\mathcal{G}$ -uniform (s)-boundedness, and set  $d_{t,l} = (k+1)(b_{t,l}+c_{t,l}), e_{t,l} = (k+1)(a_{t,l}+d_{t,l})$ , for every  $t, l \in \mathbb{N}$ . We prove that the  $m_j$ 's

are  $\mathcal{L}$ -uniformly (s)-bounded with respect to the regulator  $(e_{t,l})_{t,l}$ . Otherwise, there is  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  with the property that for every  $h \in \mathbb{N}$  there are  $j_h$ ,  $n_h \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n_h \ge h$  and  $B_h \in \mathcal{L}$  with  $B_h \subset H_{n_h}$  and

$$m_{j_h}(B_h) \not\leq \bigvee_{t=1} e_{t,\varphi(t)}.$$
 (15)

By 2.14.1), for every  $h \in \mathbb{N}$  there is  $A_h \in \mathcal{H}, A_h \subset B_h$ , with

$$m_{j_h}(B_h \setminus A_h) \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t)}.$$
(16)

From (15) and (16) it follows that

$$m_{j_h}(A_h) \not\leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} d_{t,\varphi(t)}:$$
(17)

otherwise, thanks to k-triangularity of  $m_{j_h}$ , we should get

$$m_{j_h}(B_h) \le m_{j_h}(A_h) + k m_{j_h}(B_h \setminus A_h) \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} d_{t,\varphi(t)},$$

which contradicts (15). Moreover, observe that from 2.14.1), in correspondence with  $\varphi$ , for every h there are  $G_h \in \mathcal{G}$  and  $F_h \in \mathcal{H}$ , with  $A_h \subset G_h \subset F_h$  and

$$[v(m_1) \lor \ldots \lor v(m_{j_h})](F_h \setminus A_h) \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} a_{t,\varphi(t+h)}.$$

Set now  $G_1^* = G_1$ ,  $G_{h+1}^* = G_{h+1} \setminus \left(\bigcup_{r=1}^h F_r\right)$ ,  $h \ge 2$ . Since the  $G_h^*$ 's are disjoint elements of  $\mathcal{G}$ , then, thanks to  $\mathcal{G}$ -uniform (s)-boundedness and taking into account Proposition 2.13, we find a positive integer  $h_0$  with

$$\bigvee_{j} v_{\mathcal{L}}(m_{j})(G_{h}^{*}) = \bigvee_{j} v_{\mathcal{G}}(m_{j})(G_{h}^{*}) \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} c_{t,\varphi(t)}$$

whenever  $h \ge h_0$ . Since for every h we get  $A_{h+1} \setminus G_{h+1}^* \subset \bigcup_{r=1}^h (F_r \setminus A_r)$ , then

$$m_{j_h}(A_h) \le m_{j_h}(A_h \cap G_h^*) + m_{j_h}(A_h \setminus G_h^*)$$
$$\le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} c_{t,\varphi(t)} + k \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} b_{t,\varphi(t)} \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} d_{t,\varphi(t)} \text{ for every } h \ge h_0$$

which contradicts (17), getting  $\mathcal{L}$ -uniform (s)-boundedness of the  $m_j$ 's. Conditions 2.16.2) and 2.16.1) on uniform regularity of the  $m_j$ 's follow easily from Proposition 2.15 and Lemma 3.2 used with  $H_n = G_n \setminus W$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $H_n = V_n \setminus K_n$ ,  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L}$ ,  $W = \emptyset$  respectively, where  $G_n$  is as in 2.15.1),  $V_n$  and  $K_n$  are as in 2.14.1).

Now we are in position to prove the following theorem, which extends [10, Theorem 3.3].

**Theorem 3.4.** Let  $G, R, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}$  be as above, and suppose that  $m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , is a sequence of equibounded, regular, k-triangular and (s)-bounded set functions, such that there exists

$$m_0(E) := (D) \lim_j m_j(E)$$
 for every  $E \in \mathcal{G}$ 

with respect to a single regulator. Then,

- 3.4.1) the measures  $m_j, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , are  $\mathcal{L}$ -uniformly (s)-bounded and uniformly regular;
- 3.4.2) there exists in R the limit  $m_0(E) = (D) \lim_j m_j(E)$  for each  $E \in \mathcal{L}$  with respect to a single regulator;
- 3.4.3) the set function  $m_0$  is regular, k-triangular and (s)-bounded.

Proof. 3.4.1) is a consequence of Theorems 3.1 and 3.3.

3.4.2). Choose arbitrarily  $E \in \mathcal{L}$ , and let  $(y_{t,l})_{t,l}$  be a (D)-sequence associated with uniform regularity. For each  $\varphi \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  there is  $U \in \mathcal{G}$  with  $U \supset E$  and  $v_{\mathcal{L}}(m_j)(U \setminus E) \leq \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} y_{t,\varphi(t)}$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Moreover, in correspondence with U there is  $j_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$m_j(U) - m_{j+p}(U) | \le \bigvee_{t=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{t,\varphi(t)}$$

for every  $j \ge j_0$  and  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $(\alpha_{t,l})_{t,l}$  is a regulator related to (D)-convergence on  $\mathcal{G}$ . By k-triangularity of  $m_j$  and  $m_{j+p}$  we get

and hence

$$|m_{j}(E) - m_{j+p}(E)| \leq |m_{j}(U) - m_{j+p}(U)| + k m_{j}(U \setminus E) + k m_{j+p}(U \setminus E)$$
  
$$\leq \bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} (2k+1)(y_{i,\varphi(i)} + \alpha_{i,\varphi(i)})$$
(18)

for every  $j \ge j_0$  and  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ . From (18) it follows that the sequence  $(m_j(E))_j$  is (D)-Cauchy in R. Since R is a Dedekind complete lattice group, then the sequence  $(m_j(E))_j$  is (D)-convergent, with respect to a regulator independent of E (see also [7, 28]). Thus 3.4.2) is proved.

3.4.3). Straightforward.

The next step is to prove a uniform boundedness theorem for k-triangular regular lattice group-valued set functions. We begin with the following result, which extends [11, Proposition 4.5].

**Proposition 3.5.** Let  $m_h : \mathcal{L} \to R$ ,  $h \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence of k-triangular set functions, and let  $(t_n)_n$  be an increasing sequence of positive elements of R. Suppose also that

3.5.1) for every disjoint sequence  $(H_j)_j$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ , the set  $\{m_h(H_j): h, j \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is bounded by  $(t_n)_n$ .

Then the set  $\{m_h(A) : h \in \mathbb{N}, A \in \mathcal{L}\}$  is bounded in R.

Proof. First of all observe that, thanks to 3.5.1), for every fixed element  $A \in \mathcal{L}$  there is  $n = n(A) \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $0 \leq m_h(A) \leq t_{n(A)}$  for every  $h \in \mathbb{N}$ . We now prove that the set  $\{m_h(A) : h \in \mathbb{N}, A \in \mathcal{L}\}$  is bounded by the sequence  $((k + 1)t_n)_n$ . Suppose, by contradiction, that this is not true. By hypothesis, there is  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $m_h(G) \leq t_{n_1}$ for all  $h \in \mathbb{N}$ , where G is as in Theorem 3.1. Moreover, there exist  $A_1 \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $h_1 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that  $m_{h_1}(A_1) \not\leq (k + 1)t_{n_1}$ . We have also  $m_{h_1}(G \setminus A_1) \not\leq t_{n_1}$ : otherwise, by k-triangularity of  $m_{h_1}$  and (4) used with q = 2,  $E_1 = A_1$ ,  $E_2 = G \setminus A_1$ , we get

 $m_{h_1}(A_1) \le m_{h_1}(G) + k m_{h_1}(G \setminus A_1) \le t_{n_1} + k t_{n_1} = (k+1)t_{n_1}.$ 

It is not difficult to check that either  $\{m_h(A \cap A_1): A \in \mathcal{L}, h \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , or  $\{m_h(A \setminus A_1): A \in \mathcal{L}, h \in \mathbb{N}\}$  (or both, possibly) is not bounded in R: otherwise, if

$$u_1 = \bigvee \{ m_h(A \cap A_1) : A \in \mathcal{L}, h \in \mathbb{N} \},\$$
$$u_2 = \bigvee \{ m_h(A \setminus A_1) : A \in \mathcal{L}, h \in \mathbb{N} \},\$$

then, thanks to triangularity of the  $m_h$ 's, we have

 $0 \le m_h(A) \le m_h(A \cap A_1) + k m_h(A \setminus A_1) \le u_1 + k u_2$ 

for each  $A \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $h \in \mathbb{N}$ , and hence the set  $\{m_h(A): A \in \mathcal{L}, h \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is bounded in R, getting a contradiction. In the first case, set  $C_1 := A_1$ , otherwise put  $C_1 := G \setminus A_1$ . Then, set  $D_1 := G \setminus C_1$ . Now we use the same argument as above, by replacing G by  $C_1$ : so we find a set  $A_2 \subset C_1$ ,  $A_2 \in \mathcal{L}$  and two integers  $n_2 > n_1$ ,  $h_2 > h_1$ , with  $m_{h_2}(A_2) \not\leq (k+1)t_{n_2}$  and  $m_{h_2}(C_1 \setminus A_2) \not\leq t_{n_2}$ . Put  $C_2 := A_2$  or  $C_2 := C_1 \setminus A_2$  according as the  $\{m_h(A \cap A_2) : A \in \mathcal{L}, h \in \mathbb{N}\}$  or  $\{m_h(A \setminus A_2) : A \in \mathcal{L}, h \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is bounded, set  $D_2 := C_1 \setminus C_2$ , and let us repeat the same argument as above. Proceeding by induction, we find a disjoint sequence  $(D_j)_j$  and two strictly increasing sequences  $(n_j)_j$ ,  $(h_j)_j$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  with  $m_{h_j}(D_j) \not\leq t_{n_j}$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , obtaining a contradiction with 3.5.1). This ends the proof.  $\Box$ 

We now turn to our main uniform boundedness theorem for regular and k-triangular lattice group-valued set functions, which extends [11, Theorem 4.6].

**Theorem 3.6.** Let  $\mu_j : \mathcal{L} \to R$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a (RD)-regular sequence of k-triangular set functions, and suppose that there is an increasing sequence  $(t_n)_n$  of positive elements of R such that for every  $U \in \mathcal{G}$  the set  $\{\mu_j(U): j \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is bounded by  $(t_n)_n$ .

Then the set  $\{\mu_j(E) : j \in \mathbb{N}, E \in \mathcal{L}\}$  is bounded in R.

Proof. Choose arbitrarily  $E \in \mathcal{L}$ . By 2.14.1), there are a (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ , which can be taken independently of E, and a set  $U \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $U \supset E$ , with

$$v(\mu_j)(U \setminus E) \le \bigvee_{t,l=1}^{\infty} a_{t,l} \quad \text{for every } j \in \mathbb{N}.$$
 (19)

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For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , put  $w_n := t_n + \bigvee_{t,l=1}^{\infty} a_{t,l}$ . Taking into account k-triangularity of  $\mu_j$ , in correspondence with U there is  $\overline{n} \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$\mu_j(E) \le \mu_j(U) + k v(\mu_j)(U \setminus E) \le w_{\overline{n}},$$
$$-\mu_j(E) \le -\mu_j(U) + k v(\mu_j)(U \setminus E) \le w_{\overline{n}}$$

for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus the set  $\{\mu_j(E) : j \in \mathbb{N}\}\$  is bounded by the sequence  $(w_n)_n$ .

By virtue of Proposition 3.5, it will be enough to prove that, for every disjoint sequence  $(H_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ , the set  $\{\mu_j(H_n): j, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is bounded by the sequence  $(y_n)_n$ , where  $y_n = k n w_n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Proceeding by contradiction, assume that there is a disjoint sequence  $(H'_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ , such that the set  $\{\mu_j(H'_n): j, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is not bounded by  $(y_n)_n$ . For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there are  $i(n), h(n) \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$\mu_{h(n)}(H'_{i(n)}) \not\leq (kn+1)w_n.$$
<sup>(20)</sup>

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , set  $m_n = \mu_{h(n)}$ ,  $H_n = H'_{i(n)}$ . By 2.14.2), the (D)-sequence  $(a_{t,l})$  in (19) has the property that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a set  $O_n \in \mathcal{G}$  with

$$O_n \supset H_n$$
 for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $(D) \lim_n v(m_j) \left( \bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} O_i \right) = 0$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  (21)

with respect to  $(a_{t,l})_{t,l}$ . Hence, there is an integer  $n_1 > 1$  with  $m_1(E) \leq \bigvee_{t,l=1}^{\infty} a_{t,l}$  for every  $E \in \mathcal{L}, E \subset \bigcup_{i=n_1}^{\infty} O_i$ , and a fortiori for each  $E \in \mathcal{L}, E \subset \bigcup_{i=n_1}^{\infty} H_i$ . We get

$$m_1(E \cup H_1) \not\leq w_1$$
 for each  $E \in \mathcal{L}, E \subset \bigcup_{i=n_1}^{\infty} H_i$ :

otherwise, by k-triangularity of  $m_1$  and (4) used with  $q = 2, E_1 = H_1, E_2 = E$ , we have

$$m_1(H_1) \le m_1(E \cup H_1) + k m_1(E) \le w_1 + k \bigvee_{t,l=1}^{\infty} a_{t,l} \le (k+1)w_1,$$

which contradicts (20). Let  $j_2 > n_1$  be an integer such that

$$\bigvee \{m_n(H_1) : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \le t_{j_2}.$$

By 2.14.2), in correspondence with  $m_{j_2}$  there is an integer  $n_2 > j_2$  such that  $m_{j_2}(E) \le \bigvee_{t,l=1}^{\infty} a_{t,l}$  for any  $E \in \mathcal{L}, E \subset \bigcup_{i=n_2}^{\infty} H_i$ . For such E's we have

$$m_{j_2}(E \cup H_1 \cup H_{j_2}) \not\leq w_{j_2} :$$

otherwise, by k-triangularity of  $m_{j_2}$  and (4) used with q = 3,  $E_1 = H_{j_2}$ ,  $E_2 = E$ ,  $E_3 = H_1$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} m_{j_2}(H_{j_2}) &\leq m_{j_2}(E \cup H_1 \cup H_{j_2}) + k \, m_{j_2}(E) + k \, m_{j_2}(H_1) \\ &\leq w_{j_2} + k \, \bigvee_{t,l=1}^{\infty} a_{t,l} + k \, w_{j_2} \leq 3 \, k \, w_{j_2} \leq (k \, j_2 + 1) w_{j_2}, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts (20). Let  $j_3 > n_2$  be an integer such that

$$\bigvee \{m_n(H_{j_2}) : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \le w_{j_3}.$$

By 2.14.2), in correspondence with  $m_{j_3}$  there is  $n_3 > j_3$  with  $m_{j_3}(E) \leq \bigvee_{t,l=1}^{\infty} a_{t,l}$  for every  $E \in \mathcal{L}, E \subset \bigcup_{i=n_3}^{\infty} H_i$ . For such E's we have

$$m_{j_3}(E \cup H_1 \cup H_{j_2} \cup H_{j_3}) \not\leq w_{j_3}$$

otherwise, by k-triangularity of  $m_{j_3}$  and (4) used with q = 4,  $E_1 = H_{j_3}$ ,  $E_2 = E$ ,  $E_3 = H_1$ ,  $E_4 = H_{j_2}$ , we get

$$\begin{split} m_{j_3}(H_{j_3}) &\leq m_{j_3}(E \cup H_1 \cup H_{j_2} \cup H_{j_3}) + k \, m_{j_3}(E) + k \, m_{j_3}(H_1) + k \, m_{j_3}(H_{j_2}) \\ &\leq w_{j_3} + k \, \bigvee_{t,l=1}^{\infty} a_{t,l} + k \, w_{j_2} + k \, w_{j_3} \\ &\leq 4 \, k \, w_{j_3} \leq (k \, j_3 + 1) w_{j_3}, \end{split}$$

which contradicts (20). Proceeding by induction, it is possible to construct two strictly increasing sequences  $(j_h)_h$ ,  $(n_h)_h$ , such that  $n_h > j_h \ge h$  for every  $h \in \mathbb{N}$ , and

$$m_{j_h}(E \cup H_1 \cup H_{j_2} \cup \ldots \cup H_{j_h}) \not\leq w_{j_h}$$

whenever  $h \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $E \in \mathcal{L}$  with  $E \subset \bigcup_{i=n_b}^{\infty} H_i$ .

Set  $j_1 = 1$  and  $H = \bigcup_{h=1}^{\infty} H_{j_h}$ . Note that  $H \in \mathcal{G}$  and  $m_{j_h}(H) \not\leq w_{j_h}$  for every  $h \in \mathbb{N}$ . But the set  $\{m_h(H) : h \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is bounded by the sequence  $(w_n)_n$ , and so we get a contradiction. This ends the proof.

**Remark 3.7.** Now we show that, under certain hypotheses, regular and k-triangular set functions, with values in spaces of type  $L^0$  as in Remark 2.2, are (RD)-regular too. Note that, by means of techniques analogous to those used below, this result can be proved for finite dimensional space-valued set functions, extending to the k-triangular context some classical theorems proved in the finitely additive setting (see for instance [29, Theorem 2]).

Let  $R = L^0 = L^0([0,1], \mathcal{B}, \lambda)$  be as in Remark 2.2, G be a compact Hausdorff topological space,  $\mathcal{L}$  be the  $\sigma$ -algebra of all Borel subsets of G,  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  be the classes of all open and of all compact subsets of G, respectively. First of all, observe that 2.9.2) is a consequence of 2.9.1). Indeed, pick arbitrarily  $W \in \mathcal{H}$  and let  $(V_n)_n$  be a sequence of elements of  $\mathcal{G}$ , satisfying 2.9.1). Since G is compact and Hausdorff, G is also normal (see also [36, Theorem XI.1.2]). As G is normal, thanks to [36, Proposition VII.3.2], in correspondence with W and  $V_1$  there is a set  $U_1 \in \mathcal{G}$  with  $W \subset U_1 \subset \overline{U_1} \subset V_1$ , where  $\overline{U_1}$  denotes the topological closure of  $\underline{U_1}$  in G. Analogously, we can associate to W and  $U_1 \cap V_2$  a set  $U_2 \in \mathcal{G}$  with  $W \subset U_2 \subset \overline{U_2} \subset U_1 \cap V_2$ . Proceeding by induction, we construct a decreasing sequence  $(U_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ , with  $W \subset U_{n+1} \subset \overline{U_n \cap V_{n+1}}$ . Since the sequence  $(V_n)_n$  satisfies 2.9.1), it is not difficult to see that the sequences  $(U_n)_n$  and  $(\overline{U_n})_n$  fulfil 2.9.2). Let  $m_j : \mathcal{L} \to R, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence of k-triangular and regular set functions. We will prove that  $(m_j)_j$  satisfies 2.14.1) and 2.14.2). Since in  $L^0$  the (r)-, (O)- and (D)-convergences coincide (see Remark 2.2), then for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $u_j \in R$ ,  $u_j \geq 0$ , such that for every  $E \in \mathcal{L}$  there are two sequences  $(V_n^{(j)})_n$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $(K_n^{(j)})_n$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ , with  $V_n^{(j)} \supset E \supset K_n^{(j)}$  for each n and such that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a positive integer  $n_0 = n_0(\varepsilon, j, E)$  with

$$v(m_j)(V_n^{(j)} \setminus K_n^{(j)}) \le \varepsilon \, u_j \quad \text{whenever } n \ge n_0.$$
<sup>(22)</sup>

For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , set  $V_n := \bigcap_{j=1}^n V_n^{(j)}$ ,  $K_n := \bigcup_{j=1}^n K_n^{(j)}$ : note that  $V_n \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $K_n \in \mathcal{H}$ and  $V_n \supset E \supset K_n$  for every n. Since R satisfies property  $(\sigma)$ , in correspondence with the sequence  $(u_j)_j$  there exist a sequence  $(a_j)_j$  of positive real numbers and an element  $u \in R$ ,  $u \ge 0$ , with  $0 \le a_j u_j \le u$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Note that u does not depend on the choice of  $E \in \mathcal{L}$ . For every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $E \in \mathcal{L}$ , let  $n_* = n_*(\varepsilon, j, E) = n_0(\varepsilon a_j, j, E)$ , where  $n_0$  is as in (22). We get

$$v(m_j)(V_n \setminus K_n) \le v(m_j)(V_n^{(j)} \setminus K_n^{(j)}) \le \varepsilon \, a_j \, u_j \le \varepsilon \, u \tag{23}$$

for each  $n \ge n_*$ . If we take  $\sigma_p = \frac{1}{p}u$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , then it is not difficult to check that 2.14.1) is satisfied.

We now prove 2.14.2). Choose any disjoint sequence  $(H_n)_n$  in  $\mathcal{L}$  and let u be as in (23). In correspondence with  $j, n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\frac{1}{k^{2n+j+1}}$  set  $O_n^{(j)} = O_n^{(j)} \left(\frac{1}{k^{2n+j+1}}\right) =$  $V_{n_*(\frac{1}{k^{2n+j+1}},j,H_n)}$  and  $F_n^{(j)} = F_n^{(j)} \left(\frac{1}{k^{2n+j+1}}\right) = K_{n_*(\frac{1}{k^{2n+j+1}},j,H_n)}$ , where  $n_*$  is as in (23). For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , put  $O_n = \bigcap_{j=1}^n O_n^{(j)}$  and  $F_n = \bigcup_{j=1}^n F_n^{(j)}$ . Note that  $O_n \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $F_n \in \mathcal{H}$ and  $O_n \supset H_n \supset F_n$  for each n. Moreover, from (23) we get

$$v(m_j)(O_n \setminus F_n) \le v(m_j)(O_n^{(j)} \setminus F_n^{(j)}) \le \frac{1}{k 2^{n+j+1}} u \quad \text{for every } j, n \in \mathbb{N}.$$
 (24)

Now, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  set  $U_n := \bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} O_i$ ,  $C_n := \bigcap_{i=n}^{\infty} F_i$ . Since the sequence  $(H_n)_n$  is disjoint and  $F_n \subset H_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $C_n = \emptyset$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Taking into account (7), from (24) we get

$$v(m_j)(U_n) = v(m_j)(U_n \setminus C_n) = v(m_j)\left(\left(\bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} O_i\right) \setminus \left(\left(\bigcap_{i=n}^{\infty} F_i\right)\right)\right)$$
(25)  
$$= v(m_j)\left(\bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} (O_i \setminus F_i)\right) \le k \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} v(m_j)(O_i \setminus F_i) \le k \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k 2^{i+j+1}} u = \frac{1}{2^{n+j}} u$$

(see also [39, Lemma 1]). Thus 2.14.2) is proved.

The following example shows that, in Theorem 3.5, in general the condition 3.5.1) cannot be replaced by the boundedness of the set  $\{m_j(U) : j \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .

**Example 3.8.** (see also Schwartz [46, Example 5] Let R be the vector lattice  $c_0$  of all real sequences convergent to 0, endowed with the usual ordering,  $\mathcal{B}$  be the  $\sigma$ -algebra of all Borel subsets of [0, 1]. Note that  $c_0$  is Dedekind complete and weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive, and that in  $c_0$  order, (D)- and (r)-convergence coincide with coordinatewise convergence dominated by an element of  $c_0$  (see also [28, 46, 48]). For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $E \in \mathcal{B}$  set  $m_n(E) = (\mu_1(E), \ldots, \mu_n(E), 0, \ldots, 0, \ldots)$ , where  $\mu_n(E) = \int_E \sin(n\pi x) dx$ . It is known (see [46]) that every  $m_n$  is a  $\sigma$ -additive measure and the set  $\{m_n(E) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is bounded in  $c_0$  for every  $E \in \mathcal{B}$ . However, it is not possible to find a positive increasing sequence  $(t_n)_n$  satisfying the hypothesis of Theorem 3.6, since  $\sup\{\mu_n(A) : A \in \mathcal{B}\} = 1$  for each n. Moreover, from this it follows that the set  $\{m_n(E) : n \in \mathbb{N}, E \in \mathcal{B}\}$  is not bounded in  $c_0$ .

### **Open problems:**

(a) Prove similar results with respect to other kinds of (s)-boundedness, boundedness and/or convergence, and relatively to different types of variations in the setting of non-additive lattice-group valued set functions (see also [21, 41]).

(b) Find some other conditions under which 2.14.1) and/or 2.14.2) hold.

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