

## “COMPLETE-SIMPLE” DISTRIBUTIVE LATTICES

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**ABSTRACT.** It is well known that the only simple distributive lattice is the two-element chain. We can generalize the concept of a simple lattice to complete lattices as follows: a complete lattice is *complete-simple* if it has only the two trivial complete congruences. In this paper we show the existence of infinite complete-simple distributive lattices.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

A number of authors (Freese, Grätzer, Johnson, Lakser, Reuter, Schmidt, Teo, Wille, and Wolk, see the references) have investigated the lattice of all complete congruence relations of a complete lattice. They have proved representation theorems of the form: given a complete lattice  $L$ , a complete lattice  $K$  is constructed such that the lattice of all complete congruence relations of  $K$  is isomorphic to  $L$ . This result was first proved by Grätzer in [3]; a planar  $K$  was constructed by Grätzer and Lakser in [6], and a modular  $K$  was constructed by Freese, Grätzer, and Schmidt in [1]. All these constructions were based on manipulating prime intervals in various ways.

It was observed in [1] that such techniques cannot be applied to complete distributive lattices since the congruence relation generated by a prime interval is always a complete congruence relation. Let us call a complete lattice *complete-simple* if it has only the two trivial complete congruences. It follows from the observation quoted above that a complete-simple distributive lattice containing a prime interval is the two-element chain.

The question naturally arises whether there is a complete-simple distributive lattice without a prime interval.

**Theorem.** *There exists a complete-simple distributive lattice  $K$  with more than two elements.*

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## 2. NOTATION

For the notation and basic concepts, we refer the reader to [2].

Let  $L$  be a complete lattice. A *complete congruence relation*  $\Theta$  of  $L$  is a congruence relation for which the Substitution Property holds for arbitrary joins and meets, that is, if  $x_i \equiv y_i (\Theta)$  for  $i \in I$ , then  $\bigvee (x_i \mid i \in I) \equiv \bigvee (y_i \mid i \in I) (\Theta)$  and  $\bigwedge (x_i \mid i \in I) \equiv \bigwedge (y_i \mid i \in I) (\Theta)$ . The smallest and largest congruence, denoted by  $\omega$  and  $\iota$ , respectively, are complete. The complete congruences of  $L$  form a complete lattice; if this lattice contains only  $\omega$  and  $\iota$ , then we shall call  $L$  *complete-simple*.

$\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  will denote the chain of rational and real numbers, respectively.

Let  $L_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , be lattices. Then  $\prod (L_i \mid i \in I)$  denotes their direct product. If  $\mathbf{t} \in \prod (L_i \mid i \in I)$ , then  $\mathbf{t}(i) \in L_i$  is the  $i$ th component of  $\mathbf{t}$ .

## 3. A UNARY OPERATION

The construction is based on a special unary operation  $x^+$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$ . This will be introduced in this section.

For a unary operation  $x^+$  on a set  $A$ , we will use the following notation for iterated applications:  $x^{[0]} = x$ ,  $x^{[1]} = x^+$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $x^{[n+1]} = (x^{[n]})^+$ ,  $\dots$ . For  $a \in A$ , set  $a^* = \langle a^{[0]}, a^{[1]}, \dots \rangle$  and  $H_a = \{b \mid b \in A \text{ and } b^+ = a\}$ .

**Lemma 1.** *For every infinite set  $A$ , there exists a unary operation  $x^+$  satisfying the following two properties:*

- (1)  $a^{[n]} \neq a^{[m]}$  for all  $a \in A$  and for all natural numbers  $n \neq m$ .
- (2) *There exists a bijection between  $H_a$  and  $A$  for every  $a \in A$ .*

*Proof.* Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $A = B^2 \times \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $|A| = |B|$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  is the set of integers. Since  $|B|^2 = |B|$ , there is a bijection  $\varphi$  between  $B$  and  $B^2$ . For  $a = \langle \langle b_1, b_2 \rangle, i \rangle$ , define  $a^+ = \langle \varphi(b_1), i+1 \rangle$ .

The  $\mathbb{Z}$ -coordinate of  $a^{[k]}$  is  $i+k$ ; therefore,  $a^{[n]} = a^{[m]}$  implies that  $i+n = i+m$ , so  $n=m$ , verifying (1).

Since  $\varphi$  is onto, we can choose a  $b \in B$  with  $\varphi(b) = \langle b_1, b_2 \rangle$ . Then  $H_a = \{ \langle \langle b, x \rangle, i-1 \rangle \mid x \in B \}$ , implying (2).  $\square$

Henceforth, let  $A = \mathbb{Q}$ , and let  $x^+$  be a unary operation on  $\mathbb{Q}$  satisfying (1) and (2) of Lemma 1. We take a family of pairwise disjoint chains  $(\mathbb{R}_i \mid i \in \mathbb{Q})$ , where each  $\mathbb{R}_i$  is isomorphic to the chain  $\mathbb{R}$ . We denote by  $\mathbb{Q}_i$  the chain of rational numbers in  $\mathbb{R}_i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ . By the second condition of Lemma 1, there is a bijection between  $H_i$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  for every  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ ; hence, there is a bijection  $\alpha_i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ , between  $H_i$  and  $\mathbb{Q}_i$ . We keep the  $\alpha_i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ , fixed for the rest of this paper.

Let  $\varrho$  denote the disjoint union of the bijections  $\alpha_i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ . More formally, we define a map  $\varrho$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$  into  $\bigcup (\mathbb{Q}_i \mid i \in \mathbb{Q})$  as follows:

Let  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $\varrho(i) = \alpha_{i^+}(i) \in \mathbb{Q}_{i^+} \subseteq \mathbb{R}_{i^+}$ .

Observe that  $\varrho(i)$  is an element of  $\mathbb{Q}_{i^+}$  and, in fact, every element of  $\mathbb{Q}_{i^+}$  is of the form  $\varrho(i)$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Obviously,  $\varrho$  is a bijection between  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\bigcup (\mathbb{Q}_i \mid i \in \mathbb{Q})$ .

#### 4. CONSTRUCTION

Let  $P = \prod (\mathbb{R}_i \mid i \in \mathbb{Q})$ . We adjoin to  $P$  a zero,  $\mathbf{0}$ , and a unit element,  $\mathbf{1}$ , to obtain the poset  $\bar{P}$ . Let  $\mathbf{t} \in P$ ; for  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ , we introduce Condition  $(C_i)$  for  $\mathbf{t}$  as follows:

$(C_i)$  holds for  $\mathbf{t}$  if and only if  $\mathbf{t}(i) = 0$ ; or  $\mathbf{t}(i) > 0$  and  $\mathbf{t}(i^+) > \varrho(i)$ ; or  $\mathbf{t}(i) < 0$  and  $\mathbf{t}(i^+) < \varrho(i)$ .

Condition (C) holds for  $\mathbf{t}$  if  $(C_i)$  holds for  $\mathbf{t}$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Now we define the subset  $S$  of  $P$  as the set of all  $\mathbf{t} \in P$  for which Condition (C) holds. Define  $\bar{S} = S \cup \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\}$ .

**Lemma 2.**  $S$  is a sublattice of  $P$ ; hence,  $S$  is a distributive lattice.  $\bar{S}$  is a complete distributive lattice.

*Proof.* Observe that  $S \neq \emptyset$ . Indeed, let  $\mathbf{z} \in P$  be defined by  $\mathbf{z}(i) = 0$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Condition (C) obviously holds for  $\mathbf{z}$ , hence,  $\mathbf{z} \in S$ .

Let  $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t} \in S$ ; we form  $\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t}$  in  $P$ . We claim that  $\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t} \in S$ , that is,  $(C_i)$  holds for  $\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t}$ , for  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Indeed, if  $(\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t})(i) > 0$ , then  $\mathbf{s}(i) \vee \mathbf{t}(i) = (\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t})(i) > 0$ ; therefore,  $\mathbf{s}(i) > 0$  or  $\mathbf{t}(i) > 0$  (since  $\mathbb{R}_i$  is a chain). Since  $(C_i)$  holds for  $\mathbf{s}$  and  $\mathbf{t}$ ,  $\mathbf{s}(i^+) > \varrho(i)$  or  $\mathbf{t}(i^+) > \varrho(i)$ , concluding that  $(\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t})(i^+) > \varrho(i)$ . If  $(\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t})(i) < 0$ , then  $\mathbf{s}(i) \vee \mathbf{t}(i) = (\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t})(i) < 0$ ; therefore,  $\mathbf{s}(i) < 0$  and  $\mathbf{t}(i) < 0$ . It follows that  $\mathbf{s}(i^+) < \varrho(i)$  and  $\mathbf{t}(i^+) < \varrho(i)$ ; therefore,  $(\mathbf{s} \vee \mathbf{t})(i^+) = \mathbf{s}(i^+) \vee \mathbf{t}(i^+) < \varrho(i)$  (since  $\mathbb{R}_i$  is a chain). Similarly, we prove that  $\mathbf{s} \wedge \mathbf{t} \in S$ . Hence,  $S$  is a lattice; in fact, since it is a sublattice of  $P$ , it is a distributive lattice.

Next we prove that  $\bar{S}$  is a complete lattice. In order to do this, first, for every  $\mathbf{v} \in \bar{P}$ , we define  $\bar{\mathbf{v}} \in \bar{P}$  as follows: If  $\mathbf{v} \in \bar{P} - P$ , then  $\bar{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{v}$ . If  $\mathbf{v} \in P$ , then let  $\mathbf{v}_0 = \mathbf{v}$ . Consider the set  $U_{\mathbf{v}_0} = U_0$  of all  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\mathbf{v}_0(i) < 0$  and  $\mathbf{v}_0(i^+) \not\leq \varrho(i)$ . Define  $\mathbf{v}_1 \in P$ :  $\mathbf{v}_1(i) = 0$  for  $i \in U_0$  and  $\mathbf{v}_1(j) = \mathbf{v}_0(j)$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Q} - U_0$ . Inductively, let  $n$  be a natural number  $> 1$ , and let  $\mathbf{v}_n$  be defined. Then let  $U_n = U_{\mathbf{v}_n}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_{n+1} = (\mathbf{v}_n)_1$ . Finally, let  $\bar{\mathbf{v}} = \bigvee (\mathbf{v}_n \mid n < \omega)$ .

Observe that  $\mathbf{v} \leq \bar{\mathbf{v}}$  and if  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}(i) \neq \mathbf{v}(i)$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}(i) = 0$ .

Let  $T$  be a subset of  $S$ , and let  $\mathbf{u} = \bigvee T$  in  $\bar{P}$ . If  $\mathbf{u} \in \bar{S}$ , then  $\mathbf{u} = \bigvee T$  in  $\bar{S}$ . So we can assume that  $\mathbf{u} \in \bar{P} - \bar{S}$ . We shall prove that, in this case,  $\bar{\mathbf{u}} = \bigvee T$  in  $\bar{S}$ .

To verify that  $\bar{\mathbf{u}} \in \bar{S}$ , it is sufficient to prove that if  $\bar{\mathbf{u}} \notin \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\}$ , then  $\bar{\mathbf{u}} \in S$ . Let  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i) < 0$ , and  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i^+) \not\leq \varrho(i)$ . Then choose the natural numbers  $k$  and  $m$  so that  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i) = \mathbf{u}_k(i)$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i^+) = \mathbf{u}_m(i^+)$ . With  $n = \max\{k, m\}$ , we have  $\mathbf{u}_n(i) < 0$  and  $\mathbf{u}_n(i^+) \not\leq \varrho(i)$ . Therefore,  $i \in U_{\mathbf{u}_n}$ , hence  $\mathbf{u}_n(i)$  had to be corrected at step  $n+1$ . We conclude that  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i) = \mathbf{u}_{n+1}(i) = 0$ , contradicting the assumption that  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i) < 0$ . Next let  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i) > 0$ , and  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i^+) \not\leq \varrho(i)$ . Since  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i) > 0$ , it follows that  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i) = \mathbf{u}(i)$ . Therefore,  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i) = \mathbf{u}(i) = \bigvee (\mathbf{v}(i) \mid \mathbf{v} \in T) > 0$ , hence  $\mathbf{v}(i) > 0$  for some  $\mathbf{v} \in T$  (since  $\mathbb{R}_i$  is a chain). Since  $\mathbf{v} \in T$ ,  $(C_i)$  holds for  $\mathbf{v}$ , so  $\varrho(i) < \mathbf{v}(i^+) \leq \mathbf{u}(i^+) \leq \bar{\mathbf{u}}(i^+)$ , contradicting the assumption that  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}(i^+) \not\leq \varrho(i)$ . We conclude that Condition  $(C_i)$  holds for  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}$ .

Finally, we have to verify that  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}$  is the complete join of  $T$  in  $\bar{S}$ . Let  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{S}$  be an upper bound of  $T$ , that is,  $\mathbf{t} \leq \mathbf{s}$ , for all  $\mathbf{t} \in T$ . We want to show that  $\bar{\mathbf{u}} \leq \mathbf{s}$ . This is obvious if  $\mathbf{s} \in \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\}$ . So let  $\mathbf{s} \notin \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\}$ , that is, let  $\mathbf{s} \in S$ . Obviously,  $\mathbf{u} \leq \mathbf{s}$ . Now we prove that  $\mathbf{u}_n \leq \mathbf{s}$  by induction on  $n$ . For  $n = 0$ , we have  $\mathbf{u}_0 = \mathbf{u}$ , and we already know that  $\mathbf{u} \leq \mathbf{s}$ . Let  $\mathbf{u}_n \leq \mathbf{s}$ ; for every  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

we have to verify that  $\mathbf{u}_{n+1}(i) \leq \mathbf{s}(i)$ . If  $i \notin U_n$ , then  $\mathbf{u}_n(i) = \mathbf{u}_{n+1}(i)$ , so  $\mathbf{u}_{n+1}(i) \leq \mathbf{s}(i)$  follows from the induction hypothesis. If  $i \in U_n$ , then  $\mathbf{u}_n(i) < 0$  and  $\mathbf{u}_n(i^+) \not\leq \varrho(i)$ . It follows that  $\mathbf{s}(i^+) \geq \mathbf{u}_n(i^+) \geq \varrho(i)$ . Since  $\mathbf{s}$  satisfies Condition (C), we conclude that  $\mathbf{s}(i) \geq 0$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{s}(i) \geq 0 = \mathbf{u}_{n+1}(i)$ , completing the induction.  $\square$

## 5. COMPLETE CONGRUENCES

In this section, we shall prove that  $\bar{S}$  is a complete-simple lattice. Let  $\Theta$  be a complete congruence relation of  $\bar{S}$ , and let  $\Theta > \omega$ . We are going to prove that  $\mathbf{0} \equiv \mathbf{1} (\Theta)$ , that is,  $\Theta = \iota$ .

We introduce some notation. With  $\mathbf{a} = \langle a_0, a_1, \dots \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^\omega$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Q}$ , we associate the element  $\mathbf{a}^k$  of  $P$  defined by  $\mathbf{a}^k(k^{[n]}) = a_n$ , for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ , and  $\mathbf{a}^k(l) = 0$ , otherwise. It is obvious that  $\mathbf{a}^k \in \bar{S}$  iff Condition (C<sub>l</sub>) holds for all  $l = k^{[n]}$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ .

Since  $\Theta > \omega$ , there exist  $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t} \in \bar{S}$  such that  $\mathbf{s} < \mathbf{t}$  and  $\mathbf{s} \equiv \mathbf{t} (\Theta)$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t} \in S$ .

There exists a  $j \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\mathbf{s}(j) < \mathbf{t}(j)$ . Recall that  $\alpha_j$  is a bijection between  $H_j$  and  $\mathbb{Q}_j$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}_j$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}_j$ , there is an  $i \in H_j$  such that

$$\mathbf{s}(j) = \mathbf{s}(i^+) < \varrho(i) < \mathbf{t}(i^+) = \mathbf{t}(j).$$

(By definition,  $j = i^+$  and  $\varrho(i) = \alpha_{i^+}(i)$ .)

Henceforth,  $\mathbf{s}$ ,  $\mathbf{t}$ , and  $i$  will refer to these elements. Define  $s_n = \mathbf{s}(i^{[n]})$  and  $t_n = \mathbf{t}(i^{[n]})$ , for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ . Let  $\varrho(n)$  stand for  $\varrho(i^{[n]})$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ . Then the condition on  $\mathbf{s}$ ,  $\mathbf{t}$ , and  $i$  can be rewritten as follows:

$$s_1 < \varrho(0) < t_1.$$

For  $\mathbf{a} = \langle a_0, a_1, \dots \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^\omega$  and for this  $i \in \mathbb{Q}$ , we identify  $\mathbf{a}$  with  $\mathbf{a}^i$ ; in other words,  $\mathbf{a} = \langle a_0, a_1, \dots \rangle$  will be regarded as an element of  $P$ . Then  $\langle s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle, \langle t_0, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle \in S$  and  $\langle 0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle, \langle 0, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle \in S$ .

From  $\mathbf{s} \equiv \mathbf{t} (\Theta)$ , we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{s} \wedge \langle 0, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle) \vee \langle 0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle \\ & \equiv (\mathbf{t} \wedge \langle 0, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle) \vee \langle 0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle (\Theta), \end{aligned}$$

that is,

$$\langle 0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle \equiv \langle 0, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle (\Theta).$$

Let us choose  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $0 < u$  and  $\varrho(0) < v \leq t_1$ ; if  $\varrho(0) < 0$ , then we further assume that  $v < 0$ . Define the element  $\langle u, v, v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle$  of  $S$  as follows: if  $0 \leq \varrho(0)$ , let  $v_i = t_i$ ,  $i = 2, 3, \dots$ ; if  $\varrho(0) < 0$ , then  $v_i = s_i$ ,  $i = 2, 3, \dots$ . It is clear that  $\langle u, v, v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle \in S$  and that  $v_i$ ,  $i = 2, 3, \dots$ , do not depend on the choice of  $u$  and  $v$ . Also,  $\langle u, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle \in S$ .

Computing with these elements, we conclude from the last congruence that

$$\begin{aligned} & (\langle 0, s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots \rangle \vee \langle u, v, v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle) \wedge \langle u, t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots \rangle \\ & \equiv (\langle 0, t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots \rangle \vee \langle u, v, v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle) \wedge \langle u, t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots \rangle (\Theta), \end{aligned}$$

that is,

$$\langle u, v, v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle \equiv \langle u, t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots \rangle \quad (\Theta).$$

Observe that  $s_n \leq v_n \leq t_n$  holds for all  $n > 1$ .

For any  $0 < u$ , for all  $v \in \mathbb{R}$  satisfying  $\varrho(0) < v \leq t_1$  and  $v < 0$  if  $\varrho(0) < 0$ , we obtain a congruence as above. Forming the complete meet of these congruences, we get the congruence

$$\begin{aligned} \bigwedge (\langle u, v, v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle \mid \varrho(0) < v \leq t_1 \text{ and } v < 0 \text{ if } \varrho(0) < 0) \\ \equiv \langle u, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle \quad (\Theta). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\bigwedge (v \mid \varrho(0) < v \leq t_1 \text{ and } v < 0 \text{ if } \varrho(0) < 0) = \varrho(0)$ , the complete meet  $\bigwedge (\langle u, v, \dots \rangle \mid \varrho(0) < v \leq t_1 \text{ and } v < 0 \text{ if } \varrho(0) < 0)$  in  $\bar{S}$  is  $\langle 0, \varrho(0), v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle$ , so we have arrived at the congruence

$$\langle 0, \varrho(0), v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle \equiv \langle u, t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots \rangle \quad (\Theta),$$

where  $s_n \leq v_n \leq t_n$  for all  $n > 1$ . For every  $u > 0$ , we obtain a congruence as above. We now form the complete join of these congruences:

$$\bigvee (\langle 0, \varrho(0), v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle \mid u > 0) \equiv \bigvee (\langle u, t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots \rangle \mid u > 0) \quad (\Theta).$$

This is obviously of the form

$$\eta = \langle 0, \varrho(0), v_2, v_3, \dots \rangle \equiv \mathbf{1} \quad (\Theta),$$

where  $s_n \leq v_n \leq t_n$  for all  $n > 1$ . It follows that

$$\langle 0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle \leq \eta \leq \langle 0, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle.$$

We can proceed similarly for  $u < 0$  and  $s_1 \leq v < \varrho(0)$  (where  $v > 0$  if  $\varrho(0) > 0$ ), forming the complete join of the congruences for fixed  $u$  and all  $v$ , and then forming the complete meet for all  $u$ . We obtain a congruence of the form

$$\mathfrak{z} = \langle 0, \varrho(0), v'_2, v'_3, \dots \rangle \equiv \mathbf{0} \quad (\Theta),$$

where  $s_n \leq v'_n \leq t_n$  for all  $n > 1$ ; therefore,

$$\langle 0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle \leq \mathfrak{z} \leq \langle 0, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle.$$

Now the last two congruences along with the congruence  $\langle 0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle \equiv \langle 0, t_1, t_2, \dots \rangle \quad (\Theta)$ , yield  $\mathbf{0} \equiv \mathbf{1} \quad (\Theta)$ , completing the proof of  $\Theta = \iota$ .

This completes the proof of the theorem.

## 6. CONCLUDING COMMENTS

Let  $\mathfrak{c}$  denote the power of the continuum. Obviously, the complete-simple lattice  $K$  constructed for the theorem is of power  $\mathfrak{c}$ . This is the smallest possible cardinality. Indeed, let  $K$  be a complete-simple distributive lattice. Let  $C$  be a maximal chain in  $K$ . By the observation quoted from [1] in the introduction, if  $C$  contains a prime interval, then  $C$  is the two-element chain and so is  $K$ . Therefore, if  $K$  has more than two elements, then  $C$  is dense. It follows that  $C$  contains a subchain isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Since  $C$  is complete, it contains a subchain isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}$ . We conclude that  $\mathfrak{c} \leq |C| \leq |K|$ .

We can construct a complete-simple distributive lattice of any cardinality  $n \geq \mathfrak{c}$ . The proof of the theorem gives us such a  $K$  for  $n = \mathfrak{c}$ . Now let  $\alpha$  be any ordinal of cardinality  $n > \mathfrak{c}$ . Utilizing the fact that  $\mathbf{0}$  is meet-irreducible and  $\mathbf{1}$  is join-irreducible in the lattice  $K$  constructed for the theorem, we construct a complete-simple distributive lattice  $K_\gamma$ , for every  $\gamma \leq \alpha$ , in which the zero  $\mathbf{0}_\gamma$  is meet-irreducible and the unit  $\mathbf{1}_\gamma$  is join-irreducible as follows:

$K_0 = K$ ; if  $\gamma = \beta + 1$ , then

$$K_\gamma = (K_\beta - \{\mathbf{0}_\beta, \mathbf{1}_\beta\})^2 \cup \{\mathbf{0}_\gamma, \mathbf{1}_\gamma\};$$

and  $K_\beta$  has a natural embedding into  $K_{\beta+1}$ ; if  $\gamma$  is a limit ordinal, then  $K_\gamma$  is the direct limit of the  $K_\delta$ ,  $\delta < \gamma$ .

It is easy to check that  $K_\alpha$  is a complete-simple distributive lattice of cardinality  $n$ .

An alternative proof, by modifying the construction for the theorem, was carried out by Johnson.

The topic described in the introduction, namely, the representation of a complete lattice as the lattice of all complete congruence relations of a complete lattice, was extended to the  $m$ -complete case by Grätzer and Lakser [7] and Grätzer and Schmidt [9], where  $m$  is an infinite regular cardinal satisfying  $m > \aleph_0$ .

Let  $m$  be an infinite regular cardinal. A lattice  $K$  is *m-complete* if  $\bigvee X$  and  $\bigwedge X$  exist in  $K$  whenever  $X \subseteq K$  and  $0 < |X| < m$ . A congruence relation  $\Theta$  of an  $m$ -complete lattice  $K$  is an *m-complete congruence relation* if the *Substitution Property* holds for fewer than  $m$  elements, that is, if  $x_i \equiv y_i$  ( $\Theta$ ) for  $i \in I$ , and  $0 < |I| < m$ , then

$$\bigvee (x_i \mid i \in I) \equiv \bigvee (y_i \mid i \in I) \quad (\Theta),$$

and dually. An  $m$ -complete lattice  $K$  is called *m-simple* if it has only the two trivial  $m$ -complete congruence relations.

Now we state the analogue of the theorem for the  $m$ -complete case; in this version of the theorem, we also state some properties of the lattice  $K$  we construct.

**Theorem'.** *Let  $m > \aleph_0$  be an infinite regular cardinal. There exists an m-simple distributive lattice  $K$  with more than two elements. The lattice  $K$  can be constructed to have the following additional properties:*

- (1)  $K$  is complete.
- (2)  $K$  is self-dual.
- (3) The zero of  $K$  is meet-irreducible and it is  $m$ -complete meet-reducible.
- (4) The unit of  $K$  is join-irreducible and it is  $m$ -complete join-reducible.

The lattice  $K$  constructed for the theorem satisfies (1); it is clear that properties (3) and (4) hold for  $K$ . Since  $m > \aleph_0$  and  $\mathfrak{c} \geq \aleph_1$ , it is enough to show that  $K$  is  $\aleph_1$ -simple.

Whenever we form a join  $\bigvee X = a$  in some  $\mathbb{R}_i$ , we can take a countable subset  $X_1$  of  $X$  with  $\bigvee X_1 = a$ , and dually. So in the proof that  $K$  is complete-simple (see §5), all the applications of the complete Substitution Property could be replaced by applications of the  $\aleph_1$ -Substitution Property. Therefore,  $K$  is  $\aleph_1$ -simple.

Finally, one can argue that by carefully choosing the function  $\varrho$ , the lattice  $K$  is self-dual. It is much simpler, however, to verify (2) by observing that

$$((K - \{0_K, 1_K\}) \times (\tilde{K} - \{0_K, 1_K\})) \cup \{0, 1\},$$

where  $\tilde{K}$  is the dual of  $K$ , is self-dual, and satisfies all the requirements of Theorem'.

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