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## MEET-REDUCIBILITY OF TL-SUBGROUPS

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ABSTRACT. The structure of a TL-subgroup can be understood from the representations of the TL-sub group as meets of TLsubgroups containing the TL-subgroup. Indeed, the structure of the meet of TL-subgroups can easily be obtained from the structures of the TL-subgroups and the structures of the TL-subgroups may be more simple than the structure of the meet. In this paper, we discuss meet-reducibility of TL-subgroups.

## 1. Introduction

Zadeh [7] introduced the concept of fuzzy subsets and Rosenfeld [4] introduced the concept of fuzzy subgroups. Following these ideas, many authors are engaged in generalizing various notions of group theory in the fuzzy setting. And Yu et al. [6] introduced and studied the concept of TL-subgroups that is an extension of the concept of fuzzy subgroups.

One way to grasp the structure of a group is representing the group as the direct product of its subgroups of which structures are more simple than the structure of the group. In parallel, the structure of a TL-subgroup can be understood from the representations of the TLsubgroup as meets of TL-subgroup containing the TL-subgroup. Indeed, the structure of the meet of TL-subgroups can easily be obtained from the structures of the TL-subgroups and the structures of the TLsubgroups may be more simple than the structure of the meet. In this paper, we discuss meet-reducibility of TL-subgroups.

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Jae-Gyeom Kim

# 2. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, we let L denote a complete lattice that contains at least two distinct elements. The meet, join, and partial ordering will be written as  $\land$ ,  $\lor$ , and  $\leq$ , respectively. We also write 1 for the greatest element of L.

DEFINITION 2.1 ([5]). A binary operation T on L is called a t-norm if it satisfies the following conditions;

(1) (aTb)Tc = aT(bTc), (2) aTb = bTa, (3) if  $b \le c$ , then  $aTb \le aTc$ , (4) aT1 = a,

where  $a, b, c \in L$ .

The meet  $\wedge$  on L is a *t*-norm. From now on we will always assume that  $T = \wedge$ . We will write the identity element of a group G by e and the order of x in G by O(x).

DEFINITION 2.2 ([6]). An L-subset  $\mu$  of a group G, i.e., a function  $\mu$  from G to L, is called a TL-group or a TL-subgroup of G if it satisfies the following conditions;

(1)  $\mu(e) = 1$ , (2)  $\mu(x^{-1}) \ge \mu(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ , (3)  $\mu(xy) \ge \mu(x)T\mu(y)$  for all  $x, y \in G$ .

Note that the concept of a *TL*-subgroup is an extension of the concept of a fuzzy subgroup. We will write the set  $\{x \in G | \mu(x) = 1\}$  by  $G_{\mu}$ , where  $\mu$  is a *TL*-subgroup of a group *G*.

DEFINITION 2.3 ([3]). Let  $\mu$  be a *TL*-subgroup of a group *G*. For a given  $x \in G$ , the least positive integer *n* such that  $\mu(x^n) = 1$  is said to be the (*TL*-)order of *x* with respect to  $\mu$  (briefly,  $O_{\mu}(x)$ ). If no such *n* exists, *x* is said to have infinite (*TL*-)order with respect to  $\mu$ .

DEFINITION 2.4 ([2]). Let  $\mu$  be a *TL*-subgroup of an Abelian group G.  $\mu$  is said to be torsion if  $O_{\mu}(x)$  is finite for all  $x \in G$ .

DEFINITION 2.5 ([2]). Let  $\mu$  be a *TL*-subgroup of a group *G*. For a prime  $p, \mu$  is called a *TL-p*-subgroup of *G* if  $O_{\mu}(x)$  is a power of p for every  $x \in G$ .

When  $\{\mu_i | i \in I\}$  is a set of *TL*-subgroups of a group *G*, the meet  $\mu = \wedge \{\mu_i | i \in I\}$  of  $\{\mu_i | i \in I\}$  is the *TL*-subgroup of *G* defined by  $\mu(x) = \wedge \{\mu_i(x) | i \in I\}.$ 

588

## 3. Meet-reducibility of *TL*-subgroups

A *TL*-subgroup  $\mu$  of a group *G* is said to be meet-reducible if there exist *TL*-subgroups  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  of *G* such that  $\mu \neq \nu$ ,  $\mu \neq \eta$ , and  $\mu = \nu \wedge \eta$ . The meet-reducibility of a *TL*-subgroup heavily depends on the number of its values.

LEMMA 3.1. Let  $\mu$  be a *TL*-subgroup of a group *G*. Let  $\mu$  take more than or equal to 3 values. If there exist at least two compatible values among the values except the greatest element 1 of *L*, then  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

*Proof.* Let  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  be two compatible values of  $\mu$  with  $1 > a_1 > a_2$ . Define L-subsets  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  of G as follows:

$$\nu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mu(x) \ge a_1, \\ \mu(x) & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\eta(x) = \begin{cases} \mu(x) & \text{if } \mu(x) \ge a_1, \\ a_1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  are *TL*-subgroups of *G* with  $\mu \neq \nu$ ,  $\mu \neq \eta$ , and  $\mu = \nu \wedge \eta$ . So  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

LEMMA 3.2. Let  $\mu$  be a *TL*-subgroup of a group *G*. Let  $\mu$  take more than or equal to 3 values. If any two values of  $\mu$  except 1 are not compatible, then  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

*Proof.* Let  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  be any two different values of  $\mu$  not equal to 1. Define L-subsets  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  of G as follows:

$$\nu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mu(x) \ge a_1, \\ \mu(x) & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\eta(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mu(x) \ge a_2, \\ \mu(x) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  are *TL*-subgroups of *G* with  $\mu \neq \nu$ ,  $\mu \neq \eta$ , and  $\mu = \nu \wedge \eta$ . So  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

By Lemma 3.1 and 3.2, we have the following theorem.

THEOREM 3.3. Let  $\mu$  be a TL-subgroup of a group G. If  $\mu$  takes more than or equal to 3 values, then  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

Jae-Gyeom Kim

If a TL-subgroup takes exactly one value, then it is clearly meetirreducible. Now we will concern with TL-subgroups which take exactly two values. Recall that a subgroup T of a group G is said to be meetreducible if there exist subgroups H and K of G such that  $T \neq H$ ,  $T \neq K$ , and  $T = H \cap K$ .

THEOREM 3.4. Let  $\mu$  be a *TL*-subgroup of a group *G*. Let  $\mu$  take exactly two values. If  $G_{\mu}$  is meet-reducible, then  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

*Proof.* Let 1 and a be the two values of  $\mu$ . Suppose that  $G_{\mu}$  is meetreducible. Then there exist subgroups H and K of G such that  $G_{\mu} \neq H$ ,  $G_{\mu} \neq K$ , and  $G_{\mu} = H \cap K$ . Define L-subsets  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  of G as follows:

$$\nu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in H, \\ a & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\eta(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in K, \\ a & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  are *TL*-subgroups of *G* with  $\mu \neq \nu$ ,  $\mu \neq \eta$ , and  $\mu = \nu \wedge \eta$ . So  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

Recall that an element a of L is meet-reducible if there exist elements b and c of L such that  $a \neq b$ ,  $a \neq c$ , and  $a = b \wedge c$ .

THEOREM 3.5. Let  $\mu$  be a *TL*-subgroup of a group *G*. Let  $\mu$  take exactly two values 1 and *a*. If *a* is meet-reducible, then  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

*Proof.* Suppose that a is meet-reducible. Then there exist elements b and c of L such that  $a \neq b$ ,  $a \neq c$ , and  $a = b \wedge c$ . Define L-subsets  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  of G as follows:

$$\nu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in G_{\mu}, \\ b & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\eta(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in G_{\mu}, \\ c & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $\nu$  and  $\eta$  are *TL*-subgroups of *G* with  $\mu \neq \nu$ ,  $\mu \neq \eta$ , and  $\mu = \nu \wedge \eta$ . So  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

590

Let  $\mu$  be a *TL*-subgroup of a group *G*. If there exists a minimal *TL-p*-subgroup of *G* containing  $\mu$ , then it is unique because the meet of *TL-p*-subgroups of *G* is obviously a *TL-p*-subgroup. We will denote it by  $\mu_{(p)}$ . Note that  $\mu_{(p)}$  does not exist in general even if L = [0, 1] [1].

THEOREM 3.6 ([2]). Let  $\mu$  be a torsion *TL*-subgroup of an Abelian group *G*. Then  $\mu = \bigwedge_{n} \mu_{(p)}$ 

Now we have a corollary from Theorem 3.6.

COROLLARY 3.7. Let  $\mu$  be a torsion *TL*-subgroup of an Abelian group. If there exist two primes p and q such that  $\mu_{(p)}$  and  $\mu_{(q)}$  are not trivial, then  $\mu$  is meet-reducible.

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