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## ON THE POSET OF TENSOR PRODUCTS ON THE UNIT INTERVAL

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**Abstract:** The paper is concerned with the way in which the poset of all tensor products on the unit interval  $I$  of reals is embedded in the complete lattice of all binary operations on  $I$ . The main result says that any lower-semicontinuous commutative operation on  $I$  that has  $0$  for zero and  $1$  for unit can be obtained as the join in  $I^{I \times I}$  of a countable family of tensor products on  $I$  all of whose members are isomorphic to  $x \boxplus y = 0 \vee (x + y - 1)$ .

**Key words:** Tensor product,  $\mathcal{CL}$ -monoid, residuated lattice, lower-semicontinuity.

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**Introduction.** In [4] we considered various ways in which  $I$  can be endowed with the structure of a symmetric monoidal closed category. Recall that any tensor product on  $I$  (that is, an isotone binary operation  $\square : I \times I \rightarrow I$  with the properties

(O.1)  $(I, \square, 1)$  is a commutative monoid;

(O.2) the distributive law

$$(\bigvee X) \square a = \bigvee \{ x \square a \mid x \in X \},$$

where  $\bigvee X$  denotes the supremum of  $X$  in  $I$ , holds for any  $X \subseteq I$  and any  $a \in I$ )

has a right adjoint  $h : I \times I \rightarrow I$ , linked with  $\square$  by the formula

(0.3) for all  $x, y, z \in I$ ,  $x \square y \leq z$  iff  $x \leq h(y, z)$ .

The right adjoint  $h$  of  $\square$  is uniquely determined by the formula

(0.4)  $h(x, y) = \max \{t \in I \mid t \square x \leq y\}$ ;  $x, y \in I$ .

Also recall that a binary operation on  $I$  satisfies (0.2) iff it is isotone, lower-semicontinuous, and has 0 for zero.

If we generalize the above notion to an arbitrary complete lattice  $L$  with the least element 0 and the greatest element 1; then a binary operation  $\square$  on  $L$  is a tensor product iff  $(L, \square)$  is an integral cl-monoid in the sense of Birkhoff [1]. According to Dilworth and Ward [2], a tensor product on  $L$  together with its right adjoint  $h$  endow  $L$  with the structure of a residuated lattice;  $\square$  is then called multiplication and  $h$  is called residuation in  $L$ .

In this paper we shall adhere to the terminology of [4] and use the term "tensor product". Given a complete lattice  $L$  we shall denote by  $\mathcal{T}(L)$  the set of all tensor products on  $L$  partially ordered by the relation

(0.5)  $\square \leq \square'$  iff  $x \square y \leq x \square' y$  holds for all  $x, y \in L$ .

Thus,  $\mathcal{T}(L)$  is a subset of the complete lattice  $\mathcal{O}(L) = L^{L \times L}$  of all binary operations on  $L$ .

### 1. Some properties of the posets $\mathcal{T}(L)$

1.1. Observation. Given a complete lattice  $L$  and  $\square, \square' \in \mathcal{T}(L)$  let  $h$  and  $h'$  be the right adjoints of  $\square$  and  $\square'$ , respectively. Then  $\square \leq \square'$  iff  $h(x, y) \geq h'(x, y)$  holds for any  $x, y \in L$ .

Proof. It is easy to show that the adjointness condition (0.3) for a couple  $(\square, h)$  on  $L$  is equivalent to the following couple of inequalities in  $(L, \square, h)$

$$(A') \quad x \leq h(y, x \square y) \qquad h(x, y) \square x \leq y \qquad (A'')$$

If  $\square \neq \square'$  then by  $(A'')$  for  $(\square', h')$  we have  $h'(x, y) \square x \leq \neq h'(x, y) \square' x \leq y$  hence  $h'(x, y) \leq h(x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in L$ .

Similarly one proves the converse implication.

1.2. Observation. If  $L$  is completely distributive then the meet  $\wedge$  in  $L$  is the greatest element of  $\mathcal{T}(L)$ .

Proof. By definition,  $(x, y) \mapsto x \wedge y$  is a tensor product on  $L$  iff  $L$  is completely distributive. If  $\square \in \mathcal{T}(L)$  we obtain by the isotony of  $\square$  the inequality

$$x \square y \leq (x \square 1) \wedge (1 \square y) = x \wedge y$$

for all  $x, y \in L$ . Thus  $\wedge$  is the unit of  $\mathcal{T}(L)$  provided  $L$  is completely distributive.

1.3. Remark. It is easily shown (see [2]) that if  $L$  is, moreover, boolean,  $\mathcal{T}(L) = \{\wedge\}$ .

1.4. Proposition. Let  $L$  be a complete chain. Then  $\mathcal{T}(L)$  has the least element iff  $1$  is isolated in  $L$ .

Proof. Given a complete chain  $L$  consider the operation

$$(1.1) \quad x \Delta y = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \vee y < 1 \\ x \wedge y & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Clearly,  $\Delta \in \mathcal{T}(L)$  iff  $1 > \bigvee \{x \in L \mid x \neq 1\}$  in  $L$ . Since  $\Delta \leq \square$  holds for any  $\square \in \mathcal{T}(L)$  it suffices to show that for any  $A \subseteq L \setminus \{1\}$  such that  $\bigvee A = 1$  there exists a system  $\{\square_a; a \in A\}$  of tensor products on  $L$  such that  $\Delta = \bigwedge \{\square_a \mid a \in A\}$  in the complete lattice  $\mathcal{O}(L)$ . To this end, put

$$(1.2) \quad x \square_a y = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \vee y \neq a \\ x \wedge y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for any  $a \in A$  and  $x, y \in L$ . Then it is easily verified that the family  $\{\square_a; a \in A\}$  has the desired properties.

1.5. Proposition. If  $L$  is a complete lattice and  $\mathcal{U}$  is a nonempty chain in  $\mathcal{T}(L)$  then the join of  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{O}(L)$  is again a tensor product on  $L$ .

Proof. Assume that  $\emptyset \neq \mathcal{U}$  is a chain of tensor products on  $L$ . We have to verify that

$$(1.3) \quad x \Delta y = \bigvee \{x \square_\alpha y \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{U}\}$$

is a tensor product on  $L$ . Obviously,  $\Delta$  is commutative, distributive with respect to all joins in  $L$ , and it has 0 for zero and 1 for unit. As to the associativity, take any  $x, y, z \in L$ . We have  $(x \Delta y) \Delta z =$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \bigvee \{ (\bigvee \{x \square_\alpha y \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{U}\}) \square_{\alpha'} z \mid \alpha' \in \mathcal{U} \} = \\ &= \bigvee \{ \bigvee \{ (x \square_\alpha y) \square_{\alpha'} z \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{U} \} \mid \alpha' \in \mathcal{U} \} = \\ &= \bigvee \{ (x \square_{\alpha''} y) \square_{\alpha''} z \mid \alpha'' = \max(\alpha, \alpha'); \alpha, \alpha' \in \mathcal{U} \} = \\ &= \bigvee \{ x \square_{\alpha''} (y \square_{\alpha''} z) \mid \alpha'' = \max(\alpha, \alpha'); \alpha, \alpha' \in \mathcal{U} \} = \\ &= \bigvee \{ \bigvee \{ x \square_\alpha (y \square_{\alpha'} z) \mid \alpha' \in \mathcal{U} \} \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{U} \} = \\ &= \bigvee \{ x \square_\alpha \bigvee \{ y \square_{\alpha'} z \mid \alpha' \in \mathcal{U} \} \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{U} \} = x \Delta (y \Delta z). \end{aligned}$$

2. A result concerning  $\mathcal{T}(I)$ . Let us now consider the case when  $L = I$  is the unit interval of real numbers. Let  $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{T}(I)$ ,  $\mathcal{U} \neq \emptyset$ , and let  $\Delta = \bigvee \mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{O}(I)$ . If we omit the requirement that  $\mathcal{U}$  be a chain,  $\Delta$  is again isotone, commutative, lower-semicontinuous, and has 0 for zero and 1 for unit. On the other hand, it need not by far be associative; in fact, we shall show that any binary operation  $\Delta$

on  $I$  that fulfils the above mentioned conditions can be obtained as a join in  $\mathcal{O}(I)$  of a countable family  $\{\square_i; i \in \omega\}$  of tensor products on  $I$ . Moreover, we can ensure that each  $\square_i$  is continuous, the semigroup  $(I, \square_i)$  has no idempotents other than 0 and 1 and all elements of  $I \setminus \{1\}$  are nilpotent in  $(I, \square_i)$ ; in other words ([5]), that each semigroup  $(I, \square_i)$  is isomorphic to  $(I, \boxplus)$  where

$$(2.1) \quad x \boxplus y = 0 \vee (x + y - 1) \text{ for all } x, y \in I.$$

**2.1. Theorem.** Let  $\Delta$  be an isotone, commutative and lower-semicontinuous binary operation on  $I$  such that  $x \Delta 0 = 0$  and  $x \Delta 1 = x$  holds for any  $x \in I$ . Then there exists a countable set  $\mathcal{U}$  of tensor products on  $I$  isomorphic to the product  $\boxplus$  given by (2.1) so that

$$(2.2) \quad x \Delta y = \bigvee \{ x \square y \mid \square \in \mathcal{U} \}$$

holds for all  $x, y \in I$ .

**Proof.** We shall need the following lemma which follows immediately from the lower semicontinuity of  $\Delta$ .

**2.1.1. Lemma.** With  $\Delta$  as in the assumptions of 2.1 let  $D$  be a dense subset of  $I$  and let  $x, y_1, \dots, y_n, z_1, \dots, z_n, w \in I$  so that  $x \Delta x > w$  and  $x \Delta y_i > z_i$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then for every  $u < x$  there exists  $d \in D$  with the properties  $u < d < x$ ,  $d \Delta d > w$ , and  $d \Delta y_i > z_i$ .

**2.1.2.** Assume given  $\Delta$  that satisfies the assumptions of 2.1 and some  $a, b, \epsilon$  with

$$(2.3) \quad 0 < b \leq a < 1, \quad 0 < \epsilon < a \Delta b.$$

We are going to prove that there exists an order-isomorphism  $f: I \cong I$  such that the tensor product  $\boxplus^f$  on  $I$  defined by

the formula

$$(2.4) \quad x \boxplus^f y = f^{-1}(fx \boxplus fy), \text{ all } x, y \in I$$

satisfies the inequalities

$$(2.5) \quad a \boxplus^f b > a \Delta b - \epsilon, \quad x \boxplus^f y \leq x \Delta y \text{ for all } x, y \in I.$$

Choose a countable dense subset  $D \subseteq I$  so that  $0, 1 \notin D$ .

Now assume we have constructed a family

$$(2.6) \quad \{d_{n,k}; n \geq 5, 3 \leq k \leq 2^n\}$$

with the properties

$$(a) \quad D = \{d_{n,k} \mid n \geq 5, 3 \leq k < 2^n\};$$

$$(b) \quad 1 > d_{n,3} > d_{n,4} > \dots > d_{n,2^{n-1}} > d_{n,2^n} = 0 \text{ for any } n \geq 5;$$

$$(c) \quad d_{n,k} = d_{n+1,2k} \text{ for any } n \geq 5, 3 \leq k \leq 2^n;$$

$$(d) \quad d_{n,k} \Delta d_{n,p} > d_{n,k+p-2} \text{ whenever } n \geq 5, 3 \leq k, p, \text{ and } k + p \leq 2^n + 2;$$

$$(e) \quad a > d_{5,13}, b > d_{5,18}, \text{ and } a \Delta b - \epsilon < d_{5,31}.$$

Then the map  $d_{n,k} \mapsto 1 - k/2^n$  is an order-preserving bijection between  $D \cup \{0\}$  and the set of all (notice that  $d_{n+1,4} \mapsto 1 - 2/2^n$  and  $d_{n+2,4} \mapsto 1 - 1/2^n$ ) dyadic rationals in the interval  $[0, 1[$ , which is dense in  $I$ , too. Its unique extension  $f$  to the whole of  $I$  is an order-isomorphism  $I \cong I$  with the property

$$(2.7) \quad \text{for any } n \geq 5 \text{ and any } k, p = 3, \dots, 2^n,$$

$$d_{nk} \boxplus^f d_{n,p} = d_{n, \min(2^n, k+p)}.$$

We have  $x \Delta 1 = x \boxplus^f 1 = x$ ,  $x \Delta 0 = x \boxplus^f 0 = 0$  for any  $x \in I$ .

Next, if  $0 < x, y < 1$  we can take the first  $n \geq 5$  with  $d_{n,3} > x$ ,  $y > d_{n,2^{n-1}}$  (this  $n$  certainly exists because  $D$  is dense in  $I$ )

and consider the last  $k$  and  $p$  in  $\{3, \dots, 2^n\}$  with  $d_{n,k} \geq x$  and  $d_{n,p} \geq y$ , respectively. Then  $x > d_{n,k+1}$ ,  $y > d_{n,p+1}$ , and

$$\begin{cases} \text{either } k + p > 2^n \text{ whence } x \boxplus^f y \leq d_{n,k} \boxplus^f d_{n,p} = 0 \leq x \Delta y, \\ \text{or } k + p \leq 2^n \text{ whence } x \boxplus^f y \leq d_{n,k} \boxplus^f d_{n,p} = \\ = d_{n,k+p} < d_{n,k+1} \Delta d_{n,p+1} \leq x \Delta y. \end{cases}$$

Finally we obtain from (e) that  $a \boxplus^f b \geq d_{5,13} \boxplus^f d_{5,18} = d_{5,31} > a \Delta b - \varepsilon$ .

Thus we only have to construct the family (2.6). Choose a sequence  $e_5 < e_6 < \dots < e_n \dots$  with  $e_n \nearrow 1$  and fix a well-ordering of the countable dense set  $D$  (when we mention the first element of some nonempty subset of  $D$  in the sequel we shall be referring to just this ordering). We shall proceed by induction on  $n$ .

I. For  $n = 5$  first choose  $d_{29} \in D$  with  $a \Delta b - \varepsilon < d_{29} < a \Delta b$ .

Since  $a \Delta b > d_{29}$  it follows from 2.1.1 that there exists  $d_{18} \in D$  such that  $d_{29} < d_{18} < b$ ,  $a \Delta d_{18} > d_{29}$ .

Similarly we can use 2.1.1 and the last inequality to ensure the existence of some  $d_{13} \in D$  with  $d_{18} < d_{13} < a$ ,  $d_{13} \Delta d_{18} > d_{29}$ .

Next there exists  $d_{17} \in D$  so that  $d_{18} < d_{17} < d_{13}$  and  $d_{17} \Delta d_{18} > d_{29}$ .

Now pick  $d_{14}$  through  $d_{16}$ , and  $d_{19}$  through  $d_{23}$  so that  $d_{17} < d_{16} < d_{15} < d_{14} < d_{13}$  and  $d_{29} < d_{23} < d_{22} < d_{21} < d_{20} < d_{19} < d_{18}$ . Because  $\Delta$  is isotone we have

$$d_k \Delta d_p \geq d_{17} \Delta d_{18} > d_{29}$$

whenever  $13 \leq k \leq 17$ ,  $13 \leq p \leq 18$  so that we can successively pick



elements  $d_{24}$  through  $d_{28}$  with the properties

$$\begin{aligned} d_{29} &< d_{24} < d_{23} \wedge (d_{13} \Delta d_{13}), \\ d_{29} &< d_{25} < d_{24} \wedge (d_{13} \Delta d_{14}), \\ d_{29} &< d_{26} < d_{25} \wedge (d_{13} \Delta d_{15}) \wedge (d_{14} \Delta d_{14}), \\ d_{29} &< d_{27} < d_{26} \wedge (d_{13} \Delta d_{16}) \wedge (d_{14} \Delta d_{15}), \\ d_{29} &< d_{28} < d_{27} \wedge (d_{13} \Delta d_{17}) \wedge (d_{14} \Delta d_{16}) \wedge (d_{15} \Delta d_{15}). \end{aligned}$$

Finally we choose  $d_{30}$  and  $d_{31}$  so that  $a \Delta b - \varepsilon < d_{31} < d_{30} < d_{29}$  and put  $d_{32} = 0$ .

Since  $1 \Delta 1 > d_{22}$  and  $1 \Delta d_k = d_k > d_{10+k}$  for each  $k = 13, \dots, \dots, 22$ , Lemma 2.1.1 guarantees the existence of some  $d_{12} \in D$  such that  $d_{12} \Delta d_{12} > d_{22}$  and  $d_{12} \Delta d_k > d_{10+k}$  for all  $k = 13, \dots, \dots, 22$ . We pick one and proceed similarly in all the remaining steps. Thus we obtain in turn:

$$d_{11} \in D \text{ with } d_{11} \Delta d_{11} > d_{20} \text{ and } d_{11} \Delta d_k > d_{9+k}; \quad k = 12, \dots, 23;$$

$$d_{10} \in D \text{ with } d_{10} \Delta d_{10} > d_{18} \text{ and } d_{10} \Delta d_k > d_{8+k}; \quad k = 11, \dots, 24;$$

⋮

$$d_4 \in D \text{ with } d_4 \Delta d_4 > d_6 \text{ and } d_4 \Delta d_k > d_{2+k}; \quad k = 5, \dots, 30;$$

and finally  $d_3 \in D$  with  $d_3 > e_5$ ,  $d_3 \Delta d_3 > d_4$ , and  $d_3 \Delta d_k > d_{1+k}$ ;  $k = 4, \dots, 31$ .

Since  $\Delta$  is commutative, putting  $d_{5,k} = d_k$  for  $k = 3, \dots, \dots, 32$  yields a finite sequence that fulfils, for the fixed  $n = 5$ , the conditions (b), (d), and (e).

II. Induction step. Assume given a family  $\{d_{m,k}; 5 \leq m \leq n, 3 \leq k \leq 2^m\}$  such that every  $d_{m,k}$  belongs to  $D$ , the conditions (b) and (d) are satisfied for all  $m \leq n$ , the condition (c) is satisfied for all  $m \leq n - 1$ , the condition

(e) is satisfied, and  $d_{m,3} > e_m$  holds for each  $m = 5, \dots, n$ .

For any  $k = 3, \dots, 2^n$  put  $d_{n+1,2k} = d_{n,k}$ . Then take the first element  $d$  of the nonempty subset

$$\{ t \in D \mid t < d_{n,3} \} \setminus \{ d_{n,k} \mid k = 3, \dots, 2^n \}$$

in  $D$ . There exists the unique  $k_0$  such that  $3 \leq k_0 \leq 2^n - 1$  and  $d_{n,k_0+1} < d < d_{n,k_0}$ . Put  $d_{n+1,2k_0+1} = d$  (this, together with  $d_{n,3} > e_n \nearrow 1$ , ensures that all elements of  $D$  will eventually get included in our family). For  $k \neq k_0$ ,  $3 \leq k \leq 2^n - 1$  pick an arbitrary element  $d_{n+1,2k+1} \in D$  so that  $d_{n,k+1} < d_{n+1,2k+1} < d_{n,k}$ . We have defined all the members  $d_{n+1,k}$ ;  $6 \leq k \leq 2^n$ . Obviously  $1 > d_{n+1,6} > d_{n+1,7} > \dots > d_{n+1,2^{n+1}} = 0$ .

Now we shall verify that

$$d_{n+1,k} \Delta d_{n+1,p} > d_{n+1,k+p-2}$$

holds whenever  $6 \leq k, p$  and  $k + p \leq 2^{n+1} + 2$ . We shall distinguish the following three cases.

1. If  $k = 2r$  and  $p = 2s$  then  $r + s \leq 2^n + 1$  and by the induction hypothesis we have  $d_{n+1,k} \Delta d_{n+1,p} = d_{n,r} \Delta d_{n,s} > d_{n,r+s-2} = d_{n+1,k+p-4} > d_{n+1,k+p-2}$ .

2. If exactly one of the numbers  $k, p$  is odd, e.g.  $k = 2r, p = 2s + 1$  then  $r + s \leq 2^n + 1$  and we have  $d_{n+1,k} \Delta d_{n+1,p} \geq d_{n,r} \Delta d_{n,s+1} > d_{n,r+s-1} = d_{n+1,k+p-3} > d_{n+1,k+p-2}$ .

3. If  $k = 2r + 1$  and  $p = 2s + 1$  then  $r + s \leq 2^n$  and we have  $d_{n+1,k} \Delta d_{n+1,p} \geq d_{n,r+1} \Delta d_{n,s+1} > d_{n,r+s} = d_{n+1,k+p-2}$ .

It remains to define  $d_{n+1,k}$  for  $k = 3, 4$ , and  $5$ . Again we recall 2.1.1 and choose successively

$d_{n+1,5} \in D$  so that  $d_{n+1,5} \Delta d_{n+1,5} > d_{n+1,8}$  and  $d_{n+1,5} \Delta d_{n+1,k} >$   
 $> d_{n+1,3+k}$  for each  $k = 6, \dots, 2^{n+1} - 3$ ;

$d_{n+1,4} \in D$  so that  $d_{n+1,4} \Delta d_{n+1,4} > d_{n+1,6}$  and  $d_{n+1,4} \Delta d_{n+1,k} >$   
 $> d_{n+1,2+k}$  for each  $k = 5, \dots, 2^{n+1} - 2$ ;

and finally

$d_{n+1,3} \in D$  so that  $d_{n+1,3} > e_{n+1}$ ,  $d_{n+1,3} \Delta d_{n+1,3} > d_{n+1,4}$ , and  
 $d_{n+1,3} \Delta d_{n+1,k} > d_{n+1,1+k}$  for each  $k = 4, \dots, 2^{n+1} - 1$ .

2.1.3. Let  $\Delta$  satisfy the assumptions of 2.1. Take a countable dense subset  $D$  of  $I$  which misses 0 and 1. Since 1 is the unit in  $(I, \Delta)$  and  $\Delta$  is lower-semicontinuous the set

$$(2.8) \quad A = \{(a, b, m) \mid a, b \in D, a \geq b, a \Delta b > 1/m\}$$

is infinite countable. Owing to 2.1.2 we can select for each  $(a, b, m) \in A$  a tensor product  $\square_{a, b, m}$  on  $I$  so that the ordered semigroups  $(I, \square_{a, b, m})$  and  $(I, \mathbb{B})$  are isomorphic,  $x \square_{a, b, m} y \leq x \Delta y$  holds for all  $x, y \in I$ , and  $a \square_{a, b, m} b > a \Delta b - 1/m$ .

We set

$$(2.9) \quad x \circ y = \bigvee \{ x \square_{a, b, m} y \mid (a, b, m) \in A \}, \text{ all } x, y \in I.$$

Clearly  $0 \leq \Delta$  holds in  $\mathcal{O}(I)$ . Now suppose there exist  $x, y \in I$  with  $x \circ y < x \Delta y$ . Then  $x, y \neq 0, 1$ . Since  $\Delta$  is lower-semicontinuous there exist  $x_1 < x$  and  $y_1 < y$  such that  $x \Delta y < x_1 \Delta y_1$ . Because  $D$  is dense in  $I$  we can take some  $a, b \in D$  with  $x_1 < a < x$ ,  $y_1 < b < y$ , and, say,  $a \geq b$ . For every natural number  $m > 1/(x_1 \Delta y_1 - x \Delta y)$  we then have  $a \circ b \geq a \square_{a, b, m} b > a \Delta b - 1/m \geq x_1 \Delta y_1 - 1/m > x \Delta y \geq a \Delta b$ , which is absurd. Thus  $0 = \Delta$  and the proof of 2.1 is complete.

2.2. Corollary. For any  $\square, \square' \in \mathcal{J}(I)$  the operation

$\Delta$  defined on  $I$  by the formula

$$(2.10) \quad x \Delta y = (x \square y) \wedge (x \square' y)$$

fulfils the assumptions of 2.1 hence  $\Delta = \vee \mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{O}(I)$  for some subset  $\emptyset \neq \mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{T}(I)$ . Thus, if the couple  $\{\square, \square'\}$  has a meet in  $\mathcal{T}(I)$  then the meet necessarily coincides with (2.10). Conclusion:  $\{\square, \square'\}$  has a meet in  $\mathcal{T}(I)$  iff the operation (2.10) is associative.

2.3. Corollary. Owing to 2.2 it now suffices to find an example of two tensor products on  $I$  whose meet in  $\mathcal{O}(I)$  is not associative in order to prove that  $\mathcal{T}(I)$  is not a lower semilattice.

Example. Let  $\square = \boxplus$  and let  $\square' = \boxplus^f$  where the order isomorphism  $f: I \approx I$  is defined by the formula

$$(2.11) \quad fx = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1/8 \text{ or } 1/2 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 2x - 1/8 & \text{if } 1/8 \leq x \leq 1/4 \\ x/2 + 1/4 & \text{if } 1/4 \leq x \leq 1/2. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 3/4 \boxplus^f 7/8 &= 3/4 \boxplus 7/8 = 5/8, \\ 5/8 \boxplus^f 1/2 &= 5/8 \boxplus 1/2 = 1/8, \\ 7/8 \boxplus^f 1/2 &= f^{-1}(3/8) = 1/4 < 3/8 = 7/8 \boxplus 1/2, \\ 3/4 \boxplus^f 1/4 &= f^{-1}(3/4 \boxplus 3/8) = f^{-1}(1/8) = 1/8 > 0 = \\ &= 3/4 \boxplus 1/4 \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} (3/4 \Delta 7/8) \Delta 1/2 &= 5/8 \Delta 1/2 = 1/8 > 0 = 3/4 \Delta 1/4 = \\ &= 3/4 \Delta (7/8 \Delta 1/2) \end{aligned}$$

and the meet  $\Delta$  of  $\square$  and  $\square'$  in  $\mathcal{O}(I)$  is not associative.

Conclusion:  $\mathcal{T}(I)$  is not a lower semilattice.

2.4. Corollary. If  $\mathcal{J}(I)$  were an upper semilattice then by Proposition 1.5 all nonempty joins would exist in  $\mathcal{J}(I)$ . In particular, for any  $\square, \square' \in \mathcal{J}(I)$  the nonempty set of all lower bounds of  $\{\square, \square'\}$  in  $\mathcal{J}(I)$  would have a join in  $\mathcal{J}(I)$ , which contradicts 2.3. Conclusion:  $\mathcal{J}(I)$  is not an upper semilattice either.

2.5. Remark. On the other hand, it follows trivially from 2.1 that any  $\square \in \mathcal{J}(I)$  is a join in  $\mathcal{J}(I)$  of a countable set of elements isomorphic to  $\mathbb{E}$ . In view of 1.5 it is natural to conjecture that there always exists even a non-decreasing sequence  $\{\square_n; n \in \omega\}$  of isomorphs of  $\mathbb{E}$  so that  $\square_n \nearrow \square$ . This, however, remains an open question.

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