

Abu Saleh Abdun Noor; William H. Cornish  
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**MULTIPLIERS ON A NEARLATTICE**  
**A. S. A. NOOR and William H. CORNISH****Abstract**

A nearlattice is a lower semilattice in which any two elements have a supremum whenever they are bounded above. Here we generalize the concept of direct summand to nearlattices and show that the direct summands of a nearlattice  $S$  with  $0$  are precisely the central elements of  $J(S)$ , the lattice of ideals. Then we discuss multipliers (meet translations) on nearlattices.

**Subject Classifications (1980) : 06A12, 06A99, 06B10**

**1 Introduction**

Nearlattices, or lower semilattices with the property that any two elements possessing a common upper bound have a supremum, provide an interesting generalization of lattices. Cornish and Hickman [2] referred this property as the *upper bound property*, and a semilattice of this nature as a *semilattice with the upper bound property*. We refer the reader to [2, 3] for necessary background on nearlattices.

Standard elements and ideals in lattices were first studied in depth by Grätzer and Schmidt [5]. Recently Cornish and Noor [3] has extended those concepts to nearlattices. An element 's' in a lattice 'L' is called *standard* if for any  $x, y \in L$ ,  $x \wedge (y \vee s) = (x \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge s)$ . It is called *neutral* if

it is standard and for any  $x, y \in L$ ,  $s \wedge (x \vee y) = (s \wedge x) \vee (s \wedge y)$ . An ideal of a lattice (nearlattice) is called *standard* if it is a standard element of the lattice of ideals.

Central elements in a lattice were studied by Kolibiar in [7]. An element 's' in a lattice 'L' is called *central* if it is neutral, and complemented in each interval containing it.

According to [8; 4.3, p-15], in a lattice 'L' with 0,  $a \nabla b$  denotes the fact that  $a \wedge b = 0$  and  $(a \vee x) \wedge b = x \wedge b$  for all  $x \in L$ . For a subset H of L,  $H^\nabla$  denotes the set of elements  $a \in L$  such that  $a \nabla b$  for all  $b \in H$ . Let L be a lattice with 0, and  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  be its subsets, each of which contains 0. We say that L is the *direct sum* of  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  and write  $L = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_n$ , if

- (i) Every element  $a \in L$  can be expressed (uniquely) in the form  $a = a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n$  for some  $a_i \in H_i$ , and
- (ii)  $H_i \subset H_j^\nabla$  for  $i \neq j$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

The subsets  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  are called *direct summands* of L. By [8; 4.8, p-16], every direct summand is an ideal of L. Janowitz in [6] has shown that the direct summands of a lattice L with zero are precisely the central elements of the lattice of ideals.

For a lattice L, a map  $\phi : L \rightarrow L$  is called a *multiplier* if  $\phi(a \wedge b) = \phi(a) \wedge b$  for each  $a, b \in L$ . The set of all multipliers of L is denoted by  $M(L)$  and is known as the *multiplier extension* of L.

Multipliers on semilattices and lattices have been previously studied by several authors. A good and accessible summary appears in [1], also c.f. [10].

In §2, we generalize the concept of direct summand to nearlattices. Then we show that the direct summands of a nearlattice S with 0 are precisely

the central elements of  $J(S)$ , which is an extension of Janowitz's result in [6].

In §3, we discuss multipliers on nearlattices. We extend some results of Nieminen [9], and include some corrections of certain errors of Nieminen's work in [9].

## 2 Direct Summands of a Nearlattice

In a nearlattice  $S$  with  $0$ , we define  $a \nabla b$  to mean that  $a \wedge b = 0$  and  $((a \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge b = x \wedge y \wedge b$  for  $x, y \in S$ .

Suppose  $a \nabla b$  holds in a lattice  $L$  with  $0$  in the sense of the introduction. Then for all  $x, y \in L$ ,  
 $(a \vee ((a \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y))) \wedge b = ((a \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge b$  and so  
 $((a \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge b = (a \vee ((a \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y))) \wedge b =$   
 $(a \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge b = x \wedge y \wedge b$ . This and a part of the following result show that the concept of  $\nabla$  in a nearlattice and the one in "Lattice Theory" coincide in a lattice.

### Proposition 2.1

*Suppose  $a \nabla b$  holds in a nearlattice  $S$  for some  $a, b \in S$ . Then  $a \wedge b = 0$  and  $(a \vee t) \wedge b = t \wedge b$  for any  $t \in S$ , whenever  $a \vee t$  exists. But these are not sufficient for  $a$  and  $b$  to satisfy the relation  $a \nabla b$ .*

### Proof

Since  $a \nabla b$  in  $S$ ,  $a \wedge b = 0$  and, for any  $x, y \in S$ ,  
 $((a \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge b = x \wedge y \wedge b$ . Suppose  $a \vee t$  exists for some  $t \in S$ . Putting  $a \vee t = x$ , we obtain  
 $(a \vee t) \wedge b = ((a \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge t)) \wedge b = x \wedge t \wedge b = t \wedge b$ .

For the second assertion, consider the nearlattice  $S$  in Figure 1. There

$s \wedge a = 0$  and  $(s \vee x) \wedge a = x \wedge a$  for all  $x \in S$ , whenever  $s \vee x$  exists. But  $((s \wedge c) \vee (c \wedge d)) \wedge a > c \wedge d \wedge a$  implies that  $s \nabla a$  does not hold. •

For a subset  $H$  of a nearlattice  $S$  with  $0$ , let  $H^\nabla = \{ a \in S : a \nabla b \text{ for all } b \in H \}$ . Suppose  $a, b \in S$  are such that  $a \nabla b$  and let  $a_1 \leq a$ . Then for any  $x, y \in S$ ,  $((a_1 \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge b = ((a_1 \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge ((a \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge b = ((a_1 \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \wedge b \wedge x \wedge y = b \wedge x \wedge y$ , which implies that  $H^\nabla$  is hereditary. It is well known in lattice theory that  $H^\nabla$  is an ideal, c.f. [ 8; 4.6, p-16 ]. Figure 2 shows that this is not necessarily true in a nearlattice. There, consider  $H = \{ b \}$ . It is easy to check that  $a_1, a_2 \in H^\nabla$ . But,  $((a_1 \vee a_2) \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y) \wedge b > x \wedge y \wedge b$  implies that  $a_1 \vee a_2 \notin H^\nabla$ .

**Remark**

In connection with the definition of  $\nabla$  in a nearlattice, it should be noted that one might define the relation  $\nabla$  in the following way : In a nearlattice  $S$  with  $0$ ,  $a \nabla b$  means  $a \wedge b = 0$  and  $(a \vee x) \wedge b = x \wedge b$ , whenever  $a \vee x$  exists for any  $x \in S$ . The main disadvantage with this definition is that, for any subset  $H$  of  $S$ ,  $H^\nabla$  is not necessarily hereditary. In Figure 3, notice that  $a \in \{ b \}^\nabla$ , but  $(r \vee x) \wedge b > x \wedge b$  implies that  $r \notin \{ b \}^\nabla$ . •

Suppose  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  are the subsets of  $S$ , each of which contains  $0$ . We say that  $S$  is the *direct sum* of  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  and write  $S = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_n$  if

- (i) every element  $a \in S$  can be expressed in the form  $a = a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n$  where  $a_i \in H_i$ , and
- (ii)  $H_i \subset H_j^\nabla$  whenever  $i \neq j$ .

The subsets  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  are called *direct summands* of  $S$ .

**Lemma 2.2.**

*If a nearlattice  $S$  with  $0$  is a direct sum of  $H_1, \dots, H_n$ , then for every element  $a \in S$  the expression  $a = a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n$  where  $a_i \in H_i$  is unique,*

and  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  are ideals of  $S$ .

**Proof**

Let  $a = a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n = b_1 \vee \dots \vee b_n$  where  $a_i, b_i \in H_i$ . Here,  $b_2, \dots, b_n \in H_1^\nabla$  by definition. Thus,  $b_2 \nabla a_1, \dots, b_n \nabla a_1$ . Hence  $a_1 = a \wedge a_1 = (b_1 \vee \dots \vee b_n) \wedge a_1 = b_1 \wedge a_1$  by proposition 2.1, which implies that  $a_1 \leq b_1$ . By symmetry,  $b_1 \leq a_1$  and hence  $a_1 = b_1$ . Similarly,  $a_i = b_i$  for all  $i$ .

For the second part, we will only show that  $H_1$  is an ideal of  $S$ . Let  $a \in H_1$  and  $b \leq a$  ( $b \in S$ ). Then  $b = b_1 \vee \dots \vee b_n$  with  $b_i \in H_i$ . For  $i \neq 1$ , notice that  $b_i \leq b \leq a$  and  $b_i \in H_i \subset H_1^\nabla$ . Thus,  $b_i = b_i \wedge a = 0$ , i.e.,  $b = b_1 \in H_1$  and so  $H_1$  is hereditary. Finally, let  $a, b \in H_1$  are such that  $a \vee b$  exists. Suppose  $a \vee b = c_1 \vee \dots \vee c_n$  where  $c_i \in H_i$ . Now, if  $i \neq 1$ ,  $a, b \in H_1 \subset H_i^\nabla$ , which implies  $a \nabla c_i$  and  $b \nabla c_i$  for  $i \neq 1$ . Then  $c_i = (a \vee b) \wedge c_i = b \wedge c_i = 0$  by proposition 2.1, and  $a \vee b = c_1 \in H_1$ . Therefore,  $H_1$  is an ideal of  $S$ . •

Our next theorem gives a generalization of a result of Janowitz [6] to nearlattices which says that the direct summands of a nearlattice  $S$  with 0 are precisely the central elements of  $J(S)$ . To prove this, we need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.3** [ Janowitz [6] ].

Let ' $L$ ' be a bounded lattice with ' $z$ '  $\in$  ' $L$ '. If  $z'$  is the complement of ' $z$ ' in ' $L$ ', then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (i)  $z$  is central and
- (ii) both  $z$  and  $z'$  are standard. •

**Lemma 2.4**

Suppose  $S$  is a nearlattice with 0 and  $S = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_n$ . Then

- (i) for any  $x, y \in S$ , where  $x = a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n$  and  $y = b_1 \vee \dots \vee b_n$  with  $a_i, b_i \in H_i$ ,  $x \wedge y = (a_1 \wedge b_1) \vee \dots \vee (a_n \wedge b_n)$ .
- (ii) each  $H_i$  is a standard ideal of  $S$ .

**Proof**

- (i) Clearly,  $(a_1 \wedge b_1) \vee \dots \vee (a_n \wedge b_n) \leq x, y$  and so  $\leq x \wedge y$ . Since  $S = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_n$ ,  $x \wedge y = c_1 \vee \dots \vee c_n$  with  $c_i \in H_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Now, notice that  $c_1 \leq x \wedge y \leq x, y$ . Thus,  $c_1 = x \wedge c_1 = (a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n) \wedge c_1 = a_1 \wedge c_1$  as  $a_2 \nabla c_1, \dots, a_n \nabla c_1$  and  $c_1 = y \wedge c_1 = (b_1 \vee \dots \vee b_n) \wedge c_1 = b_1 \wedge c_1$ , as  $b_2 \nabla c_1, \dots, b_n \nabla c_1$ . Hence,  $c_1 \leq a_1, b_1$  and so  $c_1 \leq a_1 \wedge b_1$ . Similarly,  $c_i \leq a_i \wedge b_i$  for all  $i$  and thus  $x \wedge y \leq (a_1 \wedge b_1) \vee \dots \vee (a_n \wedge b_n)$ , which completes the proof of (i).
- (ii) Let  $T = \{ h \vee r : h \vee r \text{ exist with } h \in H_1 \text{ and } r \in R \}$  for an ideal  $R$  of  $S$ . Clearly  $T$  is closed under existent finite suprema. Suppose  $x \in S$  and  $x \leq h \vee r$  for some  $h \in H_1$  and  $r \in R$ . Since  $S = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_n$ ,  $x = a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n$  and  $r = h_1 \vee \dots \vee h_n$ , where  $a_i, h_i \in H_i$ . Then  $x = x \wedge (h \vee r) = (a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n) \wedge ((h \vee h_1) \vee \dots \vee h_n) = (a_1 \wedge (h \vee h_1)) \vee \dots \vee (a_n \wedge h_n)$  by the application of (i). (Here,  $h \vee h_1$  exists by the upper bound property of  $S$  as  $h, h_1 \leq h \vee r$ ). Thus  $x \in T$ ; it follows that  $T$  is an ideal, and clearly  $T = H_1 \vee R$ . Hence, by [ 3; Th. 2.5 ],  $H_1$  is standard in  $J(S)$ , the lattice of ideals of  $S$ , and (ii) is obtained. •

**Theorem 2.5**

*In a nearlattice  $S$  with  $0$ , an ideal  $I$  is a central element of  $J(S)$  if and only if it is a direct summand of  $S$ .*

**Proof**

Let  $I$  be central in  $J(S)$  and let  $K$  be its complement. Then  $I \cap K = \{0\}$  and  $I \vee K = S$ . Thus, by [ 3; Th. 2.5 ], for each  $a \in S$  there exists  $b \in I$  and  $c \in K$  such that  $a = b \vee c$ . Moreover, since  $I$  is central, for any  $i \in I$ ,  $k \in K$  and  $x, y \in S$ ,

$$((i \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)) \cap (k) \subseteq (I \vee (x \wedge y)) \cap (k) = (I \cap (k)) \vee (x \wedge y \wedge k) = (x \wedge y \wedge k) \text{ as } I \cap K = \{0\}.$$

Thus  $[(i \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge y)] \wedge k = x \wedge y \wedge k$ . But  $i \wedge k = 0$  and so  $i \nabla k$ . Similarly,  $k \nabla i$  and hence  $S = I \oplus K$ .

Conversely, let  $S = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_n$ . Then it is not hard to see that  $H_1 \cap (H_2 \vee \dots \vee H_n) = \{0\}$  as each  $H_i$  is standard in  $J(S)$  by lemma 2.4. Moreover, each  $a \in S$  has a representation of the form  $a = a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_n$  for suitable  $a_i \in H_i$ ; it follows that  $H_1 \vee \dots \vee H_n = S$ . Thus,  $H_1$  is the complement of  $H_2 \vee \dots \vee H_n$  in  $J(S)$ . But by lemma 2.4, both  $H_1$  and  $H_2 \vee \dots \vee H_n$  are standard in  $J(S)$ . Thus  $H_1$  is central in  $J(S)$  by lemma 2.3. Similarly,  $H_i$  is central in  $J(S)$  for each  $i$ . •

### Corollary 2.6

*The direct summands of a nearlattice  $S$  with 0 form a boolean sublattice of  $J(S)$ .* •

## 3 Multiplier extension of a nearlattice

Let  $S$  be a nearlattice and  $\phi$  a mapping of  $S$  into itself. Then  $\phi$  is called a *multiplier* on  $S$ , if  $\phi(x \wedge y) = \phi(x) \wedge y$  for each  $x, y \in S$ . Each multiplier  $\phi$  on  $S$  has the following properties,  $\phi(x) \leq x$ ,  $\phi(\phi(x)) = \phi(x)$ , and  $x \leq y$  implies  $\phi(x) \leq \phi(y)$ . For a multiplier  $\phi$  on  $S$ ,  $M_\phi = \{x \in S : \phi(x) = x\}$  is clearly an ideal of  $S$ , and by [ 10; Th. 3 ],  $M_\phi$  determines  $\phi$  uniquely.

Each  $a \in S$  induces a multiplier  $\mu_a$  defined by  $\mu_a(x) = a \wedge x$  for each  $x \in S$ . A multiplier of this form is called an *inner multiplier*. Note that the identity function on  $S$ , which will be denoted by  $\iota$ , is always a multiplier.  $M(S)$  ( respectively  $\mu(S)$  ) denotes the set of all multipliers ( respectively



inner multipliers) on  $S$ . It is trivial that  $M(S)$  has a zero  $\omega$  (say) if and only if  $S$  has  $0$ .

The following result is due to [9, Lemma 1].

**Lemma 3.1**

*An ideal  $I$  of a nearlattice  $S$  generates a multiplier  $\phi$  on  $S$ , that is  $M_\phi = I$ , if and only if for each  $a \in S$  there is an element  $b \in I$  such that  $I \cap \{a\} = \{b\}$ , and moreover,  $b = \phi(a)$ . •*

If  $\phi$  and  $\lambda$  are multipliers on a nearlattice  $S$ , then  $\phi \wedge \lambda$  and  $\phi \vee \lambda$  are defined by  $(\phi \wedge \lambda)(x) = \phi(x) \wedge \lambda(x)$  and  $(\phi \vee \lambda)(x) = \phi(x) \vee \lambda(x)$ . Notice that  $\phi(x) \vee \lambda(x)$  always exists by the upper bound property of  $S$ , as  $\phi(x), \lambda(x) \leq x$ , though  $\phi \vee \lambda$  is not necessarily a multiplier. Also,  $\phi(\lambda(x)) = \phi(\lambda(x \wedge x)) = \phi(\lambda(x) \wedge x) = \phi(x) \wedge \lambda(x)$ . As shown by [11; Th. 3],  $M(S)$  is a meet semilattice.

The following result is also due to [9].

**Proposition 3.2**

*Let  $\phi$  and  $\lambda$  be two multipliers on a nearlattice  $S$ . Then  $\phi \vee \lambda$  is a multiplier on  $S$  if and only if  $(M_\phi \vee M_\lambda) \cap \{x\} = (M_\phi \cap \{x\}) \vee (M_\lambda \cap \{x\})$  for each  $x \in S$ . •*

In case of lattices, the following corollary follows immediately from above proposition, and was already proved by Nieminen in [9]. But in our situation, a little more care is required, as the supremum of two ideals in a nearlattice is not as well behaved as that in a lattice.

**Corollary 3.3**

*Let  $\phi$  be a multiplier on a nearlattice  $S$ . The mapping  $\phi \vee \lambda$  is a multiplier on  $S$  for each  $\lambda \in M(S)$  if and only if  $M_\phi$  is a standard ideal of  $S$ .*

**Proof**

If  $M_\phi$  is standard then  $(M_\phi \vee M_\lambda) \cap (x) = (M_\phi \cap (x)) \vee (M_\lambda \cap (x))$  for each  $\lambda \in M(S)$ . Then  $\phi \vee \lambda$  is a multiplier by proposition 3.2.

Conversely, let  $\phi \vee \lambda$  be a multiplier for each  $\lambda \in M(S)$ . By proposition 3.2,  $((a] \vee M_\phi) \cap (x) = ((a] \cap (x)) \vee (M_\phi \cap (x))$  for each  $\mu_a, a \in S$ . Now, let  $I$  be any ideal of  $S$  and suppose  $T = \{ i \vee j : i \vee j \text{ exists and } i \in I, j \in M_\phi \}$ . Obviously,  $T$  is closed under existent finite suprema. Suppose  $r \in S$  with  $r \leq i \vee j$  for some  $i \in I$  and  $j \in M_\phi$ . Then from the above observation,  $(r) = (r) \cap ((i) \vee (j)) \subseteq (r) \cap ((i) \vee M_\phi) = ((r) \cap (i)) \vee ((r) \cap M_\phi) \subseteq ((r) \cap I) \vee ((r) \cap M_\phi)$ .

Now,  $((r) \cap I) \vee ((r) \cap M_\phi) = \{ x \in S : x \leq p \vee q \text{ with } p \in (r) \cap I \text{ and } q \in (r) \cap M_\phi \}$ . Because, clearly the right hand side is hereditary, and it is closed under existent finite suprema by the upper bound property of  $S$ , as each element of  $(r) \cap I$  and  $(r) \cap M_\phi$  is  $\leq r$ . Thus,  $r \leq a \vee b$  for some  $a \in (r) \cap I$  and  $b \in (r) \cap M_\phi$ . This implies  $r = a \vee b$  and hence  $r \in T$ . That is,  $T$  is an ideal containing  $I$  and  $M_\phi$ , and  $T = I \vee M_\phi$ . Hence by [ 3; Th. 2.5 ],  $M_\phi$  is standard. •

We are now in a position to generalize an interesting result of [ 9 ].

**Theorem 3.4**

*A nearlattice  $S$  with  $0$  has a decomposition into a direct summand if and only if there are at least two multipliers  $\phi$  and  $\lambda$  on  $S$  such that  $\phi \vee \lambda = \iota$  and  $\phi \wedge \lambda = \omega$ , and both  $\phi$  and  $\lambda$  have a supremum with each multiplier on  $S$ .*

**Proof**

Let  $S = J \oplus K$ . By theorem 2.5, both  $J$  and  $K$  are standard elements of  $J(S)$ ,  $J \wedge K = (0)$  and  $J \vee K = S$ . Choose any  $x \in S$ . Since  $S = J \oplus K$ ,  $x = a_1 \vee a_2$  ( unique ),  $a_1 \in J$  and  $a_2 \in K$ . Thus,  $J \cap (x) = (a_1)$ ,  $a_1 \in J$ , and so by Lemma 3.1,  $J$  generates a multiplier  $\phi$  on  $S$ . As  $J$  is standard in  $J(S)$ ,

by 3.3,  $\phi \vee \tau$  is a multiplier for each multiplier  $\tau \in M(S)$ . Similar facts also hold for the multiplier  $\lambda$  on  $S$  associated with  $K$ . Then  $\phi \vee \lambda$  corresponds to the multiplier associated with the ideal  $J \vee K = S$ , that is,  $\iota$ , while  $\phi \wedge \lambda$  is the multiplier associated with  $J \cap K = (0)$ , i.e.,  $\omega$ .

Conversely, let  $\phi$  and  $\lambda$  be two multipliers with the properties given in the theorem. As  $\phi \vee \tau$  exists for each multiplier  $\tau \in M(S)$ , the ideal  $J$  associated with  $\phi$  is a standard element of  $J(S)$ . This also holds for the ideal  $K$  associated with  $\lambda$ . As  $\phi \wedge \lambda = \omega$  and  $\phi \vee \lambda = \iota$ ,  $J \wedge K = (0)$  and  $J \vee K = S$ , respectively. Thus, both  $J$  and  $K$  are central by Lemma 2.3. Hence, according to Theorem 2.5,  $S = J \oplus K$ . •

Next theorem is due to Nieminen [ 9; Th. 3 ]. It should be mentioned that there is an error in Nieminen's proof of (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). There he wanted to prove that if  $\{x\}$  is a distributive sublattice of  $S$  for each  $x \in S$  ( i.e.,  $S$  is distributive ) then  $J(S)$  is distributive, which is well known from [ 2, Th. 1.1 ]. It is important to note that his determination of the supremum of two ideals in an arbitrary nearlattice is not correct. For two ideals  $I$  and  $J$  of a nearlattice  $S$ , he has described  $I \vee J$  as  $\{ x \in S : x \leq i \vee j; i \in I, j \in J \}$ . Figure 4 shows that this is not true for a non-distributive nearlattice. There, let  $I = \{a\}$  and  $J = \{b\}$ . Observe that  $c \in I \vee J$  but  $c \notin \{ x \in S : x \leq i \vee j; i \in I, j \in J \}$ . In this connection we like to mention that [ 4, Ex. 22, p-54 ] gives a formula for the supremum of two ideals in an arbitrary nearlattice.

### Theorem 3.5

*In a nearlattice  $S$ , the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (i)  $M(S)$  is a lattice ( in fact, distributive lattice).
- (ii) Each multiplier on  $S$  is a join-partial endomorphism of  $S$ .
- (iii)  $\{x\}$  is a distributive sublattice of  $S$  for each  $x \in S$ . In other words,  $S$  is distributive. •

We conclude this paper with the following theorem which was also mentioned by Nieminen in [ 9, Th. 4 ] without proof. But it is quite significant to note that there he has given an outline of a proof which is completely wrong. He has suggested to use the idea that for a nearlattice  $S$ ,  $J(S)$  is modular if and only if  $[x]$  is modular for each  $x \in S$ . Nearlattice  $S$  of figure 2 gives a counter example to that. Notice that there  $[r]$  is modular for each  $r \in S$ . But in  $J(S)$ , clearly  $\{ [0], [a_1], [a_1, y], [a_2, b], S \}$  is a pentagonal sublattice.

Still, we are able to provide an independent proof of this theorem.

### Theorem 3.6

*Let  $S$  be a nearlattice. Each multiplier  $\phi$  on  $S$  has the property that  $\phi(\phi(y) \vee z) = \phi(y) \vee \phi(z)$  when  $\phi(y) \vee z$  exists in  $S$ , if and only if  $[x]$  is a modular sublattice of  $S$  for each  $x \in S$ .*

### Proof

Suppose  $[x]$  is modular for each  $x \in S$ . Let  $\phi$  be a multiplier on  $S$  such that  $\phi(y) \vee z$  exists for some  $y, z \in S$ . Choose any  $a \in M_\phi \cap ((\phi(y) \vee z))$ . Then  $a = \phi(a)$  and  $a \leq \phi(y) \vee z = t$  ( say ). Since  $a, \phi(y) \leq t$ , the upper bound property of  $S$  ensures that  $a \vee \phi(y) = s$  ( say ) exists in  $S$  and  $s \leq t$ . Also,  $a, \phi(y) \leq s$  implies that  $a = \phi(a) \leq \phi(s)$  and  $\phi(y) = \phi(\phi(y)) \leq \phi(s)$ , i.e.,  $s \leq \phi(s)$ , and so  $s \in M_\phi$ . Since  $[t]$  is a modular sublattice of  $S$ ,  $s = s \wedge t = s \wedge (\phi(y) \vee z) = \phi(y) \vee (s \wedge z) \in (M_\phi \cap (\phi(y))) \vee (M_\phi \cap (z))$ . Thus,  $a \in (M_\phi \cap (\phi(y))) \vee (M_\phi \cap (z))$ . Since the reverse inclusion is obvious,  $M_\phi \cap (\phi(y) \vee z) = (M_\phi \cap (\phi(y))) \vee (M_\phi \cap (z))$ . Hence by Lemma 3.1,  $\phi(\phi(y) \vee z) = \phi(y) \vee \phi(z)$ .

To prove the converse, let each multiplier  $\phi$  on  $S$  has the property  $\phi(\phi(y) \vee z) = \phi(y) \vee \phi(z)$  whenever  $\phi(y) \vee z$  exists. Suppose  $a, b, c \in [x]$  with  $c \leq a$ . As the multiplier  $\mu_a$  has the given property,  $a \wedge (b \vee c) = \mu_a(b \vee c) = \mu_a(b \vee \mu_a(c)) = \mu_a(b) \vee \mu_a(c) = (a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge c) = (a \wedge b) \vee c$ , which implies that  $[x]$  is modular. •

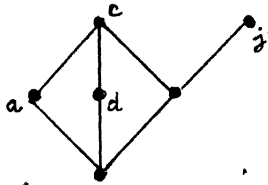


Figure 1.

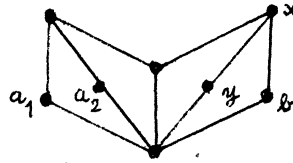


Figure 2.

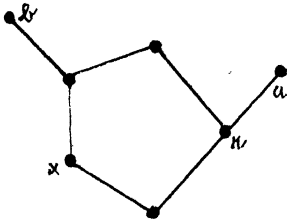


Figure 3.

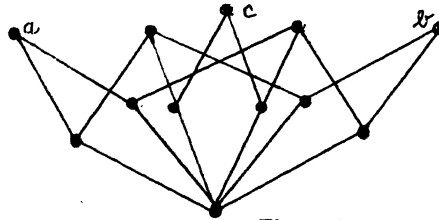


Figure 4.

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*Department of Mathematics  
Rajshahi University  
Rajshahi, Bangladesh*

*School of Mathematical Sciences  
Flinders University  
Bedford Park, S. A. 5042  
Australia*

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