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SEQUENTIAL CONVERGENCES ON FREE LATTICE ORDERED  
GROUPS

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*Summary.* In this paper the partially ordered set  $\text{Conv } G$  of all sequential convergences on  $G$  is investigated, where  $G$  is either a free lattice ordered group or a free abelian lattice ordered group.

*Keywords:* free lattice ordered group, free abelian lattice ordered group, sequential convergence

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J. Novák [16] proved that every free group admits a nontrivial sequential convergence such that the group operation is sequentially continuous. Compatible sequential convergences on free groups were dealt with by Frič and Zanolin [7] (cf. also further references quoted there).

Let  $G$  be a lattice ordered group. The partially ordered set  $\text{Conv } G$  of all compatible sequential convergences on  $G$  was studied by Harminc [10]. The questions dealing with  $\text{Conv } G$  were investigated also in the papers [8], [9], [12], [13], [14].

In what follows, we will apply the shorter term “convergence” rather than “compatible sequential convergence”.

Let  $\alpha$  be a cardinal. The free (abelian) lattice ordered group with  $\alpha$  free generators will be denoted by  $G(\alpha)$  (or  $A(\alpha)$ , respectively).

A natural question arises whether  $G(\alpha)$  and  $A(\alpha)$  admit a nontrivial convergence.

In the present paper the following results will be proved:

(A) If  $\alpha = 1$ , then  $G(\alpha) = A(\alpha)$  has no nontrivial convergence.

(B) If  $\alpha \geq 2$ , then  $G(\alpha)$  admits a nontrivial convergence.

(C) If  $\alpha \geq 2$ , then  $A(\alpha)$  admits  $2^{2^{\aleph_0}}$  nontrivial convergences.

(D) If  $\alpha \geq 2$ , then the partially ordered set  $\text{Conv } A(\alpha)$  has no atom.

The question whether the assertions of (C) and (D) are valid for  $G(\alpha)$  remains open.

## 1. PRELIMINARIES

In the whole paper the symbol  $\alpha$  denotes a cardinal. The group operation in a lattice ordered group will be denoted additively.

The free abelian lattice ordered group  $A(\alpha)$  of rank  $\alpha$  has been investigated by Weinberg [17], [18], Bernau [2] and Conrad [4]. For the non-abelian case, the free lattice ordered group  $G(\alpha)$  with  $\alpha$  free generators was studied by Conrad [5] (cf. also the monographs [1], [6], [15]).

The following two results will be applied below.

**Lemma 1.1.** (Cf. [17], p. 197.) *Let  $\alpha \geq 2$ ,  $0 < h \in A(\alpha)$ . Then there are elements  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  in  $A(\alpha)$  such that  $0 < g_i < h$  is valid for  $i = 1, 2$  and  $g_1 \wedge g_2 = 0$ .*

**Proposition 1.2.** (Cf. [5].) *Let  $X$  be the  $\ell$ -ideal of  $G(\alpha)$  generated by the set  $x + y - x - y$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  run over  $G(\alpha)$ . Then the factor lattice ordered group  $G(\alpha)/X$  is isomorphic to  $A(\alpha)$ .*

Next let us recall, for the sake of completeness, the basic definitions concerning convergences in a lattice ordered group  $G$ . The notation from [12] will be applied.

Let  $N$  be the set of all positive integers. The direct product  $\prod_{n \in N} G_n$ , where  $G_n = G$  for each  $n \in N$ , will be denoted by  $G^N$ . If  $(g_n) \in G^N$ ,  $g \in G$ , and if  $g_n = g$  is valid for each  $n \in N$ , then we write  $(g_n) = \text{const } g$ . The elements of  $G^N$  are called sequences in  $G$ ; the notion of a subsequence has the usual meaning.

A subset  $\beta$  of the positive cone  $(G^N)^+$  of  $G^N$  is said to be a convergence in  $G$  if  $\beta$  is a convex subsemigroup of  $(G^N)^+$  such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (I) If  $(g_n) \in \beta$ , then each subsequence of  $(g_n)$  belongs to  $\beta$ .
- (II) Let  $(g_n) \in (G^N)^+$ . If each subsequence of  $(g_n)$  has a subsequence belonging to  $\beta$ , then  $(g_n)$  belongs to  $\beta$ .
- (III) Let  $g \in G$ . Then  $\text{const } g$  belongs to  $\beta$  if and only if  $g = 0$ .

The system of all convergences in  $G$  will be denoted by  $\text{Conv } G$ ; this system is partially ordered by inclusion.

For  $(g_n) \in (G^N)^+$  and  $g \in G$  we put  $g_n \rightarrow_{\beta} g$  if and only if  $(|g - g_n|) \in \beta$ .

**Proposition 1.3.** (Cf. [10].) *The partially ordered set  $\text{Conv } G$  is a  $\wedge$ -semilattice having a least element. Each interval of  $\text{Conv } G$  is a complete Brouwerian lattice.*

The least element of  $\text{Conv } G$  is the trivial convergence on  $G$ ; its definition is obvious. It will be denoted by  $\beta_0$ .

## 2. THE PROOFS OF (A) - (D)

**Proof of (A):** Let  $N_0$  be the additive group of all integers with the natural linear order. It is well-known (cf. [3], Chap. XIII) that the lattice ordered group  $G(1)$  is isomorphic to  $N_0 \times N_0$ ; thus  $A(1) = G(1)$ .

In view of [9], Corollary 2.10 we have  $\text{card Conv } N_0 = 1$ . According to [9], Theorem 4.5, the partially ordered set  $\text{Conv}(N_0 \times N_0)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Conv } N_0 \times \text{Conv } N_0$ . Hence  $\text{card Conv}(N_0 \times N_0) = 1$ . Therefore (A) is valid.  $\square$

Let us consider the following condition for a lattice ordered group  $G$ :

(\*) For each  $0 < h \in G$  there exist  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  in  $G$  such that  $g_1 \wedge g_2 = 0$  and  $0 < g_i < h$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

A system  $\{g_j\}$  ( $j \in J$ ) of elements of a lattice ordered group will be called disjoint if  $g_j > 0$  for each  $j \in J$  and  $g_{j(1)} \wedge g_{j(2)} = 0$  whenever  $j(1)$  and  $j(2)$  are distinct elements of  $J$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $G$  be a lattice ordered group,  $G \neq \{0\}$ . Assume that  $G$  satisfies the condition (\*). Then there is an infinite disjoint system in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** We define by induction elements  $x_{1n}$  and  $x_{2n}$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) of  $G$  such that

(i)  $0 < x_{n1}, 0 < x_{n2}$  and  $x_{n1} \wedge x_{n2} = 0$  for each  $n \in N$ ,

(ii) if  $1 < n \in N$ , then  $x_{n+1,1}$  and  $x_{n+1,2}$  belong to the interval  $[0, x_{n,2}]$  of  $G$ .

Since  $G \neq \{0\}$ , there is  $0 < h \in G$ . Because  $G$  satisfies the condition (\*), there are elements  $x_{11}$  and  $x_{12}$  in  $G$  such that  $0 < x_{1i} < h$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $x_{11} \wedge x_{12} = 0$ .

Assume that we have constructed  $x_{k1}$  and  $x_{k2}$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$  such that (i) is valid for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and (ii) is valid for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ . Put  $h' = x_{n,2}$ . According to (\*) there are  $x_{n+1,1}$  and  $x_{n+1,2}$  in  $G$  such that  $0 < x_{n+1,i} < h'$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , and  $x_{n+1,1} \wedge x_{n+1,2} = 0$ . Thus (i) is valid for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n + 1$ , and (ii) holds for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

In view of (i) and (ii) we infer that  $\{x_{n1}\}$  ( $n \in N$ ) is an infinite disjoint system in  $G$ .  $\square$

**Proof of (C):** Let  $\alpha \geq 2$ . Put  $A(\alpha) = G$ . In view of 1.1,  $G$  satisfies the condition (\*). Thus, according to 2.1, there is an infinite disjoint set in  $G$ . Now it follows from [9], Theorem 7.7 that

$$\text{card Conv } G = 2^{2^{\alpha}}.$$

Thus (C) holds.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be lattice ordered groups such that  $G$  is a homomorphic image of  $H$ . Let  $n \in N$  and assume that there is a disjoint subset  $S_1$  in  $G$  with  $\text{card } S_1 = n$ . Then there exists a disjoint  $S_2$  in  $H$  with  $\text{card } S_2 = n$ .*

**Proof.** Without loss of generality we can suppose that there is an  $\ell$ -ideal  $X$  in  $H$  such that  $G = H/X$ . For  $h \in H$  we denote  $\bar{h} = h + X$ . Let us verify by induction that the following assertion  $a(n)$  is valid for each  $n \in N$ :

( $a(n)$ ) If  $\bar{a}_1, \bar{a}_2, \dots, \bar{a}_n$  is a disjoint subset of  $G$ , then there are elements  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  in  $H$  such that  $b_i \in \bar{a}_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , and  $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$  is a disjoint subset of  $H$ .

Let  $n = 1$ . Then  $\bar{a}_1 > \bar{0}$ , hence there is  $0 < b_1 \in \bar{a}_1$ , and  $\{b_1\}$  is a disjoint subset of  $H$ .

Assume that the above assertion holds for some  $n \in N$ . Let  $\{\bar{a}_1, \bar{a}_2, \dots, \bar{a}_{n+1}\}$  be a disjoint subset of  $G$ . Thus  $\{\bar{a}_1, \bar{a}_2, \dots, \bar{a}_n\}$  is disjoint subset of  $G$  as well; hence there exist  $b'_i \in \bar{a}_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) such that  $\{b'_1, b'_2, \dots, b'_n\}$  is a disjoint subset of  $H$ .

We have  $\bar{0} < \bar{a}_{n+1}$ , hence there is  $b'_{n+1} \in \bar{a}_{n+1}$  with  $0 < b'_{n+1}$ . For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  we put

$$c_i = b'_i \wedge b'_{n+1}, \quad b_i = b'_i - c_i.$$

Then  $c_i \in X$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Next, if  $b_i = 0$  for some  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  then  $b'_i \in \bar{0}$ , which is a contradiction. Thus  $b_i > 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Clearly  $b_i \in \bar{a}_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Denote

$$c = c_1 \vee c_2 \vee \dots \vee c_n, \quad b_{n+1} = b'_{n+1} - c.$$

We have  $0 \leq c \leq b'_{n+1}$ , hence  $0 \leq b_{n+1}$ . Clearly  $c \in C$ . Thus  $b_{n+1} \in \bar{a}_{n+1}$ . If  $b_{n+1} = 0$ , then  $b'_{n+1} \in \bar{0}$ , which is impossible; therefore  $b_{n+1} > 0$ .

Now from the relation  $b_i \leq b'_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  we infer that  $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$  is a disjoint of  $H$ . Let  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq b_i \wedge b_{n+1} &= b_i \wedge (b'_{n+1} - c) \leq b_i \wedge (b'_{n+1} - c_i) = \\ &= (b'_i - c_i) \wedge (b'_{n+1} - c_i) = (b'_i \wedge b'_{n+1}) - c_i = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $b_i \wedge b_{n+1} = 0$ . Therefore  $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{n+1}\}$  is a disjoint subset of  $H$ . This completes the proof of the lemma.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $\alpha \geq 2$  and  $n \in N$ . Then there exists a disjoint set with  $n$  elements in  $G(\alpha)$ .*

**Proof.** We have already proved above that there is an infinite disjoint set in  $A(\alpha)$ . According to 1.2,  $A(\alpha)$  is a homomorphic image of  $G(\alpha)$ . Hence in view of 2.2, there is a disjoint subset with  $n$  elements in  $G(\alpha)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $\alpha \geq 2$ . Then there is an infinite disjoint subset in  $G(\alpha)$ .*

**Proof.** This is a consequence of 2.3 and of [6], Theorem 3.9.

The following lemma generalizes Theorem 7.3 of [9].  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\{b_n\}$  ( $n \in N$ ) be a disjoint subset of a lattice ordered group  $G$ . Then there exists  $\beta \in \text{Conv } G$  such that the sequence  $(b_n)$  belongs to  $\beta$ .*

**Proof.** By way of contradiction, suppose that there exists no  $\beta$  with the desired properties.

Thus (cf. [10], Theorem 2.2) there exist  $k \in N$ ,  $g, g_1, g_2, \dots, g_k \in G$  and subsequences  $(y_n^m)$  ( $m = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) of the sequence  $(b_n)$  such that for each  $n \in N$  the relation

$$(1) \quad 0 < g \leq \sum_{m=1}^k (g_m + y_n^m - g_m)$$

is valid.

Assume that  $k$  is the least positive integer with the just mentioned property.

Since the sequence  $(b_n)$  is disjoint it follows that each its subsequence is disjoint and therefore for each  $m = 1, 2, \dots, k$  the sequence

$$(g_m + y_n^m - g_m)_{n \in N}$$

is disjoint as well. This implies that we cannot have  $k = 1$ ; hence  $k > 1$ .

Consider the relation (1) for  $n = 1$ . Hence there are elements  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_k$  in  $G^+$  such that

$$(2) \quad g = h_1 + h_2 + \dots + h_k$$

and

$$(3) \quad h_m \leq g_m + y_1^m - g_m \text{ for } m = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

In view of (2) there exists  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that  $h_m > 0$ ; without loss of generality we can suppose that  $m = 1$ .

According to (3) we have

$$(4) \quad h_1 \wedge (g_1 + y_n^1 - g_1) = 0 \text{ for } n = 2, 3, \dots$$

From (1) we obtain

$$(5) \quad 0 < h_1 \leq \sum_{m=1}^k (g_m + y_n^m - g_m)$$

for each  $n \in N$ ; let us consider the relation (5) for  $n \geq 2$ . By applying (4) we get

$$0 < h_1 \leq \sum_{m=2}^k (g_m + y_n^m - g_m) \text{ for each } n \geq 2.$$

In view of the minimality of  $k$  we have arrived at a contradiction. □

**Remark 2.5.1.** The above lemma can be obtained also by applying [11], Section 6, Lemma 6.6. (In [11], Section 6 it is assumed that lattice ordered groups under consideration are abelian, but Lemma 6.6 is valid in the non-abelian case, too).

**Corollary 2.6.** *Let  $\{b_n\}$  ( $n \in N$ ) be a disjoint subset of a lattice ordered group  $G$ . Then  $\text{card Conv } G > 1$ .*

**Proof** of (B): This is an immediate consequence of 2.4 and 2.6. □

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $G$  be a lattice ordered group and let  $(x_n) \in (G^N)^+$  such that  $x_n > 0$  for each  $n \in N$ . Assume that  $G$  satisfies the condition (\*). Then there are  $(x'_n), (y_n), (z_n) \in (G^N)^+$  such that  $(x'_n)$  is a subsequence of  $(x_n)$ ,  $(z_n)$  is disjoint and  $z_n \leq y_n \leq x'_n$  for each  $n \in N$ .*

**Proof.** We begin with the sequence  $(x_n^1) = (x_n)$  and put  $x'_1 = x_1 = y_1$ . In view of (\*) there exist  $a_1, a_2 \in G$  such that  $0 < a_1, 0 < a_2, a_1 \wedge a_2 = 0$  and  $a_1, a_2 < y_1$ . Put

$$N(1) = \{1 < n \in N : a_1 \wedge x_n^1 > 0\}.$$

Now we distinguish two cases.

a) Suppose that  $N(1)$  is finite. Then we put  $z_1 = a_1$ , and in the next step we work with the sequence  $(x_n^2) = (x_n^1)_{n \geq m}$ , where  $m$  is the least positive integer such that  $a_1 \wedge x_j = 0$  for each  $j \geq m$ . We set  $x'_2 = x_m^1$ .

b) Suppose that  $N(1)$  is infinite. Then we put  $z_1 = a_1$  and in the next step we work with the sequence  $(x_n^2) = (a_1 \wedge x_n^1)_{1 < n \in N(1)}$ . We set  $x'_2 = x_2$ .

By an obvious induction procedure we can verify that by repeating this process we obtain sequences  $(x'_n), (y_n)$  and  $(z_n)$  with the desired properties. □

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $G$  be a lattice ordered group and let  $\beta \in \text{Conv } G, \beta \neq \beta_0$ . Assume that  $G$  satisfies the condition (\*). Then there exists a disjoint sequence in  $(G^N)^+$  which belongs to  $\beta$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $\beta \neq \beta_0$ , there exists  $(x_n) \in \beta$  such that  $x_n > 0$  for each  $n \in N$ . Let  $(x'_n)$  and  $(z_n)$  be as in 2.7. Then  $(z_n)$  is disjoint and  $(x'_n)$  belongs to  $\beta$ . Since  $z_n \leq x'_n$  for each  $n \in N$ , the sequence  $(z_n)$  belongs to  $\beta$  as well. □

**Lemma 2.9.** *Let  $G$  be an abelian lattice ordered group and let  $\beta \in \text{Conv } G$ . Suppose that  $(u_n)$  and  $(v_n)$  are disjoint sequences belonging to  $\beta$  such that  $u_n \wedge v_m = 0$  for each  $n, m \in N$ . Then there exist  $\beta_1, \beta_2 \in \text{Conv } G$  such that  $(u_n) \in \beta_1, (v_n) \in \beta_2, \beta_1 \neq \beta_2$  and  $\beta_1, \beta_2 < \beta$ .*

**Proof.** This follows from [9], Theorem 7.3 and Corollary 7.6. □

**Proof of (D):** Let  $\alpha \geq 2$ . Put  $A(\alpha) = G$ . By way of contradiction, assume that there exists an atom  $\beta$  of  $\text{Conv } G$ . Thus there is  $(x_n) \in \beta$  such that  $x_n > 0$  for each  $n \in N$ . According to 1.1,  $G$  satisfies the condition (\*). In view of 2.8 there exists a disjoint sequence  $(z_n)$  belonging to  $\beta$ . For each  $n \in N$  we put  $u_n = z_{2n-1}$ ,  $v_n = z_{2n}$ . Then  $(u_n), (v_n) \in \beta$ . Let  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  be as in 2.9. We have  $\beta_0 < \beta_i < \beta$  for  $i = 1, 2$ ; this contradicts the assumption that  $\beta$  is an atom in  $\text{Conv } G$ .  $\square$

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