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*Mathematica Slovaca*, Vol. 29 (1979), No. 1, 57--62

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/129550>

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## ON THE INTERSECTION GRAPH OF A COMMUTATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE GROUPOID

BEDŘICH PONDĚLÍČEK

Let  $F$  be some family of sets. By the *intersection graph* of  $F$  we mean the undirected graph whose set of vertices is  $F$  and in which two distinct vertices are joined by an edge if and only if they have a non-empty intersection. Some authors studied the case when  $F$  is the family of all proper subalgebras of a given algebra. This study was begun by J. Bosák [1]. It is known for example that *the intersection graph of every semigroup (commutative semigroup) with more than two (three) elements is connected and its diameter does not exceed three (two)*. See [2] and [3].

The purpose of this paper is to discuss the connectedness of the intersection graph of a *commutative distributive groupoid*.

A groupoid  $P$  is called

- *commutative* if  $ab = ba$  for all  $a, b \in P$ ;
- *distributive* if  $a \cdot bc = ab \cdot ac$  and  $bc \cdot a = ba \cdot ca$  for all  $a, b, c \in P$ ;
- *idempotent* if  $aa = a$  for every  $a \in P$  and
- *abelian* if  $ab \cdot cd = ac \cdot bd$  for all  $a, b, c, d \in P$ .

The intersection graph of the family of all proper subgroupoids of a groupoid  $P$  is denoted by  $G(P)$ . If  $G(P)$  is a connected graph, then by  $\delta(P)$  we denote its *diameter*.

By the symbol  $[A]$ , where  $A$  is a non-empty subset of a groupoid  $P$ , we denote a subgroupoid of  $P$  generated by  $A$ . The set of all idempotents of a groupoid  $P$  is denoted by  $E(P)$ .

**Theorem 1.** *The graph  $G(P)$  of a distributive groupoid  $P$  is non-empty if and only if  $\text{card } P \geq 2$ . Moreover,*

1.  $\delta(P) \leq 3$  if and only if for any two idempotents  $a, b$  of  $P$  with  $[a, b] = P$  there exists  $c \in P$  such that

$$[a, c] \neq P \neq [c, b].$$

2.  $\delta(P) \leq 2$  if and only if  $[a, b] \neq P$  for any two idempotents  $a, b$  of  $P$ .
3.  $\delta(P) \leq 1$  if and only if  $P$  contains just one idempotent.

4.  $\delta(P) = 0$  if and only if  $P$  is isomorphic to the semigroup with zero multiplication and containing just two elements.

Proof. Let  $P$  be a distributive groupoid. It follows from Proposition 1.1 of [4] that the set  $E(P)$  of all idempotents of  $P$  is a subgroupoid of  $P$  and

$$(1) \quad a \cdot bc, ab \cdot c \in E(P) \text{ for all } a, b, c \in P.$$

It is clear that  $G(P)$  is empty if and only if  $P = E(P)$  and  $\text{card } P = 1$ .

Now we shall suppose that  $\text{card } P \geq 2$ .

1. Suppose that  $\delta(P) \leq 3$ . Let  $a, b \in E(P)$  and  $[a, b] = P$ . Then  $\{a\}, \{b\}$  are proper subgroupoids of  $P$  and so there exist proper subgroupoids  $A, B$  of  $P$  such that  $a \in A, b \in B$  and  $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$ . We can choose  $c \in A \cap B$ . Then we have  $[a, c] \subset A$  and  $[c, b] \subset B$ . Hence  $[a, c] \neq P \neq [c, b]$ .

Now, we assume that for any  $a, b$  of  $E(P)$  with  $[a, b] = P$  there exists  $c \in P$  such that  $[a, c] \neq P \neq [c, b]$ . Let  $A, B$  be two proper subgroupoids of  $P$ . Then we can choose  $u \in A$  and  $v \in B$ . It follows from (1) that  $a = uu \cdot u \in A$  and  $b = vv \cdot v \in B$  are idempotents of  $P$ . If  $[a, b] \neq P$ , then we put  $C = D = [a, b]$ . If  $[a, b] = P$ , then there exists  $c \in P$  such that  $C = [a, c] \neq P$  and  $D = [c, b] \neq P$ . This gives in both cases  $A \cap C \neq \emptyset, C \cap D \neq \emptyset, D \cap B \neq \emptyset$  and so  $\delta(P) \leq 3$ .

2. This can be proved analogously to the proof in 1.

3. Suppose that  $\delta(P) \leq 1$ . Let  $a, b \in E(P)$ . Then  $\{a\}, \{b\}$  are proper subgroupoids of  $P$  and so  $\{a\} \cap \{b\} \neq \emptyset$ . Hence we have  $a = b$ .

Let  $\text{card } E(P) = 1$ . If  $A, B$  are proper subgroupoids of  $P$ , then according to (1), we have  $xx \cdot x = yy \cdot y$  for all  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$ . Hence  $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$ . Thus  $\delta(P) \leq 1$ .

4. This follows from (1).

**Corollary 1.** *If a distributive groupoid  $P$  is uncountable, then its graph  $G(P)$  is connected and  $\delta(P) \leq 2$ .*

Proof. It is clear that  $[a, b] \neq P$  for all  $a, b \in P$ .

**Corollary 2.** *If a distributive groupoid  $P$  is not idempotent, then its graph  $G(P)$  is connected and  $\delta(P) \leq 2$ .*

Proof. Evidently  $[a, b] \subset E(P)$  for all  $a, b \in E(P)$ .

Now we shall study commutative distributive groupoids. For the sake of brevity, the commutative idempotent abelian groupoids will be called CIA-groupoids. It is known that every CIA-groupoid is distributive.

A commutative semigroup  $S(+)$  is called *uniquely 2-divisible* if the mapping  $\varphi(x) = x + x$  is a permutation of  $S$ . In this case, the inverse permutation  $\varphi^{-1}$  is denoted by  $\varphi^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2}x$ . Throughout  $\mathcal{Q}$  will denote the set of all numbers of the

form  $2^{-n}m$ , where  $m, n$  are integers and  $m \geq 1, n \geq 0$ . Denote  $2^{-n}mx = \varphi^{-n}(mx)$  for every  $x \in S$ , where  $1x = x$  and  $mx = (m - 1)x + x$  for  $m \geq 2$ . It is easy to see that

$$(2) \quad \alpha(x + y) = \alpha x + \alpha y, \quad (\alpha + \beta)x = \alpha x + \beta x$$

for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{Q}$  and  $x, y \in S$ .

In [4] the following has been proved:

**Lemma 1.** *A groupoid  $P(\cdot)$  is a CIA-groupoid if and only if there exists a uniquely 2-divisible commutative semigroup  $S(+)$  such that  $P \subset S$  and  $xy = \frac{1}{2}(x + y)$  for all  $x, y \in P$ .*

$\mathcal{C}$  will denote throughout the set of all integers. Let  $m$  be an odd positive integer. By  $\mathcal{C}_m(+)$  we denote a cyclic group of the order  $m$  generated by  $e$ . It is clear that  $\mathcal{C}_m(+)$  is uniquely 2-divisible. According to Lemma 1, we obtain that  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$  is a CIA-groupoid, where  $xy = \frac{1}{2}(x + y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{C}_m$ . For  $a, u \in \mathcal{C}_m$  we put

$$\mathcal{C}_m(a, u) = \{a + ku; k \in \mathcal{C}\}.$$

It is clear that  $A = \mathcal{C}_m(a, u)$  for some  $a, u \in \mathcal{C}_m$  if and only if  $A$  is a class of some congruence on the group  $\mathcal{C}_m(+)$ .

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $A$  be a subgroupoid of  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$ . If  $a, b \in A$ , then  $\mathcal{C}_m(a, b - a) \subset A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $a, b \in A$ . Put  $u = b - a$ . First, we shall prove the following implication:

If  $x, x + u \in A$ , then  $x + 2u \in A$ .

Let  $x, x + u \in A$ . Put  $\mathcal{H} = \{n \in \mathcal{C}; n \geq 2 \text{ and } x + nu \in A\}$ . It is clear that  $2m \in \mathcal{H}$  and so  $\mathcal{H} \neq \emptyset$ . We shall show that for any  $n \in \mathcal{H}$ , where  $n > 2$ , there exists  $k \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $k < n$ .

If  $n$  is odd, then we have  $\frac{1}{2}(n + 1) < n$  and  $x + \frac{1}{2}(n + 1)u = (x + u)(x + nu) \in A$ . If  $n$  is even, then we have  $\frac{1}{2}n < n$  and  $x + \frac{1}{2}nu = x(x + nu) \in A$ .

This implies that  $2 \in \mathcal{H}$  and so  $x + 2u \in A$ .

By the induction we can prove that  $a + nu \in A$  for all positive integers  $n$  and so  $\mathcal{C}_m(a, b - a) \subset A$ .

**Lemma 3.** *A subset  $A$  of  $\mathcal{C}_m$  is a subgroupoid of  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$  if and only if  $A$  is a class of some congruence on  $\mathcal{C}_m(+)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A$  be a class of some congruence on  $\mathcal{C}_m(+)$ . Then  $A = \mathcal{C}_m(a, u)$  for some  $a, u \in \mathcal{C}_m$ . Let  $x, y \in \mathcal{C}_m(a, u)$ . Then  $x = a + ru$  and  $y = a + su$  for some  $r, s \in \mathcal{C}$ . If  $r + s$  is even, then  $xy = a + \frac{1}{2}(r + s)u \in \mathcal{C}_m(a, u)$ . If  $r + s$  is odd, then  $xy = a + \frac{1}{2}(r + s + m)u \in \mathcal{C}_m(a, u)$ . Thus  $A$  is a subgroupoid of  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$ .

Let  $A$  be a subgroupoid of  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$ . Let  $e$  be a generator of  $\mathcal{C}_m(+)$ . By  $\mathcal{H}$  we denote the set of all positive integers such that for any  $n$  of  $\mathcal{H}$  there exists  $x \in A$  such that  $x + ne \in A$ . Since  $A \neq \emptyset$ , we have  $m \in \mathcal{H}$  and so  $\mathcal{H} \neq \emptyset$ . Put  $k = \min \mathcal{H}$ . Then there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $b = a + u \in A$ , where  $u = ke$ . It follows from Lemma 2 that  $\mathcal{C}_m(a, u) \subset A$ .

Now we shall show that  $A \subset \mathcal{C}_m(a, u)$ . Let  $x \in A$ . Since  $e$  is a generator of  $\mathcal{C}_m(+)$ , we have  $x = a + le$  for some positive integer  $l$ . It is well known that there exist  $s, r \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $l = sk + r$  and  $0 \leq r < k$ . Then  $x = a + su + re$ , where  $a + su \in \mathcal{C}_m(a, u) \subset A$ . If  $0 < r$ , then  $r \in \mathcal{H}$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $r = 0$  and so  $x = a + su \in \mathcal{C}_m(a, u)$ . Consequently  $A = \mathcal{C}_m(a, u)$ .

**Lemma 4.** *Every subgroupoid (factor groupoid) of  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_k(\cdot)$  for some odd positive integer  $k$ .*

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $m$  be an odd integer  $\geq 3$ .*

1. *If  $m$  is prime, then the graph  $G(\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot))$  is composed of  $m$  isolated vertices.*
2. *If  $m$  is at least the second power of a prime number  $p$ , then the graph  $G(\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot))$  has  $p$  components whose diameters are equal to two.*
3. *If  $m$  is no power of a prime number, then the graph  $G(\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot))$  is connected and  $\delta(\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)) = 3$ .*

*Proof.* 1 and 2. This follows from Lemma 3.

3. Let  $p$  and  $q$  be two different prime numbers such that  $p \mid m$  and  $q \mid m$ . Let  $x, y \in \mathcal{C}_m$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}_m(x, pe) \neq \mathcal{C}_m \neq \mathcal{C}_m(y, qe)$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_m(x, pe) \cap \mathcal{C}_m(y, qe) \neq \emptyset$  and so by Lemma 3 and Theorem 1 we have  $\delta(\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)) \leq 3$ .

It is clear that there exist  $r, s \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $rp - sq = 1$ . Put  $a = sqe$  and  $b = rpe$ . It follows from Lemma 2 that  $\mathcal{C}_m = \mathcal{C}_m(a, e) \subset [a, b]$  and so according to Theorem 1, we have  $\delta(\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)) = 3$ .

**Lemma 5.** *Let  $P$  be a commutative distributive groupoid with  $\text{card } P \geq 3$ . If for any elements  $a, b \in P$  there holds the following implication:*

$$(3) \quad aP = P = Pb \Rightarrow [a, b] \neq P,$$

*then  $\delta(P) \leq 3$ .*

*Proof.* According to Corollary 2, we can suppose that a commutative distributive groupoid  $P$  is idempotent. Let  $a, b \in P$  and  $[a, b] = P$ . It follows from Proposition 1.5 of [4] that  $P$  is a CIA-groupoid. By hypothesis (3) we have the following possibilities:

Case 1.  $aP \neq P \neq Pb$ . It is clear that  $xP$  is a subgroupoid of a distributive groupoid  $P$  for any  $x \in P$ . Then we have  $[a, ab] \subset aP \neq P$  and  $[ab, b] \subset Pb \neq P$ .

Case 2.  $aP = P \neq Pb$ . Then there exists  $u \in P$  such that  $b = au$ . Any  $u \in [a, b]$  can be written in the form  $u = x_1x_2 \dots x_n$ , where  $x_i \in \{., a, b\}$ . Put  $z = bv$ , where

$v = y_1 y_2 \dots y_n$  and  $y_i = .$  if  $x_i = .$ ,  $y_i = a$  if  $x_i = b$  and  $y_i = b$  if  $x_i = a$ . According to Lemma 1 there exists a uniquely 2-divisible commutative semigroup  $S(+)$  such that  $P \subset S$  and  $xy = \frac{1}{2}(x + y)$  for all  $x, y \in P$ . By the induction and by (2) we can show that  $u = \alpha a + \beta b$  and  $v = \beta a + \alpha b$ , where  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{Q}$  and  $\alpha + \beta = 1$ . Then we have  $b = 2^{-1}(1 + \alpha)a + 2^{-1}\beta b$  and  $z = 2^{-1}\beta a + 2^{-1}(1 + \alpha)b$ . Using (2) we obtain that  $az = 2^{-2}(2 + \beta)a + 2^{-2}(1 + \alpha)b = 2^{-1}\beta a + (2^{-2}(1 + \alpha)a + 2^{-2}\beta b) + 2^{-1}\alpha b = 2^{-1}\beta a + 2^{-1}b + 2^{-1}\alpha b = z$ . If  $[a, z] = P$ , then  $\text{card } P \leq 2$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $[a, z] \neq P$ . Evidently  $[z, b] \subset Pb \neq P$ .

Case 3.  $aP \neq P = Pb$ . Analogously.

The rest of the proof of Lemma 5 follows from Theorem 1.

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $P$  be a commutative distributive groupoid. If there exist  $a, b \in P$  such that  $aP = P = Pb$  and  $P = [a, b]$ , then  $P$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$  for some odd positive integer  $m$ .*

Proof. Let  $P = [a, b]$  and  $aP = P = Pb$ . It follows from Proposition 1.1 of [4] and from Proposition 1.5 of [4] that  $P$  is a CIA-groupoid. By Lemma 1 there exists a uniquely 2-divisible commutative semigroup  $S(+)$  such that  $P(\cdot)$  is a subgroupoid of  $S(\cdot)$ , where  $xy = \frac{1}{2}(x + y)$  for all  $x, y \in S$ .

We first show that there exists an odd integer  $k \geq 3$  such that  $ka = kb$ . Since  $aP = P = Pb$ , there exist  $u, v \in P$  such that  $a = b(b \cdot au)$  and  $b = a(a \cdot bv)$ . It follows from  $P = [a, b]$  that  $a = \alpha a + \beta b$ ,  $b = \gamma a + \varepsilon b$ , where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \varepsilon \in \mathcal{Q}$  and  $\alpha + \beta = 1 = \gamma + \varepsilon$ ,  $\alpha < \frac{1}{2} < \beta$  and  $\varepsilon < \frac{1}{2} < \gamma$ . Then  $\eta = 1 + \gamma - \alpha = 1 + \beta - \varepsilon \in \mathcal{Q}$  and so, by (2), we have  $\eta a = a + \gamma a - \alpha a = \gamma a + \beta b = b + \beta b - \varepsilon b = \eta b$ . This implies that  $ka = kb$  for some odd integer  $k \geq 3$ .

Let  $n$  be a positive integer such that  $2^{n-1} < k < 2^n$ . Define a mapping  $f$  of  $\mathcal{C}_k$  into  $S$  by

$$f(re) = 2^{-n}ra + 2^{-n}(2^n - r)b,$$

where  $r = 1, 2, \dots, k$  and  $e$  is a generator of the cyclic group  $\mathcal{C}_k(+)$ . It is easy to show that  $f$  is a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{C}_k(\cdot)$  into  $S(\cdot)$ .

If we put  $w = ke$  and  $z = (2^n - k)e$ , then  $f(w) = b$  and  $f(z) = a$ . Let  $A$  be a subgroupoid of  $\mathcal{C}_k(\cdot)$  generated by  $w, z$ . Then  $f(A) = [a, b] = P$  and the restriction  $g = f/A$  is a homomorphism of  $A$  onto  $P$ . This implies that  $P$  is isomorphic to some factor groupoid of  $A$ . It follows from Lemma 4 that  $P$  is isomorphic to the groupoid  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$  for some odd positive integer  $m$ .

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $P$  be a commutative distributive groupoid with  $\text{card } P \geq 3$ . If  $P$  is not isomorphic to the groupoid  $\mathcal{C}_m(\cdot)$ , where  $m$  is a power of an odd prime number, then the graph  $G(P)$  is connected and  $1 \leq \delta(P) \leq 3$ . Moreover,*

1. If  $\delta(P)=3$ , then  $P$  is idempotent and is generated by two elements.
2. If  $\delta(P)=2$ , then  $P$  is not generated by two idempotents and contains two idempotents at least.
3. If  $\delta(P)=1$ , then  $P$  contains just one idempotent.

The proof follows from Theorem 1, Theorem 2, Lemma 5 and Lemma 6.

Note. A commutative distributive groupoid  $P$  with  $\text{card } P=2$  is either a semigroup with the zero multiplication and  $\delta(P)=0$  or a semilattice and its graph  $G(P)$  is composed of two isolated vertices.

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Received May 19, 1977

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#### О ГРАФЕ ПЕРЕСЕЧЕНИЙ КОММУТАТИВНОГО ДИСТРИБУТИВНОГО ГРУППОИДА

Бедржих Понделичек

#### Резюме

Коммутативный группоид  $P$  называется дистрибутивным, если  $a \cdot bc = ab \cdot ac$  для  $a, b, c \in P$ . Пусть  $G(P)$  — граф, вершинами которого являются все собственные подгруппоиды группоида  $P$  и в котором две вершины соединены ребром тогда и только тогда, если соответствующие подгруппоиды имеют непустое пересечение. В статье изучается связность графа пересечений  $G(P)$  коммутативного дистрибутивного группоида  $P$ .

Пусть  $C_m(+)$  — аддитивная группа вычетов по модулю  $m$ . Если  $m$  — нечетное число, то символом  $C_m(\cdot)$  мы обозначим группоид  $C_m$ , где  $x \cdot y = (x + y)/2$  для всех  $x, y \in C_m$ . В этой работе доказана следующая теорема:

*Если коммутативный дистрибутивный группоид  $P$  содержит хотя бы три элемента и отличается от группоида  $C_m(\cdot)$ , где  $m$  является степенью нечетного простого числа, то граф  $G(P)$  связный и для его диаметра  $\delta(P)$  имеем  $1 \leq \delta(P) \leq 3$ .*

При этом:

1. Если  $\delta(P)=3$ , то всякий элемент группоида  $P$  является идемпотентом и группоид  $P$  порожден двумя элементами.
2. Если  $\delta(P)=2$ , то группоид  $P$  не является порожденным двумя идемпотентами и содержит хотя бы два идемпотента.
3. Если  $\delta(P)=1$ , то группоид  $P$  содержит только один идемпотент.