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# CONVEX CHAINS IN A PSEUDO MV-ALGEBRA 

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Abstract. For a pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$ we denote by $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ the underlying lattice of $\mathscr{A}$. In the present paper we investigate the algebraic properties of maximal convex chains in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ containing the element 0 . We generalize a result of Dvurečenskij and Pulmannová.

Keywords: pseudo $M V$-algebra, convex chain, Archimedean property, direct product decomposition

MSC 2000: 06D35

## 1. Introduction

Convex chains in $M V$-algebras have been investigated in [8]; the results concerned the relations between convex chains in an $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$ and direct product decompositions of $\mathscr{A}$.

The notion of a pseudo $M V$-algebra was introduced by Georgescu and Iorgulescu [5], [4], and by Rachůnek [9] (who applied the term 'non-commutative $M V$ algebra'); cf. also the forthcoming monograph [3] by Dvurečenskij and Pulmannová. We apply the terminology and the notation from [3] and [5].

To each pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$ there corresponds a distributive lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ such that the underlying sets of $\mathscr{A}$ and of $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ coincide.

In the present paper we prove that Theorem 2.4 of [8] on convex chains remains valid for pseudo $M V$-algebras. In the proof we apply a theorem from [7] dealing with direct product decompositions of pseudo $M V$-algebras.

The main result of Section 6.4.3 in [3] is the following theorem:
(A) Let $\mathscr{A}$ be a pseudo $M V$-algebra such that
(i) the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ is a chain;
(ii) $\mathscr{A}$ is Archimedean.

Then $\mathscr{A}$ is an $M V$-algebra.
By applying [7], we sharpen Theorem (A) in proving that the condition (i) can be replaced by the weaker condition
( $\mathrm{i}_{1}$ ) the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ is a direct product ot chains.
The substance of the assertion (A) consists in the fact that the operation $\oplus$ in $\mathscr{A}$ is commutative.

We prove the following result (for the terminology, cf. Section 2):
(B) Let $X$ be a maximal convex chain in a pseudo $M V$-algebra with $0 \in X$. Suppose that each pair of nonzero elements of $X$ is archimedean. Then

$$
x_{1} \oplus x_{2}=x_{2} \oplus x_{1} \text { for each } x_{1}, x_{2} \in X
$$

If $X$ is a maximal convex chain in a pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$, then either (i) $X$ is an underlying lattice of a pseudo $M V$-algebra, or (ii) $X$ is a positive cone of a lattice ordered group.

## 2. Preliminaries

We recall some basic definitions and facts concerning pseudo $M V$-algebras (cf. [3], and also [5] (Chapter 6) or [7]).

Let $A$ be a nonempty set and let $\mathscr{A}=\left(A, \oplus,^{-}, \sim, 0,1\right)$ be a structure of type $(2,1,1,00)$. For each $x, y \in A$ we put

$$
y \odot x=\left(x^{-} \oplus y^{-}\right)^{\sim} .
$$

Assume that for each $x, y, z \in A$ the following axioms are satisfied:
(A1) $x \oplus(y \oplus z)=(x \oplus y) \oplus z$;
(A2) $x \oplus 0=0 \oplus x=x$;
(A3) $x \oplus 1=1 \oplus x=1$;
(A4) $1^{\sim}=0 ; 1^{-}=0$;
(A5) $\left(x^{-} \oplus y^{-}\right)^{\sim}=\left(x^{\sim} \oplus y^{\sim}\right)^{-}$;
(A6) $x \oplus x^{\sim} \odot y=y \oplus y^{\sim} \odot x=x \odot y^{-} \oplus y=y \odot x^{-} \oplus x$;
(A7) $x \odot\left(x^{-} \oplus y\right)=\left(x \oplus y^{\sim}\right) \odot y$;
(A8) $\left(x^{-}\right)^{\sim}=x$.
Then the structure $\mathscr{A}$ is defined to be a pseudo $M V$-algebra.
With respect to (A6) we remark that the expression

$$
x \oplus x^{\sim} \odot y
$$

is to be understood in the sense that it is equal to

$$
x \oplus\left(x^{\sim} \odot y\right)
$$

and similarly in further analogous situations.
In what follows we assume that $\mathscr{A}$ is a pseudo $M V$-algebra.
For $x, y \in A$ we put $x \leqslant y$ if $x^{-} \oplus y=1$. Then the structure $\ell(\mathscr{A})=(A ; \leqslant)$ is a distributive lattice with the least element 0 and with the greatest element 1 .

We consider a partial binary operation + on $A$ which is defined as follows (cf. [3], p. 427):
2.1. Definition Let $x, y \in A$. Then $x+y$ is defined if and only if $x \leqslant y^{-}$and in this case we put

$$
x+y=x \oplus y .
$$

For lattice ordered groups we apply the notation as in [2]. In particular, the group operation in a lattice ordered group is denoted by the symbol + , though it is not assumed to be commutative.

The underlying lattice of a lattice ordered group $G$ will be denoted by $\ell(G)$.
Suppose that $G$ is a lattice ordered group with a strong unit $u$. Consider the interval $[0, u]$ of $G$. We denote $[0, u]=A_{1}$ and for $x, y \in A_{1}$ we put

$$
x \oplus y=(x+y) \wedge u, \quad x^{-}=u-x, \quad x^{\sim}=-x+u, \quad 1=u
$$

The algebraic structure $\left(A_{1} ; \oplus,^{-}, \sim, 0,1\right)$ will be denoted by $\Gamma(G, u)$.
2.2. Proposition (cf. [5]). If $G$ is a lattice ordered group with a strong unit $u$, then $\Gamma(G, u)$ is a pseudo $M V$-algebra.

We have now the operation + in $G$; to avoid a confusion in the notation, let us denote the binary operation from 2.1 by the symbol $+_{p}$ instead of + .

The notion of a subalgebra of a pseudo $M V$-algebra is defined in the usual way.
2.3. Proposition (cf. [3], p. 443, Exercise 7). Let $\mathscr{A}$ be a pseudo $M V$-algebra. Then there exists a lattice ordered group $G$ with a strong unit $u$ such that $\mathscr{A}$ is a subalgebra of $\Gamma(G, u)$. Moreover, we have
(i) the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ is a sublattice of the lattice $\ell(G)$;
(ii) let $x, y \in A$; then $x+_{p} y$ exists iff $x+y \leqslant u$, and in this case $x+{ }_{p} y=x+y$.

Below we again apply the phrase " $x+y$ is defined in $A$ (or exists in $A$ )" meaning that $x+y \leqslant u$. Further, $G$ is always as in 2.3.

Let $g \in G, n \in \mathbb{N}, g_{i}=g$ for $i=1,2, \ldots, n$. We denote

$$
n g=g_{1}+g_{2}+\ldots+g_{n}
$$

If $a \in A$ and if $n a \in A$ (i.e., $n a \leqslant u$ ), then we say that $n a$ exists in $\mathscr{A}$.
A pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$ is called Archimedean if, whenever $a \in A$ and na exists for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $a=0$.

A pair $\left(g, g^{\prime}\right)$ of elements of $A$ is called Archimedean if, whenever for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ the element $n g$ exists and $n g \leqslant g^{\prime}$, then $g=0$.

It is easy to verify that the following conditions for $\mathscr{A}$ are equivalent:
(i) $\mathscr{A}$ is Archimedean.
(ii) Each pair of nonzero elements of $A$ is Archimedean.

## 3. Auxiliary results

In this section we apply the notation as in Section 2 with one distinction. Namely, for $x, y \in A$ with $x \leqslant y$ we put

$$
[x, y]=\{z \in A: x \leqslant z \leqslant y\}
$$

In view of [3], p. 427 we have
3.1. Lemma. Let $x, y \in A$. Then $x+y$ is defined iff $x \leqslant y^{-}$iff $y \leqslant x^{\sim}$.
3.2. Lemma (cf. [3], 6.4.5). Let $x, y \in A$. Then $x \leqslant y$ if and only if there is an element $b \in A$ with $x+b=y$. In that case, $b$ is uniquely determined.
3.2.1. Lemma. Let $x, y \in A$. Then $x \leqslant y$ if and only if there is an element $b_{1} \in A$ with $b_{1}+x=y$. In that case, $b_{1}$ is uniquely determined.

Proof. The assertion 'if' is obvious. For proving the converse assertion it suffices to use the method of the proof of 6.4 .5 in [3] and to apply the Axiom (A6) and 3.1.

Under the notation as in $G$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
b=-x+y, \quad b_{1}=y-x \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

3.3. Lemma. Let $a \in A$. There exists $c \in A$ such that $c \leqslant a$ and $a+c=a \oplus a$.

Proof. Since $a \oplus a=(a+a) \wedge u$, the relation $a \leqslant a \oplus a$ is valid in $G$. Hence according to 2.3 , this relation holds in the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ as well. Then 3.2 yields that there is $c \in A$ such that $a+c=a \oplus a$. Thus in $G$ we have $a+c \leqslant a+a$, whence $c \leqslant a$, and this inequality holds also in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$.
3.4. Lemma. Let $a$ and $c$ be as in 3.3. Further, let $t \in[0, c]$. Then $a+t$ exists in $\mathscr{A}$ and $a+t \in[a, a+c]$.

Proof. Since $t \leqslant c$ and $a+c$ exists in $\mathscr{A}$, in view of 2.3 we conclude that $a+t$ also exists in $\mathscr{A}$. Further, we obviously have $a+t \leqslant a+c$.

For each $t \in[0, c]$ we put $\varphi(t)=a+t$.
3.5. Lemma. $\varphi$ is an isomorphism of the lattice $[0, c]$ onto the lattice $[a, a+c]$.

Proof. It is obvious that $\varphi$ is a mapping of the set $[0, c]$ into the set $[a, a+c]$. If $t_{1}, t_{2} \in[0, c]$ then

$$
t_{1} \leqslant t_{2} \Leftrightarrow \varphi\left(t_{1}\right) \leqslant \varphi\left(t_{2}\right)
$$

Let $z \in[a, a+c]$. Hence in view of 3.2 there exists $b \in A$ with $a+b=z$. Thus $a+b \leqslant a+c$, whence $b \leqslant c$. Then $\varphi(b)=z$ and so $\varphi$ is an epimorphism. Therefore $\varphi$ is an isomorphism of $[0, c]$ onto $[a, a+c]$.
3.6. Corollary. If an interval $[0, a]$ is a chain, then the interval $[a, a \oplus a]$ is a chain as well.
3.7. Lemma. If an interval $[0, a]$ is a chain, then the interval $[0, a \oplus a]$ is a chain as well.

Proof. Assume that $[0, a]$ is a chain. By way of contradiction, suppose that the interval $[0, a \oplus a]$ fails to be a chain. Then in view of 3.6 there exists an element $b \in A$ such that $a$ and $b$ are incomparable and $b \leqslant a+c$. Put

$$
\begin{equation*}
a \wedge b=u_{1}, \quad a \vee b=v \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Hence $v \in[a, a+c]$. In view of 3.5 there exists $t \in A$ with $t \leqslant c$ such that

$$
v=a+t \leqslant a+c .
$$

Hence $t=-a+v$. The relations (2) yield

$$
-a+v=-u_{1}+b
$$

thus $b=u_{1}+t$.
Since $t \leqslant a$, according to 3.2 .1 there exists $u_{2} \in A$ with $a=u_{2}+t$.
Now, from the fact that $a$ and $b$ are incomparable we conclude that $u_{1}$ and $u_{2}$ are incomparable. Both $u_{1}$ and $u_{2}$ belong to the interval [ $0, a$ ], which is a chain; so we have arrived at a contradiction.
3.8. Lemma. Let $a, b \in A$. Suppose that both $[0, a]$ and $[0, b]$ are chains. Then either (i) $a \wedge b=0$, or (ii) $a$ and $b$ are comparable.

Proof. Assume that $a \wedge b=u_{1}>0$. In view of 3.2 there exist $x, y \in A$ such that

$$
u_{1}+x=a, \quad u_{1}+y=b
$$

Hence $x=-u_{1}+a, y=-u_{1}+b$ and thus

$$
x \wedge y=0
$$

We have $u_{1}, x \in[0, a]$, hence

$$
\text { either } x<u_{1}, \quad \text { or } \quad u_{1} \leqslant x .
$$

Similarly we obtain that

$$
\text { either } y<u_{1}, \quad \text { or } \quad u_{1} \leqslant y .
$$

a) If $u_{1} \leqslant x$ and $u_{1} \leqslant y$, then $u_{1} \leqslant x \wedge y=0$, which is a contradiction.
b) Assume that $x<u_{1}$ and $u_{1} \leqslant y$. Then both $x$ and $y$ belong to the interval $[0, b]$. Hence they cannot be incomparable. Therefore some of them is equal to 0 . Then either $a=u_{1}$ or $b=u_{1}$. This yields that $a$ and $b$ are comparable.
c) The case $y<u_{1}$ and $u_{1} \leqslant x$ is analogous to the case b).
d) Suppose that $x<u_{1}$ and $y<u_{1}$. Since $\left[0, u_{1}\right]$ is a chain, we conclude that $x$ and $y$ are comparable. Then some of these elements must be equal to 0 . Hence, similarly as in b), the elements $a$ and $b$ are comparable.

A chain $X$ in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ is convex if, whenever $x_{1}, x_{2} \in X, y \in A$ and $x_{1} \leqslant y \leqslant x_{2}$, then $y \in X$. A convex chain $X$ in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ is called maximal convex if, whenever $Y$ is a convex chain in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ with $X \subseteq Y$, then $X=Y$.

From Axiom of Choice we conclude that for each convex chain $X$ in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ there exists a maximal convex chain $Y$ in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ with $X \subseteq Y$. From this and from 3.8 we infer
3.9. Lemma. Let $X$ be a chain in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ with $0 \in X$. Then there exists a unique maximal convex chain $Y$ in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ such that $X \subseteq Y$.
3.10. Lemma. Let $X$ be a maximal convex chain in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ with $0 \in X$. Then $X$ is closed with respect to the operation $\oplus$.

Proof. Let $a, b \in X$. Without loss of generality we can suppose that $b \leqslant a$. In view of 3.6 and 3.9 we obtain $a \oplus a \in X$. Further, $a \oplus b \leqslant a \oplus a$, thus $a \oplus b \in X$.

We denote by $\mathscr{C}_{m}$ the set of all maximal convex chains in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ containing the element 0 .
3.11. Lemma. Let $X \in \mathscr{C}_{m}$ and let $x_{1}$ be the greatest element of $X$. Then $x_{1} \oplus x_{1}=x_{1}$.

Proof. We have $x_{1} \leqslant x_{1} \oplus x_{1}$. According to $3.10, x_{1} \oplus x_{1} \in X$, hence $x_{1} \oplus x_{1} \leqslant x_{1}$. Thus $x_{1} \oplus x_{1}=x_{1}$.

## 4. Direct product decompositions

The notion of the direct product of pseudo $M V$-algebras is defined in the usual way (cf., e.g., [6]). We apply the standard notation

$$
\mathscr{A}_{1} \times \mathscr{A}_{2} \times \ldots \times \mathscr{A}_{n} \quad \text { or } \quad \prod_{i \in I} \mathscr{A}_{i} .
$$

If $\varphi$ is an isomorphism of a pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$ onto $\prod_{i \in I} \mathscr{A}_{i}$, then we say that the relation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi: \mathscr{A} \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} \mathscr{A}_{i} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

is a direct product decomposition of $\mathscr{A}$.
An analogous terminology will be used for lattices.
Suppose that $L$ is a distributive lattice with the least element 0 and the greatest element $u$. Let $a$ and $b$ be complementary elements of $L$, i.e.,

$$
a \wedge b=0, \quad x \vee b=u
$$

The following assertion is well-known.
4.1. Lemma. For each $x \in L$ let $\varphi(x)=(x \wedge a, x \wedge b)$. Then

$$
\varphi: L \rightarrow[0, a] \times[0, b]
$$

is a direct product decomposition of the lattice $L$.
Again, let $\mathscr{A}$ and $G$ be as in the previous sections.
4.2. Lemma (cf. [6], 4.2). Assume that $e$ is an element of $A$ which has a complement in the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$. Put $A_{e}=[0, e]$ and

$$
x^{-e}=-x+e, \quad x^{\sim e}=e-x .
$$

Then the algebraic structure $\mathscr{A}_{e}=\left(A_{e} ; \oplus,^{-e}, \sim e, 0, e\right)$ is a pseudo $M V$-algebra.
4.3. Corollary. Let $e$ be as in 4.2. Then $e \oplus e=e$.
4.4. Lemma. Let $e$ be an element of $A$ such that $e \oplus e=e$. Then $e$ has a complement in the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$.

Proof. Denote $e \wedge e^{-}=p$. Thus $p \leqslant e^{-}$and hence

$$
e+p=e \oplus p \leqslant e \oplus e=e
$$

Therefore $p=0$. From the relation $e \wedge e^{-}=0$ and from [3], Proposition 1.20 we infer that

$$
u=e \oplus e^{-}=e \vee e^{-}
$$

Hence $e^{-}$is a complement of the element $e$ in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$.
Let $a, b$ and $\varphi$ be as in 4.1. Further, let $\mathscr{A}_{a}$ and $\mathscr{A}_{b}$ be defined analogously to $\mathscr{A}_{e}$ in 4.2. Then we have
4.5. Proposition (cf. [7], 4.3). The relation

$$
\varphi: \mathscr{A} \rightarrow \mathscr{A}_{a} \times \mathscr{A}_{b}
$$

expresses a direct product decomposition of the pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$.
If $\mathscr{A}_{a}$ is as in 4.5 , then it is called a direct factor of $\mathscr{A}$.
Now let $\mathscr{C}_{m}$ be as in Section 3 and let $X \in \mathscr{C}_{m}$. Assume that $X$ has a greatest element $a$. Then according to 3.11 and 4.4, the element $a$ has a complement in the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$. Hence in view of 4.2 we can construct the pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}_{a}$. If we put $\mathscr{A}_{a}=X_{a}$, then $X$ is the underlying lattice of the pseudo $M V$-algebra $X_{a}$.

From 4.5 we conclude
4.6. Theorem. Let $X \in \mathscr{C}_{m}$ such that $X$ has the greatest element $a$. Then the pseudo $M V$-algebra $X_{a}$ is a direct factor of the pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$.

It is obvious that each direct factor of a pseudo $M V$-algebra must have a greatest element. Therefore 4.6 is a generalization of Theorem 2.4 in [8] concerning direct product decompositions of $M V$-algebras.

Now let us suppose that the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ is a direct product of chains. It means that there are linearly ordered sets $L_{i}(i \in I)$ and a direct product decomposition

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi_{1}: L \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} L_{i} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $L=\ell(\mathscr{A})$. Since the lattice $L$ is bounded, all $L_{i}$ must be bounded; let us denote by $0^{i}$ and $1^{i}$ the least element or the greatest element of $L_{i}$, respectively.

For $i \in I$ we denote by $u^{i}$ the element of $L$ such that

$$
\varphi_{1}\left(u^{i}\right)_{i}=1^{i} \quad \text { and } \quad \varphi_{1}\left(u^{i}\right)_{j}=0^{j} \quad \text { if } \quad j \in I, \quad j \neq i
$$

Further, put $A_{i}=\left[0, u^{i}\right]$. Then $A_{i}$ is a lattice under the partial order induced by that from $L$. It is obvious that $A_{i}$ is isomorphic to $L_{i}$.

Let $x \in L$. We put

$$
\varphi(x)=\left(x \wedge u^{i}\right)_{i \in I} .
$$

Applying (1) we obtain by simple steps
4.7. Lemma. The relation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi: L \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} A_{i} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

is a direct product decomposition of the lattice $L$.
For each $i \in I$, the element $u^{i}$ has a complement in the lattice $L$. Hence we can construct the pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}_{u^{i}}$ as in 4.2 ; the underlying lattice of $\mathscr{A}_{u^{i}}$ is equal to $A_{i}$.

Let $x, y, z \in A_{i}$. Then the validity of the relation $x \leqslant y$ in $A_{i}$ is equivalent to the validity of this relation in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$. Similarly, $x \oplus y=z$ holds in $\mathscr{A}_{u^{i}}$ iff this equality holds in $\mathscr{A}$.

In view of the definition of the Archimedean pseudo $M V$-algebra we conclude
4.8. Lemma. Suppose that the pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$ is Archimedean. Then all $\mathscr{A}_{u^{i}}$ are Archimedean.
4.9. Lemma. Suppose that $\mathscr{A}$ is Archimedean. Then all $\mathscr{A}_{u^{i}}$ are commutative.

Proof. This is a consequence of Theorem (A) (cf. Introduction) and of 4.8.

Further, from 4.7 and Theorem 6.4 of [7] we obtain
4.10. Lemma. The relation

$$
\psi: \mathscr{A} \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} \mathscr{A}_{u^{i}}
$$

is a direct product decomposition of the pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$.
Summarizing, 4.9 and 4.10 yield
4.11. Theorem. Let $\mathscr{A}$ be a pseudo $M V$-algebra such that
( $\mathrm{i}_{1}$ ) the lattice $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ is a direct product of chains;
(ii $\left.i_{1}\right) \mathscr{A}$ is archimedean. Then $\mathscr{A}$ is commutative (i.e., it is an $M V$-algebra).
This generalizes Theorem 6.4.3 in [3].

## 5. An alternative for elements of $\mathscr{C}_{m}$

Let $\mathscr{C}_{m}$ be as in Section 3 and let $X \in \mathscr{C}_{m}$. The investigation of the present section would be trivial in the case $X=\{0\}$; thus let us suppose that $X$ has more than one element. Consider the following condition for $X$ :
$(\alpha)$ There exists $a \in X$ and a positive integer $n$ such that $n a$ is not defined in $A$.
We will deal separately with the case when $\alpha$ is valid and with the case when $(\alpha)$ does not hold.
a) First suppose that the condition $(\alpha)$ is satisfied. Then there exists the least positive integer $n$ such that $n>1$ and $n a$ is not defined in $A$ for some $a \in X$.

Hence $(n-1) a$ is defined in $A$; denote $(n-1) a=b$. Then in $G$ we have

$$
b \leqslant b \oplus a<n a .
$$

Put

$$
c_{1}=-b+(b \oplus a), \quad c_{2}=-(b \oplus a)+n a .
$$

Then $c_{1} \geqslant 0, c_{2}>0$ and $c_{1} \in A$. Further,

$$
\begin{array}{r}
c_{1}<-b+n a=a, \\
c_{1}+c_{2}=a .
\end{array}
$$

From these relations we obtain that $c_{2}$ belongs to $A$ as well. Denote

$$
z=(b \oplus a)^{-}, \quad p=(b \oplus a) \wedge z .
$$

Suppose that $p>0$. Put $q=p \wedge c_{2}$. Hence either $q=p$ or $q=c_{2}$ and thus $0<q \leqslant c_{2}$. Moreover, $q \leqslant z$ and hence the element

$$
(b \oplus a)+q
$$

is defined in $\mathscr{A}$.
Since

$$
(b \oplus a)+q \leqslant(b \oplus a)+c_{2}=n a
$$

we obtain

$$
b \oplus a<(b \oplus a)+q \leqslant n a \wedge u=((n-1) a+a) \wedge u=(b+a) \wedge u=b \oplus a
$$

which is a contradiction.
Therefore we must have $p=0$, hence

$$
(b \oplus a) \wedge z=0
$$

Then according to [5], Proposition 1.20 we have

$$
(b \oplus a) \vee z=(b \oplus a)+z=(b \oplus a) \oplus z=u
$$

If $r \in A, b \oplus a<r$, then the distributivity of $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ yields that the elements

$$
b \oplus a, \quad r \wedge z
$$

are incomparable. Hence $r$ cannot belong to $X$. We have proved
5.1. Lemma. Let $(\alpha)$ be valid and let $n, a$ be as in the condition $(\alpha)$. Then the element $x_{0}=((n-1) a) \oplus a$ is the greatest element of $X$.

By applying 5.1 and 4.6 we conclude
5.2. Theorem. Let $(\alpha)$ be valid and let $x_{0}$ be as in 5.1. Then $X$ is the underlying lattice of the pseudo $M V$-algebra $X_{x_{0}}$ and this is a direct factor of the pseudo $M V$ algebra $\mathscr{A}$.
b) Now let us suppose that the condition ( $\alpha$ ) fails to be valid for the chain $X$. Hence for each $a \in X$ and each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ the element $n a$ is defined in $A$. Then we have

$$
2 a=a+a=a \oplus a, \quad 3 a=a+a+a=a \oplus a \oplus a, \ldots
$$

Thus from 3.10 we infer
5.3. Lemma. Assume that $(\alpha)$ does not hold for $X$. Then for $a \in X$, all elements na belong to $X$.
5.4. Lemma. Assume that $(\alpha)$ does not hold for $X$. Let $x_{1}, x_{2} \in X$. Then $x_{1}+x_{2}$ is defined in $A$ and $x_{1}+x_{2} \in X$.

Proof. Without loss of generality we can suppose that $x_{1} \leqslant x_{2}$. Then in view of $5.3,2 x_{2}$ exists in $A$ and $2 x_{2} \in X$. Since $x_{1}+x_{2} \leqslant 2 x_{2} \leqslant u$, according to 2.3 we get $x_{1}+x_{2} \in A$ and $x_{1} \oplus x_{2}=x_{1}+x_{2}$. We know that $X$ is closed with respect to the operation $\oplus$; therefore $x_{1}+x_{2} \in X$.
5.5. Corollary. Assume that $(\alpha)$ does not hold. Then $X$ is a subsemigroup of the group $G$.

Denote $Y=X \cup(-X)$. The set $Y$ is partially ordered by the relation of partial order induced from $G$. Then $Y$ is linearly ordered. Applying 5.5, by simple calculation we can verify that $Y$ is closed with respect to the operation + . Thus we have

### 5.6. Lemma. $Y$ is an $\ell$-subgroup of the lattice ordered group $G$.

Summarizing, we obtain
5.7. Theorem. Assume that the condition ( $\alpha$ ) does not hold for $X$. Then there exist an $\ell$-subgroup $Y$ of $G$ such that $Y$ is linearly ordered and $Y^{+}=X$.

The following example shows that there exist a pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$ and a chain $X \in \mathscr{C}_{m}$ such that $X$ does not satisfy the condition $(\alpha)$.

Example. Let $X_{1}$ be the additive group of all reals with the natural linear order and $Y_{1}=X_{1}$. Put $G=X_{1} \circ Y_{1}$, where $\circ$ denotes the operation of lexicographic product. Put $u=(1,0)$. Then $u$ is a strong unit in $G$ and hence we can construct the pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}=\Gamma(G, u)$; in fact, $\mathscr{A}$ is an $M V$-algebra. Put

$$
X=\{(0, y): 0 \leqslant y \in Y\} .
$$

Then $X$ is a maximal convex chain in $\ell(\mathscr{A})$ with $0 \in X$, and $X$ does not satisfy the condition ( $\alpha$ ).

Let (B) be as in Section 1.
Proof of (B). Let $X$ be as in the assumption of (B). We distinguish two cases.
a) Suppose that $X$ satisfies the condition $(\alpha)$. We apply 5.2 . Under the notation from 5.2, $X$ has the greatest element $x_{0}$. Since $\ell\left(X_{x_{0}}\right)=X$, in view of the remark
at the end of Section 2 we conclude that the pseudo $M V$-algebra $\mathscr{A}$ is Archimedean. Hence (A) yields that the operation $\oplus$ in $X$ is Abelian.
b) Suppose that $X$ does not satisfy the condition $(\alpha)$. Then we can apply 5.7. The assumption of (B) implies that the linearly ordered group $Y$ is Archimedean. It is well-known that each Archimedean lattice ordered group is Abelian. Hence for each $x_{1}, x_{2} \in X$ we have

$$
x_{1} \oplus x_{2}=x_{1}+x_{2}=x_{2}+x_{1}=x_{2} \oplus x_{1}
$$

Added in Proof. This is a correction concerning Section 3 of the author's paper State homomorphisms on MV-algebras. Czechoslovak Math. J. 51(126) (2001), 609-616. Lemma 3.2 of this paper is not correct; the author is indebted to A. Di Nola and M. Navara for this observation. In Section 3 it should be added the assumption that the state homomorphism $m$ is, at the same time, an $M V$ homomorphism of $\mathscr{A}$ into $[0,1]$, and that $\mathscr{S}$ is the set of all morphisms with the mentioned properties.

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