

# Note on derivations of lattices

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## Abstract

In this paper we consider some properties on derivations of lattices and show that (i) for a derivation  $d$  of a lattice  $L$  with the maximum element 1, it is monotone if and only if  $d(x) \leq d(1)$  for all  $x \in L$  (ii) a monotone derivation  $d$  is characterized by  $d(x) = x \wedge d(1)$  and (iii) simple characterization theorems of modular lattices and of distributive lattices are given by derivations.

## 1 Introduction

A notion of derivations of algebras with two operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$  has introduced as an analogy of derivations of analysis and then some properties of derivations are considered. For an algebra  $A = (A, +, \cdot)$ , a map  $f : A \rightarrow A$  is called a derivation if it satisfies the conditions: For all  $x, y \in A$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x + y) &= f(x) + f(y) \\ f(x \cdot y) &= f(x) \cdot y + x \cdot f(y) \end{aligned}$$

The notion of derivation is important in the theory of rings ([5]). After that, it is applied to lattices ([4]), where operation  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are interpreted as lattice operations  $\vee$  and  $\wedge$ , respectively. Following the naive interpretation, the derivation  $d$  of a lattice  $L$  may be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad & d(x \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y) \\ (b) \quad & d(x \wedge y) = (d(x) \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge d(y)). \end{aligned}$$

As proved in [4, 6], the condition (a) says  $d$  to be monotone and then the condition (b) is equivalent to the condition  $d(x \wedge y) = d(x) \wedge y$ . Hence, as proved later, a monotone derivation  $f : L \rightarrow L$  is characterized by  $f(x \wedge y) = f(x) \wedge y$  for all  $x, y \in L$ . It follows from the result that a monotone derivation  $d$  has

the form of  $d(x) = x \wedge d(1)$  if  $L$  has the maximum element 1 and thus every monotone derivation is determined completely by the value  $d(1)$ .

In order to obtain more interesting properties of derivations of lattices, we adopt another definition of derivations according to [1, 2, 3, 7] and prove some fundamental properties of them, from which we get new results about derivations of lattices and provide accurate statements described in [1, 2, 3, 6, 7]. Moreover, we consider properties of generalized derivation ([1, 2]).

Concretely, we prove that

- (i). For a derivation  $d$  of a lattice  $L$  with a maximum element 1, it is monotone if and only if  $d(x) \leq d(1)$  for all  $x \in L$ .
- (ii). A monotone derivation  $d$  is just the form of  $d(x) = x \wedge d(1)$ .
- (iii). For any lattice  $L$  and a derivation  $d$ , the condition

$$d \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow d(d(x) \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L)$$

is equivalent to that  $L$  is a modular lattice.

- (iv). For any lattice  $L$  and a derivation  $d$ , the condition

$$d \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow d(x \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L),$$

is equivalent to that  $L$  is a distributive lattice.

## 2 Derivations

According to [6, 7], we give a definition of derivation of a lattice. Let  $L = (L, \vee, \wedge)$  be a lattice. A map  $d : L \rightarrow L$  is called a *derivation* of  $L$  if it satisfies the condition

$$d(x \wedge y) = (d(x) \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge d(y)) \quad (\forall x, y \in L)$$

Moreover, a derivation  $d$  is called *monotone* if

$$x \leq y \Rightarrow d(x) \leq d(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L).$$

We note that the notion of monotone is called isotone in [1, 2, 3, 7])

**Example 1.** Let  $L$  be a lattice and  $a \in L$ . If we define a map  $d_a : L \rightarrow L$  by  $d_a(x) = x \wedge a$ , then  $d_a$  is a monotone derivation. Indeed, for all  $x, y \in L$ , we have  $d_a(x \wedge y) = (x \wedge y) \wedge a = ((x \wedge a) \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge (y \wedge a)) = (d_a(x) \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge d_a(y))$ .

**Example 2.** ([3]) Let  $L = \{0, a, b, 1\}$ , ( $0 < a < b < c < 1$ ). We define  $d : L \rightarrow L$  by

$$d(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & (x = 0) \\ a & (x = a, b) \\ c & (x = c, 1) \end{cases}$$

It is clear that  $d : L \rightarrow L$  is the derivation of  $L$ .

We have fundamental results about derivations of lattices.

**Proposition 1.** Let  $L$  be a lattice and  $d$  be a derivation of  $L$ . For all  $x, y \in L$ ,

- (1)  $d(x) \leq x$
- (2)  $d(d(x)) = d(x)$
- (3) If  $1 \in L$ , then  $d(x) = d(x) \vee (x \wedge d(1))$
- (4) If  $1 \in L$ , then  $d(1) = 1 \Leftrightarrow d = id_L$
- (5)  $d(x) \wedge d(y) \leq d(x \wedge y) \leq d(x) \vee d(y)$
- (6)  $d(d(x) \wedge d(y)) = d(x) \wedge d(y)$
- (7) If  $d$  is monotone, then  $d(d(x) \vee d(y)) = d(x) \vee d(y)$
- (8) If  $d(d(x) \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y)$ , then  $d$  is monotone.

We note that the derivation  $d_a(x) = x \wedge a$  in Example 1 is monotone. Moreover, any monotone derivation  $d$  has just the form of  $d(x) = x \wedge a$  for some  $a \in L$ . In order to prove this fact, we deeply think about properties of monotone derivations.

**Theorem 1.** For any derivation  $d$ , the following conditions are equivalent to each other.

- (1)  $d$  is monotone ;
- (2)  $d(x \wedge y) = d(x) \wedge d(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L)$ ;
- (3)  $d(x) \vee d(y) \leq d(x \vee y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L)$ .

*Proof.* We only show the cases (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). The other cases can be proved easily.

Since  $x \wedge y \leq x, y$ , we have  $d(x \wedge y) \leq d(x), d(y)$ . On the other hand, since  $d(x \wedge y) \leq d(x) \wedge d(y) \leq x \wedge y$ , we get  $d(x \wedge y) = d(d(x \wedge y)) \leq d(d(x) \wedge d(y)) \leq d(x \wedge y)$ . Thus  $d(x \wedge y) = d(d(x) \wedge d(y))$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(x \wedge y) &= d(d(x) \wedge d(y)) \\
 &= \{d(d(x)) \wedge d(y)\} \vee \{d(x) \wedge d(d(y))\} \\
 &= (d(x) \wedge d(y)) \vee (d(x) \wedge d(y)) \\
 &= d(x) \wedge d(y).
 \end{aligned}$$

□

From the result above, a monotone derivation can be characterized as follows.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $L$  be a lattice and  $f : L \rightarrow L$  be a map. Then

- (1)  $f(x \wedge y) = f(x) \wedge y \quad (\forall x, y \in L) \Rightarrow f$  is a monotone derivation.
- (2)  $f$  is a monotone derivation  $\Rightarrow f(x \wedge y) = f(x) \wedge y \quad (\forall x, y \in L)$
- (3)  $f(x \wedge y) = f(x) \wedge y \quad (\forall x, y \in L) \Leftrightarrow f(x) = x \wedge f(1) \quad (\forall x \in L)$

*Proof.* We only show the cases (1) and (2).

(1) Since  $f(x \wedge y) = f(y \wedge x) = f(y) \wedge x$ , we get  $f(x \wedge y) = f(x) \wedge y = x \wedge f(y)$  and  $f(x \wedge y) = (f(x) \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge f(y))$ , that is,  $f$  is a derivation. Moreover, if  $x \leq y$  then  $f(x) = f(y \wedge x) = f(y) \wedge x \leq f(y)$  and  $f$  is monotone.

(2) Let  $f$  be a monotone derivation. Since  $x \wedge y \leq x, y$ , we get  $f(x \wedge y) \leq f(x), f(y)$  and  $f(x \wedge y) \leq f(x) \wedge y, x \wedge f(y)$  by  $f(x \wedge y) \leq x \wedge y \leq x, y$ . On the other hand, since  $f$  is the derivation, we have  $f(x \wedge y) = (f(x) \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge f(y)) \geq f(x) \wedge y, x \wedge f(y)$ . This means that  $f(x \wedge y) = f(x) \wedge y = x \wedge f(y)$ . □

**Corollary 1.** *If  $L$  has a maximum element  $1$  then the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $d$  is a monotone derivation.
- (2)  $d(x) = x \wedge d(1)$  for all  $x \in L$ .
- (3)  $d(x) \leq d(1)$  for all  $x \in L$ .

**Corollary 2.** *If  $d$  is a monotone derivation of  $L$ , then  $d(d(x) \vee d(y)) = d(x) \vee d(y)$  for all  $x, y \in L$ .*

Unfortunately, the converse of the result above does not hold, namely,  $d$  may not be monotone even if  $d(d(x) \vee d(y)) = d(x) \vee d(y)$  holds. We have a counterexample. Let  $L = \{0, a, b, 1\}$  with  $0 < a < b < 1$ . If we define  $d : L \rightarrow L$  by  $d(0) = d(1) = 0, d(a) = d(b) = b$ , then it is easy to show that  $d$  is a derivation and  $d(d(x) \vee d(y)) = d(x) \vee d(y)$ , but  $d$  is not monotone.

*Remark 1.* A map  $f : L \rightarrow L$  for a lattice  $L$  is called an *interior operator* if

- (io1)  $x \leq y \Rightarrow f(x) \leq f(y)$
- (io2)  $f(x) \leq x$
- (io3)  $f(f(x)) = f(x)$

It follows from our result above that a monotone derivation is an interior operator.

*Remark 2.* A similar results to our theorem 1 are already proved in [7] as Theorem 3.19 and Theorem 3.21.

**Theorem 3.19.** Let  $L$  be a modular lattice and  $d$  be a derivation of  $L$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $d$  is a monotone;
- (2)  $d(x \wedge y) = d(x) \wedge d(y)$ ;
- (3) If  $d(x) = x$ , then  $d(x \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y)$ ,

where a lattice  $L$  is called *modular* if

$$x \leq z \Rightarrow x \vee (y \wedge z) = (x \vee y) \wedge z \quad (\text{for all } x, y, z \in L).$$

**Theorem 3.21.** Let  $L$  be a distributive lattice and  $d$  be a derivation of it. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $d$  is a monotone;
- (2)  $d(x \wedge y) = d(x) \wedge d(y)$ ;
- (3)  $d(x \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y)$ .

Our results are stronger than those of above, because our results say that monotone is equivalent to the condition (2)  $d(x \wedge y) = d(x) \wedge d(y)$  for all lattice  $L$ , namely, we do not assume modularity nor distributivity to get such results.

Moreover, we obtain a following identity condition instead of (3) If  $d(x) = x$ , then  $d(x \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y)$  in Theorem 3.19 in [7].

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $L$  be a modular lattice and  $d$  be a derivation. Then we have  $d$  is a monotone  $\Leftrightarrow d(d(x) \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y)$  ( $\forall x, y \in L$ )*

Moreover we prove the converse.

**Theorem 4.** *For any lattice  $L$  and derivation  $d$  of it, if the condition holds*

$$d \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow d(d(x) \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L),$$

*then  $L$  is a modular lattice.*

*Proof.* For every  $z \in L$ , if we consider a map  $d_z(x) = x \wedge z$  then it is a monotone derivation. By assumption, the map  $d_z$  satisfies

$$d_z(d_z(x) \vee y) = d_z(x) \vee d_z(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L)$$

and hence  $((x \wedge z) \vee y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \vee (y \wedge z)$ . This implies that if  $x \leq z$  then  $(x \vee y) \wedge z = x \vee (y \wedge z)$ . Therefore  $L$  is the modular lattice.  $\square$

We also have a similar result about distributive lattices.

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $L$  be a distributive lattice and  $d$  be a derivation. Then we have*

$$d \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow d(x \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L)$$

Conversely,

**Theorem 6.** *For any lattice  $L$  and derivation  $d$  of it, if the condition holds*

$$d \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow d(x \vee y) = d(x) \vee d(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L),$$

*then  $L$  is a distributive lattice.*

The above results provide characterization theorems of modular lattices and of distributive lattices in terms of derivations.

*Remark 3.* If  $d$  is a monotone derivation then a subset

$$\text{Fix}_d(L) = \{x \in L \mid d(x) = x\}$$

of  $L$  is an *ideal* of  $L$ , that is,  $\text{Fix}_d(L)$  satisfies the conditions

- (I1)  $0 \in \text{Fix}_d(L)$
- (I2)  $x \in \text{Fix}_d(L), y \leq x \Rightarrow y \in \text{Fix}_d(L)$
- (I3)  $x, y \in \text{Fix}_d(L) \Rightarrow x \vee y \in \text{Fix}_d(L)$ .

### 3 Generalized derivations

Some types of derivations, such as *generalized derivation*, *generalized  $(f, g)$ -derivation* and  *$f$ -derivation*, are defined and properties of them are considered in [1, 2, 3]. We only treat *generalized derivations* according to [1]. A map  $D : L \rightarrow L$  is called a *generalized derivation* if it satisfies the condition: For a derivation  $d$ ,

$$D(x \wedge y) = (D(x) \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge d(y))$$

We get basic results about a generalized derivation  $D$  without difficulty.

**Proposition 2** (cf. Proposition 3.4, 3.9 [1]). *Let  $d$  be a derivation and  $D$  be a generalized derivation. Then we have*

- (1)  $d(x) \leq D(x) \leq x$
- (2)  $D(D(x)) = D(x)$
- (3)  $D(x) \wedge D(y) \leq D(x \wedge y)$
- (4)  $D(x) \wedge D(y) = D(D(x) \wedge D(y))$
- (5)  $D(x) = d(x) \vee (x \wedge D(1))$

We also have a new result about a generalized derivation  $D$ .

**Proposition 3.** *Let  $d$  be a derivation and  $D$  be a generalized derivation. Then we have  $D \circ d = d \leq d \circ D$*

It follows from our result that a characterization theorem about monotone generalized derivations can be proved similarly.

**Proposition 4.** (Proposition 3.12 [1]) *For a generalized derivation  $D$ , the following conditions are equivalent to each other:*

- (1)  $D$  is monotone;
- (2)  $D(x \wedge y) = D(x) \wedge D(y)$ ;
- (3)  $D(x) \vee D(y) \leq D(x \vee y)$ ;
- (4)  $D(x) = x \wedge D(1)$  if  $L$  has a maximum element 1.

**Proposition 5.** *If  $L$  has a maximum element 1, then any generalized derivation  $D$  has a following form*

$$D(x) = (D(1) \wedge x) \vee d(x)$$

**Corollary 3.**  $D(1) = 1 \Leftrightarrow D = id_L$

**Lemma 1.** *If  $L$  has a maximum element 1 and  $d(x) \leq D(1)$  for all  $x \in L$ , then*

$$D(x) = x \wedge D(1)$$

In this case, the generalized derivation  $D$  is monotone. Conversely, if  $D$  is monotone then  $d(x) \leq D(1)$  for all  $x \in L$ . Therefore, we have another characterization of monotone generalized derivations.

**Theorem 7.** *For any generalized derivation  $D$ ,*

$$D \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow d(x) \leq D(1). (\forall x \in L)$$

**Corollary 4.** *If  $d$  is monotone, then so  $D$  is.*

We may ask whether the converse holds, that is, if a generalized derivation  $D$  is monotone then so  $d$  is ?

Unfortunately, this does not hold by the following example.

**Example 3** Let  $L = \{0, a, b, 1\}$ , ( $0 < a < b < 1$ ) and  $d, D : L \rightarrow L$  be maps defined by

$$d(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & (x = 0, 1) \\ a & (x = a, b) \end{cases}$$

$$D(x) = \begin{cases} x & (x = 0, a, b) \\ b & (x = 1) \end{cases}$$

It is easy to show that  $d$  is a derivation and  $D$  is a generalized derivation. Moreover  $D$  is monotone. However, it is obvious that  $d$  is not monotone.

In the previous section, we provide characterization theorems of modular lattices and of distributive lattices in terms of derivations. We also have similar results about generalized derivations.

**Theorem 8.** *For any lattice  $L$  and generalized derivation  $D$  of it, if the condition holds*

$$D \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow D(D(x) \vee y) = D(x) \vee D(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L),$$

*then  $L$  is a modular lattice.*

*Proof.* For every  $z \in L$ , if we define maps  $d_z$  and  $D_z$  by  $d_z(x) = x \wedge z = D_z(x)$  for all  $x \in L$ . It is clear that  $d_z$  is a derivation and  $D_z$  is also a generalized derivation. Since  $D_z$  is monotone, it follows from assumption that  $D_z(D_z(x) \vee y) = D_z(x) \vee D_z(y)$  and thus  $((x \wedge z) \vee y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \vee (y \wedge z)$ . This implies that if  $x \leq z$  then  $(x \vee y) \wedge z = x \vee (y \wedge z)$ . Therefore  $L$  is the modular lattice.  $\square$

**Theorem 9.** *(Theorem 3.14 [1]) Let  $L$  be a distributive lattice and  $D$  be a generalized derivation. Then we have*

$$D \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow D(x \vee y) = D(x) \vee D(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L)$$

Conversely,

**Theorem 10.** *For any lattice  $L$  and generalized derivation  $D$  of it, if the condition holds*

$$D \text{ is monotone} \Leftrightarrow D(x \vee y) = D(x) \vee D(y) \quad (\forall x, y \in L),$$

*then  $L$  is a distributive lattice.*

The above results provide characterization theorems of modular lattices and of distributive lattices in terms of generalized derivations.

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