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Dedicated to Professor J. Jakubík on the occasion of his 70th birthday

ABSTRACT. Two discrete semimodular semilattices S and S_1 have isomorphic graphs if and only if S is of the form $A \times B$ and S_1 is of the form $A^{\partial} \times B$ for a lattice A and a semilattice B. We prove that for discrete semilattices S and S_1 this latter condition holds if and only if S and S_1 have isomorphic graphs and the isomorphism preserves the order on some special types of cells and proper cells.

G. Birkhoff ([1, Problem 8]) asked for necessary and sufficient conditions on a lattice $L = (L; \vee, \wedge)$ in order that every lattice $M = (L; \vee^*, \wedge^*)$ whose (unoriented) graph is isomorphic with the graph of L be lattice-isomorphic to L. For the case when the lattices L and M are supposed to be distributive or modular, the problem was solved by Jakubík and Kolibiar (see [2, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13]). In [8] Jakubík also showed that if one of L or M is modular (distributive), then so is the other. Duffus and Rival [3] solved the problem for those graded lattices which are determined by the ordered subset of their atoms and coatoms.

In [12] Jakubík proved that for discrete modular lattices L and M on the same underlying set L, the graphs G(L) and G(M) are isomorphic if and only if the following condition holds:

(a) there exist lattices $A = (A; \leq)$, $B = (B; \leq)$ and a direct product representation $\psi \colon L \to A \times B$ via which L is isomorphic with $A \times B$ and M is isomorphic with $A^{\partial} \times B$ where A^{∂} stands for the dual of A.

Note that this yields a solution to Birkhoff's problem within the class of discrete modular lattices, since a modular lattice L will be uniquely determined by its graph if and only if every direct factor of L is self-dual.

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Jakubík proved in [5] that for discrete lattices (with no assumption of modularity) Condition (a) is equivalent to

(b) L and M have isomorphic graphs and all proper cells of L and all proper cells of M are either preserved or reversed (see below for the definitions).

In [15] Kolibiar proved that for discrete semimodular semilattices S and S_1 on the same underlying set S, the graphs G(S) and $G(S_1)$ are isomorphic if and only if the following condition holds:

(c) there exist a lattice $A = (A; +, \cdot)$, a semilattice $B = (B; \cup)$ and a map $\psi: S \to A \times B$ via which ψ is a subdirect embedding of S into $A \times B$ and S_1 into $A^{\partial} \times B$.

In this paper we give new characterizations of (c) and derive Kolibiar's result as a corollary.

An order \leq_1 is said to be a *compatible order* of a semilattice $S = (S; \leq)$ if \leq_1 is a subsemilattice of S^2 .

In [14], it is proved that if \leq_1 is a compatible order of a semilattice $(S; \vee, \leq)$, then the relations θ_1, θ_2 on S defined by (*) are congruence relations on $(S; \vee)$:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a \; \theta_1 \; b \; \text{if and only if} \; a \leqslant u \geqslant b \; \text{and} \; a \leqslant_1 \; u \geqslant_1 b \\ a \; \theta_2 \; b \; \text{if and only if} \; a \leqslant v \geqslant b \; \text{and} \; a \geqslant_1 v \leqslant_1 b \end{array} \right\} \; \text{ for some} \; u,v \in S \, . \tag{*}$$

LEMMA 1 [14]. Let $\psi \colon S \to S' \times S''$ be a subdirect representation of a semilattice S. Denote $\psi(x)$ by (x_1, x_2) . Given $a, b \in S$, set $a \leqslant_1 b$ if $a_1 \geqslant b_1$ and $a_2 \leqslant b_2$. Then \leqslant_1 is a compatible order of S.

The order \leq_1 of the lemma above is said to have stemmed from a subdirect representation of S. If $S = (S; \lor, \leqslant)$ and $S_1 = (S; \lor_1, \leqslant_1)$ are semilattices and \leqslant_1 stems from a subdirect representation of S, we write $S_1 \# S$.

THEOREM 1 [14]. Let \leq_1 be a compatible order of a semilattice $S = (S; \vee, \leq)$. The following conditions are equivalent:

- (i) \leq_1 stems from a subdirect representation of S;
- (ii) each interval $\{x \in S \mid a \leqslant_1 x \leqslant_1 b\}$ is a convex subset of S;
- (iii) if $a \leqslant b \leqslant c$, then $a \leqslant_1 c$ implies $a \leqslant_1 b \leqslant_1 c$, and $c \leqslant_1 a$ implies $c \leqslant_1 b \leqslant_1 a$.

Note that condition (i) can be reformulated in the following way (as follows from the proof of Theorem 1): for the congruence relations θ_1, θ_2 corresponding to \leq_1 , see (*), we have $\theta_1 \cap \theta_2 = \omega$, where ω is the least congruence relation, and \leq_1 stems from the subdirect representation of S given by θ_1 and θ_2 .

LEMMA 2. If \leq_1 is a compatible order of a semilattice $S = (S; \vee \leq)$, and θ_1 , θ_2 are the corresponding congruence relations, then $\leq_1 \subseteq (\theta_1 \cap \leq) \circ (\theta_2 \cap \geq)$.

Moreover, if \leqslant_1 fulfils the conditions of Theorem 1, then $\leqslant_1 = (\theta_1 \cap \leqslant) \circ (\theta_2 \cap \geqslant)$.

COROLLARY 1. Let \leq_1 be a compatible order of a semilattice $S = (S; \lor, \leq)$, let θ_1 , θ_2 be the corresponding congruence relations and let \leq_1 fulfil the conditions of Theorem 1. For $a, b \in S$,

- (i) if $a \leq b$ and $a \theta_1 b$, then $a \leq_1 b$, and
- (ii) if $a \leq b$ and $a \theta_2 b$, then $b \leq_1 a$.

THEOREM 2. Let $S = (S; \vee, \leq)$ and $S_1 = (S; \vee_1, \leq_1)$ be semilattices. Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) $S \# S_1$ and $S_1 \# S$;
- (ii) there are $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in \operatorname{Con} S \cap \operatorname{Con} S_1$ such that $\leq = (\theta_1 \cap \leqslant_1) \circ (\theta_2 \cap \geqslant_1)$ and $\leqslant_1 = (\theta_1 \cap \leqslant) \circ (\theta_2 \cap \geqslant)$;
- (iii) there is a lattice $(X; +, \cdot)$, a semilattice $(Y; \cup)$ and a map $\psi : S \to X \times Y$ such that ψ is a semilattice embedding of S into $(X; +) \times (Y; \cup)$ and ψ is a semilattice embedding of S_1 into $(X; \cdot) \times (Y; \cup)$.

Proof. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) Assume that $S\#S_1$ and $S_1\#S$. Then, by Lemma 1 and Lemma 2, the congruence relations θ_1 , θ_2 of S and $\overline{\theta}_1$, $\overline{\theta}_2$ of S_1 defined as in (*) fulfil

$$\leq = (\overline{\theta}_1 \cap \leqslant_1) \circ (\overline{\theta}_2 \cap \geqslant_1)$$
 and $\leq_1 = (\theta_1 \cap \leqslant) \circ (\theta_2 \cap \geqslant)$.

By the definitions of θ_1 and $\overline{\theta}_1$, we have $\theta_1 = \overline{\theta}_1$. It remains to show that $\theta_2 = \overline{\theta}_2$. Let $a \ \theta_2 \ b$. Then $a \leqslant u \geqslant b$ and $a \geqslant_1 u \leqslant_1 b$ for some $u \in S$. It follows that $a \lor_1 b \leqslant u \lor_1 b = b$ since \leqslant is compatible with \lor_1 . Similarly we have $a \lor_1 b \leqslant a$. Hence $a \leqslant_1 a \lor_1 b \geqslant_1 b$ and $a \geqslant a \lor_1 b \leqslant b$ imply $a \ \overline{\theta}_2 \ b$. Thus $\theta_2 \subseteq \overline{\theta}_2$. Analogously, $\overline{\theta}_2 \subseteq \theta_2$.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii) Assume that (ii) holds. Then \leqslant is compatible with \vee_1 and \leqslant_1 is compatible with \vee . Let $(a,b) \in \theta_1 \cap \theta_2$. Then $a \leqslant a \vee b \geqslant b$ and $\leqslant_1 = (\theta_1 \cap \leqslant) \circ (\theta_2 \cap \geqslant)$ imply that $a \leqslant_1 a \vee b \leqslant_1 b$ and $b \leqslant_1 a \vee b \leqslant_1 a$ which yields a = b; i.e., $\theta_1 \cap \theta_2 = \omega$.

Now we will show that the operation join of $(S/\theta_1; \leqslant_1)$ is the meet operation of $(S/\theta_1; \leqslant)$; or equivalently, it is enough to show that for any $a, b \in S$, $[a \lor b] \theta_1 = [a] \theta_1$ if and only if $[a \lor_1 b] \theta_1 = [b] \theta_1$. Let $[a \lor b] \theta_1 = [a] \theta_1$. Then $[b] \theta_1 \leqslant [a \lor_1 b] \theta_1$ since $[b] \theta_1 \leqslant [a] \theta_1$ and \leqslant is compatible with \lor_1 . Since $b \leqslant_1 a \lor_1 b$ and $\leqslant_1 = (\theta_1 \cap \leqslant) \circ (\theta_2 \cap \geqslant)$, we have $u \in S$ such that $b \theta_1 u \theta_2 a \lor_1 b$ and $b \leqslant u \geqslant a \lor_1 b$; so $[b] \theta_1 = [u] \theta_1 \geqslant [a \lor_1 b] \theta_1$. Hence $[b] \theta_1 = [a \lor_1 b] \theta_1$. We can prove the converse analogously. Therefore $(S/\theta_1; \lor, \lor_1)$ is a lattice.

Analogously, we can prove that $(S/\theta_2; \leq)$ is isomorphic to $(S/\theta_2; \leq_1)$; or equivalently, the join operation of $(S/\theta_2; \leq)$ is the join operation of $(S/\theta_2; \leq)$.

Since the natural map is an embedding of S into $(S/\theta_1; \vee) \times (S/\theta_2; \vee)$ and S_1 into $(S/\theta_1; \vee_1) \times (S/\theta_2; \vee_1)$, we have $(S/\theta_1; \vee, \vee_1)$ and $(S/\theta_2; \vee)$ are the required lattice and semilattice, respectively.

(iii) \Rightarrow (i) Let \leq and \leq_1 denote the order relations on $(X; +) \times (Y; \cup)$ and $(X; \cdot) \times (Y; \cup)$ respectively, and let \leq_2 denote the order relation on $(X; +, \cdot)$ and \leq_3 denote the order relation on $(Y; \cup)$.

Let $T=(T;\leqslant)$ and $T_1=(T;\leqslant_1)$ be images of the subdirect representation ψ and let $(a_1,a_2),\ (b_1,b_2),\ (c_1,c_2)$ be elements in T with $(a_1,a_2)\leqslant(b_1,b_2)$. Then $a_1\leqslant_2 b_1$ and $a_2\leqslant_3 b_2$. So $a_1\cdot c_1\leqslant_2 b_1\cdot c_1$ and $a_2\cup c_2\leqslant_3 b_2\cup c_2$; i.e., $(a_1\cdot c_1,a_2\cup c_2)\leqslant(b_1\cdot c_1,b_2\cup c_2)$, which shows that \leqslant is compatible with the operation of $(X;\cdot)\times(Y;\cup)$. By analogy, \leqslant_1 is compatible with the operation of $(X;+)\times(Y;\cup)$. Hence $S\#S_1$ and $S_1\#S$ follow from the subdirect representation.

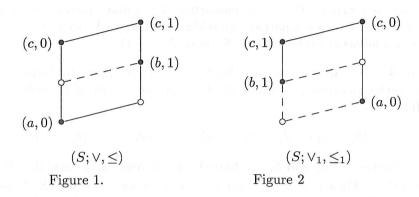


Figure 1 and Figure 2 show that if S_1 above is a compatible ordered set of S which stems from a 2-factor subdirect representation of S, then it does not necessarily follow that the graph G(S) and $G(S_1)$ are isomorphic. In this paper, we shall prove the following theorem for a pair of semilattices.

THEOREM 3. Let $S = (S; \lor, \leqslant)$ and $S_1 = (S; \lor_1, \leqslant_1)$ be discrete semilattices. Then $S \# S_1$ and $S_1 \# S$ if and only if the following conditions hold:

- $(A) \quad G(S) = G(S_1),$
- (B) if either S or S_1 contains a cell of type $\Diamond(1,n)$, say $C = \{u \prec x \prec v \succ y_n \cdots \succ y_1 \succ u\}$, then the other contains one of the following four cells of type $\Diamond(1,n): C, C^{\partial}, D = \{y_1 \prec_1 y_2 \prec_1 \cdots \prec_1 y_n \prec_1 v \prec_1 x \succ_1 u \succ_1 y_1\}$ or D^{∂} , and
- (C) in both S and S_1 , all proper cells of type $\bigvee(m,n)$ with m>1 and n>1 are preserved or reversed.

A semilattice $S = (S, \leq)$ is called *discrete* if each bounded chain in S is finite.

Let $S = (S; \leq)$ be a semilattice. For $a, b \in S$ with $a \leq b$ an interval [a, b] is the set of all elements $x \in S$ satisfying $a \leq x \leq b$. We call [a, b] a prime interval (or equivalently, b covers a, in symbols $a \prec b$) if |[a, b]| = 2.

By the graph G(S) we mean the (undirected) graph whose vertex set is S and whose edges are those pairs $\{a,b\}$, which satisfy either $a \prec b$ or $b \prec a$.

Let $S = (S; \leq)$ and $S_1 = (S_1; \leq_1)$ be semilattices. It is said that G(S) is isomorphic with $G(S_1)$ if there is a bijection $f: S \to S_1$ such that for all $a, b \in S$, $\{a, b\}$ is an edge of G(S) if and only if $\{f(a), f(b)\}$ is an edge of $G(S_1)$. Throughout this paper we assume, without loss of generality, that $S = S_1$ and f is the identity map whenever G(S) is isomorphic to $G(S_1)$, whence $G(S) = G(S_1)$.

If $G(S) = G(S_1)$, then a set $C \subseteq S$ is said to be *preserved* if, whenever $a, b \in C$ and $a \prec b$, then $a \prec_1 b$.

Let $u, v, x_1, \ldots, x_m, y_1, \ldots, y_n$ be distinct elements in S such that

- (i) $u \prec x_1 \prec \cdots \prec x_m \prec v$, $u \prec y_1 \prec \cdots \prec y_n \prec v$, and
- (ii) either v is the least upper bound of x_1 and y_1 (denoted by $v = x_1 \vee y_1$) or u is the greatest lower bound of x_m and y_n (denoted by $u = x_m \wedge y_n$).

Then the set $C = \{u, v, x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots y_n\}$ is said to be a *cell* of S. If $x_1 \vee y_1 = v$, we call C a *cell* of type $\bigvee(m, n)$. Dually, if $x_m \wedge y_n = u$, we call C a *cell* of type $\bigwedge(m, n)$. If $x_1 \vee y_1 = v$ and $x_m \wedge y_n = u$, we call C a *cell* of type $\diamondsuit(m, n)$. If m = n, then C is a *cell* of length n + 1. A cell C is called proper if either m > 1 or n > 1.

A semilattice S is said to be upper semimodular if S satisfies the following Upper Covering Condition (UCC):

(UCC): if a and b cover c with $a \neq b$, then both a and b are covered by $a \vee b$.

Let S and S_1 be discrete semimodular semilattices. Then S and S_1 contain no cells of type $\bigvee(m,n)$ with $m,n\geqslant 1$ & m+n>2; i.e., Conditions (B) and (C) of Theorem 3 always hold. Therefore we obtain one of Kolibiar's results [15] as a corollary.

COROLLARY 2. [15] Let S and S_1 be semimodular semilattices. Then S and S_1 satisfy Condition (c) if and only if $G(S) = G(S_1)$.

We now prove Theorem 3 via the following lemmata.

LEMMA 3. Let $S = (S; \vee, \leqslant)$ and $S_1 = (S; \vee_1, \leqslant_1)$ be discrete semilattices satisfying $S \# S_1$ and $S_1 \# S$. Then Conditions (A), (B) and (C) hold.

Proof. Assume that $a \prec b$. Then $a \leqslant b$ implies $a \leqslant a \lor_1 b \leqslant b$ which yields $a = a \lor_1 b$ or $b = a \lor_1 b$; i.e., $b \leqslant_1 a$ or $a \leqslant_1 b$. If $a \leqslant_1 c \leqslant_1 b$ for some

 $c \in S$, then it follows by Theorem 1 with $a \leq b$ that $a \leq c \leq b$; hence a = c or b = c, which shows that $a \prec_1 b$. Similarly if $b \leq_1 c \leq_1 a$ for some $c \in S$, then $b \prec_1 a$.

Analogously $a \prec_1 b$ implies $a \prec b$ or $b \prec a$. Hence $G(S) = G(S_1)$.

To show that S and S_1 satisfy Condition (B), let $C = \{u \prec x \prec v \succ y_n \succ \cdots \succ y_1 \succ u\}$ be a cell of type $\Diamond(1,n)$ in S (see Figure 3(1)). By the assumption, Condition (A) and the definitions of θ_1 and θ_2 (defined as in (*)), we have either $x \theta_1 u \theta_1 y_1$, $x \theta_2 u \theta_2 y_1$, $x \theta_1 u \theta_2 y_1$ or $x \theta_2 u \theta_1 y_1$.

Case 1: $x \ \theta_1 \ u \ \theta_1 \ y_1$. Then $x \geqslant_1 u \leqslant_1 y_1$. It follows by Corollary 1 that $x \ \theta_1 \ v$ and $x \leqslant v$ imply $x \leqslant_1 v$. Since $u \ \theta_1 \ x$ implies $y_i \ \theta_1 \ v$ for all $i=1,2,\ldots,n$, the transitivity of θ_1 yields $y_i \ \theta_1 \ y_j$ for all i,j. Thus $y_i \ \theta_1 \ y_{i+1}$ and $y_i \prec y_{i+1}$ imply $y_i \prec_1 y_{i+1}$ for all $i=1,2,\ldots,n$; i.e., $y_1 \prec_1 y_2 \prec_1 \cdots \prec_1 y_n \prec_1 v$. Therefore C is a cell of S_1 of type $\diamondsuit(1,n)$.

Case 2: $x \theta_2 u \theta_2 y_1$. We can prove analogously to Case 1 that C^{∂} is a cell of S_1 of type $\Diamond(1,n)$.

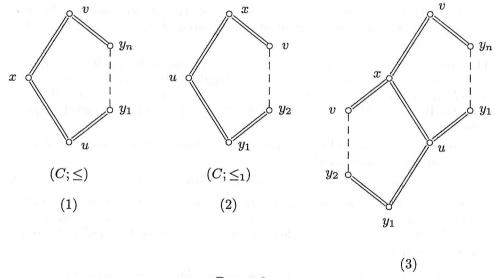


FIGURE 3.

Case 3: $x \ \theta_1 \ u \ \theta_2 \ y_1$. Then $x \ \theta_2 \ v$ and $v \ \theta_1 \ y_i$ for all i = 1, 2, ..., n. It follows from Corollary 1 and the transitivity of θ_1 that $y_1 \prec_1 y_2 \prec_1 \cdots \prec_1 y_n \prec_1 v \prec_1 x \succ_1 u \succ_1 y_1$; i.e., D is a cell of S_1 of type $\Diamond(1, n)$ (see Figure 3).

Case 4: $x \theta_2 u \theta_1 y_1$. We can prove analogously to Case 3 that D^{∂} is a cell of S_1 of type $\Diamond(1,n)$.

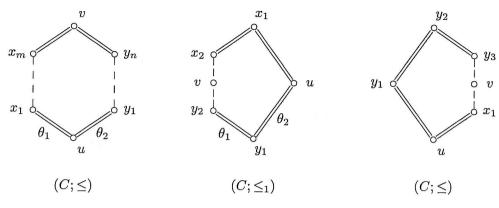


FIGURE 4.

To prove Condition (C), let $A = \{u \prec x_1 \prec \cdots \prec x_m \prec v \succ y_n \succ \cdots \succ y_1 \succ u\}$ be a proper cell of S of type $\bigvee(m,n)$ (m>1 and n>1). Then $x_1 \lor y_1 = v$. Suppose that $x_1 \theta_1 u \theta_2 y_1$. Then $x_i \theta_2 v \theta_1 y_j$ for all $1 \leqslant i < m$ and $1 \leqslant j \leqslant n$, which together with the transitivity of θ_1 and θ_2 implies that $x_i \theta_2 x_k$ and $y_j \theta_1 y_\ell$ for all $1 \leqslant i$, $k \leqslant m$ and $1 \leqslant j$, $\ell \leqslant n$. So $C = \{y_1 \prec_1 y_2 \prec_1 \cdots \prec_1 y_n \prec_1 v \prec_1 x_m \prec_1 \cdots \prec_1 x_1 \succ_1 u \succ_1 y_1\}$ is a cell of S_1 of type $\Diamond(1, n+m-1)$ (see Figure 4). By Condition (B), since $y_2 \theta_1 y_1 \theta_2 u$, we have that D^{∂} is a cell of S of type $\Diamond(1, n+m-1)$ which yields $y_2 = y_3 = \cdots = y_n = v$; i.e., n = 1, a contradiction.

We will get a similar contradiction if x_1 θ_2 u θ_1 y_1 . Therefore, either x_1 θ_1 u θ_1 y_1 or x_1 θ_2 u θ_2 y_1 . Hence A is preserved or reversed.

In the following lemmata, we shall assume that S and S_1 are semilattices satisfying Conditions (A), (B) and (C).

LEMMA 4. Let $a, b, c \in S$ with $a \succ c \prec b$. Then

- (i) $c \prec_1 a$ implies $b \leqslant_1 a \lor b$, and
- (ii) $a \prec_1 c$ implies $a \lor b \leqslant_1 b$.

Proof. We only prove (i) as (ii) follows by duality. Assume $c \prec_1 a$. Since the case a = b is trivial, we assume $a \neq b$.

If $c \prec a \prec a \lor b \succ b \succ c$, then using (B) we obtain immediately $b \prec_1 a \lor b$. If $c \prec a \not\prec a \lor b \not\succ b \succ c$, then condition (C) applies. We may assume that $c \prec a \prec a \lor b \geqslant b \succ c$ (we can prove analogously if $c \prec b \prec a \lor b \geqslant a \succ c$). Then $C = \{c \prec a \prec a \lor b \succ y_n \succ \cdots \succ y_1 \succ b \succ c\}$ for some $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in S$ is a cell of S of type $\Diamond(1,n)$ with [c,a] preserved (reversed). Hence, by Condition (B), either C or $D = \{b \prec_1 y_1 \prec_1 \cdots \prec_1 y_n \prec_1 a \lor b \prec_1 a \succ_1 c \succ_1 b\}$ (resp. C^∂ or D^∂) is a cell of S_1 of type $\Diamond(1,n)$ (see Figure 5). In either case we have $b \leqslant_1 a \lor b$ (resp. $a \lor b \geqslant_1 b$).

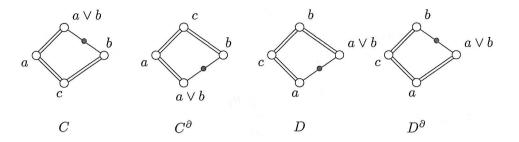


FIGURE 5.

LEMMA 5. Let $a, b, c \in S$ with $a \prec b$. Then

- (i) $a \prec_1 b$ implies $a \lor c \leqslant_1 b \lor c$, and (ii) $b \prec_1 a$ implies $b \lor c \leqslant_1 a \lor c$.

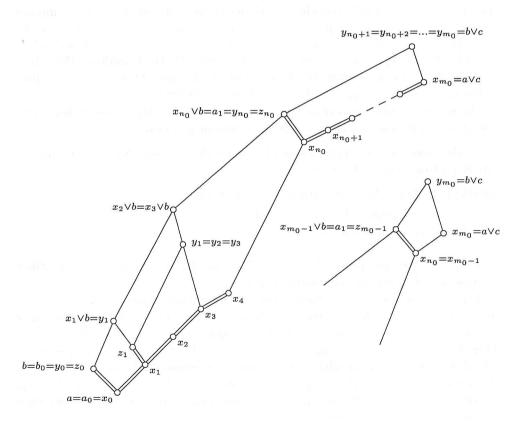


FIGURE 6.

Proof. Let $a=x_0 \prec x_1 \prec \cdots \prec x_{m_0}=a \lor c$, and define $y_i=x_i \lor z_{i-1}$ where $y_0=b=z_0$ and in general z_{i-1} is chosen so that $x_{i-1} \prec z_{i-1} \leqslant y_{i-1}$ (if there is an i $(0 < i < m_0)$ such that $z_i=x_{i+1}$, we will continue the process by considering $z_i=z_{i-1}$ and $y_{i+1}=y_i$ (see Figure 6)). Then, by Lemma 4, the interval $[x_{i+1},y_{i+1}]$ is preserved (reversed) if the interval $[x_i,y_i]$ is preserved (reversed) since $x_i \prec z_i \leqslant y_i$. Hence by induction $[x_{m_0},y_{m_0}]$ is preserved (reversed) since [a,b] is preserved (reversed). Since $x_i \leqslant y_i \leqslant x_i \lor b$ for all $0 \leqslant i \leqslant m_0$, we have $a \lor c = x_{m_0} \leqslant y_{m_0} \leqslant x_{m_0} \lor b = a \lor c \lor b = b \lor c$.

for all $0 \le i \le m_0$, we have $a \lor c = x_{m_0} \le y_{m_0} \le x_{m_o} \lor b = a \lor c \lor b = b \lor c$. Let $a_0 = a$, $b_0 = b$, $x_i^{(\circ)} = x_i$, $y_i^{(\circ)} = y_i$, $z_i^{(\circ)} = z_i$ for all $i = 0, 1, \ldots, m_0$. Note that $z_0^{(\circ)} = b_0$. Let $a_1 = z_{n_0}^{(\circ)}$ where n_0 is the least number such that $0 \le n_0 < m_0$ and $x_{n_0+1} \lor z_{n_0} = y_{n_0+1} = y_{n_0+2} = \cdots = y_{m_0}$ (see Figure 6 and 7).

Case 1: If $a_1 = z_{n_0}^{(\circ)} = x_{n_0} \lor b \ (= y_{n_0})$, then $y_{m_0} = x_{m_0} \lor z_{n_0} = x_{m_0} \lor (x_{n_0} \lor b) = x_{m_0} \lor b = (a \lor c) \lor b = b \lor c$; hence, by using (B) or (C), the preservation of $[x_{n_0}, y_{n_0}]$ implies the preservation of $[x_{m_0}, y_{m_0}] = [a \lor c, b \lor c]$ (see Figure 6).

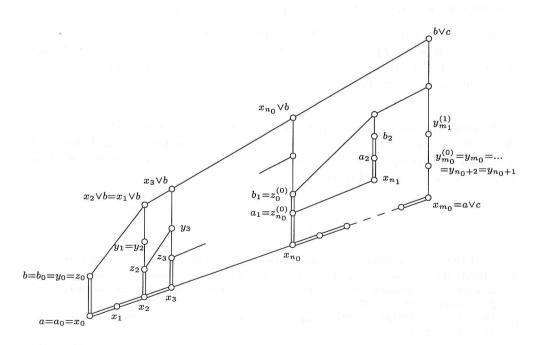


FIGURE 7.

Case 2: If $a_1 = x_{n_0}^{(\circ)} < x_{n_0} \lor b$ (note that $x_{n_0}^{(\circ)} \leqslant y_{n_0} \leqslant x_{n_0} \lor b$), we choose $b_1 (= z_0^{(1)})$ with $a_1 \prec b_1 \leqslant x_{n_0}^{(\circ)} \lor b$ (see Figure 7). Note that since $[a_0, b_0]$ is preserved (reversed) so is $[a_1, b_1]$. Now repeat the construction with a_0 replaced

by a_1 and b_0 replaced by b_1 . This then produces the elements $z_{n_1}^{(1)}$ and $y_{m_1}^{(1)}$ which are needed to begin the next step of the induction.

(In general, we define $a_{i+1}=z_{n_i-1}^{(i)}$ where n_i is the least number such that $0\leqslant n_i < m_i$ and $x_{n_i+1} \vee z_{n_i}=y_{n_i+1}=y_{n_i+2}=\cdots=y_{m_i}$ and choose $b_{i+1}=z_0^{(i+1)}$ with $a_{i+1}=z_{n_i}^{(i)} \prec z_0^{(i+1)}=b_{i+1}\leqslant x_{n_i}^{(i)} \vee b_i$ (for the case $a_{i+1}=z_{n_i}^{(i)}=x_{n_i}^{(i+1)} \vee b_i=y_{n_i}^{(i)}$, (as Case 1) the preservation of $[a_i,b_i]$ implies the preservation of $[y_{m_i}^{(i)},y_{m_{i+1}}^{(i+1)}]$) and, finally, repeat the process with the covering chain:

 $a_{i+1} = z_{n_i-1}^{(i)} = x_0^{(i+1)} \prec x_1^{(i+1)} \prec \cdots \prec x_{m_{i+1}}^{(i+1)} = y_{m_i}^{(i)}$.

Since S is discrete, there exists N such that $y_{m_N}^{(N)} = b \vee c$ and hence we have a chain:

 $a \lor c \leqslant y_{m_0}^{(\circ)} \leqslant y_{m_1}^{(1)} \leqslant \dots y_{m_N}^{(N)} = b \lor c$

and each step in this chain is preserved (reversed) since each interval $[a_i, b_i]$ is preserved (reversed).

LEMMA 6. Let $a, b, c \in S$ with $a \leq_1 b$. Then $a \vee c \leq_1 b \vee c$.

Proof. Let $a \leqslant_1 b$. Since S_1 is discrete, we have $a = x_0 \prec_1 x_1 \prec_1 \cdots \prec_1 x_{n+1} = b$ for some $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in S$. So either $x_i \prec x_{i+1}$ or $x_{i+1} \prec x_i$ for all $0 \leqslant i < n+1$. It follows from Lemma 5 that $x_i \lor c \leqslant_1 x_{i+1} \lor c$ for all $0 \leqslant i < n+1$. Hence by induction we have $a \lor c = x_0 \lor c \leqslant_1 x_1 \lor c \leqslant_1 \cdots \leqslant_1 x_{n+1} \lor c = b \lor c$.

Finally, Lemma 6 implies that \leq_1 is a compatible order of the semilattice $S = (S; \leq)$. Conditions (B) and (C) imply that Theorem 1 (iii) holds. But Theorem 1(iii) is equivalent to Theorem 2 (i) which is $S \# S_1$ and $S_1 \# S$. This completes the proof of Theorem 3.

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