

# PRIME IDEAL CHARACTERIZATION OF CHAIN BASED LATTICES

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## Abstract

Epstein and Horn, in their paper 'Chain based lattices', characterized  $P_1$ -lattices, and  $P_2$ -lattices in terms of their prime ideals. But no such prime ideal characterization for  $P_0$ -lattices was given. Our main aim in this paper is to characterize  $P_0$ -lattices in terms of their prime ideals. We also give a necessary and sufficient condition for a  $P$ -algebra to be a  $P_0$ -lattice (and hence a  $P_2$ -lattice).

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## 0. Introduction

Traczyk (1963) introduced the concept of chain based lattices ( $P_0$ -lattices) as an abstraction of Post algebras. Epstein and Horn (1975) studied chain based lattices in detail and obtained a prime ideal characterization of these lattices in special cases, namely,  $P_1$ -lattices and  $P_2$ -lattices. But no such prime ideal characterization for  $P_0$ -lattices was given. In this paper, we give a prime ideal characterization for  $P_0$ -lattices. The main tool used in this paper is that every bounded distributive lattice is isomorphic with the lattice of all global sections of a sheaf of bounded distributive lattices over a Boolean space (See Maddana Swamy (1974) and Subrahmanyam (1978)).

Epstein and Horn (1975) (Theorem 7.3) proved that the prime ideals of a  $P_0$ -lattice of order  $n$  lie in disjoint maximal chains each with at most  $n - 1$  elements and they have shown that the converse is not true even in the case of a  $P$ -algebra. In this paper, we prove that a  $P$ -algebra  $L$  is a  $P_0$ -lattice (and hence a  $P_2$ -lattice) if and only if the prime ideals of  $L$  lie in disjoint maximal chains each with at most  $n - 1$  elements for some integer  $n$  and satisfy the continuity axiom (see Definition 3.3 and Theorem 3.5

below). Further, we characterize  $P_1$ -lattices and  $P_2$ -lattices in terms of the stalks of the corresponding sheaves and such characterization for  $P_0$ -lattices is given by Maddana Swamy and Manikyamba (to appear) (Theorem 5.6).

Throughout this paper, by  $L$ , we mean a (nontrivial) bounded distributive lattice  $(L, \vee, \wedge, 0, 1)$  and  $B = B(L)$ , the centre of  $L$ . The dual of  $L$  is denoted by  $L^d$ . For any  $a \in B$ , we write  $a'$  to denote the complement of  $a$ . For any  $x \in L$ , The principal ideal generated by  $x$  is denoted by  $\langle x \rangle$ . For any  $x, y \in L$ , the largest element  $z \in L$  such that  $x \wedge z \leq y$  (if exists) is denoted by  $x \rightarrow y$  and the largest element  $a \in B$  such that  $x \wedge a \leq y$  (if exists) is denoted by  $x \Rightarrow y$ . If, for every  $x, y \in L$ ,  $x \rightarrow y$  ( $x \Rightarrow y$ ) exists, then we say that  $L$  is a Heyting algebra ( $B$ -algebra). Further if, for any  $x, y \in L$ ,

$$(x \rightarrow y) \vee (y \rightarrow x) = 1((x \Rightarrow y) \vee (y \Rightarrow x) = 1)$$

then  $L$  is called a  $L$ -algebra ( $P$ -algebra). For any  $x \in L$ , we write  $!x$  to denote  $1 \Rightarrow x$ , (if it exists), and call it the pseudosupplement of  $x$ . We refer to Birkhoff (1967) and Epstein and Horn (1974) for the elementary properties of these types of lattices.

By a sheaf of bounded distributive lattices we mean a triple  $(\mathcal{S}, \pi, X)$  satisfying the following :

- (1)  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $X$  are topological spaces.
- (2)  $\pi : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow X$  is a local homeomorphism.
- (3) Each stalk  $\pi^{-1}(p)$ ,  $p \in X$ , is a bounded distributive lattice.
- (4) The maps  $(x, y) \mapsto x \vee y$  and  $(x, y) \mapsto x \wedge y$  from

$$\mathcal{S} \vee \mathcal{S} : = \{(x, y) \in \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S} \mid \pi(x) = \pi(y)\}$$

into  $\mathcal{S}$  are continuous.

- (5) The maps  $\hat{0} : p \mapsto 0(p)$  and  $\hat{1} : p \mapsto 1(p)$  of  $X$  into  $\mathcal{S}$  are continuous where  $0(p)$  and  $1(p)$  are the smallest and largest elements of  $\pi^{-1}(p)$  respectively.

We call  $\mathcal{S}$  the sheaf space,  $X$  the base space and  $\pi$  the projection map. We write  $\mathcal{S}_p$  for  $\pi^{-1}(p)$  and call  $\mathcal{S}_p$  the stalk of  $\mathcal{S}$  at  $p$ . By a (global) section of the sheaf  $(\mathcal{S}, \pi, X)$ , we mean a continuous map  $\sigma : X \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  such that  $\pi \circ \sigma = id_X$ , identity map of  $X$ . For any two sections  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$ ,  $\{p \in X \mid \sigma(p) = \tau(p)\}$  is open. For the preliminary results on sheaf theory, we refer to the pioneering work of Hoffmann (1972).

By  $\text{Spec } L$  we mean the set  $Y = \mathcal{P}(L)$  of all prime ideals of  $L$  with the hull-kernel topology; the topology for which  $\{Y_x \mid x \in L\}$  is a base, where for any  $x \in L$ ,  $Y_x = \{P \in Y \mid x \notin P\}$ . Throughout this paper  $X$  denotes  $\text{Spec } B$ , which is a Boolean space; a compact, Hausdorff and totally disconnected space. Since  $a \mapsto X_a$  is a Boolean isomorphism of  $B$  onto the Boolean algebra of all clopen subsets of  $X$ , we identify  $a$  and  $X_a$  and write simply  $a$  for  $X_a$ . We write  $Y^m$  to denote the subspace of  $\text{Spec } L$  consisting of all minimal prime ideals of  $L$  with the relative topology. We write, for any  $x \in L$ ,  $Y_x^m$  for  $Y^m \cap Y_x$ . For any  $p \in X$ , let  $\mathcal{S}_p$  be the quotient lattice  $L/\theta_p$ , where  $\theta_p$  is the congruence on  $L$  given by

$$(x, y) \in \theta_p \text{ if and only if } x \wedge a = y \wedge a \text{ for some } a \in B - p$$

and let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the disjoint union of all  $\mathcal{S}_p, p \in X$ . For each  $x \in L$ , define  $\hat{x} : X \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  by  $\hat{x}(p) = \theta_p(x)$ , the congruence class of  $\theta_p$  containing  $x$ . Topologize  $\mathcal{S}$  with the largest topology such that each  $\hat{x}, x \in L$ , is continuous. In this topology  $\{\hat{x}(U) \mid U \text{ is a neighbourhood of } p\}$  forms a basis for the neighbourhoods of  $\hat{x}(p)$ . Define  $\pi : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow X$  by  $\pi(s) = p$  if  $s \in \mathcal{S}_p$ . The following theorem is the main tool used in this paper and is due to Subrahmanyam (1978) (see also Maddana Swamy (1974)).

**THEOREM 0.1.**

- (1)  $(\mathcal{S}, \pi, X)$  described above is a sheaf of bounded distributive lattices in which each stalk  $\mathcal{S}_p$  has exactly two complemented elements, namely  $\hat{0}(p)$  and  $\hat{1}(p)$ .
- (2) For any  $a \in B, p \in X, \hat{a}(p) = \hat{1}(p)$  if  $p \in a$  and  $\hat{a}(p) = \hat{0}(p)$  if  $p \notin a$ .
- (3) For any  $x, y \in L$  and  $a \in B, \hat{x}|_a = \hat{y}|_a$  if and only if  $x \wedge a = y \wedge a$ .
- (4)  $x \mapsto \hat{x}$  is an isomorphism of  $L$  onto the lattice  $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{S})$  of all global sections of the sheaf  $(\mathcal{S}, \pi, X)$ . We identify  $\hat{x}$  with  $x$  and write simply  $x$  for  $\hat{x}$ .
- (5) For any prime ideal  $P$  of  $L$ , there exists a unique  $p \in X$  such that  $P_p := \{x(p) \mid x \in P\}$  is a prime ideal of  $\mathcal{S}_p$ . On the other hand, if  $Q$  is a prime ideal of  $\mathcal{S}_p$  where  $p \in X$ , then  $\{x \in L \mid x(p) \in Q\}$  is a prime ideal of  $L$ . This correspondence exhibits the set of all prime ideals of  $L$  as the disjoint union of the sets of prime ideals of the stalks. Moreover, if  $P$  and  $Q$  are prime ideals of distinct stalks  $\mathcal{S}_p$  and  $\mathcal{S}_q$ , the  $P$  and  $Q$  are incomparable when they are regarded as prime ideals of  $L$ .

Throughout this paper, by stalk  $\mathcal{S}_p, p \in X$ , we mean the stalk of the sheaf  $(\mathcal{S}, \pi, X)$  described above.

For any  $x, y \in L$ , we write  $(x, y)_L^*$  for the ideal  $\{z \in L \mid x \wedge z \leq y\}$  of  $L$  and by  $(x, y)_B^*$ , we mean the ideal  $(x, y)_L^* \cap B$  of  $B$ . We write  $(x)_L^*$  for  $(x, 0)_L^*$ .  $L$  is said to be dense if  $(x)_L^* = \{0\}$  for all  $0 \neq x \in L$ . Following Cignoli (1971, 1978),  $L$  is said to be  $B$ -normal if, for any  $x, y \in L, (x \wedge y)_B^* = (x)_B^* \vee (y)_B^*$ , where  $\vee$  denotes the join operation in the lattice of ideals of  $B$  and  $L$  is said to be  $B$ -completely normal if, for any  $x, y \in L, (x, y)_B^* \vee (y, x)_B^* = B$ .

Since, for any  $p \in X$ , the stalk  $\mathcal{S}_p$  is dense if and only if  $((x \wedge y)_B^* \not\subseteq p \Leftrightarrow (x)_B^* \not\subseteq p$  or  $(y)_B^* \not\subseteq p$  for all  $x, y \in L$ ), the following theorem is a consequence of the results of Cignoli (1971).

**THEOREM 0.2.** *The following are equivalent.*

- (1)  $L$  is  $B$ -normal.
- (2) For any  $x, y \in L$  such that  $x \wedge y = 0, (x)_B^* \vee (y)_B^* = B$ .
- (3) For any  $p \in X$ , the ideal  $(p)$  of  $L$  generated by  $p$  is prime.
- (4) For any  $a, b \in B, a \leq b, [a, b]_L := \{x \in L \mid a \leq x \leq b\}$  is  $B$ -normal.
- (5) For any  $a \in B, [0, a]_L$  is  $B$ -normal.
- (6) Each stalk  $\mathcal{S}_p, p \in X$ , is dense.

Following Cornish (1972),  $L$  is said to be normal if every prime ideal of  $L$  contains a unique minimal prime ideal and  $L$  is said to be relatively normal if each interval  $[x, y]$  in  $L$  is normal. It can be observed that every  $B$ -completely normal lattice is relatively normal. But the converse is not true (see Theorem 0.4 below). If both  $L$  and  $L^d$  are normal (relatively normal), then we say that  $L$  is doubly normal (doubly relatively normal). The following is a routine verification by using the results of Cornish (1972).

**THEOREM 0.3.** *The following are equivalent.*

- (1)  $L$  is doubly relatively normal.
- (2)  $L$  is relatively normal and  $L^d$  is normal.
- (3)  $L$  is normal and  $L^d$  is relatively normal.
- (4)  $\text{Spec } L$  is a disjoint union of maximal chains.

Cignoli (1978) proved that every  $B$ -completely normal lattice is isomorphic with the lattice of all global sections of a sheaf of chains over a Boolean space. If  $L$  is  $B$ -completely normal, then our stalks  $\mathcal{S}_p$  turn out to be chains (see Theorem 0.4 below) and our sheaf  $(\mathcal{S}, \pi, X)$  coincides with that of Cignoli (1978). In the following theorem, the equivalence of (1), (2) and (4) is proved by Cignoli (1978) (Theorem 2.1), (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (6) is proved by Subrahmanyam (1978) and the equivalence of (1), (3) and (5) follows from Theorem 0.3 and the fact that a dense distributive lattice has a unique minimal prime ideal.

**THEOREM 0.4.** *The following are equivalent.*

- (1)  $L$  is  $B$ -completely normal.
- (2) For any  $x, y \in L$ , there exists  $a \in B$  such that  $x \wedge a \leq y$  and  $y \wedge a' \leq x$ .
- (3)  $L$  is relatively normal and  $L^d$  is  $B$ -normal.
- (4)  $L$  is  $B$ -normal and  $L^d$  is relatively normal.
- (5)  $L^d$  is  $B$ -completely normal.
- (6) Each stalk  $\mathcal{S}_p$ ,  $p \in X$ , is a chain.

## 1. $P_0$ -lattices

**DEFINITION 1.1.** (Traczyk (1963).) If there is a chain  $0 = e_0 \leq e_1 \leq \dots \leq e_{n-1} = 1$  in  $L$  such that  $L$  is generated by  $B \cup \{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}\}$ , then we say that  $\langle L; e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  is a  $P_0$ -lattice. In this case  $\{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}\}$  is called a *chain base* for  $L$ .

From Theorem 0.4 above and from Theorem 5.6 of Maddana Swamy and Manikyamba (to appear), it follows that every  $P_0$ -lattice is  $B$ -completely normal.

**DEFINITION 1.2.** Let  $S \subseteq L$ . Then we say that the set  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  of prime ideals of  $L$  is determined by  $S$  if  $0, 1 \in S$  and for each  $P \in \mathcal{P}(L)$ , there exists  $s \in S$  and a minimal prime ideal  $P_0 \subseteq P$  such that  $P = (s, P_0]$ , the ideal of  $L$  generated by  $s$  and  $P_0$ .

**THEOREM 1.3.** Let  $L$  be a  $B$ -completely normal lattice,  $S$  a finite subset of  $L$  and  $0, 1 \in S$ . Then the following are equivalent.

- (1)  $S$  together with  $B$  generate  $L$ .
- (2)  $s \mapsto s(p)$  is a surjective map of  $S$  onto  $\mathcal{S}_p$  for each  $p \in X$ .
- (3)  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  is determined by  $S$ .

**PROOF.** (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2) is an imitation of the proof of Theorem 5.6 of Maddana Swamy and Manikyamba (to appear).

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) : Let  $P \in \mathcal{P}(L)$  and  $P_0$  be the unique minimal prime ideal of  $L$  contained in  $P$ . Write  $p = P_0 \cap B \in X$ . Then it can be seen that  $P_p := \{x(p) \mid x \in P\}$  is a prime ideal of  $\mathcal{S}_p$ . Since  $\mathcal{S}_p$  is a finite chain, there exists  $s \in S$  such that  $P_p = (s(p)]$ . We show that  $P = (s, P_0]$ . If  $x \in P$ , then  $x(p) \leq s(p)$ , so that there exists  $a \in B - p$  such that  $x \wedge a \leq s$ . Now  $a' \in p$  and  $x \leq s \vee a' \in (s, P_0]$  and hence  $P \subseteq (s, P_0]$  and the other inequality follows from the fact that  $\{y \in L \mid y(p) \in P_p\} = P$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) : Let  $x \in L$  and  $p \in X$ . We may assume that  $x(p) \neq 1(p)$ . Then  $(x(p)] \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{S}_p)$  so that  $P = \{y \in L \mid y(p) \leq x(p)\} \in \mathcal{P}(L)$ . Hence  $P = (s, P_0]$  for some  $s \in S$ , where  $P_0$  is the unique minimal prime ideal contained in  $P$ . Also, since  $s \in P$ ,  $s(p) \leq x(p) \neq 1(p)$  and hence  $Q := \{y \in L \mid y(p) \leq s(p)\} \in \mathcal{P}(L)$ . Now  $Q \subseteq P$  and hence  $P_0 \subseteq Q$ . Since  $s \in Q$ , we have  $P \subseteq Q$  and hence  $P = Q$ . Therefore  $x \in Q$ , so that  $x(p) \leq s(p)$ . Hence  $x(p) = s(p)$ . Thus (2) follows.

**THEOREM 1.4.** Let  $L$  be a  $B$ -completely normal lattice. Then the following are equivalent.

- (1)  $L$  is  $P_0$ -lattice.
- (2)  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  is determined by a finite subset of  $L$ .
- (3)  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  is determined by a finite chain in  $L$ .

**PROOF.** (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) follows from the above theorem and Theorem 5.6 of Maddana Swamy and Manikyamba (to appear) and (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) is clear.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) : Let  $S$  be a finite subset of  $L$  which determines  $\mathcal{P}(L)$ . For each  $p \in X$ , since  $s \mapsto s(p)$  is a surjective map of  $S$  onto  $\mathcal{S}_p$ , there exists a partition  $\alpha_p = \{A_{1p}, A_{2p}, \dots, A_{n_p p}\}$  of  $S$  such that, for  $1 \leq i \leq n_p$ ,  $x(p) = y(p)$  for all  $x, y \in A_{ip}$  and  $x(p) < y(p)$  whenever  $x \in A_{ip}$  and  $y \in A_{i+1p}$ . Hence there exists  $a_p \in B - p$  such that, for  $1 \leq i \leq n_p$ ,  $x \wedge a_p = y \wedge a_p$  for all  $x, y \in A_{ip}$  and  $x \wedge a_p \leq y \wedge a_p$  whenever  $x \in A_{ip}$  and  $y \in A_{i+1p}$ . By the usual compactness argument in the Boolean space  $X$ , there exist a partition  $\{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$  of  $B$  and partitions  $\alpha_j = \{A_{1j}, A_{2j}, \dots, A_{n_j j}\}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$ , of  $S$  such that, for  $1 \leq i \leq n_j$  and  $1 \leq j \leq k$ ,  $x \wedge a_j = y \wedge a_j$  for all  $x, y \in A_{ij}$  and

$x \wedge a_j \leq y \wedge a_j$  whenever  $x \in A_{i_j}$  and  $y \in A_{i_{j+1}}$ . Put  $n = \max_{1 \leq j \leq k} n_j$ . If, for any  $j$ ,  $n_j < n$ , then we write  $A_{i_j} = A_{n_j}$  for all  $n_j < i \leq n$ . Choose  $x_{i_j} \in A_{i_j}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $1 \leq j \leq k$  and write  $e_i = \bigvee_{j=1}^k (x_{i_j} \wedge a_j)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . For any  $p \in X, p \in a_j$  for exactly one  $j$  and hence  $e_i(p) = x_{i_j}(p) \leq x_{i_{j+1}}(p) = e_{i+1}(p)$ , which shows that  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  is a chain in  $L$ . Now, let  $x \in L$  and  $p \in X$ . Then there exists  $s \in S$  such that  $x(p) = s(p)$ . Choose  $j, 1 \leq j \leq k$ , such that  $p \in a_j$ . Then  $s \in A_{i_j}$  for some  $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ , so that  $x(p) = s(p) = x_{i_j}(p) = e_i(p)$ . Hence, by Theorem 1.3 above, it follows that  $\{0, e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n, 1\}$  determines  $\mathcal{P}(L)$ .

### 2. $P_1$ -lattices

**DEFINITION 2.1.** (Epstein and Horn (1975).) A  $P_1$ -lattice is a  $P_0$ -lattice  $\langle L; e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  such that  $e_{i+1} \rightarrow e_i = e_i$  for  $0 \leq i \leq n-2$ .

**DEFINITION 2.2.** If  $C = \{x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_m\}$  is a finite chain and  $n$  is a positive integer, then by the  $n$ th element of  $C$  we mean  $x_n$  if  $n < m$  and  $x_m$  if  $n \geq m$ .

**THEOREM 2.3.** Let  $L$  be a  $B$ -completely normal lattice and each maximal chain of prime ideals of  $L$  contains at most  $n-1$  elements. Then  $L$  is a  $P_1$ -lattice if and only if, for any  $x \in L$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n-1, G_{ix} := \{p \in X \mid x(p) \text{ is the } i\text{th element of } \mathcal{S}_p\}$  is open.

**PROOF.** (Thanks to the referee for suggesting this proof which is simpler than the original one.) Suppose  $L$  is a  $P_1$ -lattice. Then by Theorems 7.5 and 3.3 of Epstein and Horn (1975), there exist  $e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}$  such that  $\langle L; e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  is a  $P_1$ -lattice. Now  $e_i(p) = e_{i+1}(p)$  implies  $e_i(p) = 1(p)$  because, if  $b \in B-p$  is such that  $b \wedge e_{i+1} \leq e_i$ , then  $b \leq e_{i+1} \rightarrow e_i = e_i$ . Therefore, by Definition 2.2,  $e_i(p)$  is the  $i$ th element of  $\mathcal{S}_p$ . Hence  $G_{ix}$  is open.

Conversely suppose  $G_{ix}$  is open for all  $x \in L$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Hence there exists a chain

$$0 = e_0 \leq e_1 \leq \dots \leq e_{n-1} = 1$$

in  $L$  such that  $e_i(p)$  is the  $i$ th element of  $\mathcal{S}_p$  for all  $p \in X$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Since, for any  $x \in L$  and  $p \in X, x(p) = e_i(p)$  for some  $i, 0 \leq i \leq n-1$ , by Theorem 1.3 above,  $\langle L; e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  is a  $P_0$ -lattice. Suppose  $x \wedge e_{i+1} \leq e_i$ . Then either  $x(p) \leq e_i(p)$  or  $e_{i+1}(p) \leq e_i(p)$  and in the later case,  $e_i(p) = 1(p)$ . Hence  $x(p) \leq e_i(p)$  for all  $p \in X$ , so that  $e_{i+1} \rightarrow e_i = e_i$ . Thus  $\langle L; e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  is a  $P_1$ -lattice.

### 3. $P_2$ -lattices

**DEFINITION 3.1.** (Epstein and Horn (1975).) A  $P_2$ -lattice is a  $P_1$ -lattice  $\langle L; e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  such that  $!e_i$  exists for all  $i$ .

The following theorem is a consequence of Definition 4.3 of Epstein and Horn (1975) and Theorem 4.3 of Maddana Swamy and Manikyamba (to appear).

**THEOREM 3.2.** *L is a  $P_2$ -lattice if and only if L is a  $P_1$ -lattice and for any  $x \in L$ ,  $\{p \in X \mid x(p) < 1(p)\}$  is open.*

**DEFINITION 3.3.** Let  $L$  be a  $B$ -completely normal lattice and let each maximal chain of prime ideals of  $L$  be finite. For each  $p \in X$ , let  $n(p)$  be the number of prime ideals of  $L$  which contain  $p$ . We say that  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  satisfies the continuity axiom if  $p \mapsto n(p)$  is a continuous map from  $X$  into  $Z$  with the discrete topology (where  $Z$  is the set of all integers).

Observe that, if  $L$  is a Store lattice  $B$ -completely normal, then  $p \mapsto (p)$ , the ideal in  $L$  generated by  $p$ , is a homeomorphism (see Maddana Swamy and Manikyamba (1979), Theorem 4) of  $X$  onto  $Y^m$ .

**REMARK 3.4.** Epstein and Horn (1975) gave an example of a  $P$ -algebra  $L$  which is not a  $P_0$ -lattice. We observe that it is only because  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  does not satisfy the continuity axiom.

**THEOREM 3.5.** *Let L be a P-algebra. Then L is a  $P_2$ -lattice if and only if  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  satisfies the continuity axiom and there exists an integer  $n$  such that each maximal chain in  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  has at most  $n - 1$  elements.*

**PROOF.** Suppose  $\langle L; e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  is a  $P_2$ -lattice. Suppose  $n(p) = i$ . Then

$$e_0(p) < e_1(p) < \dots < e_i(p) = 1.$$

Now for any  $x \in L$ , it is clear that  $x(p) = 1(p)$  if and only if  $x \in B - p$ . Therefore  $!e_{i-1} \in p$  and  $!e_i \in B - p$ . Let  $a = !e_i - !e_{i-1}$ . Then  $p \in a$  and for all  $q \in a$ ,  $!e_i - !e_{i-1} \in B - q$ , so that  $e_{i-1}(q) < e_i(q) = 1(q)$ . Thus  $n(q) = i$  for all  $q \in a$  and the continuity axiom is proved. Conversely suppose  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  satisfies the continuity axiom and each maximal chain in  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  has at most  $n - 1$  elements. Since  $p \mapsto (p)$  is a homeomorphism of  $X$  onto  $Y^m$  and since for any  $p \in X$ ,  $|\mathcal{S}_p| = n(p) + 1$ , to each  $p \in X$ , there exists  $a \in B - p$  such that  $|\mathcal{S}_p| = |\mathcal{S}_q|$  for all  $q \in a$ . Hence there exists a partition  $\{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$  of  $X$  such that  $|\mathcal{S}_p| = |\mathcal{S}_q|$  for all  $p, q \in a_i$  and  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . Hence  $L = \prod_{i=1}^k \Gamma(a_i, \mathcal{S})$ , where  $\Gamma(a_i, \mathcal{S})$  is the lattice of all sections of the clopen set  $a_i$  into  $\mathcal{S}$ . By Theorems 16 and 17 of Epstein (1960),  $\Gamma(a_i, \mathcal{S})$  is a Post algebra and hence by Lemma 4.9 of Epstein and Horn (1975), it follows that  $L$  is a  $P_2$ -lattice.

The following lemma is due to Maddana Swamy and Manikyamba (to appear).

**LEMMA 3.6.** *L is a B-algebra if and only if  $\{p \in X \mid x(p) \leq y(p)\}$  is clopen for every  $x, y \in L$ .*

**THEOREM 3.7.** *Let  $L$  be a  $B$ -completely normal lattice satisfying the continuity axiom and suppose each maximal chain in  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  has finite length. Then the following are equivalent.*

- (1)  $L$  is a  $P_0$ -lattice.
- (2)  $L$  is a  $P_1$ -lattice.
- (3)  $L$  is a  $P_2$ -lattice.
- (4)  $L$  is a  $B$ -algebra.
- (5)  $L$  is a  $P$ -algebra.

**PROOF.** (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) is clear and the equivalence of (4) and (5) is immediate by the definition, since  $L$  is  $B$ -completely normal. Further, (5)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) is proved in the above theorem. Now we are left with the proof of (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (4).

Suppose  $\langle L; e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  is a  $P_0$ -lattice. Let  $x, y \in L$  and  $p \in X$  such that  $x(p) < y(p)$ . Now, write

$$\mathcal{S}_p = \{0(p) = e_0(p) \leq e_1(p) \leq \dots \leq e_{n-1}(p) = 1(p)\}.$$

Choose integers  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k$  such that

$$e_0(p) = \dots = e_{i_1-1}(p) < e_{i_1}(p) = e_{i_1+1}(p) = \dots = e_{i_2-1}(p) < e_{i_2}(p) = \dots$$

Since  $\mathcal{P}(L)$  satisfies the continuity axiom, there exists  $a \in B-p$  such that  $|\mathcal{S}_q| = |\mathcal{S}_p|$  for all  $q \in a$ . Also, for each  $i_j$ , there exists  $a_{i_j} \in B-p$  such that  $e_{i_j} \wedge a_{i_j} = e_{i_j-1} \wedge a_{i_j}$  and hence there exists  $b \in B-p$  such that  $e_{i_j} \wedge b = e_{i_j-1} \wedge b$  for all  $i_j$ . Now there exists  $j < k$  such that  $x(p) = e_{i_j}(p)$  and  $y(p) = e_{i_k}(p)$ . Hence there exists  $c \in B-p$  such that  $x \wedge c = e_{i_j} \wedge c$  and  $y \wedge c = e_{i_k} \wedge c$ . Clearly  $p \in a \wedge b \wedge c$  and, for any  $q \in a \wedge b \wedge c$ , if  $x(q) = y(q)$ , then  $e_{i_j}(q) = e_{i_k}(q)$  which implies that  $|\mathcal{S}_q| < |\mathcal{S}_q|$ , which contradicts the fact that  $p, q \in a$ . Therefore  $x(q) < y(q)$  for all  $q \in a \wedge b \wedge c$ . Hence  $\{p \in X \mid x(p) < y(p)\}$  is open. Thus  $L$  is a  $B$ -algebra, by Lemma 3.6. This proves the theorem.

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