

# THE ROOT SYSTEM OF PRIMES OF A HAHN GROUP

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## Abstract

Let  $\Delta$  be a root system and let  $V$  be the Hahn group of real-valued functions on  $\Delta$ . Then  $\Delta$  can be order-embedded into  $P(\Delta)$ , the root system of prime  $l$ -ideals of  $V$ . In this note we identify  $P(\Delta)$  in terms of  $\Delta$  without explicit reference to  $V$ , up to the convex subgroup structure of the additive groups of real closed  $\eta_1$ -fields. In particular, we characterize the minimal prime  $l$ -ideals of  $V$  in terms of  $\Delta$  by an ultrafilter construction which generalizes the well-known method when  $\Delta$  is trivially ordered.

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## 1. Introduction

Throughout this introduction let  $G$  be an abelian  $l$ -group. Let  $\mathcal{C}(G)$  denote the set of all convex  $l$ -subgroups of  $G$  (or  $l$ -ideals, since they are normal). If  $G$  is an  $l$ -subgroup of an  $l$ -group  $H$ , and the map  $C \rightarrow C \cap G$  is a lattice isomorphism of  $\mathcal{C}(H)$  onto  $\mathcal{C}(G)$ , then  $H$  is an  $a$ -extension of  $G$ . Those elements  $P$  of  $\mathcal{C}(G)$  for which  $G/P$  is totally ordered are called *prime*; equivalently, the set of elements of  $\mathcal{C}(G)$  larger than  $P$  is a chain. Thus, the set of primes forms a *root system*, that is, a partially ordered set in which no two incomparable elements have a lower bound. Each prime exceeds at least one minimal prime; a prime  $P$  is minimal if and only if for each  $g \in P^+$  there exists  $h \notin P^+$  such that  $h \wedge g = 0$ . If the intersection  $P^*$  of all elements of  $\mathcal{C}(G)$  larger than a prime  $P$  covers  $P$ , then  $P$  is called a *value*; it is maximal with respect to not containing each element  $g \in P^* \setminus P$ . The root system of all values of  $G$  is denoted by  $\Gamma(G)$ . If  $\Delta$  is any root system, then

$$V = V(\Delta, \mathbf{R}) = \{f: \Delta \rightarrow \mathbf{R}: \text{the support of } f \text{ has ACC}\}$$

is an abelian  $l$ -group, called a *Hahn group*. Each abelian  $l$ -group  $G$  may be  $l$ -embedded into  $V(\Gamma(G), \mathbf{R})$  (Conrad, Harvey and Holland (1963)). For further information about  $l$ -groups, the reader may consult Conrad (1970), or Bigard, Keimel and Wolfenstein (1977).

If  $\Delta$  is a trivially ordered set, then it is well known that the set of minimal primes of  $V(\Delta, \mathbf{R})$  are in a one-to-one correspondence with the ultrafilters on  $\Delta$  (see Conrad and McAlister (1969) and Gillman and Jerison (1960)). In the next section we generalize this to the case where  $\Delta$  is any root system. In the third section, we identify the set  $P(\Delta)$  of the prime  $l$ -ideals of  $V$  in two steps. First, we identify  $S(\Delta) = P(\Delta)/\approx$ , where  $P \approx Q$  if they contain the same set of minimal primes. (For a discussion of this equivalence relation in a more general context, see Conrad (1978).) Then, each  $\approx$ -equivalence class is described in terms of the convex sub-group structure of the additive groups of certain real closed  $\eta_1$ -fields.

### 2. The minimal prime $l$ -ideals of $V$

Throughout  $\Delta$  will be a fixed root system and  $V = V(\Delta, \mathbf{R})$ . Let  $\mathfrak{A}$  be the set of all maximal trivially ordered subsets of  $\Delta$ . We partially order  $\mathfrak{A}$  by declaring  $A \leq B$  if  $\delta \in A$  implies that there exists  $\gamma \in B$  with  $\delta \leq \gamma$ . This is a lattice order with

$$A \vee B = \{\text{maximal elements of } A \cup B\}$$

and

$$A \wedge B = \{\text{minimal elements of } A \cup B\}.$$

We will occasionally abuse this notation by speaking of  $A \vee B$  where at most one of  $A$  and  $B$  is trivially ordered but not maximal. If  $A, B \in \mathfrak{A}$  and  $X \subseteq A \cap (B \wedge A)$ , let

$$B^+(X) = \{\delta \in B : \text{there exists } \gamma \in X \text{ with } \gamma \leq \delta\}.$$

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $A, B \in \mathfrak{A}$  with  $A \leq B$  and let  $\mathcal{U}$  be an ultrafilter on  $A$ . Let  $B^+(\mathcal{U}) = \{B^+(X) : X \in \mathcal{U}\}$ . Then  $B^+(\mathcal{U})$  is an ultrafilter on  $B$ .*

PROOF. Clearly  $B^+(X) \neq \emptyset$  for each  $X \in \mathcal{U}$ . Suppose  $X, Y \in \mathcal{U}$  and let

$$U = \bigcup \{W \subseteq A : B^+(W) = B^+(X)\}$$

and

$$Z = \bigcup \{W \subseteq A : B^+(W) = B^+(Y)\}.$$

Then,  $U, Z \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $B^+(U) = B^+(X)$ ,  $B^+(Z) = B^+(Y)$ , and  $B^+(U) \cap B^+(Z) = B^+(U \cap Z)$ . Since  $U \cap Z \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $B^+(X) \cap B^+(Y) = B^+(U \cap Z)$ , which is an element of  $B^+(\mathcal{U})$ .

Therefore,  $B^+(\mathcal{U})$  has the finite intersection property. Similarly, if  $X \subseteq B$ , then  $X \in B^+(\mathcal{U})$  or  $B \setminus X \in B^+(\mathcal{U})$ . Therefore  $B^+(\mathcal{U})$  is an ultrafilter.

If  $A(\mathcal{U})$  and  $B(\mathcal{U})$  are ultrafilters on  $A, B \in \mathfrak{A}$  respectively, then  $A(\mathcal{U})$  and  $B(\mathcal{U})$  are said to be *compatible* if

$$(A \vee B)^+ (A(\mathcal{U})) = (A \vee B)^+ (B(\mathcal{U})).$$

If for each  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$ ,  $A(\mathcal{U})$  is an ultrafilter on  $A$ , and for each  $A, B \in \mathfrak{A}$ ,  $A(\mathcal{U})$  and  $B(\mathcal{U})$  are compatible, then  $\{A(\mathcal{U}) : A \in \mathfrak{A}\}$  is called a *compatible system of ultrafilters on  $\mathfrak{A}$* .

For each  $v \in V$ , let  $S(v) = \{\alpha \in \Delta : v(\alpha) \neq 0\}$  and let

$$M(v) = \{\text{maximal elements of } S(v)\}.$$

Since  $v \in V$ ,  $S(v)$  satisfies the ascending chain condition and so  $\delta \in S(v)$  implies that there exists  $\alpha \in M(v)$  such that  $\alpha \geq \delta$ . Clearly  $M(v)$  is a trivially ordered set.

**THEOREM 2.2.** *There is a one-to-one correspondence between minimal prime l-ideals of  $V$  and compatible systems of ultrafilters on  $\mathfrak{A}$  given as follows:*

*Let  $P$  be a minimal prime l-ideal of  $V$ . For each  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$ , let  $A(\mathcal{U}) = \{A \setminus M(v) : v \in P\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}_P = \{A(\mathcal{U}) : A \in \mathfrak{A}\}$  is a compatible system of ultrafilters on  $A$ .*

*Let  $\mathcal{C} = \{A(\mathcal{U}) : A \in \mathfrak{A}\}$  be a compatible system of ultrafilters on  $\mathfrak{A}$  and let*

$$P_{\mathcal{C}} = \{v \in V : A \setminus M(v) \in A(\mathcal{U}), \text{ for all } A \in \mathfrak{A}\}.$$

*Then  $P_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a minimal prime l-ideal of  $V$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $P$  be a minimal prime; we first show that each element  $A(\mathcal{U})$  of  $\mathcal{C}_P$  is an ultrafilter on  $A$ . Suppose  $\emptyset \in A(\mathcal{U})$ . Then there exists  $v \in P^+$  so that  $M(v) \supseteq A$ . Since  $A$  is a maximal trivially ordered set,  $M(v) = A$ . But then  $w \wedge v = 0$  implies that  $w = 0$ , which is impossible since  $v$  is an element of the minimal prime  $P$ . Therefore, each element of  $A(\mathcal{U})$  is non-empty. Now let  $X, Y \in A(\mathcal{U})$  and choose  $u, v \in P^+$  such that  $A \setminus M(u) = X$  and  $A \setminus M(v) = Y$ . Let  $s = \chi(A \setminus X)$  and  $t = \chi(A \setminus Y)$  where  $\chi(T)$  is the characteristic function on  $T$ . Then  $x = s \wedge u$  and  $y = t \wedge v$  are both elements of  $P$ . Moreover,  $M(x) = A \cap M(u)$  and  $M(y) = A \cap M(v)$  and so  $M(x \vee y) = M(x) \cup M(y)$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} X \cap Y &= (A \setminus M(u)) \cap (A \setminus M(v)) = (A \setminus M(x)) \cap (A \setminus M(y)) \\ &= A \setminus (M(x) \cup M(y)) = A \setminus M(x \vee y). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x \vee y \in P$ ,  $X \cap Y \in A(\mathcal{U})$  and so  $A(\mathcal{U})$  has the finite intersection property. Finally, let  $X \subseteq A$ , and suppose that  $u = \chi(X)$  and  $v = \chi(A \setminus X)$ . Then  $u \wedge v = 0$ ; so

$u \in P$  or  $v \in P$ . Therefore  $A \setminus X \in A(\mathcal{U})$  or  $X \in A(\mathcal{U})$  and so  $A(\mathcal{U})$  is an ultrafilter on  $A$ .

Next, we show that  $\mathcal{C}_P$  is a compatible system of ultrafilters on  $\mathfrak{A}$ . Let  $A, B \in \mathfrak{A}$  with  $A \leq B$ . We need to show that  $B(\mathcal{U}) = B^+(A(\mathcal{U}))$ . Suppose (by way of contradiction) that there is  $B \setminus X \in B(\mathcal{U})$  with  $X \in B^+(A(\mathcal{U}))$ . Let  $u = \chi(X)$  and  $v = \chi(B \setminus X)$ . Then  $u \wedge v = 0$  and so we may assume that  $u \in P$ . Let

$$U = \bigcup \{W \in A(\mathcal{U}) : B^-(W) = X\}.$$

Then  $U \in A(\mathcal{U})$  and if  $W = \chi(U)$ , then  $0 < w \leq u$  and so  $w \in P$ . Since  $U \in A(\mathcal{U})$ , by the argument above there exists  $x \in P^+$  so that  $A \setminus U = M(x)$ . But then  $x \vee w \in P$  and  $M(x \vee w) = A$ , which is impossible, since  $P$  is a minimal prime. Therefore,  $\mathcal{C}_P$  is a compatible system of ultrafilters on  $\mathfrak{A}$ .

Now, let  $\mathcal{C} = \{A(\mathcal{U}) : A \in \mathfrak{A}\}$  be a compatible system of ultrafilters on  $\mathfrak{A}$ ; we shall show that  $P_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a minimal prime. Let

$$Q = \{v \in V : \text{for all } A \in \mathfrak{A} \text{ with } M(v) \subseteq A, A \setminus M(v) \in A(\mathcal{U})\}.$$

We will simplify the computations which follow by first showing that  $P = Q$ . Clearly  $P \subseteq Q$ . Suppose by way of contradiction that  $v \in Q^+ \setminus P$ . Then there is a  $B \in \mathfrak{A}$  with  $B \setminus M(v) \notin B(\mathcal{U})$ . Since  $B(\mathcal{U})$  is an ultrafilter,  $B \cap M(v) \in B(\mathcal{U})$ . Let  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$  be such that  $M(v) \subseteq A$ . Therefore  $B \cap M(v) \subseteq A$  and so  $B \cap M(v) \in (A \vee B)(\mathcal{U})$ . Since  $v \in Q$ ,  $X = A \setminus M(v) \in A(\mathcal{U})$ ; so  $(A \vee B)^-(X) \in (A \vee B)(\mathcal{U})$ . However,

$$(B \cap M(v)) \cap ((A \vee B)^-(X)) = \emptyset,$$

which is impossible since  $(A \vee B)(\mathcal{U})$  is an ultrafilter. Therefore,  $Q = P$ . Since  $\mathcal{C}$  is a compatible system of ultrafilters,

$$P = \{v \in V : \text{there exists } A \in \mathfrak{A} \text{ with } A \supseteq M(v) \text{ and } A \setminus M(v) \in A(\mathcal{U})\}.$$

With this simplification of the definition of  $P$ , we will proceed with the proof.

$P$  is a subgroup. Let  $u, v \in P$  and let  $x = u + v$ . Let  $A, B, C \in \mathcal{U}$  be such that  $M(x) \subseteq A$ ,  $M(u) \subseteq B$  and  $M(v) \subseteq C$ . By replacing  $A$  by  $A \wedge (B \vee C)$  we may assume that  $A \leq B \vee C$ . Since  $u, v \in P$ ,  $(B \vee C) \setminus M(u) \in (B \vee C)(\mathcal{U})$  and  $(B \vee C) \setminus M(v) \in (B \vee C)(\mathcal{U})$ . Therefore,

$$(B \vee C) \setminus (M(u) \cup M(v)) \in (B \vee C)(\mathcal{U}).$$

Let  $X = (B \vee C)^-(M(x))$ . Then  $X \subseteq M(u) \cup M(v)$  and so  $X \notin (B \vee C)(\mathcal{U})$ . Therefore  $M(x) \notin A(\mathcal{U})$  and thus  $x \in P$ . Since  $M(x) = M(-x)$ ,  $x \in P$  implies that  $-x \in P$ . Therefore  $P$  is a subgroup.

$P$  is convex. Suppose  $0 < x < u$  and  $u \in P$ . Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{U}$  be chosen so that  $M(x) \subseteq A$  and  $M(u) \subseteq B$ . Without loss of generality,  $A \leq B$ . Since  $B^+(M(x)) \subseteq M(u)$ ,  $B^+(M(x)) \notin B(\mathcal{U})$  and thus  $M(x) \notin A(\mathcal{U})$ . Therefore  $x \in P$ .

$P$  is a minimal prime. Since  $M(u) = M(|u|)$ ,  $u$  in  $P$  implies that  $|u| \in P$ . Since  $P$  is a convex subgroup, this means that  $P$  is an  $l$ -subgroup. Let  $u, v \in V$  be chosen so that  $u \wedge v = 0$ . Pick  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$  so that  $M(u) \cup M(v) \subseteq A$ . Since  $M(u) \cap M(v) = \emptyset$ ,  $A \setminus M(u)$  or  $A \setminus M(v)$  is an element of  $A(\mathcal{U})$ . Thus  $u$  or  $v$  is in  $P$  and so  $P$  is prime. A similar argument will show that  $v \in P^+$  implies the existence of  $u \notin P$  such that  $u \wedge v = 0$ ; thus  $P$  is a minimal prime.

### 3. The structure of $P(\Delta)$

Let  $P(\Delta)$  be the set of prime  $l$ -ideals of  $V(\Delta, \mathbf{R})$ , and  $m(\Delta)$  the set of minimal primes of  $V$ . From Section 2, we know that  $m(\Delta)$  is order-isomorphic to  $\bar{m}(\Delta)$ , the set of compatible systems of ultrafilters on  $\mathfrak{A}$ , and so is completely determined in terms of  $\Delta$ . For each  $P \in P(\Delta)$  let  $m(P) = \{Q \in m(\Delta) : Q \subseteq P\}$  and for  $P, Q \in P(\Delta)$ , let  $P \approx Q$  if and only if  $m(P) = m(Q)$ . This is clearly an equivalence relation on  $P(\Delta)$ . Let  $S(\Delta) = P(\Delta) / \approx$ ; this root system is called the *skeleton* of  $P(\Delta)$ .

A *branch point* of a root system  $\Gamma$  is an element  $\eta$  of  $\Gamma$  so that  $\eta = \alpha \vee \beta$  for some pair of incomparable elements  $\alpha, \beta$  of  $\Gamma$ . Therefore,  $S(\Delta)$  is obtained from  $P(\Delta)$  by identifying all elements of  $P(\Delta)$  strictly between two adjacent branch points with the smaller branch point. Consequently, each  $\sigma$  in  $S(\Delta)$  is a totally ordered set. We let  $P_\sigma = \bigcap \{Q : Q \in \sigma\}$ . This is the smaller branch point and hence is the minimal element of  $\sigma$ . (Notice that  $\bigcup \{Q : Q \in \sigma\}$  need not be an element of  $\sigma$ .) Thus  $\sigma \rightarrow P_\sigma$  is a natural embedding of  $S(\Delta)$  into  $P(\Delta)$  which takes  $P$  to  $P$  for each minimal prime  $P$ .

Our next step in the identification of  $P(\Delta)$  in terms  $\Delta$  is the identification of the skeleton in those terms. To this end, we need a way to determine when a collection of minimal primes is contained in a proper prime of  $V$ . The following theorem gives the technique which we will use:

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $\{P_\varphi : \varphi \in \Phi\}$  be a collection of minimal prime  $l$ -ideals of  $V$ . For each  $\varphi$ , let  $\mathcal{C}_\varphi$  be the compatible system of ultrafilters corresponding to  $P_\varphi$  and denote the ultrafilters on  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$  belonging to  $\mathcal{C}_\varphi$  by  $A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi)$ . Then there exists a proper prime  $Q$  containing  $\bigcup \{P_\varphi : \varphi \in \Phi\}$  if and only if there exists  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$  so that  $A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi) = A(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$  for all  $\varphi, \eta \in \Phi$ .*

**PROOF.** First, suppose that  $Q \supseteq \bigcup \{P_\varphi : \varphi \in \Phi\}$ . Choose  $x \in V^+ \setminus Q$  and  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$  so that  $M(x) \subseteq A$ . We claim that  $A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi) = A(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$  for all  $\varphi, \eta \in \mathfrak{A}$ . Suppose by way of contradiction that there exist  $\varphi, \eta \in \Phi$  so that  $A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi) \neq A(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$ . Then there exists

$X \subset A$  so that  $X \in A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi)$ , while  $A \setminus X \in A(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$ . Define  $u, v \in V$  as follows:

$$u(\gamma) = \begin{cases} 0, & \gamma \in (\Delta \setminus A) \cup X \\ 2x(\gamma), & \gamma \in M(x) \setminus X \\ 1, & \gamma \in A \setminus (X \cup M(x)), \end{cases}$$

$$v(\gamma) = \begin{cases} 0, & \gamma \in \Delta \setminus X, \\ 2x(\gamma), & \gamma \in M(x) \cap X, \\ 1, & \gamma \in X \setminus M(x). \end{cases}$$

Since  $M(u) = X \subseteq A$ ,  $A \setminus M(u) = A \setminus X \in A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi)$  and so  $u \in P_\varphi$ . Similarly,  $v \in P_\eta$ . But then  $u, v \in Q$  and so  $u \vee v \in Q$ . But  $u \vee v \geq x$ , which is not an element of  $Q$ , which is a contradiction. Thus,  $A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi) = A(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$  for all  $\varphi, \eta \in \Phi$ .

Conversely, suppose that there exists  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$  with  $A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi) = A(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$  for all  $\varphi, \eta \in \Phi$ . Let

$$S = \{v \in V : \gamma \in M(v) \text{ implies that there exists } \delta \in A \text{ with } \delta > \gamma\}.$$

Then  $S$  is a convex  $l$ -subgroup of  $V$ . Let  $\varphi \in \Phi$  and let  $Q$  be the convex  $l$ -subgroup of  $V$  generated by  $S$  and  $P_\varphi$ . Since  $Q \supset P_\varphi$ ,  $Q$  is prime. Let  $\eta \in \Phi$  with  $\eta \neq \varphi$ , and choose  $x \in P_\eta^+$ . Pick  $B \in \mathfrak{A}$  so that  $M(x) \subseteq B$ . Since  $\mathcal{C}_\varphi$  and  $\mathcal{C}_\eta$  are compatible systems of ultrafilters and  $A(\mathcal{C}_\varphi) = A(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$ , then  $(A \vee B)(\mathcal{C}_\varphi) = (A \vee B)(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$ . Define  $v \in V$  as follows:

$$v(\gamma) = \begin{cases} x(\gamma) & \text{if there exists } \delta \in (A \vee B) \cap M(x) \text{ with } \delta \geq \gamma, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Now

$$M(v) \subseteq (A \vee B) \cap M(x) \quad \text{and} \quad (A \vee B) \setminus M(v) = (A \vee B) \setminus M(x).$$

Since  $(A \vee B) \setminus M(x) \in (A \vee B)(\mathcal{C}_\varphi)$ ,  $v \in P_\varphi$ . Clearly,  $x - v \in S$ . Thus  $x \in Q$  and so  $P_\eta \subseteq Q$ . Since  $\chi(A) \notin Q$ ,  $Q$  is a proper prime of  $V$  which contains  $\bigcup \{P_\varphi : \varphi \in \Phi\}$ .

For  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2 \in \bar{m}(\Delta)$ , we define  $\mathcal{C}_1 \sim_A \mathcal{C}_2$  if  $A(\mathcal{C}_1) = A(\mathcal{C}_2)$ . This is an equivalence relation on  $\bar{m}(\Delta)$ . Notice that if  $B \geq A$ ,  $A, B \in \mathfrak{A}$ , then  $\mathcal{C}_1 \sim_A \mathcal{C}_2$  implies that  $\mathcal{C}_1 \sim_B \mathcal{C}_2$ . Given  $\mathcal{C} \in \bar{m}(\Delta)$ , let  $[\mathcal{C}]_A$  denote the equivalence class of  $\mathcal{C}$  under  $\sim_A$ . Let

$$\bar{S}(\Delta) = \{\sigma \subseteq \bar{m}(\Delta) : \text{for all } \mathcal{C} \in \bar{m}(\Delta) \setminus \sigma,$$

$$\text{there exists } A \in \mathfrak{A} \text{ and } \mathcal{D} \in \bar{m}(\Delta) \text{ so that } [\mathcal{D}]_A \supseteq \sigma \text{ and } \mathcal{C} \notin [\mathcal{D}]_A\}.$$

Partially order  $\bar{S}(\Delta)$  by set inclusion. For  $[P] \in \bar{S}(\Delta)$ , let

$$f([P]) = \{\mathcal{C}_Q \in \bar{m}(\Delta) : Q \in m(P)\}$$

and if  $\sigma \in \bar{S}(\Delta)$ , let  $g(\sigma) = [P_\sigma]$ , where  $P_\sigma = \bigcap \{P \in \bar{P}(\Delta) : P \supseteq P_\mathcal{C}, \text{ for all } \mathcal{C} \in \sigma\}$ .

**THEOREM 3.2.** *f is an order isomorphism of  $S(\Delta)$  onto  $\bar{S}(\Delta)$  with inverse g.*

**PROOF.** We first show that  $f([P]) \in \bar{S}(\Delta)$ . Let  $\mathcal{C} \in \bar{m}(\Delta) \setminus f([P])$ . Since  $P_{\mathcal{C}} \not\subseteq P$ , there exists  $x \in P_{\mathcal{C}}^+ \setminus P$ . Choose  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$  so that  $M(x) \subseteq A$ . By the proof of Theorem 3.1,  $[\mathcal{C}_Q]_A \supseteq f([P])$ , for each  $Q \in m(P)$ . Let  $Q \in m(P)$ . Since  $x \notin Q$ , there exists  $B \in \mathfrak{A}$  so that  $B \setminus M(x) \not\subseteq B(\mathcal{C}_Q)$ . Therefore  $M(x) \cap B \in B(\mathcal{C}_Q)$ . Since  $M(x) \subseteq A$  and

$$M(x) \not\subseteq A(\mathcal{C}), \quad A(\mathcal{C}) \neq A(\mathcal{C}_Q).$$

Thus,  $\mathcal{C} \notin [\mathcal{C}_Q]_A$  and so  $f([P]) \in \bar{S}(\Delta)$ .

Clearly  $gf([P]) = [P]$  and both  $f$  and  $g$  preserve order; it remains to show that  $fg(\sigma) = \sigma$ . We need only check that if  $\sigma \in \bar{S}(\Delta)$ , then  $m(P_{\sigma}) = \{P_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{C} \in \sigma\}$ . One containment is clear. Suppose (by way of contradiction) that  $P_{\sigma} \supseteq Q$  for some  $Q \in m(\Delta)$  with  $\mathcal{C}_Q \notin \sigma$ . Then there is an  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$  and  $\mathcal{D} \in \bar{m}(\Delta)$  so that  $[\mathcal{D}]_A \supseteq \sigma$  but  $\mathcal{C}_Q \notin [\mathcal{D}]_A$ . By the proof of Theorem 3.1, there is a prime  $N \supset \bigcup \{P_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{C} \in \sigma\}$  with  $Q \not\subseteq N$ . Therefore  $N \subset P_{\sigma}$  which contradicts the definition of

$$P_{\sigma} = \bigcap \{P : P \supseteq P_{\mathcal{C}}, \mathcal{C} \in \sigma\}.$$

We have now seen that the skeleton  $S(\Delta)$  is describable entirely in terms of  $\Delta$ . It now remains to describe the primes in each  $[P] \in S(\Delta)$ .

Let  $[P] \in S(\Delta)$  and suppose  $\sigma = f([P]) \subseteq \bar{m}(\Delta)$ . Define

$$B(\sigma) = \{A \in \mathfrak{A} : \mathcal{C}_1 \sim_A \mathcal{C}_2, \text{ for all } \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2 \in \sigma\}.$$

Notice that if  $A \in B(\sigma)$  and  $B \geq A$ , then  $B \in B(\sigma)$ . For notational convenience, for each  $B \in B(\sigma)$ , let  $B(\mathcal{Q}) = B(\mathcal{Q}_{P_{\mathcal{C}}})$  where  $\mathcal{C}$  is any element of  $\sigma$ . (This is possible by the definition of  $B(\sigma)$ .) For  $A, B \in B(\sigma)$ , let  $A^B = \{\alpha \in A : \alpha < \beta \in B\}$ , and let  $A_B = \{\alpha \in A : \alpha > \beta \in B\}$ . (Another description of  $A^B$  is  $A^B = ((A \wedge B) \cap A) \setminus (A \cap B)$ .) Now,  $A = A^B \cup A_B \cup (A \cap B)$  and precisely one of these sets is in  $A(\mathcal{Q})$ . Define  $A \sim B$  if  $A \cap B \in A(\mathcal{Q})$  ( $A, B \in B(\sigma)$ ). This is an equivalence relation on  $B(\sigma)$ . If  $A^B \in A(\mathcal{Q})$ , then we write  $[A] < [B]$ , where the brackets denote the equivalence class under  $\sim$ . A routine computation shows that this relation is well defined and forms a total order on  $B(\sigma)/\sim$ .

**LEMMA 3.3.** *If  $A, B \in B(\sigma)$  with  $[A] \succcurlyeq [B]$ , then  $A \vee B \sim A$ . Therefore, if  $[A] \succcurlyeq [B]$ , we may assume that  $A \geq B$ .*

**PROOF.** Suppose that  $[A] \succcurlyeq [B]$ . Now,  $(A \vee B) \cap A \supseteq A_B \cup (A \cap B)$ . If  $[A] \succ [B]$ , then  $A_B \in A(\mathcal{Q})$ ; if  $[A] = [B]$ , then  $A \cap B \in A(\mathcal{Q})$ . In either case,  $(A \vee B) \cap A \in A(\mathcal{Q})$  and so  $A \vee B \sim A$ .

For each  $A \in B(\sigma)$ , let

$$P_A = \{v \in V : \text{for all } B \succcurlyeq A, B \setminus M(v) \in B(\mathcal{Q})\}.$$

LEMMA 3.4.  $P_A$  is a convex  $l$ -subgroup of  $V$  containing  $P_\sigma$ .

PROOF. Let  $S = \{v \in V: \gamma \in M(v) \Rightarrow \text{there exists } \delta \in A \text{ with } \delta > \gamma\}$  and let  $\mathcal{C} \in \sigma$ . A routine argument shows that  $P_A$  is the convex  $l$ -subgroup generated by  $S$  and  $P_\mathcal{C}$ , and the proof of Theorem 3.1 shows that  $P_A \supseteq \bigcup \{P_\mathcal{C}: \mathcal{C} \in \sigma\}$ . Since  $P_\sigma$  is the intersection of all such  $P_\mathcal{C}$ ,  $P_A \supseteq P_\sigma$ .

PROPOSITION 3.5. Let  $A, B \in B(\sigma)$ . Then

- (i)  $P_B = P_A$  if and only if  $[B] = [A]$ .
- (ii)  $P_B \subset P_A$  if and only if  $[B] < [A]$ .

PROOF. We will first show that if  $[A] = [B]$  and  $B \geq A$ , then  $P_A = P_B$ . By the definition of  $P_A, P_A \subseteq P_B$ . Let  $D \geq A$  and let  $x \in V$  be chosen so that

$$D \cap M(x) \in D(\mathcal{U})$$

(that is,  $x \notin P_A$ ). Since  $[A] = [B]$ ,  $A \cap B \in A(\mathcal{U})$  and since  $D \geq A$ ,  $D^-(A \cap B) \in D(\mathcal{U})$ . But then  $D^-(A \cap B) \cap M(x) \in D(\mathcal{U})$ . Since

$$D^-(A \cap B) \subseteq B \vee D, \quad D^-(A \cap B) \cap M(x) \in (B \vee D)(\mathcal{U}).$$

Therefore  $x \notin P_B$ , and so  $P_A = P_B$ .

If  $[B] \geq [A]$ , we may assume that  $B \geq A$ , by Lemma 3.3 and the above. Then  $P_B \supseteq P_A$ , by definition. This shows that if  $P_B \subset P_A$ , then  $[B] < [A]$ . Now, suppose that  $[B] < [A]$ . We may assume that  $B < A$ , and so  $A = A_B \cup (A \cap B)$ . Since  $[B] < [A]$ ,  $B^A \in B(\mathcal{U})$ . Therefore,  $\chi(B^A) \notin P_B$ . Since  $C \setminus M(\chi(B^A)) = C$  for all  $C \geq A$ ,  $\chi(B^A) \in P_A \setminus P_B$ . Because  $P_A$  and  $P_B$  are comparable,  $P_A \supset P_B$ .

Finally, if  $[A] \neq [B]$ , then without loss of generality  $[A] < [B]$ . Consequently, by part (ii),  $P_A \neq P_B$  and so  $P_A = P_B$  implies that  $[A] = [B]$ .

PROPOSITION 3.6.  $P_\sigma = \bigcap \{P_A: A \in B(\sigma)\}$ .

PROOF. Let  $0 < v \in \bigcap \{P_A: A \in B(\sigma)\}$ . If  $M(v) \subseteq A \in B(\sigma)$ , then  $v \in P$  for all  $\mathcal{C} \in \sigma$ . Thus  $v \in P_\sigma$ . If  $M(v) \subseteq A \notin B(\sigma)$ , then there exist  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2 \in \sigma$  such that  $\mathcal{C}_1 \sim_A \mathcal{C}_2$ . Thus, there exists  $X \subset A$  so that  $X \in A(\mathcal{C}_1)$  and  $A \setminus X \in A(\mathcal{C}_2)$ . Define  $w_1, w_2 \in V$  as follows:

$$w_1(\gamma) = \begin{cases} v(\gamma) & \text{if } \gamma \in X, \\ 0 & \text{if } \gamma \in \Delta \setminus X, \end{cases}$$

$$w_2(\gamma) = \begin{cases} v(\gamma) & \text{if } \gamma \in A \setminus X, \\ 0 & \text{if } \gamma \in \Delta \setminus (A \setminus X). \end{cases}$$

Then  $A \setminus M(w_1) \supseteq A \setminus X \in A(\mathcal{C}_2)$  and so  $w_1 \in P_{\mathcal{C}_2}$ ; similarly  $w_2 \in P_{\mathcal{C}_1}$ . Therefore

$w_1 + w_2 \in P_\sigma$ . Since  $w_1 + w_2 \geq v > 0$ ,  $v \in P_\sigma$ . Thus  $P_\sigma \supseteq \bigcap \{P_A : A \in B(\sigma)\}$ . The other containment follows from Lemma 3.4.

**PROPOSITION 3.7.** *Suppose  $A, B \in B(\sigma)$  and  $A \sim B$ . Let*

$$Q_A = \{f \in \Pi_A \mathbf{R} : A \setminus S(f) \in A(\mathcal{U})\}$$

and

$$Q_B = \{f \in \Pi_B \mathbf{R} : B \setminus S(f) \in B(\mathcal{U})\}.$$

*(These are minimal primes of  $\Pi_A \mathbf{R}$  and  $\Pi_B \mathbf{R}$  respectively.) Then  $\Pi_A \mathbf{R}/Q_A$  and  $\Pi_B \mathbf{R}/Q_B$  are isomorphic  $o$ -groups.*

**PROOF.** We define  $\mu : \Pi_A \mathbf{R}/Q_A \rightarrow \Pi_B \mathbf{R}/Q_B$  as follows: Given  $Q_A + v \in \Pi_A \mathbf{R}/Q_A$ , define  $w \in \Pi_B \mathbf{R}$  by

$$w(\beta) = \begin{cases} v(\alpha) & \text{if } \beta \leq \alpha \in A, \beta \in B^A \cup (A \cap B), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then let  $\mu(Q_A + v) = Q_B + w$ .

First we show that  $\mu$  is well defined: If  $v \in Q_A$ , then  $A \setminus S(v) \in A(\mathcal{U})$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} B \setminus S(w) &= B \setminus \{\beta \in B : \beta \leq \alpha \in S(v)\} \\ &= \{\beta \in B : \beta > \alpha \in A\} \cup \{\beta \in B : \beta \leq \alpha \in A \setminus S(v)\} \\ &\supseteq \{\beta \in B : \beta > \alpha \in A \setminus S(v)\} \cup \{\beta \in B : \beta \leq \alpha \in A \setminus S(v)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A(\mathcal{U})$  and  $B(\mathcal{U})$  are compatible ultrafilters and  $A \setminus S(v) \in A(\mathcal{U})$ ,

$$\{\beta \in B : \beta > \alpha \in A \setminus S(v)\} \cup \{\beta \in B : \beta \leq \alpha \in A \setminus S(v)\} \in B(\mathcal{U}).$$

Hence  $w \in Q_B$  and so  $\mu$  is well defined.

We define  $\nu : \Pi_B \mathbf{R}/Q_B \rightarrow \Pi_A \mathbf{R}/Q_A$  similarly, and claim that  $\nu\mu(Q_A + v) = Q_A + v$ . By definition,  $\nu\mu(Q_A + v) = Q_A + v|_{A \cap B}$  where  $v|_{A \cap B}(\gamma) = v(\gamma)$  if  $\gamma \in A \cap B$  and is 0 if  $\gamma \notin A \cap B$ . Therefore, we need to show that  $A \setminus S(v - v|_{A \cap B}) \in A(\mathcal{U})$ . Since  $S(v - v|_{A \cap B}) \subseteq A \setminus (A \cap B)$ ,

$$A \setminus S(v - v|_{A \cap B}) \supseteq A \setminus (A \setminus A \cap B) = A \cap B \in A(\mathcal{U}).$$

Thus  $\nu\mu(Q_A + v) = Q_A + v$ . Similarly,  $\mu\nu$  is the identity on  $\Pi_B \mathbf{R}/Q_B$ . Since  $\mu$  clearly preserves order,  $\mu$  is an  $o$ -isomorphism.

This proposition enables us to define an  $o$ -group which we will use to analyze the order structure of  $[P] \in S(\Delta)$ . Let  $\sigma = f([P]) \in \mathcal{S}(\Delta)$ . Then set  $G_{[A]} = \Pi_A \mathbf{R}/Q_A$ , for each  $[A] \in B(\sigma)/\sim$ . This is well defined by Proposition 3.7. Let

$$H_\sigma = V(B(\sigma)/\sim, G_{[A]}) = \{k \in \Pi \{G_{[A]} : A \in B(\sigma)/\sim\} : S(k) \text{ satisfies the ACC}\},$$

where  $S(k)$  is given the total order  $<$  inherited from  $B(\sigma)/\sim$ , and  $H$  has the obvious  $o$ -group structure.

**THEOREM 3.8.** *There exists an  $o$ -monomorphism*

$$\iota: V/P_\sigma \rightarrow H_\sigma$$

so that  $H_\sigma$  is an  $a$ -extension of  $\iota(V/P_\sigma)$ .

**PROOF.** We define  $\iota(P_\sigma + v)([A]) = Q_A + v|_A$ .

We first show  $\iota$  is well defined into  $\Pi G_{[A]}$ . Suppose  $v \in P_\sigma$  and  $A \in B(\sigma)$ . Choose  $B \supseteq A$  so that

$$X = \{\beta \in M(v) : \beta \supseteq \alpha \in M(v|_A)\} \subseteq B.$$

If  $M(v|_A) \in A(\mathcal{U})$ , then  $X \in B(\mathcal{U})$  since the  $A(\mathcal{U})$  and  $B(\mathcal{U})$  are compatible and  $B^{\leftarrow}(M(v|_A)) = X$ . However,  $X \cap (B \setminus M(v)) = \emptyset$  and since  $v \in P_\sigma$ ,  $B \setminus M(v) \in B(\mathcal{U})$ . Consequently,  $X \notin B(\mathcal{U})$  and so  $M(v|_A) \notin A(\mathcal{U})$ . Therefore,  $v|_A \in Q_A$  and  $\iota$  is well defined into  $\Pi G_{[A]}$ .

We claim that  $\iota$  is one-to-one into  $H$ . Suppose  $P_\sigma + v > 0$  and choose  $B \supseteq M(v)$ . Since  $v \notin P_\sigma$ , there exists  $A \in B(\sigma)$  so that  $M(v) \cap A \in A(\mathcal{U})$ . Clearly  $A \cap M(v) \subset B \vee A$  and since  $A(\mathcal{U})$  and  $(B \vee A)(\mathcal{U})$  are compatible,  $M(v) \cap A \in A(\mathcal{U})$  implies that  $A \cap M(v) \in (A \vee B)(\mathcal{U})$ . Therefore,

$$(A \vee B) \setminus M(v|_{A \vee B}) \notin (A \vee B)(\mathcal{U}),$$

and so  $v|_{A \vee B} \notin Q_{A \vee B}$ . Therefore  $\iota(P_\sigma + v)([A \vee B])$  is not zero and so  $\iota$  is one-to-one. We now claim that  $[A \vee B]$  is the maximum element of  $S(\iota(P_\sigma + v))$  and so  $\iota(P_\sigma + v) \in H$ . Suppose  $[C] \succ [A \vee B]$  where (without loss of generality)  $C \succ A \vee B$ . Since  $M(v) \subseteq B$ ,  $S(v|_C) \subseteq C \cap (A \vee B)$ . Because  $[C] \succ [A \vee B]$ ,

$$X = \{\gamma \in C : \gamma \supset \alpha \in A \vee B\} \in C(\mathcal{U}),$$

and because  $C \setminus S(v|_C) \supset X$ ,  $C \setminus S(v|_C) \in C(\mathcal{U})$ . Therefore  $v|_C \in Q_C$  and so

$$\iota(P_\sigma + v)([C]) = Q_C + 0.$$

Thus  $[C] \notin S(\iota(P_\sigma + v))$ .

Finally, since  $\iota(V/P_\sigma) \supseteq \Sigma G_{[A]}$ ,  $H_\sigma$  is an  $a$ -extension of  $\iota(V/P_\sigma)$ .

**REMARK.** The map  $\iota$  is independent of which representative of  $[A]$  we choose to define the component maps, because of the nature of the isomorphisms

$$\Pi_A \mathbf{R}/Q_A \rightarrow \Pi_B \mathbf{R}/Q_B.$$

Now suppose that  $\sigma \in \bar{S}(\Delta)$ . Let

$$A(\sigma) = B(\sigma) \setminus \bigcup \{B(\tau) : \tau \in \bar{S}(\Delta) \text{ and } \tau \supset \sigma\}$$

and let

$$M_\sigma = \bigcap \{P_A : A \in B(\sigma) \setminus A(\sigma)\} = \bigcap \{P_\tau : \tau \in \tilde{S}(\Delta), \tau \supset \sigma\}.$$

If there exists a smallest  $\tau$  so that  $\tau \supset \sigma$ , then  $M_\sigma = P_\tau$  and  $M_\sigma \notin [P_\sigma]$ . If no such  $\tau$  exists, then  $M_\sigma$  is the largest element of the chain  $[P_\sigma]$ . In particular, if  $A(\sigma) = \emptyset$ , then  $M_\sigma = P_\sigma$  and so  $[P_\sigma]$  is a singleton.

Thus, the elements of  $[P_\sigma]$  are in a one-to-one correspondence with  $\mathcal{C}(M_\sigma/P_\sigma)$ , the convex subgroups of  $M_\sigma/P_\sigma$ , except possibly for the existence of a largest element as specified above. However,  $M_\sigma/P_\sigma$  is the convex subgroup of  $V/P_\sigma$  which corresponds to  $V(A(\sigma)/\sim, G_{[A]})$  under the  $a$ -extension of Theorem 3.8.

Thus, we now need a way of describing the convex subgroup structure of the Hahn group  $V(\Gamma, G_\gamma)$  where  $\Gamma$  is a totally ordered set and each  $G_\gamma$  is an  $\sigma$ -group with  $\mathcal{C}(G_\gamma)$  its set of convex subgroups. Let

$$\mathcal{G} = \bigcup \{\{\gamma\} \times \mathcal{C}(G_\gamma) : \gamma \in \Gamma\}.$$

If  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  with  $\alpha$  covering  $\beta$ , we will identify  $(\alpha, 0)$  with  $(\beta, G_\beta)$ . Call  $\mathcal{G}$  modulo this equivalence relation  $\mathcal{H}$  and order it lexicographically with the first component dominating. Clearly  $\mathcal{C}(V(\Gamma, G_\gamma))$  is order isomorphic to  $\mathcal{H}$ .

Thus, we have described  $P(\Delta)$  up to the convex subgroup structure of the  $\sigma$ -groups  $G_{[A]}$ . But  $G_{[A]} = \prod_A \mathbf{R}/Q_A$ . Now,  $Q_A$  is a maximal ring ideal of  $\prod_A \mathbf{R}$ , considered as the ring of continuous functions on the discrete space  $A$  (see Bigard, Keimel and Wolfenstein (1977), p. 179), and so  $G_{[A]}$  is a real-closed  $\eta_1$ -field (see Gillman and Jerison (1960)). Now, we claim that  $\Gamma(G_{[A]})$  (the values of  $G_{[A]}$ ) is an  $\eta_1$ -set. For, if

$$P_1 \subset P_2 \subset P_3 \dots Q_3 \subset Q_2 \subset Q_1$$

are all values, choose  $g_i, h_j \in G_{[A]}^+$  such that  $P_i$  is the value of  $g_i$  and  $Q_j$  is the value of  $h_j$ . Then  $\{g_i\} < \{h_j\}$  and so there exists  $k \in G_{[A]}^+$  with  $\{g_i\} < k < \{h_j\}$ . Thus, the value of  $k$  lies between the  $P_i$ 's and  $Q_j$ 's. But  $\mathcal{C}(G_{[A]})$  is just the Dedekind–MacNeille completion of  $\Gamma(G_{[A]})$ , considered as a totally ordered set. Consequently, we have concluded that  $\mathcal{C}(G_{[A]})$  is in each case the Dedekind–MacNeille completion of an  $\eta_1$ -set.

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