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THE SET OF QUANTIFIERS OF AN ATOMIC BOOLEAN ALGEBRA

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The set of quantifiers of an atomic Boolean algebra¹

by Daniel B. Demaree²

A quantifier on a Boolean algebra, \mathcal{U} , is a mapping, E , from A into A such that (i) $E0 = 0$ (ii) $x \leq Ex$ (iii) $E(x \cdot Ey) = Ex \cdot Ey$. In the paper [1] of Baayen, a partial ordering of quantifiers on a given Boolean algebra, \mathcal{U} , is defined by setting $E \leq E'$ iff for every $a \in A$, $Ea \leq E'a$. In that paper, Baayen asks the question: Does the set of all quantifiers on a Boolean algebra always form a lattice? In the case where \mathcal{U} is complete and atomic, the ordering in question is isomorphic to the ordering of all partitions on the atoms, and hence the answer is 'yes'. In this report we give a characterization of the set of quantifiers on an atomic Boolean algebra, from which we construct a counterexample to the question of Baayen. Indeed, quantifiers E, E' on a certain atomic Boolean algebra are found which have neither a least upper bound nor a greatest lower bound.

Theorem 1. Let \mathcal{U} be an atomic Boolean algebra, and let \leq be the partial ordering of the set, Q , of all quantifiers on \mathcal{U} . Let R be the set of all partitions, P , of $\text{At}(\mathcal{U})$ satisfying the condition

(*) $\sum\{Pa : a \in \text{At}(\mathcal{U}) \text{ and } a \leq x\}$ exists in \mathcal{U} , for each $x \in A$ where Pa denotes the element of P containing a . Then (Q, \leq) is isomorphic to (R, \leq) .

Proof: Let $B = \text{At}(\mathcal{U})$. For each $E \in Q$ let \bar{E} be the associated partition of B , such that $\bar{E}a = \{b \in B : Eb = Ea\}$. We claim \bar{E} satisfies condition (*), in fact $\sum\{\bar{E}a : a \in B \text{ and } a \leq x\} = Ex$ for every $x \in A$. For suppose $a \leq x$, $a \in B$, and $b \in \bar{E}a$. Using well-known properties of quantifiers we have $b \leq Eb = Ea \leq Ex$, which establishes Ex as an upper bound for $\cup\{\bar{E}a : a \in B \text{ and } a \leq x\}$. To see that Ex is the least upper bound, suppose $b \leq y$ whenever $b \in \bar{E}a$, $a \in B$, and $a \leq x$.

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By the fact that \mathcal{U} is atomic and E is completely additive (a property of quantifiers) we have

$$x = \Sigma\{a: a \in B \text{ and } a \leq x\}, \text{ and } Ex = \Sigma\{Ea: a \in B \text{ and } a \leq x\}.$$

It is also not difficult to see that if a, b are atoms, then $b \leq Ea$ implies $Eb = Ea$. Thus if $b \in B$, $b \leq Ex$, then $b \leq Ea$ for some $a \in B$ with $a \leq x$, whence $b \in \bar{E}a$ for some $a \in B$ with $a \leq x$, and therefore $b \leq y$. This implies $Ex \leq y$ and consequently

$Ex = \Sigma\{\bar{E}a: a \in B \text{ and } a \leq x\}$. Thus \bar{E} satisfies (*). We have thus seen that every element $E \in Q$ determines an element $\bar{E} \in R$. We claim that the function $F = \langle (E, \bar{E}) : E \in Q \rangle$ is the desired isomorphism.

It is not difficult to see that F is biunique. To see that the $RgF = R$, suppose $P \in R$. Defining $Ex = \Sigma\{Pa: a \in B \text{ and } a \leq x\}$ for every $x \in A$, it is obvious that $E0 = 0$ and $x \leq Ex$. To see that $E(x \cdot Ey) = Ex \cdot Ey$, suppose $b \in B$ and $b \leq E(x \cdot Ey)$. Then $b \in Pa$ for some $a \leq x \cdot Ey$ and for some $c \leq y$, $Pa = Pc$. Hence $b \leq Ex \cdot Ey$. Conversely, suppose $b \leq Ex \cdot Ey$. Then $b \in Pa$ for some $a \leq x$ and $b \in Pc$ for some $c \leq y$. Thus $Pa = Pc$, $a \in Pc$, $a \leq Ey$, $a \leq x \cdot Ey$, and $b \leq E(x \cdot Ey)$. Thus for any $b \in B$, we have $b \leq E(x \cdot Ey)$ iff $b \leq Ex \cdot Ey$, and \mathcal{U} being atomic, this implies $E(x \cdot Ey) = Ex \cdot Ey$. Consequently, $E \in Q$. We claim that $\bar{E} = P$. Indeed, suppose $a \in B$. Then $\bar{E}a = \{b \in B: b \leq Ea\}$ and $Ea = \Sigma Pa$, and hence $\bar{E}a = Pa$.

It remains to show that the correspondence, F , preserves \leq . Suppose $a \in B$. Then $Ea \leq E'a$ iff $\bar{E}a \subseteq \bar{E}'a$. Thus $E \leq E'$ implies $\bar{E} \leq \bar{E}'$. Conversely $\bar{E} \leq \bar{E}'$ implies $Ea \leq E'a$ for $a \in B$, so by complete additivity of E, E' , we have $E \leq E'$.

Corollary 2. There exists an atomic Boolean algebra, \mathcal{U} , such that the set of all quantifiers on \mathcal{U} is not a lattice (under \leq). In fact, there exist a pair of elements which have no l.u.b. and no g.l.b.

Proof. Let ω denote the natural numbers, E the even numbers, and D the odd numbers. Let \mathcal{U} be the Boolean algebra of all subsets X of ω having the property that (i) either $E \cap X$ or $E \sim X$ is finite, and (ii) either $D \cap X$ or $D \sim X$ is finite. Clearly \mathcal{U} is an atomic Boolean algebra with atoms $\{k\}$ for $k \in \omega$. As a notational simplification we will use k to denote the atom $\{k\}$.

From Theorem 1 it suffices to define partitions P, T on the set of atoms of \mathcal{U} , such that P, T satisfy $(*)$, but such that there is no least element W satisfying $(*)$ with $P \leq W$ and $T \leq W$, and also no greatest element V satisfying $(*)$, such that $V \leq P$ and $V \leq T$.

We define P and T as follows:

$$P = 1, 0, 2 \mid 5, 6, 10 \mid 9, 14, 18 \mid 13, 22, 26 \mid \dots \mid 3, 4 \mid 7, 8 \mid 11, 12 \mid \dots$$

$$T = 0 \mid 1, 2, 6 \mid 5, 10, 14 \mid 9, 18, 22 \mid 13, 26, 30 \mid \dots \mid 3, 4 \mid 7, 8 \mid 11, 12 \mid \dots$$

We note that P and T satisfy $(*)$. To see that P and T have no l.u.b. suppose W is an upper bound for P and T , satisfying $(*)$. Such upper bounds exist since the one-element partition satisfies $(*)$.

Then $P \leq W$ and $T \leq W$, which implies

$$W_0 \supseteq \{0, 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, \dots\}$$

Since W satisfies $(*)$, ΣW_0 must exist in \mathcal{U} . Now W_0 contains infinitely many even as well as odd numbers, hence $\omega \sim W_0$ is finite. Thus there must exist an integer, k , such that $\{4k-1, 4k\} \subseteq W_0$.

Let W' be defined by

$$W'_0 = W_0 \sim \{4k-1, 4k\}$$

$$W'_{4k} = W_{4k-1} = \{4k-1, 4k\}$$

$$W'_m = W_m \text{ for } m \in \omega \sim W_0$$

Then W' satisfies $(*)$ since W does, and $P \leq W', T \leq W'$, but $W' < W$.

Thus a l.u.b. for P and T does not exist.

Finally, suppose V is a lower bound for P, T , satisfying $(*)$. Such lower bounds exist, since the identity partition satisfies $(*)$. Thus we have $V_k \subseteq P_k \cap T_k$ for every $k \in \omega$, and hence for every $k \in \omega$

$V_0 = \{0\}$	$V_{8k} \subseteq \{8k-1, 8k\}$
$V_1, V_2 \subseteq \{1, 2\}$	$V_{8k+1} \subseteq \{8k+1, 16k+2\}$
$V_3, V_4 \subseteq \{3, 4\}$	$V_{8k+2} \subseteq \{4k+1, 8k+2\}$
$V_5 \subseteq \{5, 10\}$	$V_{8k+3} \subseteq \{8k+3, 8k+4\}$
$V_6 \subseteq \{6\}$	$V_{8k+4} \subseteq \{8k+3, 8k+4\}$
$V_7 \subseteq \{7, 8\}$	$V_{8k+5} \subseteq \{8k+5, 16k+10\}$
...	$V_{8k+6} \subseteq \{8k+6\}$
	$V_{8k+7} \subseteq \{8k+7, 8k+8\}$

We claim that if V satisfies (*), there can be at most a finite number of atoms k such that $|V_k| = 2$. For suppose $|V_k| = 2$ for infinitely many k . Then $\bigcup_{k \leq D} V_k$ contains infinitely many even atoms, and excludes

all atoms of the form $8k+6$. of which there are infinitely many.

Thus $\Sigma\{V_a: a \leq D\}$ does not exist, and V does not satisfy (*).

So $|V_k| = 1$ for all but a finite number of atoms k . Hence there exist integers $4k-1, 4k$ such that $V_{4k-1} = \{4k-1\}$ and $V_{4k} = \{4k\}$.

Let V' be defined by

$$V'_{4k-1} = V'_{4k} = \{4k-1, 4k\}$$

$$V'_m = V_m \text{ for } m \neq 4k-1, 4k$$

Then $V < V'$ and $V' \leq P, T$. Thus P and T have no g.l.b.

Reference

- [1] P.C. Baayen, Partial ordering of quantifiers and of clopen equivalence relations. Math. Centrum Amsterdam Afd. Zuivere Wiskunde. ZW 1962--025 (1962), 15 pp.