

## Representations of t-norms \*)

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Summary. Many ways lead to the representation of associative binary operations on a real interval. In particular we get representations of t-norms and t-conorms. Some simple consequences of these representations are presented.

1. Introduction. Let  $I$  denote a proper interval. We assume that

(1)  $*$  :  $I \times I \rightarrow I$  is a continuous associative binary operation.

Such operations and connected algebraic structures  $(I, *)$  are subject of many investigations. We sketch here the main four ways of these investigations.

1.1. Functional equation of associativity. Treating our binary operation as a real function of two variables we can write

(2)  $F(F(x, y), z) = F(x, F(y, z))$  for  $x, y, z \in I$ .

Equation (2) was introduced by Abel [1] and further considered by many authors (cf. [2], [3]). These investigations are summarized by Aczél [3] and [4]. Some new results were presented by Ling [17], Palés and Craigen [20], and Aczél [5].

1.2. Fully ordered semigroups. Ordered semigroups on subsets of real line were considered by Hölder [15], Cartan [8], Clifford [10] and Fuchs [12]. Results of these investigations are summarized by Fuchs [12], where three different classes of such semigroups are characterized.

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1.3. Triangular norms and conorms. Consideration of statistical metric spaces by Menger [19] brought definitions of new associative binary operations on unit interval. These operations called t-norms and t-conorms were examined by Schweizer and Sklar [21], [22], and Frank [11]. Many other papers are summarized by Schweizer and Sklar [23].

1.4. Continuous logical connectives. Continuously valued logic needs extended logical operations. Some of them were suggested by Lukasiewicz [18]. Recent consideration of this problem was initiated by Bellman and Giertz [7] in connection with calculus of fuzzy sets. Problem was taken on by Hamacher [13], Alsina, Trillas and Valverde [6], Klement [16], and Weber [24]. Many of considered problems are related to earlier investigations of associativity mentioned above.

2. Continuous real semigroups. Let  $a = \inf I < b = \sup I$ . We summarize properties of continuous semigroup  $(I, *)$  under some additional assumptions.

2.1. Theorem (Aczél [5]). The semigroup  $(I, *)$  under assumption (1) is a group iff it is order isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ , i.e. iff there exists a continuous increasing bijection  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$(3) \quad x * y = f^{-1}(f(x) + f(y)) \quad \text{for } x, y \in I.$$

2.2. Theorem (Aczél [5]). The semigroup  $(I, *)$  under assumption (1) is cancellative iff there exists a continuous injection  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with property (3). Such injection  $f$  is determined uniquely up to a positive multiplicative constant. In particular, any continuous cancellative semigroup  $((e, b), *)$  with unit  $e$  is order isomorphic to  $([0, \infty), +)$ .

A characterization of not cancellative semigroups needs some additional assumptions. Operation  $*$  is *isotone* if

$$(4) \quad x \geq y \Rightarrow (x * t \geq y * t, t * x \geq t * y) \quad \text{for } t, x, y \in I.$$

Continuous operation  $*$  is *Archimedean* (cf. Schweizer and Sklar [23]) if

$$(5) \quad x * x \neq x \quad \text{for } x \in \text{Int } I, x \neq e.$$

Operation  $*$  is *idempotent* if

$$(6) \quad x * x = x \quad \text{for } x \in I.$$

2.3. Lemma (Clifford [10]). Let operation  $*$  fulfil assumptions (1), (4) and (5). If the semigroup  $(I, *)$  is not cancellative, then:

- a) it contains a null  $z$ ,
- b) for every  $x \neq e$  there exists a  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $x^k = z$ ,
- c) for every  $u, x, y \in I$ ,  $u * x = u * y \neq z$  implies that  $x = y$ .

Because of property b) the above semigroups are called nilpotent.

2.4. Theorem (cf. Fuchs [12]). The semigroup  $([e, b], *)$  with unit  $e$  and properties (1), (4) is not cancellative and Archimedean iff it is order isomorphic to the semigroup  $([0, 1], \odot)$ , where

$$(7) \quad x \odot y = \min(1, x + y) \quad \text{for } x, y \in [0, 1].$$

Moreover (cf. Ling [17]), such operation  $*$  has a representation (3) with formal extension of the inverse of  $f$  by the formula

$$f^{-1}(x) = b \quad \text{for } x > f(b).$$

2.5. Theorem (Czogała, Drewniak [9]). The semigroup  $([a, b], *)$  with properties (1), (4) and such that

$$(8) \quad a * b = b * a = s \in I$$

is idempotent iff

$$(9) \quad x * y = \text{median}(x, y, s) = \begin{cases} \min(x, y) & \text{for } x, y \leq s, \\ \max(x, y) & \text{for } x, y \geq s, \\ s & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In particular, associative isotone idempotent binary operation  $*$  has the unit iff  $*$  =  $\min$  or  $*$  =  $\max$ .

2.6. Theorem (cf. Clifford [10]). The continuous semigroup  $(I, *)$  is a direct sum of Archimedean and idempotent subsemigroups.

3. Triangular norms and conorms. Let  $I = [0, 1]$ . Associative isotone operation  $*$  is called a *triangular norm* (*t-norm*) iff it has the unit  $e = 1$ , and it is called a *triangular conorm* (*t-conorm*) iff it has the unit  $e = 0$ . *t-norm* (*t-conorm*) strictly increasing in  $(0, 1)^2$  is called a *strict t-norm* (*t-conorm*).

3.1. Example (cf. Schweizer, Sklar [22]). The most representative t-norms and t-conorms have specific names:

a) *lattice operations*

$$(10) \quad x \wedge y = \min(x, y), \quad x \vee y = \max(x, y),$$

b) *algebraic operations*

$$(11) \quad x \cdot y = xy, \quad x \dot{+} y = x + y - xy,$$

c) *bounded operations* (cf. (7))

$$(12) \quad x \ominus y = \max(x+y-1, 0), \quad x \odot y = \min(x+y, 1).$$

d) *drastic operations*

$$(13) \quad x \wedge y = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } y = 1, \\ y & \text{if } x = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad x \dot{\vee} y = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } y = 0, \\ y & \text{if } x = 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ . Presented operations are comparable and we have

$$(14) \quad x \dot{\wedge} y \leq x \ominus y \leq x \cdot y \leq x \wedge y \leq x \vee y \leq x \dot{+} y \leq x \odot y \leq x \dot{\vee} y$$

for  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ .

Both operations in (10)–(13) are connected by the formulas

$$(15) \quad s(x, y) = 1 - p(1-x, 1-y), \quad p(x, y) = 1 - s(1-x, 1-y)$$

for  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ , where  $p$  denotes the *product operation* (t-norm), and  $s$  denotes the *sum operation* (t-conorm). From formulas (15) t-conorms can be expressed by t-norms and vice versa.

3.2. Lemma (cf. Schweizer, Sklar [22]). Any t-norm  $*$  fulfils

$$(16) \quad x \dot{\wedge} y \leq x * y \leq x \wedge y, \quad x * x \leq x \quad \text{for } x, y \in [0, 1].$$

Any t-conorm  $\dot{*}$  fulfils

$$(17) \quad x \vee y \leq x \dot{*} y \leq x \dot{\vee} y, \quad x \leq x \dot{*} x \quad \text{for } x, y \in [0, 1].$$

The inequalities (16) and (17) are strict in  $(0, 1)$  for strict t-norms and t-conorms, respectively.

Using results 2.2 and 2.4 we see that continuous Archimedean t-norms and t-conorms are conjugate with suitable algebraic or bounded operation. The four characteristic operations can be used to the description of four classes of t-norms (cf. Czogała, Drewniak [9]).

3.3. **Theorem.** a) Operation  $*$  is a strict continuous t-norm iff there exists an increasing bijection  $h : [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  such that

$$(18) \quad x * y = h^{-1}(h(x)h(y)) \quad \text{for } x, y \in [0,1].$$

b) Two bijections  $h$  and  $k$  determine the same t-norm of the form (18) iff there exists a constant  $c > 0$  such that (pointwise)  $k = h^c$ .

c) Formulas (3) and (18) determine the same t-norm iff there exists a constant  $c > 0$  such that (pointwise)  $h = \exp(-f/c)$  or  $f = -c \log h$ .

3.4. **Theorem.** a) Operation  $*$  is a non-strict continuous t-norm with properties (4) and (5) iff there exists an increasing bijection  $h : [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  such that

$$(19) \quad x * y = h^{-1}(\max(0, h(x) + h(y) - 1)) \quad \text{for } x, y \in [0,1].$$

b) The bijection  $h$  in (19) is determined uniquely by operation  $*$ .

c) Formulas \*) (3) and (19) determine the same t-norm iff  $h = 1 - f/f(0)$  or  $f = -f(0)(1 - h)$ .

3.5. **Theorem.** a) Operation  $*$  is a strict continuous t-conorm iff there exists an increasing bijection  $h : [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  such that

$$(20) \quad x * y = h^{-1}(h(x) + h(y) - h(x)h(y)) \quad \text{for } x, y \in [0,1].$$

b) Two bijections  $h$  and  $k$  determine the same t-conorm of the form (20) iff there exists a constant  $c > 0$  such that  $k = 1 - (1 - h)^c$ .

c) Formulas (3) and (20) determine the same t-norm iff there exists a constant  $c > 0$  such that  $h = 1 - \exp(-f/c)$  or  $f = -c \log(1 - h)$ .

3.6. **Theorem.** a) Operation  $*$  is a non-strict continuous t-conorm with properties (4) and (5) iff there exists an increasing bijection  $h : [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  such that

$$(21) \quad x * y = h^{-1}(\min(1, h(x) + h(y))) \quad \text{for } x, y \in [0,1].$$

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\*) Formula (3) can be compared to (19) and (21) with suitable extension of  $f^{-1}$  (cf. Theorem 2.4).

- b) The bijection  $h$  in (21) is determined uniquely by operation  $*$ .
- c) Formulas (3) and (21) determine the same  $t$ -norm iff  $h = f/f(1)$  or  $f = f(1)h$ .

3.7. **Theorem.** The operation  $*$  = min ( $*$  = max) is the only idempotent continuous  $t$ -norm ( $t$ -conorm).

Our consideration was restricted to continuous binary operations. A class of discontinuous binary operations in  $[0,1]$  was considered by Horiuchi [14].

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