

## A Note on the Lattice of $L$ -Closure Operators

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we investigate the lattice structure of the set of all  $L$ -closure operators on a given nonempty set  $X$  when membership lattice  $L$  is a bounded chain. It is proved that in this case, the lattice of all  $L$ -closure operators is distributive, modular but not atomic and not complemented. The authors disprove certain known theorems on the above lattices and the correct results are provided.

**Keyword:**  $L$ -topology, Lattice, Chain,  $L$ -closure operator.

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### 1. Introduction

In 1965, the concept of fuzzy sets and fuzzy set operations were first introduced by Zadeh in his classical paper [12]. In 1968, Chang [2] applied some basic concepts from general topology to fuzzy sets and developed a theory of fuzzy topological spaces. Closure spaces which is a generalization of topological spaces were introduced by Cech [1] and then studied by many authors. They have extended many topological concepts to closure operators. Fuzzy closure spaces were first studied by Mashhour and Ghanim [7]. Fuzzy closure spaces are generalization of fuzzy topological spaces. The definition of Mashhour and Ghanim is analogue of  $\check{C}$ ech closure spaces. Srivastava et al., [9] have introduced fuzzy closure spaces as analogue of Brikhoff closure spaces. Srivastava and Srivastava [10] have studied the subspace of a fuzzy closure space and introduced the notion of a  $T_1$ -fuzzy closure space. Johnson [5] has studied the lattice structure of the set  $L(X)$  of all  $\check{C}$ ech fuzzy closure operators on a fixed set  $X$  and proved that  $L(X)$  is a complete lattice but not complemented. Zhou [11] has introduced the concepts of  $L$ -closure spaces and the convergence in  $L$ -closure spaces.

In this paper, we have investigated the lattice structure of the lattice  $LC(X)$  of all  $L$ -closure operators on a given non-empty set  $X$  when membership lattice  $L$  is a bounded chain. In addition, we have identified the infra  $L$ -closure operators and their number and established a relation between ultra  $L$ -topology and ultra  $L$ -closure operator.

**2. Preliminaries**

Throughout this paper,  $X$  stands for a non-empty set,  $L$  for a bounded chain with the least element 0 and the greatest element 1, which is a completely distributive lattice with an order reversing involution ‘ ’ (i.e.  $\forall a, b \in L, a \leq b \Rightarrow a' \geq b'$  and for every  $a \in L, a'' = a$ ) and

$L^X = \{f : f : X \rightarrow L \text{ is a mapping}\}$ . The constant function in  $L^X$ , taking value  $\alpha$  is denoted by  $\underline{\alpha}$  and  $x_\gamma$ , where  $\gamma (\neq 0) \in L$ , denotes the  $L$ -fuzzy point defined by

$$x_\gamma(y) = \begin{cases} \gamma & \text{if } y = x \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Any  $f \in L^X$  is called as an  $L$ -subset of  $X$  and the complement of  $f$ , denoted by  $f'$  is defined by the formula  $f'(x) = [f(x)]'$ . The following are some important definition reported in [3,6] :

**Definition 2.1.** An element of  $L$  is called an atom if it is a minimal element of  $L \setminus \{0\}$ .

**Definition 2.2.** An element of  $L$  is called a dual atom if it is a maximal element of  $L \setminus \{1\}$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $\delta$  be a nonempty subset of  $L^X$ . We call  $\delta$  an  $L$ -topology on  $X$ , if  $\delta$  satisfies the following conditions :

- (1)  $\underline{0}, \underline{1} \in \delta$ .
- (2) if  $f, g \in \delta$ , then  $f \wedge g \in \delta$ .
- (3) if  $\delta_1 \subseteq \delta$ , then  $\bigvee_{f \in \delta_1} f \in \delta$ .

The pair  $(L^X, \delta)$  is called an  $L$ -topological space.

In this paper, we take the definition of  $L$ -closure operator as a generalization of fuzzy closure operator in [7].

**Definition 2.4.** A Čech  $L$ -closure operator on a set  $X$  is a function  $c : L^X \rightarrow L^X$  satisfying the following three axioms :

- (1)  $c(\underline{0}) = \underline{0}$ .
- (2)  $f \leq c(f)$  for every  $f$  in  $L^X$ .
- (3)  $c(f \vee g) = c(f) \vee c(g)$  for all  $f, g \in L^X$ .

For convenience, we call it a  $L$ -closure operator on  $X$ . Also  $(X, c)$  is called  $L$ -closure space.

**Definition 2.5.** In an  $L$ -closure space  $(X, c)$ , an  $L$ -subset  $f$  of  $X$  is said to be  $L$ -closed if  $c(f) = f$ . An  $L$ -subset  $f$  of  $X$  is  $L$ -open if its complement is closed in  $(X, c)$ .

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The set of all open  $L$ -subsets of  $(X, c)$  forms an  $L$ -topology on  $X$ , called the  $L$ -topology associated with the  $L$ -closure operator  $c$ .

Let  $F$  be an  $L$ -topology on a set  $X$ . Then a function  $c: L^X \rightarrow L^X$  defined by  $c(f) = \bar{f}$  for all  $f \in L^X$ , where  $\bar{f}$  is the closure of  $f$  in  $(L^X, F)$ , is an  $L$ -closure operator on  $X$  called the  $L$ -closure operator associated with the  $L$ -topology  $F$ .

An  $L$ -closure operator on a set  $X$  is called  $L$ -topological if it is the  $L$ -closure operator associated with an  $L$ -topology on  $X$ .

**Remark 2.6.** *Note that the different  $L$ -closure operators can have the same associated  $L$ -topology. But different  $L$ -topologies can not have the same associated  $L$ -closure operator.*

**Example 2.7.** *Let  $X = \{x, y, z\}$  and  $L = \{0, \alpha, \beta, 1\}$  be a chain with  $0 < \alpha < \beta < 1$ . Then the functions  $c_1, c_2: L^X \rightarrow L^X$  defined by:*

$$c_1(f) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ g & \text{if } f = x_\alpha \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

where  $g \in L^X$  is defined as  $g(x) = g(y) = 1$  and  $g(z) = \beta$

$$\text{and } c_2(f) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

are  $L$ -closure operators. Associated  $L$ -topologies of  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are same, which is the indiscrete  $L$ -topology.

### 3. Lattice of $L$ -closure operators

**Definition 3.1.** *Let  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  be  $L$ -closure operators on  $X$ . Then  $c_1 \leq c_2$  if and only if  $c_2(f) \leq c_1(f), \forall f \in L^X$ .*

**Remark 3.2.** *The set  $LC(X)$  of all  $L$ -closure operators forms a lattice with this relation  $\leq$ . If  $c_1, c_2 \in LC(X)$ , then the join  $c_1 \vee c_2$  and the meet  $c_1 \wedge c_2$  are defined respectively by the following formulas:*

$$(c_1 \vee c_2)(x) = \min \{c_1(x), c_2(x)\} \text{ and}$$

$$(c_1 \wedge c_2)(x) = \max \{c_1(x), c_2(x)\}.$$

**Definition 3.3.** *The  $L$ -closure operator  $D$  defined on  $X$  by  $D(f) = f$  for all  $f \in L^X$ , is called the discrete  $L$ -closure operator.*

The  $L$ -closure operator  $I$  on  $X$  defined by

$$I(f) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

is called the indiscrete  $L$ -closure operator.

**Remark 3.4.**  $D$  and  $I$  are the  $L$ -closure operators associated with the discrete and indiscrete  $L$ -topologies on  $X$  respectively. Moreover  $D$  is the unique  $L$ -closure operator whose associated  $L$ -topology is discrete. Also  $I$  and  $D$  are the smallest and the largest elements of the lattice  $LC(X)$  respectively.

**Theorem 3.5.** [5]  $LC(X)$  is a complete lattice.

In [8], we find the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.6.** [8]  $LC(X)$  is not modular.

But this result is not true as shown by the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.7.**  $LC(X)$  is a distributive lattice.

**Proof:** Let  $c_1, c_2$  and  $c_3$  be any three elements of  $LC(X)$ .

Then by definition of  $\leq$ , we have

$$c_1 \vee (c_2 \wedge c_3) = \min [c_1, \max \{c_2, c_3\}]$$

$$\text{and } (c_1 \vee c_2) \wedge (c_1 \vee c_3) = \max [\min \{c_1, c_2\}, \min \{c_1, c_3\}].$$

For any  $f \in L^X$  and  $x \in X$ , assume that  $c_1(f) = g_1$ ,  $c_2(f) = g_2$ ,  $c_3(f) = g_3$

and  $g_1(x) = \alpha$ ,  $g_2(x) = \beta$ ,  $g_3(x) = \gamma$ .

Since  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in L$  and  $L$  is a chain, the following six case arise:

- (1)  $\gamma < \beta < \alpha$  (2)  $\beta < \gamma < \alpha$  (3)  $\alpha < \gamma < \beta$  (4)  $\gamma < \alpha < \beta$  (5)  $\beta < \alpha < \gamma$  (6)  $\alpha < \beta < \gamma$ .

Case 1 :  $\gamma < \beta < \alpha$ .

Then  $\{c_1 \vee (c_2 \wedge c_3)\}(f)(x)$

$$= \min \{g_1(x), \max \{g_2(x), g_3(x)\}\}$$

$$= \min \{\alpha, \max \{\beta, \gamma\}\}$$

$$= \min \{\alpha, \beta\} = \beta$$

and  $\{(c_1 \vee c_2) \wedge (c_1 \vee c_3)\}(f)(x)$

$$= \max \{ \min \{g_1(x), g_2(x)\}, \min \{g_1(x), g_3(x)\} \}.$$

$$= \max \{ \min \{\alpha, \beta\}, \min \{\alpha, \gamma\} \}.$$

$$= \max \{\beta, \gamma\} = \beta.$$

In the same way, it can be checked that the equality

$\{c_1 \vee (c_2 \wedge c_3)\}(f)(x) = \{(c_1 \vee c_2) \wedge (c_1 \vee c_3)\}(f)(x)$  holds good in the remaining five cases also.

Since  $f \in L^X$  and  $x \in X$  were arbitrary,

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$\Rightarrow c_1 \vee (c_2 \wedge c_3) = (c_1 \vee c_2) \wedge (c_1 \vee c_3)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow LC(X)$  is distributive lattice.

**Corollary 1.**  $LC(X)$  is a modular lattice.

### 4. Infra $L$ -closure operators

**Definition 4.1.** An  $L$ -closure operator on  $X$  is called an infra  $L$ -closure operator if the only  $L$ -closure operator on  $X$  strictly smaller than it is  $I$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** [5] If  $L = [0,1]$ , then there is no infra  $L$ -closure operator in  $LC(X)$ .

In [8], we find the following result :

Let  $X$  be any set and  $a, b \in X$  such that  $a \neq b$ . Define  $\psi_{a,b} : L^X \rightarrow L^X$  by

$$\psi_{a,b}(f) = \begin{cases} f & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ g_{\alpha,b} & \text{if } f = a_\alpha \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

where  $\alpha$  is a dual atom in  $L$  and  $g_{\alpha,b}$  is defined by

$$g_{\alpha,b}(a) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a \neq b \\ \alpha & \text{if } a = b \end{cases}.$$

**Theorem 4.3.** [8] An  $L$ -closure operator is an infra  $L$ -closure operator if and only if it is of the form  $\psi_{a,b}$  for some  $a, b \in X, a \neq b$ .

But this result is not true because  $\psi_{a,b}$  is not even an  $L$ -closure operator as shown below:

Let  $a_\alpha, a_\eta \in L^X$ , where  $\eta, \alpha \in L$  such that  $\eta < \alpha$  and  $\alpha$  is a dual atom in  $L$ .

Then  $\psi_{a,b}(a_\alpha \vee a_\eta) = \psi_{a,b}(a_\alpha) = g_{\alpha,b}$

and  $\psi_{a,b}(a_\alpha) \vee \psi_{a,b}(a_\eta) = g_{\alpha,b} \vee \underline{1} = \underline{1}$ .

$\Rightarrow \psi_{a,b}(a_\alpha \vee a_\eta) \neq \psi_{a,b}(a_\alpha) \vee \psi_{a,b}(a_\eta)$ .

**Remark 4.4.** Let  $X$  be any nonempty set and  $L$  be a finite chain with the atom  $\alpha$  and the dual atom  $\beta$ . For any  $x, y \in X$ , define  $c_{x,y} : L^X \rightarrow L^X$  by

$$c_{x,y}(f) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ g_{y,\beta} & \text{if } f = x_\alpha \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

where  $g_{y,\beta} \in L^X$  is defined as  $g_{y,\beta}(y) = \beta$  and  $g_{y,\beta}(z) = 1, \forall z (\neq y) \in X$ . Clearly,

$g_{y,\beta}$  is a dual atom in  $L^X$ .

It can be easily checked that  $c_{x,y}$  is an  $L$ -closure operator and  $g_{y,\beta}$  can be replaced by any dual atom in  $L^X$ . Therefore the number of such  $L$ -closure operators is  $|X|^2$ .

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $X$  be a nonempty set and  $L$  be a chain with the atom  $\alpha$  and the dual atom  $\beta$ . An  $L$ -closure operator is an infra  $L$ -closure operator if and only if it is of the form  $c_{x,y}$  for some  $x, y \in X$ .*

**Proof:** Let  $c$  be any  $L$ -closure operator on  $X$  such that

$$c \leq c_{x,y} \Rightarrow c_{x,y}(f) \leq c(f), \forall f \in L^X.$$

Therefore  $c(f) = \underline{1}, \forall f (\neq x_\alpha) \in L^X$  and  $g_{y,\beta} \leq c(x_\alpha)$ . Since  $g_{y,\beta}$  is a dual atom in  $L^X$ , it follows that either  $c(x_\alpha) = g_{y,\beta}$  or  $c(x_\alpha) = \underline{1}$ .

If  $c(x_\alpha) = g_{y,\beta}$ , then  $c = c_{x,y}$  and if  $c(x_\alpha) = \underline{1}$ , then  $c = I$ .

Hence  $c_{x,y}$  is an infra  $L$ -closure operator.

Conversely, suppose that  $c$  is any infra  $L$ -closure operator in  $LC(X)$ . Then  $c$  must be of the form

$$c(f) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ \neq \underline{1} & \text{if } f = g \text{ for some } g \in L^X \\ \underline{1} & \text{for all } f (\neq \underline{0}, g) \in L^X \end{cases}$$

If  $\exists$  an  $L$ -subset  $h (\neq \underline{0}) \in L^X$  such that  $h < g$ , then  $h \vee g = g$  and

$$c(h \vee g) = c(g).$$

$$\Rightarrow c(h) \vee c(g) = c(g)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{1} \vee c(g) = c(g)$$

$$\Rightarrow c(g) = \underline{1}, \text{ a contradiction.}$$

$\Rightarrow g$  must be an atom in  $L^X$  i.e.  $g = x_\alpha$  for some  $x \in X$  and for the atom  $\alpha \in L$ .

Now, if  $c(g) < f$  for some  $f (\neq \underline{1}) \in L^X$ , then  $c_1 : L^X \rightarrow L^X$  defined by :

$$c_1(h) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } h = \underline{0} \\ f & \text{if } h = x_\alpha \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is an  $L$ -closure operator such that  $c_1 \neq I$  and  $c_1 < c$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $c(g)$  must be a dual atom in  $L^X$  i.e.  $c(g)(t) = \underline{1}, \forall t \in X$  except for some  $y \in X$  and  $c(g)(y) = \beta$ .  $\Rightarrow c = c_{x,y}$ .

Thus all infra  $L$ -closure operators are of the form  $c_{x,y}$  for some  $x, y \in X$ .

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**Remark 4.6.** If  $L$  is a chain with the atom  $\alpha$  and the dual atom  $\beta$ , then for any nonempty set  $X$ , there are  $|X|^2$  infra  $L$ -closure operators in  $LC(X)$ .

**Remark 4.7.** Let  $X = \{x, y, z\}$  and  $L = \{0, \alpha, \beta, 1\}$  be a chain with  $0 < \alpha < \beta < 1$ . Then there are 9 infra  $L$ -closure operators given by

$$c_{x,y}(f) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ g_{y,\beta} & \text{if } f = x_\alpha \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $x, y \in X$  and  $g_{y,\beta} \in L^X$  is defined as  $g_{y,\beta}(y) = \beta$  and  $g_{y,\beta}(x) = g_{y,\beta}(z) = 1$ .

It can be easily checked that the  $L$ -closure operator  $c : L^X \rightarrow L^X$  defined by

$$c(f) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ \alpha & \text{if } f = x_\beta \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

can not be written as the join of infra  $L$ -closure operators. Thus in general  $LC(X)$  is not an atomic lattice.

### 5. Ultra $L$ -closure operators

**Definition 5.1.** An  $L$ -topology  $F$  on  $X$  is called an ultra  $L$ -topology if the only  $L$ -topology on  $X$  strictly finer than  $F$  is the discrete  $L$ -topology.

**Definition 5.2.** An  $L$ -closure operator on  $X$  is called an ultra  $L$ -closure operator if the only  $L$ -closure operator on  $X$  strictly larger than it, is  $D$ .

**Theorem 5.3.** Let  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  be two  $L$ -closure operators such that  $c_1 \leq c_2$ . If  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are the  $L$ -topologies associated with the  $L$ -closure operators  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  respectively, then  $F_1 \subseteq F_2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $g \in F_1$ .

$\Rightarrow c_1(g') = g'$ , where  $g'$  is complement of  $g$ .

$\Rightarrow g' \leq c_2(g') \leq c_1(g') = g'$ .

$\Rightarrow c_2(g') = g'$ .

$\Rightarrow g \in F_2 \Rightarrow F_1 \subseteq F_2$ .

**Theorem 5.4.** Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be two  $L$ -topologies such that  $F_1 \subseteq F_2$ . If  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are the  $L$ -closure operators associated with the  $L$ -topologies  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  respectively, then  $c_1 \leq c_2$ .

**Proof:** For any  $f \in L^X$ , let  $\bar{f}_1$  and  $\bar{f}_2$  be the closure of  $f$  in the  $L$ -topological

spaces  $(L^X, \mathbf{F}_1)$  and  $(L^X, \mathbf{F}_2)$  respectively.

Since  $\mathbf{F}_1 \subseteq \mathbf{F}_2$ ,

$$\Rightarrow \bar{f}_2 \leq \bar{f}_1.$$

$$\Rightarrow c_2(f) \leq c_1(f).$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1 \leq c_2.$$

**Theorem 5.5.** *Let  $c$  be an ultra  $L$ -closure operator. If  $\mathbf{F}$  is the  $L$ -topology associated with the  $L$ -closure operator  $c$ , then  $\mathbf{F}$  is an ultra  $L$ -topology.*

**Proof:** If  $\mathbf{F}$  is not an ultra  $L$ -topology, then there exists an  $L$ -topology  $\mathbf{F}_1$  such that  $\mathbf{F}_1 \neq L^X$  and  $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{F}_1$ . Let  $c_1$  be the  $L$ -closure operator associated with the  $L$ -topology  $\mathbf{F}_1$ . Then  $c_1 \neq D$ .

Since  $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{F}_1$ ,

$$\Rightarrow c \leq c_1 \text{ and } \exists \text{ an } L\text{-subset } g \in L^X \text{ such that } g \in \mathbf{F}_1 \text{ but } g \notin \mathbf{F}.$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1(g') = g' \text{ and } c(g') \neq g'$$

$$\Rightarrow c < c_1, \text{ a contradiction.}$$

Hence  $\mathbf{F}$  is an ultra  $L$ -topology.

**Theorem 5.6.** *Let  $\mathbf{F}$  be an ultra  $L$ -topology. If  $c$  is the  $L$ -closure operator associated with the  $L$ -topology  $\mathbf{F}$ , then  $c$  is an ultra  $L$ -closure operator.*

**Proof:** Suppose, there exists an  $L$ -closure operator  $c_1$  such that  $c \leq c_1$ . Let  $\mathbf{F}_1$  be the  $L$ -topology associated with the  $L$ -closure operator  $c_1$ .

Since  $c \leq c_1 \Rightarrow \mathbf{F} \subseteq \mathbf{F}_1$  and  $\mathbf{F}$  is an ultra  $L$ -topology so it follows that either  $\mathbf{F}_1 = \mathbf{F}$  or  $\mathbf{F}_1 = L^X =$  discrete  $L$ -topology.

If  $\mathbf{F}_1 = \mathbf{F}$ , then  $c_1 = c$  and if  $\mathbf{F}_1 = L^X$ , then  $c_1 = D =$  discrete  $L$ -closure operator.

Hence  $c$  is an ultra  $L$ -closure operator.

**Theorem 5.7.** *Let  $X$  be a nonempty set and  $L$  be a bounded chain. Then an  $L$ -closure operator is an ultra  $L$ -closure operator if and only if it is the  $L$ -closure operator associated with some ultra  $L$ -topology on  $X$ .*

**Remark 5.8.** *If  $L = [0,1]$ , then there is no ultra  $L$ -topology in  $L^X$  and hence no ultra  $L$ -closure operator in  $LC(X)$  [4].*

**Remark 5.9.** *Let  $X = \{x, y, z\}$  and  $L = \{0, \alpha, \beta, 1\}$  be a chain with  $0 < \alpha < \beta < 1$ .*

Then the  $L$ -closure operator  $c : L^X \rightarrow L^X$  defined by

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$$c(f) = \begin{cases} \underline{0} & \text{if } f = \underline{0} \\ \underline{\alpha} & \text{if } f = x_\beta \\ \underline{1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

has no complement  $\Rightarrow LC(X)$  is not complemented in general.

**Remark 5.10.** [5] If  $L = [0,1]$ , then  $LC(X)$  is not complemented.

### 6. Conclusion

In this paper, we have identified infra  $L$ -closure operators and established a relation between ultra  $L$ -closure operators and ultra  $L$ -topologies. Also it is proved that  $LC(X)$  is a distributive lattice when  $L$  is a bounded chain. Lattice of  $L$ -closure operators when  $L$  is a bounded lattice other than a chain, will be discussed in future papers.

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