



commutativity relation in an orthocomplemented lattice

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Defines	dually commute
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Let L be an orthocomplemented lattice with $a, b \in L$. We say that a *commutes* with b if $a = (a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge b^\perp)$. When a commutes with b , we write $a C b$. Dualize everything, we have that a *dually commutes* with b , written $a D b$, if $a = (a \vee b) \wedge (a \vee b^\perp)$.

Some properties. Below are some properties of the commutativity relations C and D .

1. C is reflexive.
2. $a C b$ iff $a C b^\perp$.
3. $a C b$ iff $a^\perp D b^\perp$.
4. if $a \leq b$ or $a \leq b^\perp$, then $a C b$.
5. a is said to *orthogonally commute* with b if $a C b$ and $b C a$. In this case, we write $a M b$. The terminology comes from the following fact: $a M b$ iff there are $x, y, z, t \in L$, with:
 - (a) $x \perp y$ (x is orthogonal to y , or $x \leq y^\perp$),
 - (b) $z \perp t$,
 - (c) $x \perp z$,
 - (d) $a = x \vee y$, and
 - (e) $b = z \vee t$.
6. C is symmetric iff $D = C (= M)$ iff L is an orthomodular lattice.
7. C is an equivalence relation iff $C = L \times L$ iff L is a Boolean algebra.

Remark. More generally, one can define commutativity C on an orthomodular poset P : for $a, b \in P$, $a C b$ iff $a \wedge b$, $a \wedge b^\perp$, and $(a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge b^\perp)$ exist, and $(a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge b^\perp) = a$. Dual commutativity and mutual commutativity in an orthomodular poset are defined similarly (with the provision that the binary operations on the pair of elements are meaningful).

References

- [1] L. Beran, *Orthomodular Lattices, Algebraic Approach*, Mathematics and Its Applications (East European Series), D. Reidel Publishing Company, Dordrecht, Holland (1985).