

MODULAR CENTERS OF ADDITIVE LATTICES

Mary Katherine Bennett

The modular center of a lattice  $L(\mathfrak{M}(L))$  is defined to be  $\{x \mid x \in L \text{ and } \mathfrak{M}(a,x) \text{ for all } a \in L\}$  where the symbol  $\mathfrak{M}(a,x)$  means that  $a$  and  $x$  form a modular pair. A lattice  $L$  is said to be additive iff whenever  $p$  is an atom of  $L$  such that  $p \leq x \vee y$ , then there exists atoms  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  in  $L$  with  $x_1 \leq x$  and  $y_1 \leq y$  such that  $p \leq x_1 \vee y_1$ . The lattice  $L$  of convex subsets of a vector space  $V$  over an ordered division ring is additive, and in this case  $\mathfrak{M}(L)$  is the affine subsets of  $V$ .

If  $L$  is atomistic and additive, then  $\mathfrak{M}(L)$  is a complete lattice in its own right, with the meet operation in  $\mathfrak{M}(L)$  being the meet operation in  $L$ .

We present conditions in  $L$  which guarantee that  $\mathfrak{M}(L)(p,1)$  is a projective geometry whenever  $p$  is an atom of  $L$ , and then give conditions on  $L$  which imply that  $\mathfrak{M}(L)$  is the affine subsets of a vector space  $V$  over a division ring  $R$ . In the latter case we show further that the  $R$  is ordered and that  $L$  is the lattice of the convex subsets of  $V$ .

Department of Mathematics  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, Massachusetts, 01002