is the binomial expansion of the function (in powers of z^{-1})

$$h(z)=\sum_{j=1}^{t}\left[\sum_{k=1}^{m_j}\frac{A_{jk}}{(z-y_j)^k}\right],"$$

It seems the numerator should be $A_{jk}z^k$ and that the proof must therefore be altered. The proof of the parabola theorem on p. 51 is not correct.

The book reflects the author's love and enthusiasm for the subject. It surely will be an important reference text in the field for years to come for physicists, engineers, chemists and mathematicians, pure and applied.

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Distributive lattices, by Raymond Balbes and Philip Dwinger, University of Missouri Press, Columbia, Missouri, 1975, xiii+294 pp., $25.00.

Lattice theory, as an independent branch of mathematics, has had a somewhat stormy existence during its hundred-odd years of being. Its origins are to be found in Boole's mid-nineteenth century work in classical logic; and the success of what we now call Boolean algebra in this field led to the late nineteenth century attempts at the formalization of all of mathematical reasoning, and eventually to mathematical logic.

Schröder and Peirce introduced the concept of an abstract lattice as a generalization of Boolean algebras, while Dedekind's work on algebraic numbers led him to the introduction of lattices outside of logic and to the concept of modular lattices. These late-nineteenth century investigations did not lead to widespread interest in lattice theory—it was not until the thirties that lattice theory truly became an object for independent and systematic study by mathematicians.

Stone's representation theory for Boolean algebras and distributive lattices, Menger's work on the subspace structure of geometries, von Neumann's coordinatization of continuous geometry and Birkhoff's recognition of the lattice as a basic tool in algebra were among the forces which combined in the late thirties to enable Birkhoff successfully to promote the idea that lattice theory is a branch of mathematics worthy of the attention of the community.

The very simplicity of the basic concepts in lattice theory and the degree of abstraction in its relationship to other branches of mathematics have proved to be at once both its strongest and weakest points.

Lattices are ubiquitous in mathematics. The beauty and simplicity of the abstraction and the ability to tie together seemingly unrelated pieces of mathematics are certainly appealing to the mathematician-as-artist. The introduction of new and nontrivial techniques for the solution of outstanding problems, for example in universal algebra, is mathematically rewarding; and the discovery of new questions which become natural to ask in the context of lattice theory is undoubtedly intriguing.

Through the vehicle of lattice theory one can hope to contribute to