Birkhoff's Representation Theorem For Finite Distributive Lattices

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Abstract

This theory proves a theorem of Birkhoff that asserts that any finite distributive lattice is isomorphic to the set of *down-sets* of that lattice's join-irreducible elements. The isomorphism preserves order, meets and joins as well as complementation in the case the lattice is a Boolean algebra. A consequence of this representation theorem is that every finite Boolean algebra is isomorphic to a powerset algebra.

Contents

theory *Birkhoff-Finite-Distributive-Lattices*
imports
HOL−Library.Finite-Lattice
HOL.Transcendental
begin

unbundle *lattice-syntax*

The proof of Birkhoff's representation theorem for finite distributive lattices [1] presented here follows Davey and Priestley [2].

1 Atoms, Join Primes and Join Irreducibles

Atomic elements are defined as follows.

definition (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *atomic* :: $'a \Rightarrow bool$ **where**
$atomic\ x \equiv x \neq \bot \wedge (\forall\ y.\ y \leq x \longrightarrow y = \bot \vee y = x)$

Two related concepts are *join-prime* elements and *join-irreducible* elements.

definition (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *join-prime* :: $'a \Rightarrow bool$ **where**
$join\text{-}prime\ x \equiv x \neq \bot \wedge (\forall\ y\ z\ .\ x \leq y \sqcup z \longrightarrow x \leq y \vee x \leq z)$

definition (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *join-irreducible* :: $'a \Rightarrow bool$ **where**
$join\text{-}irreducible\ x \equiv x \neq \bot \wedge (\forall\ y\ z\ .\ y < x \longrightarrow z < x \longrightarrow y \sqcup z < x)$

lemma (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *join-irreducible-def'*:
$join\text{-}irreducible\ x = (x \neq \bot \wedge (\forall\ y\ z\ .\ x = y \sqcup z \longrightarrow x = y \vee x = z))$
⟨*proof*⟩

Every join-prime is also join-irreducible.

lemma (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *join-prime-implies-join-irreducible*:
assumes *join-prime x*
shows *join-irreducible x*
⟨*proof*⟩

In the special case when the underlying lattice is distributive, the join-prime elements and join-irreducible elements coincide.

class *bounded-distrib-lattice-bot* = *bounded-lattice-bot* +
assumes *sup-inf-distrib1*: $x \sqcup (y \sqcap z) = (x \sqcup y) \sqcap (x \sqcup z)$
begin

subclass *distrib-lattice*
⟨*proof*⟩

end

context *complete-distrib-lattice*
begin

subclass *bounded-distrib-lattice-bot*
  ⟨*proof*⟩

end

lemma (**in** *bounded-distrib-lattice-bot*) *join-irreducible-is-join-prime*:
  join-irreducible x = *join-prime* x
⟨*proof*⟩

Every atomic element is join-irreducible.

lemma (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *atomic-implies-join-prime*:
  assumes *atomic* x
  shows *join-irreducible* x
  ⟨*proof*⟩

In the case of Boolean algebras, atomic elements and join-prime elements are one-in-the-same.

lemma (**in** *boolean-algebra*) *join-prime-is-atomic*:
  atomic x = *join-prime* x
⟨*proof*⟩

All atomic elements are disjoint.

lemma (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *atomic-disjoint*:
  assumes *atomic* α
    and *atomic* β
   shows $(\alpha = \beta) \longleftrightarrow (\alpha \sqcap \beta \neq \bot)$
⟨*proof*⟩

definition (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *atomic-elements* ($\mathcal{A}$) **where**
  $\mathcal{A} \equiv \{a\ .\ atomic\ a\}$

definition (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *join-irreducible-elements* ($\mathcal{J}$) **where**
  $\mathcal{J} \equiv \{a\ .\ join\text{-}irreducible\ a\}$

2 Birkhoff's Representation Theorem For Finite Distributive Lattices

Birkhoff's representation theorem for finite distributive lattices follows from the fact that every non-⊥ element can be represented by the join-irreducible elements beneath it.

In this section we merely demonstrate the representation aspect of Birkhoff's theorem. In §3 we show this representation is a lattice homomorphism.

The fist step to representing elements is to show that there *exist* join-irreducible elements beneath them. This is done by showing if there is no join-irreducible element, we can make a descending chain with more elements than the finite Boolean algebra under consideration.

fun (**in** *order*) *descending-chain-list* :: *'a list* ⇒ *bool* **where**
  descending-chain-list [] = *True*
| *descending-chain-list* [*x*] = *True*
| *descending-chain-list* (*x* # *x'* # *xs*)
    = (*x* < *x'* ∧ *descending-chain-list* (*x'* # *xs*))

lemma (**in** *order*) *descending-chain-list-tail*:
  assumes *descending-chain-list* (*s* # *S*)
  shows *descending-chain-list* *S*
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *order*) *descending-chain-list-drop-penultimate*:
  assumes *descending-chain-list* (*s* # *s'* # *S*)
  shows *descending-chain-list* (*s* # *S*)
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *order*) *descending-chain-list-less-than-others*:
  assumes *descending-chain-list* (*s* # *S*)
  shows $\forall s' \in$ *set* $S.\ s < s'$
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *order*) *descending-chain-list-distinct*:
  assumes *descending-chain-list* *S*
  shows *distinct* *S*
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducible-lower-bound-exists*:
  assumes $\neg (x \leq y)$
  shows $\exists\ z \in \mathcal{J}.\ z \leq x \wedge \neg (z \leq y)$
⟨*proof*⟩

definition (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*)
  join-irreducibles-embedding :: *'a* ⇒ *'a set* (⦃ - ⦄ [*50*]) **where**
  ⦃ x ⦄ $\equiv \{a \in \mathcal{J}.\ a \leq x\}$

We can now show every element is exactly the suprema of the join-irreducible elements beneath them in any distributive lattice.

theorem (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *sup-join-prime-embedding-ident*:
  $x = \bigsqcup$ ⦃ x ⦄
⟨*proof*⟩

Just as $x = \bigsqcup$ ⦃ x ⦄, the reverse is also true; $\lambda\ x.$ ⦃ x ⦄ and $\lambda\ S.\ \bigsqcup\ S$ are inverses where $S \in \mathcal{OJ}$, the set of downsets in *Pow* $\mathcal{J}$.

definition (**in** *bounded-lattice-bot*) *down-irreducibles* ($\mathcal{OJ}$) **where**
  $\mathcal{OJ} \equiv \{\ S \in$ *Pow* $\mathcal{J}\ .\ (\exists\ x\ .\ S =$ ⦃ x ⦄$)\ \}$

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducible-embedding-sup-ident*:
  assumes $S \in \mathcal{O}\mathcal{J}$
  shows $S = \{\!\!\{ \bigsqcup S \}\!\!\}$
⟨*proof*⟩

Given that $\lambda\ x.\ \{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\}$ has a left and right inverse, we can show it is a *bijection*.

The bijection below is recognizable as a form of *Birkhoff's Representation Theorem* for finite distributive lattices.

theorem (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *birkhoffs-theorem*:
  bij-betw $(\lambda\ x.\ \{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\})$ *UNIV* $\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J}$
  ⟨*proof*⟩

3 Finite Ditributive Lattice Isomorphism

The form of Birkhoff's theorem presented in §2 simply gave a bijection between a finite distributive lattice and the downsets of its join-irreducible elements. This relationship can be extended to a full-blown *lattice homomorphism*. In particular we have the following properties:

- $\bot$ and $\top$ are preserved; specifically $\{\!\!\{ \bot \}\!\!\} = \{\}$ and $\{\!\!\{ \top \}\!\!\} = \mathcal{J}$.
- Order is preserved: $x \leq y = (\{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\} \subseteq \{\!\!\{ y \}\!\!\})$.
- $\lambda\ x\ .\ \{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\}$ is a lower complete semi-lattice homomorphism, mapping $\{\!\!\{ \bigsqcup X \}\!\!\} = (\bigcup x \in X\ .\ \{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\})$.
- In addition to preserving arbitrary joins, $\lambda\ x\ .\ \{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\}$ is a lattice homomorphism, since it also preserves finitary meets with $\{\!\!\{ x \sqcap y \}\!\!\} = \{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\} \cap \{\!\!\{ y \}\!\!\}$. Arbitrary meets are also preserved, but relative to a top element $\mathcal{J}$, or in other words $\{\!\!\{ \bigsqcap X \}\!\!\} = \mathcal{J} \cap (\bigcap x \in X.\ \{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\})$.
- In the case of a Boolean algebra, complementation corresponds to relative set complementation via $\{\!\!\{ -\ x \}\!\!\} = \mathcal{J} - \{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\}$.

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducibles-bot*:
  $\{\!\!\{ \bot \}\!\!\} = \{\}$
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducibles-top*:
  $\{\!\!\{ \top \}\!\!\} = \mathcal{J}$
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducibles-order-isomorphism*:
  $x \leq y = (\{\!\!\{ x \}\!\!\} \subseteq \{\!\!\{ y \}\!\!\})$
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducibles-join-homomorphism*:
$\{\!\!\{\ x \sqcup y\ \}\!\!\} = \{\!\!\{\ x\ \}\!\!\} \cup \{\!\!\{\ y\ \}\!\!\}$
⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducibles-sup-homomorphism*:
$\{\!\!\{\ \bigsqcup\ X\ \}\!\!\} = (\bigcup\ x \in X\ .\ \{\!\!\{\ x\ \}\!\!\})$
⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducibles-meet-homomorphism*:
$\{\!\!\{\ x \sqcap y\ \}\!\!\} = \{\!\!\{\ x\ \}\!\!\} \cap \{\!\!\{\ y\ \}\!\!\}$
⟨*proof*⟩

Arbitrary meets are also preserved, but relative to a top element $\mathcal{J}$.

lemma (**in** *finite-distrib-lattice*) *join-irreducibles-inf-homomorphism*:
$\{\!\!\{\ \bigsqcap\ X\ \}\!\!\} = \mathcal{J} \cap (\bigcap\ x \in X.\ \{\!\!\{\ x\ \}\!\!\})$
⟨*proof*⟩

Finally, we show that complementation is preserved.

To begin, we define the class of finite Boolean algebras. This class is simply an extension of *boolean-algebra*, extended with *finite UNIV* as per the axiom class *finite*. We also also extend the language of the class with *infima* and *suprema* (i.e. $\bigsqcap\ A$ and $\bigsqcup\ A$ respectively).

class *finite-boolean-algebra* = *boolean-algebra* + *finite* + *Inf* + *Sup* +
assumes *Inf-def*: $\bigsqcap\ A$ = *Finite-Set.fold* $(\sqcap)\ \top\ A$
assumes *Sup-def*: $\bigsqcup\ A$ = *Finite-Set.fold* $(\sqcup)\ \bot\ A$
begin

Finite Boolean algebras are trivially a subclass of finite distributive lattices, which are necessarily *complete*.

subclass *finite-distrib-lattice-complete*
⟨*proof*⟩

subclass *bounded-distrib-lattice-bot*
⟨*proof*⟩
end

lemma (**in** *finite-boolean-algebra*) *join-irreducibles-complement-homomorphism*:
$\{\!\!\{\ -\ x\ \}\!\!\} = \mathcal{J} - \{\!\!\{\ x\ \}\!\!\}$
⟨*proof*⟩

4 Cardinality

Another consequence of Birkhoff's theorem from §2 is that every finite Boolean algebra has a cardinality which is a power of two. This gives a bound on the number of atoms/join-prime/irreducible elements, which must be logarithmic in the size of the finite Boolean algebra they belong to.

We first show that $\mathcal{OJ}$, the downsets of the join-irreducible elements $\mathcal{J}$, are the same as the powerset of $\mathcal{J}$ in any finite Boolean algebra.

lemma (**in** *finite-boolean-algebra*) *$\mathcal{OJ}$-is-Pow-$\mathcal{J}$*:
  $\mathcal{OJ}$ = *Pow* $\mathcal{J}$
⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-boolean-algebra*) *UNIV-card*:
  card (*UNIV*::′*a set*) = *card* (*Pow* $\mathcal{J}$)
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma *finite-Pow-card*:
  assumes *finite X*
  shows *card* (*Pow X*) = *2 powr* (*card X*)
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-boolean-algebra*) *UNIV-card-powr-2*:
  card (*UNIV*::′*a set*) = *2 powr* (*card* $\mathcal{J}$)
  ⟨*proof*⟩

lemma (**in** *finite-boolean-algebra*) *join-irreducibles-card-log-2*:
  card $\mathcal{J}$ = *log 2* (*card* (*UNIV* :: ′*a set*))
⟨*proof*⟩

end

References

[1] G. Birkhoff. Rings of sets. *Duke Mathematical Journal*, 3(3):443–454, Sept. 1937.

[2] B. A. Davey and H. A. Priestley. Chapter 5. Representation: The finite case. In *Introduction to Lattices and Order*, pages 112–124. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK ; New York, NY, 2nd ed edition, 2002.