Definition (Design problem with implementation). A design problem with implementation (DPI) is a tuple

$$\langle F, R, I, \text{prov}, \text{req} \rangle$$

where:

- \triangleright F is a poset, called functionality space;
- \triangleright *R* is a poset, called *requirements space*;
- \triangleright *I* is a set, called *implementation space*;
- \triangleright the map prov: $I \rightarrow F$ maps an implementation to the functionality it provides;
- \triangleright the map req: $I \rightarrow R$ maps an implementation to the resources it requires.