

Birkhoff Duality

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Key sources: [nLab:Birkhoff duality](#)

Summary. Finite distributive lattices are dual to finite posets via ideals and sets of join-irreducibles.

Idea

Birkhoff duality identifies a finite distributive lattice with the poset of its join-irreducible elements, while the lattice itself is recovered as the lattice of order ideals of that poset. Morphisms become order-preserving maps in the opposite direction.

Definition 1 (Duality statement). Let FDLat be the category of finite distributive lattices and FPos the category of finite posets. The functor sending L to its poset of join-irreducibles $J(L)$ and P to its lattice of ideals $\text{Idl}(P)$ yields an equivalence $\text{FDLat} \simeq \text{FPos}^{\text{op}}$.

See also:

- [category](#)
- [functor](#)
- [natural transformation](#)

Incoming links:

- [dg algebra](#)

REFERENCES

- [nLab:Birkhoff duality](#) | [nLab:Birkhoff duality](#) |