

Birkhoff Duality

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 \mathbf{FDLat} be the category of finite distributive lattices and \mathbf{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 $\mathbf{Idl}(P)$ yields an equivalence $\mathbf{FDLat} \simeq \mathbf{FPos}^{\mathrm{op}}$.

See also:

- *category*
- *functor*
- *natural transformation*

Incoming links:

- *dg algebra*

REFERENCES

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