

Let δ be a proximity that is certain binary relation so that $A \delta B$ is defined for every sets A and B . We will extend it from sets to filter objects by the formula:

$$\mathcal{A} \delta' \mathcal{B} \Leftrightarrow \forall A \in \text{up } \mathcal{A}, B \in \text{up } \mathcal{B} : A \delta B.$$

Then (as it will be proved below) there exist two functions $\alpha, \beta \in \mathfrak{F}^{\delta}$ such that

$$\mathcal{A} \delta' \mathcal{B} \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{B} \cap^{\delta} \alpha \mathcal{A} \neq 0^{\delta} \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{A} \cap^{\delta} \beta \mathcal{B} \neq 0^{\delta}.$$

The pair $(\alpha; \beta)$ is called **funcoïd** when $\mathcal{B} \cap^{\delta} \alpha \mathcal{A} \neq 0^{\delta} \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{A} \cap^{\delta} \beta \mathcal{B} \neq 0^{\delta}$. So funcoïds are a generalization of proximity spaces.

Funcoïds consist of two components the first α and the second β . The first component of a funcoïd f is denoted as $\langle f \rangle$ and the second component is denoted as $\langle f^{-1} \rangle$. (The similarity of this notation with the notation for the image of a set under a function is not a coincidence, we will see that in the case of principal funcoïds (see below) these coincide.)

One of the most important properties of a funcoïd is that it is uniquely determined by just one of its components. That is a funcoïd f is uniquely determined by the function $\langle f \rangle$. Moreover a funcoïd f is uniquely determined by $\langle f \rangle |_{\mathcal{P} \cup \text{dom} \langle f \rangle}$ that is by values of function $\langle f \rangle$ on sets (if we equate principal filters with sets).

Next we will consider some examples of funcoïds determined by specified values of the first component on sets.

Funcoïds as a generalization of pretopological spaces: Let α be a pretopological space that is a map $\alpha \in \mathfrak{F}^{\mathcal{U}}$ for some set \mathcal{U} . Then we define $\alpha' X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup^{\delta} \{\alpha x \mid x \in X\}$ for every set $X \in \mathcal{P}\mathcal{U}$. We will prove that there exists a unique funcoïd f such that $\alpha' = \langle f \rangle |_{\mathcal{P}\mathcal{U}}$. So funcoïds are a generalization of pretopological spaces. Funcoïds are also a generalization of preclosure operators: For every preclosure operator p on a set \mathcal{U} it exists a unique funcoïd f such that $\langle f \rangle |_{\mathcal{P}\mathcal{U}} = \uparrow \circ p$.

For every binary relation p on a set \mathcal{U} it exists unique funcoïd f such that $\forall X \in \mathcal{P}\mathcal{U} : \langle f \rangle \uparrow X = \uparrow \langle p \rangle X$ (where $\langle p \rangle$ is defined in the introduction), recall that a funcoïd is uniquely determined by the values of its first component on sets. I will call such funcoïds **principal**. So funcoïds are a generalization of binary relations.

Composition of binary relations (i.e. of principal funcoïds) complies with the formulas:

$$\langle g \circ f \rangle = \langle g \rangle \circ \langle f \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \langle (g \circ f)^{-1} \rangle = \langle f^{-1} \rangle \circ \langle g^{-1} \rangle.$$

By the same formulas we can define composition of every two funcoïds. Funcoïds with this composition form a category (**the category of funcoïds**).

Also funcoïds can be reversed (like reversal of X and Y in a binary relation) by the formula $(\alpha; \beta)^{-1} = (\beta; \alpha)$. In particular case if μ is a proximity we have $\mu^{-1} = \mu$ because proximities are symmetric.

Funcoïds behave similarly to (multivalued) functions but acting on filter objects instead of acting on sets. Below these will be defined domain and image of a funcoïd (the domain and the image of a funcoïd are filter objects).