

- $2^\circ \Rightarrow 4^\circ$. Let our semilattice be atomically separable. Let $a \sqsubset b$. Then atoms $a \subset$ atoms b and there exists $c \in$ atoms b such that $c \notin$ atoms a . $c \neq \perp$ and $c \sqsubseteq b$, from which (taking into account that c is an atom) $c \sqsubseteq b$ and $c \sqcap a = \perp$. So our semilattice conforms to the formula (4).
- $4^\circ \Rightarrow 2^\circ$. Let formula (4) hold. Then for any elements $a \sqsubset b$ there exists $c \neq \perp$ such that $c \sqsubseteq b$ and $c \sqcap a = \perp$. Because \mathfrak{A} is atomic there exists atom $d \sqsubseteq c$. $d \in$ atoms b and $d \notin$ atoms a . So atoms $a \neq$ atoms b and atoms $a \subset$ atoms b . Consequently atoms $a \subset$ atoms b . □

THEOREM 181. Any atomistic meet-semilattice with least element is separable.

PROOF. From the above. □

3.2. Free Stars

DEFINITION 182. An *upper set* is such a set $F \in \mathcal{P}\mathfrak{J}$ that

$$\forall X \in F, Y \in \mathfrak{J} : (Y \sqsupseteq X \Rightarrow Y \in F).$$

DEFINITION 183. Let \mathfrak{A} be a poset. *Free stars* on \mathfrak{A} are such $S \in \mathcal{P}\mathfrak{A}$ that the least element (if it exists) is not in S and for every $X, Y \in \mathfrak{A}$

$$\forall Z \in \mathfrak{A} : (Z \sqsupseteq X \wedge Z \sqsupseteq Y \Rightarrow Z \in S) \Leftrightarrow X \in S \vee Y \in S.$$

PROPOSITION 184. $S \in \mathcal{P}\mathfrak{A}$ where \mathfrak{A} is a poset is a free star iff all of the following:

- 1°. The least element (if it exists) is not in S .
- 2°. $\forall Z \in \mathfrak{A} : (Z \sqsupseteq X \wedge Z \sqsupseteq Y \Rightarrow Z \in S) \Rightarrow X \in S \vee Y \in S$ for every $X, Y \in \mathfrak{A}$.
- 3°. S is an upper set.

PROOF.

- \Rightarrow . 1° and 2° are obvious. Let prove that S is an upper set. Let $X \in S$ and $X \sqsubseteq Y \in \mathfrak{A}$. Then $X \in S \vee Y \in S$ and thus $\forall Z \in \mathfrak{A} : (Z \sqsupseteq X \wedge Z \sqsupseteq X \Rightarrow Z \in S)$ that is $\forall Z \in \mathfrak{A} : (Z \sqsupseteq X \Rightarrow Z \in S)$, and so $Y \in S$.
- \Leftarrow . We need to prove that

$$\forall Z \in \mathfrak{A} : (Z \sqsupseteq X \wedge Z \sqsupseteq Y \Rightarrow Z \in S) \Leftrightarrow X \in S \vee Y \in S.$$

Let $X \in S \vee Y \in S$. Then $Z \sqsupseteq X \wedge Z \sqsupseteq Y \Rightarrow Z \in S$ for every $Z \in \mathfrak{A}$ because S is an upper set. □

PROPOSITION 185. Let \mathfrak{A} be a join-semilattice. $S \in \mathcal{P}\mathfrak{A}$ is a free star iff all of the following:

- 1°. The least element (if it exists) is not in S .
- 2°. $X \sqcup Y \in S \Rightarrow X \in S \vee Y \in S$ for every $X, Y \in \mathfrak{A}$.
- 3°. S is an upper set.

PROOF.

- \Rightarrow . We need to prove only $X \sqcup Y \in S \Rightarrow X \in S \vee Y \in S$. Let $X \sqcup Y \in S$. Because S is an upper set, we have $\forall Z \in \mathfrak{A} : (Z \sqsupseteq X \sqcup Y \Rightarrow Z \in S)$ and thus $\forall Z \in \mathfrak{A} : (Z \sqsupseteq X \wedge Z \sqsupseteq Y \Rightarrow Z \in S)$ from which we conclude $X \in S \vee Y \in S$.
- \Leftarrow . We need to prove $\forall Z \in \mathfrak{A} : (Z \sqsupseteq X \wedge Z \sqsupseteq Y \Rightarrow Z \in S) \Leftrightarrow X \in S \vee Y \in S$. But it trivially follows from that S is an upper set. □