

DEFINITION 104. *Atomistic poset* is such a poset that $a = \bigsqcup \text{atoms } a$ for every element a of this poset.

OBVIOUS 105. Every atomistic poset is atomic.

PROPOSITION 106. Let \mathfrak{A} be a poset. If a is an atom of \mathfrak{A} and $B \in \mathfrak{A}$ then

$$a \in \text{atoms } B \Leftrightarrow a \sqsubseteq B \Leftrightarrow a \not\prec B.$$

PROOF.

$a \in \text{atoms } B \Leftrightarrow a \sqsubseteq B$. Obvious.

$a \sqsubseteq B \Rightarrow a \not\prec B$. $a \sqsubseteq B \Rightarrow a \sqsubseteq a \wedge a \sqsubseteq B$, thus $a \not\prec B$ because a is not least.

$a \sqsubseteq B \Leftarrow a \not\prec B$. $a \not\prec B$ implies existence of non-least element x such that $x \sqsubseteq B$ and $x \sqsubseteq a$. Because a is an atom, we have $x = a$. So $a \sqsubseteq B$. □

THEOREM 107. A poset is atomistic iff every its element can be represented as join of atoms.

PROOF.

\Rightarrow . Obvious.

\Leftarrow . Let $a = \bigsqcup S$ where S is a set of atoms. We will prove that a is the least upper bound of atoms a .

That a is an upper bound of atoms a is obvious. Let x is an upper bound of atoms a . Then $x \supseteq \bigsqcup S$ because $S \subseteq \text{atoms } a$. Thus $x \supseteq a$. □

THEOREM 108. $\text{atoms } \prod S = \bigcap \langle \text{atoms} \rangle^* S$ whenever $\prod S$ is defined for every $S \in \mathcal{P}\mathfrak{A}$ where \mathfrak{A} is a poset.

PROOF. For any atom

$$\begin{aligned} c \in \text{atoms } \prod S &\Leftrightarrow \\ c \sqsubseteq \prod S &\Leftrightarrow \\ \forall a \in S : c \sqsubseteq a &\Leftrightarrow \\ \forall a \in S : c \in \text{atoms } a &\Leftrightarrow \\ c \in \bigcap \langle \text{atoms} \rangle^* S. & \end{aligned}$$

□

COROLLARY 109. $\text{atoms}(a \sqcap b) = \text{atoms } a \cap \text{atoms } b$ for an arbitrary meet-semilattice.

THEOREM 110. A complete boolean lattice is atomic iff it is atomistic.

PROOF.

\Leftarrow . Obvious.

\Rightarrow . Let \mathfrak{A} be an atomic boolean lattice. Let $a \in \mathfrak{A}$. Suppose $b = \bigsqcup \text{atoms } a \sqsubset a$. If $x \in \text{atoms}(a \setminus b)$ then $x \sqsubseteq a \setminus b$ and so $x \sqsubseteq a$ and hence $x \sqsubseteq b$. But we have $x = x \sqcap b \sqsubseteq (a \setminus b) \sqcap b = \perp$ what contradicts to our supposition. □

2.1.11. Kuratowski's lemma.

THEOREM 111. (KURATOWSKI'S lemma) Any chain in a poset is contained in a maximal chain (if we order chains by inclusion).

I will skip the proof of KURATOWSKI'S lemma as this proof can be found in any set theory or order theory reference.