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# REALIZATIONS OF TOPOLOGIES AND CLOSURE OPERATORS BY SET SYSTEMS AND BY NEIGHBOURHOODS

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*Dedicated to the memory of my friend Milan Sekanina*

**Abstract.** Milan Sekanina and his collaborators have investigated the realizability of topologies and of closure operators by set systems. In particular they have shown that Top has precisely two [8] and Clos has no [3, 7, 2] realization by set systems. Moreover Top and Clos have precisely one realization by Conv [10]. In this paper it is shown that Top has a large (even illegitimate) collection of realizations by neighbourhoods, but Clos has only one. Moreover Clos has precisely two realizations by uniform neighbourhoods.

**Key words:** realizations of constructs, topological space, closure space, (uniform) neighbourhood space.

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## TERMINOLOGY

*Constructs* are pairs  $(A, U)$  consisting of a category  $A$  and a faithful functor  $U: A \rightarrow \text{Set}$  [1]. A realization of a construct  $(A, U)$  by a construct  $(B, V)$  is a full embedding  $E: A \rightarrow B$  with  $U = V \circ E$  [6].

Top is the construct of topological spaces and continuous maps.

Clos is the construct of closure spaces (sets with a closure operation satisfying Kuratowski's axioms except possibly the idempotency axiom) and continuous (= closure-preserving) maps.

Neigh has as objects all *neighbourhood spaces*, i.e. pairs  $(X, N)$  where  $N: X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}\mathcal{P}X$  is a map, associating with any  $x \in X$  a collection  $N(x)$  of subsets  $U$  of  $X$  with  $x \in U$ ; and has as morphisms  $f: (X, N) \rightarrow (X', N')$  all maps  $f: X \rightarrow X'$  such that  $x \in X$  and  $U \in N'(f(x))$  imply  $f^{-1}[U] \in N(x)$ .

UNeigh has as objects all *uniform neighbourhood spaces*, i.e., pairs  $(X, <)$ , where  $<$  is a binary relation on  $\mathcal{P}X$  satisfying the

conditions (1)  $A < B \rightarrow A \subset B$

and (2)  $A \subset B < C \subset D \rightarrow A < D$ ,

and has as morphisms  $f: (X, <) \rightarrow (X', <')$  all maps  $f: X \rightarrow X'$  such that  $A <' B$  implies  $f^{-1}[A] < f^{-1}[B]$ .

SSet has as objects all pairs  $(X, \mathcal{S})$  with  $S \subset \mathcal{P}X$  and as morphisms  $f: (X, \mathcal{S}) \rightarrow (X', \mathcal{S}')$  all maps  $f: X \rightarrow X'$  such that  $A \in \mathcal{S}'$  implies  $f^{-1}[A] \in \mathcal{S}$ .

## RESULTS

**Proposition 1** [8]. *Top has precisely two realizations by SSet.*

**Proposition 2** [3, 7, 2]. *Clos has no realization by SSet.*

*Proof:* Assume that  $E: \text{Clos} \rightarrow \text{SSet}$  is a realization.

*Notation:*  $E(X, \text{cl}) = (X, \mathcal{S}(\text{cl}))$ . Then  $\bar{E}: \text{Clos} \rightarrow \text{SSet}$ , defined by  $\bar{E}(X, \text{cl}) = (X, \mathcal{S}(\text{cl}) \cup \{\emptyset, X\})$ , is a realization too. On a 3-element set  $X$  there are precisely  $4^3 = 64$  closure structures and precisely  $2^{(2^3-2)} = 64$  subsets  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $\mathcal{P}X$  with  $\{\emptyset, X\} \subset \mathcal{S}$ . Hence  $\bar{E}$  induces an order-isomorphism between the ordered sets  $F_1$  of all closure structures on  $X$  and  $F_2$  of all subsets  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $\mathcal{P}X$  with  $\{\emptyset, X\} \subset \mathcal{S}$ . Since  $F_1$  has precisely 3 atoms and  $F_2$  has 6, this cannot be.

**Proposition 3.** *Top has a proper class (even an illegitimate collection) of realizations by Neigh.*

*Proof:* Let  $C$  be a strongly rigid proper class of Hausdorff spaces with more than one point. (Such a class exists by [5, 4]; cf. also [11]). For every subclass  $\Gamma$  of  $C$  define a realization  $E_\Gamma: \text{Top} \rightarrow \text{Neigh}$  by  $E_\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}) = (X, N_\Gamma(\mathcal{O}))$  where  $U \in N_\Gamma(\mathcal{O})(x)$  provided  $U$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x$  in  $(X, \mathcal{O})$  or there exists  $(X', \mathcal{O}')$  in  $\Gamma$ , a continuous map  $f: (X, \mathcal{O}) \rightarrow (X', \mathcal{O}')$ , and a neighbourhood  $V$  of  $f(x)$  in  $(X', \mathcal{O}')$  with  $U = f^{-1}[V]$ .

The realizations  $E_\Gamma$  are pairwise different, since, if  $(X, \mathcal{O})$  belongs to  $\Gamma \setminus \Gamma'$ , then for any  $x \in X$ ,  $N_\Gamma(\mathcal{O})(x)$  consists of all neighbourhoods of  $x$  in  $(X, \mathcal{O})$  and  $N_{\Gamma'}(\mathcal{O})(x)$  consists of all open neighbourhoods of  $x$  in  $(X, \mathcal{O})$ .

**Proposition 4.** *Clos has precisely one realization by Neigh.*

*Proof:* For every closure space  $(X, \text{cl})$  define a map  $N_{\text{cl}}: X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}\mathcal{P}X$  by  $N_{\text{cl}}(x) = \{U \subset X \mid x \notin \text{cl}(X \setminus U)\}$ . Then  $E: \text{Clos} \rightarrow \text{Neigh}$ , defined by  $E(X, \text{cl}) = (X, N_{\text{cl}})$  is a realization.

For uniqueness, consider an arbitrary realization  $\tilde{E}: \text{Clos} \rightarrow \text{Neigh}$ .

*Notation:*  $\tilde{E}(X, \text{cl}) = (X, \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}})$ . Let  $(X, \text{cl})$  be a closure space. Then the following hold:

(a)  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(x) \neq \emptyset$  for every  $x \in X$ .

*Proof:* Assume  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(x_0) = \emptyset$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ . Let  $(X', \text{cl}')$  be an arbitrary closure space, let  $x$  be an arbitrary element of  $X'$ , and let  $f: X \rightarrow X'$  be the constant

map with value  $x$ . Then continuity of  $f: (X, \text{cl}) \rightarrow (X', \text{cl}')$  implies  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}'}(x) = \emptyset$ . This in turn implies that every map between closure spaces is a morphism. Contradiction.

(b)  $X \in \tilde{N}(x)$  for every  $x \in X$ .

Proof: This follows from (a), since every constant map between closure spaces is continuous

(c)  $X = \{1, 2\}$ :

(c1) if  $\text{cl}\{1\} = \text{cl}\{2\} = X$ , then  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1) = \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2) = \{X\}$ ,

(c2) if  $\text{cl}\{1\} = \{1\}$  and  $\text{cl}\{2\} = \{2\}$ , then  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1) = \{\{1\}, X\}$  and  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2) = \{\{2\}, X\}$ ,

(c3) if  $\text{cl}\{1\} = X$  and  $\text{cl}\{2\} = \{2\}$ , then one of the following two cases holds:

Case A:  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1) = \{\{1\}, X\}$  and  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2) = \{X\}$ ,

Case B:  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1) = \{X\}$  and  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2) = \{\{2\}, X\}$ .

Proof: follows immediately from the fact that, there are only 4 neighbourhood structures on  $\{1, 2\}$ , which satisfy (b).

(d)  $X = \{1, 2, 3\}$ : if  $\text{cl}\{1\} = \text{cl}\{2\} = X$  and  $\text{cl}\{3\} = \{2, 3\}$ , then one of the following two cases holds:

Case A:  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1) = \{\{1, 2\}, X\}$  and  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2) = \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(3) = \{X\}$ ,

Case B:  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1) = \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2) = \{X\}$  and  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(3) = \{X, \{2, 3\}\}$ .

Proof: Let  $(X', \text{cl}')$  be the indiscrete closure space with underlying set  $X' = \{1, 2\}$ . Then the maps  $f: (X', \text{cl}') \rightarrow (X, \text{cl})$ , defined by  $f(x) = x$ , and  $g: (X', \text{cl}') \rightarrow (X, \text{cl})$ , defined by  $g(x) = x + 1$ , are continuous. Hence, by (c1), we obtain:

if  $U \in \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1)$ , then  $2 \in U$ ,

if  $U \in \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2)$ , then  $1 \in U$ ,

if  $U \in \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2)$ , then  $3 \in U$ ,

if  $U \in \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(3)$ , then  $2 \in U$ .

Next, let  $(\bar{X}, \bar{\text{cl}})$  be the closure space, defined by  $\bar{X} = \{1, 3\}$ ,  $\bar{\text{cl}}\{1\} = \bar{X}$  and  $\bar{\text{cl}}\{3\} = \{3\}$ . Then the map  $h: (\bar{X}, \bar{\text{cl}}) \rightarrow (X, \text{cl})$ , defined by  $h(x) = x$ , is continuous. Hence, by (c3), one of the following cases must hold:

Case A:  $U \in \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(3) \rightarrow 1 \in U$ ,

Case B:  $U \in \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1) \rightarrow 3 \in U$ .

Since  $(X, \text{cl})$  is not indiscrete,  $\tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(1) = \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(2) = \tilde{N}_{\text{cl}}(3) = \{X\}$  cannot hold. This implies (d).

(e) Case B cannot hold.

Proof: Assume that case B holds. Let  $(X, \text{cl})$  be as in (d), let  $(X', \text{cl}')$  be an arbitrary closure space, let  $x$  be an element of  $X'$ , let  $U$  be a subset of  $X'$  with  $x \in U$ , and let  $f: X' \rightarrow X$  be defined by

$$f(y) = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } y = x, \\ 2, & \text{if } y \in U \setminus \{x\}, \\ 1, & \text{if } y \in X' \setminus U. \end{cases}$$

Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $U \in \tilde{N}_{cl'}(x),$
- (2)  $f: (X', \tilde{N}_{cl'}) \rightarrow (X, \tilde{N}_{cl})$  is a morphism in Neigh,
- (3)  $f: (X', cl') \rightarrow (X, cl)$  is continuous,
- (4)  $cl'\{x\} \subset U.$

Hence in particular, if  $(X', cl')$  is a topological  $T_1$ -space, then  $\tilde{N}_{cl'}(x) = \{U \subset X \mid x \in U\}$  for every  $x \in X'$ . Since there exist different  $T_1$ -topologies on an infinite set,  $\tilde{E}$  is not injective on objects. Contradiction.

(f)  $\tilde{E} = E.$

Proof: In view of (e), Case A must hold. Again, let  $(X, cl)$  be as in (d) let  $(X', cl')$  be an arbitrary closure space, let  $x$  be an element of  $X'$ , let  $U$  be a subset of  $X'$  with  $x \in U$ , and let  $f: X' \rightarrow Y$  be defined by

$$f(y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } y = x, \\ 2, & \text{if } y \in U \setminus \{x\}, \\ 3, & \text{if } y \in X' \setminus U. \end{cases}$$

Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $U \in \tilde{N}_{cl'}(x),$
- (2)  $f: (X', \tilde{N}_{cl'}) \rightarrow (X, \tilde{N}_{cl})$  is a morphism in Neigh,
- (3)  $f: (X', cl') \rightarrow (X, cl)$  is continuous,
- (4)  $x \notin cl'(X \setminus U).$

Thus  $\tilde{N}_{cl} = N_{cl}$ , i.e.,  $\tilde{E} = E.$

**Proposition 5.** *Clos has precisely two realizations by UNeigh.*

Proof. As in the proof of Proposition 4, two cases arise. Case A leads to the realization  $E_1: \text{Clos} \rightarrow \text{UNeigh}$ , defined by  $E_1(X, cl) = (X, <_1(cl))$ , where  $A <_1(cl) B$  iff  $A \cap cl(X \setminus B) = \emptyset$ , i.e., iff  $B$  is a neighbourhood of  $A$  in the familiar sense. Case B does not lead to a contradiction but to the realization  $E_2: \text{Clos} \rightarrow \text{UNeigh}$ , defined by  $E_2(X, cl) = (X, <_2(cl))$  where  $A <_2(cl) B$  iff  $(X \setminus B) \cap cl A = \emptyset$ , i.e., iff  $X \setminus A$  is a neighbourhood of  $X \setminus B$  in the familiar sense.

Remark. Since the construct Rere of reflexive relations has a realization  $E: \text{Rere} \rightarrow \text{Clos}$ , given by

$$x \in cl A \leftrightarrow \exists a \in A \ a q x,$$

since the restriction of  $E$  to objects with finite underlying sets is an isomorphism, and since the proof of Proposition 5 depends only on finite closure space, Rere has precisely two realizations in  $UNeigh$  (resp. in  $Neigh$ ).

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