

2) The graphs $G = \{u, v, w\}$ with the edges $u \rightarrow v, u \rightarrow w, v \rightarrow w$ and $G' = \{q, r, s, t\}$ with edges $q \rightarrow r, q \rightarrow s, q \rightarrow t, r \rightarrow s, r \rightarrow t, s \rightarrow t$ are examples of almost complete graphs. Moreover, the sets $\{u, v, w\}, \{q, r, s, t\}$ are examples of totally headed (i.e. totally tailed) subsets. Their compatible orders are, respectively, $u < v < w, q < r < s < t$.

3) In the graphs $G = \{f, g, h\}$ with the edges $f \rightarrow g, g \rightarrow h, h \rightarrow f$ and $G' = \{l, m, n, p\}$ with the edges $l \rightarrow m, l \rightarrow n, m \rightarrow n, m \rightarrow p, n \rightarrow l, n \rightarrow p, p \rightarrow l, p \rightarrow m$ the sets $\{f, g, h\}$ and $\{l, m, n, p\}$ are examples of non-headed minimal (i.e. non-tailed minimal) subsets.

2) Singularities of a regular function.

PROPOSITION 7. - Let S be a topological space, G a finite directed graph, $f : S \rightarrow G$ an o -regular function from S to G and $X = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ a non-headed subset of G ($n \geq 2$). Then it holds:

$$V_1^f \cap \overline{V_2^f} \cap \dots \cap \overline{V_n^f} = \phi;$$

$$\overline{V_1^f} \cap V_2^f \cap \dots \cap \overline{V_n^f} = \phi$$

.....

$$\overline{V_1^f} \cap \dots \cap \overline{V_{n-1}^f} \cap V_n^f = \phi$$

Proof. - Since X is a non-headed subset, there is no vertex v_i , which is a predecessor of all the other $n-1$ vertices. Then, for every $i = 1, \dots, n$ let w_i be a vertex such that $v_i \not\rightarrow w_i$. From o -regularity of f it is

$v_i \cap \overline{w_i} = \phi$. Since w_i is one of the vertices $v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n$, it

follows $\overline{V_1^f} \cap \dots \cap \overline{V_{i-1}^f} \cap V_i^f \cap \overline{V_{i+1}^f} \cap \dots \cap \overline{V_n^f} = \phi$.

DEFINITION 5. - Let S be a topological space, G a finite directed

graph, $f : S \rightarrow G$ an o -regular (resp. o^* -regular) function from S to G and $X = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ a n -tuple of vertices of G with $n \geq 2$.

Then X is called a singularity of f or a singular set of f if:

i) X is non-headed (resp. non-tailed);

ii) $\overline{V_1^f} \cap \overline{V_2^f} \cap \dots \cap \overline{V_n^f} \neq \emptyset$.

Moreover, X is called a proper singularity of f if i) is replaced by:

i') X is non-headed minimal (i.e. non-tailed minimal).

Finally, the closed set $\overline{V_1^f} \cap \overline{V_2^f} \cap \dots \cap \overline{V_n^f}$ is called the support of the singularity.

PROPOSITION 8. - If $X = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a singularity of f , then X has an empty intersection with the image of its support, i.e. $f(\overline{V_1^f} \cap \dots \cap \overline{V_n^f}) \cap X = \emptyset$.

Proof. - It follows from Proposition 7.

REMARK. - Since every non-headed (non-tailed) subset of G includes a non-headed minimal (non-tailed minimal) subset of G , every singularity includes a proper singularity, Hence, every singular couple is a proper singularity.

DEFINITION 6. - Let S be a topological space, G a finite directed graph and $f : S \rightarrow G$ an o -regular (resp. o^* -regular) function from S to G . The function f is called completely o -regular (resp. completely o^* -regular) or simply $c.o$ -regular (resp. $c.o^*$ -regular), if there are no singularities of f .

We note that Definitions 5,6 can be extended to undirected graphs. Then it follows:

PROPOSITION 9. - Let S be a topological space and G a finite undirected graph. Then a strongly regular function (see [5], Definition 3) $f : S \rightarrow G$ from S to G is also c .regular.

Proof. - By definition of strongly regular function there is no singular couple of vertices. Besides, by Proposition 6, there does not exist any non-headed minimal n -tuple with $n > 2$, then there are no proper singularities of f . Hence, by Remark to Proposition 8, f is c. regular.

DEFINITION 7. - Let S be a topological space, S' a subspace of S , G a finite directed graph, G' a subgraph of G and $f : S, S' \rightarrow G, G'$ a function from the pair S, S' to the pair G, G' . The function f is called completely o-regular (resp. completely o^* -regular) or simply c.o-regular (resp. $c.o^*$ -regular), if both $f : S \rightarrow G$ and its restriction $f' : S' \rightarrow G'$ are c.o-regular (resp. $c.o^*$ -regular).

REMARK. - If S'' is a subspace of S' , G'' a subgraph of G including G' , $f : S, S' \rightarrow G, G'$ a c.o-regular (resp. $c.o^*$ -regular) function, then also the functions $f : S, S'' \rightarrow G, G'$, $f : S, S' \rightarrow G, G''$ and $f : S, S'' \rightarrow G, G''$ are c.o-regular (resp. $c.o^*$ -regular).

PROPOSITION 10. - Every strongly regular function from a pair of topological spaces S, S' to a pair of finite undirected graphs G, G' is also c. regular.

3) The first normalization theorem.

PROPOSITION 11. - Let S be a normal topological space, G a finite directed graph, $f : S \rightarrow G$ an o-regular function from S to G and $X = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ a singularity of f . Then there exists an o-regular function g from S to G , which is o-homotopic to f and such that: