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Jesse Elliott* (jesse.elliott@csuci.edu), 305 Channel Islands Drive, Camarillo, CA 93012.

Functorial properties of star operations.

We define a *universal star operation* to be an assignment $*$: $A \mapsto *_A$ of a star operation $*_A$ on A to every integral domain A . Prime examples of universal star operations include the divisorial closure star operation v , the t -closure star operation t , and the star operation $w = F_\infty$ of Hedstrom and Houston. For any universal star operation $*$, we say that an extension $B \supset A$ of integral domains is **-ideal class linked* if there is a group homomorphism $\text{Cl}_{*_A}(A) \rightarrow \text{Cl}_{*_B}(B)$ of star class groups induced by the map $I \mapsto (IB)^{*_B}$ on the set of $*_A$ -ideals I of A . We study several natural subclasses of the class of *-ideal class linked extensions. (Received August 31, 2009)