# Structured Sets

CS1200, CSE IIT Madras

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April 21, 2020

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Structured Sets

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# Structured Sets

- Relational Structures
  - Properties and closures  $\checkmark$
  - Equivalence Relations  $\checkmark$
  - Partially Ordered Sets (Posets) and Lattices
- Algebraic Structures
  - Groups and Rings

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- $S_1$  all words in English dictionary.
- Relation R<sub>1</sub> on S<sub>1</sub>:
  - (w<sub>1</sub>, w<sub>2</sub>) ∈ R<sub>1</sub> if w<sub>1</sub> = w<sub>2</sub> or w<sub>1</sub> appears before w<sub>2</sub> in dictionary.
- *S*<sub>2</sub> all subsets of {*a*, *b*, *c*}.
- Relation R<sub>2</sub> on S<sub>2</sub>:
  - $(X, Y) \in R_2$  if  $X \subseteq Y$ .

**Defn:** If R on set S is reflexive, and anti-symmetric, and transitive, then R is a partial ordering on set S. Set S along with R is known as a partially ordered set or poset.

 $a \leq b$  is used to denote  $(a, b) \in R$  when R is reflexive, anti-symmetric and transitive.

#### Examples:

- "divides" on a set  $\{1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 24\}$ .
- x is older than y on a set of people.
- $\leq$  on the set  $Z^+$ .

 $S = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, \dots, c_n\}.$   $R = \{ (c_i, c_j) \mid (c_i = c_j) \text{ or } c_i \text{ is a pre-requisite for } c_j \}$ 

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- Comparable elements.
- Minimal elements.
- Least element (if exists).

• Chain and Anti-chain.

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- Is this order unique? No. Write down another order.

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• Output  $b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n$  as the total order.

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- S' = {*Prob.Th., Algo, Adv.Algo*} a maximal chain but not longest.

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Anti-chain: A subset  $S' \subseteq S$  such that every pair of elements in S' is incomparable.

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- $S' = \{Adv.DS, Algo, Adv.Prob.\}$ is the longest anti-chain.

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## Relation between Chains and Anti-chain

A finite poset  $(S, \leq)$  and let k be the length of the longest anti-chain.

Claim: The set S can be partitioned as k chains.

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• Is it true for every poset? Ex: Attempt a proof.

• either a list of m + 1 people such that every person in the list (except the first one) is a descendant of the previous person in the list, or

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**Proof**: Let *S* be the set of mn + 1 people.

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**Proof:** Let S be the set of mn + 1 people. Define  $a \leq b$  if either a = b or a is descendant of b.

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Let set  $S' \subseteq S$  of people be such that for every pair a, b in S', neither is a descendant of the other. Furthermore S' be the largest such set.

If |S'| = n + 1, we are done. Else let  $|S'| = k \le n$ .

- either a list of m + 1 people such that every person in the list (except the first one) is a descendant of the previous person in the list, or
- there is a set of n + 1 people such that there is no pair in this set where one person is a descendant of the other.

**Proof:** Let S be the set of mn + 1 people. Define  $a \leq b$  if either a = b or a is descendant of b. Argue that  $(S, \leq)$  is a poset.

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This completes the proof.

## Posets with additional Properties

A poset  $(S, \preceq)$  and let  $S' \subseteq S$ .

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Structured Sets

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Upper bound of S': An element  $u \in S$  (if it exists) such that  $a \preceq u$  for every  $a \in S'$ .

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Structured Sets
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• The set S' has no lower bound and hence no glb.

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## Lattice: Poset with additional Properties

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## Lattice: Poset with additional Properties

A poset  $(S, \preceq)$  such that every pair of elements has a both an lub and glb is called a lattice.

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## Lattice: Poset with additional Properties

A poset  $(S, \preceq)$  such that every pair of elements has a both an lub and glb is called a lattice.

Examples:

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Examples:

- $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, (a, b) \in R$  if a divides b.
  - Verify that (S, R) is a poset.

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- Verify that (S, R) is a poset.
- For the pair (2, 3), we see that 1 is a glb, but the pair has no upper bounds and hence no lub.

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- Verify that (S, R) is a poset.
- For the pair (2, 3), we see that 1 is a glb, but the pair has no upper bounds and hence no lub.
- Hence (S, R) is a poset but not a lattice.

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Ex: Read Example 25 in Section 9.6[KR] for application of lattices.

## Summary

- Posets and properties.
- Chains and Anti-chains and useful relations between size of longest one and "covers" by the other.
- Posets with additional properties : Lattices.
- Reference: Section 9.6 [KR]

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