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Discrete Mathematics

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CHAPTER FIVE:  
RELATIONS

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## SECTION 5.5: Order Relations.

Definition:

A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **partial relation** if it reflexive, transitive, and anti-symmetric.

The set  $A$  under this relation is called partially ordered set (poset)

Example:

Let  $A = \mathbb{Z}$  and define the relation  $R$  on  $A$  by  $xRy$  if  $x \leq y$

- $x \leq x$ , for all  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\Rightarrow xR_x \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$\therefore$  reflexive

- $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z \Rightarrow x \leq z$

$\therefore$  transitive

- $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x \Rightarrow x = y$

$\therefore$  anti-symmetric

$\therefore R$  is partial order and  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a poset

If  $xRy$  then we write  $x \leq y$  and say  **$x$  precedes  $y$** .

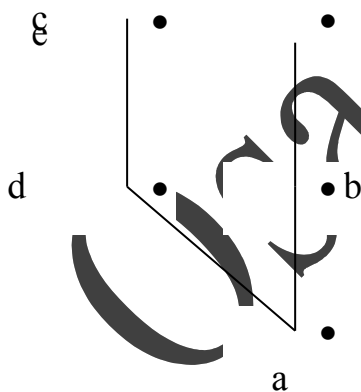
Example:

Let  $A = \{ a, b, c, d, e \}$  and

$$R = \{ (a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (d, d), (e, e), (a, b), (b, c), (a, c), (a, d), (d, e), (a, e) \}$$

$R$  is partial order on  $A$

- the Hasse diagram of this relation is given by:

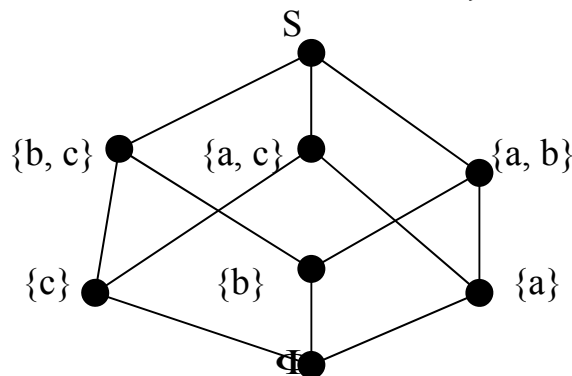


An order relation can be represented by a diagram called Hasse diagram we omit the self loops and the arrows implied by transitivity and if  $(a, b) \in R$ , then  $b$  is above  $a$ .

Example:

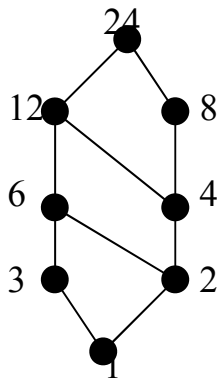
Let  $S = \{ a, b, c \}$ , then  $[ P(S) \in, \subseteq ]$  is a poset  $A R_B$  iff  $A \subseteq B$

$P(S) = \{ \Phi, S, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\} \}$



Example:

Let  $A = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24 \}$  and let  $\leq$  be the relation defined by  $x \leq y$  ( $x$  precedes  $y$ ) iff  $x|y$  ( $x$  divides  $y$ ), draw the Hasse diagram for this relation.



Definition:

A partial order  $\leq$  (precedes) on a set  $A$  is said to be total order if every pair of elements  $x, y \in A$  either  $x \leq y$  or  $y \leq x$  ( $x$  precedes  $y$ ), in this case the set  $A$  is called totally ordered set under this relation.

Definition:

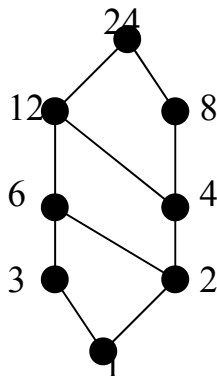
Suppose  $A$  is a poset under  $\leq$  (precedes) and suppose that  $t \in A$  and  $x \leq t$  ( $x$  precedes  $t$ ) for all  $x \in A$  we call  $t$  greatest elements and suppose that  $w \in A$  and  $w \leq x$  ( $w$  precedes  $x$ ) for all  $x \in A$  we call  $w$  least elements.

Definition:

A totally ordered set is called well – ordered iff every subset of  $A$  has a least element.

Example:

Let  $A = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24 \}$  and let  $\leq$  be the relation defined by  $x \leq y$  ( $x$  precedes  $y$ ) iff  $x|y$  ( $x$  divides  $y$ ), draw the Hasse diagram for this relation.



$B = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24 \} \rightarrow$  called totally ordered

$C = \{ 1, 2, 6, 12 \} \rightarrow$  called NOT totally ordered

$D = \{ 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 \} \rightarrow$  called NOT totally ordered

1: least element

has NO greatest element

$E = \{ 3, 6, 8, 12, 24 \} \rightarrow$  called NOT totally ordered

Has NO least element

24: greatest element

Example:

$(\mathbb{N}, \leq \text{(precedes)})$  totally order, and well ordered

1: least element

has NO greatest element

Example:

$(\mathbb{Z}, \leq \text{(precedes)})$  totally order, and NOT well ordered

Has NO least element

And  $\{ x \in \mathbb{Z} : x \leq 0 \}$

Definition:

Let  $A$  be a poset under  $\leq$  (precedes), let  $S$  be a subset of  $A$ , an element  $x \in A$  is called an upper bound of  $S$  iff  $S \leq x$  ( $S$  precedes  $x$ ) for all  $s \in S$ .

An element  $y \in A$  is called a lower bound of  $S$  iff  $y \leq S$  ( $y$  precedes  $S$ ) for all  $s \in S$ .

$(A, \leq)$  poset and  $S \subseteq A$

Definition:

An element  $z \in A$  is called **least upper bound** of  $S$  if  $z$  is an upper bound of  $S$ , and  $z \leq x$  ( $z$  precedes  $x$ ) for all upper bound  $x$ , denoted by **L.u.b**  $S$

An element  $w \in A$  is called **greatest lower bound** of  $S$  if  $w$  is a lower bound of  $S$ , and  $x \leq w$  ( $x$  precedes  $w$ ) for all lower bound  $x$ , denoted by **g.l.b**  $S$

Example:

Let  $A = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24 \}$  and let  $\leq$  be the relation defined by  $x \leq y$  ( $x$  precedes  $y$ ) iff  $x|y$  ( $x$  divide  $y$ ).

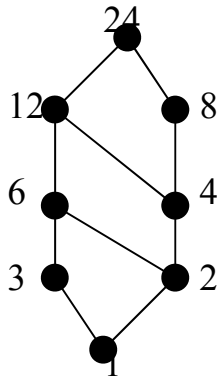
$S = \{ 2, 4, 12 \}$

The upper bound of  $S = \{ 12, 24 \}$

The least upper bound (L.u.b) =  $\{ 12 \}$

The lower bound of  $S = \{ 1, 2 \}$

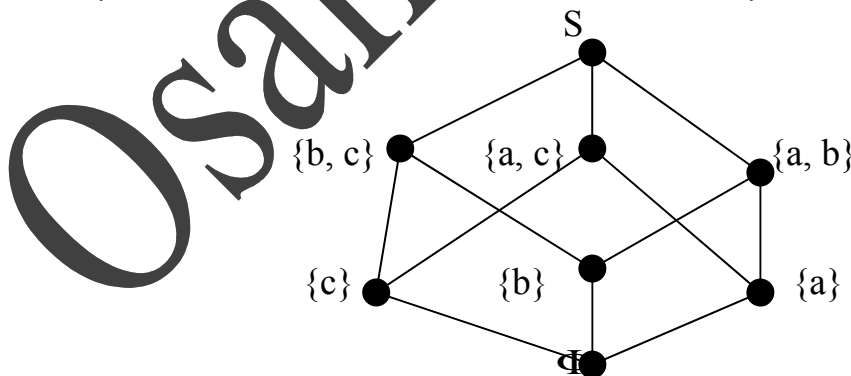
The greatest lower bound (g.l.b) =  $\{ 2 \}$



Example:

Let  $S = \{ a, b, c \}$ , then  $(P(S), \subseteq)$  is a poset  $A R_B$  iff  $A \subseteq B$

$P(S) = \{ \Phi, S, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\} \}$



$S = \{ \{b\}, \{b, c\} \}$

The upper bound of  $S = \{ A, \{b, c\} \}$

The least upper bound (L.u.b) =  $\{ a, b \}$

The lower bound of  $S = \{ \Phi, \{b\} \}$

The greatest lower bound (g.l.b) =  $\{ \{b\} \}$

Example:

Let  $(N, \leq)$  (precedes) be a poset

Let  $S = \{ 4, 5 \}$

The upper bound of  $S = \{ 5, 6, 7, 8, \dots \}$

The least upper bound (L.u.b) =  $\{ 5 \}$

The lower bound of  $S = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$

The greatest lower bound (g.l.b) =  $\{ 4 \}$

Example:

Let  $(R, \leq)$  (precedes) be a poset

Let  $S = \{ x: 0 < x < 1 \}$

The upper bound of  $S = \{ x: 1 \leq x \} = [ 1, \infty )$

The least upper bound (L.u.b) =  $\{ 1 \}$

The lower bound of  $S = (-\infty, 0]$

The greatest lower bound (g.l.b) =  $\{ 0 \}$

Definition:

A poset  $(A, \leq)$  (precedes) is called Lattice iff every subset of exactly two elements has a greatest lower bound (g.l.b) and least upper bound (L.u.b)

Example:

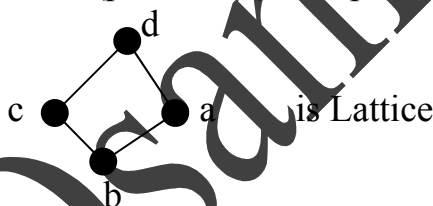
$(R, \leq)$  (precedes)

$(N, \leq)$  (precedes) are all Lattices

$(Z, \leq)$  (precedes)

Example:

Let  $(A, \leq)$  (precedes) be a poset with the diagram



The least upper bound (L.u.b) for  $(a, b) = \{ a \}$

The greatest lower bound (g.l.b) for  $(a, b) = \{ d \}$

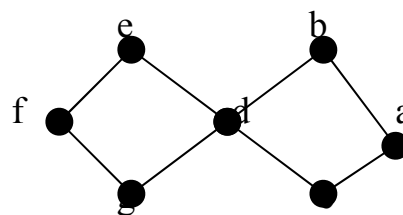
Example:

Let the diagram of a poset be given by:

Not Lattice

Has no least upper bound (L.u.b)

Has no greatest lower bound (g.l.b)



Example:

Let  $(\mathbb{N}, \leq)$  (precedes) and let  $n \leq m$  ( $n$  precedes  $m$ ) iff  $n|m$  ( $n$  divide  $m$ ).

$S = \{ 2, 3 \}$

The upper bound of  $S = \{ 6, 12, 18, 24, \dots \}$

The least upper bound (L.u.b) =  $\{ 6 \}$

The lower bound of  $S = \{ 1 \}$

The greatest lower bound (g.l.b) =  $\{ 1 \}$

Clarification of the previous example:

Let  $S = \{ a, b \}$

The upper bound of  $S = \{ ab, 2ab, 3ab, 4ab, \dots \}$

The least upper bound (L.u.b) =  $\{ a, b \}$

The greatest lower bound (g.l.b) =  $\{ a, b \}$

The least upper bound (L.u.b) = Least common multiple (L.C.M) =  $\{ a, b \}$

The greatest lower bound (g.l.b) = Greatest common divisor (G.C.D) =  $\{ a, b \}$

Definition:

Let  $(A, \leq)$  (precedes) Lattice and  $x, y \in A$  then

We denoted least upper bound (L.u.b) of  $\{x, y\}$  by  $x \vee y$  and call is join of  $x$  and  $y$ , and we denoted greatest lower bound (g.l.b) of  $\{x, y\}$  by  $x \wedge y$  and call it the meet of  $x$  and  $y$

Theorem:

Let  $A$  be a lattice, and  $x, y, z \in A$ , then

- a.  $x \wedge x = x$
- b.  $x \vee x = x$
- c.  $x \vee y = y \vee x$
- d.  $x \wedge y = y \wedge x$
- e.  $x \wedge (y \wedge z) = (x \wedge y) \wedge z$
- f.  $x \vee (y \vee z) = (x \vee y) \vee z$

Example:

Let  $(P(A), \leq)$  (precedes) is a poset

$S, T \in P(A)$

$S \wedge T =$  greatest lower bound (g.l.b) =  $(S \cap T)$

$S \vee T =$  least upper bound (L.u.b) =  $(S \cup T)$



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