

# Posets and lattices

Two examples:

(1) The subset lattice

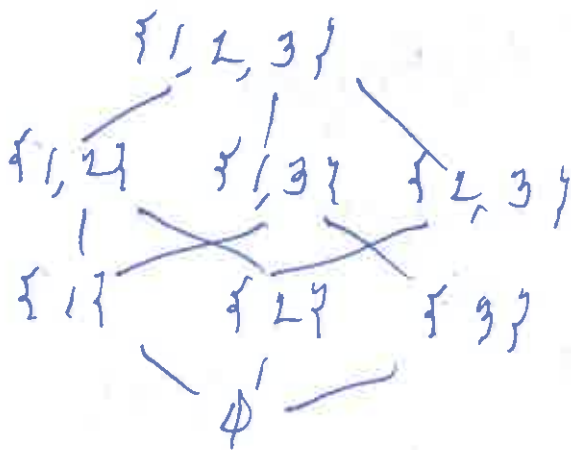
Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ . The subset lattice is

$$\mathcal{S}_n = \{ \text{subsds of } \{1, \dots, n\} \}$$

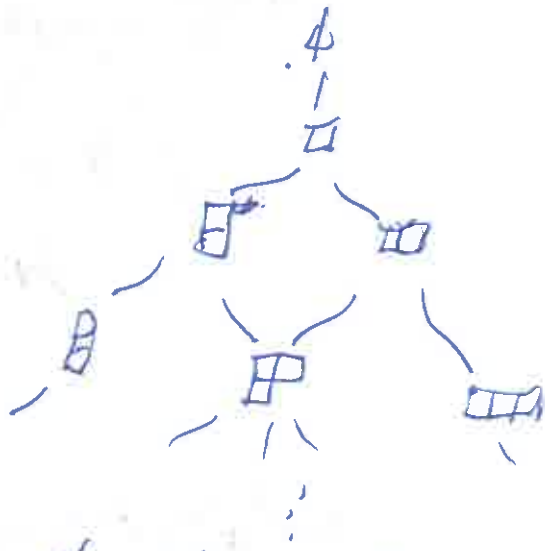
with partial order given by inclusion.

(2) The Young lattice is

$\mathcal{Y} = \{ \text{partitions} \}$  with partial order given by inclusion.



The subset lattice  $\mathcal{S}_3$



The Young lattice  $\mathcal{Y}$

then

$$\mathcal{S}(n) = \bigsqcup_{k=0}^n \mathcal{S}(n)_k$$

$$\mathcal{S}(n)_k = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{subsds of } \{1, \dots, n\} \\ \text{with cardinality } k \end{array} \right\}$$

with  $\text{Card}(\mathcal{S}(n)_k) = \binom{n}{k}$

and

$$\mathcal{Y} = \bigsqcup_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{Y}_k$$

where  $\mathcal{Y}_k = \{ \text{partitions with } k \text{ boxes} \}$

31.10.2024

ADM

(2)  
L4  
W2L7

## Posets and lattices

Let  $S$  be a set.

A relation on  $S$  is a subset of  $S \times S$

Write  $x \leq y$  if  $(x, y) \in \leq$ .

A partially ordered set is a set  $P$  with a relation  $\leq$  on  $P$  such that

(a) If  $x \in P$  then  $x \leq x$

(b) If  $x, y, z \in P$  and  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z$  then  $x \leq z$

(c) If  $x, y \in P$  and  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$  then  $x = y$ .

The Hasse diagram of  $P$  is the graph with

Vertices:  $P$

Edges:  $x \rightarrow y$  if  $x \leq y$

A maximal chain in  $P$  is a function

$\mathbb{Z}_{>0} \rightarrow P$   
 $i \mapsto x_i$  such that

(a) If  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  then  $x_i < x_{i+1}$

(b) There does not exist  $y \in P$  such that  $x_i < y < x_{i+1}$ .

31.10.2024 (3)  
ADM LH  
WHL

## Lattices

Let  $P$  be a poset and  $E \subseteq P$ .

The infimum, or greatest lower bound, of  $E$  in  $P$  is  $l \in P$  such that

(a) If  $p \in E$  then  $l \leq p$

(b) If  $m \in P$  and  $m$  satisfies  
if  $p \in E$  then  $m \leq p$   
then  $m \leq l$ .

The supremum, or least upper bound, of  $E$  in  $P$  is  $s \in P$  such that

(a) If  $p \in E$  then  $p \leq s$

(b) If  $t \in P$  and  $t$  satisfies  
if  $p \in E$  then  $p \leq t$   
then  $s \leq t$ .

If  $x \in E$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in P$ ,  
Use notation  $\inf(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \inf(\{x_1, \dots, x_k\})$   
and  $\sup(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \sup(\{x_1, \dots, x_k\})$ .

A lattice is a poset  $P$  such that  
if  $x, y \in P$  then  $\inf(x, y)$  and  $\sup(x, y)$   
exist in  $P$ .

## Modular lattices

Let  $P$  be a lattice. Use the notation  
 $x \wedge y = \inf(x, y)$  and  $x \vee y = \sup(x, y)$ ,  
and the language  $x \wedge y$  is "x meet y"  
and  $x \vee y$  is "x join y"

A modular lattice is a lattice  $P$  such that  
if  $m, n, p \in P$  and  $p \leq m$  then  
 $m \vee (n \wedge p) = (m \vee n) \wedge p$ .

Theorem Let  $A$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra and let  
 $V$  be an  $A$ -module.

Let  $\mathcal{G}(V) = \{ \text{submodules of } V \}$   
partially ordered by inclusion.

Then  $\mathcal{G}(V)$  is a modular lattice.

Proposition Let  $A$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra and  
let  $V$  be an  $A$ -module.

Let  $M, N, P \in \mathcal{G}(V)$

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ADM L4  
WLL

(a) (infimums exist)

$$\inf(M, N) = M \cap N = \{v \in V \mid v \in M \text{ and } v \in N\}$$

(b) (supremums exist)

$$\sup(M, N) = M + N = \{m + n \mid m \in M \text{ and } n \in N\}$$

(c) (modular law) If  $P \subseteq M$  then

$$M + (N \cap P) = (M + N) \cap P$$

(d) (modular property)

$$\frac{M + N}{M} = \frac{N}{M \cap N}$$

Proposition Let  $A = \mathbb{F}_2$  and let

$V$  be an  $A$ -module so that  $V \cong \mathbb{F}_2^n$  where  $n = \dim(V)$  as an  $\mathbb{F}_2$ -vector space. Then

$$\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{F}_2^n) = \bigsqcup_{k=0}^n \mathbb{G}(\mathbb{F}_2^k)$$

where  $\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{F}_2^k) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{F}_2\text{-subspaces } W \text{ of } \mathbb{F}_2^n \\ \text{with } \dim(W) = k \end{array} \right\}$ .

and

$$\text{Card}(\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{F}_2^k)) = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}$$