

Week 11 Mon/Wed Started here

Continue Section 16.2 The Möbius Function of a Poset

Review last week:

The set  $U_n := \{n \times n \text{ upper triangular matrices}\}$

forms an algebra with

- addition: usual matrix addition
- multiplication: usual matrix multiplication.

**Prop 1** If  $F = (f_{i,j})_{\substack{\text{row } i \\ \text{col } j}} \times G = (g_{i,j}) \in U_n,$

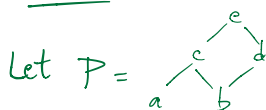
then the  $(i,j)$  entry of  $F \cdot G$  is the sum because  $f_{i,j} = 0 = g_{i,j}$  if  $i > j$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{i,1}g_{1,j} + f_{i,2}g_{2,j} + \dots + f_{i,n}g_{n,j} &= f_{i,i}g_{i,j} + f_{i,i+1}g_{i+1,j} + \dots + f_{i,j}g_{j,j} \\
 &= \sum_{k=i}^j f_{i,k}g_{k,j} \\
 &= \sum_{i \leq k \leq j} f_{i,k}g_{k,j}
 \end{aligned}$$

The multiplicative identity of  $U_n$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  because  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix} F = F \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \forall F \in U_n.$

**Def:** Let  $\text{Int}(P)$  denote the set of all NONEMPTY intervals of  $P$ .

Ex



**Tasks for students**

- List all intervals in the set  $\text{Int}(P)$
- How many are there?

Note to Ningwei:  
This poset is from Stanley EC1 (1st ed) Sec 3.6 pg 261

Answer

[a,a]		[a,c]		[a,e]
	[b,b]	[b,c]	[b,d]	[b,e]
		[c,c]		[c,e]
			[d,d]	[d,e]
				[e,e]

Note: Each of  $[a,b]$ ,  $[a,d]$ , and  $[c,d]$  is equal to the empty interval.

There are twelve (non empty) intervals.

**Def 2**

If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a locally finite poset.

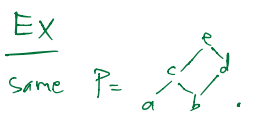
Then the incidence algebra  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{P})$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the set of all functions  $f: \text{Int}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- Addition is defined to be:  
If  $f, g \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{P})$ , then  $(f+g)$  is the function  $\text{Int}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by:

$$(f+g)([x,y]) = f([x,y]) + g([x,y]) \quad \forall [x,y] \in \text{Int}(\mathcal{P})$$

- Multiplication is defined to be:  
If  $f, g \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{P})$ , then  $(f \cdot g)$  is the function  $\text{Int}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by: "convolution"

$$(f \cdot g)([x,y]) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} f([x,z]) g([z,y]) \quad (*)$$



- ①  $j: \text{Int}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $j: [x,y] \mapsto 0$   
for all  $[x,y] \in \text{Int}(\mathcal{P})$

- ②  $g: \text{Int}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $g: [x,y] \mapsto 5$   
for all  $[x,y] \in \text{Int}(\mathcal{P})$

- ③  $h: \text{Int}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $h: [a,a] \mapsto 1$   
 $h: [a,c] \mapsto 2$   
 $h: [a,e] \mapsto \pi$   
 $h: [x,y] \mapsto \sqrt{5}$  for all other intervals.

- ④ Def The delta function  
 $\delta: \text{Int}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $\delta([x,y]) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x=y \\ 0 & \text{if } x < y. \end{cases}$

- ⑤ Def The zeta function  
 $\zeta: \text{Int}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $\zeta([x,y]) = 1$  for all  $[x,y] \in \text{Int}(\mathcal{P})$

Remark

We can represent  $h \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{P})$  by and represent  $\delta \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{P})$  by

1		2		$\pi$
	$\sqrt{5}$	$\sqrt{5}$	$\sqrt{5}$	$\sqrt{5}$
		$\sqrt{5}$		$\sqrt{5}$
			$\sqrt{5}$	$\sqrt{5}$
				$\sqrt{5}$

1	0	0	0	0
	1	0	0	0
		1	0	0
			1	0
				1

These look like 5x5 upper triangular matrices!

Prop  $\delta$  is the multiplicative identity in  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{P})$ .

Pf If  $f \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{P})$ , then  $(f \cdot \delta)([x,y]) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} f([x,z]) \delta([z,y])$

$$= f([x,y]) \delta([y,y])$$

because  $\delta([z,y])$  is nonzero iff  $z=y$

$$= f([x,y]) \square$$

**Prop 3** If  $P$  is finite with  $n$  elements, the incidence algebra  $I(P)$  is "isomorphic" to the algebra  $U_n$  of  $n \times n$  upper triangular matrices.

Proof Label the elts of  $P$  by  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$  so that  $t_i \leq_P t_j$  implies  $i \leq j$ .

partial order in  $P$ 
usual ordering of  $[n]$

(Note: this is equivalent to fixing a linear extension of  $P$ )

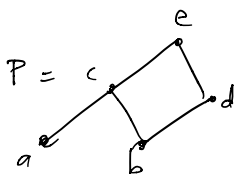
Define a map  $\varphi: I(P) \rightarrow U_n$

by  $\varphi: f \mapsto M$

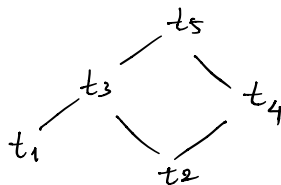
where  $M = (m_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  s.t

$$m_{i,j} = \begin{cases} f([t_i, t_j]) & \text{if } t_i \leq_P t_j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Ex



Choose a linear extension  
(It's not important which one)



Then  $\varphi(f) =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} f([1]) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & f([2]) & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & f([3]) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & f([4]) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & f([5]) \end{bmatrix}$$

Note:  $\left. \begin{matrix} m_{1,2} \\ m_{1,4} \\ m_{3,4} \end{matrix} \right\} = 0$  because  $[t_1, t_2]$ ,  $[t_1, t_4]$ ,  $[t_3, t_4]$  is the empty interval.

• Note 1 Multiplication in  $I(P)$  is "the same" as matrix multiplication in  $U_n$ :

Given  $f, g \in I(P)$ , define matrices  $F = \Phi(f)$  and  $G = \Phi(g)$ .  
 (For simplicity, define  $f([x, y]) := 0$  and  $g([x, y]) := 0$  if  $[x, y]$  is empty)

Then the  $(i, j)$  entry of  $F \cdot G$ , by **Prop 1**, is equal to

$$\sum_{i \leq k \leq j} m_{ik} h_{kj} = \sum_{i \leq k \leq j} f([t_i, t_k]) g([t_k, t_j]) \quad \text{by def of } m_{ij} \times h_{ij}.$$

$$= \sum_{t_i \leq t_k \leq t_j} f([t_i, t_k]) g([t_k, t_j])$$

since  $f([x, y]) = 0 = g([x, y])$   
if  $[x, y]$  is the empty interval

$$= (f \cdot g)([t_i, t_j]) \quad \text{by eq (*) in Def 2}$$

done on  
Friday

This shows that

$$\underbrace{\Phi(f)}_F \overset{\text{matrix mult}}{\downarrow} \underbrace{\Phi(g)}_G = \underbrace{\Phi(f \cdot g)}_{\text{convolution}}$$

• Note 2 Recall from earlier:

▣ The multiplicative identity in  $U_n$

is the identity matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

▣ The multiplicative identity in  $I(P)$  is

$$\delta: \text{Int}(P) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

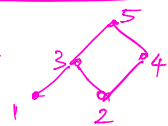
$$[x, y] \mapsto \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = y \\ 0 & \text{if } x < y. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Check that } \Phi(\delta) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

End of Prop 3

Task for student

For  $P =$



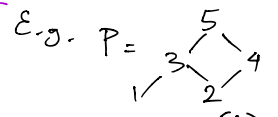
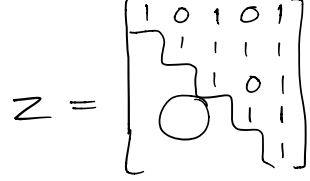
prove that  $\Phi(\delta) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

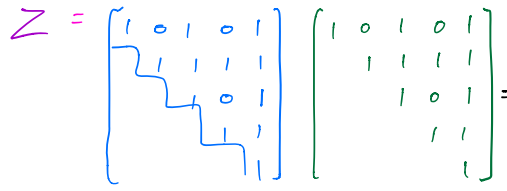
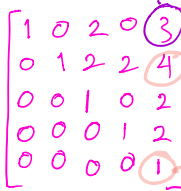
Week 11 Mon/Wed ended here

Week 11 Friday started here

Today: Let  $P$  be a locally finite poset.

Def The zeta function  $\zeta \in I(P)$  is defined by  $\zeta([x,y]) := 1$  for all  $[x,y] \in \text{Int}(P)$ .

E.g.  $P =$   Let  $Z := \varphi(\zeta)$ . Then  $Z =$  

Note:  $Z =$    $=$  

# elts in the interval  $[1,5] = 1, 3, 5$   
 # elts in the interval  $[2,5] = 2, 3, 4, 5$   
 # in  $[4,5]$

Prop 1  $\zeta^2([s,u]) = \#$  elements between  $s$  and  $u$  (including  $s$  and  $u$ ).

Pf  $\zeta^2([s,u]) = \sum_{s \leq t \leq u} 1$

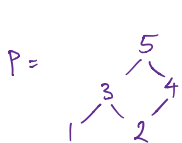
$= \#$  elts  $t$  s.t.  $s \leq t \leq u$

$= \#$  elts in the interval  $[s,u]$ .

Def A multichain in a poset  $P$  is a sequence  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$  of elts in  $P$  satisfying  $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_m$ .

"Note the inequalities are not strict, unlike in the def of chains".

Def The length of a chain/multichain is the # elements minus 1.



Multichains of length 2

Note:

starting at 2 and ending at 5:  $2 \leq 2 \leq 5$   
 $2 \leq 3 \leq 5$   
 $2 \leq 4 \leq 5$   
 $2 \leq 5 \leq 5$   $[2,5] = \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$

Task for students

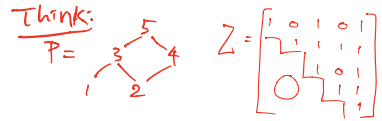
starting at 1 and ending at 5:  $1 \leq 1 \leq 5$   
 $1 \leq 3 \leq 5$   
 $1 \leq 5 \leq 5$   $[1,5] = \{1, 3, 5\}$

starting at 4 and ending at 5:  $4 \leq 4 \leq 5$   
 $4 \leq 5 \leq 5$   $[4,5] = \{4, 5\}$

Rem 2 The map  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{multichains} \\ \text{of length two } x = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq x_2 = y \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{x_1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{elements in interval } [x,y] \\ \end{array} \right\}$  is a bijection

Prop 3 By Prop 1 and Rem 2,  $\zeta^2([x,y]) = \# \{ \text{multichains of length two} \}$   
 $x = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq x_2 = y$

Lemma 4  $\sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \zeta^{k-1}([x,z]) \zeta([z,y]) = \zeta^k([x,y])$   
 for  $k \geq 1, z \in [x,y]$



Proof of Lemma 4 Let  $Z = \Phi(\zeta)$

The  $(i,j)$  entry of  $Z^2$  is

$$\sum_{i \leq h \leq j} Z_{i,h} Z_{h,j} = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \zeta([x,z]) \zeta([z,y])$$

By induction on the exponent of  $Z$ ,  
 the  $(i,j)$  entry of  $Z^k$  is

$$\sum_{i \leq h \leq j} (Z)^{k-1}_{i,h} Z_{h,j} = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \zeta^{k-1}([x,z]) \zeta([z,y])$$

Prop 16.12 Let  $x \leq y$  be elts of  $\mathcal{P}$ . Let  $k \geq 1$ .

Then the # of multichains (of length  $k$ )

$x = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_k = y$  is equal to  $\zeta^k([x,y])$ .

Week 11 Friday ended here

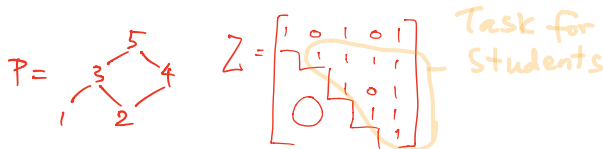
Cont Sec 16.2 Möbius function

Review: Choose a linear extension of a poset  $\mathcal{P}$



The matrix  $Z = (Z_{i,j})$  for the  $\zeta$  function

has entries  $Z_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } [i,j] \text{ is a non-empty interval} \\ 0 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$



• Prop 1:  $(Z^2)_{i,j} = \# \text{ elts in the interval } [i,j]$

• Lemma 4  $\sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \zeta^{k-1}([x,z]) \zeta([z,y]) = \zeta^k([x,y])$ .

Prop 16.12 Let  $x \leq y$  be elts of  $\mathcal{P}$ . Let  $k \geq 1$ .

Then the # of multichains (of length  $k$ )  
 $x = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_k = y$  is equal to  $\hat{S}^k([x, y])$ .

If We prove this by induction on  $k$ .

$\hat{S}^1([x, y]) = \hat{S}([x, y]) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 1$ , and the only possible multichain  
 $x = x_0 \leq x_1 = y$  is  $(x, y)$ .

Suppose that the statement is true for all positive integers less than  $k$ .

Let  $x = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_k = y$  be a multichain of length  $k$ .

Then  $x_{k-1} = z$  for some  $z \in [x, y]$ .

By the inductive hypothesis, the number of multichains of length  $k-1$   
between  $x$  and  $z$  is

$$\hat{S}^{k-1}([x, z])$$

and the number of multichains  $z \leq y$  of length 1 is

$$\hat{S}([x, y]) = 1.$$

So the # of possibilities for a multichain  $x = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_k = y$  of length  $k$  is

$$\sum_{z \in [x, y]} \hat{S}^{k-1}([x, z]) \hat{S}([x, y]).$$

By Lemma 4, this expression is  
equal to  $\hat{S}^k([x, y])$   $\square$

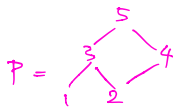
Consider

the function  $\xi - \delta \in \underline{I}(P)$

incidence algebra, the sets of all functions  $\text{Int}(P) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $(\xi - \delta)([x, y]) = \xi([x, y]) - \delta([x, y]) = \begin{cases} 1 - 0 = 1 & \text{if } x < y \\ 1 - 1 = 0 & \text{if } x = y \end{cases}$

Example:



$$\varphi(\xi - \delta) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} =: \mathbb{ZD}$$

$$(\mathbb{ZD})^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

① — # elts between 1 & 5 (strict)  
② — # elts between 2 & 5 (strict)  
③ — # elts between 4 & 5 (strict)

Prop I (Compare with Prop 1)

(i)  $(\xi - \delta)^1([x, y]) = \# \text{ chains } x = x_0 < x_1 = y \text{ of length 1}$

Pf If  $x \leq y$ , then  $\# \text{ chains } x = x_0 < x_1 = y \text{ of length 1 is } \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x < y \\ 0 & \text{if } x = y. \end{cases}$

(ii)  $(\xi - \delta)^2([x, y]) = \# \text{ chains } x = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 = y \text{ of length 2}$   
 $= \# \text{ elts in } [x, y] \text{ not counting } x \text{ and } y.$

Lemma IV (Compare with Lemma 4)

$$\sum_{z \in [x, y]} (\xi - \delta)^{k-1}([x, z]) \cdot (\xi - \delta)([z, y]) = (\xi - \delta)^k([x, y])$$

(Exercise)

Prop 16.13 (Compare with Prop 16.12) Let  $k \geq 1$

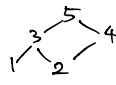
$$(\xi - \delta)^k([x, y]) = \sum_{x = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_k = y} 1, \text{ that is}$$

$(\xi - \delta)^k([x, y])$  is the # of chains of length  $k$  which start at  $x$  and end in  $y$ .



Recap: Functions  $\delta$  &  $\zeta$  multiplicative identity, and  $\delta$  in  $I(\mathbb{F})$ .

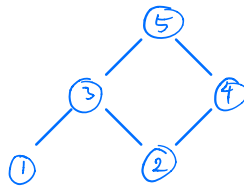
Q: Find the inverse of the zeta function.

Ex  $P =$    $Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & & & 1 & 1 \\ & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_1-R_5 \\ R_2-R_3 \\ R_3-R_4 \\ R_4-R_5 \\ R_5}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & 1 & 0 \\ & & & & & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2-R_4} \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & 1 & 0 \\ & & & & & 1 \end{array} \right]$

type "rref"  $\longrightarrow$

$Z^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ & & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ & & & 1 & -1 \\ & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$



Question Does the zeta function  $\zeta$  of  $\mathbb{F}$  have an inverse?

If  $\mathbb{P}$  is finite,  $Z^{-1}$  exists. What does  $Z^{-1}$  look like?

(Stay tuned)