

**PARTIALLY ORDERED SETS AND APPLICATIONS
 TO THE RECURSIVE AND THE INVERSION
 FORMULAS OF MÖBIUS**

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Abstract: *In this paper we present some examples of partially ordered sets and also some applications of the inversion formula of Möbius and recursive formula of Möbius.*

1 Preliminary notions about partially ordered sets

Definition 1. A partially ordered set (or *poset* for short) is an ordered pair (P, \leq) , consisting of a set P and a relation \leq on P satisfying the following properties:

1. for all $x \in P$, $x \leq x$ (reflexivity);
2. for all $x, y \in P$, if $x \leq y$ and $y \leq x$, then $x = y$ (anti-symmetry);
3. for all $x, y, z \in P$, if $x \leq y$ and $y \leq z$, then $x \leq z$ (transitivity).

Remark 1. Obviously the notation $x < y$ is used when both $x \leq y$ and $x \neq y$ holds, and when it is ambiguous to which poset the relation belongs, we will write \leq_P instead of \leq .

Example 1. The following are standard examples of posets. Given $m, n \in \mathbf{N}$ we define $[m, n] := \{m, m + 1, m + 2, \dots, n\}$, if $m = 1$, let $[n] = [1, n] = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$.

1. The sets \mathbf{N} , \mathbf{Z} , \mathbf{Q} and \mathbf{R} are all posets, together with their linear orderings.
2. Given $n \in \mathbf{N}$, the poset \mathbf{n} is the set $[n]$ ordered by linear relation $1 < 2 < \dots < n$.
3. Given $n \in \mathbf{N}$, the poset D_n is the set of all positive divisors of n ordered by divisibility, i.e. $x \leq_{D_n} y$ if and only if x divides y .
4. Given $n \in \mathbf{N}$, the poset B_n is the power set of $[n]$ ordered by inclusion, i.e. $X \leq_{B_n} Y$ if and only if $X \subseteq Y$.

Definition 2. If $x \leq y$ in the poset P , then the *closed interval* (or *interval* for short) from x to y , denoted by $[x, y]$ is the set $[x, y] := \{z \in P / x \leq z \leq y\}$. The open interval from x to y is the set $(x, y) := \{z \in P / x < z < y\}$. The collection of all intervals of P is denoted $Int(P)$.

Remark 2. Notice that $[x, x] = \{x\}$ and $(x, x) = \phi$.

Definition 3. A poset P is *locally finite* if every interval of P is finite.

Definition 4. If $x < y$ and $(x, y) = \phi$ in the poset P , then we say that y *covers* x (i.e. between x and y there is no other element from P).

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Definition 5. Two elements x and y in the poset P are *comparable* if $x \leq y$ or $y \leq x$; otherwise x and y are *incomparable*.

Definition 6. A poset P is a *chain* (or *totally ordered set* or *linearly ordered set*) if every pair of elements is comparable and the *length* of a chain is equal with the number of elements composing the chain minus 1.

Definition 7. The *Hasse Diagram* of a finite poset P is the graph whose vertex set is P and whose edge set is the covering relations in P . If x covers y in P , then x is drawn with a higher horizontal coordinate than y .

2 The incidence algebra of a locally finite poset

In this section we introduce an algebraic structure for locally finite posets, as in [2] and [5], that is useful in answering many of the combinatorial questions associated with such poset.

Let (P, \leq) be a poset and k a field of characteristic zero. Let

$$A_k(P) = \{f : P \times P \rightarrow k \mid \text{if not } x \leq y \text{ then } f(x, y) = 0\}.$$

When is not ambiguous we can denote with $A(P)$ instead $A_k(P)$.

The set $A_k(P)$ becomes a k -vector space, where for $f, g \in A_k(P)$ and $\alpha \in k$ we have:

$$(f + g)(x, y) = f(x, y) + g(x, y)$$

$$(\alpha \cdot f)(x, y) = \alpha f(x, y).$$

We define the *convolution* $f * g$ for all $f, g \in A_k(P)$ such that

$$(f * g)(x, y) = \sum_{x < z < y} f(x, z)g(z, y), \text{ if } x \leq y \text{ and}$$

$$(f * g)(x, y) = 0 \text{ else.}$$

Remark 3. Notice that since P is locally finite, the number of summands in the above sum is finite. Therefore, convolution is well-defined. For all $f \in A_k(P)$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, denote the convolution of f with itself n times by f^n .

Theorem 1. The set $A_k(P)$ with the operations: addition, multiplication with scalars and the convolution is an algebra called *incidence algebra* of the poset (P, \leq) . The elements of $A_k(P)$ we call *incidence functions*.

Proof. (1) (Convolution is associative) Since the number of summands is finite, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} [(f * g) * h](x, y) &= \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} (f * g)(x, z) \cdot h(z, y) = \\ &= \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \left[\sum_{x \leq w \leq z} f(x, w) \cdot g(w, z) \right] \cdot h(z, y) = \sum_{x \leq w \leq y} f(x, w) \cdot \left[\sum_{w \leq z \leq y} g(w, z) \cdot h(z, y) \right] = \\ &= \sum_{x \leq w \leq y} f(x, w) \cdot (g * h)(w, y) = [f * (g * h)](x, y). \end{aligned}$$

(2) (Convolution is left distributive) Since multiplication in k is left distributive, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} [f * (g + h)](x, y) &= \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} f(x, z) \cdot (g + h)(z, y) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} f(x, z) \cdot [g(z, y) + h(z, y)] = \\ &= \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} [f(x, z) \cdot g(z, y) + f(x, z) \cdot h(z, y)] = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} f(x, z) \cdot g(z, y) + \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} f(x, z) \cdot h(z, y) = \end{aligned}$$

$$= (f * g)(x, y) + (f * h)(x, y) = [(f * g) + (f * h)](x, y).$$

(3) (Convolution is right distributive) Since multiplication in k is right distributive, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} [(f + g) * h](x, y) &= \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} (f + g)(x, z) \cdot h(z, y) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} [f(x, z) + g(x, z)] \cdot h(z, y) = \\ &= \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} [f(x, z) \cdot h(z, y) + g(x, z) \cdot h(z, y)] = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} f(x, z) \cdot h(z, y) + \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} g(x, z) \cdot h(z, y) = \\ &= (f * h)(x, y) + (g * h)(x, y) = [(f * h) + (g * h)](x, y). \end{aligned}$$

(4) (Convolution identity) Let $\delta \in A_k(P)$ be defined for all $x, y \in P$ such that

$$\delta(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = y \\ 0, & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}.$$

Then $(f * \delta)(x, y) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} f(x, z) \cdot \delta(z, y) = f(x, y)$.

Also, $(\delta * f)(x, y) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \delta(x, z) \cdot f(z, y) = f(x, y)$.

Therefore, δ is an identity for $A_k(P)$ under convolution.

Finally, we have that $A_k(P)$ is a ring with identity.

Let $\varphi : k \rightarrow A_k(P)$ be defined by $\varphi(a) := \delta_a := a \cdot \delta, \forall a \in k$.

For $\forall a, b \in k$ we have $\varphi(a + b) = \delta_{a+b} = (a + b) \cdot \delta = (a \cdot \delta) + (b \cdot \delta) = \delta_a + \delta_b = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b)$. Also, $\varphi(ab) = \delta_{ab} = (ab) \cdot \delta = (a \cdot \delta) * (b \cdot \delta) = \delta_a * \delta_b = \varphi(a) * \varphi(b)$. Thus φ is a ring homomorphism.

Since multiplication in k is commutative, it follows from the above that $\delta_a * \delta_b = (ab) \cdot \delta = (ba) \cdot \delta = \delta_b * \delta_a$ so that $\varphi(k) \subseteq Z(A_k(P))$. Because $\delta_{1_k} = 1_k \cdot \delta = \delta$, we have $\varphi(1_k) = 1_{V(Int(P), k)}$. Finally we obtain that $(A_k(P), \varphi)$ is an algebra over k .

Theorem 2. Let $f \in A(P)$. The following conditions are equivalent:

1. f has a left inverse;
2. f has a right inverse;
3. f has a two-sided inverse;
4. for all $x \in P, f(x, x) \neq 0$.

If f has any inverse, then it is the unique two-sided inverse of f .

Proof. Assume $f \in I(P)$.

(1 \Leftrightarrow 4) Suppose $g \in I(P)$ is a left inverse of f , i.e. $g * f = \delta$. This is true if and only if:

$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} f(x, x)^{-1} & \text{if } x = y \\ -f(y, y)^{-1} [\sum_{x \leq z < y} g(x, z) f(z, y)] & \text{if } x < y \end{cases},$$

the second case is due to the fact that $(g * f)(x, y) = \sum_{x \leq z < y} g(x, z) f(z, y) + g(x, y) f(y, y)$. Thus g exists if and only if for all $x \in P$, we have $f(x, x) \neq 0$.

(2 \Leftrightarrow 4) Suppose $h \in I(P)$ is a right inverse of f . Similar to the above argument:

$$h(x, y) = \begin{cases} f(x, x)^{-1} & \text{if } x = y \\ -f(x, x)^{-1} [\sum_{x < z \leq y} f(x, z) h(z, y)] & \text{if } x < y \end{cases},$$

so that h exists if and only if for all $x \in P$, we have $f(x, x) \neq 0$.

(3 \Leftrightarrow 4) A two-sided inverse is necessarily a left and right inverse. Thus this result follows from the previous arguments.

Let's prove the unique of this inverse.

Suppose that g is a left inverse of f . Then the theorem implies the existence of a right inverse of f , let it be h , so $g * f = \delta = f * h$. The theorem also provides a two-sided inverse f' of f . Then $g = g * \delta = g * (f * f') = (g * f) * f' = \delta * f' = f' = f' * \delta =$

$= f' * (f * h) = (f' * f) * h = \delta * h = h$. Therefore, $g = f' = h$, proving that any inverse is two-sided and unique.

3 Some incidence functions

Through this section we will assume that P is a locally finite poset. Of all the functions from $A_k(P)$, there are a few of particular interest.

Delta function

We already saw that *delta function* δ is the identity of $A_k(P)$ and is defined for all $x, y \in P$ such that

$$\delta(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = y \\ 0, & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}.$$

Also we have that $\delta_a = a \cdot \delta$, $\forall a \in k$.

Zeta and Chain functions

Another important function from the incidence algebra $A_k(P)$ is *zeta function* ζ , defined such that: $\zeta(x, y) := 1, \forall x \leq y$ in P .

Then for all $x \leq y$ from P we have $\zeta^2(x, y) = \sum_{x < z < y} \zeta(x, z) \cdot \zeta(z, y) = \sum_{x < z < y} 1 \cdot 1 = \sum_{x < z < y} 1 = |[x, y]|$. Therefore, $\zeta^2(x, y)$ counts the numbers of elements in $[x, y]$.

Notice that:

$$(\zeta - \delta)(x, y) := \begin{cases} 1 - 1 = 0 & \text{if } x = y \\ 1 - 0 = 1 & \text{if } x < y \end{cases}$$

and

$$(\zeta - \delta)^2(x, y) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} (\zeta - \delta)(x, z) \cdot (\zeta - \delta)(z, y) = \sum_{x < z < y} (\zeta - \delta)(x, z) \cdot (\zeta - \delta)(z, y) = \sum_{x < z < y} 1$$

which is equal to the number of chains of $[x, y]$ of length 2.

By induction it follows that $(\zeta - \delta)^k(x, y)$ counts the number of chains of $[x, y]$ of length k . Thus $\eta := \zeta - \delta$ is the *chain function*.

A sequence of functions f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots of $A_k(P)$ converges to a function $f \in A_k(P)$ if for all intervals $[x, y]$ from P , does exist an $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for every $n \geq N$, $f_n(x, y) = f(x, y)$. This defines a topology on $A_k(P)$.

Now consider:

$$(\delta_2 - \zeta)(x, y) := \begin{cases} 2 - 1 = 1 & \text{if } x = y \\ 0 - 1 = -1 & \text{if } x < y \end{cases}.$$

From the theorem above result that $\delta_2 - \zeta$ have an inverse:

$$(\delta_2 - \zeta)^{-1} = (\delta - (\zeta - \delta))^{-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \eta^k,$$

because $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \eta^k$ converges in $A_k(P)$. Therefore, because of the interpretation of η we obtain that $(\delta_2 - \zeta)^{-1}(x, y)$ counts the number of all chains from the interval $[x, y]$.

Lambda and Cover functions

Another function from the incidence algebra $A_k(P)$ is *lambda function* λ defined for every interval $[x, y]$ such that:

$$\lambda(x, y) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = y \text{ or } y \text{ covers } x \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} .$$

We observe that:

$$(\lambda - \delta)(x, y) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y \text{ covers } x \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} .$$

Let's denote $\kappa := \lambda - \delta$ and we call it *cover function*.

We have $\kappa^2(x, y) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \kappa(x, z) \cdot \kappa(z, y)$ and because $\kappa(x, z) \cdot \kappa(z, y) \neq 0$ only if y covers z , means that the chain $x < z < y$ is saturated. Because the interval $[x, y]$ is a finite one the condition that the chain $x < z < y$ to be saturated is equivalent with that to be a maximal chain. Finally, $\kappa^2(x, y)$ counts the number of maximal chains of length 2 from the interval $[x, y]$. In conclusion we have that $\kappa^k(x, y)$ give us the number of maximal chains of length k in the interval $[x, y]$.

Now consider

$$(\delta - \kappa)(x, y) := \begin{cases} 1 - 0 = 1 & \text{if } x = y \\ 0 - 1 = -1 & \text{if } y \text{ covers } x \\ 0 - 0 = 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} .$$

From the theorem above it results that $\delta - \kappa$ have an inverse: $(\delta - \kappa)^{-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \kappa^k$, the sum is valid because $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \kappa^k$ converges in $A_k(P)$ for every interval $[x, y]$ in P . We obtain that $(\delta - \kappa)(x, y)$ gives us the number of all maximal chains in $[x, y]$.

Möbius function.

From the theorem we obtain that zeta function ζ possesses an inverse in $A_k(P)$.

The Möbius function is $\mu := \zeta^{-1}$.

The relation $\mu * \zeta = \delta$ is equivalent to the following *recursive formula* of μ :

$$\mu(x, y) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = y \\ -\sum_{x \leq z < y} \mu(x, z) & \text{if } x < y \end{cases} ,$$

since $(\mu * \zeta)(x, y) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \mu(x, z) \cdot \zeta(z, y) = \sum_{x \leq z \leq y} \mu(x, z) \cdot 1 = \sum_{x \leq z < y} \mu(x, z) + \mu(x, y) = \delta(x, y)$

Example 2. 1. In case of the local finite poset of the positive integers ordered by divisibility, we have $\mu(a, b) = \mu\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$, where the second μ is the classical Möbius function, introduced in number theory in the 19-th century.

2. The set of all subsets of E ordered by inclusion is a poset locally finite. In this case the Möbius function is $\mu(S, T) = (-1)^{|T \setminus S|}$, where S and T are finite subsets of E such that $S \subseteq T$.

3. The Möbius function for the set of positive integers with the usual order is $\mu(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y - x = 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } y - x = 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } y - x > 1 \end{cases}$. This corresponds to the sequence $(1, -1, 0, 0, 0, \dots)$ of coefficients from the formal series $1 - z$, and zeta function ζ corresponds to the sequence $(1, 1, 1, \dots)$ of coefficients from $(1 - z)^{-1} = 1 + z + z^2 + z^3 + \dots$. Delta δ function in this incidence algebra corresponds to the formal series 1.

4. Now, let consider the poset of all partition of a finite set and denote $\sigma \leq \tau$ if σ is a finer partition than τ . Then, the Möbius function is: $\mu(\sigma, \tau) = (-1)^{n-r} (2!)^{r_3} (3!)^{r_4} \dots ((n-1)!)^{r_n}$,

where n is the number of elements of the finer partition σ , r is the number of elements of τ and r_i is the number of the sets from τ which contain exactly i elements from σ .

4 The inversion formula of Möbius

Theorem 3. Let (P, \leq) be a poset and G an commutative group. Also, let $f, g, h : P \rightarrow G$. Then:

1. $g(x) = \sum_{x \leq y} f(y) \Leftrightarrow f(x) = \sum_{x \leq y} \mu(x, y)g(y);$
2. $h(x) = \sum_{y \leq x} f(y) \Leftrightarrow f(x) = \sum_{y \leq x} \mu(x, y)h(y).$

The proof is in [5].

5 Applications

In this section we present some useful applications to the recursive formula and also the inversion formula Möbius.

5.1. *Remark 4.* For any finite poset P does exist a counting $P = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ such that if $x_i < x_j$ then $i < j$.

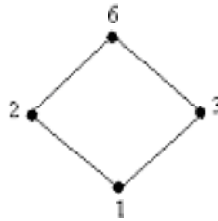
Suppose that P is $P = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$. Then we can associate to zeta function $\zeta : P \times P \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$, $\zeta(x, y) := 1, \forall x \leq y$ in P , a matrix $A \in M_n(\mathbf{Z})$ like:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \zeta_{12} & \zeta_{13} & \dots & \zeta_{1n} \\ 0 & 1 & \zeta_{23} & \dots & \zeta_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } \zeta_{ii} = 1, \forall i = \overline{1, n}.$$

Because $\det A = 1 \neq 0$, then A is invertible in $M_n(\mathbf{Z})$.

We know that the Möbius function $\mu := \zeta^{-1}$ is the inverse of zeta function, then the matrix $B = (\mu_{ij})_{i,j=\overline{1,n}}$ is the inverse of A .

Example 3. The poset $D_6 = \{1, 2, 3, 6\}$ with the partial order given by divisibility have the Hasse diagram:



We have the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ for the zeta function of D_6 , and $B = A^{-1} =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is the matrix associated to the Möbius function of } D_6.$$

This is due to the recursive formula of μ :

$$\mu(1, 1) = 1; \mu(2, 2) = 1; \mu(3, 3) = 1; \mu(6, 6) = 1$$

$$\mu(1, 2) = -\mu(1, 1) = -1$$

$$\mu(1, 3) = -\mu(1, 1) = -1$$

$$\mu(1, 6) = -\mu(1, 1) - \mu(1, 2) - \mu(1, 3) = -1 + 1 + 1 = 1$$

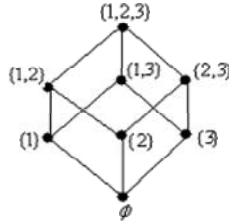
$$\mu(2, 1) = 0, \mu(3, 1) = 0; \mu(3, 2) = 0; \mu(4, 1) = 0; \mu(4, 2) = 0; \mu(4, 3) = 0;$$

$\mu(2, 3) = 0$ because in D_6 ;

$$\mu(2, 6) = -\mu(2, 2) = -1;$$

$$\mu(3, 6) = -\mu(3, 3) = -1.$$

Example 4. The poset $B_3 = \{\phi; \{1\}; \{2\}; \{3\}; \{1, 2\}; \{1, 3\}; \{2, 3\}; \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ with the partial order given by inclusion have the Hasse diagram:



We have the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ for the zeta function of B_3 ,

and $B = A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is the matrix associated to the

Möbius function of B_3 . This is due to the recursive formula of μ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(\phi, \phi) &= \mu(\{1\}, \{1\}) = \mu(\{2\}, \{2\}) = \mu(\{3\}, \{3\}) = \mu(\{1, 2\}, \{1, 2\}) = \mu(\{1, 2\}, \{1, 2\}) = \\ &= \mu(\{1, 3\}, \{1, 3\}) = \mu(\{2, 3\}, \{2, 3\}) = \mu(\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}) = 1; \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(\{1\}, \phi) &= \mu(\{2\}, \phi) = \mu(\{2\}, \{1\}) = \mu(\{3\}, \phi) = \mu(\{3\}, \{1\}) = \mu(\{3\}, \{2\}) = \\ &= \mu(\{1, 2\}, \phi) = \mu(\{1, 2\}, \{1\}) = \mu(\{1, 2\}, \{2\}) = \mu(\{1, 2\}, \{3\}) = \end{aligned}$$

$$= \mu(\{1, 3\}, \phi) = \mu(\{1, 3\}, \{1\}) = \mu(\{1, 3\}, \{2\}) = \mu(\{1, 3\}, \{3\}) = \mu(\{1, 3\}, \{1, 2\}) =$$

$$= \mu(\{2, 3\}, \phi) = \mu(\{2, 3\}, \{1\}) = \mu(\{2, 3\}, \{2\}) = \mu(\{2, 3\}, \{3\}) = \mu(\{2, 3\}, \{1, 2\}) =$$

$$\mu(\{2, 3\}, \{1, 3\}) = \mu(\{1, 2, 3\}, \phi) = \mu(\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1\}) = \mu(\{1, 2, 3\}, \{2\}) = \mu(\{1, 2, 3\}, \{3\}) =$$

$$= \mu(\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 2\}) = \mu(\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 3\}) = \mu(\{1, 2, 3\}, \{2, 3\}) = 0$$

$$\mu(\phi, \{1\}) = -\mu(\phi, \phi) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\phi, \{2\}) = -\mu(\phi, \phi) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\phi, \{3\}) = -\mu(\phi, \phi) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\phi, \{1, 2\}) = -\mu(\phi, \phi) - \mu(\phi, \{1\}) - \mu(\phi, \{2\}) = -1 + 1 + 1 = 1;$$

$$\mu(\phi, \{1, 3\}) = -\mu(\phi, \phi) - \mu(\phi, \{1\}) - \mu(\phi, \{3\}) = -1 + 1 + 1 = 1;$$

$$\mu(\phi, \{2, 3\}) = -\mu(\phi, \phi) - \mu(\phi, \{2\}) - \mu(\phi, \{3\}) = -1 + 1 + 1 = 1;$$

$$\mu(\phi, \{1, 2, 3\}) = -\mu(\phi, \phi) - \mu(\phi, \{1\}) - \mu(\phi, \{2\}) - \mu(\phi, \{3\}) - \mu(\phi, \{1, 2\}) - \mu(\phi, \{1, 3\})$$

$$- \mu(\phi, \{2, 3\}) = -1 + 1 + 1 + 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{1\}, \{2\}) = \mu(\{1\}, \{3\}) = \mu(\{1\}, \{2, 3\}) = \mu(\{2\}, \{3\}) = \mu(\{2\}, \{1, 3\}) = \mu(\{3\}, \{1, 2\})$$

$$= \mu(\{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}) = \mu(\{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}) = \mu(\{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}) = 0;$$

$$\mu(\{1\}, \{1, 2\}) = -\mu(\{1\}, \{1\}) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{1\}, \{1, 3\}) = -\mu(\{1\}, \{1\}) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{1\}, \{1, 2, 3\}) = -\mu(\{1\}, \{1\}) - \mu(\{1\}, \{1, 2\}) - \mu(\{1\}, \{1, 3\}) = -1 + 1 + 1 = 1;$$

$$\mu(\{2\}, \{1, 2\}) = -\mu(\{2\}, \{2\}) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{2\}, \{2, 3\}) = -\mu(\{2\}, \{2\}) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}) = -\mu(\{2\}, \{2\}) - \mu(\{2\}, \{1, 2\}) - \mu(\{2\}, \{2, 3\}) = -1 + 1 + 1 = 1;$$

$$\mu(\{3\}, \{1, 3\}) = -\mu(\{3\}, \{3\}) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{3\}, \{2, 3\}) = -\mu(\{3\}, \{3\}) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}) = -\mu(\{3\}, \{3\}) - \mu(\{3\}, \{1, 3\}) - \mu(\{3\}, \{2, 3\}) = -1 + 1 + 1 = 1;$$

$$\mu(\{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}) = -\mu(\{1, 2\}, \{1, 2\}) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{1, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}) = -\mu(\{1, 3\}, \{1, 3\}) = -1;$$

$$\mu(\{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}) = -\mu(\{2, 3\}, \{2, 3\}) = -1.$$

Example 5. For the poset $P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ with the usual order of the positive integers we

have $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, and in generally

for a fixed positive integer $n \in \mathbf{N}$ and a poset $P = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$ with the usual order we

obtain $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in M_n(\mathbf{R})$ and $A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

5.2. Classical Möbius inversion [8].

For functions f, g defined on the set \mathbf{N} of positive integers we have:

$$f(n) = \sum_{d|n} g(d) \Leftrightarrow g(n) = \sum_{d|n} \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) f(d), \text{ for all } n \in \mathbf{N}.$$

5.3. If we consider the set $P = \{1 < 2 < 3 < \dots < n\}$ we have that the Möbius function associated to P is:

$$\mu(i, j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ -1 & \text{if } j = i + 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} .$$

Then, for any functions $f, g, h : P \rightarrow G$, G is an commutative group, we have the relations:

$$g(m) = \sum_{i=m}^n f(i) \Leftrightarrow f(m) = g(m) - g(m + 1)$$

$$h(m) = \sum_{i=0}^m f(i) \Leftrightarrow f(m) = h(m) - h(m - 1)$$

And this is an application to the inversion formula of Möbius.

5.4. Let X be a finite set and $P = P(X)$ with the relation given by inclusion. We have that the Möbius function of $P(X)$ is:

$\mu(A, B) = (-1)^{|B-A|}$ for $A \subset B$.

Then, for any functions $f, g, h : P(P) \rightarrow G$, G is a commutative group, we have the relations:

$$g(A) = \sum_{A \subset B} f(B) \Leftrightarrow f(A) = \sum (-1)^{|B-A|} g(B)$$

$$h(A) = \sum_{B \subset A} f(B) \Leftrightarrow f(A) = \sum (-1)^{|A-B|} h(B).$$

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