

Reflexive  
 Symmetric  $\times$  Antisymmetric  
 Transitive

$\text{if } aRb \Rightarrow bRa \Leftrightarrow a=b$

## Partial Order Relation

A binary ~~relation~~ <sup>selection</sup>  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called partial order relation if it is Reflexive, Antisymmetric and Transitive. A set  $A$  together with a partial order relation  $R$  is called partially ordered set or Poset denoted by  $(A, R)$ . In various posets symbols such as  $\leq$  (less than equal to),  $\subseteq$  (set inclusion), and  $|$  (divisibility) are commonly used to represent partial ordering. However, when discussing the ordering relation in an arbitrary poset, a general symbol is needed. Typically, the notation  $a \preceq b$  is used to indicate that  $(a, b) \in R$  in an arbitrary poset  $(S, R)$ .

$a \leq b$

$2, 3 \in \mathbb{Z}$

$2 \leq 3$  ✓  $3 \not\leq 2$

$2+3=5$   $3+2=5$

$a \leq c$   
 $2 \leq 2$   
 $2 \leq 2$

$\leq \subseteq |$

$\mathbb{Z}^+, |$

$1, 2, 3, \dots$

$3, 5 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

$3 \nmid 5$

$5 \nmid 3$

$a|b \Rightarrow b=kc$

## Comparable

The elements  $a$  and  $b$  of a <sup>poset</sup>  $(S, \preceq)$  are called comparable if either  $a \preceq b$  or  $b \preceq a$ .

When  $a$  and  $b$  are elements of  $S$  such that neither  $a \preceq b$  nor  $b \preceq a$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  are called incomparable.

For example, the poset  $(\mathbb{Z}, \preceq)$  is comparable since  $a \leq b$  or  $b \leq a$  when ever  $a$  and  $b$  are integers whereas the set of all positive integers with divisibility relation,  $(\mathbb{Z}^+, |)$  is not comparable since 3 and 5 are not comparable.

$\mathbb{Z}$   $2, 3 \in \mathbb{Z}$

$2 \leq 3$

$3, 4$

$3 \leq 4$   $4 \nleq 3$

$\nmid$   $3 \nmid 4$

## Totally Ordered Set / chain

If  $(S, \preceq)$  is a poset and every two elements of  $S$  are comparable,  $S$  is called a totally ordered or linearly ordered set, and  $\preceq$  is called a total order or a linear order. A totally ordered set is also called a chain.

$a \rightarrow b$

$a \leftarrow b$

1. Determine whether the relation 'divisibility' is a partial order relation on  $\mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

3/3

$$2, 4 \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \quad 2 \mid 4 \quad 4 = 2 \times 2$$

$$4 \nmid 2 \quad 2 = \cancel{4} \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad 2 \mid 2 \checkmark$$

$$2 \mid 4 \quad 4 \mid 8 \Rightarrow 2 \mid 8$$

① Reflexivity

For any  $a \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

$a$  divides  $a$  itself

$$a \mid a$$

$$aRa$$

$\Rightarrow$  reflexive.

② Antisymmetric.  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

If  $a$  divides  $b$  and  $b$  divides  $a$  only when  $a = b$

$$\Rightarrow aRb \text{ and } bRa \Leftrightarrow a = b.$$

$\therefore R$  is antisymmetric.

③ Transitivity

If  $a$  divides  $b$  and  $b$  divides  $c$  then  $a$  divides  $c$

$$aRb \text{ \& \& bRc } \Rightarrow aRc.$$

2. Show that the inclusion relation  $\subseteq$  is a partial ordering on the power set of a set  $S$ .



$$A \subseteq B$$

① For any  $A \subseteq S$ ,  $A \subseteq A$   $\therefore$  reflexive.

② For any  $A, B \subseteq S$

If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$  only when  $A = B$

$\therefore$  antisymmetric.

③ For any  $A, B, C \subseteq S$

If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C \Rightarrow A \subseteq C$

$\therefore$  Transitive.

3. If  $R$  is a relation on  $\mathbb{Z}$  where  $xRy$  if  $x + y$  is odd. Check whether  $R$  is a partial order relation.

$$\begin{aligned} 0+1 &= 1 \text{ odd} \\ 1+2 &= 3 \\ 0+2 &= 2 \text{ even} \end{aligned}$$

$$R = \{ xRy : x+y \text{ is odd} \}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\in \mathbb{Z} \\ 1+1 &= 2 \notin \text{odd} \end{aligned}$$

① For any  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x+x$  is not odd.  
 $\therefore R$  is not reflexive.

② For any  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ , if  $x+y$  is odd then  $y+x$  is also odd.  $\therefore$  The  $R$  is symmetric, not antisymmetric.

③ For any  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$   
If  $x+y$  is odd and  $y+z$  is odd. Then  $x+z$  is not odd.

$\therefore$  not transitive.

$\therefore R$  is not a partial order relation.

4. Let  $R$  be the relation on the set of people such that  $xRy$  if  $x$  and  $y$  are people and  $x$  is older than  $y$ . Show that  $R$  is not a partial ordering.

If a person  $x$  is older than a person,  $y$  then  $y$  is older than  $x$  only when  $x = y$ . So, relation is antisymmetric ✓  
 If a person  $x$  is older than person  $y$  and  $y$  is older than person  $z$ , then  $x$  is older than  $z$ . So, the relation is transitive.  
 But  $R$  is not reflexive, because no person is older than himself or herself. Hence the relation is not a partial order relation.

5. Let  $R$  be a relation on the set of all integers such that  $aRb$  if  $a-b$  is a nonnegative even integer. Verify that  $R$  is a partial order relation?

$$R = \{ aRb \mid a-b \text{ is a non-negative even integer} \}$$

① For any  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$

$a-a=0$  is a non-negative even integer

$\therefore aRa$

② For any  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$

If  $a-b$  is a non-negative even integer and  $b-c$  is a non-negative even integer

If  $a=b$

$$a=6, b=2 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$6-2=4 \checkmark$$

$$2-c=-4 \times$$

③ For any  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$

If  $a-b$  is

$$a-b=2n$$

$$b-c=2m$$

$$a-b+b-c=2n+2m$$

$$a-c=2(n+m)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\underline{aRc}}$$

## Hasse Diagram

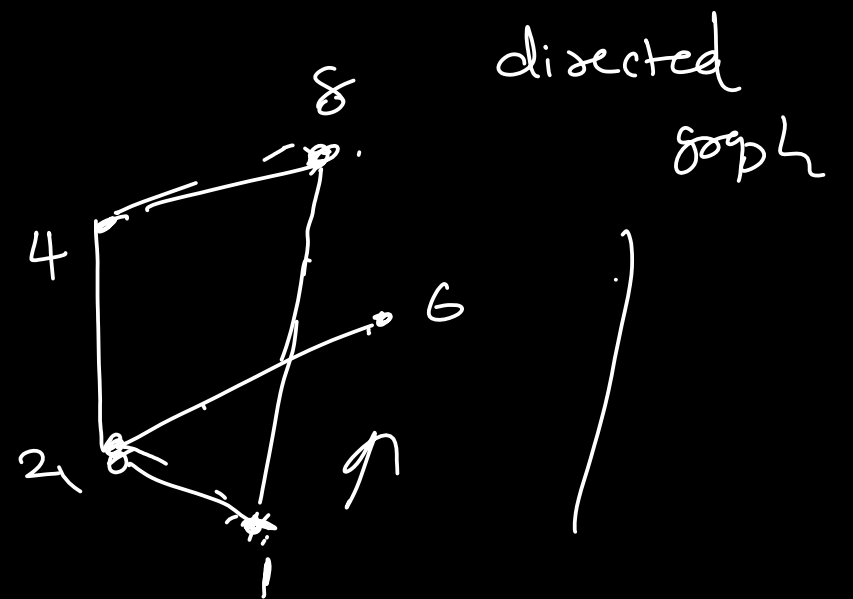
let say we have a set  $A = \{1, 2, 4, 6, 8\}$  and relation  $R$  is defined on a set  $A$   
we know that  $(A, R)$  is a poset under ' $\mid$ '

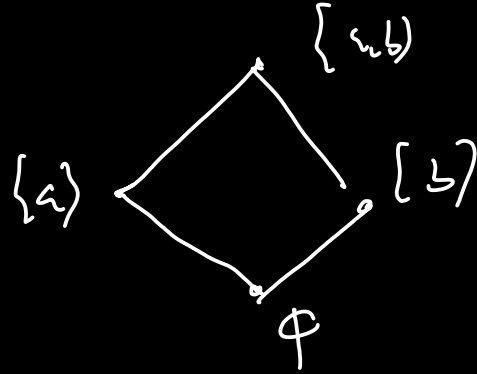
$$R = \{(1,1), (2,2), (4,4), (6,6), (8,8)\}$$

$$(1,2), (1,4), (1,6), (1,8)$$

$$(2,4), (2,6), (2,8)$$

$$(4,8)\}$$



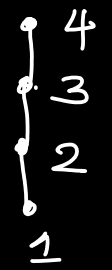


Hasse Diagram or Partially ordered set diagram

Poset can be represented by a diagram known as Hasse Diagram. In such a diagram each element is represented by . or circle

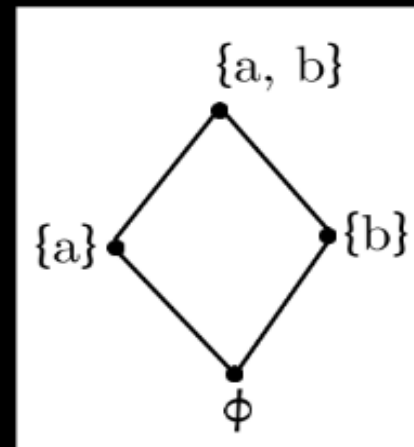
Example : 1

Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $\leq$  be the relation  $R$ . The Hasse diagram is



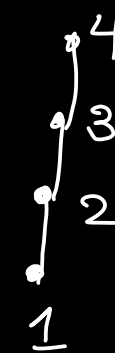
Example : 2

Let  $A = \{a, b\}$ ,  $P(A) = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$ . The Hasse diagram of  $(P(A), \subseteq)$  is

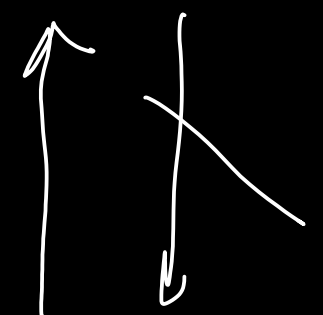
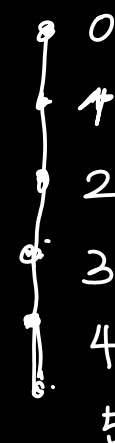


1. Draw the Hasse diagram representing the partial ordering  $R = \{(a, b) | a \leq b\}$  on set  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

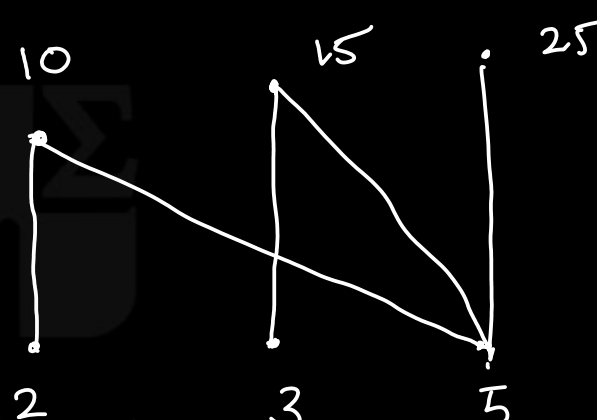
Maximal element  
Minimal element  
Greatest element  
least element



2. Draw the Hasse diagram for the "greater than or equal to", relation on set  $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$



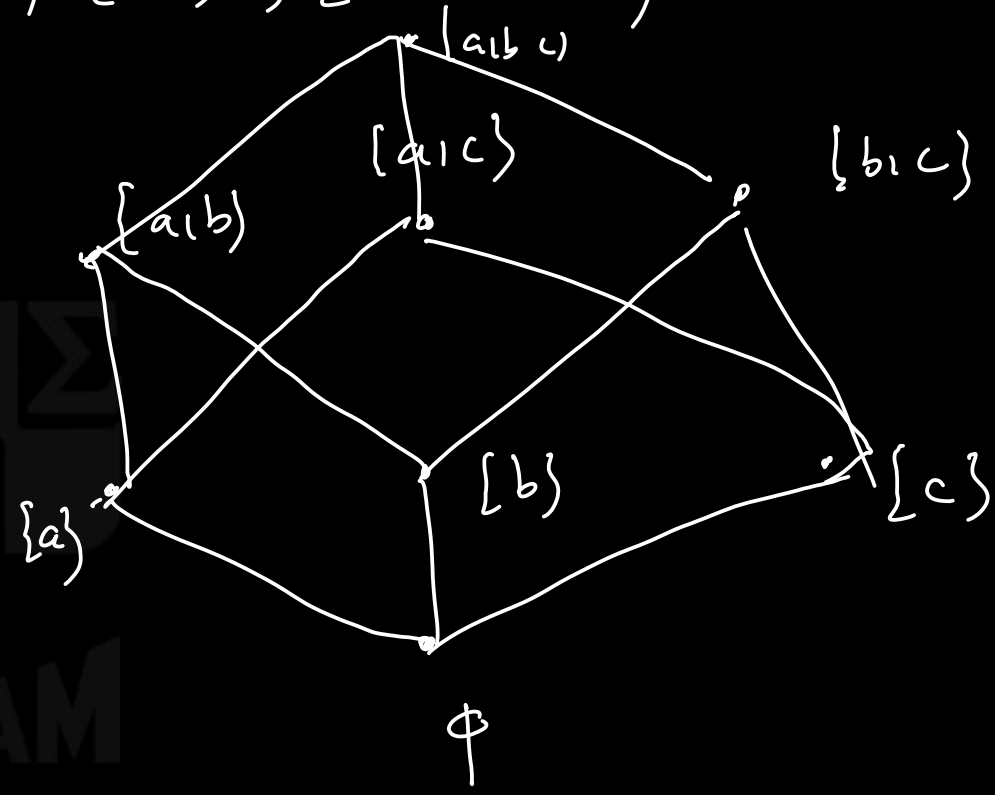
3. Draw the Hasse diagram for the divisibility on the set  $A = \{2, 3, 5, 10, 15, 25\}$



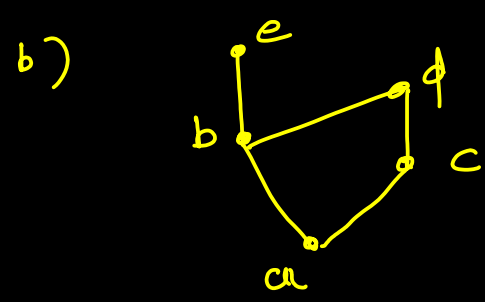
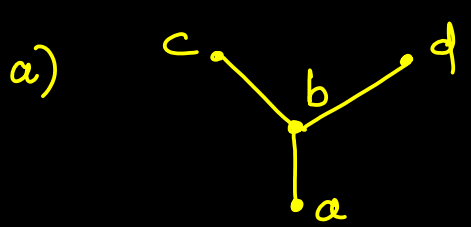
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4. Draw the Hasse diagram for inclusion on the set  $P(S)$  where  $S = \{a, b, c\}$

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



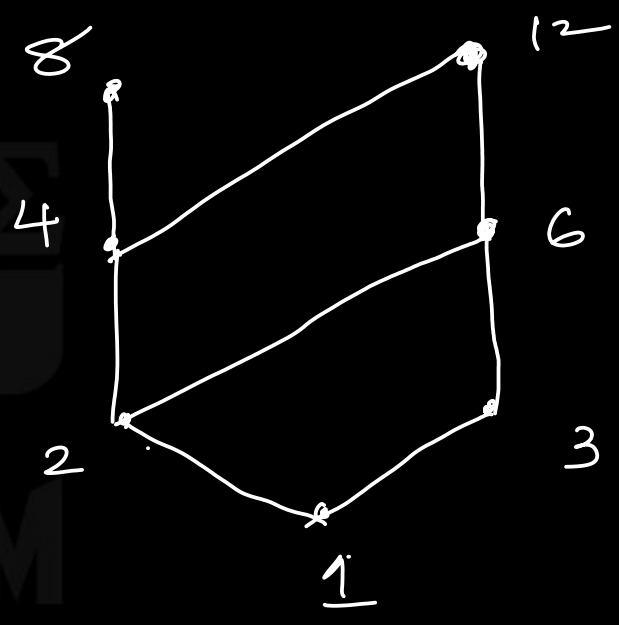
5. List all the ordered pairs in the partial ordering with the accompanying Hasse diagram.



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

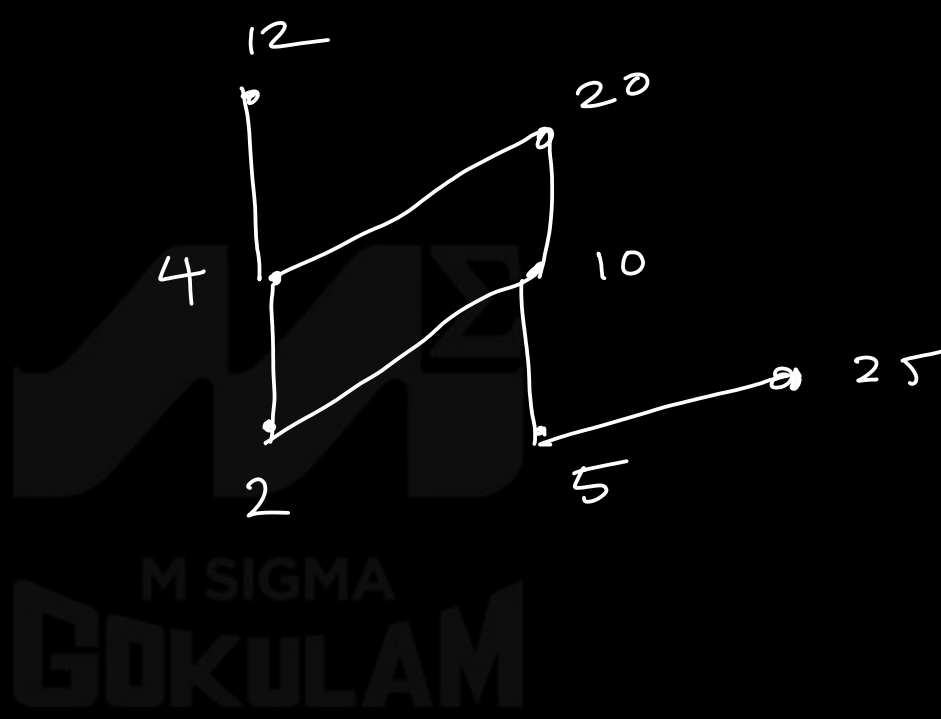
b)  $R = \{ (a,a), (b,b), (c,c), (d,d), (e,e), (a,b), (a,c), (b,e), (c,d), (a,e), (a,d) \}$

6. Constructing the Hasse diagram of  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12\}$  , |

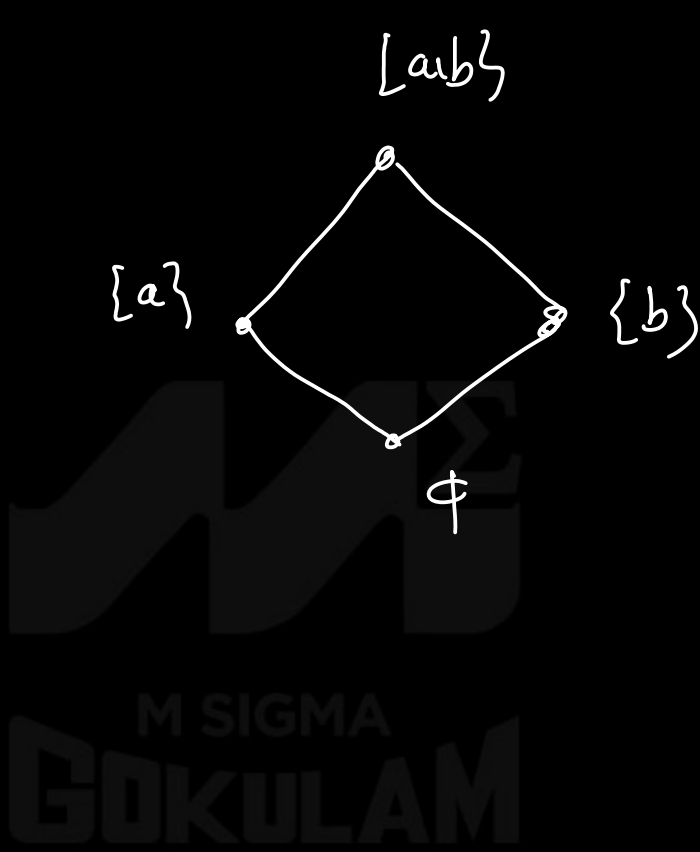




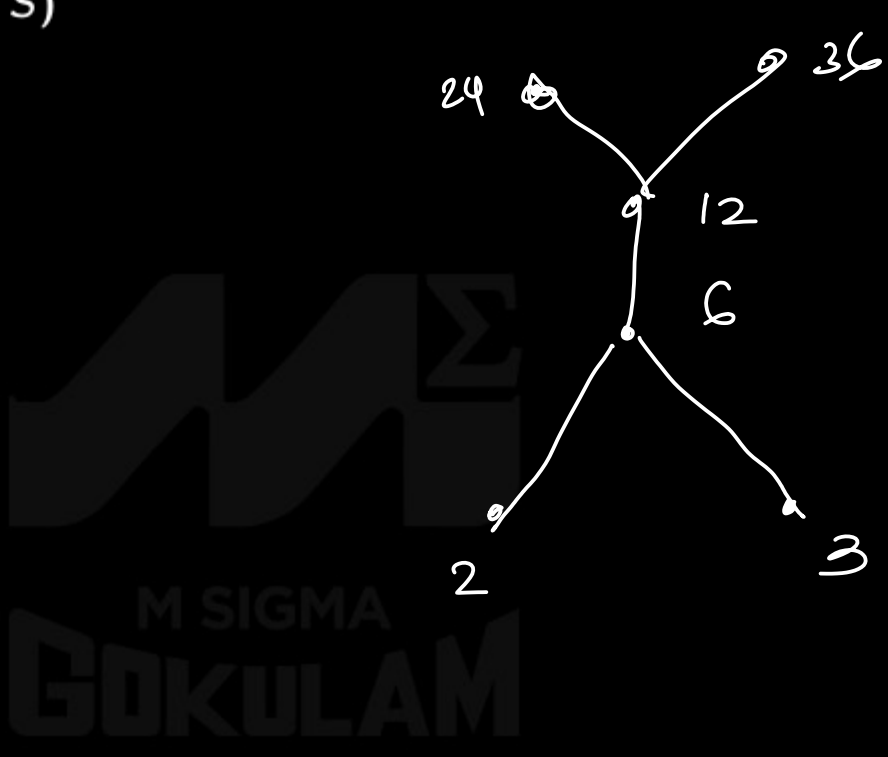
7.  $(\{2, 4, 5, 10, 12, 20, 25\}, \mid)$



8. Let  $A = \{a, b\}$ . Draw the Hasse diagram of  $(P(A), S)$



9.  $A = \{2, 3, 6, 12, 24, 36\}$  Draw a Hasse diagram of  $(A, S)$



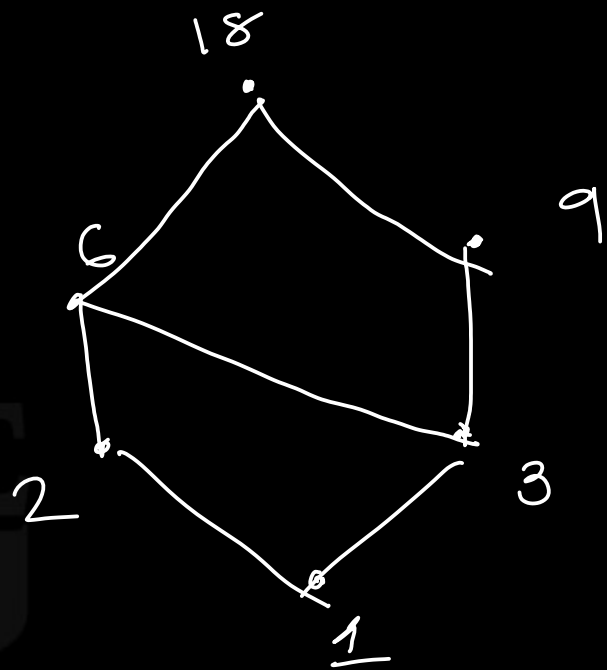
10.  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 18\}, |$

$lub(2,3) =$ 
 $lub(2,9) =$

$glb(2,3) =$ 
 $glb(2,9) =$

$lub(6,9) =$

$glb(6,9) =$

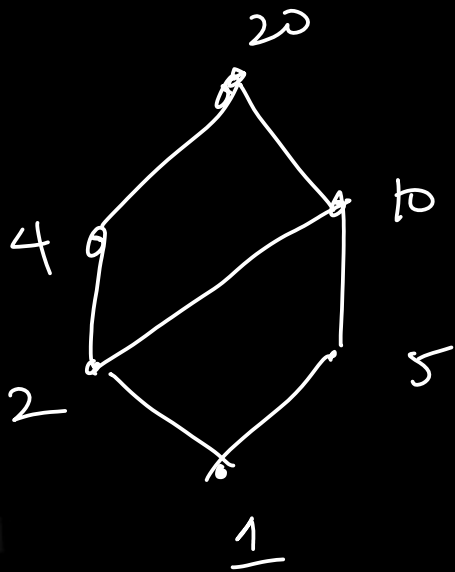


11. Draw the Hasse diagram of  $(D_{20}, |)$  ( $|$  is the divides relation)

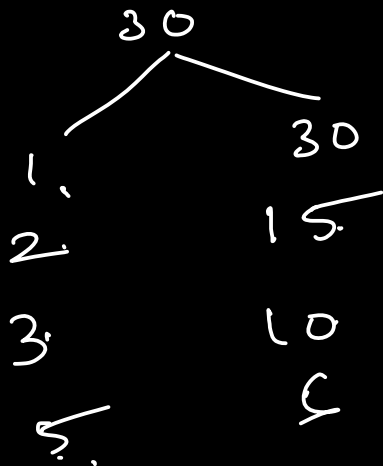
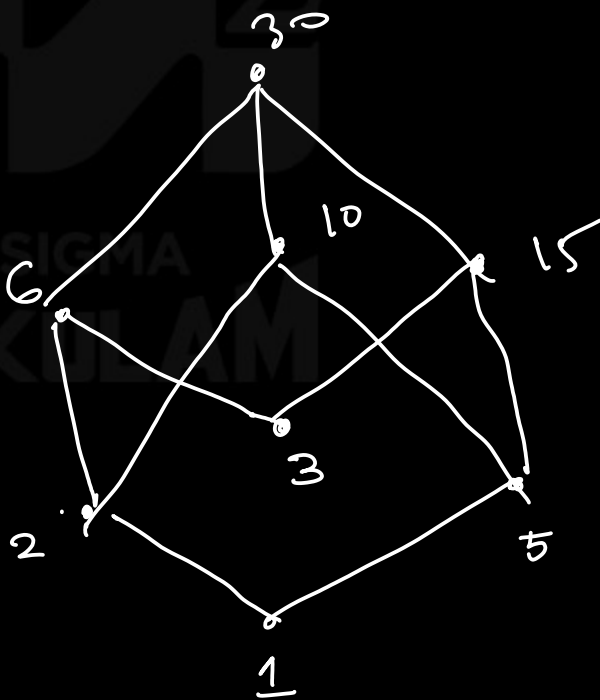
$lub(4,10)=$ 
 $lub(2,5)=$ 
 $lub(4,5)=$

$glb(4,10)=$ 
 $glb(2,5)=$ 
 $glb(4,5)=$

$$D_{20} = \{1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20\}$$



12.  $D_{30} = \{1, \check{2}, \check{3}, \check{5}, 6, 10, 15, 30\}, |$



13.  $D_{36} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, 36\}$

