

## 0.1 Chapter 1

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $P$  be a set. An order (or **partial order**) on  $P$  is a binary relation  $\leq$  on  $P$  such that, for all  $x, y, z \in P$ ,*

1.  $x \leq x$ ,
2.  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$  imply  $x = y$ ,
3.  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z$  imply  $x \leq z$ .

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $P$  be an ordered set. Then  $P$  is a **chain** if, for all  $x, y \in P$ , either  $x \leq y$  or  $y \leq x$  (that is, if any two elements of  $P$  are comparable). Alternative names for a chain are **linearly ordered set** and **totally ordered set**. The ordered set is an **antichain** if  $x \leq y$  in  $P$  only if  $x = y$ .*

**Theorem 3.** *We say that  $P$  and  $Q$  are (**order-**)**isomorphic**, and write  $P \cong Q$ , if there exists a map  $\varphi$  from  $P$  onto  $Q$  such that  $x \leq y$  in  $P$  if and only if  $\varphi(x) \leq \varphi(y)$  in  $Q$ . Then  $\varphi$  is called **order-isomorphism**.*

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $P$  be an ordered set and let  $x, y \in P$ . We say  $x$  is **covered by**  $y$  (or  $y$  **covers**  $x$ ), and write  $x \prec y$ , if  $x \leq y$  and  $x \leq z \leq y$  implies  $z = x$ . The latter condition is demanding that there be no element  $z$  of  $P$  with  $x \leq z \leq y$ .*

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $P$  be a finite ordered set. We can represent  $P$  by a configuration of circles (representing the elements of  $P$ ) and interconnecting lines (indicating the covering relation). The construction goes as follows.*

1. To each point  $x \in P$ , associate a point  $p(x)$  of the Euclidean plane, depicted by a small circle with centre at  $p(x)$ .
2. For each covering pair  $x \prec y$  in  $P$ , take a line segment  $\ell(x, y)$  joining the circle at  $p(x)$  to the circle at  $p(y)$ .
3. Carry out 1 and 2 in such a way that
  - if  $x \prec y$ , then  $p(x)$  is ‘lower’ than  $p(y)$  (that is, in standard Cartesian coordinates, has strictly smaller second coordinate),

- the circle at  $p(z)$  does not intersect the line segment  $\ell(x, y)$  if  $z \neq x$  and  $z \neq y$ .

**Theorem 6.** Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be finite ordered sets and let  $\varphi : P \mapsto Q$  be a bijective map. Then the following are equivalent:

1.  $\varphi$  is an order-isomorphism;
2.  $x \leq y$  in  $P$  if and only if  $\varphi(x) \leq \varphi(y)$  in  $Q$
3.  $x \prec y$  in  $P$  if and only if  $\varphi(x) \prec \varphi(y)$  in  $Q$

**Theorem 7.** Given any ordered set  $P$  we can form a new ordered set  $P^\partial$  (the **dual** of  $P$ ) by defining  $x \leq y$  to hold in  $P^\partial$  if and only if  $y \leq x$  hold in  $P$ . For  $P$  finite, we obtain a diagram for  $P^\partial$  simply by ‘turning upside down’ a diagram for  $P$ .

**Theorem 8.** Let  $P$  be an ordered set. We say  $P$  has a bottom element if there exists  $\perp \in P$  (called **bottom**) with the property that  $\perp \leq x$  for all  $x \in P$ . Dually,  $P$  has a top element if there exists  $\top \in P$  such that  $x \leq \top$  for all  $x \in P$ .

**Theorem 9.** Let  $P$  be an ordered set. We say  $P$  has a bottom element if there exists  $\perp \in P$  (called **bottom**) with the property that  $\perp \leq x$  for all  $x \in P$ . Dually,  $P$  has a top element if there exists  $\top \in P$  such that  $x \leq \top$  for all  $x \in P$ .

**Theorem 10.** Given an ordered set  $P$  (with or without  $\perp$ ), we form  $P_\perp$  (called  $P$  ‘lifted’) as follows. Take an element  $\mathbf{0} \notin P$  and define  $\leq$  on  $P_\perp := P \cup \{\mathbf{0}\}$  by

$$x \leq y \text{ if and only if } x = \mathbf{0} \text{ or } x \leq y \text{ in } P$$

**Theorem 11.** Let  $P$  be an ordered set and let  $Q \subseteq P$ . Then  $a \in Q$  is a **maximal element** of  $Q$  if  $a \leq x$  and  $x \in Q$  imply  $a = x$ . We denote the set of maximal elements of  $Q$  by  $\text{Max}Q$ . If  $Q$  (with the order inherited from  $P$ ) has a top element,  $\top_Q$ , then  $\text{Max}Q = \{\top_Q\}$ ; in this case  $\top_Q$  is called the **greatest** (or **maximum**) element of  $Q$ , and we write  $\top_Q = \text{max}Q$ . A **minimal** element of  $Q \subseteq P$  and  $\text{min}Q$ , the **least** (or **minimum**) element of  $Q$  (when these exist) are defined dually, that is by reversing the order.

**Theorem 12.** Suppose that  $P$  and  $Q$  are (disjoint) ordered sets. The **disjoint union**  $P \cup Q$  of  $P$  and  $Q$  is the ordered set formed by defining  $x \leq y$  in  $P \cup Q$  if and only if

either  $x, y \in P$  and  $x \leq y$  in  $P$  or  $x, y \in Q$  and  $x \leq y$  in  $Q$ . A diagram for  $P \cup Q$  is formed by placing side by side diagrams for  $P$  and  $Q$ .

**Theorem 13.** Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be (disjoint) ordered sets. **The linear sum**  $P \oplus Q$  is defined by taking the following order relation on  $P \cup Q$  :  $x \leq y$  if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} & x, y \in P \text{ and } x \leq y \text{ in } P, \\ & \text{or } x, y \in Q \text{ and } x \leq y \text{ in } Q, \\ & \text{or } x \in P \text{ and } y \in Q \end{aligned}$$

A diagram for  $P \oplus Q$  (when  $P$  and  $Q$  are finite) is obtained by placing a diagram for  $P$  directly below a diagram for  $Q$  and then adding a line segment from each maximal element of  $P$  to each minimal element of  $Q$ .

**Theorem 14.** Let  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  be ordered sets. The Cartesian product  $P_1 \times \dots \times P_n$  can be made into an ordered set by imposing the coordinatewise order by

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq (y_1, \dots, y_n) \iff (\forall i) x_i \leq y_i \text{ in } P_i.$$

**Theorem 15.** Let  $X = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and define  $\varphi : \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}2^n$  by  $\varphi(A) = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)$  where

$$\epsilon_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in A, \\ 0 & \text{if } i \notin A. \end{cases}$$

Then  $\varphi$  is an order-isomorphism.

**Theorem 16.** Let  $P$  be an ordered set and  $Q \subseteq P$ .

- $Q$  is a **down-set** (alternative term include **decreasing set** and **order ideal**) if, whenever  $x \in Q$ ,  $y \in P$  and  $y \leq x$ , we have  $y \in Q$ .
- Dually,  $Q$  is an **up-set** (alternative terms are **increasing set** and **order filter**) if, whenever  $x \in Q$ ,  $y \in P$  and  $y \geq x$ , we have  $y \in Q$ .

**Theorem 17.**  $\downarrow Q := \{y \in P \mid (\exists x \in Q) y \leq x\}$  and  $\uparrow Q := \{y \in P \mid (\exists x \in Q) y \geq x\}$ ,

$$\downarrow x := \{y \in P \mid y \leq x\} \text{ and } \uparrow x := \{y \in P \mid y \geq x\}.$$

**Theorem 18.** The family of all down-sets of  $P$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{O}(P)$ . It is itself an ordered set, under the inclusion order.

**Theorem 19.** *Let  $P$  be an ordered set and  $x, y \in P$ . Then the following are equivalent:*

1.  $x \leq y$ ;
2.  $\downarrow x \subseteq \downarrow y$ ;
3.  $(\forall Q \in \mathcal{O}(P)) y \in Q \implies x \in Q$ .

**Theorem 20.**

$$\mathcal{O}(P)^\partial = \mathcal{O}(P^\partial)$$

**Theorem 21.** *Let  $P$  be an ordered set. Then*

1.  $\mathcal{O}(P \oplus \mathbf{1}) \cong \mathcal{O}(P) \oplus \mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{1} \oplus P) \cong \mathbf{1} \oplus \mathcal{O}(P)$ ;
2.  $\mathcal{O}(P_1 \cup P_2) \cong \mathcal{O}(P_1) \times \mathcal{O}(P_2)$ .

**Theorem 22.** *Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be ordered sets. A map  $\varphi : P \rightarrow Q$  is said to be*

1. **order-preserving** (or alternatively, **monotone**) if  $x \leq y$  in  $P$  implies  $\varphi(x) \leq \varphi(y)$  in  $Q$ ;
2. an **order-embedding** (and we write  $\varphi : P \rightarrow Q$ ) if  $x \leq y$  in  $P$  if and only if  $\varphi(x) \leq \varphi(y)$  in  $Q$ ;
3. an **order-isomorphism** if it is an order-embedding which maps  $P$  onto  $Q$ .