Peckness of Edge Posets

David Hemminger[1], Aaron Landesman[2], Zijian Yao[3]

[1]Duke University , [2]Harvard University , [3]Brown University

August 5, 2014

Outline of Talk

Basic Definitions

Definition

Let P be a finite graded poset of rank n, that is:

- Elements of P are a disjoint union of $P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n$, called the *ranks*
- If $x \in P_i$ and $x \lessdot y$, then $y \in P_{i+1}$
- Define $\mathrm{rk}(x) = k$, where $x \in P_k$.

Definition

A map $f \colon P \to Q$ is a *morphism* from P to Q if $x \leq_P y \implies f(x) \leq_Q f(y)$ and $\mathrm{rk}(x) = \mathrm{rk}(f(x))$. We say that f is *injective/surjective/bijective* if it is an injection/surjection/bijection from P to Q as sets.

Peck Posets

Definition

Write $p_i = |P_i|$. P is

- *Rank-symmetric* if $p_i = p_{n-i}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$
- *Rank-unimodal* if for some $0 \leq k \leq n$ we have

$$p_0 \leq p_1 \leq \ldots \leq p_k \geq p_{k+1} \geq \ldots \geq p_n$$

- *k-Sperner* if no disjoint union of k antichains (sets of pairwise incomparable elements) in P is larger than the disjoint union of the largest k ranks of P
- *Strongly Sperner* if it is k-Sperner for all $1 \leq k \leq n$.
- *Peck* if P is rank-symmetric, rank-unimodal, and strongly Sperner.

Definition

Let $V(P)$ and $V(P_i)$ be the complex vector spaces with bases $\{x|x \in P\}$ and $\{x|x \in P_i\}$

Lemma (Stanley, 1980)

P is Peck if and only if there exists an linear transformation $U\colon V(P) \to V(P)$ such that

- *For every basis element $x \in P$,*

$$U(x) = \sum_{y \gtrdot x} c_{x,y} y$$

- *For all $0 \leq i < \frac{n}{2}$, the map $U^{n-2i}\colon V(P_i) \to V(P_{n-i})$ is an isomorphism.*

Definition

If the Lefschetz map defined by

$$L(x) = \sum_{y \gtrdot x} y$$

satisfies the second condition in the previous lemma, then P is *unitary Peck*.

Outline of Talk

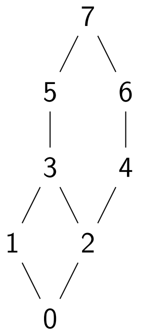
Definition of the Edge Poset

Definition

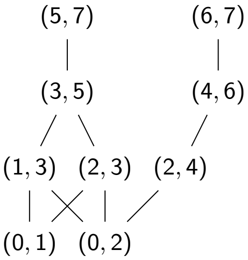
For P a finite graded poset, it's *edge poset* $\mathcal{E}(P)$ is the finite graded poset defined as follows.

- Elements of $\mathcal{E}(P)$ are ordered pairs $(x, y) \in P \times P$ where $x \lessdot y$
- Define $(x, y) \lessdot_{\mathcal{E}} (x', y')$ if $x \lessdot_P x'$ and $y \lessdot_P y'$
- Define $\leq_{\mathcal{E}}$ to be the transitive closure of $\lessdot_{\mathcal{E}}$
- Define $\mathrm{rk}_{\mathcal{E}}(x, y) = \mathrm{rk}_P(x)$.

Basic Example



P



$\mathcal{E}(P)$

Conjecture on the Peckness of Edge Posets

Definition

The *boolean algebra of rank n* is the poset whose elements are subsets of $[n]$ with order given by containment, i.e. for $x, y \in B_n$, $x \leq y$ if $x \subseteq y$.

Conjecture (Hemminger, Landesman, and Yao 2014)

Let $G \subseteq \mathrm{Aut}(B_n)$. *Then* $\mathcal{E}(B_n/G)$ *is Peck.*

Outline of Talk

Main Result

Definition

A group action of G on P is *cover transitive* if whenever $x, y, z \in P$ such that $x \lessdot z$, $y \lessdot z$, and $y \in Gx$, there exists some $g \in \mathrm{Stab}_G(z)$ such that $g \cdot x = y$.

Theorem (Hemminger, Landesman, and Yao 2014)

If a group action of G on B_n is cover transitive, then $\mathcal{E}(B_n/G)$ is Peck.

Definition

Given a group action of G on P, we define a group action of G on $\mathcal{E}(P)$ by letting $g \cdot (x, y) = (g \cdot x, g \cdot y)$ for all $g \in G$.

Definition

Given a group action of G on P, we define a group action of G on $\mathcal{E}(P)$ by letting $g \cdot (x, y) = (g \cdot x, g \cdot y)$ for all $g \in G$.

Proposition

The map $q\colon \mathcal{E}(P)/G \to \mathcal{E}(P/G)$ defined by $q(G(x, y)) = (Gx, Gy)$ is a surjective morphism. Furthermore, q is also injective if and only if the action of G on P is cover transitive.

Lemma

If $f : P \to Q$ is a bijective morphism and P is Peck then Q is Peck.

Theorem (Stanley, 1984)

If P is unitary Peck and $G \subseteq \mathrm{Aut}(P)$, then P/G is Peck.

It would then suffice to show that $\mathcal{E}(B_n)$ is unitary Peck, but our proof for this is complicated. Instead we construct a unitary Peck poset $\mathcal{H}(B_n)$ such that there is a bijective morphism $\mathcal{H}(B_n)/G \to \mathcal{E}(B_n)/G$.

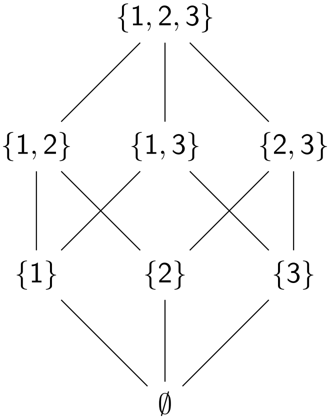
Definition of $\mathcal{H}(P)$

Definition

For P a finite graded poset, define the graded poset $\mathcal{H}(P)$ as follows.

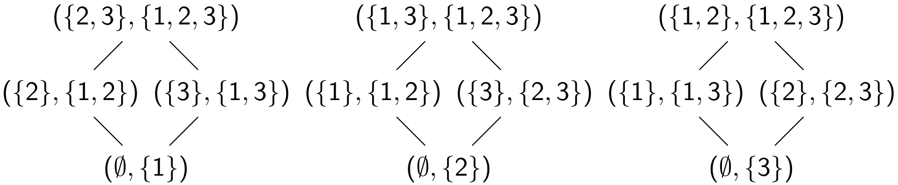
- Elements are pairs $(x, y) \in P \times P$ such that $x \lessdot y$
- Define $(x, y) \lessdot_{\mathcal{H}} (x', y')$ if $x \lessdot_P x', y \lessdot_P y'$ **and** $\mathbf{y \neq x'}$
- Define $\leq_{\mathcal{H}}$ to be the transitive closure of $\lessdot_{\mathcal{H}}$
- Define $rk_{\mathcal{H}}(x, y) = rk_P(x)$.

The Boolean Algebra B_3



B_3

$\mathcal{H}(B_3)$ is unitary Peck



$\mathcal{H}(B_3)$

Definition

As before, for G acting on P, define $g \cdot (x, y) = (g \cdot x, g \cdot y)$.

Remark

Since $\mathcal{E}(P)$ and $\mathcal{H}(P)$ have the same elements and $(x, y) \leq_{\mathcal{H}} (x', y') \implies (x, y) \leq_{\mathcal{E}} (x', y')$, there is a natural bijective morphism $\mathcal{H}(P)/G \to \mathcal{E}(P)/G$.

Proof of Main Result.

$\mathcal{H}(B_n)$ unitary Peck $\implies \mathcal{H}(B_n)/G$ Peck $\implies \mathcal{E}(B_n)/G$ Peck $\implies \mathcal{E}(B_n/G)$ Peck. $\square$

References

Acknowledgements

1. Thanks to Dr. Victor Reiner and Elise DelMas for mentoring and TAing this project.
2. Thanks to Dr. Gregg Musiker and the University of Minnesota School of Mathematics for coordinating and hosting this REU.
3. This research was supported by the RTG grant NSF/DMS-1148634.