

Unit - 3Chapter - 4Posets, Hasse Diagram and Lattices

A relation R on a set A is said to be partial order if R is reflexive, anti-symmetric and transitive. Thus, a relation R on a set A is partial order relation if the following conditions hold.

- 1) Reflexivity : $aRa \forall a \in A$
- 2) Anti-symmetry : If aRb, bRa then $a=b$.
- 3) Transitivity : If aRb, bRc then aRc .

The set A together with the partial order R is called partially ordered set.

We generally denote a partial order by the symbol \leq in place of R .

Ex The relation \leq of divisibility is partial order on the set N of natural no. Here $a \leq b$ means $a|b$ (a divides b)

Here,

The element 2 and 5 are not comparable since neither 2 divides 5 nor 5 divides 2. Thus in a poset every pair of poset need to be comparable.

Totally ordered Set or (Chain) Let (A, \leq) be a poset (A, \leq) is called chain or totally ordered set if every two element in A are comparable. That is, if $a, b \in A$ then $a \leq b$ or $b \leq a$. They are also called linearly ordered sets.

Minimal and Maximal elements:-

⇒ Let (P, \leq) be a poset. An element a in P is called a minimal element if there is no other element b in P s.t. $b \neq a$ and $b \leq a$.

A minimal element in a poset need not to be unique. All those elements, which appear at the lowest level of a Hasse diagram of a partially ordered set are minimal elements.

Every finite poset has at least one minimal element.

⇒ Let (P, \leq) be a poset. An element a in P is called a maximal element if there is no b in P s.t. $a \neq b$ and $a \leq b$. In other words,

A maximal element in a poset need not to be unique. All those elements which appear at the highest levels of a Hasse diagram of a poset are maximal elements.

Least & Greatest Elements:-

⇒ Let (P, \leq) be a poset. If there exists an element $a \in P$ s.t. $a \leq x \quad \forall x \in P$, then a is called the least element in P .

This least element also called first element or zero element of P .

RepresentatiEx:

let $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
 $R_1 = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3), (4,4)\}$

R_1 is P.O.R.

	1	2	3	4
1	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,4
2	2,1	2,2	2,3	2,4
3	3,1	3,2	3,3	3,4
4	4,1	4,2	4,3	4,4

⇒ Let (P, \leq) be a poset. If there exists an element $a \in P$ s.t. $x \leq a$ for all $x \in P$, then a is called the greatest element in P .

The greatest element is also called last element or unit element of P , and usually denoted by 1 .

Upper Bounds and Least Upper Bound

Let (P, \leq) be a poset and let A be a subset of P . An element $x \in P$ is called an upper bound of A if $a \leq x \quad \forall a \in A$.

Let (P, \leq) be a poset and let $A \subseteq P$. An element $x \in P$ is said to be a least upper bound or supremum of A if x is an upper bound of A and $x \leq y$ for all upper bounds y of A . Supremum of A is denoted by $\sup(A)$.

Lower Bounds and Greatest Lower Bound

Let (P, \leq) be a poset and A be a subset of P . An element $x \in P$ is said to be a lower bound of A if $x \leq a \quad \forall a \in A$.

Let (P, \leq) be a poset and $A \subseteq P$. An element $x \in P$ is said to be a greatest lower bound or infimum of A , denoted by $\inf(A)$, if x is a lower bound and $y \leq x$ for all lower bounds y of A . It is denoted by $\inf(A)$.

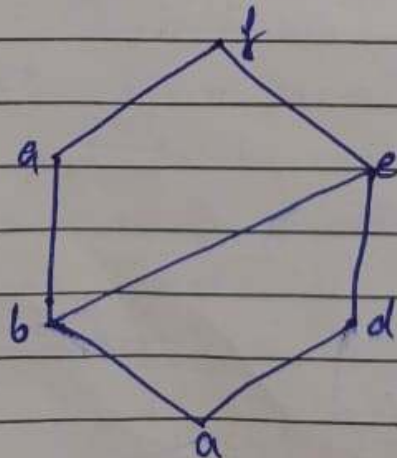
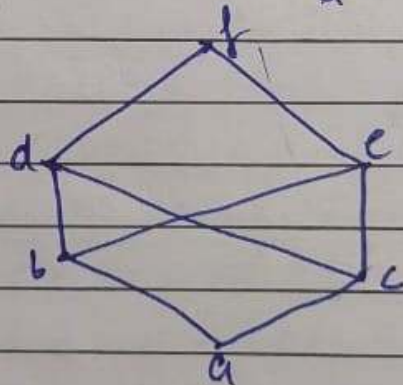
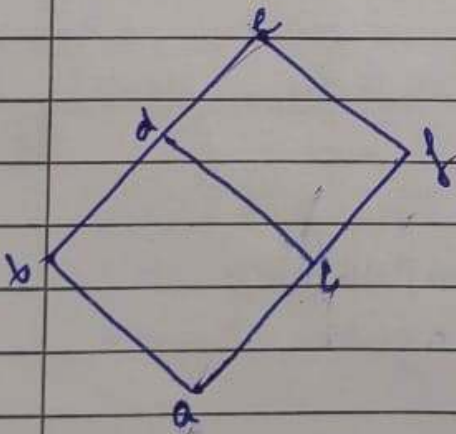
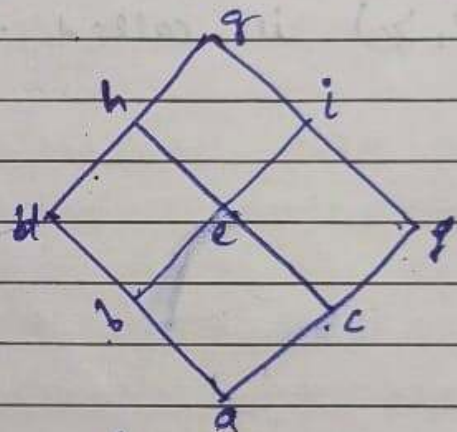
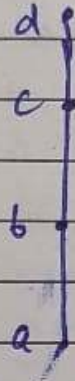
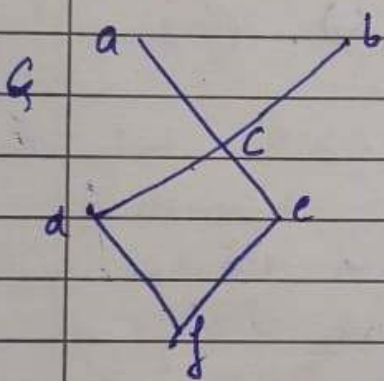
Lattice

A lattice is a poset (L, \leq) in which every subset $\{a, b\}$ of two element of L has a greatest lower bound and a least upper bound.

\Rightarrow poset (L, \leq) is a lattice if for every $a, b \in L$ $\sup\{a, b\}$ and $\inf\{a, b\}$ exist in L .

$\vee \rightarrow$ join, $a+b, \text{lcm}$ $\wedge \rightarrow$ meet, $a \cdot b, \text{gcd}$

We denote $\sup\{a, b\}$ by $a \vee b$ and call it the join of a and b and $\inf\{a, b\}$ by $a \wedge b$ and call it the meet of a and b .

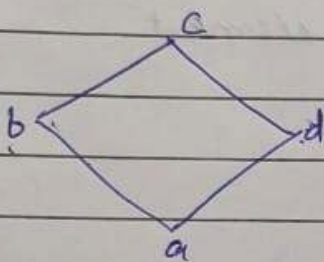


Properties of lattice +

Thm: If (L, \leq) is a lattice then for any $a, b, c \in L$ the following hold:

- 1) $a \wedge a = a$ and $a \vee a = a$
- 2) $a \wedge b = b \wedge a$ and $a \vee b = b \vee a$
- 3) $(a \wedge b) \wedge c = a \wedge (b \wedge c)$
- 4) $a \wedge (a \vee b) = a$

Ex.

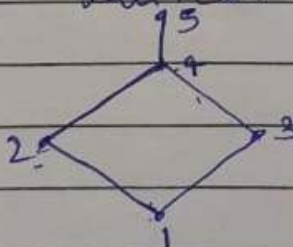


Sup \vee	a	b	c	d
a	a	b	c	d
b	b	b	c	d
c	c	c	c	d
d	d	d	d	d

Inf \wedge	a	b	c	d
a	a	a	a	a
b	a	b	b	a
c	a	b	c	d
d	a	a	d	d

Since sup and inf exist for each pair So, it is lattice.

Ex.



\vee	1	2	3	4	5	\wedge	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	4	4	5	2	1	2	1	2	2
3	3	4	3	4	5	3	1	1	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	5	4	1	2	3	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	1	2	3	4	5

Since sup and inf exist for each pair, So, it is lattice.

Dual of a poset

Let R be a relation defined on a set X . Then the converse of R , denoted by \bar{R} , is a relation on X defined by

$$a\bar{R}b \text{ if and only if } bRa, a, b \in X$$

If R is a partial order relation denoted by \leq on X then \bar{R} , the converse of R , is denoted by \geq .

\Rightarrow Let (P, \leq) be a poset, then (P, \geq) is also a poset. (P, \geq) is called the dual of (P, \leq) .

Ex-

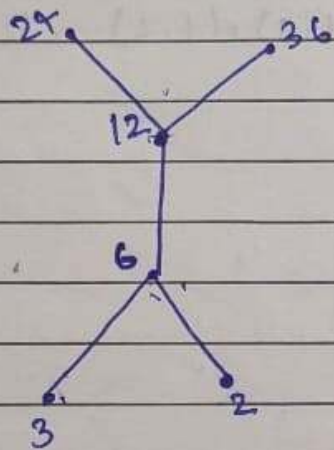
$$X = \{2, 3, 6, 12, 24, 36\}$$

\leq be defined as $x|y$

Then

$$R = \{(2, 6), (2, 12), (2, 24), (2, 36), (3, 6), (3, 12), (3, 24), (3, 36), (6, 12), (6, 24), (6, 36), (12, 24), (12, 36), (24, 36)\}$$

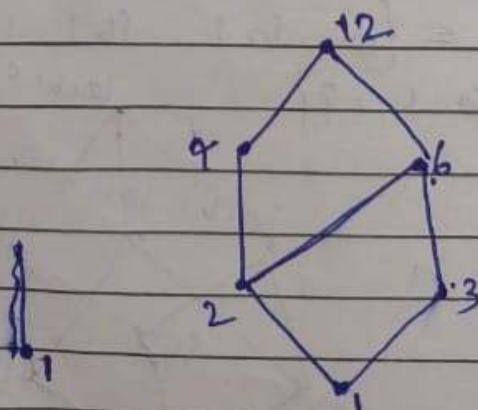
$$R = \{(2, 6), (3, 6), (3, 12), (3, 36), (12, 24), (12, 36), (6, 12), (6, 36)\}$$



Ex-

$$X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12\}, \quad x \leq y \Leftrightarrow x|y$$

$$R = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 6), (1, 12), (2, 4), (2, 6), (2, 12), (3, 6), (3, 12), (4, 12), (6, 12)\}$$



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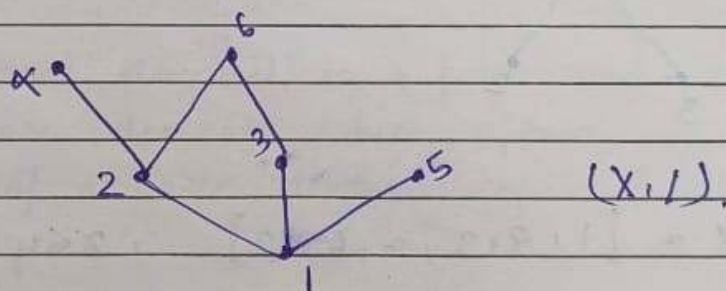
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Hasse Diagram →

A partial order \leq on a set X can be represented by means of a diagram known as Hasse diagram of (X, \leq) .

eg. let $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ then \mid is a partial order relation on X . Draw the Hasse diagram of (X, \mid) .

sol. $R = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 4), (2, 6), (3, 6)\}$



ex = Draw the Hasse diagram for the poset $(P(S), \subseteq)$ where $P(S)$ is power set on $S = \{a, b, c\}$

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

