



Partial Orderings, Lattices, and Boolean Algebra

Partial Orderings

■ Definition:

A binary relation R on a set is called a **partial ordering** if it is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive.

■ Example:

□ “refines” is a partial ordering on the set of all the partitions.

■ Notation:

\leq is used as a **generic symbol for partial ordering**.

□ $A = \{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15, 30\}$

“divides” relation: x divides y if x is a factor of y

➔ $2 \leq 6$ and $3 \leq 6$ are true but $5 \leq 6$ is not true.

Partial Orderings

■ Definition:

When R is a partial ordering on a set A , the pair (A, R) is called a **partially ordered set** or a **poset**.

■ Examples of posets:

- (\mathbf{R}, \leq)
- (the set of all the partitions, refines)
- $(\mathbf{Z}^+, \text{divides})$
- $(\wp(A), \subseteq)$

Partial Orderings

■ Theorem:

If R is a partial ordering on a set A , then R^c is also a partial ordering on A .

■ Definition:

Let R be a partial ordering on a set A and let $X \subseteq A$. The **restriction of R on X** , denoted R/X , is defined by

$$R/X = \{ (x, y) \mid x \in X \wedge y \in X \wedge (x, y) \in R \}$$

■ Example:

$$A = \mathbf{Z}^+ \quad X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$$

$$\square \text{ divides}/X = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), \dots, (1, 7), (2, 2), (2, 4), (2, 6), (3, 3), (3, 6), (4, 4), (5, 5), (6, 6), (7, 7)\}$$

Partial Orderings

■ Theorem:

Let R be a partial ordering on a set A and let $X \subseteq A$. Then R/X is a partial ordering on X .

■ Definition:

Let R be a partial ordering on a set A . If $a, b \in A$ are such that either $(a, b) \in R$ or $(b, a) \in R$ then a and b are said to be **comparable**.

■ Example:

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

- a and b are comparable.
- a and c are not comparable. b and c are not comparable.

Partial Orderings

■ Definition:

Let R be a partial ordering on a set A such that every pair $a, b \in A$ is comparable. Then R is said to be a **linear ordering (total ordering)** and (A, R) is said to be a **linearly ordered set (totally ordered set)** or a **chain**.

■ Definition:

A relation R on a set A is called a **strict partial ordering** if it is irreflexive, asymmetric, and transitive.

■ Example:

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

□ $R' = \{(a, b)\}$ is a strict partial ordering

Partial Orderings

■ Notation:

$<$ is used as a **generic symbol for strict partial ordering**.

$$< = \{ (x, y) \mid (x, y) \in \leq \wedge x \neq y \} = \leq - E_A$$

■ Definition:

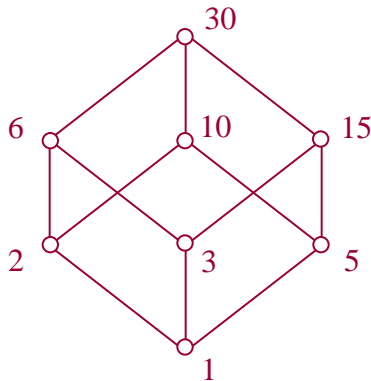
Let $<$ be a strict partial ordering on a set A . Then the **covers** relation with respect to $<$ on A , denoted by $\text{covers}_<$, is defined as follows:

$$\text{covers}_< = \{ (x, y) \mid y < x \text{ and there is no } z \text{ such that } y < z \text{ and } z < x \}$$

Partial Orderings

■ Example:

- “divides” relation on $A = \{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15, 30\}$
- $\leq = \leq - E_A$
 $= \{(1, 2), \dots, (1, 30), (2, 6), (2, 10), (2, 30), (3, 6), (3, 15), (3, 30), (5, 10), (5, 15), (5, 30), (6, 30), (15, 30), (10, 30)\}$
- $\text{covers}_{<} = \{(2, 1), (3, 1), (5, 1), (6, 2), (6, 3), (10, 2), (10, 5), (15, 3), (15, 5), (30, 6), (30, 10), (30, 15)\}$

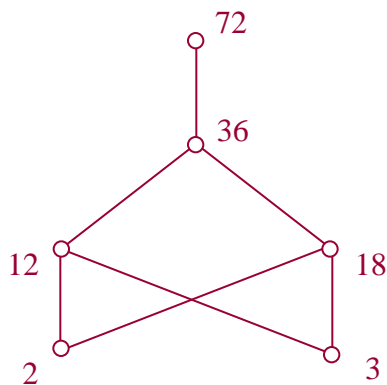


Hasse Diagram

Partial Orderings

■ Example:

- “divides” relation on $A = \{2, 3, 12, 18, 36, 72\}$
- $\leq = \{ (2, 12), (2, 18), (2, 36), (2, 72), (3, 12), (3, 18), (3, 36), (3, 72), (12, 36), (12, 72), (18, 36), (18, 72), (36, 72) \}$
- $\text{covers}_{\leq} = \{ (12, 2), (12, 3), (18, 2), (18, 3), (36, 12), (36, 18), (72, 36) \}$



We can write \leq from the Hasse diagram.

Partial Orderings

■ Example:

- “less than or equal to” relation on $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$
- This relation is a linear ordering.
- The poset is called a linearly ordered set, totally ordered set, or chain.



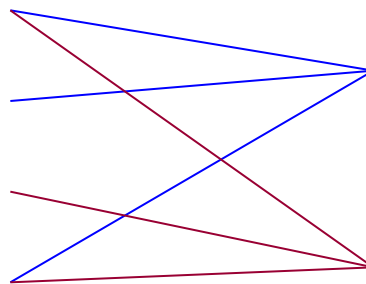
Partial Orderings

■ Example:

□ Identity relation E_A on $A = \{a, b, c\}$

□ This relation is

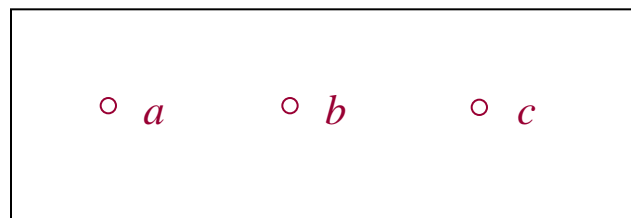
- reflexive
- symmetric
- antisymmetric
- transitive



equivalence relation

partial ordering

Hasse diagram of E_A :



Bounds

■ Definition:

Let (A, \leq) be a poset and let $X \subseteq A$. Then,

- $a \in X$ is the **greatest element** of X if $x \leq a$ for every $x \in X$.
- $a \in X$ is the **least element** of X if $a \leq x$ for every $x \in X$.
- $a \in X$ is the **maximal element** of X if there is no $x \in X$ such that $a < x$.
- $a \in X$ is the **minimal element** of X if there is no $x \in X$ such that $x < a$.

Bounds

■ Example:

□ “divides” relation on $A = \{2, 3, 12, 18, 36, 72\}$

□ $X_1 = \{2, 3, 12\}$

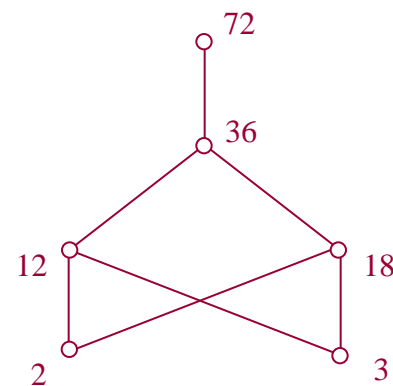
■ greatest element of X_1 : 12

■ least element of X_1 : none

□ $X_2 = \{2, 3, 12, 18\}$

■ greatest element of X_2 : none

■ least element of X_2 : none



Bounds

■ Theorem:

Let (A, \leq) be a poset and let $X \subseteq A$. Then the greatest (least) element of X if it exists is unique.

■ *Proof*:

Let there be two elements a and b which are the greatest elements of X .

Then, $a \leq b$ because b is the greatest element of X and $a \in X$.

Similarly, $b \leq a$ because a is the greatest element of X and $b \in X$.

From $a \leq b$ and $b \leq a$, we conclude $a = b$ because \leq is symmetric.

□

Bounds

■ Example:

□ “divides” relation on $A = \{2, 3, 12, 18, 36, 72\}$

□ $X_1 = \{2, 3, 12\}$

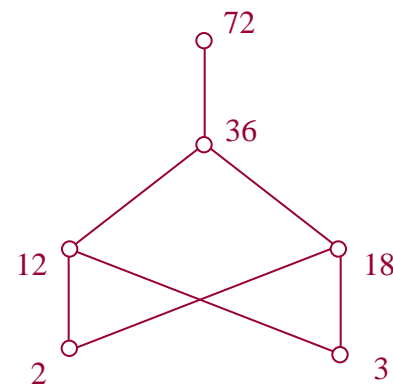
■ maximal element of X_1 : 12

■ minimal element of X_1 : 2, 3

□ $X_2 = \{2, 3, 12, 18\}$

■ maximal element of X_2 : 12, 18

■ minimal element of X_2 : 2, 3



Bounds

■ Theorem:

Let (A, \leq) be a poset and let $X \subseteq A$. If $a \in X$ is the unique maximal (minimal) element of X then a is the greatest (least) element of X .

■ Definition:

Let (A, \leq) be a poset and let $X \subseteq A$. Then,

- $a \in A$ is the **upper bound** of X if $x \leq a$ for every $x \in X$.
- $a \in A$ is the **lower bound** of X if $a \leq x$ for every $x \in X$.

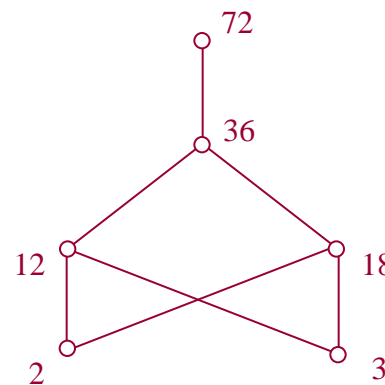
Bounds

■ Example:

□ “divides” relation on $A = \{2, 3, 12, 18, 36, 72\}$

□ $X = \{12, 18, 36\}$

- greatest element: 36
- least element: none
- maximal element: 36
- minimal element: 12, 18
- upper bound: 36, 72
- lower bound: 2, 3



Bounds

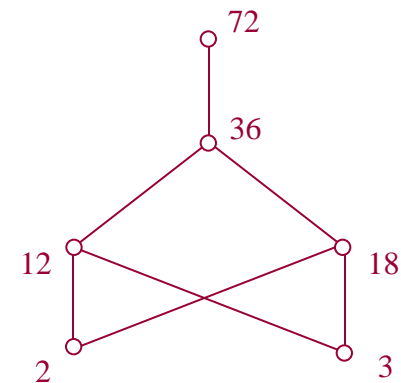
■ Definition:

Let (A, \leq) be a poset and let $X \subseteq A$. Then,

- The least element of the set of upper bounds of X is called the **least upper bound (LUB, supremum)** of X .
- The greatest element of the set of lower bounds of X is called the **greatest lower bound (GLB, infimum)** of X .

■ Example:

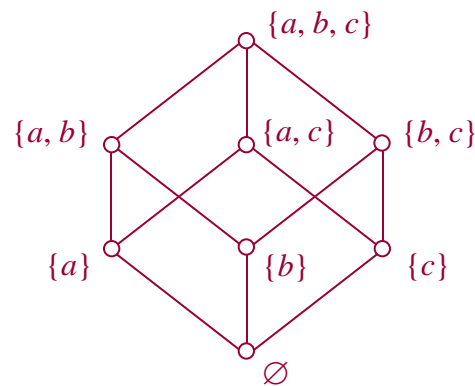
- “divides” relation on $A = \{2, 3, 12, 18, 36, 72\}$
- $X = \{12, 18, 36\}$
 - LUB of X : 36
 - GLB of X : none



Bounds

■ Example:

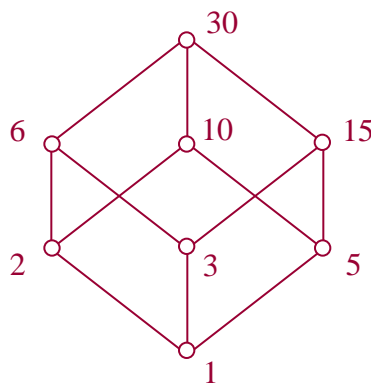
- Consider the poset $(\wp(A), \subseteq)$ where $A = \{a, b, c\}$.
- Let $X_i, X_j \in \wp(A)$. Then,
 - LUB of $\{X_i, X_j\} = X_i \cup X_j$
 - GLB of $\{X_i, X_j\} = X_i \cap X_j$



Bounds

■ Example:

- Consider the poset $(A, \text{divides})$ where $A = \{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15, 30\}$.
- Let $a, b \in A$. Then,
 - LUB of $\{a, b\} = \text{LCM}$ (Least Common Multiple) of a and b
 - GLB of $\{a, b\} = \text{GCD}$ (Greatest Common Divisor) of a and b



Isomorphism

■ Definition:

Let (A, \leq) and (B, \leq') be two posets and let $f: A \rightarrow B$. The function f is said to be **order preserving** relative to \leq and \leq' if and only if for every $a, b \in A$ if $a \leq b$ then $f(a) \leq' f(b)$.

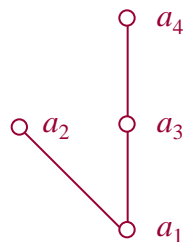
Isomorphism

■ Example:

□ $f: A \rightarrow B$

$$A = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\}$$

$$B = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4\}$$



□ $f(a_i) = b_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq 4$) is order preserving.

$$a_i \leq a_j \rightarrow f(a_i) = b_i \leq' b_j = f(a_j) \text{ for all } i, j.$$

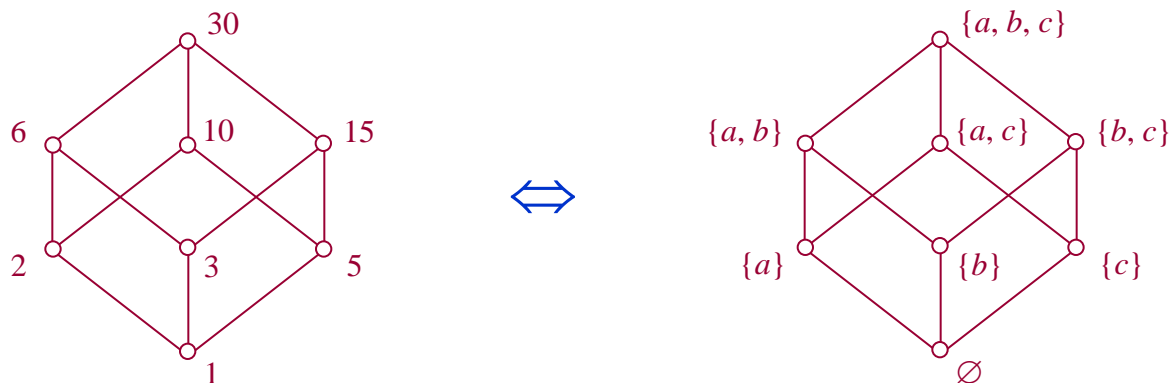
□ $f^{-1}: B \rightarrow A$ is not order preserving.

Isomorphism

■ Definition:

Let (A, \leq) and (B, \leq') be two posets and let $f: A \rightarrow B$. If both f and f^{-1} is order preserving, then f is said to be an **order isomorphism** (or just **isomorphism**) between (A, \leq) and (B, \leq') and the posets are said to be **order-isomorphic** (or just **isomorphic**).

■ Example:

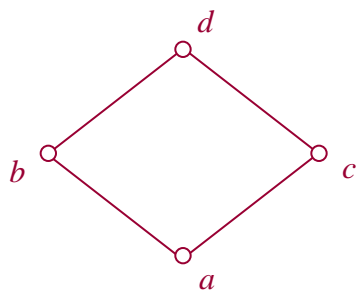


Lattices

■ Definition:

A poset (A, \leq) is said to be a **lattice** if for every $a, b \in A$ there is a LUB and a GLB.

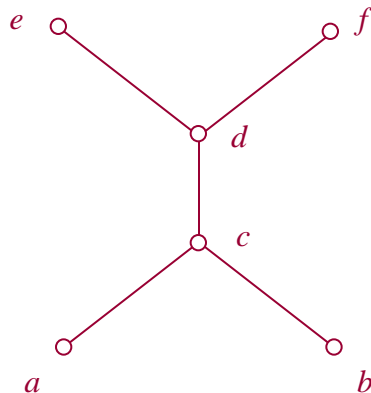
■ Examples:



Lattice

$$\text{GLB}(b, c) = a \quad \text{LUB}(b, c) = d$$

$$\text{GLB}(a, b) = a \quad \text{LUB}(a, b) = b$$



Not a lattice



Lattice



Not a lattice
identity relation

Lattices

■ Operation:

- An n -ary **operation** on a set A is a function.

$$f: \underbrace{A \times A \times \cdots \times A}_n \rightarrow A$$

- Binary operation

$$f: A \times A \rightarrow A$$

- On a lattice, GLB and LUB are binary operations.

- $\text{GLB}(a, b) = a * b$

- $\text{LUB}(a, b) = a + b$

Lattices

■ Theorem:

If (A, \leq) is a lattice, then for any $x, y \in A$

1. $x * y = x$ iff $x \leq y$

2. $x + y = y$ iff $x \leq y$

■ *Proof of 1*

(if part)

Assume $x \leq y$.

Since $x \leq x$ and $x \leq y$, x is a lower bound of x and y .

We know $x * y$ is also a lower bound and it is the greatest lower bound.

Thus $x \leq x * y$.

Lattices

■ *Proof of 1:*

But $x * y$ is a lower bound of x and y . Thus $x * y \leq x$.

From $x \leq x * y$ and $x * y \leq x$, we conclude that $x * y = x$.

(only if part)

Assume $x * y = x$.

We know $x * y$ is the greatest lower bound of x and y .

Thus $x * y \leq y$.

Since $x * y = x$, we conclude that $x \leq y$.

□

Lattices

■ Theorem:

Let (A, \leq) is a lattice. Then for every $x, y, z \in A$ the following are true:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. $x * x = x$ | $x + x = x$ | idempotent laws |
| 2. $x * y = y * x$ | $x + y = y + x$ | commutative laws |
| 3. $x * (y * z) = (x * y) * z$ | $x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z$ | associative laws |
| 4. $x * (x + y) = x$ | $x + (x * y) = x$ | absorption laws |

■ *Proof* of 1

Using the previous theorem and the fact that $x \leq x$, we can easily show that $x * x = x$ and $x + x = x$. \square

Lattices

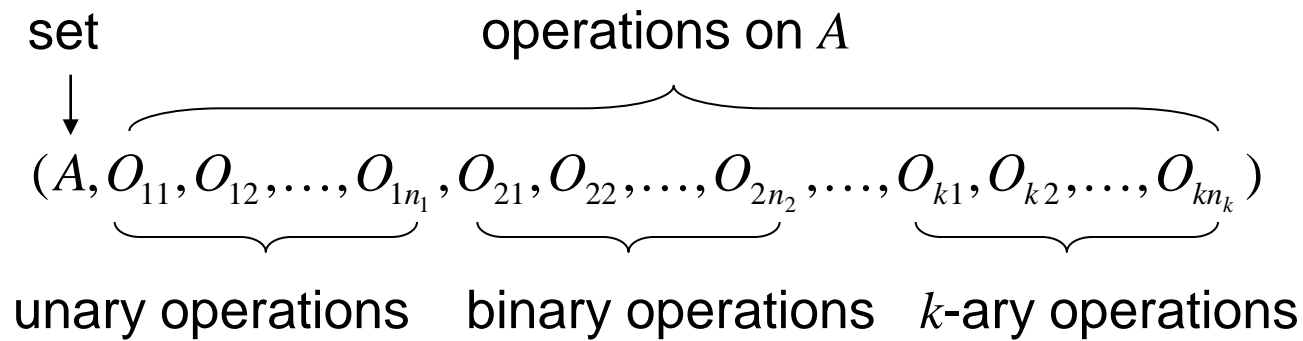
- *Proof of 4:*

$x \leq x + y$ because $x + y$ is the least upper bound of x and y .

Again, using the previous theorem, $x * (x + y) = x$.

□

Algebra



Algebra

- **Theorem:** Let $(A, *, +)$ be an algebra such that the following four pairs of laws are satisfied:

1. $x * x = x$

$$x + x = x$$

2. $x * y = y * x$

$$x + y = y + x$$

3. $x * (y * z) = (x * y) * z$

$$x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z$$

4. $x * (x + y) = x$

$$x + (x * y) = x$$

Then (A, \leq) is a lattice if, for every $x, y \in A$, $x \leq y$ when $x * y = x$ and/or $x + y = y$.

- *Proof:*

First, we want to show that \leq is a partial ordering.

Algebra

■ *Proof :*

Since $x * x = x$ for every $x \in A$, we have $x \leq x$ and so \leq is reflexive.

If $x \leq y$ and $y \leq x$, then $x * y = x$ and $y * x = y$.

But $x * y = y * x$ is given, and so $x = y$. Thus \leq is antisymmetric.

If $x \leq y$ and $y \leq z$, then $x * y = x$ and $y * z = y$.

Substituting $y * z$ for y in $x * y = x$, we get $x * (y * z) = x$.

By applying 3, we get $(x * y) * z = x$.

Substituting x for $x * y$, we get $x * z = x$.

Thus $x \leq z$ and so \leq is transitive.

Since \leq is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive, \leq is a partial ordering.

Algebra

■ *Proof :*

Now we have to show that there exists a g.l.b. and a l.u.b. of x and y for every $x, y \in A$.

Since $x * (x + y) = x$ for every $x, y \in A$, we have $x \leq x + y$.

Similarly since $y * (y + x) = y$, we have $y \leq y + x = x + y$.

From $x \leq x + y$ and $y \leq x + y$, we conclude that $x + y$ is an upper bound of x and y .

If $x + y$ is the only upper bound, then it is the l.u.b. of x and y .

If not, suppose there is another upper bound, say z , of x and y .

In this case, $x \leq z$ and $y \leq z$, and thus $x + z = z$ and $y + z = z$.

Algebra

■ *Proof :*

Substituting $y + z$ for z in the left hand side of $x + z = z$, we get $x + (y + z) = z$.

Using 3, we get $(x + y) + z = z$.

Hence, $x + y \leq z$ and thus $x + y$ is the l.u.b. of x and y .

We can similarly show that $x * y$ is the g.l.b. of x and y .

Therefore, (A, \leq) is a lattice.

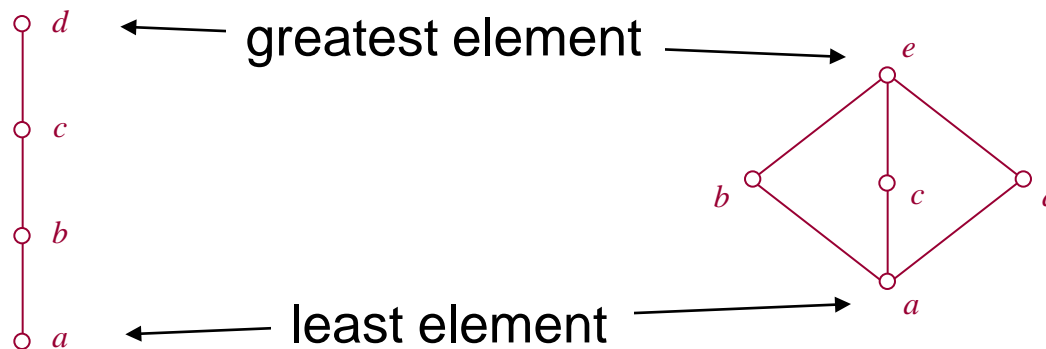
□

Boolean Lattice and Boolean Algebra

■ Definition:

A lattice (A, \leq) is said to be a **bounded lattice** if the set A has a greatest element and a least element.

■ Example:



Boolean Lattice and Boolean Algebra

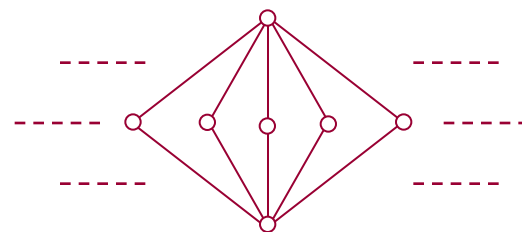
■ Note:

□ In a lattice,

- the greatest element is usually denoted by '1', and
- the least element is usually denoted by '0'.

□ For all x ,

- $0 \leq x \rightarrow 0 * x = 0$
- $x \leq 1 \rightarrow x + 1 = 1$



- **Theorem:** If (A, \leq) is a finite lattice then it is a bounded lattice.
(The converse is not necessarily true.)

Boolean Lattice and Boolean Algebra

■ Definition:

A bounded lattice (A, \leq) is said to be a **complemented lattice** if for every $x \in A$ there is an $\bar{x} \in A$ such that $x * \bar{x} = 0$ and $x + \bar{x} = 1$.

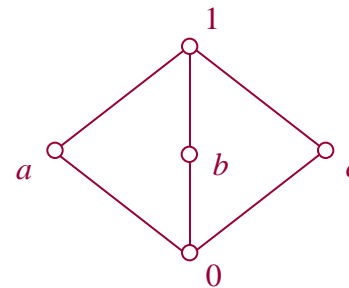
■ Example:

□ Let x be a complement of a . Then,

■ $a * x = 0 \rightarrow x = b, c, 0$

■ $a + x = 1 \rightarrow x = b, c, 1$

➔ $\bar{a} = b$ or $\bar{a} = c$



A complemented lattice

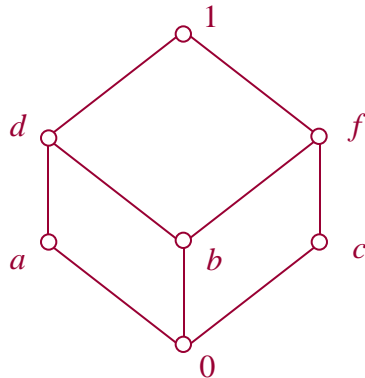
Boolean Lattice and Boolean Algebra

■ Example:

■ $b * x = 0 \rightarrow x = a, c, 0$

■ $b + x = 1 \rightarrow x = 1$

➔ There is no \bar{b} .



Not a complemented lattice

Boolean Lattice and Boolean Algebra

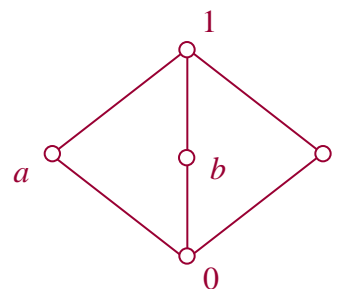
■ Definition:

A bounded lattice (A, \leq) is said to be a **distributive lattice** if for every $x, y, z \in A$ the following are satisfied:

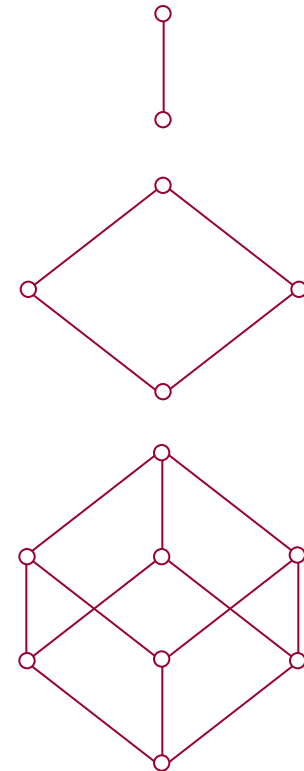
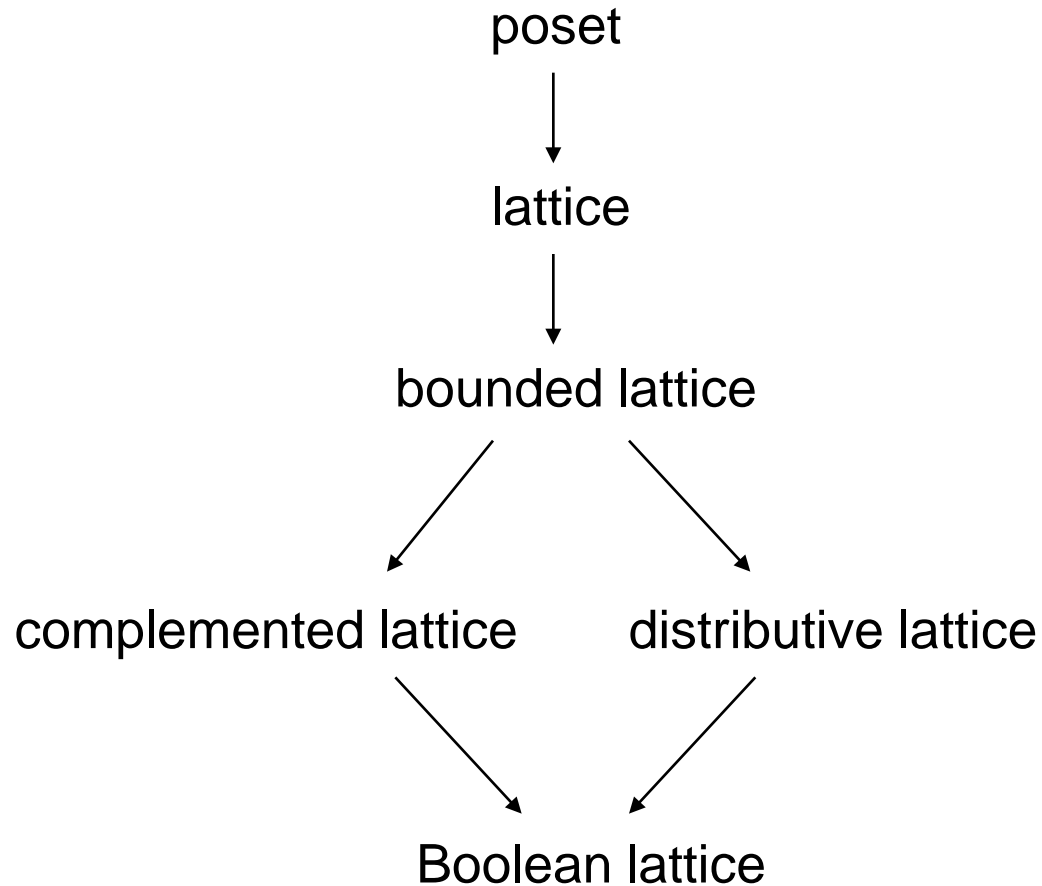
1. $x * (y + z) = (x * y) + (x * z)$, and
2. $x + (y * z) = (x + y) * (x + z)$

■ Example:

- $a * (b + c) = a * 1 = a$
 - $(a * b) + (a * c) = 0 + 0 = 0$
- ➔ Not a distributive lattice



Boolean Lattice and Boolean Algebra



Boolean lattices

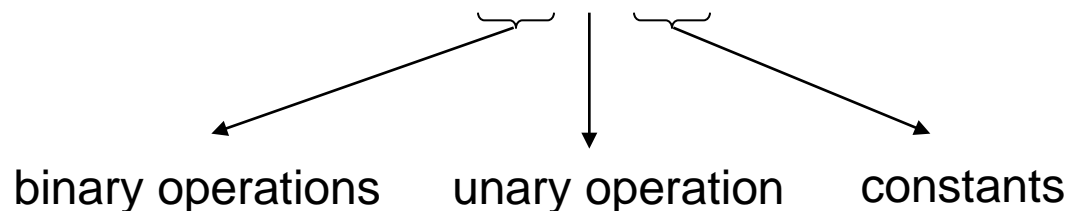
Boolean Lattice and Boolean Algebra

■ Lattice and algebra:

- From a lattice (A, \leq) we can define an algebra $(A, *, +)$, and vice versa.

lattice $(A, \leq) \cdots (A, *, +)$ algebra

Boolean lattice $(A, \leq) \cdots (A, *, +, \bar{}, 0, 1)$ Boolean algebra



Boolean Lattice and Boolean Algebra

■ Boolean algebra:

□ The following four laws are satisfied: (lattice)

- idempotent law
- commutative law
- associative law
- absorption law

□ $x + 0 = x$ and $x * 1 = x$ for every $x \in A$. (bounded lattice)

□ For every $x \in A$ there is $\bar{x} \in A$ such that $x * \bar{x} = 0$ and $x + \bar{x} = 1$.

(complemented lattice)

□ For every $x, y, z \in A$ we have $x * (y + z) = (x * y) + (x * z)$ and

$x + (y * z) = (x + y) * (x + z)$ (distributive lattice)