

Combinatorics 2017 Fall

week8 note

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P-P(pigeonhole principle) and Poset

$P = (X, \leq)$ say x is an immediate predecessor of y denoted by $x \triangleleft y$ if (i) $x < y$ (ii) $\nexists t, s.t. x < t < y$.

Fact: $\forall x, y \in (X, \leq), x < y$ iff $\exists x_1, \dots, x_k \in X$. s.t. $x \triangleleft x_1 \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft x_k \triangleleft y$.

proof: " \Leftarrow " trivial.

" \Rightarrow " $\forall x < y$. Let $M_{xy} = \{t \in X : x < t < y\}$. prove by induction on $|M_{xy}|$. If $|M_{xy}| = 0 \Rightarrow x \triangleleft y$. Suppose it holds for $x < y$ with $|M_{xy}| < n$. consider $x < y$ with $|M_{xy}| = n \geq 1$. Pick $t \in M_{xy}$. consider M_{xt}, M_{ty} . since $M_{xt} \subsetneq M_{xy}$, and $M_{ty} \subsetneq M_{xy}$, by induction on $M_{xt}, M_{ty}, \exists x_1, \dots, x_k \in X$. and $y_1, \dots, y_l \in X$, s.t. $x \triangleleft x_1 \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft x_k \triangleleft t$. and $t \triangleleft y_1 \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft y_l \triangleleft y$. then $x \triangleleft x_1 \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft x_k \triangleleft t \triangleleft y_1 \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft y_l \triangleleft y$. \square

Def: Hasse diagram of $P = (X, \leq)$ in the plane.

- (1) Each $x \in X$ is drawn as a node in the plane.
- (2) Each $x, y \in X$ with $x \triangleleft y$ is connected with a line segment.
- (3) If $x \triangleleft y$, then x must appear lower than y in the plane.

Fact: $x < y$ iff exist path in the Hasse diagram from $x \rightarrow y$, strictly from bottom to top.

Definition:

- (i) $A \subset P = (X, \leq)$ is a chain if any two of A are comparable. Let $\omega(P)$ be the maximum size of a chain of P .
- (ii) $A \subset P = (X, \leq)$ is a antichain if any two of A are incomparable. Let $\alpha(P)$ be the maximum size of a antichain of P .

In Hassa diagram, $\omega(P)$ is called the height of P . and $\alpha(P)$ is called the width of P .

Fact: the set of minimal(maximal) element of $P = (X, \leq)$ forms an antichain of P .

Thm1: \forall finite poset $P = (X, \leq)$, we have $\alpha(P) \cdot \omega(P) \geq |X|$.

proof: Let $P_1 = P = (X, \leq)$, $X_1 = X$, $M_1 = \{\text{minimal elements of } P_1\}$. let $X_2 = X_1 - M_1$, $P_2 = (X_2, \leq)$, $M_2 = \{\text{minimal elements of } P_2\}$. Inductively, define a sequence of posets $P_i = (X_i, \leq)$, and $M_i \subset P_i$ be the set of all minimal elements of P_i , $X_i = X - \bigcup_{j=1}^{i-1} M_j$. each M_i is an antichain of P_i , thus an antichain of P . so $|M_i| < \alpha(P)$. We keep doing this until $X_{l+1} = \phi$.

Claim: $\forall x \in M_{i+1} \exists y \in M_i, s.t. y < x$.

By definition of M_i . so we can find a chain $x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_l$ in P . since $X = M_1 \cup M_2 \cup \dots \cup M_l$.

$$\Rightarrow |X| = \sum_{i=1}^l |M_i| \leq \alpha(P) \cdot l \leq \alpha(P) \cdot \omega(P). \quad \square$$

Def: A chain is maximal if it cannot be prolonged by adding new element.

Thm2:(Dilworth) For any $P = (X, \leq)$ with $|X| \geq sr + 1$, there exists a chain of length $s + 1$ or an antichain of length $r + 1$.

proof: By contradiction, if $\alpha(P) \leq r$ and $\omega(P) \leq s$, then by Thm1, $|X| \leq \alpha(P) \cdot \omega(P) \leq sr$. a contradiction. \square

THE ORDER FROM DISORDER!

Def: Let $A = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ be a sequence of different real numbers. $B = (a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_k})$ with $i_1 < \dots < i_k$ is a subsequence. consider the length of the increasing subsequence or decreasing subsequence.

Thm3:(Erdős–Szekeres) Let $A = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ be a sequence of n different real numbers. If $n \geq sr + 1$, then there exists an increasing subsequence of $s + 1$ terms or a decreasing subsequence of $t + 1$ terms.

proof: Define a poset. Let $X = A$, define $P = (X, \preceq)$, $a_i \preceq a_j$ iff $a_i \leq a_j$ and $i \leq j$.

veify:

- (1) $a_i = a_i, i \in [n]$.
- (2) if $a_i \not\preceq a_j$ then no $a_j \not\preceq a_i$.
- (3) if $a_i \preceq a_j$ and $a_j \preceq a_l$, then $a_i \preceq a_l$.

In $P = (X, \preceq)$, a chain $a_{i_1} \preceq \dots \preceq a_{i_k}$ is an increasing subsequence. since $a_{i_j} < a_{i_{j+1}}$ and $i_j < i_{j+1}, j \in [k - 1]$. an antichain $\{b_{i_1}, \dots, b_{i_k}\}$, assume $i_1 < \dots < i_k$, since $b_{i_j}, b_{i_{j+1}}$ are incomparable, we have $b_{i_j} < b_{i_{j+1}}, j \in [k - 1]$. so an antichain is a decreasing subsequence,

Then by **Thm2**, we can get this result. □

Rational approximation(Dirichlet 1879)

Thm4: Given integer $n > 0$, for any $x \in \mathbb{R}, \exists$ a rational number p/q with $1 \leq q \leq n$ and $|x - p/q| < \frac{1}{nq} \leq \frac{1}{n}$.

proof: Let $\{x\} := x - \lfloor x \rfloor$ be the fractional part of x . consider $\{ax\}, a = 1, \dots, n + 1$, which are $n + 1$ real numbers in $[0, 1)$. Put these numbers into n pigeonholes $[0, \frac{1}{n}), [\frac{1}{n}, \frac{2}{n}), \dots, [\frac{n-1}{n}, 1)$. By P-P, there are 2 numbers say $\{ax\}$ and $\{bx\}$ with $a > b$ are in the same interval. then $|\{ax\} - \{bx\}| < \frac{1}{n}$.

since $ax - bx = (\lfloor ax \rfloor - \lfloor bx \rfloor) + \{ax\} - \{bx\}$.

we have $\{ax\} - \{bx\} = (a - b)x - (\lfloor ax \rfloor - \lfloor bx \rfloor)$.

Let $q = a - b$, with $1 \leq q \leq n$, and $p = \lfloor ax \rfloor - \lfloor bx \rfloor$,

we have $|qx - p| < \frac{1}{n}$, i.e. $|x - p/q| < \frac{1}{nq}$. □

subset without divisors

Question: How large a subset $S \subset [2n]$ can be such that for $\forall i, j \in S$, we have $i \nmid j$ and $j \nmid i$?
e.g. $S = \{n+1, n+2, \dots, 2n\}$ with $|S| = n$.

Thm5: For any $S \subset [2n]$ with $|S| \geq n+1$, $\exists i, j \in S$, a.t. $i|j$.

proof: For each $k \in [n]$, Let $S_k = \{x \in S : x \text{ can be written as } x = 2^i(2k-1) \text{ for some } i\}$. Then S can be partitioned into S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n .
since $|S| \geq n+1$, by P-P $\exists |S_k| \geq 2$.
Assume $i, j \in S_k \subset S$, then either $i|j$ or $j|i$ □

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Decomposition in chains and antichains

Fact: If a finite poset P has a chain(antichain) of size r then it cannot be partitioned into fewer than r antichains (chains).

Thm1: If $\alpha(P) = r$, Then P can be partitioned into r antichains.

proof: Let $A_i = \{x \in P : \text{the longest chain with greatest element } x \text{ has size } i\}$. Then since $\alpha(P) = r$, we have $A_i = \emptyset$ if $i \geq r + 1$. so $P = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_r$ is a partition (some of them may be empty).

show each A_i is an antichain. If not, say $x, y \in A_i, x < y$. then the largest chain with greatest element $x, x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_i = x$ can be prolonged to a longer chain $x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x < y$, then the largest chain with greatest element y has size $\geq i + 1$, i.e. $y \notin A_i$ \square

Thm2:(Dilworth's Decomposition Thm) If $\omega(P) = r$, then P can be partitioned into r chains. [This implies If $|P| \geq sr + 1$, then either $\omega(P) \geq r + 1$ or $\alpha(P) \geq s + 1$.]

proof: By induction on $|P|$. Let a be a maximal element of P . let $s = \omega(P')$, where $P' = P \setminus \{a\}$. Then by assumption, P' is union of s disjoint chains C_1, C_2, \dots, C_s .

We will show that either $\omega(P) = s + 1$ or P is union of s disjoint chains.

Note that every antichain of P' of size s consists one element from each C_i . Let a_i be the maximal element of C_i , which belongs to some antichain of size s in P' . i.e. a_i is the greatest element in $\{x \in C_i, x \text{ belongs to some antichain of size } s\} \subset C_i$

Then $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_s\}$ is an antichain of P' . If there is only one antichain of size s , then A is the antichain. If not, say $a_i < a_j$, and $a_i \in B_i, a_j \in B_j$, where B_i, B_j are two different antichains of size s in P' . Since B_j contains one element x from C_i , by the maximality of a_i , we have $x < a_i$. Hence $x < a_j$ contradiction.

If $A \cup \{a\}$ is an antichain of P , i.e. $\omega(P) = s + 1$, we have P is a union of $s + 1$ chains $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_s, \{a\}$.

Otherwise, we have $a > a_i$ for some i . Then $K = \{a\} \cup \{x \in C_i : x \leq a_i\}$ is a chain in P . and $\omega(P \setminus K) = s - 1$. [since a_i was the maximal element of C_i in a s -element antichain], i.e. $K \supset \{x, x \in C_i, x \text{ be}$

longs to same antichain of size s

So, $P \setminus K$ is a union of $s - 1$ chains, and P is a union of s chains. \square

Second proof of Hall's Thm: Suppose S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m satisfies $|S(I)| \geq |I|, \forall I \subset [m]$, where $S(I) = \cup_{i \in I} S_i$. construct a poset $P = (Y, \leq)$ with $Y = S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_m \cup \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m\}$. with $x < y_i$ iff $x \in S_i$. and no other comparable.

Let $X = S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_m$. then X is an antichain of P . we claim that $\omega(P) = |X|$. In fact, if A is an antichain, let $I = \{i : y_i \in A\}$, then A contains no point of $S(I)$, for $x < y_i$ if $x \in S_i$. so $|A| \leq |I| + |X| - |S(I)| \leq |X|$ as claimed.

By Dilworth's Decomposition Theorem, P can be partition into $|X|$ chains, and each of these chains contain a point of X .

Let the chain through y_i be $\{x_i, y_i\}$, then (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) is a S-DR. since $x_i \in S_i$ and $x_i \neq x_j$ (since chains are disjoint). \square

Sperner's Thm:

A set system (i.e. family of subsets) \mathcal{F} is an antichain (or sperner system) if $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ and $A \neq B$ then $A \not\subseteq B$.

e.g. antichain over $[n]$, such as $\binom{[n]}{k}, k = 0, 1, \dots, n$.

Sperner's Thm: Let \mathcal{F} be a set system over $[n]$. If \mathcal{F} is an antichain, then $|\mathcal{F}| \leq \binom{n}{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}$.

LYM Inequality: \mathcal{F} is an antichain over $[n]$. then $\sum_{A \in \mathcal{F}} \binom{n}{|A|}^{-1} \leq 1$.

LYM Inequality \Rightarrow Sperner's Thm: since $\binom{n}{|A|} \leq \binom{n}{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}$

$$1 \geq \sum_{A \in \mathcal{F}} \binom{n}{|A|}^{-1} \geq |\mathcal{F}| \cdot \binom{n}{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}^{-1}.$$

Poof of LYM Inequality: $\forall A \subset [n]$, Let's say a permutation (x_1, \dots, x_n) of $[n]$ contains A if $\{x_1, \dots, x_{|A|}\} = A$. then A is contained in exactly $|A|!(n - |A|)! \leq n!$ permutations. Since \mathcal{F} is an antichain, then

each permutation contains at most one $A \in \mathcal{F}$, Then

$$\sum_{A \in \mathcal{F}} |A|!(n - |A|)! \leq n! \Rightarrow \sum_{A \in \mathcal{F}} \binom{n}{|A|}^{-1} \leq 1. \square$$

Bollobás Thm: Let A_1, \dots, A_m and B_1, \dots, B_m be two sequence of sets, such that $A_i \cap B_j = \emptyset$ iff $i = j$.

Then $\sum_{i=1}^m \binom{a_i + b_i}{a_i}^{-1} \leq 1$, where $|A_i| = a_i, |B_i| = b_i, i \in [m]$. In

particular, if $a_i = a$ and $b_i = b$ for all $i \in [m]$, then $m \leq \binom{a+b}{a}$.

Fact: Bollobás Thm \Rightarrow LYM Inequality \Rightarrow Sperner's Thm.

proof of Bollobás Thm: Let $X = (\cup_{i=1}^m A_i) \cup (\cup_{i=1}^m B_i)$, suppose $|X| = n. \forall A, B \subset X$, and $A \cap B = \emptyset$, say a permutation (x_1, \dots, x_n) of X separates the pair (A, B) if no element of B precedes an element of A , i.e. if $x_k \in A, x_l \in B$ then $k < l$.

we claim that each permutation separates at most one pair $(A_i, B_i), i \in [m]$. Indeed, suppose (x_1, \dots, x_n) separates $(A_i, B_i), (A_j, B_j), i \neq j$. and assume $\max\{k : x_k \in A_i\} \leq \max\{k : x_k \in A_j\}$ since (x_1, \dots, x_n) separates (A_j, B_j) , we have

$$\min\{k : x_k \in B_j\} > \max\{k : x_k \in A_j\} \geq \max\{k : x_k \in A_i\}$$

$\Rightarrow A_i \cap B_j = \emptyset$, a contradiction.

Now count the number N_i of permutations separated one fixed pair say (A_i, B_i) , First choose $a_i + b_i$ positions for $A \cup B$. there are

$$\binom{n}{a_i + b_i} \text{ choices. Then } A \text{ occupy the first } a_i \text{ positions, giving } a_i! \text{ choices for the order of } A, \text{ and } b_i! \text{ choices for the order of } B, \text{ the remaining elements can be arranged in } (n - a_i - b_i)! \text{ ways. So } N_i = \binom{n}{a_i + b_i} a_i! b_i! (n - a_i - b_i)! = n! \binom{a_i + b_i}{a_i}^{-1}.$$

Summing over all pairs, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^m n! \binom{a_i + b_i}{a_i}^{-1} \leq n! \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^m \binom{a_i + b_i}{a_i}^{-1} \leq 1. \square$$