

## MATH 2301

- \* Assignment 1 due tomorrow on Gradescope!
- \* Last time: Modular arithmetic
- \* Posets (preview)
  - \*\* Def: A relation  $R$  on a set  $S$  is called a partial order if it is reflexive, anti-symmetric and transitive.
  - \*\* Notation: Let  $R$  be a partial order on a set  $S$ .
    - ① We'll say that  $S$  is a poset with respect to  $R$ .
    - ② If  $(a, b) \in R$ , we'll say that  $a \leq b$   
If  $a \leq b$  &  $a \neq b$ , we'll say  $a < b$  or  
 $a \not\leq b$   
If  $a \leq b$  then we can write  $b \geq a$

**\*\* Examples** [Checkers left as an exercise]

①  $\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \mid x \leq y\}$

E.g. in this case  $1 \preceq 3$  because  $1 \leq 3$ .

②  $\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \mid x \geq y\}$

In this case,  $3 \preceq 1$  because  $3 \geq 1$

③  $S$  a fixed set.

$$\{(A, B) \in \mathcal{P}(S) \times \mathcal{P}(S) \mid A \subseteq B\}$$

E.g.  $S = \{1, 2\}$  :  $\emptyset \preceq \{1\}$ ,  $\emptyset \preceq \{2\}$ ,  $\emptyset \preceq \{1, 2\}$   
 $\{1\} \preceq \{1, 2\}$ ,  $\{2\} \preceq \{1, 2\}$ ,  $\emptyset \preceq \emptyset$ ,  $\{1\} \preceq \{1\}$ , etc.

④  $S = \{\text{sneaky, sleepy, happy, doc, grumpy, dopey, bashful}\}$

$$\{(w_1, w_2) \in S \times S \mid \text{length}(w_1) \leq \text{length}(w_2)$$

and  $w_1$  is alphabetically  $\leq w_2\}$ .

$\text{doc} \preceq \text{sneaky}$

$\text{sleepy}$  &  $\text{bashful}$  are unrelated.

$\text{bashful}$  is only related to itself

⑤  $\{(a, b) \in \mathbb{N}_1 \times \mathbb{N}_1 \mid a \text{ is a factor of } b\}$

↑  
not  
including zero

"a divides b"  
 $a | b$

$2 \preceq 22$  because  $2 | 22$

$3 \preceq 57$  because  $3 | 57$

## \*\* Total orders

Let  $(P, \preceq)$  be a poset. Then  $(P, \preceq)$  is a total order if whenever  $a, b \in P$ , either  $a \preceq b$  or  $b \preceq a$ .

[In this case,  $P$  is sometimes called a toset.]

## \*\*\* Notation:

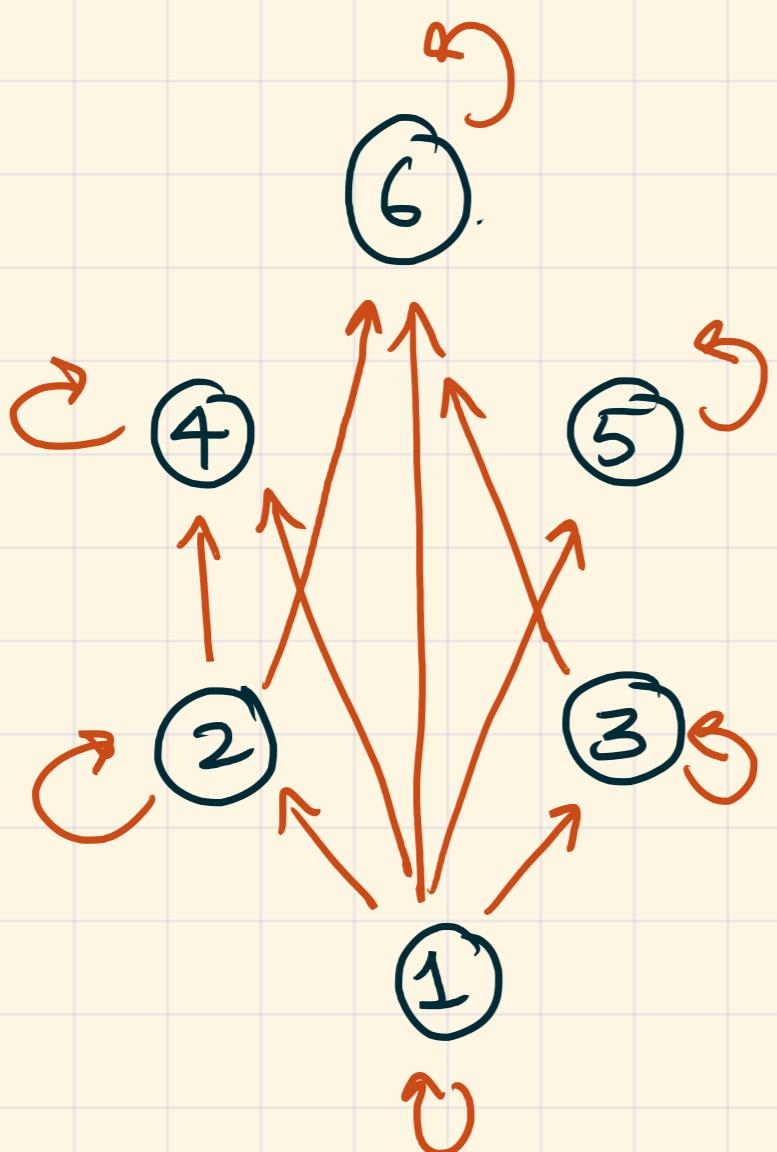
Let  $a, b$  be elements of a poset. We say that  $a$  &  $b$  are comparable if either  $a \preceq b$  or  $b \preceq a$ . Otherwise they are incomparable.

## \*\* Hasse diagram

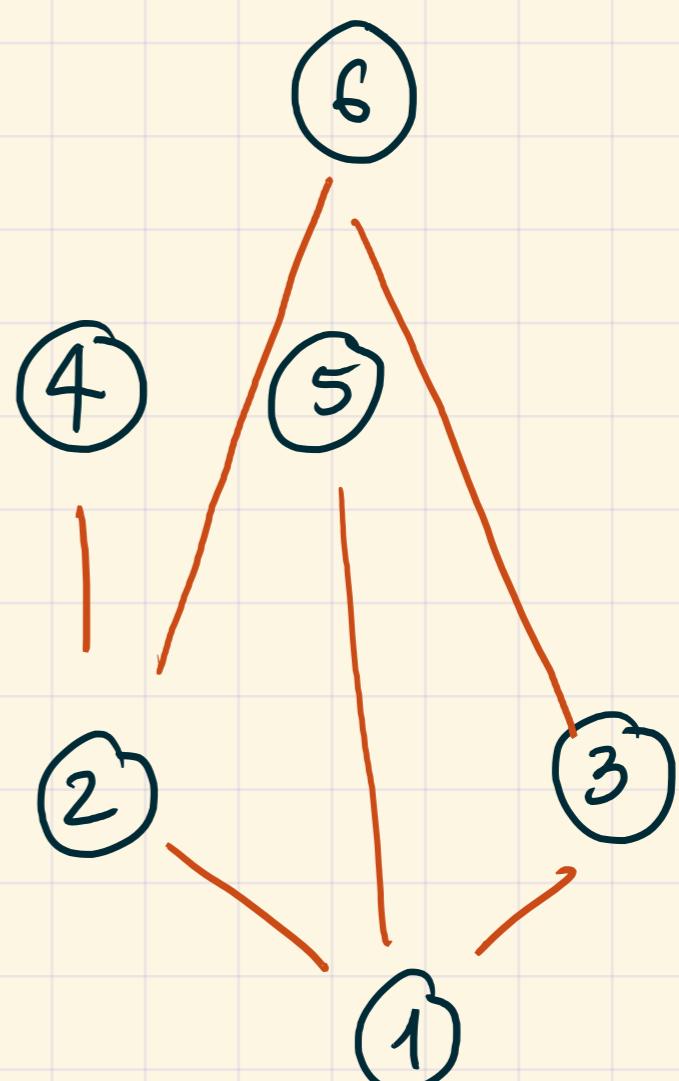
E.g.  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

$R = \{(a, b) \in S \times S \mid a \text{ is a factor of } b\}$

### Graph



### Hasse diagram



## Graph $\rightarrow$ Hasse diagram?

- ① Delete self-loops
- ② Delete "shortcut" arrows (anything implied by transitivity)
- ③ All edges are assumed to be oriented upwards, and so we remove arrowheads.

## \*\* Hasse diagram → Graph drawing?

① Draw arrows (upwards)

② Fill in transitive arrows

③ Draw self-loops.

## \*\* Examples

①  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

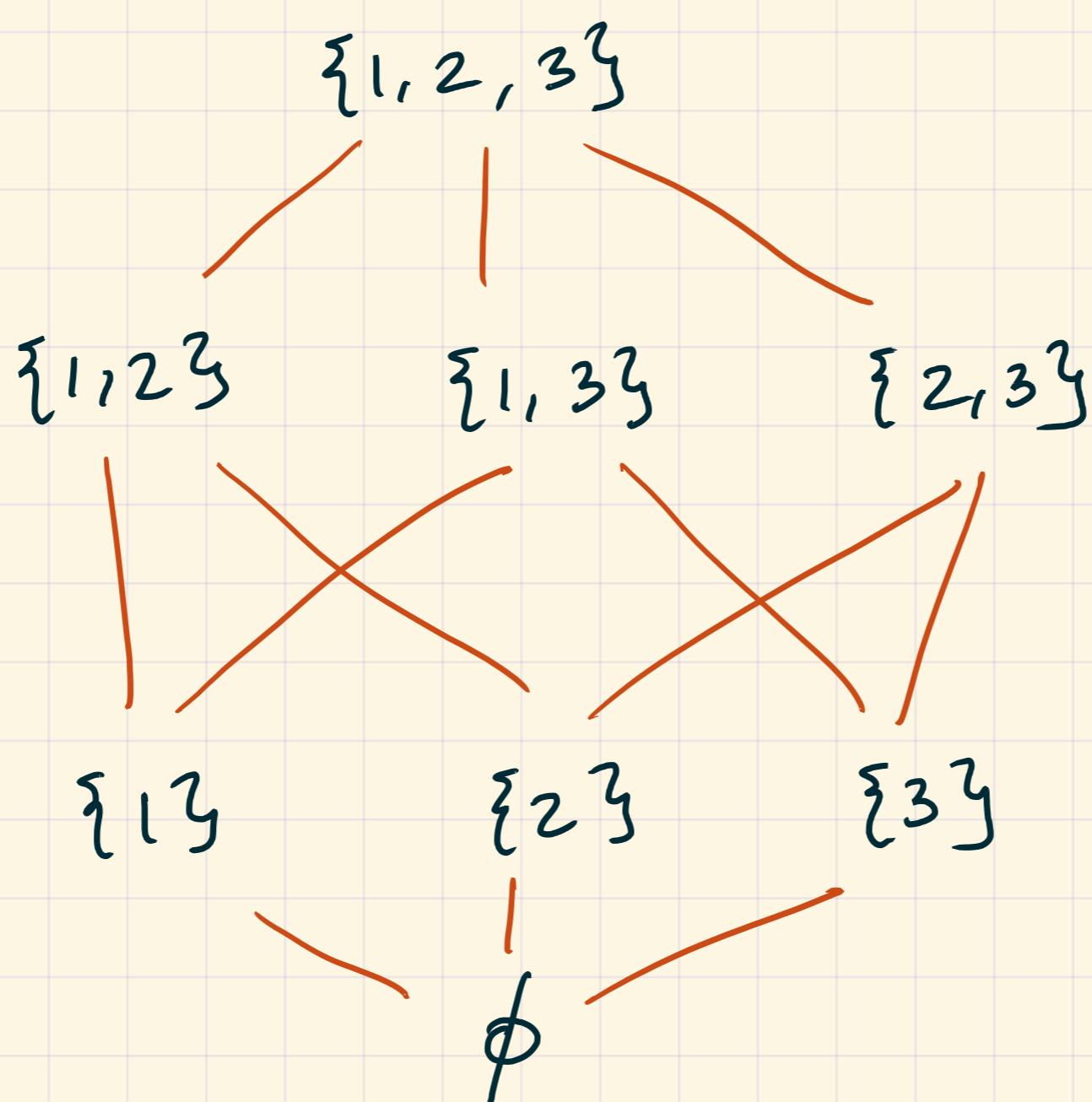
$$\{(a, b) \in S \times S \mid a \leq b\}$$



The Hasse diagram of a total order is a straight line

②  $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$\{(A, B) \in P(S) \times P(S) \mid A \subseteq B\}$$



## **\*\* Topological sort**

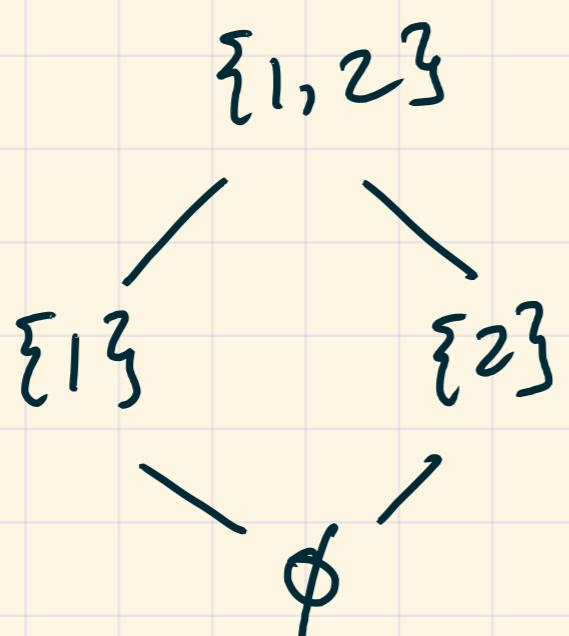
Let  $(P, \preceq)$  be a finite poset.

A topological sorting of  $P$  is an ordering on all elements of  $P$ :

$(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)$ , such that:

whenever  $p_i \preceq p_j$ , we have  $i \leq j$ .

E.g. Subset poset of  $\{1, 2\}$ :  $P = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{1, 2\}\}$



Two possible topological sorts:

$(\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{1, 2\})$

$(\emptyset, \{2\}, \{1\}, \{1, 2\})$

**Theorem**: Every finite poset has at least one topological sort.

Sketch of

Proof: Let  $(P, \preceq)$  be a finite poset.

The first element of the ordering should be some  $a \in P$  such that for any  $b \in P$ ,

- either  $a \preceq b$ , or

-  $a$  is not comparable with  $b$ .

} by finiteness

Once you have the first element, forget about it and do the same procedure to find the second el..