MATH 2301 — 29 Aug 2022

* Matrix representation for $\mathcal{A}(P)$

If $f \in \mathcal{A}(P)$, (choose ordering $(x_1, \dots x_n)$ of P)

$$M_f = \begin{array}{c c} & x_j \\ x_i & \begin{bmatrix} & & \\ & \boxed{} & \\ & & \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \quad \begin{cases} f([x_i, x_j]) & \text{if } x_i \le x_j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

* $M_{(f*g)} = M_f \cdot M_g$

* $M_{(f+g)} = M_f + M_g$

* $M_{f^{-1}} = (M_f)^{-1}$

[Recall that $I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ = identity matrix

& $M_\delta = I$.]

We say that a square matrix A is invertible with inverse $B = A^{-1}$ if:

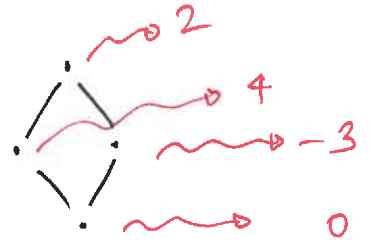
$$A \cdot B = B \cdot A = I$$

* Rmk: We don't know (in this class) techniques to compute matrix inverses $\to$ Linear Algebra.

* One-sided convolution of functions on posets

Def: A function on a poset $(P, \preceq)$ is just any function $p : P \to \mathbb{R}$.

E.g.



example function

One way to write down such a thing is via a vector:

$$\begin{bmatrix} p(x_1) \\ p(x_2) \\ \vdots \\ p(x_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

If $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ are the elements of the poset P

$(n \times 1)$ matrix / column vector

$\shortparallel$

Call this v_p

Def: Let $f \in \mathcal{A}(P)$ & $p : P \to \mathbb{R}$ be a function on P. Then the one-sided convolutions are:

(1) $(f * p) : P \to \mathbb{R}$, defined as:

$$(f * p)(x) = \sum_{x \preceq z} \underbrace{f([x,z])}_{\text{real number}} \cdot \underbrace{p(z)}_{\text{real number}}$$

(2) $$(p*f)(x) = \sum_{z \leq x} p(z) \cdot f([z,x]).$$

Prop: If $f \in \mathcal{A}(P)$, $p: P \to \mathbb{R}$ is a function, let $\underset{(n\times n)}{M_f}$ and $\underset{(n\times 1)}{N_p}$ be the associated matrices.

Let N_p^t be the transpose of N_p.

$$\left(N_p^t = [p(x_1), \; p(x_2), \; \ldots \; p(x_n)] \right)$$

(1) $$M_f \cdot N_p = N_{(f*p)}$$

← the vector of the one-sided convolution is the product of the matrix of f & the vector of p; on the appropriate sides

(2) $$N_p^t \cdot M_f = N_{(p*f)}^t$$

[Examples later ...]

* What we're moving towards: Möebius inversion

(A general version of principle of inclusion + exclusion → a counting technique.)

$\mu \in \mathcal{A}(P)$ is the Möbius function, such that

$(\zeta * \mu) = (\mu * \zeta) = \delta$.

E.g.  [for concreteness, if you like...]

. Let $(P, \preceq)$ be any poset

Let us find a formula for μ.

① For intervals of type $[x,x]$:

$$(\mu * \zeta)([x,x]) = \mu([x,x]) \cdot \zeta([x,x])$$ [summation simplifies]

$$= \delta([x,x]) = 1$$

$\Rightarrow \forall\, x \in P,\ \mu([x,x]) = 1$.

② Let $x, y \in P$ such that $x \preceq y$ & $x \neq y$

$$0 = \delta([x,y]) = (\mu * \zeta)([x,y])$$

$$= \sum_{x \preceq z \preceq y} \mu([x,z])\ \overbrace{\zeta([z,y])}^{1 \,=}$$

$$\boxed{0 = \sum_{x \preceq z \preceq y} \mu([x,z])}$$

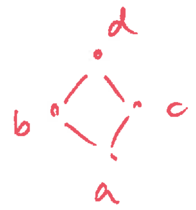
$$0 = \mu([x,y]) + \sum_{x \preceq z \precneqq y} \mu([x,z])$$

$\Rightarrow$ Recursive formula for μ:

$$\boxed{\mu([x,y]) = - \sum_{x \preceq z \precneqq y} \mu([x,z])}$$

Use this to bootstrap values of μ from the fact that $\mu([x,x]) = 1$.

E.g.



Next : compute $\mu([a,b])$

$\mu([a,c])$, etc,

finally $\mu([a,d])$