Möbius Functions of Posets V: GCD Matrices

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Smith's Theorem

The Main Theorem

Proof of Smith's Theorem





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 $\phi(n) = \#\{i : 1 \le i \le n \text{ and } gcd(i, n) = 1\}.$

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Example. $\phi(10) = \#\{1, 3, 7, 9\}$

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 $\det M = \phi(1)\phi(2)\cdots\phi(n).$



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Example. If n = 3 then

$$M = \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{array}$$

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We will prove a theorem which will have all these other results as special cases. Furthermore, this theorem is trivial to prove.



Smith's Theorem

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Proof of Smith's Theorem

Recall that if *P* is a poset and $\alpha \in I(P)$ then there is an associated matrix M^{α} where $M_{x,y}^{\alpha} = \alpha(x, y)$.

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Let P be a poset and L be a linear extension of P. Suppose $\alpha, \beta \in I(P)$ and M has rows and columns indexed by L where

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So $M = (M^{\alpha})^{t} M^{\beta}$, implying det $M = \det M^{\alpha} \det M^{\beta}$. By triangularity of M^{α} , M^{β} we have det $M = \prod_{z} \alpha(z, z) \beta(z, z)$.

In the Main Theorem, the entries of *M* are sums,

$$M_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}} = \sum_{\mathbf{z}\in P} \alpha(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{x})\beta(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{y}).$$

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To switch the role of sum and individual term we need Möbius inversion. The sums in the Main Theorem have two implicit restrictions: $\alpha(z, x), \beta(z, y) \neq 0$ implies $z \leq x$ and $z \leq y$. To use Möbius inversion we need a single restriction $z \leq w$. To collapse the two restrictions to one, we specialize to the case of a meet semi-lattice.

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Proposition

(a) A finite meet semi-lattice having a $\hat{1}$ is a lattice.

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Proof of (a). Every $x, y \in P$ have a meet, so every nonempty $Q \subseteq P$ has a meet. (Induct on |Q| which must be finite.)

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Example. Π_n is a lattice:

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(b) A finite join semi-lattice having a 0 is a lattice.

Proof of (a). Every $x, y \in P$ have a meet, so every nonempty $Q \subseteq P$ has a meet. (Induct on |Q| which must be finite.) We need to prove that any $x, y \in P$ have a join. Let

$$\mathsf{Q} = \{ z : z \ge x \text{ and } z \ge y \}.$$

Then $Q \neq \emptyset$ because $\hat{1} \in Q$. So $\wedge Q$ exists and is the join:

- 1. We have $z \ge x$ for all $z \in Q$ so $\land Q \ge x$. Similarly $\land Q \ge y$.
- 2. If $z \ge x$ and $z \ge y$ then $z \in Q$. So $z \ge \land Q$.

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Example. Π_n is a lattice: Π_n is finite and has a $\hat{1}$. Also, any $\pi = B_1 / ... / B_k$ and $\sigma = C_1 / ... / C_l$ have a meet, namely the partition whose blocks are the nonempty $B_i \cap C_j$ for $1 \le i \le k$ and $1 \le j \le l$. By the proposition, Π_n is a lattice.

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$$M_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}} = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{x}, \ \mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{y}} \alpha(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{x}) \beta(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{y})$$

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$$M_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}} = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{x}, \ \mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{y}} \alpha(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{x})\beta(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{y}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{x} \wedge \mathbf{y}} \alpha(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{x})\beta(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{y}).$$

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Let $g : P \to \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary. Substituting $\alpha(z, x) = g(z)$ and $\beta(z, y) = \zeta(z, y)$ into the Main Theorem, we obtain

$$M_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}} = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{x}, \ \mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{y}} \alpha(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{x})\beta(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{y}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{x} \wedge \mathbf{y}} \alpha(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{x})\beta(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{y}).$$

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 and $\det M = \prod_{z} \left(\sum_{w \leq z} \mu(w, z) f(w) \right)$.
Theorem (Wilf, 1968)

Let $f : P \to \mathbb{R}$ where P is a meet semi-lattice and let M be the matrix with $M_{x,y} = f(x \land y)$. Then

$$\det M = \prod_{z \in P} g(z)$$

where $g(z) = \sum_{w \leq z} \mu(w, z) f(w)$.

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where $g(z) = \sum_{w \le z} \mu(w, z) f(w)$.
Example. Let $P = \bigvee_{x < z} \int_{z}^{z} f(w) dx$

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Example. Let $P = \bigvee_{x} \bigvee_{z} Z$
$$M = \begin{array}{c} x \\ y \\ z \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} f(x) & f(x) & f(x) \\ f(x) & f(y) & f(x) \\ f(x) & f(x) & f(z) \end{bmatrix}.$$

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 $g(x)g(y)g(z) = f(x)[f(y) - f(x)][f(z) - f(x)] = \det M.$

Outline

Smith's Theorem

The Main Theorem

Proof of Smith's Theorem

$$n=\sum_{d\mid n}\phi(d).$$

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$$n=\sum_{d\mid n}\phi(d).$$

Proof. Consider the set $S = \{1/n, 2/n, ..., n/n\}$ where the fractions have been reduced to lowest terms.



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Example. If n = 6 then $S = \left\{ \frac{1}{6}, \frac{2}{6}, \frac{3}{6}, \frac{4}{6}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{6}{6} \right\} = \left\{ \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{1}{1} \right\}.$

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Proof. Consider the set $S = \{1/n, 2/n, ..., n/n\}$ where the fractions have been reduced to lowest terms. For d|n, let $S_d \subseteq S$ be the fractions with denominator d. Then $|S_d| = \phi(d)$ since $c/d \in S_d$ iff $1 \le c \le d$ and gcd(c, d) = 1. Also $S = \bigoplus_{d|n} S_d$

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$$n = |S|$$

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$$S_{1} = \left\{ \frac{1}{1} \right\}, S_{2} = \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \right\}, S_{3} = \left\{ \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3} \right\}, S_{6} = \left\{ \frac{1}{6}, \frac{5}{6} \right\}.$$

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Inverting $n = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$ gives Corollary $\phi(n) = \sum_{d|n} \mu(d, n) d.$

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Example.
$$E_6 = \frac{4}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

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