

Generating Posets With and Without Interfaces

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(i)Po(m)set Project Online Seminar

Februar 2024



Series-Parallel Posets

- a **poset**: *finite* set P plus strict partial order $<$: irreflexive, transitive, asymmetric
- **parallel** composition of posets $(P_1, <_1)$, $(P_2, <_2)$:

$$P_1 \otimes P_2 = (P_1 \sqcup P_2, <_1 \cup <_2)$$

↑↑ disjoint union

- **serial** composition:

$$P_1 * P_2 = (P_1 \sqcup P_2, (<_1 \cup <_2 \cup P_1 \times P_2)^+)$$

↑↑ P_1 before P_2 (transitive closure)

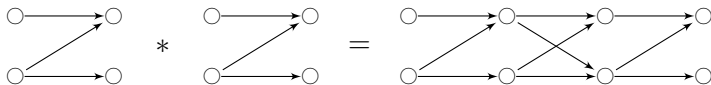
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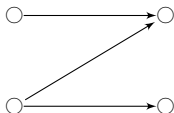
$$P_1 \otimes P_2 = (P_1 \sqcup P_2, <_1 \cup <_2)$$

- **serial** composition:

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Series-Parallel Posets



Definition (Winkowski '77, Grabowski '81)

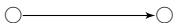
A poset is **series-parallel (sp)** if it is empty or can be obtained from the singleton poset by a finite number of serial and parallel compositions.

Theorem (Grabowski '81)

A poset is sp iff it does not contain \mathbf{N} as an induced subposet.

The equational theory of sp-posets is well-understood: [[Gischer 1988, TCS](#)], [[Bloom-Esik 1996, MSCS](#)]

Interval Orders

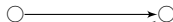
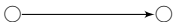


Definition (Fishburn '70)

A poset is an **interval order** if it has a representation as (real) intervals, ordered by $\max_1 \leq \min_2$

- posets which are good for concurrency?
- already in [Wiener 1914], then [Winkowski '77], [Lamport '86], [van Glabbeek '90], [Vogler '91], [Janicky '93], etc.
- Lemma (Fishburn '70): A poset is interval iff it does not contain $2+2 = \left(\begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \right)$ as induced subposet.
- intuitively: if $a \rightarrow b$ and $c \rightarrow d$, then also $a \rightarrow d$ or $c \rightarrow b$

Interval Orders vs Series-Parallel Posets



- **interval orders** are used in concurrency theory and distributed computing
- but don't (*yet*) have a good algebraic theory
- **sp-posets** have nice algebraic theory and seem to be used in concurrency theory
- **Concurrent Kleene algebra**
- interval orders are $2+2$ -free; sp-posets are \mathbf{N} -free
- incomparable: $2+2$ is sp; \mathbf{N} is interval

Interval Orders \oplus Series-Parallel Posets

Goal (2018):

- develop common generalization of sp-posets and interval orders
- for use in concurrency theory etc.
- with good algebraic properties

⇒ **gluing-parallel (i)posets**


Realization (2020):

- combinatorial properties of gluing-parallel iposets are complicated
- and interval orders seem to be enough for concurrency theory
- (languages of HDAs are sets of labeled interval orders)

This talk:

- algebra of gluing-parallel iposets (a bit)
- combinatorics of gluing-parallel iposets (a lot)

Nice people

- UF, Christian Johansen, Georg Struth, Ratan Bahadur Thapa: *Generating Posets Beyond N*. RAMiCS 2020
 - Olavi Äikäs, Polytechnique intern, 2021
 - UF, Christian Johansen, Georg Struth, Krzysztof Ziemiański: *Posets with Interfaces as a Model for Concurrency*. Information and Computation 2022
 - Äikäs, UF, Christian Johansen, Krzysztof Ziemiański: *Generating Posets with Interfaces*. arxiv 2022
 - Clarisse Blanco & Dorian Peron, EPITA interns, 2022
-  Paul Fournillon & Quentin Hay-kerghenn, EPITA interns, 2024

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23 12
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THE ON-LINE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF INTEGER SEQUENCES[®]

founded in 1964 by N. J. A. Sloane

[Hints](#)

(Greetings from [The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences!](#))

A331156	Number of (weakly) connected gluing-parallel or GP-posets with n points.	4
	1, 1, 1, 3, 10, 44, 23 (list ; graph ; refs ; listen ; history ; text ; internal format)	
OFFSET	0, 4	
LINKS	Table of n, a(n) for n=0..6. Uli Fahrenberg, Christian Johansen, Georg Struth, Ratan Bahadur Thapa, Generating Posets Beyond N , arXiv:1910.06162 [cs.FL], 2019.	
CROSSREFS	The seven sequences in the table of Uli Fahrenberg et al., 2019, are A000112 , A003430 , A079566 , A331156 , A331157 , A331158 , A331159 . Sequence in context: A032269 A179501 A041737 * A279105 A246956 A026682 Adjacent sequences: A331153 A331154 A331155 * A331157 A331158 A331159	
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AUTHOR	N. J. A. Sloane , Jan 16 2020, following a suggestion from Michael De Vlieger .	

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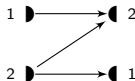
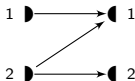
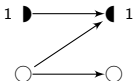
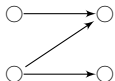
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EXTENSIONS	Typo in a(6) corrected by Uli Fahrenberg , Feb 03 2024	

Posets With Interfaces



Definition

A **poset with interfaces (iposet)** is a poset P plus two injections

$$[n] \xrightarrow{s} P \xleftarrow{t} [m]$$

such that $s[n]$ is minimal and $t[m]$ is maximal in P .

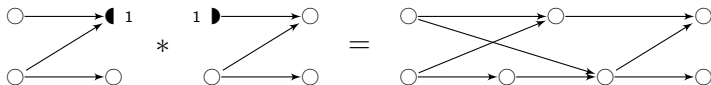
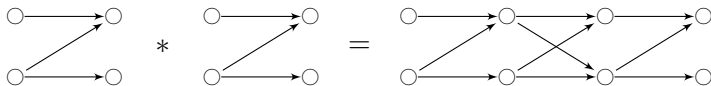
- $([n] = \{1, \dots, n\})$
- s : **starting interface** ; t : **terminating interface**
- events in $t[m]$ are *unfinished* ; events in $s[n]$ are *"unstarted"*

Gluing Composition

Definition

The **gluing** of iposets $s_1 : [n] \rightarrow (P_1, <_1) \leftarrow [m] : t_1$ and $s_2 : [m] \rightarrow (P_2, <_2) \leftarrow [k] : t_2$ is

$$P_1 * P_2 = \begin{cases} (P_1 \sqcup P_2) / t_1(i) = s_2(i) \\ (<_1 \cup <_2 \cup (P_1 \setminus t_1[m]) \times (P_2 \setminus s_2[m]))^+ \end{cases}$$



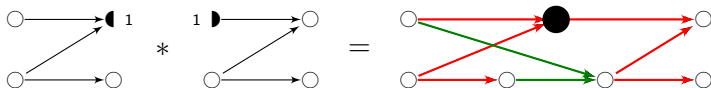
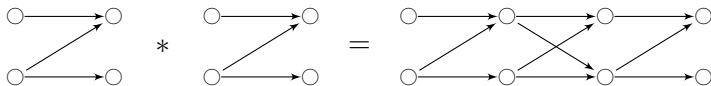
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- iposets are morphisms in a category (objects \mathbb{N} ; with gluing as composition; up to isomorphism)

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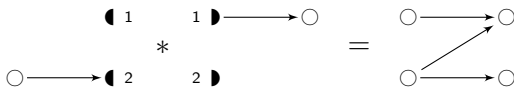
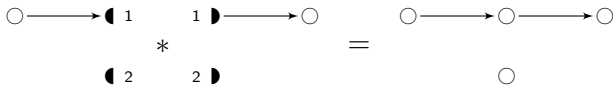
Parallel Composition

- **parallel composition** of iposets: put posets in parallel and renumber interfaces
- for $[n_1] \rightarrow P_1 \leftarrow [m_1]$ and $[n_2] \rightarrow P_2 \leftarrow [m_2]$, have $[n_1 + n_2] \rightarrow P_1 \otimes P_2 \leftarrow [m_1 + m_2]$
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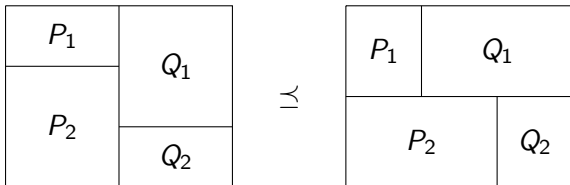
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 \Uparrow

$$(P_1 \otimes P_2) * (Q_1 \otimes Q_2) \preceq (P_1 * Q_1) \otimes (P_2 * Q_2)$$



Gluing-Parallel Iposets

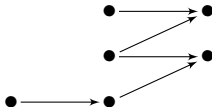
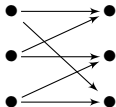
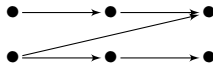
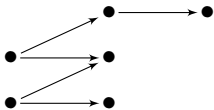
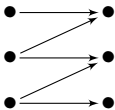
- recall *series-parallel posets*: generated from \circ using $*$ and \otimes
- the four singleton iposets:



- gluing-parallel (gp) iposets**: generated from \circ , $\circ \rightarrow$, $\leftarrow \circ$, $\circ \rightarrow \rightarrow \circ$ using $*$ and \otimes
- gluing-parallel **posets**: gp-iposets without interfaces

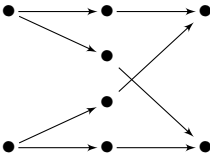
Forbidden Substructures

- sp-posets $\hat{=}$ **N**-free
- interval orders $\hat{=}$ 2+2-free
- gluing-parallel posets \implies free of



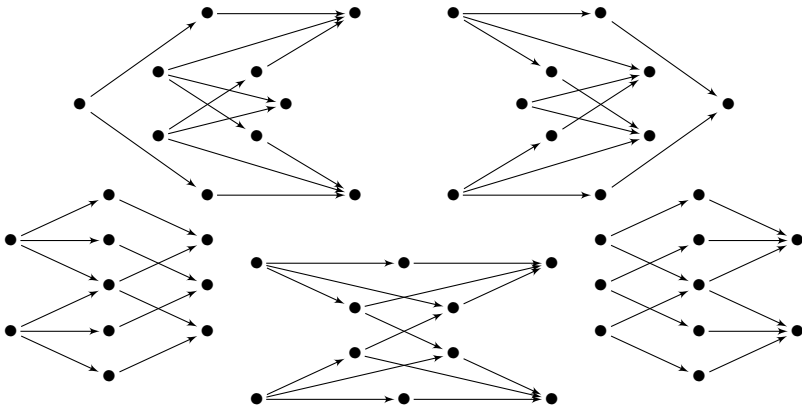
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Forbidden Substructures

- sp-posets $\hat{=}$ **N**-free
- interval orders $\hat{=}$ 2+2-free
- gluing-parallel posets \iff free of ???
 - it's complicated!

Gluing Decompositions

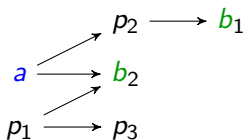
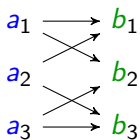
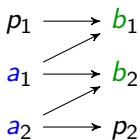
- an iposet P can be decomposed as $P = Q \otimes R$ iff P is **disconnected** as an undirected graph
- an iposet P can be decomposed as $P = Q * R$ iff ???

Definition

A gluing $P = Q * R$ is **non-trivial** if $P \neq Q$ and $P \neq R$ as posets.

Extremities

For a poset P , define $P_a = \{x \in P \mid \forall y \in P : |x\uparrow| \geq |y\uparrow|\}$ (“extreme left”) and $P_b = \{x \in P \mid \forall y \in P : |x\downarrow| \geq |y\downarrow|\}$ (“extreme right”).



Decomposition Lemma

Lemma

Suppose P admits a non-trivial gluing decomposition. Then there is $\varphi : P \rightarrow \{0, *, 1\}$ such that

- 1 if $x < y$, then $(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) \in \{(1, 0), (1, *), (1, 1), (*, 0), (0, 0)\}$;
- 2 if $(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) = (1, 0)$, then $x < y$;
- 3 if $(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) \in \{(1, *), (*, 0), (1, 0)\}$, then $y \not< x$;
- 4 if $(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) = (*, *)$, then $x \not< y$ and $y \not< x$;
- 5 $\varphi(x) = 1$ for $x \in P_a$ and $\varphi(y) = 0$ for $y \in P_b$.

- 0 $\hat{=}$ not started yet
- * $\hat{=}$ running
- 1 $\hat{=}$ terminated

Decomposition Lemma: Proof

Lemma

P has non-trivial gluing decomposition $\implies \exists \varphi : P \rightarrow \{0, *, 1\} :$

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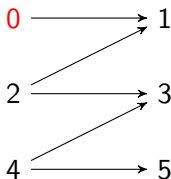
Proof: (or maybe not!?)

Small Forbidden Substructures

Lemma

\mathbb{N} does not admit a non-trivial gluing decomposition.

First proof: Assume $\mathbb{N} = P * Q$.

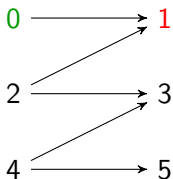


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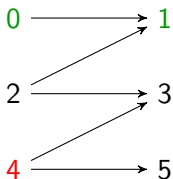


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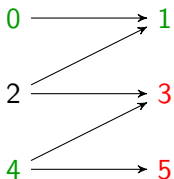


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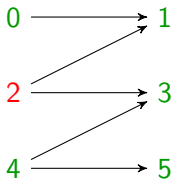


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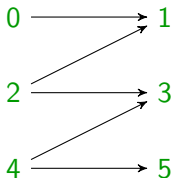


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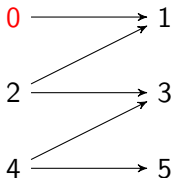


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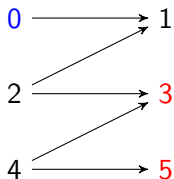


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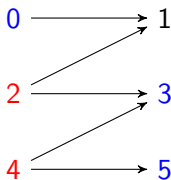


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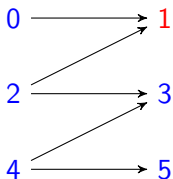


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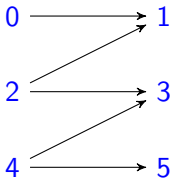


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Small Forbidden Substructures, 2.

Lemma

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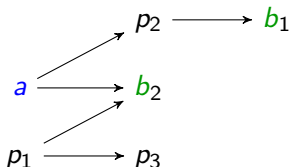
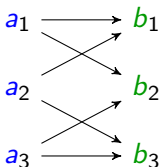
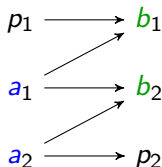
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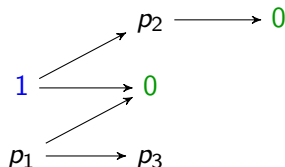
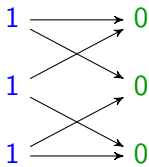
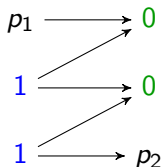


Small Forbidden Substructures, 2.

Lemma

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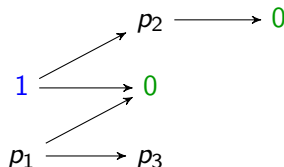
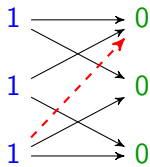
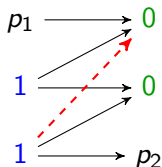


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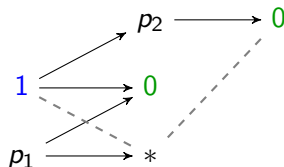
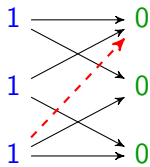
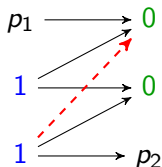


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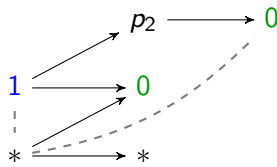
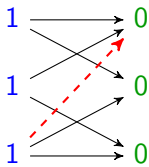
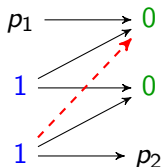


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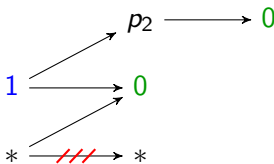
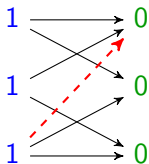
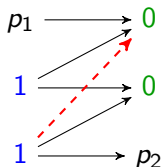


Small Forbidden Substructures, 2.

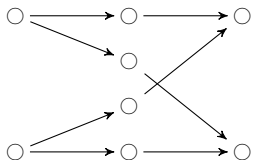
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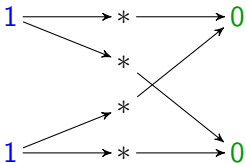


8-Point Forbidden Substructure



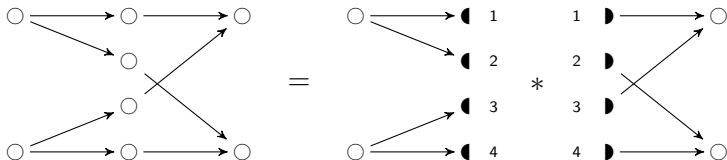
- not gluing-parallel

8-Point Forbidden Substructure



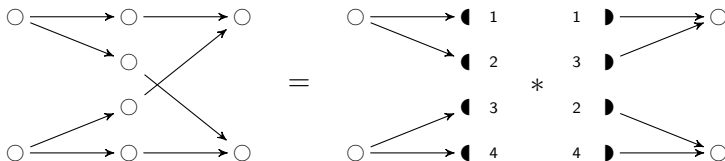
- not gluing-parallel
- but satisfies decomposition lemma

8-Point Forbidden Substructure



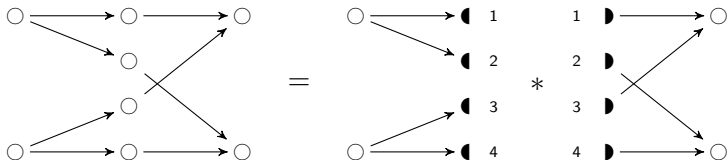
- not gluing-parallel
- but satisfies decomposition lemma
- and can be decomposed?!?

8-Point Forbidden Substructure



- not gluing-parallel
- but satisfies decomposition lemma
- and can be decomposed?!?

8-Point Forbidden Substructure



- not gluing-parallel
- but satisfies decomposition lemma
- and can be decomposed?!?
- interfaces “permuted wrong”
- same for all 10-point forbidden substructures: all “decomposable up to interface permutation”

Gluing-Parallel-Symmetric Iposets

- recall gp-iposets: generated from \circ , $1 \blacktriangleright$, $\blacktriangleleft 1$, and $1 \blacktriangleleft 1$ (using $*$ and \otimes)
- let ${}^1 \blacktriangleleft^2_2 \blacktriangleleft^1 = (s, [2], t) : 2 \rightarrow 2$ be the non-trivial symmetry on 2
- gps-iposets**: generated from \circ , $1 \blacktriangleright$, $\blacktriangleleft 1$, $1 \blacktriangleleft 1$, and ${}^1 \blacktriangleleft^2_2 \blacktriangleleft^1$ (using $*$ and \otimes)

Lemma

An iposet is gps iff its underlying poset is.

Proof.

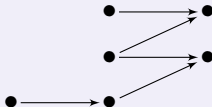
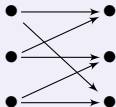
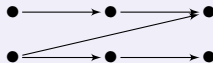
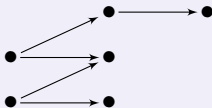
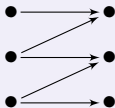
The symmetric groups are generated by transpositions. □

- so all interface permutations included
- \Rightarrow all “big” forbidden substructures are gps

Conjecture

Conjecture

A poset is gps iff it is free of



Gps = Sp-Intervals

Definition (generalized interval orders)

Let P and V be posets. An **interval representation of P in V** is a pair of functions $f, g : P \rightarrow V$ such that:

- 1 $f(p) \leq_V g(p)$ for all $p \in P$,
- 2 $p <_P q$ iff $g(p) <_V f(q)$ for all $p, q \in P$.

P is a **V -interval order** if it admits an interval representation in V .

Lemma

If P is a V -interval order and V is a W -interval order, then P is a W -interval order.

Theorem (Ziemiański)

A poset is gps iff it is an sp-interval order.

Gps = Sp-Intervals, 2.

Lemma

If P is gps, then P is sp-interval.

Proof.

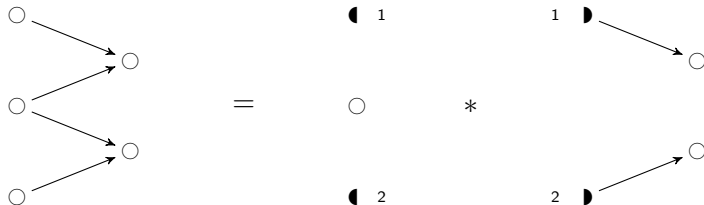
Induction. $P \in \{ \circ, \blacktriangleleft 1, 1 \blacktriangleright, 1 \blacktriangleleft 1 \}$: fine; all are \circ -interval.

- if $P = Q \otimes R$: when Q is V -interval and R is W -interval, then $Q \otimes R$ is $V \otimes W$ -interval.
- if $P = Q * R$: when Q is V -interval and R is W -interval, then $Q * R$ is $V * W$ -interval. ← requires proof

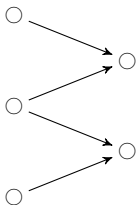
In both cases:

$$f(p) = \begin{cases} f_Q(p) & \text{for } p \in Q \\ f_R(p) & \text{for } p \notin Q \end{cases} \quad g(p) = \begin{cases} g_R(p) & \text{for } p \in R \\ g_Q(p) & \text{for } p \notin R \end{cases} \quad \square$$

Example



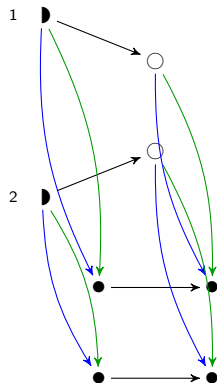
Example



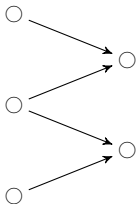
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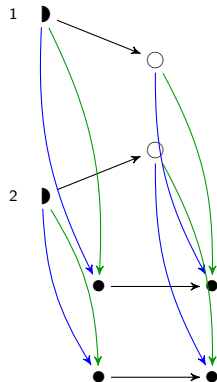
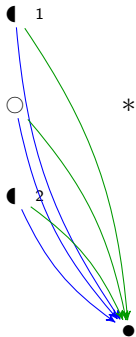
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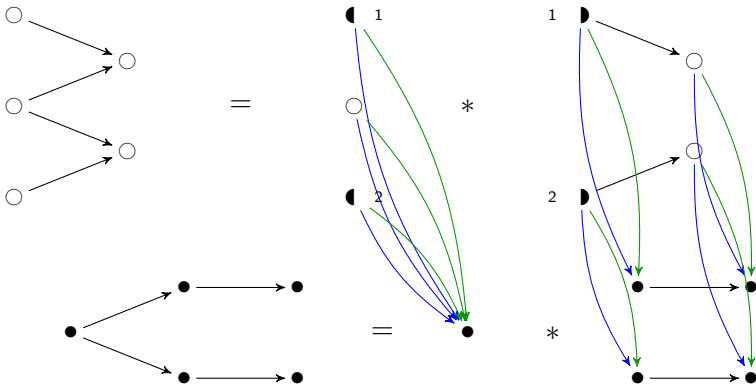
Example



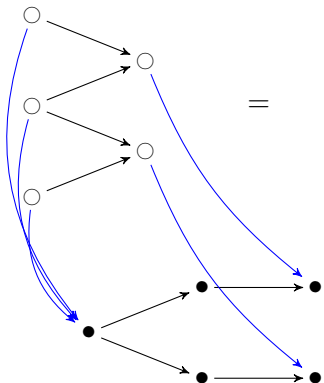
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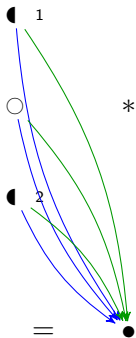
Example



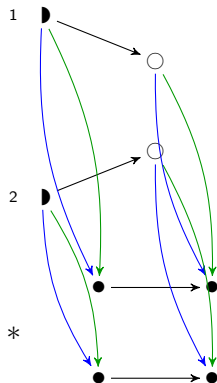
Example



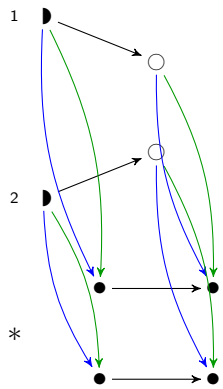
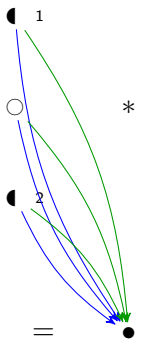
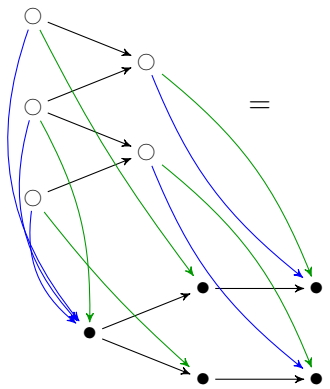
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Example



Gps = Sp-Intervals, 3.

Lemma

If P is sp -interval, then P is gps .

Proof.

Induction. $P \in \{ \circ, \blacktriangleleft 1, 1 \blacktriangleright, 1 \blacktriangleright 1 \}$: fine.

- if P is $V \otimes W$ -interval: let $Q = f^{-1}(V) = g^{-1}(V)$ and $R = f^{-1}(W) = g^{-1}(W)$ (true because $V \otimes W$ is disconnected), then $P = Q \otimes R$. Using $f_Q = f_{1Q}$ etc. (the restrictions), Q is V -interval and R is W -interval.
- if P is $V * W$ -interval: let $Q = f^{-1}(V)$ and $R = g^{-1}(W)$, then $P = Q * R$ (interfaces are $Q \cap R$). Define $f_Q = f_{1Q}$ and

$$g_Q(p) = \begin{cases} g(p) & \text{if } p \in V, \\ \text{some } x \in V^{\max} \text{ with } f(p) \leq x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Definitions of f_R and g_R are symmetric, and then Q is V -interval and R is W -interval. ← **requires proof** □

Conclusion

- **gluing-parallel** iposets: generated from \circ , $1 \triangleright$, $\blacktriangleleft 1$, $1 \blacktriangleright 1$ using $*$ and \otimes
- complicated combinatorics; so far 11 forbidden substructures; unknown whether set of forbidden substructures is finite
- **gluing-parallel-symmetric** iposets: generated from \circ , $1 \triangleright$, $\blacktriangleleft 1$, $1 \blacktriangleright 1$, $1 \blacktriangleright 2$, $2 \blacktriangleright 1$ using $*$ and \otimes
- less complicated: iposet is gps iff underlying poset is
- (and can be generated from \circ without using interfaces)
- **Theorem:** gps-posets = interval orders in sp-posets
- **Conjecture:** precisely five forbidden substructures

Also interesting:

- Relational and Algebraic Methods in CS (**RAMiCS**), Prague 19-23 Aug.
- Geometric and Topological Methods in CS (**GETCO**), Tallinn 6-7 July
- Pomsets and Related Structures (**RaPS**), Rennes 24 April

Gps-Posets Without Interfaces

Definition

Let P_1 and P_2 be posets.

- The **right-interior gluing composition** $P_1 *^i P_2$: carrier set $P_1 \sqcup P_2$,
 $(p, i) < (q, j) \Leftrightarrow (i = j \wedge p <_i q) \vee (i < j \wedge q \notin P_2^{\min})$
- The **left-interior gluing composition** $P_1 {}^i * P_2$: carrier set $P_1 \sqcup P_2$,
 $(p, i) < (q, j) \Leftrightarrow (i = j \wedge p <_i q) \vee (i < j \wedge p \notin P_1^{\max})$
- The **Winkowski multi-composition** $P_1 \cong P_2$: defined if $|P_1^{\max}| = |P_2^{\min}|$, and then $P_1 \cong P_2 = \{P_1 \cong_f P_2 \mid f \text{ bijection } P_1^{\max} \rightarrow P_2^{\min}\}$, where $P_1 \cong_f P_2$ is the poset with carrier set $(P_1 \sqcup P_2)_{/x=f(x)}$ and order
 $(p, i) < (q, j) \Leftrightarrow (i = j \wedge p <_i q) \vee (i < j \wedge p \notin P_1^{\max} \wedge q \notin P_2^{\min})$

Lemma

*Gps-posets are generated from \circ using $\otimes, *, {}^i, {}^i *$, and \cong .*

Some numbers

n	$P(n)$	$GP(n)$	$GPS(n)$	$IP(n)$	$GPI(n)$	$GPSI(n)$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	4	4	4
2	2	2	2	17	16	17
3	5	5	5	86	74	86
4	16	16	16	532	419	532
5	63	63	63	4068	2980	4068
6	318	313	313	38.933	26.566	38.447
7	2045	1903	1903	474.822	289.279	
8	16.999	13.943	13.944	7.558.620	3.726.311	
9	183.231	120.442	120.465			
10	2.567.284	1.206.459				