

# Algebras of incidence structures: representing regular double $p$ -algebras

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# Acknowledgements

Thanks to the AustMS Student Support Scheme for providing additional funding to help attend the conference.



# Boolean lattices

$$\mathcal{P}(\{1, 2, 3\}) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$$

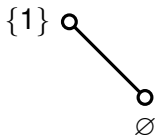
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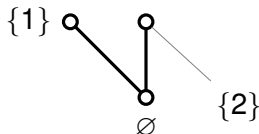
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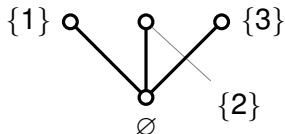
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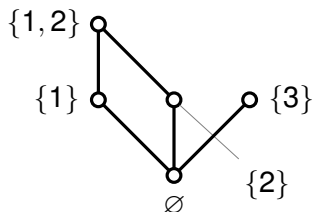
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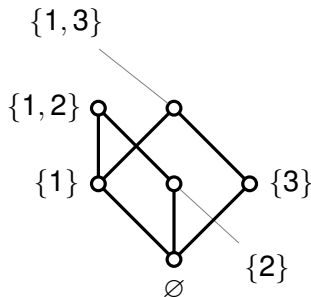
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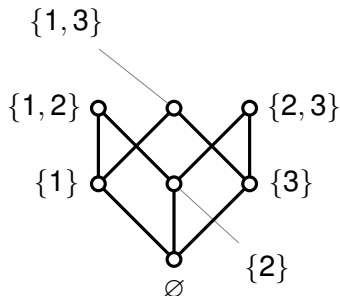
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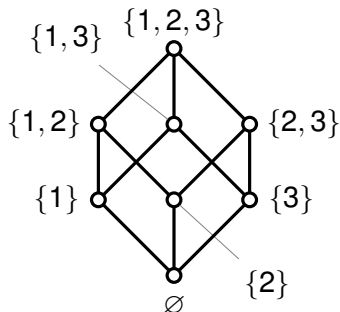
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## Definition

*Boolean lattice*: a bounded distributive lattice  $\mathbf{B} = \langle B; \vee, \wedge, 0, 1 \rangle$  such that every  $x \in B$  has a (unique) complement.

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## Theorem

*Let  $L$  be a finite lattice. Then the following are equivalent.*

- 1  $L$  is a boolean lattice,
- 2  $L \cong \mathcal{P}(B)$  for some finite set  $B$ ,
- 3  $L \cong \mathbf{2}^n$  for some  $n \geq 0$ .

## Some other classifications

- Birkhoff's duality for finite distributive lattices
- Stone's duality for boolean algebras
- Priestley's duality for bounded distributive lattices
- Every finite cyclic group is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  for some  $n \in \omega$
- Every finite abelian group is isomorphic to  $\prod_{i=0}^n \mathbb{Z}_{q_i}$  where each  $q_i$  is a power of a prime

# Graphs

A graph:



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A subgraph:



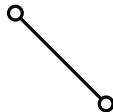


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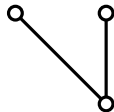


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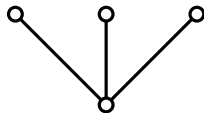


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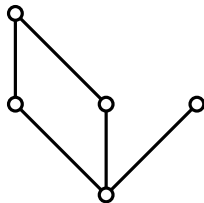


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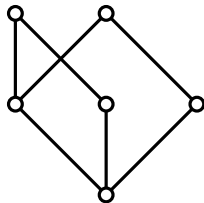


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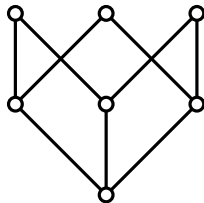


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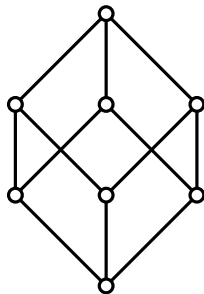


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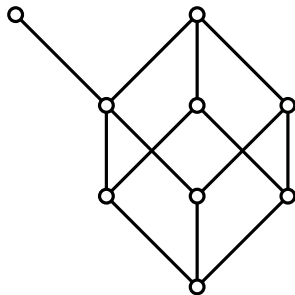
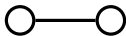


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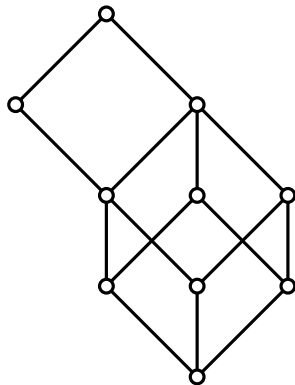


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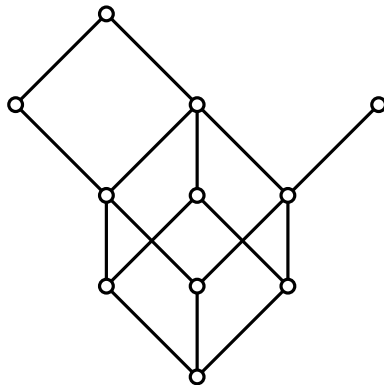
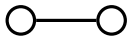


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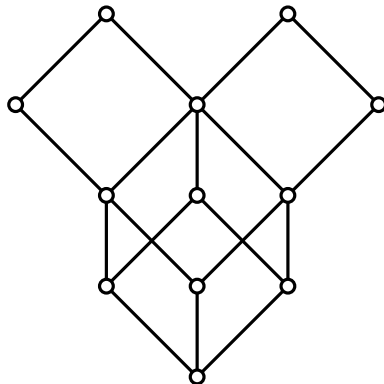


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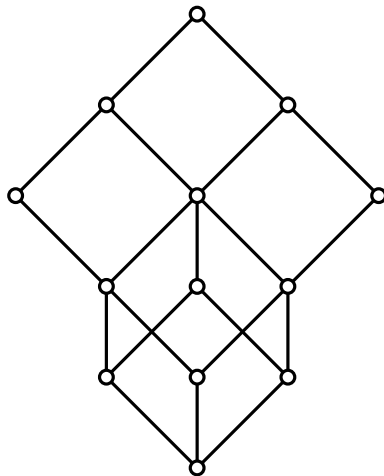


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# The lattice of subgraphs

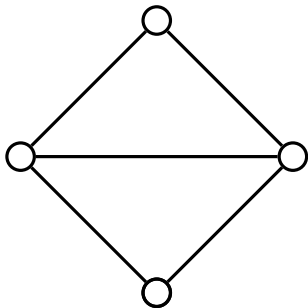
- Let  $G = \langle V, E \rangle$  be a graph. The set of all subgraphs of  $G$  induces a bounded distributive lattice, which we will call  $\mathcal{S}(G)$ , where

$$\langle V_1, E_1 \rangle \vee \langle V_2, E_2 \rangle = \langle V_1 \cup V_2, E_1 \cup E_2 \rangle$$

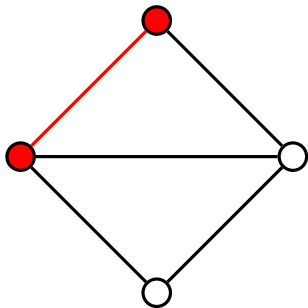
$$\langle V_1, E_1 \rangle \wedge \langle V_2, E_2 \rangle = \langle V_1 \cap V_2, E_1 \cap E_2 \rangle.$$

- Note that we permit the empty graph.

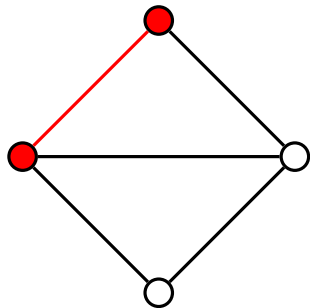
# Graph complements



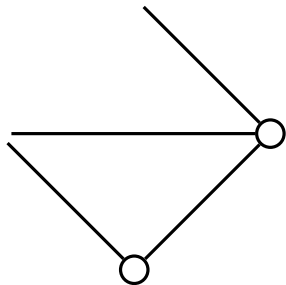
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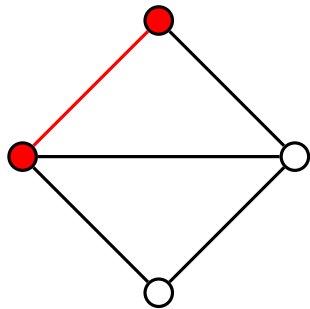


Complement

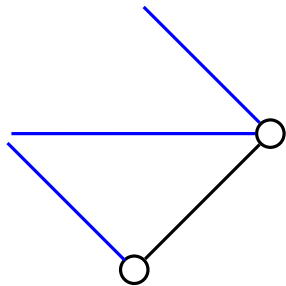




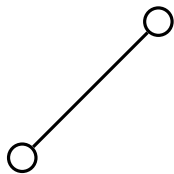
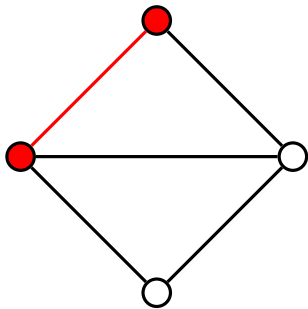
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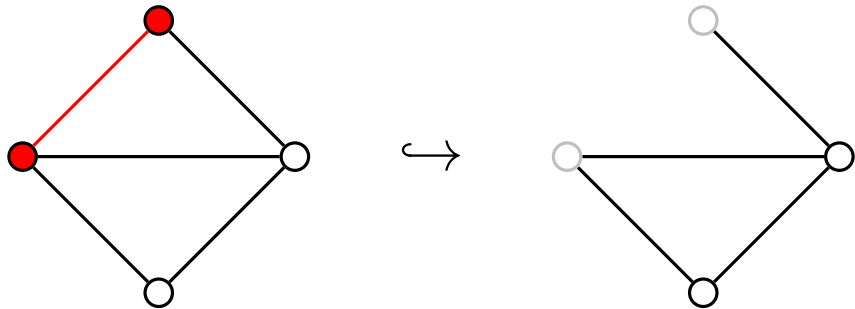
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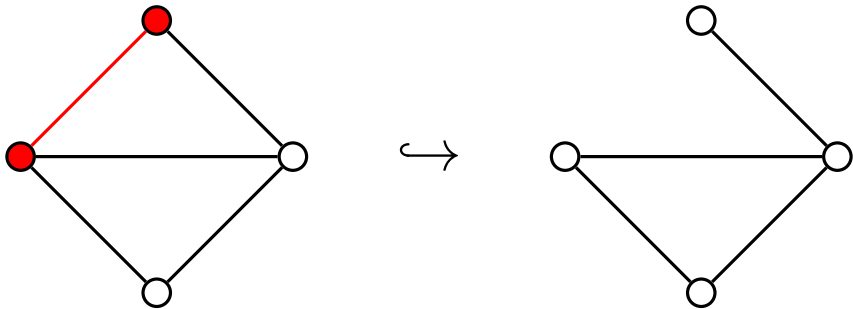
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# Pseudocomplementation

Let  $L$  be a lattice and let  $x \in L$ . Then  $x$  has a *pseudocomplement* if there exists a largest element  $x^* \in L$  such that  $x \wedge x^* = 0$ .

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### Definition

An algebra  $\mathbf{A} = \langle A; \vee, \wedge, 0, 1, *, + \rangle$  is a *double  $p$ -algebra* if  $\langle A; \vee, \wedge, 0, 1 \rangle$  is a bounded lattice, and  $*$  and  $+$  are the pseudocomplement and dual pseudocomplement respectively.

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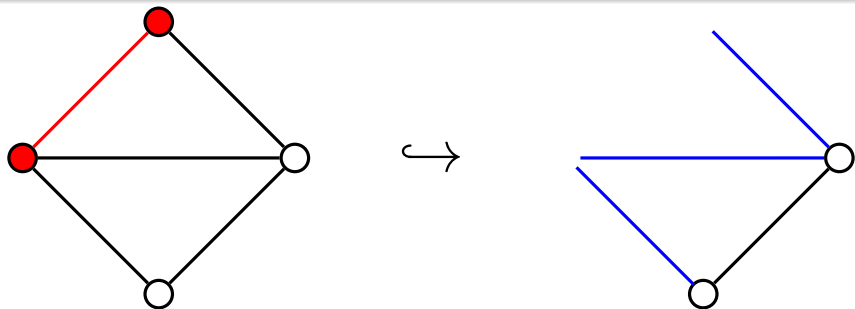
- Formally, for a graph  $G = \langle V, E \rangle$  and a subgraph  $H = \langle V', E' \rangle$ :

$$H^* = \langle V \setminus V', \{e \in E \setminus E' \mid (\forall x \in e) x \in V \setminus V'\} \rangle$$

$$H^+ = \langle V \setminus V' \cup \{v \in V \mid (\exists e \in E \setminus E') v \in e\}, E \setminus E' \rangle.$$

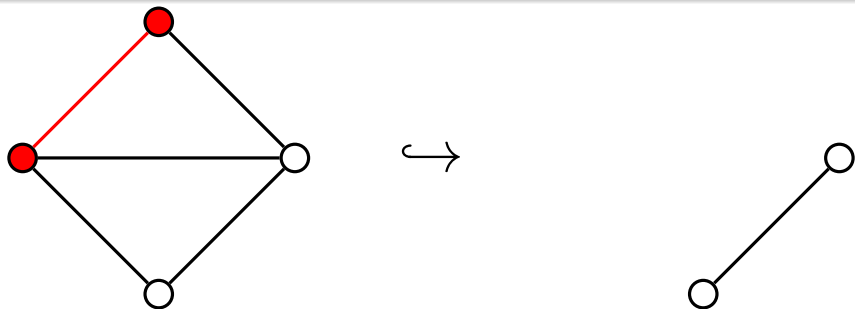
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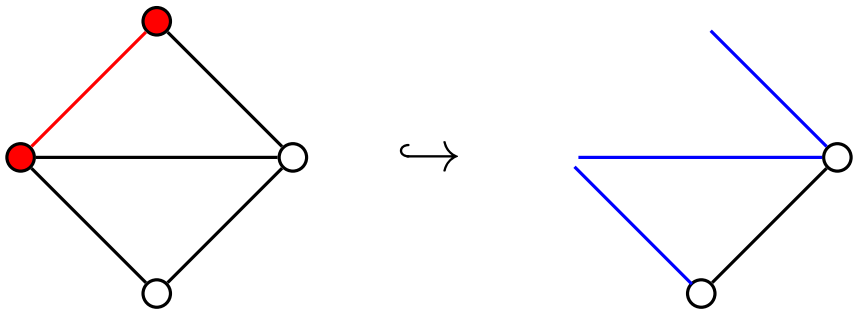
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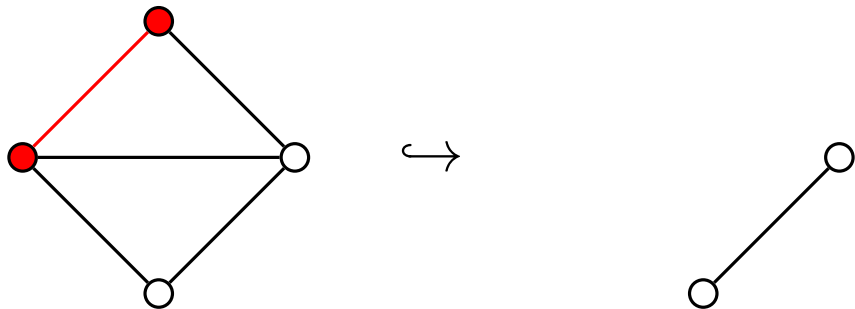
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Double p-algebras: not true!



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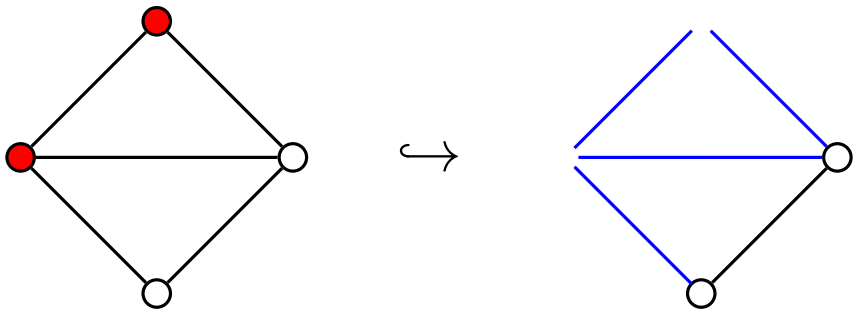
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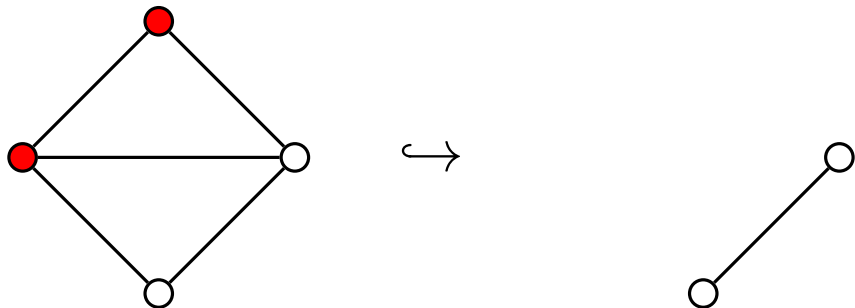
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# Regular double p-algebras

- Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an algebra. We say that  $\mathbf{A}$  is *congruence regular* if, for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Con}(\mathbf{A})$ , we have

$$((\exists x \in \mathbf{A}) x/\alpha = x/\beta) \implies \alpha = \beta.$$

- Example: groups

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## Theorem (Varlet, 1972)

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a double p-algebra. Then the following are equivalent.

- 1  $\mathbf{A}$  is congruence regular.
- 2  $(\forall a, b \in A)$  if  $a^* = b^*$  and  $a^+ = b^+$  then  $a = b$ .
- 3  $(\forall a, b \in A)$   $a \wedge a^+ \leq b \vee b^*$ .

# A well-behaved structure

## Theorem

*Let  $G = \langle V, E \rangle$  be a graph. Then  $\mathcal{S}(G)$  is (the underlying lattice of) a regular double  $p$ -algebra.*

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## Proof.

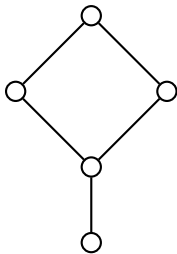
Let  $A = \langle A_V, A_E \rangle$  and  $B = \langle B_V, B_E \rangle$  be subgraphs of  $G$ . Recall that for a subgraph  $H = \langle V', E' \rangle$ ,

$$H^* = \langle V \setminus V', \{e \in E \setminus E' \mid (\forall x \in e) x \in V \setminus V'\} \rangle \quad (1)$$

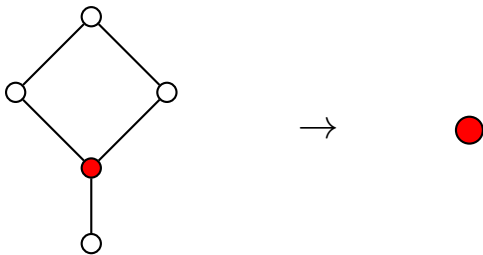
$$H^+ = \langle V \setminus V' \cup \{v \in V \mid (\exists e \in E \setminus E') v \in e\}, E \setminus E' \rangle. \quad (2)$$

Assume  $A^* = B^*$  and  $A^+ = B^+$ . Then from (1) we have  $V \setminus A_V = V \setminus B_V$  and from (2) we have  $E \setminus A_E = E \setminus B_E$ . Hence,  $A = B$ .  $\square$

# Are graphs enough?

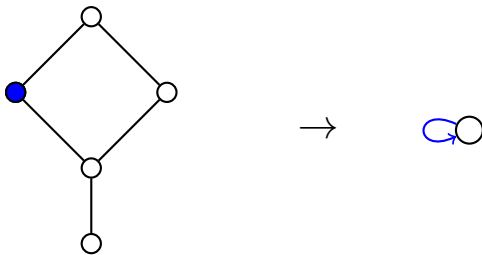


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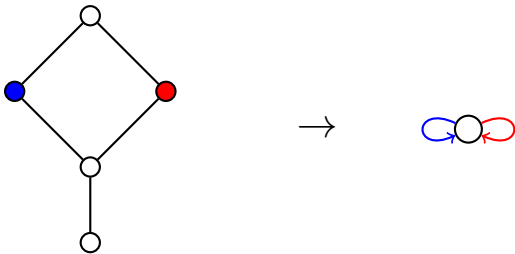




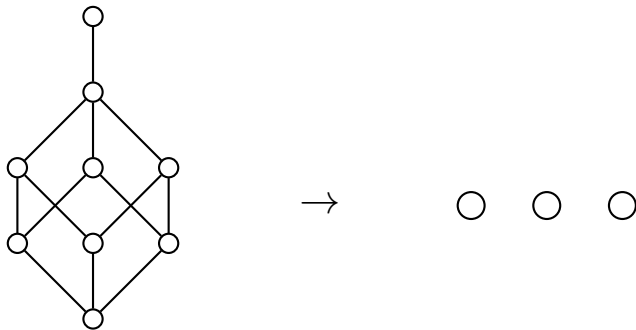
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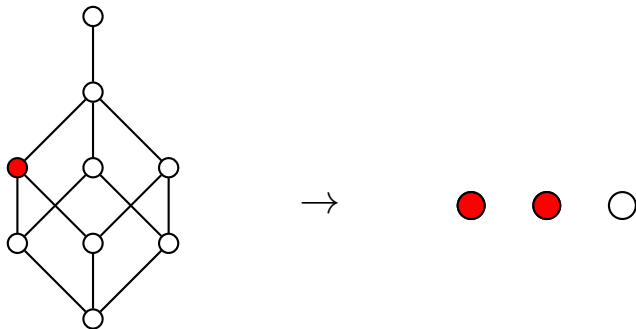
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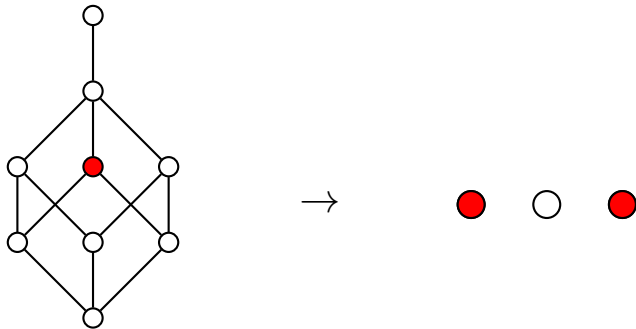
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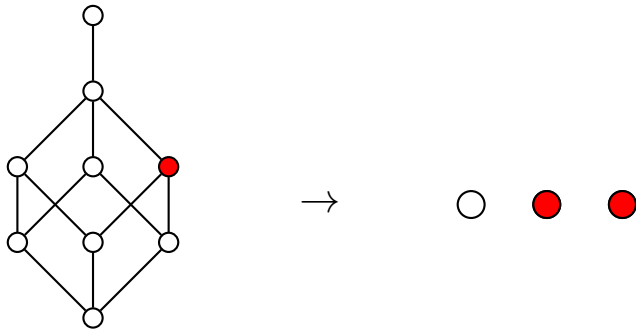
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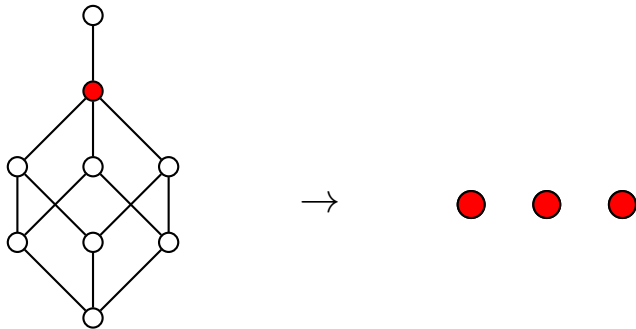
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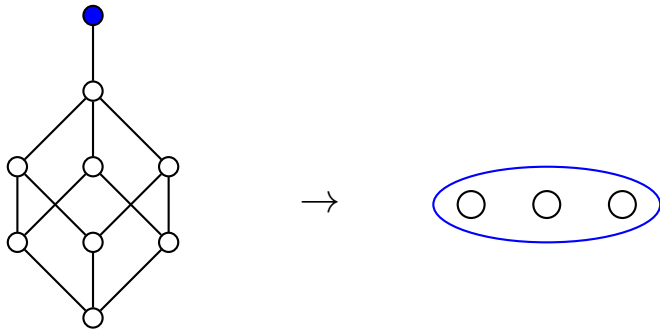
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# Incidence structures

## Definition

An *incidence structure* is a triple  $\langle P, L, I \rangle$  where  $P$  is a set of points,  $L$  is a set of lines and  $I \subseteq P \times L$  is an incidence relation describing which points are incident to which lines.

## Example

Let  $P = \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $L = \{x, y, z, a, b\}$ , and let

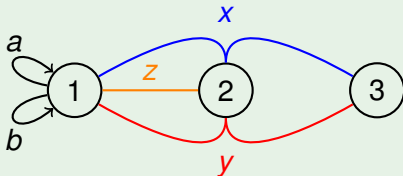
$$\begin{aligned} I = & \{1, 2, 3\} \times \{x, y\} \\ & \cup \{1, 2\} \times \{z\} \\ & \cup \{(1, a), (1, b)\} \end{aligned}$$

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# Point-preserving substructures

## Definition

Let  $G = \langle P, L, I \rangle$  be an incidence structure. A *point-preserving substructure* of  $G$  is a pair  $\langle P', L' \rangle$  such that

- 1  $P' \subseteq P$  and  $L' \subseteq L$ ,
- 2 for all  $\ell \in L'$ , if  $(p, \ell) \in I$  then  $p \in P'$ .

The incidence relation is defined implicitly from  $G$ .

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The incidence relation is defined implicitly from  $G$ .

Let  $\mathcal{S}(G)$  denote the set of all point-preserving substructures of a structure  $G$ . This induces a double p-algebra in a similar way to graphs, where

$$\begin{aligned}\langle P', L' \rangle^* &= \langle P \setminus P', \{ \ell \in L \setminus L' \mid (\forall p \in P) (p, \ell) \in I \implies p \in P \setminus P' \} \rangle \\ \langle P', L' \rangle^+ &= \langle P \setminus P' \cup \{ p \in P \mid (\exists \ell \in L \setminus L') (p, \ell) \in I \}, L \setminus L' \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

# The main result (finite version)

## Theorem

*Let  $L$  be a finite lattice. Then the following are equivalent.*

- 1  $L$  is a boolean lattice,
- 2  $L \cong \mathcal{P}(B)$  for some set  $B$ ,
- 3  $L \cong \mathbf{2}^n$  for some  $n \geq 0$ .

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## Theorem (Taylor, 2015)

*Let  $L$  be a finite lattice. Then the following are equivalent.*

- 1  $L$  is (the underlying lattice of) a regular double  $p$ -algebra,
- 2  $L \cong \mathcal{S}(G)$  for some incidence structure  $G$ ,
- 3  $L \cong \mathbf{2}^n \times \mathcal{S}(G)$  for some  $n \geq 0$  and some incidence structure  $G$ .

# An infinite counterexample

- The *finite-cofinite algebra* of  $\mathbb{N}$  is a boolean algebra.
  - ▶  $\text{FC}(\mathbb{N}) := \{S \subseteq \mathbb{N} \mid S \text{ is finite or } \mathbb{N} \setminus S \text{ is finite}\}$ .

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- $\text{FC}(\mathbb{N})$  is countable.
- Every powerset lattice has cardinality  $2^X$  for some set  $X$ .
- Thus  $\text{FC}(\mathbb{N})$  is not a powerset algebra.

# The characterisation of powerset algebras

## Theorem

*Let  $B$  be a boolean lattice. Then the following are equivalent.*

- 1  $B \cong \mathcal{P}(X)$  for some set  $X$ .
- 2  $B$  is complete and atomic.
- 3  $B$  is complete and completely distributive.

# The main result

## Theorem (Taylor, 2015)

*Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a regular double  $p$ -algebra. Then the following are equivalent.*

- 1  $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathcal{P}(B) \times \mathcal{S}(G)$  for some set  $B$  and some incidence structure  $G$ .
- 2  $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathcal{S}(G)$  for some incidence structure  $G$ .
- 3  $\mathbf{A}$  is complete, completely distributive and doubly atomic.

# The main result

## Theorem (Taylor, 2015)

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a regular double  $p$ -algebra. Then the following are equivalent.

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- 2  $\mathbf{A} \cong S(G)$  for some incidence structure  $G$ .
- 3  $\mathbf{A}$  is complete, completely distributive and doubly atomic.

## Theorem (Taylor, 2015)

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a regular double  $p$ -algebra. Then there is an incidence structure  $G$  such that  $\mathbf{A}$  is isomorphic to a subalgebra of  $S(G)$ .