

# Order structures in mathematics

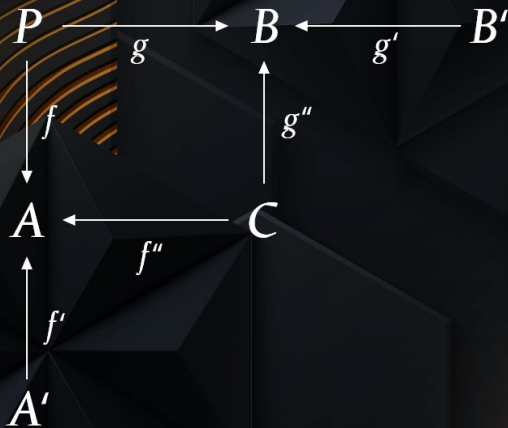
Gunnar Fløystad

September 7, 2024

# Highlights

- 1 Categories, order and symmetry
- 2 Preorders
- 3 Topologies
- 4 Associative algebras
- 5 Subgroups of matrix groups
- 6 Ideals in polynomial ring
- 7 Bipartite graphs
- 8 Braid cones

# Categories and preorders



# Categories

Category: **Objects** and **Morphisms**

- May compose:

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} B, \text{ and } B \xrightarrow{\beta} C \rightsquigarrow A \xrightarrow{\beta \circ \alpha} C.$$

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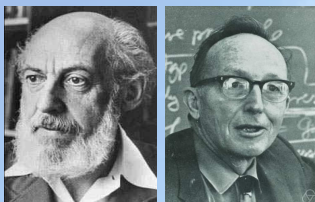
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## Category theory:

- External:
  - How do mathematical objects relate?
  - “Social life of mathematical objects.”
- Internal: Essence of a structure may be a category

# Pioneers category theory



S. Eilenberg and S. MacLane

- *General theory of natural equivalences*, Transactions AMS (1945)
- Grothendieck (1957): Abelian categories,
- Kan (1959): Adjoints

# Simplest categories

## Symmetry

- Category with **one** object: **Monoid**
- If also all morphisms are invertible: **Group**

# Simplest categories

## Order

### Preorder

Category with **at most one morphism** between any two objects:

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**Preorder:** Set  $V$  with a **relation**  $\leq$  such that:

- Reflexive:  $a \leq a$  for each  $a \in V$
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$\text{Pre}(V)$ : all preorders on  $V$

# Preorders with two elements

$V = \{a, b\}$ , two distinct elements

	$a \leq b$	$b \leq a$
1.	NO	NO
2.	YES	NO
3.	NO	YES
4.	YES	YES

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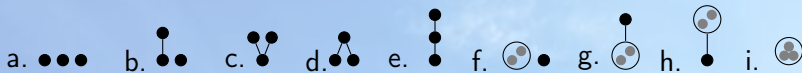
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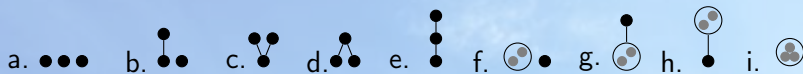
Isomorphism classes:



# Preorders with three elements

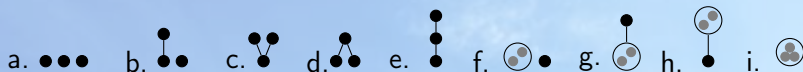


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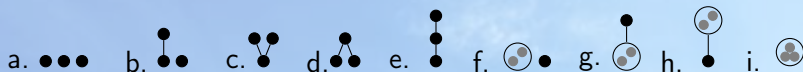
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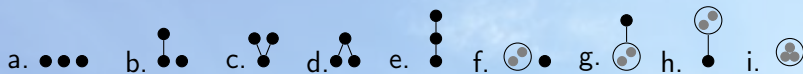
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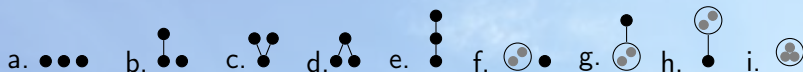
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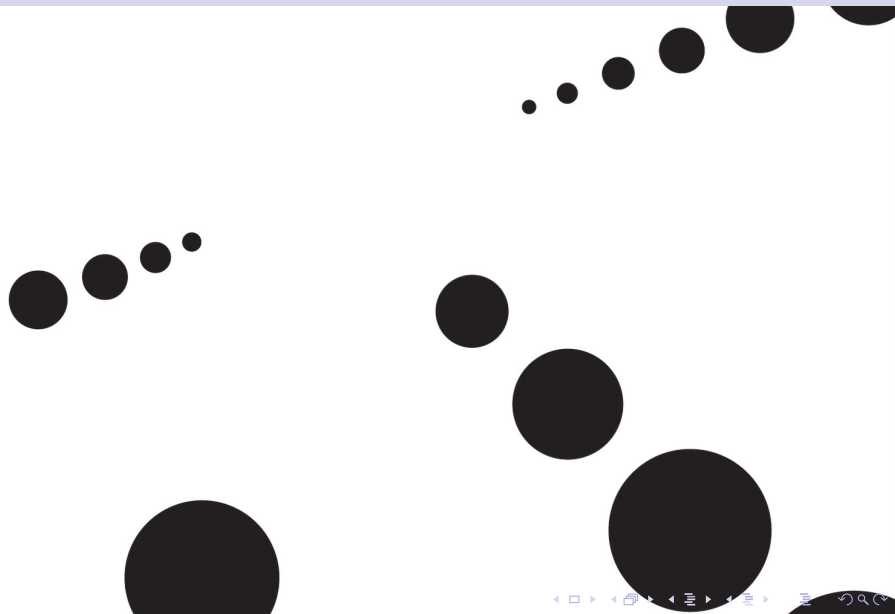
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$\text{Pre}(V)$  has 29 elements (when  $|V| = 3$ ).

# Finite topologies



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Set  $X$

## Topology on $X$

Family  $\mathcal{T}$  of subsets of  $X$ :

1.  $\emptyset$  and  $X$  are in  $\mathcal{T}$ ,
2. **Union:** Let  $U_i$  (for  $i \in I$ ) be in  $\mathcal{T}$ .  
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The  $U \in \mathcal{T}$  are *open* sets.

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$(X, \leq)$  finite preorder.

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Theorem

These are *precisely* the topologies where  $X$  is a *finite* set.

# Pioneers



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Pavel Kuratowski

- 1922: **Closure axioms**.  
Equivalent to modern definition.



# Associative algebras



# Associative algebras with 1

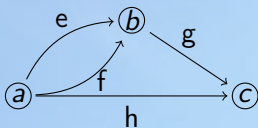
Vector space  $A$  with a product  $a \cdot b$  fulfilling:

- Associative:  $a(bc) = (ab)c$
- Exists 1 such that:  $1 \cdot a = a \cdot 1$
- Distributes over addition:

$$a(b + c) = ab + ac, \quad (a + b)c = ac + bc.$$

# Directed graph/Quiver

$D = (E, V)$  finite directed graph. Equivalently a map  $E \rightarrow V \times V$ .



# Path algebras

Let  $u$  and  $v$  two vertices. Path  $a$ :

$$a : u = v_0 \xrightarrow{e_1} v_1 \xrightarrow{e_2} v_2 \xrightarrow{e_3} \cdots \xrightarrow{e_n} v_n = v.$$

$A$ : vector space with basis all paths in  $D$ .

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- $a : u \rightarrow v$  and  $b : v \rightarrow w$  paths: Product  $ab$  is the composed path,
- If end vertex of  $a$  is different from start vertex of  $b$ : Define  $ab := 0$ .

$A$ : path algebra of  $D$ .

# Path algebras with relations

If  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_p$  are elements of  $A$ , may form:

Algebra of relations

$$B = A/(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_p)$$

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Assume  $k$  algebraically closed field (Ex:  $k = \mathbb{C}$ ).

Theorem (60's?)

Any *finite dimensional associative algebra* over the field  $k$  is (up to Morita equivalence) a *path algebra with relations*.

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Hyman Bass

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Maurice Auslander



Idun Reiten

- 1970's and on: Developed theory of Artin algebras

# Matrix groups



# Matrix

## Invertible

Upper triangular matrices form a **subgroup**:

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}.$$

- $k$  field (like  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ ).
- $X = \{x, y, z, \dots\}$  finite set, and
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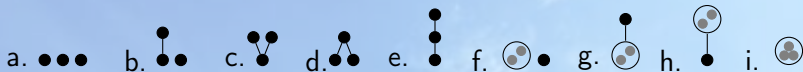
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- Upset  $U \subseteq X \rightsquigarrow$  subspace  $kU \subseteq kX = V$ .
- Look at  $g : V \rightarrow V$  such that  $g(kU) \subseteq kU$  for each upset  $U$  of  $X$ .
- These  $g$  make a **subgroup** of the matrix group.

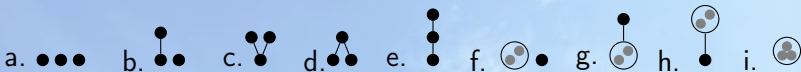
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 d. \\
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# Matrix subgroups and preorders

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Theorem (Borevich, 81)

Connected *subgroups containing the diagonal matrices*

$\updownarrow 1 - 1$

*Preorders on  $X$*

# Polynomials



# Polynomial rings and relations

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**Ideal**  $I \subseteq k[x, y]$  is all:

$$p(x, y) \cdot (x^2 + 2xy) + q(x, y) \cdot (y^2 - x - y - 1)$$

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So  $B = k[x, y]/I$ .

# Degeneration

$$u = x^2 + 2xy, \quad v = y^2 - x - y - 1.$$

Coordinate change  $x \rightarrow \frac{1}{t^3}x$  and  $y \rightarrow \frac{1}{t^2}y$ . Get:

$$u_1 = \frac{1}{t^6}x^2 + 2\frac{1}{t^5}xy, \quad v_1 = \frac{1}{t^4}y - \frac{1}{t^3}x - \frac{1}{t^2}y - 1.$$

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Let  $t \rightarrow 0$ . Get degeneration:

$$x^2, \quad y^2.$$

# Monomial ideal

- Monomial:  $x_1^2 x_2^3 x_3$ .
- $I$ : ideal in  $k[X] = k[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  generated by **monomials**.

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There is a map:

$$\text{Monomial ideals in } k[X] \longrightarrow \text{Pre}(X).$$

For  $x, y$  variables in  $X$ , write  $x \leq y$  if:

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# Degeneration II

$$x^2, \quad y^2$$

Coordinate change  $y \rightarrow y + \frac{1}{t}x$ :

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This **cannot be further** degenerated

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Which ideals are as degenerate as possible?  
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## Theorem (Folklore, around 1985)

*A monomial ideal is as degenerate as possible*



*Associated preorder is **total**.*

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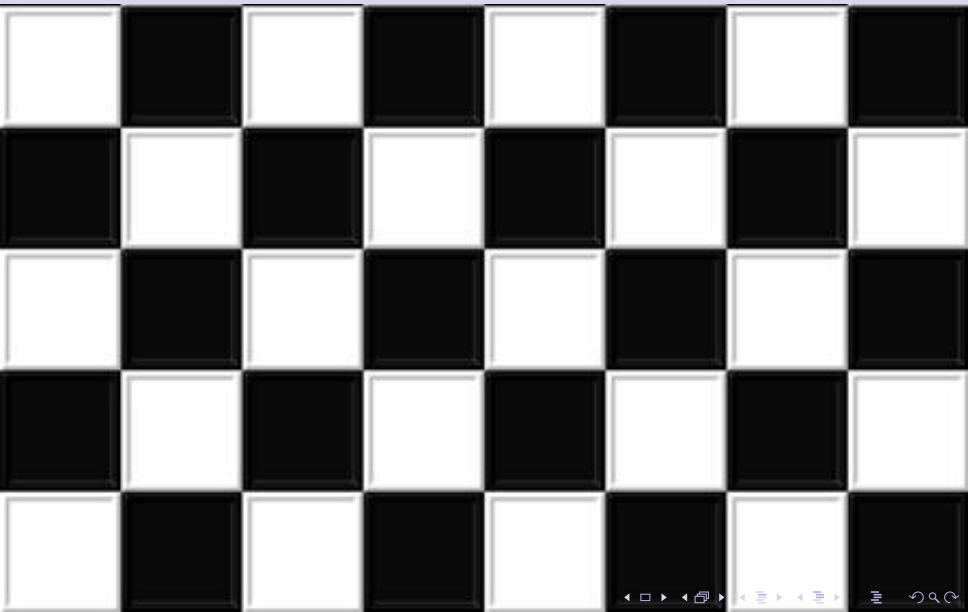


David Bayer



Andre Galligo

# Bipartite graphs



# Bipartite graphs

Graph with vertices  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . Edge

$$\bullet^i - \bullet^j \rightsquigarrow \text{monomial } x_i x_j.$$

Make these monomials relations in  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

Quotient algebra  $B = k[x_1, \dots, x_n](x_i x_j \mid \{i, j\} \text{ edge})$ .

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## Question

When is  $B$  a Cohen-Macaulay ring?

(Basic niceness criterion in commutative algebra).

# Bipartite graphs

Start with poset  $P$

Make two copies  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . Make bipartite graph:

- Vertices  $P_1 \cup P_2$
- Edges  $\bullet^{a_1} - \bullet^{b_2}$  iff  $a \leq b$  in  $P$ .

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Jürgen Herzog and  
Takayuki Hibi

# Braid fan



# Braid fan

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# Braid fan

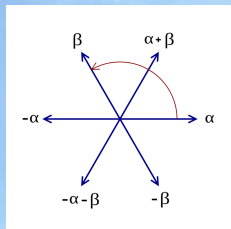
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Weyl chambers when  $n = 3$ .

# Braid cones and preorders

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## Bijection

Braid cones in  $\mathbb{R}^V$   $\xleftrightarrow{1-1}$  Preorders on the set  $V$

# Order

- 1 Categories, order and symmetry
- 2 Preorders
- 3 Finite topologies
- 4 Associative algebras
- 5 Matrix groups
- 6 Polynomial ideals
- 7 Bipartite graphs
- 8 Braid cones

Takk!