

# Chain algebras of finite distributive lattices

Lisa Nicklasson

joint work with Aleksandra Gasanova

Linköping March 21 2024

## Toric rings / Monomial subalgebras

$\mathcal{M}$  = a finite set of monomials in a polynomial ring  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

$k[\mathcal{M}]$  = subring generated by  $\mathcal{M}$

$$k[\mathcal{M}] \cong R / I_{\mathcal{M}}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{m_1, \dots, m_s\} \quad R = k[y_1, \dots, y_s]$$

$$\psi: R \rightarrow k[\mathcal{M}] \quad y_i \mapsto m_i$$

$I_{\mathcal{M}} = \ker \psi$  a binomial prime ideal (toric ideal)

If the monomials in  $\mathcal{M}$  have the same degree, then  $I_{\mathcal{M}}$  is homogeneous.

Example: Twisted cubic

$$k[x^3, x^2y, xy^2, y^3] \cong \frac{k[z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4]}{(z_1z_4 - z_2z_3, z_1z_3 - z_2^2, z_2z_4 - z_3^2)}$$

# Toric rings in combinatorial commutative algebra

$\mathcal{M}$  = monomials given by a combinatorial object.

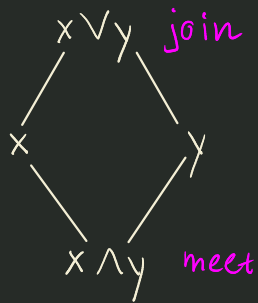
- Edge ring of a graph
- Base ring of a matroid
- Hibi ring defined by a poset
- $\vdots$

Properties of the underlying  
combinatorial object

$\Leftrightarrow$  algebraic properties of  $k[\mathcal{M}]$

# Posets & lattices

Poset = (finite) set with a partial order  $\leq$ .



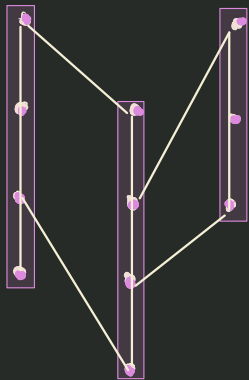
If any pair  $x, y$  has a meet and a join then the poset is called a lattice.

Order ideal of a poset = downwards closed set

$\mathcal{J}(P)$  = set of order ideals of  $P$   $\rightsquigarrow$  new poset  
distributive lattice

Thm (Birkhoff): Any finite distributive lattice is identical to  $\mathcal{J}(P)$  for some poset  $P$ .

$L = \mathcal{J}(P)$   $P$  can be obtained from  $L$  by taking the join irreducibles.

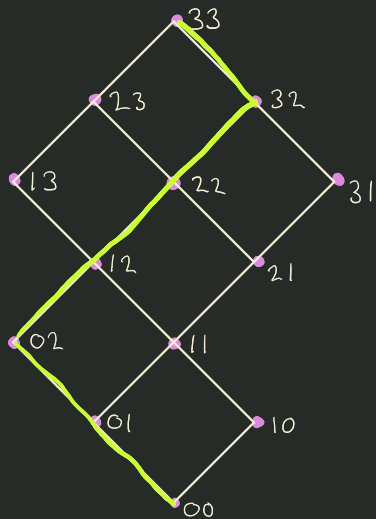


$\text{width}(P) = \# \text{chains needed to cover } P$

$L = \mathcal{J}(P) \quad \dim(L) = \text{width}(P)$

# Chain algebra of a finite distributive lattice $L$

maximal chain in  $L \iff$  monomial in  $k[x_{00}, x_{01}, \dots, x_{33}]$



$$x_{00} x_{01} x_{02} x_{12} x_{22} x_{32} x_{33}$$

$\mathcal{C}_L = \{ \text{all monomials from maximal chains of } L \}$

$$k[\mathcal{C}_L] \cong R / \underline{I}_{\mathcal{C}_L}$$

maximal chains in a finite distributive lattice all have the same length  $\rightsquigarrow \underline{I}_{\mathcal{C}_L}$  is homogeneous ideal

Some general results.  $L$  finite distributive lattice

- $I_{C_L}$  has a squarefree initial ideal w.r.t. any DegRevLex term order.

Sturmfels, Hochster

- $k[C_L]$  is normal and Cohen-Macaulay

- Krull dimension of  $k[C_L]$  is  $|L| - |P|$ , where  $L = J(P)$

$$\dim k[M] = \text{rank} \begin{bmatrix} \text{exponent vectors} \\ \text{of monomials } M \end{bmatrix}$$

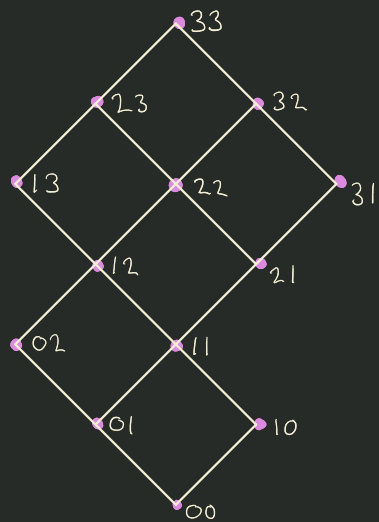
$$\text{col. space} \begin{bmatrix} \text{exponent vectors} \\ \text{of monomials in } C_L \end{bmatrix} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{exp. vec. of} \\ \text{one monomial,} \end{array} \text{ columns} \begin{bmatrix} \text{incidence} \\ \text{matrix of} \\ \text{a directed graph} \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

linear algebra  
+ graph theory



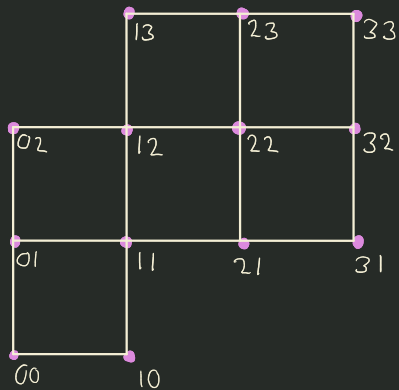
# Planar f. d. lattices $L$

$\dim(L) \leq 2$       Can be embedded in  $\mathbb{N}^2$



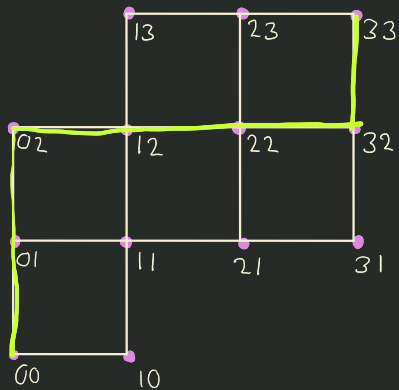
# Planar f. d. lattices $L$

$\dim(L) \leq 2$       Can be embedded in  $\mathbb{N}^2$

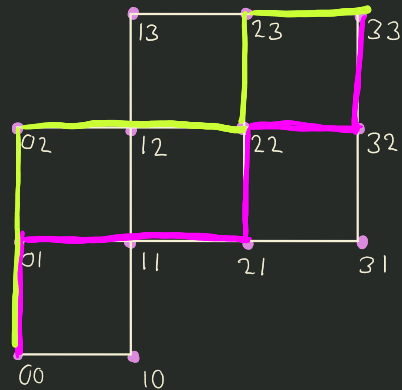
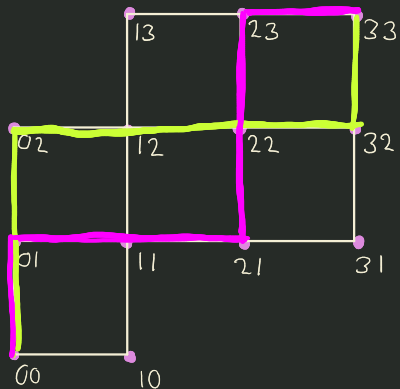


# Planar f. d. lattices $L$

$\dim(L) \leq 2$       Can be embedded in  $\mathbb{N}^2$



maximal chain in  $h \iff$   
north-east path from 00 to 33.



$$(x_{00}x_{01}x_{02}x_{12}x_{22}x_{32}x_{33})(x_{00}x_{01}x_{11}x_{21}x_{22}x_{23}x_{33}) = (x_{00}x_{01}x_{02}x_{12}x_{22}x_{23}x_{33})(x_{00}x_{01}x_{11}x_{21}x_{22}x_{32}x_{33})$$

$y_1 y_2 - y_3 y_4$  in  $I_{CL}$

$I_{CL}$  is generated by degree 2 binomials of this type.

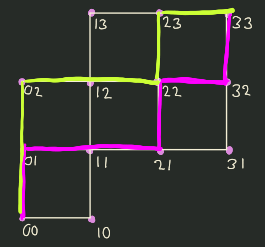
Theorem.  $L$  is planar  $\iff I_{e_L}$  is quadratic

Moreover, when  $L$  is planar  $I_{e_L}$  has a quadratic Gröbner basis.

$k[e_L]$  is a Koszul algebra

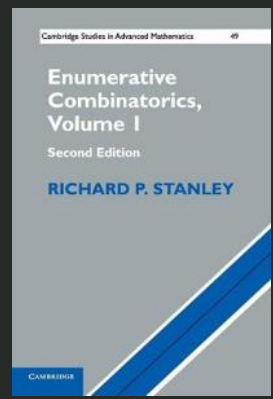
Hilbert series of  $k[C_n]$  =  $\bigoplus_{i \geq 0} A_i$        $A_i = \text{span}\{\text{products of } i \text{ monomials from } C_n\}$

Hilbert function of  $k[C_n]$  :  $HF(i) = \dim_k A_i$   
 = #  $i$ -tuples of non-crossing north-east paths

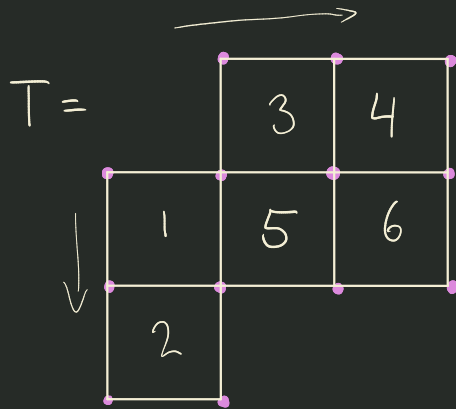
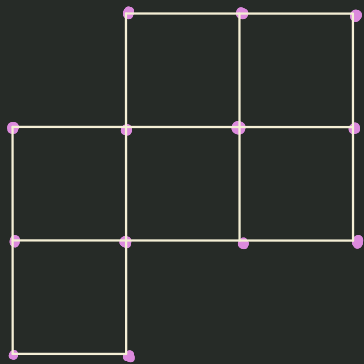


Hilbert series :  $\sum_{i \geq 0} HF(i) z^i$

$$= \sum_{\substack{\text{SYT's } T \\ \text{shape } L}} z^{\text{asc}(T)} / (1-z)^d$$

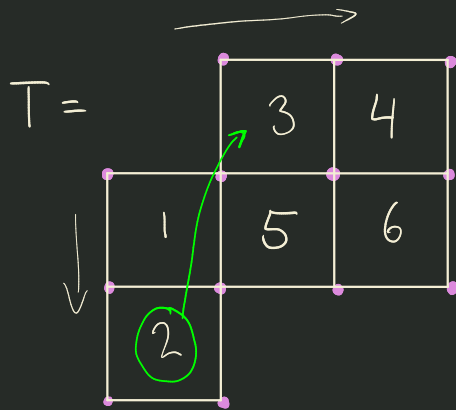
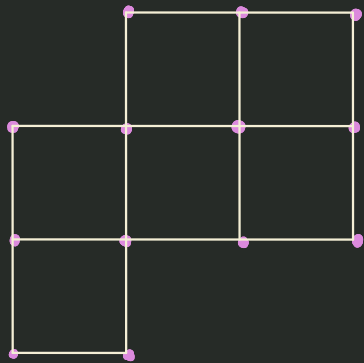


Shape given by  $L$



Standard Young tableaux

Shape given by  $L$



Standard Young tableaux

ascents:  $i$  s.t.  $i+1$  sits above  $i$  in  $T$ .

$asc(T) = \#$  ascents in  $T$

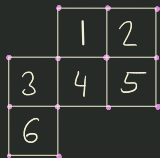


ascents

SYT's

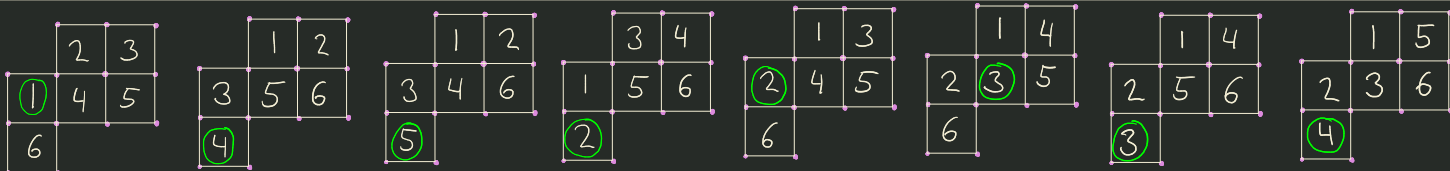
$$\frac{1 + 8z + 10z^2 + 2z^3}{(1-z)^7}$$

0



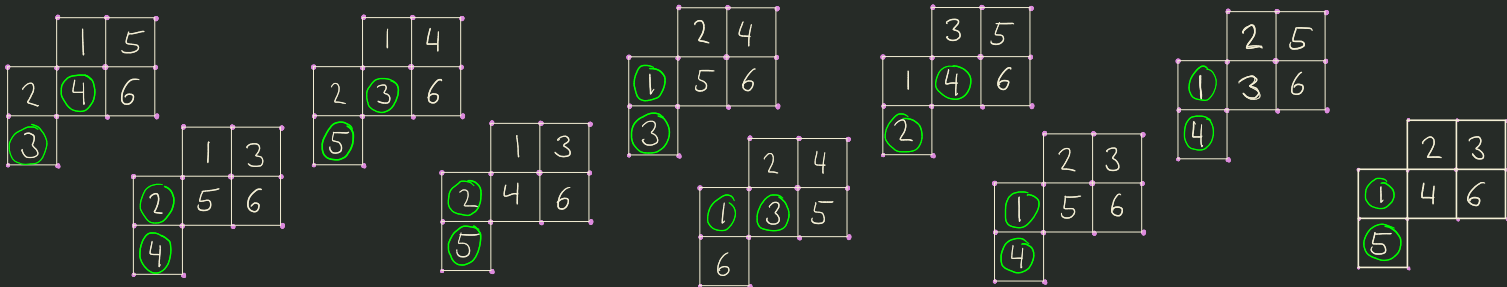
1

1



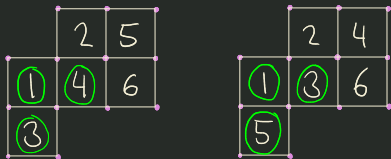
8

2



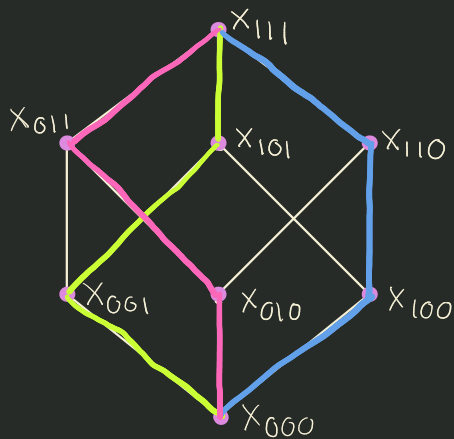
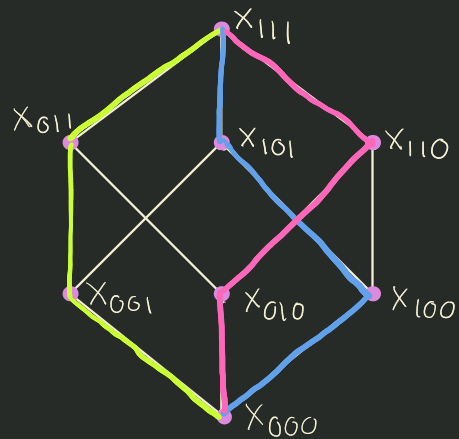
10

3



2

# The non-planar case



$$x_{000} x_{001} x_{011} x_{111} \cdot x_{000} x_{010} x_{110} x_{111} \cdot x_{000} x_{100} x_{101} x_{111} = x_{000} x_{001} x_{101} x_{111} \cdot x_{000} x_{010} x_{011} x_{111} \cdot x_{000} x_{100} x_{110} x_{111}$$

$$k[C_h] \cong \frac{k[\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_6]}{(\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \gamma_3 - \gamma_4 \gamma_5 \gamma_6)}$$

Theorem:  $I_{\mathcal{C}_h}$  has a minimal generator of degree  $\dim(h)$ .

$I_{\mathcal{C}_h}$  is generated by binomials of degrees  $\leq \frac{|\mathcal{C}_h|}{2}$ .

Open problem: Give a better description of  $I_{\mathcal{C}_h}$  in the non-planar case!

Chain algebras of finite distributive lattices

Gasanova, Nicklasson

Journal of Algebraic Combinatorics Vol. 59, p. 473-494 (2024)

arXiv:2304.04810