

Domains of Boolean algebras

Chris Heunen

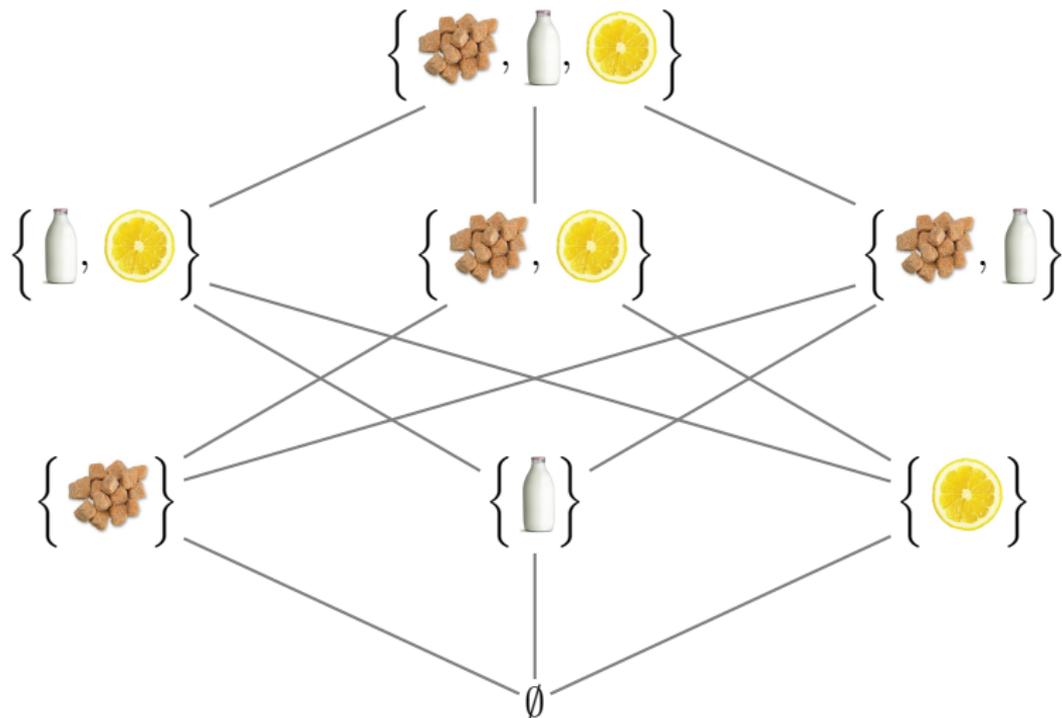


DEPARTMENT OF
**COMPUTER
SCIENCE**



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
informatics

Boolean algebra: example



Boolean algebra: definition

A **Boolean algebra** is a set B with:

- ▶ a distinguished element $1 \in B$;
- ▶ a unary operations $\neg: B \rightarrow B$;
- ▶ a binary operation $\wedge: B \times B \rightarrow B$;

such that for all $x, y, z \in B$:

- ▶ $x \wedge (y \wedge z) = (x \wedge y) \wedge z$;
- ▶ $x \wedge y = y \wedge x$;
- ▶ $x \wedge 1 = x$;
- ▶ $\neg x = \neg(x \wedge \neg y) \wedge \neg(x \wedge y)$



“Sets of independent postulates for the algebra of logic”

Transactions of the American Mathematical Society 5:288–309, 1904

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- ▶ $x \wedge y = y \wedge x$;
- ▶ $x \wedge 1 = x$;
- ▶ $x \wedge x = x$;
- ▶ $x \wedge \neg x = \neg 1 = \neg 1 \wedge x$; ($\neg x$ is a complement of x)
- ▶ $x \wedge \neg y = \neg 1 \Leftrightarrow x \wedge y = x$ ($0 = \neg 1$ is the least element)



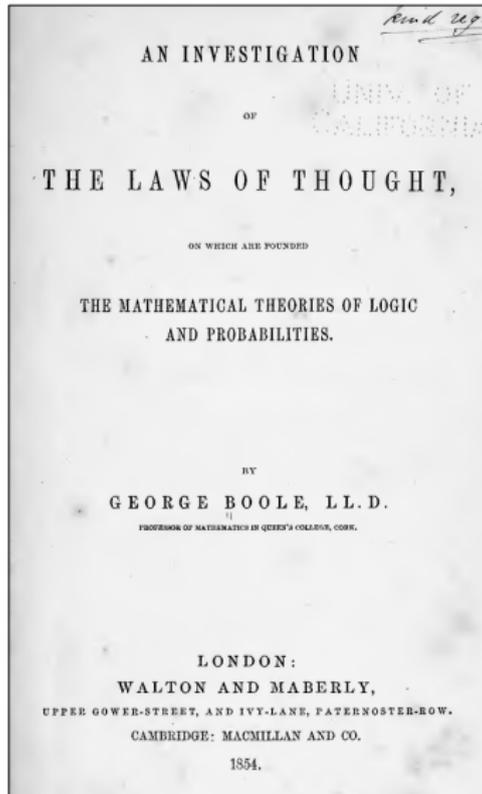
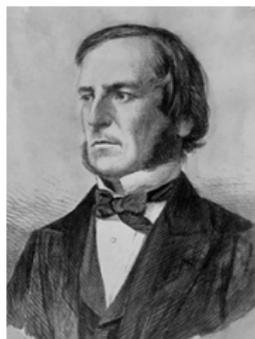
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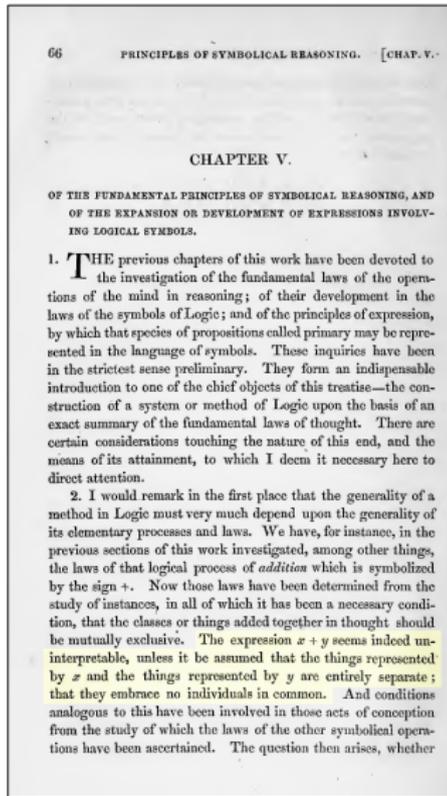
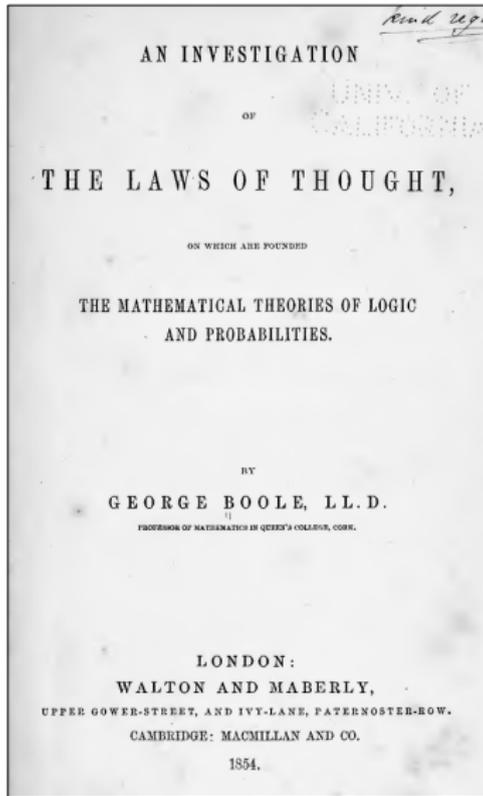
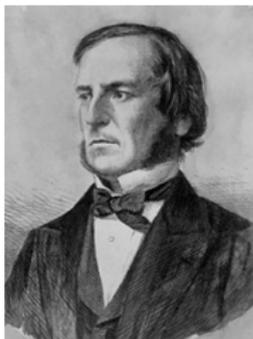
Boole's algebra



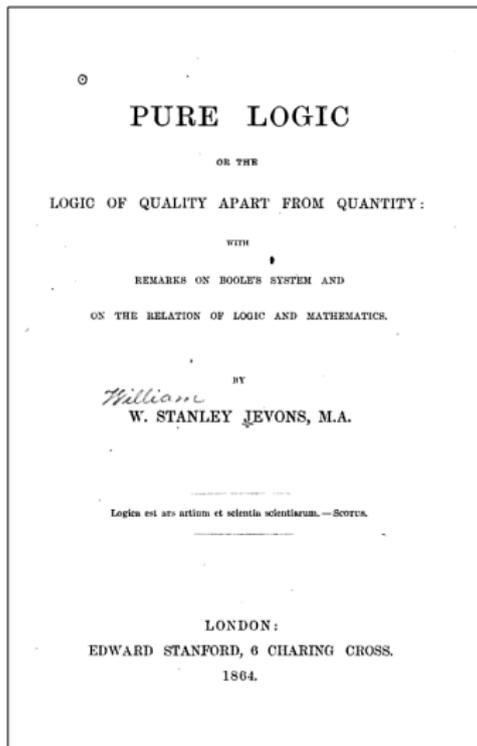
Boolean algebra \neq Boole's algebra



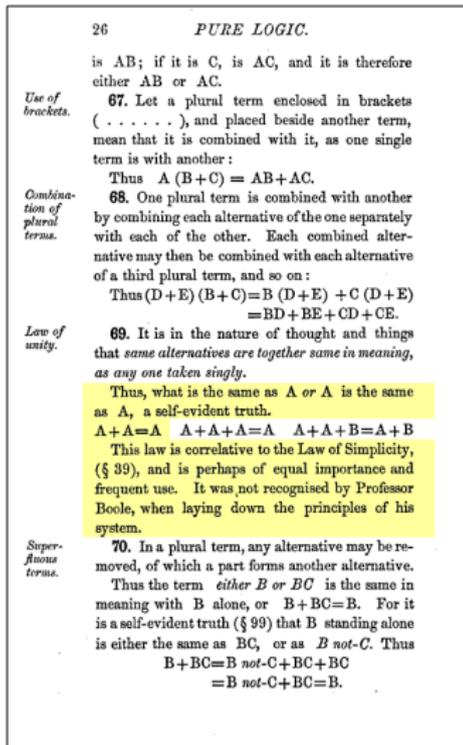
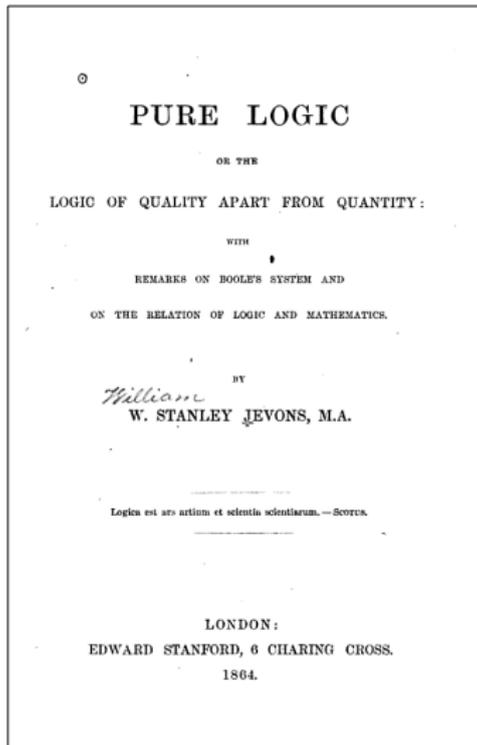
Boolean algebra \neq Boole's algebra



Boolean algebra = Jevon's algebra



Boolean algebra = Jevon's algebra



Boole's algebra isn't Boolean algebra



Boole's Algebra Isn't Boolean Algebra

*A description, using modern algebra,
of what Boole really did create.*

THEODORE HAILPERIN

Lehigh University

Bethlehem, PA 18015

To Boole and his mid-nineteenth century contemporaries, the title of this article would have been very puzzling. For Boole's first work in logic, *The Mathematical Analysis of Logic*, appeared in 1847 and, although the beginnings of modern abstract algebra can be traced back to the early part of the nineteenth century, the subject had not fully emerged until towards the end of the century. Only then could one clearly distinguish and compare algebras. (We use the term **algebra** here as standing for a formal system, not a structure which realizes, or is a model for, it—for instance, the algebra of integral domains as codified by a set of axioms *versus* a particular structure, e.g., the integers, which satisfies these axioms.) Granted, however, that this later full degree of understanding has been attained, and that one can conceptually distinguish algebras, is it not true that Boole's "algebra of logic" is Boolean algebra?

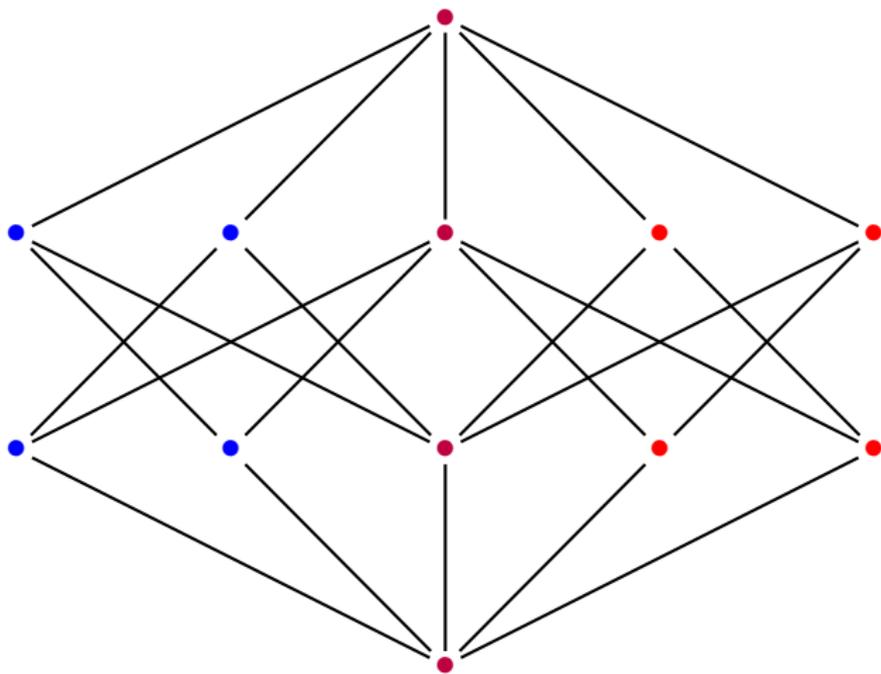
Piecewise Boolean algebra: definition

A **piecewise Boolean algebra** is a set B with:

- ▶ a reflexive symmetric binary relation $\odot \subseteq B^2$;
- ▶ a (partial) binary operation $\wedge: \odot \rightarrow B$;
- ▶ a (total) function $\neg: B \rightarrow B$;
- ▶ an element $1 \in B$ with $\{1\} \times B \subseteq \odot$;

such that every $S \subseteq B$ with $S^2 \subseteq \odot$ is contained in a $T \subseteq B$ with $T^2 \subseteq \odot$ where $(T, \wedge, \neg, 1)$ is a Boolean algebra.

Piecewise Boolean algebra: example



Piecewise Boolean algebra $\not\leq$ quantum logic

~~Subsets of a set~~

Subspaces of a Hilbert space



“The logic of quantum mechanics”
Annals of Mathematics 37:823–843, 1936

Piecewise Boolean algebra $\not\leq$ quantum logic

~~Subsets of a set~~

Subspaces of a Hilbert space

An orthomodular lattice is:

- ▶ A partial order set (B, \leq) with min 0 and max 1
- ▶ that has greatest lower bounds $x \wedge y$;
- ▶ an operation $\perp: B \rightarrow B$ such that
- ▶ $x^{\perp\perp} = x$, and $x \leq y$ implies $y^{\perp} \leq x^{\perp}$;
- ▶ $x \vee x^{\perp} = 1$;
- ▶ if $x \leq y$ then $y = x \vee (y \wedge x^{\perp})$



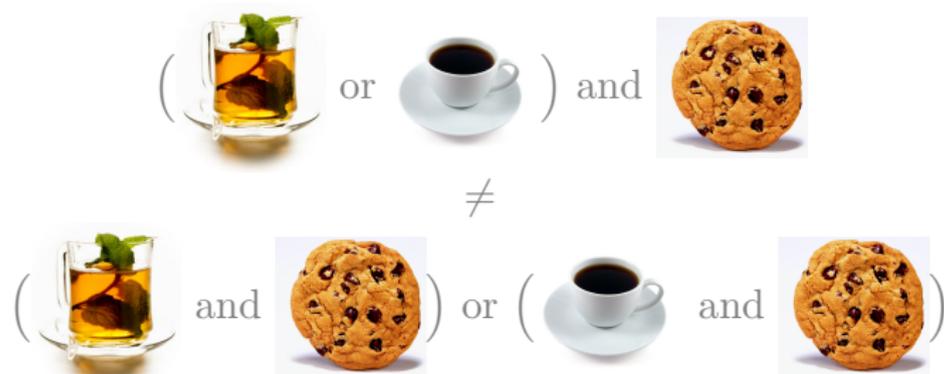
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~~Subsets of a set~~

Subspaces of a Hilbert space

An orthomodular lattice is **not distributive**:

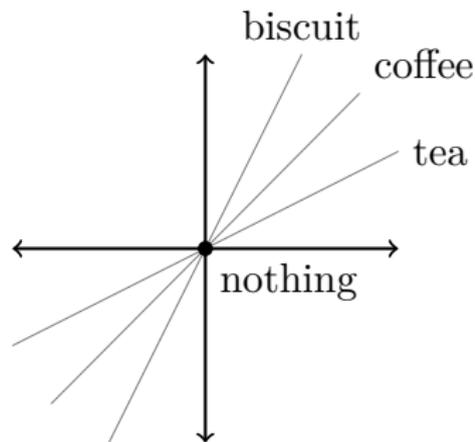


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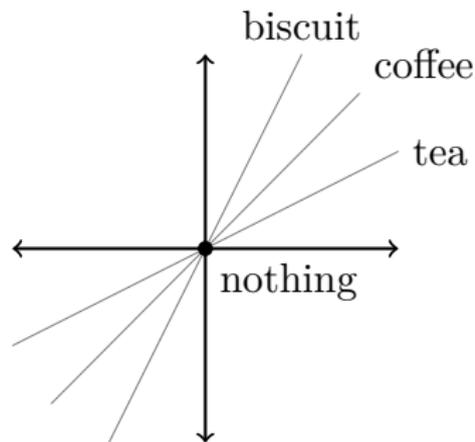


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However: fine when within orthogonal basis (Boolean subalgebra)



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Boole's algebra \neq Boolean algebra

Quantum measurement is probabilistic

(state $\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$ gives outcome 0 with probability $|\alpha|^2$)

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A **hidden variable** for a state is an assignment of a consistent outcome to any possible measurement

(homomorphism of piecewise Boolean algebras to $\{0, 1\}$)

Boole's algebra \neq Boolean algebra

Quantum measurement is probabilistic

(state $\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$ gives outcome 0 with probability $|\alpha|^2$)

A **hidden variable** for a state is an assignment of a consistent outcome to any possible measurement

(homomorphism of piecewise Boolean algebras to $\{0, 1\}$)

Theorem: hidden variables cannot exist

(if dimension $n \geq 3$, there is no homomorphism

$\text{Sub}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ of piecewise Boolean algebras.)

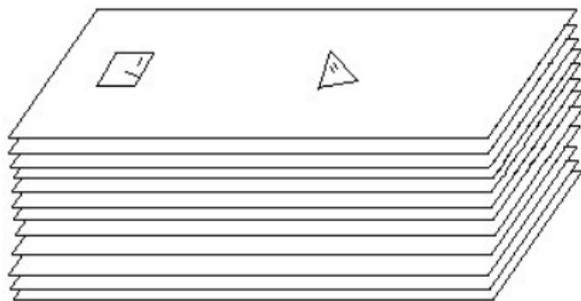


“The problem of hidden variables in quantum mechanics”

Journal of Mathematics and Mechanics 17:59–87, 1967

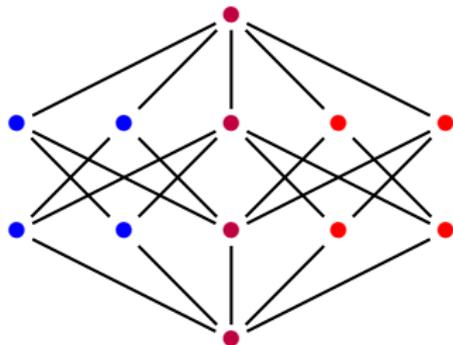
Piecewise Boolean domains: definition

Given a piecewise Boolean algebra B ,
its **piecewise Boolean domain** $\text{Sub}(B)$
is the collection of its Boolean subalgebras,
partially ordered by inclusion.

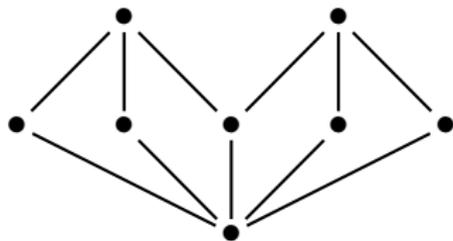


Piecewise Boolean domains: example

Example: if B is



then $\text{Sub}(B)$ is



Piecewise Boolean domains: theorems

Can reconstruct B from $\text{Sub}(B)$

($B \cong \text{colim Sub}(B)$)

(the parts determine the whole)



“Noncommutativity as a colimit”

Applied Categorical Structures 20(4):393–414, 2012

Piecewise Boolean domains: theorems

Can reconstruct B from $\text{Sub}(B)$

($B \cong \text{colim } \text{Sub}(B)$)

(the parts determine the whole)

$\text{Sub}(B)$ determines B

($B \cong B' \iff \text{Sub}(B) \cong \text{Sub}(B')$)

(*shape* of parts determines whole)



“Noncommutativity as a colimit”

Applied Categorical Structures 20(4):393–414, 2012



“Subalgebras of orthomodular lattices”

Order 28:549–563, 2011

Piecewise Boolean domains: as complex as graphs

State space = Hilbert space

Sharp measurements = subspaces (projections)

Jointly measurable = overlapping or orthogonal (commute)

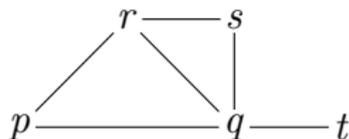
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(In)compatibilities form **graph**:



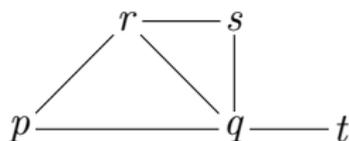
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Theorem: Any graph can be realised as sharp measurements on some Hilbert space.



“Quantum theory realises all joint measurability graphs”
Physical Review A 89(3):032121, 2014

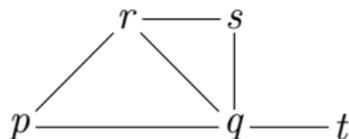
Piecewise Boolean domains: as complex as graphs

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(In)compatibilities form **graph**:



Theorem: Any graph can be realised as sharp measurements on some Hilbert space.

Corollary: Any piecewise Boolean algebra can be realised on some Hilbert space.



“Quantum theory realises all joint measurability graphs”
Physical Review A 89(3):032121, 2014



“Quantum probability – quantum logic”
Springer Lecture Notes in Physics 321, 1989

Piecewise Boolean domains: as complex as hypergraphs

State space = Hilbert space

Unsharp measurements = positive operator-valued measures

Jointly measurable = marginals of larger POVM

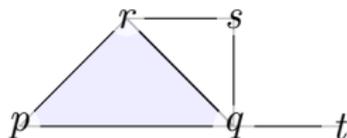
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(In)compatibilities now form **hypergraph**:



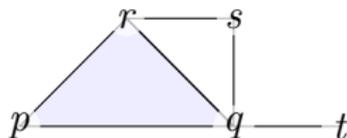
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(In)compatibilities now form **abstract simplicial complex**:



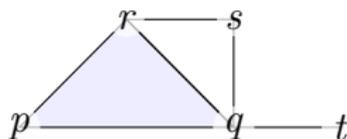
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Theorem: Any abstract simplicial complex can be realised as POVMs on a Hilbert space.



“All joint measurability structures are quantum realizable”
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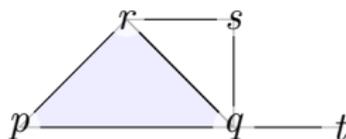
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Corollary: Any effect algebra can be realised on some Hilbert space.



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Physical Review A 89(5):052126, 2014



“Hilbert space effect-representations of effect algebras”
Reports on Mathematical Physics 70(3):283–290, 2012

Piecewise Boolean domains: partition lattices

What does $\text{Sub}(B)$ look like when B is an honest Boolean algebra?

Piecewise Boolean domains: partition lattices

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Boolean algebras are dually equivalent to Stone spaces



“The theory of representations of Boolean algebras”

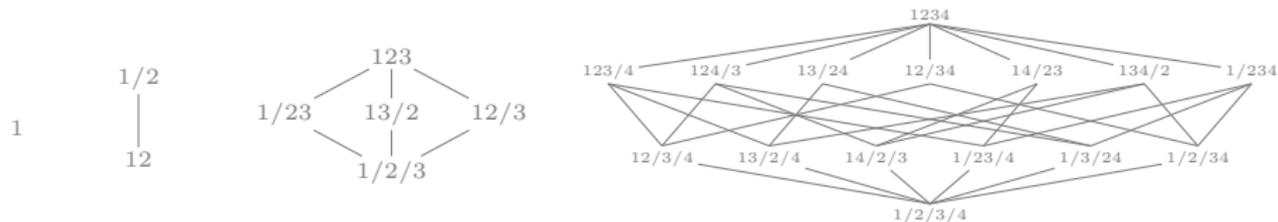
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$\text{Sub}(B)$ becomes a partition lattice



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“On the lattice of subalgebras of a Boolean algebra”

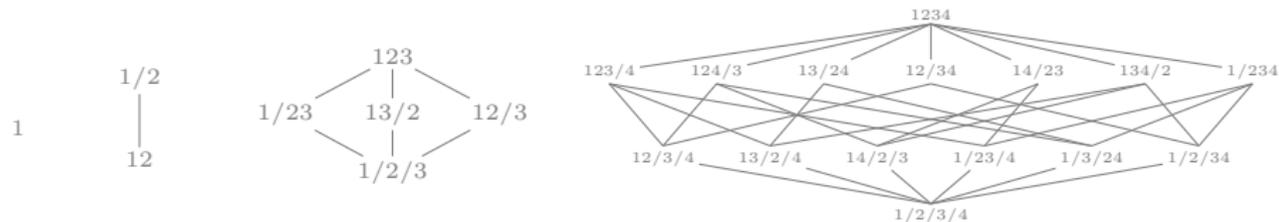
Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society 36: 87–92, 1972

Piecewise Boolean domains: partition lattices

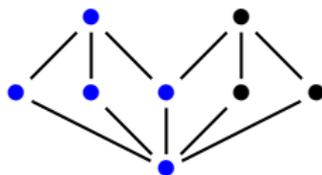
What does $\text{Sub}(B)$ look like when B is an honest Boolean algebra?

Boolean algebras are dually equivalent to Stone spaces

$\text{Sub}(B)$ becomes a partition lattice



Idea: every **downset** in $\text{Sub}(B)$ is a partition lattice (upside-down)!



“The theory of representations of Boolean algebras”

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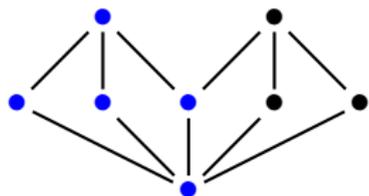
“On the lattice of subalgebras of a Boolean algebra”

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Piecewise Boolean domains: characterisation

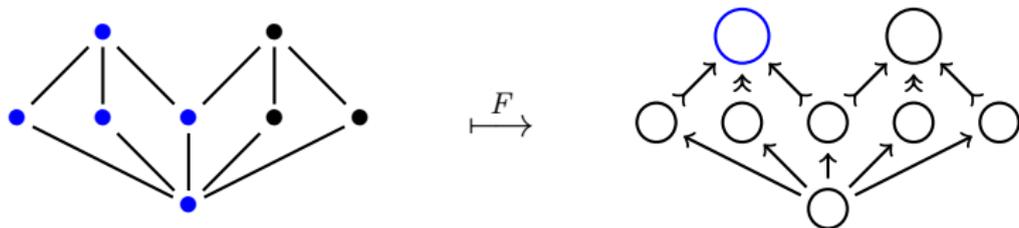
Lemma: Piecewise Boolean domain D gives functor $F: D \rightarrow \mathbf{Bool}$ that preserves subobjects; “ F is a piecewise Boolean diagram”.

($\text{Sub}(F(x)) \cong \downarrow x$, and $B = \text{colim } F$)



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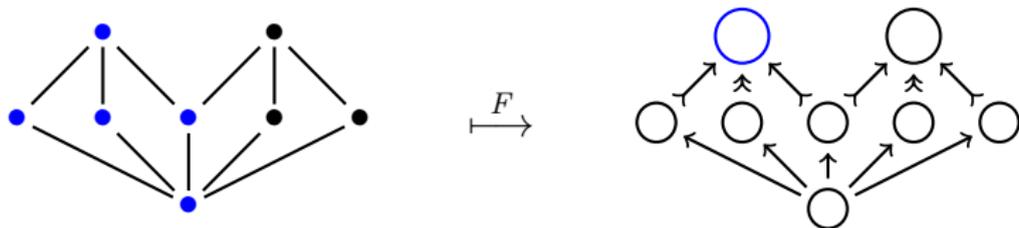


“Piecewise Boolean algebras and their domains”

ICALP Proceedings, Lecture Notes in Computer Science 8573:208–219, 2014

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Theorem: A partial order is a piecewise Boolean domain iff:

- ▶ it has directed suprema;
- ▶ it has nonempty infima;
- ▶ each element is a supremum of compact ones;
- ▶ each downset is cogeometric with a modular atom;
- ▶ each element of height $n \leq 3$ covers $\binom{n+1}{2}$ elements.



“Piecewise Boolean algebras and their domains”

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Piecewise Boolean domains: higher order

Scott topology turns directed suprema into topological convergence
(closed sets = downsets closed under directed suprema)

Lawson topology refines it from dcpos to continuous lattices
(basic open sets = Scott open minus upset of finite set)

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If B_0 is piecewise Boolean algebra, $\text{Sub}(B_0)$ is algebraic dcpo and complete semilattice,

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“Continuous lattices and domains”
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If B_0 is piecewise Boolean algebra, $\text{Sub}(B_0)$ is algebraic dcpo and complete semilattice, hence a Stone space under Lawson topology!

It then gives rise to a new Boolean algebra B_1 . Repeat: B_2, B_3, \dots
(Can handle domains of Boolean algebras with Boolean algebra!)



“Continuous lattices and domains”
Cambridge University Press, 2003



“Domains of commutative C^* -subalgebras”
Logic in Computer Science, ACM/IEEE Proceedings 450–461, 2015

Piecewise Boolean diagrams: topos

- ▶ Consider “contextual sets” over piecewise Boolean algebra B
assignment of set $S(C)$ to each $C \in \text{Sub}(B)$
such that $C \subseteq D$ implies $S(C) \subseteq S(D)$

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category whose objects behave a lot like sets
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- ▶ There is one canonical contextual set \underline{B}
 $\underline{B}(C) = C$
- ▶ $\mathcal{T}(B)$ believes that \underline{B} is an honest Boolean algebra!



“A topos for algebraic quantum theory”

Communications in Mathematical Physics 291:63–110, 2009

Operator algebra

C^* -algebras: main examples of piecewise Boolean algebras.

Operator algebra



-algebras: main examples of piecewise Boolean algebras.

Operator algebra



-algebras: main examples of piecewise Boolean algebras.

Example: $C(X) = \{f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \text{ continuous}\}$

Theorem: Every commutative -algebra is of this form.



“Normierte Ringe”

Matematicheskii Sbornik 9(51):3–24, 1941

Operator algebra



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piecewise Boolean algebras \longleftarrow -algebras
projections



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Operator algebra

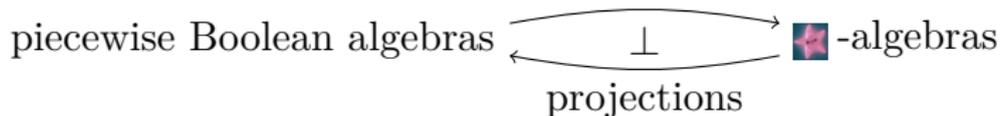
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“Active lattices determine AW*-algebras”

Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications 416:289–313, 2014

Operator algebra: same trick

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Involves action of unitary group $U(A)$.



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Communications in Mathematical Physics 331(1):215–238, 2014

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If $\text{Sub}(A) \cong \text{Sub}(B)$, then $A \cong B$ as Jordan algebras.

Except \mathbb{C}^2 and M_2 .



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Except \mathbb{C}^2 and M_2 .

If $\text{Sub}(A) \cong \text{Sub}(B)$ preserves $U(A) \times \text{Sub}(A) \rightarrow \text{Sub}(A)$,
then $A \cong B$ as -algebras.
Needs orientation!



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Operator algebra: way below relation

If A is -algebra, $\text{Sub}(A)$ is dcpo: $\bigvee \mathcal{D} = \overline{\bigcup \mathcal{D}}$

$C \in \text{Sub}(A)$ compact iff

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Theorem: the following are equivalent for a -algebra A :

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These imply that $\text{Sub}(A)$ is meet-continuous.



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Scatteredness

A space is **scattered** if every nonempty subset has an isolated point.

Precisely when each continuous $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ has countable image.

Example: $\{0, 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{5}, \dots\}$.



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Example: $K(H) + 1_H$



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Nonexample: $C(\text{Cantor})$ is approximately finite-dimensional

Nonexample: $C([0, 1])$ is not even approximately finite-dimensional



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Theorem: the following are equivalent for a -algebra A :

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- ▶ $\text{Sub}(A)$ is atomistic



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- ▶ $\text{Sub}(A)$ is atomistic
- ▶ A is scattered



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Back to quantum logic

For C^* -algebra $C(X)$, projections are **clopen subsets** of X .

Can characterize in order-theoretic terms: (if $|X| \geq 3$)

closed subsets of $X =$ ideals of $C(X) =$ elements of $\text{Sub}(C(X))$

clopen subsets of $X =$ ‘good’ pairs of elements of $\text{Sub}(C(X))$



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Each projection of C^* -algebra A is in some maximal $C \in \text{Sub}(A)$.

Can recover poset of projections from $\text{Sub}(A)$! (if $\dim(Z(A)) \geq 3$)



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“ $\mathcal{C}(A)$ ”

Radboud University Nijmegen, 2015

Back to piecewise Boolean domains

Sub(B) determines B

$(B \cong B' \iff \text{Sub}(B) \cong \text{Sub}(B'))$

(*shape* of parts determines whole)

Caveat: not 1-1 correspondence!



“Subalgebras of orthomodular lattices”

Order 28:549–563, 2011

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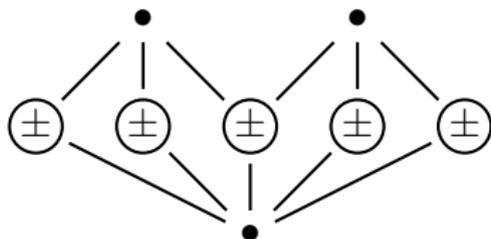
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Theorem: The following are **equivalent**:

- ▶ piecewise Boolean algebras
- ▶ piecewise Boolean diagrams
- ▶ **oriented** piecewise Boolean domains



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“Piecewise Boolean algebras and their domains”

ICALP Proceedings, Lecture Notes in Computer Science 8573:208–219, 2014

Conclusion

- ▶ Should consider piecewise Boolean algebras
- ▶ Give rise to domain of honest Boolean subalgebras
- ▶ Complicated structure, but can characterize
- ▶ Shape of parts enough to determine whole
- ▶ Same trick works for scattered operator algebras
- ▶ Orientation needed for categorical equivalence