

Möbius Homology

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Möbius inversion is a well known counting technique in algebraic combinatorics.

Given a locally finite poset P and a function $P \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}$ there is a unique function $P \xrightarrow{\partial f} \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$f(b) = \sum_{a: a \leq b} \partial f(a) \quad \forall b \in P$$

Möbius inversion Formula

Note the resemblance to the fundamental theorem of calculus.

We call ∂f the Möbius inverse or inversion of f .

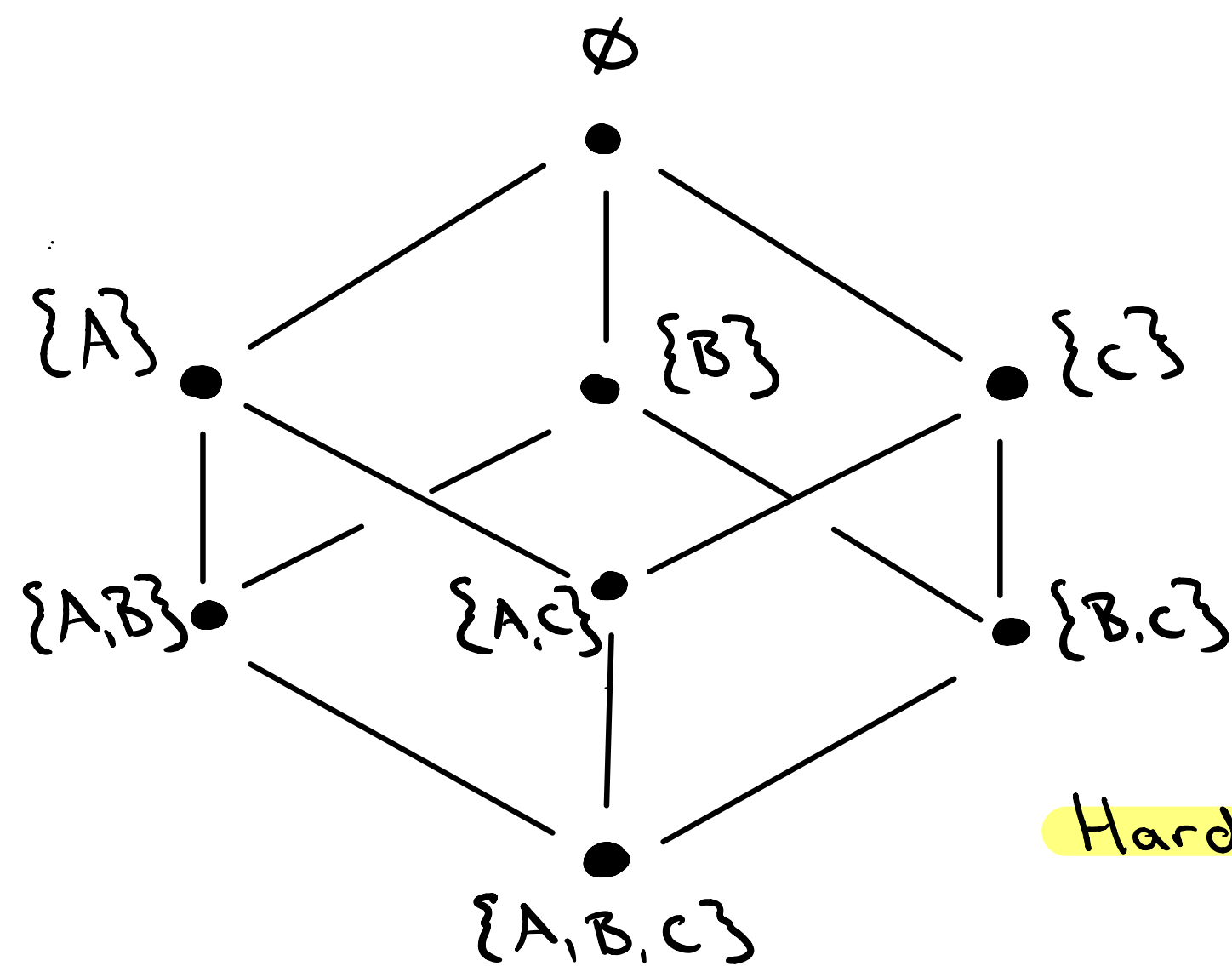
Möbius inversion has many applications.

For us, the main application is the persistence diagram aka barcode.

Application 1: Inclusion-Exclusion

Consider three sets A, B, C

Let B_3 be the Boolean lattice of subsets of $\{A, B, C\}$ ordered by reverse-inclusion.



Easy function: $B_3 \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}$

For each $S \subseteq \{A, B, C\}$, let $f(S) = \#\{\text{elements in all sets indexed by } S\}$

For example, $f(\{A, B\}) = |A \cap B|$

Hard function: $B_3 \xrightarrow{\partial f} \mathbb{Z}$

For each $S \subseteq \{A, B, C\}$, $\partial f(S) = \#\{\text{elements in exactly the sets indexed by } S\}$

For example, $\partial f(\{A, B\})$ counts elements in $A \cap B$ but not in C .

$$f(T) = \sum_{S: S \subseteq T} \partial f(S) \quad \forall T \subseteq \{A, B, C\}$$

Application 2: Chromatic number

Fix a finite graph $G = (V, E)$ and a number $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Poset: $\mathcal{P} = (2^E, \subseteq)$ with reverse inclusion. ($A \subseteq A' \iff A \supseteq A'$)

Given $A \subseteq E$, let $c(A)$ be the number of components of (V, A) .

Easy function: $\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{f_n} \mathbb{Z}$

$f_n(A) = n^{c(A)} = \#$ colorings that make **all** edges in (V, A) monochromatic.

Hard function: $\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{\partial f_n} \mathbb{Z}$

For each $A \subseteq E$, $\partial f_n(A) = \#$ colorings of (V, A) whose set of monochromatic edges is **exactly** A .

$$f_n(B) = \sum_{A: A \subseteq B} \partial f_n(A) \quad \forall A \subseteq E$$

Proper n -coloring of G is $\partial f_n(\emptyset)$.

Application 3: Euler's Totient Function

Poset: $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ordered by divisibility ($d \leq e \iff d|e$)

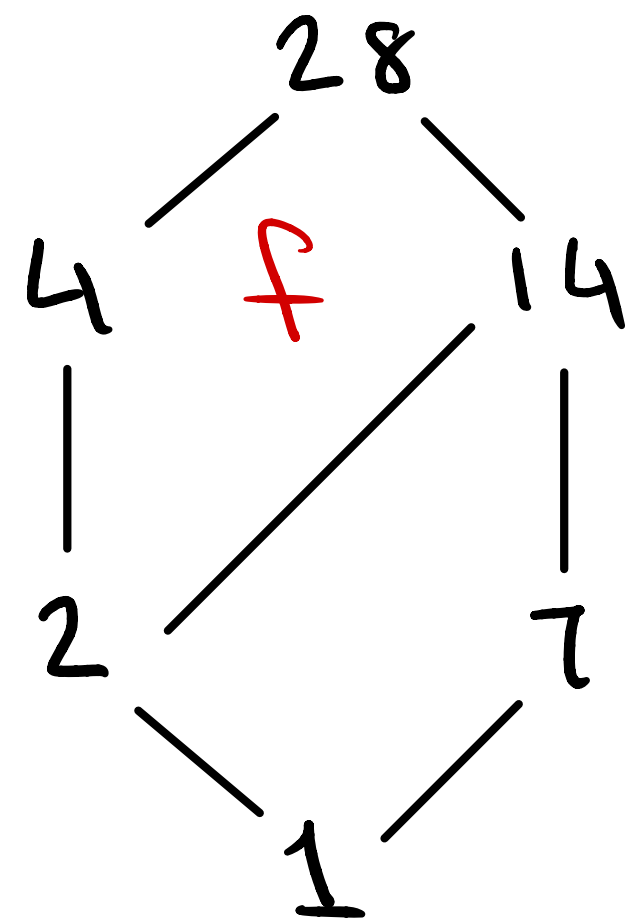
Easy function: $\mathbb{N} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}$

$f(n) = n$ (count **all** integers $1, \dots, n$)

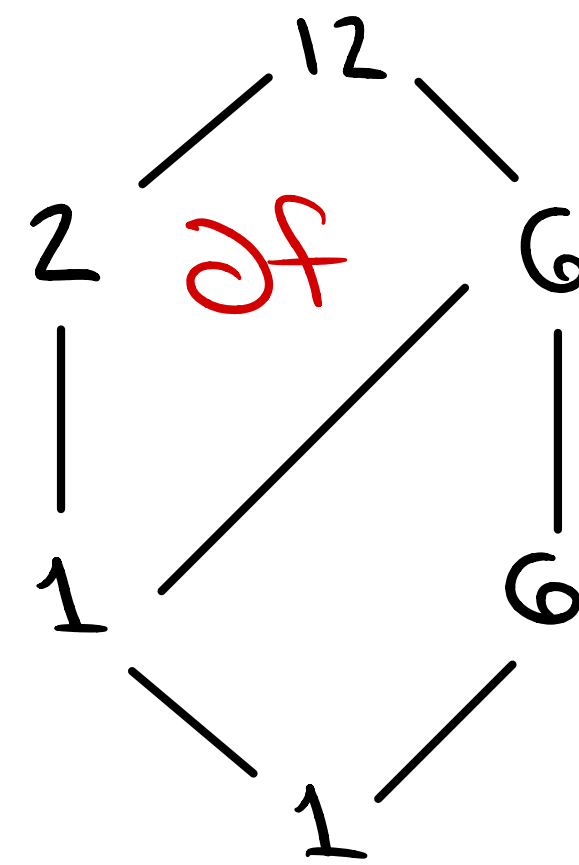
Hard function: $\mathbb{N} \xrightarrow{\partial f} \mathbb{Z}$

$\partial f(n) = \varphi(n) = \#\{m \in \mathbb{N} : 1 \leq m \leq n \text{ and } \gcd(m, n) = 1\}$ (i.e., **exactly** coprime to n)

Möbius 1832 Euler's totient function (1763)



$\mathbb{N}_{\leq 28}$



$\mathbb{N}_{\leq 28}$

Application 4: Persistence Diagram aka Barcodes

Let $P = \{1 < 2 < \dots < n < \infty\}$ and $P \xrightarrow{M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$ a persistence module

Poset: $\text{Int } P := \{[a, b) : a \leq b\}$ where $[a, b) \leq [c, d) \iff a \leq c \text{ and } b \leq d$

Easy function: $\text{Int } P \xrightarrow{f_M} \mathbb{Z}$

$$f_M[a, b) := \begin{cases} \dim \ker M(a \leq b) & \text{for } b < \infty \\ \dim M(a) & \text{for } b = \infty \end{cases}$$

Counts # generators born **before** a and dies **before** b

Hard function: $\text{Int } P \xrightarrow{\partial f_M} \mathbb{Z}$

$\partial f_M[a, b)$ counts the number of generators born **exactly** at a and dead **exactly** at b .

∂f_M is the persistence diagram of M

Calculating Möbius Inversion

$\mathcal{P}$ is a locally finite poset

Möbius Function $\mu: \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

$$\mu(a, b) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } a \not\leq b \\ 1 & \text{if } a = b \\ -\sum_{a < x \leq b} \mu(x, b) & \text{if } a < b \end{cases}$$

For any $\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}$, its Möbius inversion $\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{\partial f} \mathbb{Z}$ is:

$$\partial f(b) = \sum_{a: a \leq b} f(a) \cdot \mu(a, b) \quad \forall b \in \mathcal{P}$$

Persistence over Posets

P be any finite (locally finite is enough) perhaps with a top ∞ .

$P \xrightarrow{M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$ a persistence module.

Poset: $\text{Int } P := \{[a, b) : a \leq b\}$ where $[a, b) \leq [c, d) \iff a \leq c \text{ and } b \leq d$

Easy function: $\text{Int } P \xrightarrow{f_M} \mathbb{Z}$

$$f_M[a, b) := \begin{cases} \dim \ker M(a \leq b) & \text{for } b < \infty \\ \dim M(a) & \text{for } b = \infty \end{cases}$$

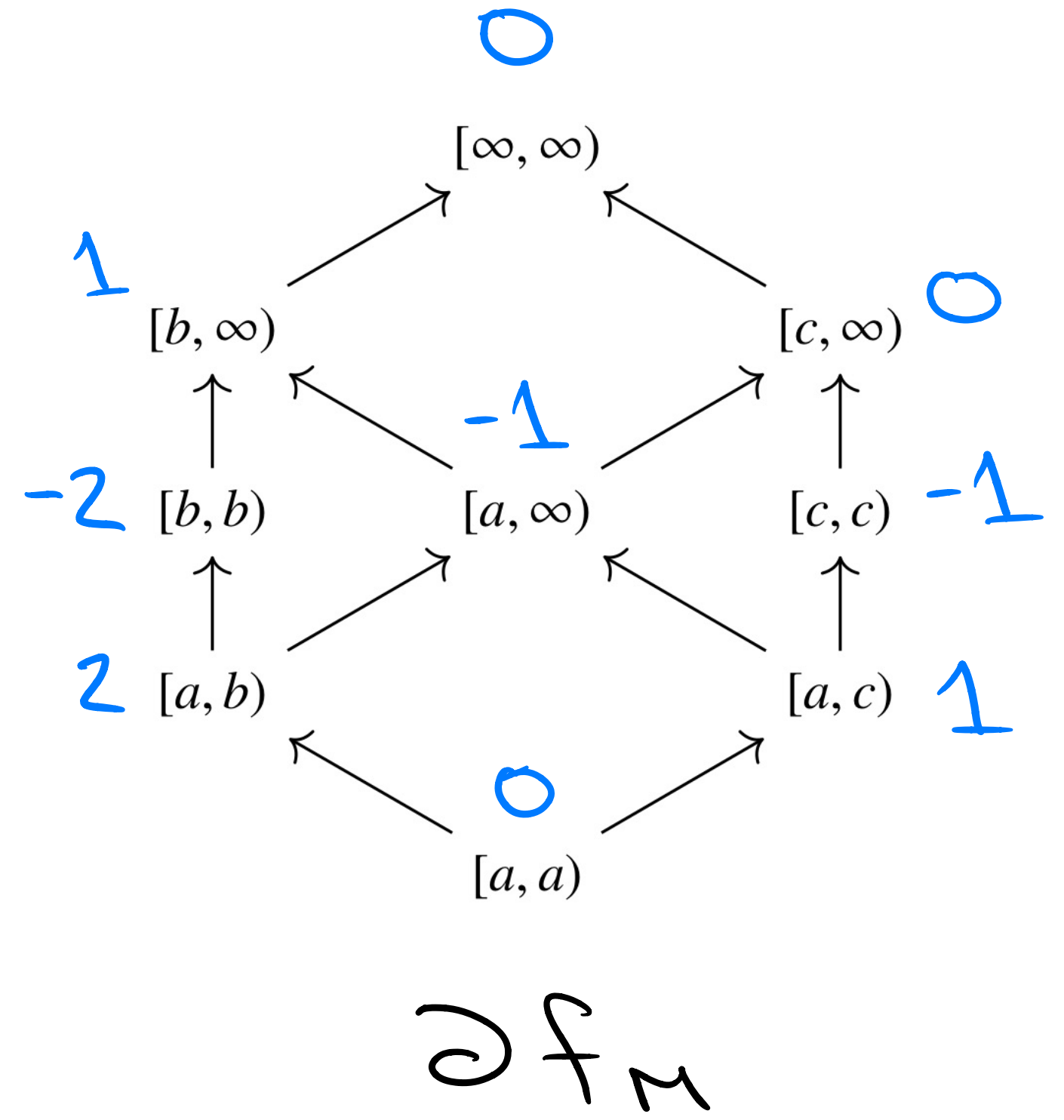
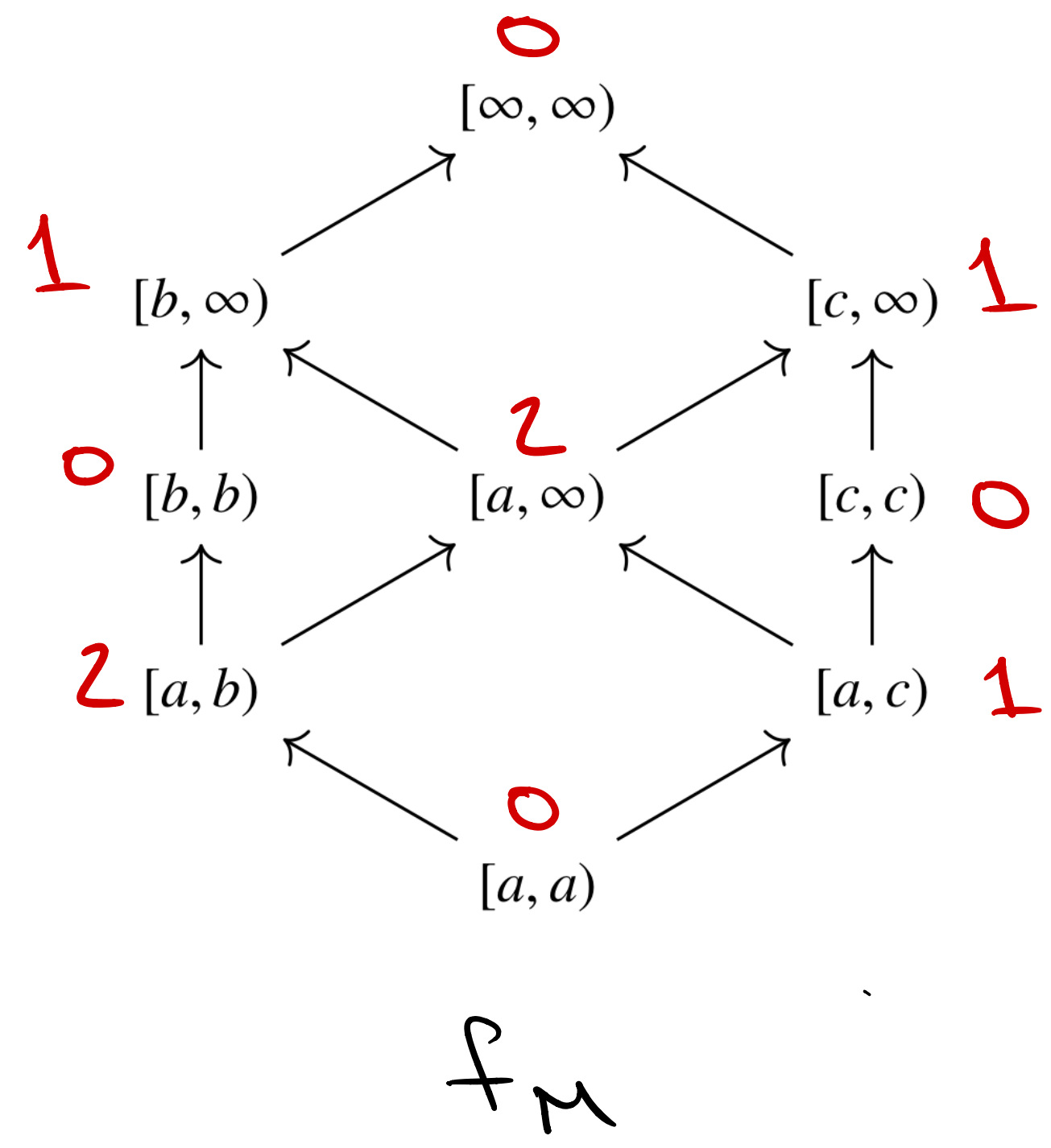
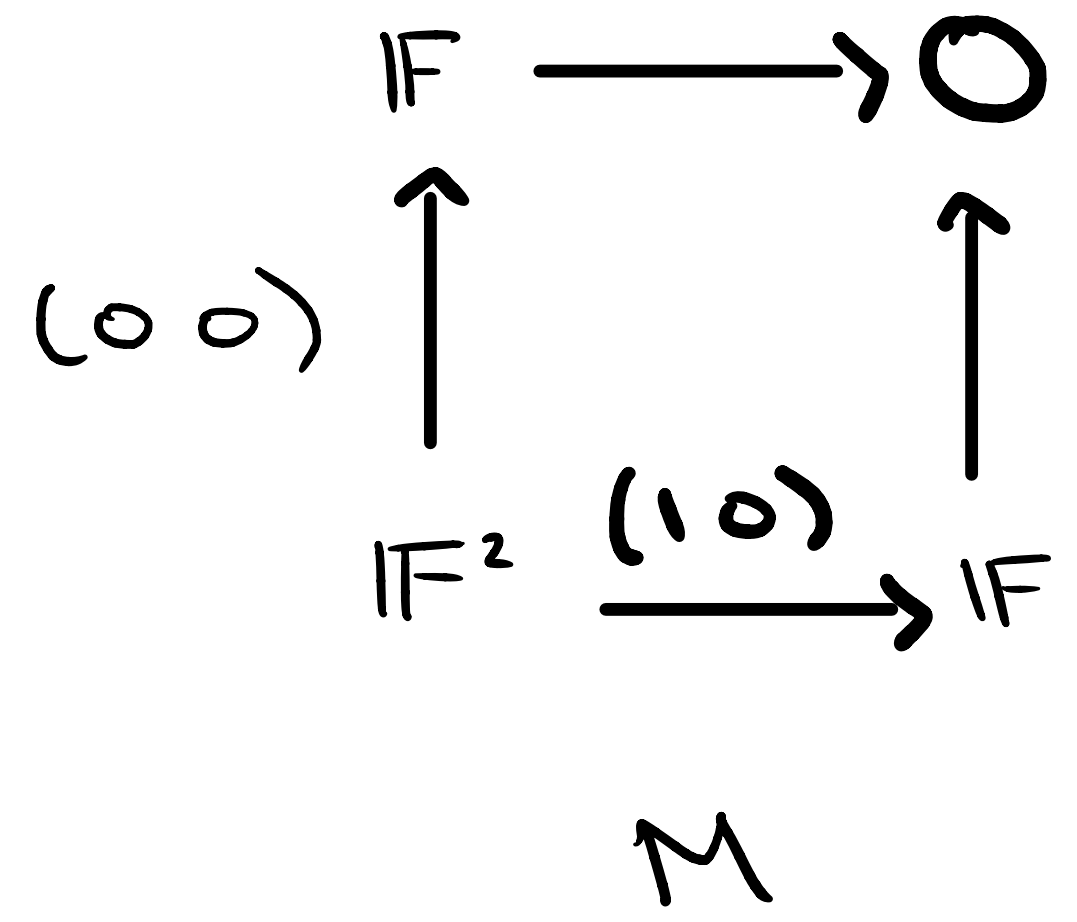
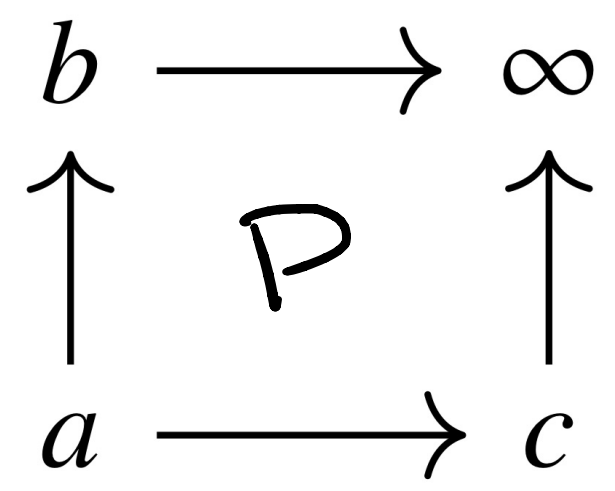
Counts # generators born **before** a and dies **before** b

Hard function: $\text{Int } P \xrightarrow{\partial f_M} \mathbb{Z}$

$\partial f_M[a, b)$ counts the number of generators born **exactly** at a and dead **exactly** at b .

∂f_M is the "persistence diagram" of M ?

Example



In the previous example, $\partial f_M < 0$ for a non-diagonal interval

How do we understand these negative values?

Is the Möbius inversion stable?

Möbius Homology

categorifies Möbius Inversion

joint work with Primoz Skraba to appear in Transactions of the AMS

Main Theorem

Given $\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$, let $\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{m} \mathbb{Z}$ be its dimension function.

That is, $m(a) = \dim M(a) \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{P}$

Then, there is a homology theory $H_{\star}^{\downarrow}(-; M) : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$ such that

$$\partial m(a) = \sum_{i=0} (-1)^i \dim H_i^{\downarrow}(a; M) \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{P}$$

← Möbius Homology

Review of Simplicial Cosheaf Homology

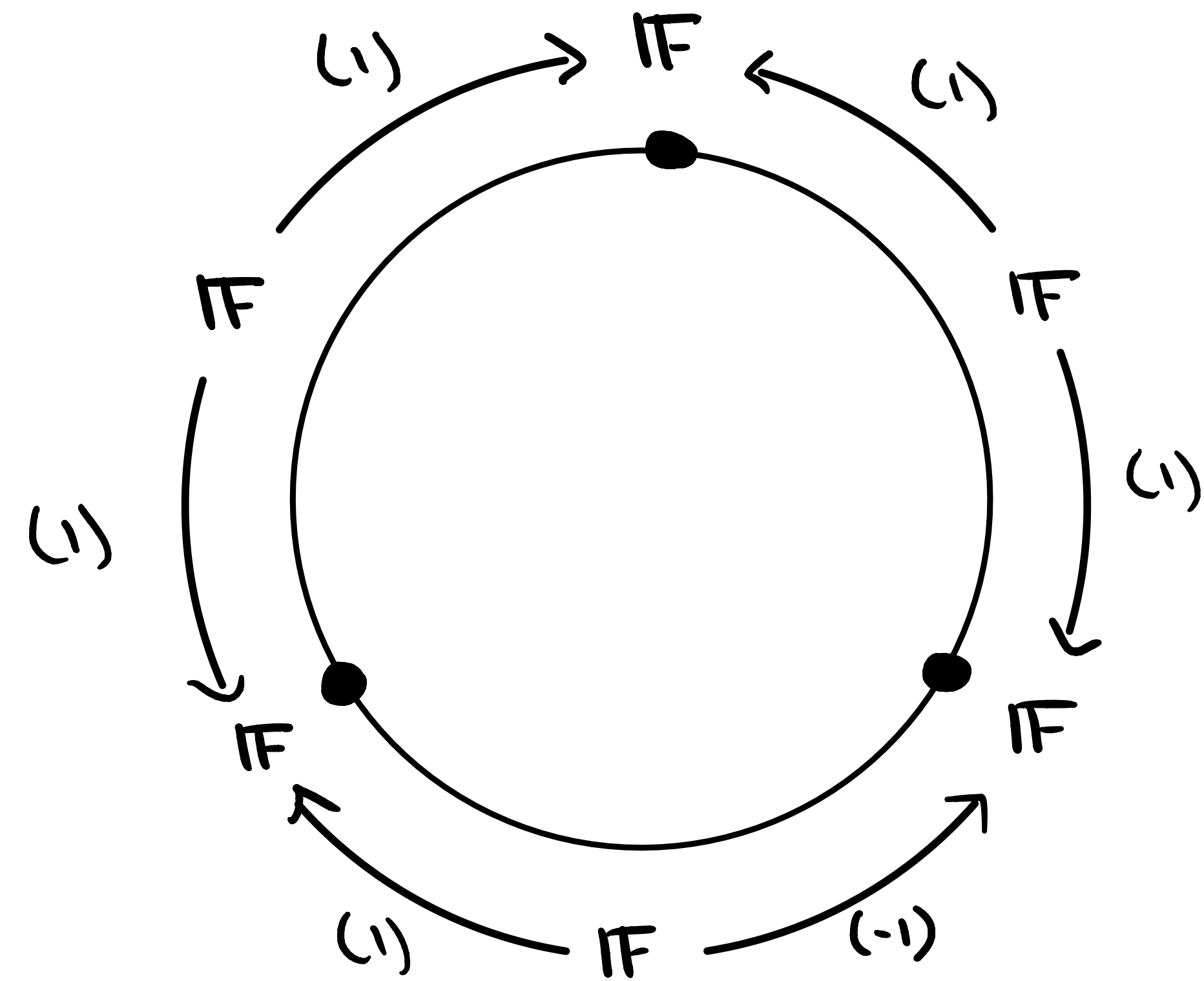
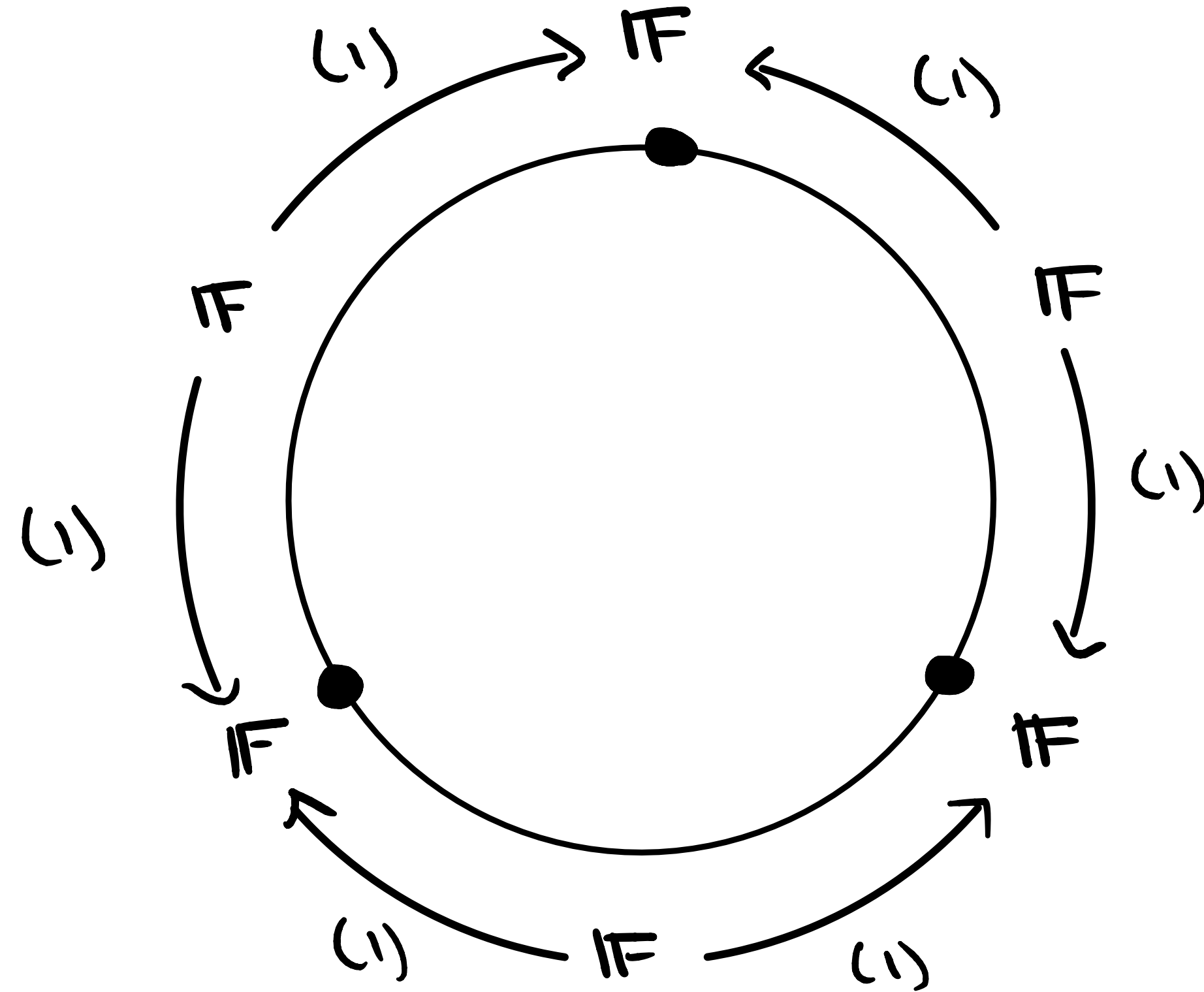
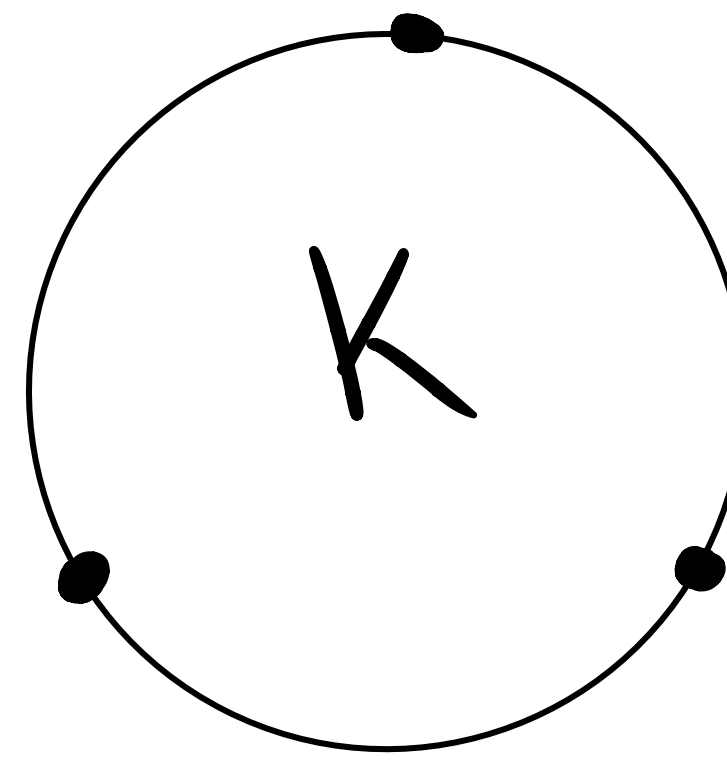
K a locally finite simplicial complex

$\text{Face}(K)$ - poset of face relations

$\tau \leq \sigma$ if σ is a face of τ

A simplicial cosheaf over K is a functor $\text{Face}(K) \xrightarrow{F} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$.

Examples



Simplicial Cosheaf Homology

$$\text{Face}(K) \xrightarrow{F} \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = d+1}} F(\sigma) \xrightarrow{\delta_{d+1}} \bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = d}} F(\sigma) \xrightarrow{\delta_d} \bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = d-1}} F(\sigma) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = 1}} F(\sigma) \xrightarrow{\delta_1} \bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = 0}} F(\sigma) \longrightarrow 0$$

Orient simplices of K arbitrarily.

Suppose $\tau, \sigma \in K$, $\dim \tau = d$, $\dim \sigma = d-1$, and $\tau \leq \sigma$.

Then, the restriction of δ_d to $\tau \leq \sigma$ is:

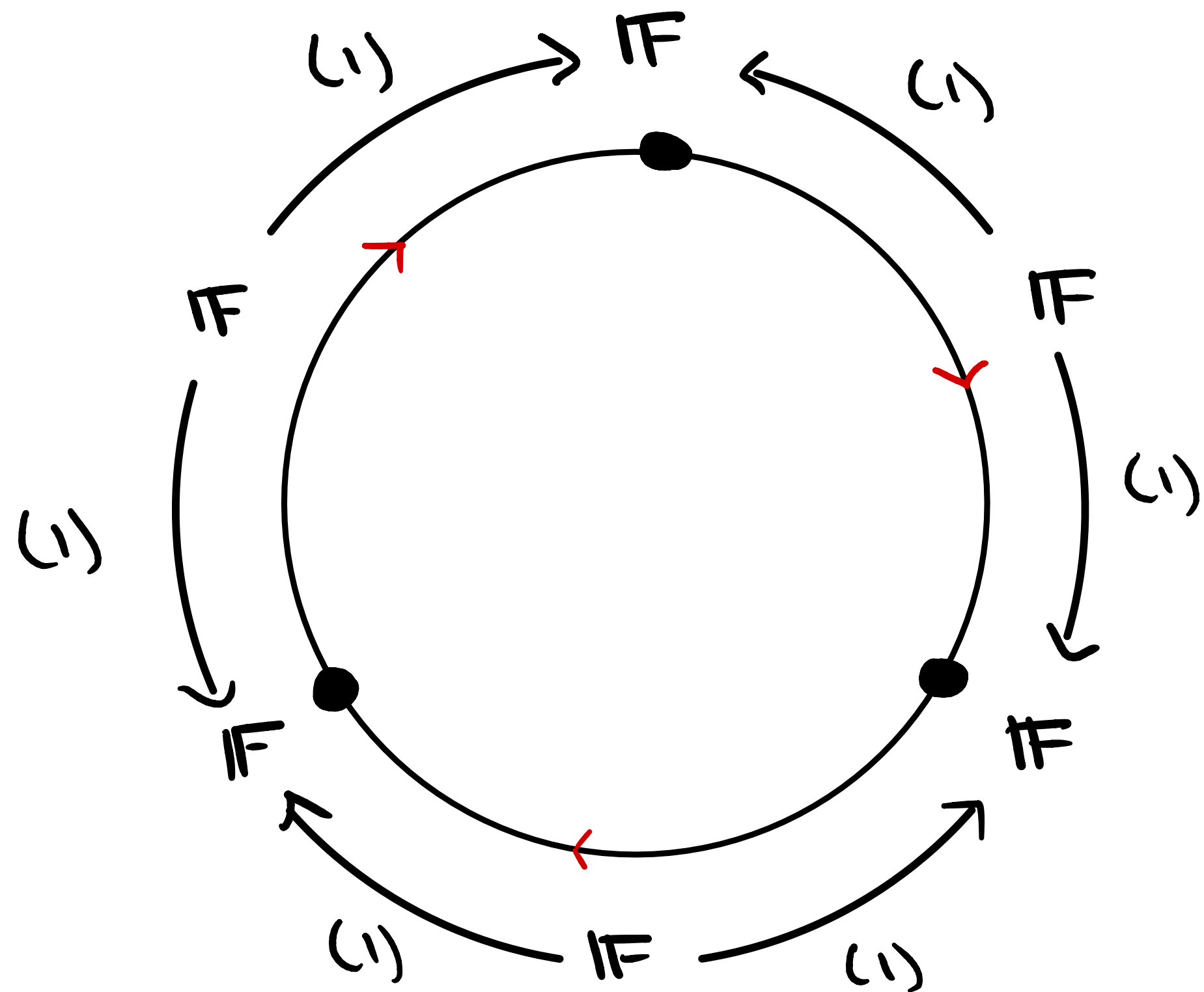
$$\delta_d|_{\tau \leq \sigma} : F(\tau) \longrightarrow F(\sigma)$$

$$v \longmapsto [\tau : \sigma] F(\tau \leq \sigma)(v)$$

↑ sign

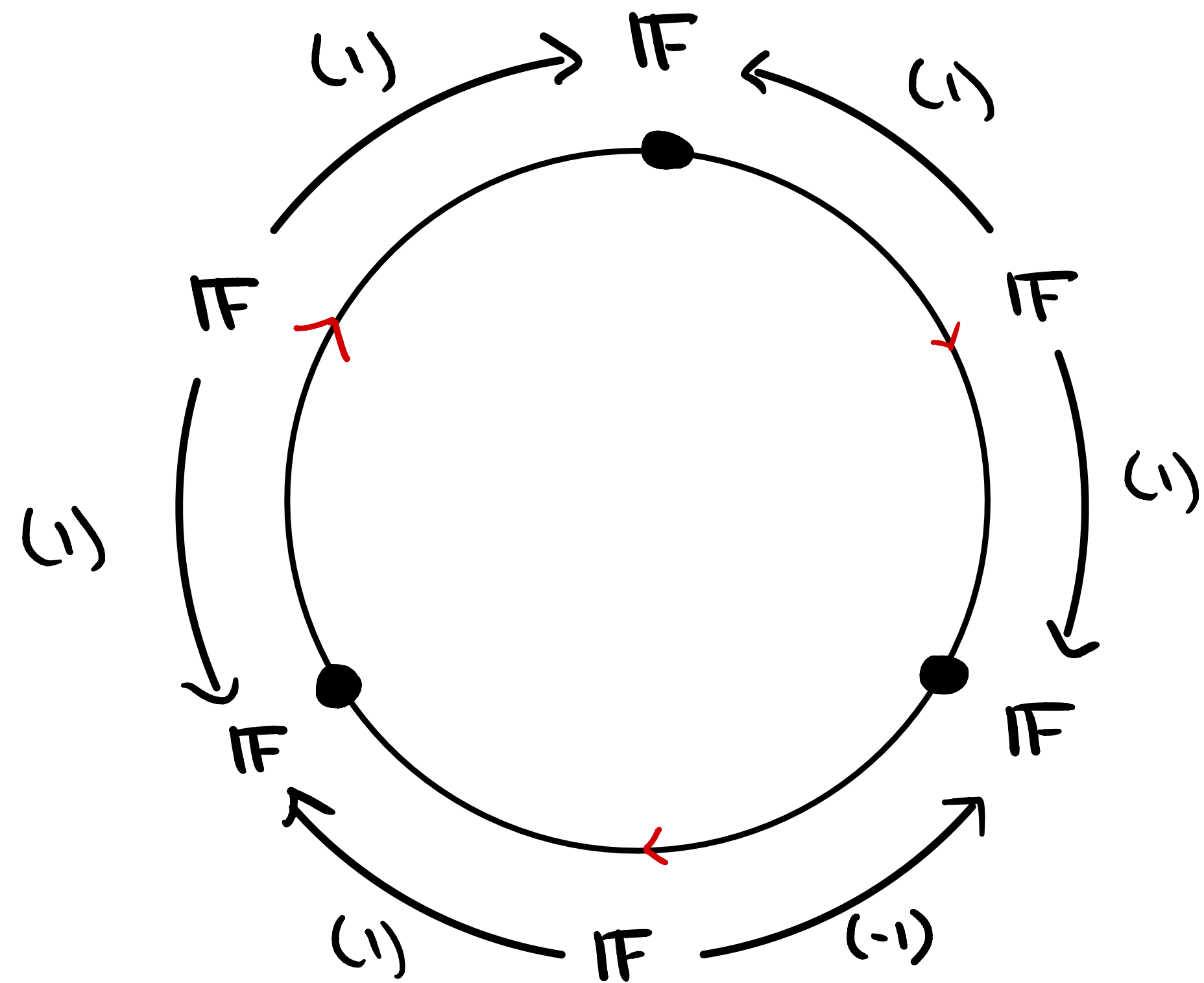
$H_*(K; F)$ simplicial homology w/ coefficients in F .

Examples



$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}^3 \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbb{F}^3 \longrightarrow 0$$

$\underset{1}{\mathbb{F}^3} \quad \underset{0}{\mathbb{F}^3}$
 $H_0 \cong \mathbb{F} \quad H_1 \cong \mathbb{F}$



$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}^3 \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbb{F}^3 \longrightarrow 0$$

$\underset{1}{\mathbb{F}^3} \quad \underset{0}{\mathbb{F}^3}$
 $H_0 = 0 \quad H_1 = 0$

Relative Simplicial Cosheaf Homology

$$\text{Face}(K) \xrightarrow{F} \mathbb{Z}$$

$L \subseteq K$ subcomplex

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \longrightarrow & \frac{\bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = d}} F(\sigma)}{\bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in L \\ \dim \sigma = d}} F(\sigma)} & \xrightarrow{\partial_d} & \frac{\bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = d-1}} F(\sigma)}{\bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in L \\ \dim \sigma = d-1}} F(\sigma)} & \longrightarrow \dots & \longrightarrow \frac{\bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = 1}} F(\sigma)}{\bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in L \\ \dim \sigma = 1}} F(\sigma)} & \xrightarrow{\partial_1} & \frac{\bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in K \\ \dim \sigma = 0}} F(\sigma)}{\bigoplus_{\substack{\sigma \in L \\ \dim \sigma = 0}} F(\sigma)} & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

$H_*(K, L; F)$ relative simplicial homology w/ coefficients in F .

Ready for Möbius Homology

$$\text{Given } \mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$$

we want

$$H_{\star}^{\downarrow}(-; M) : \mathcal{P} \longrightarrow \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$$

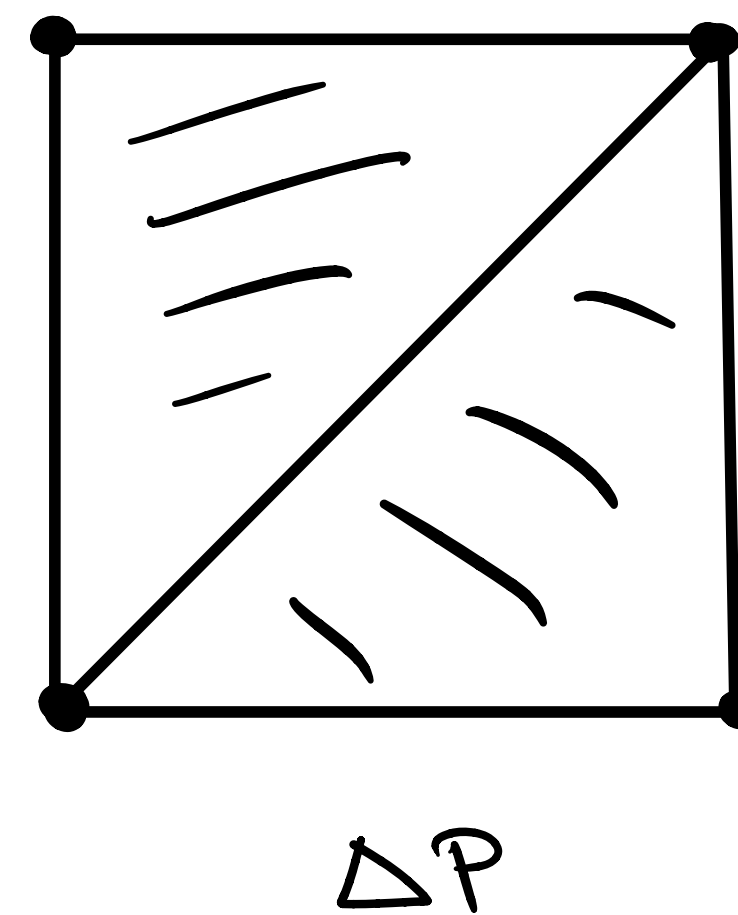
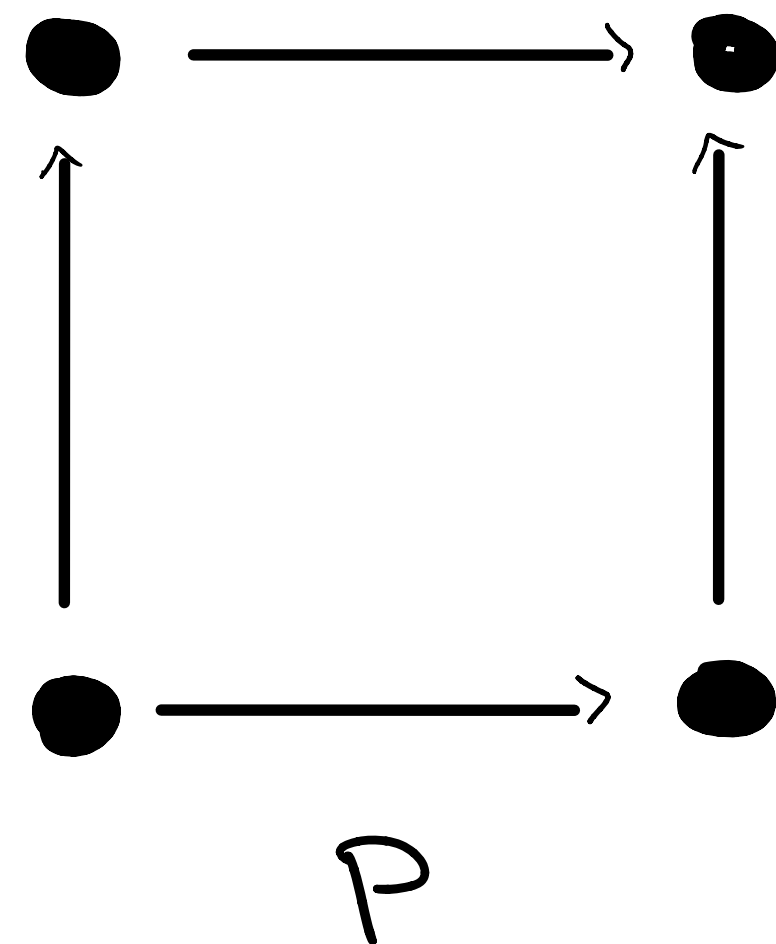
Order Complex

A chain in P is a strictly increasing sequence $a_0 < \dots < a_n$.

The length of a chain is the number of strict relations.

The order complex of P , denoted ΔP , is the simplicial complex consisting of chains (i.e., an n -simplex is a length n chain)

Ex



Order Complex Cosheaf

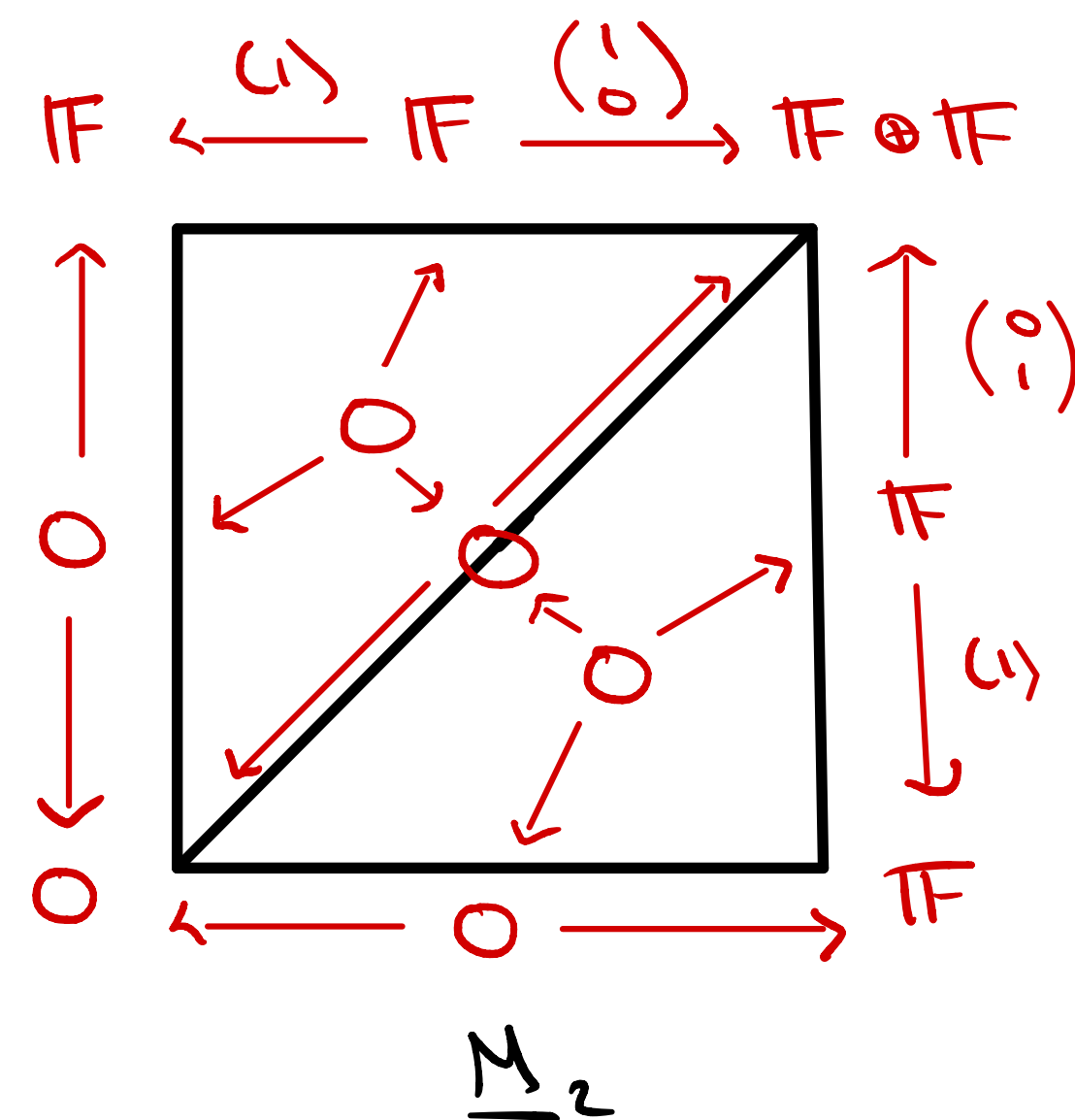
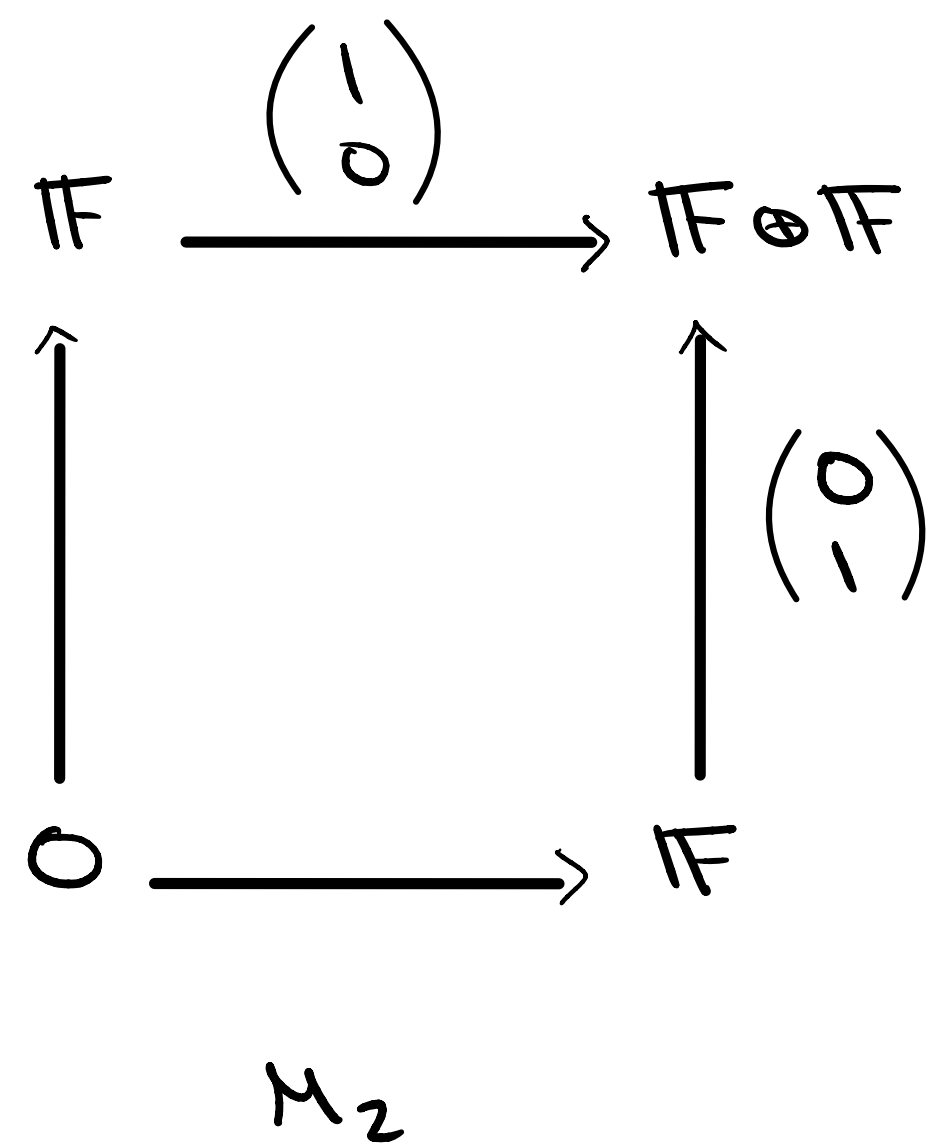
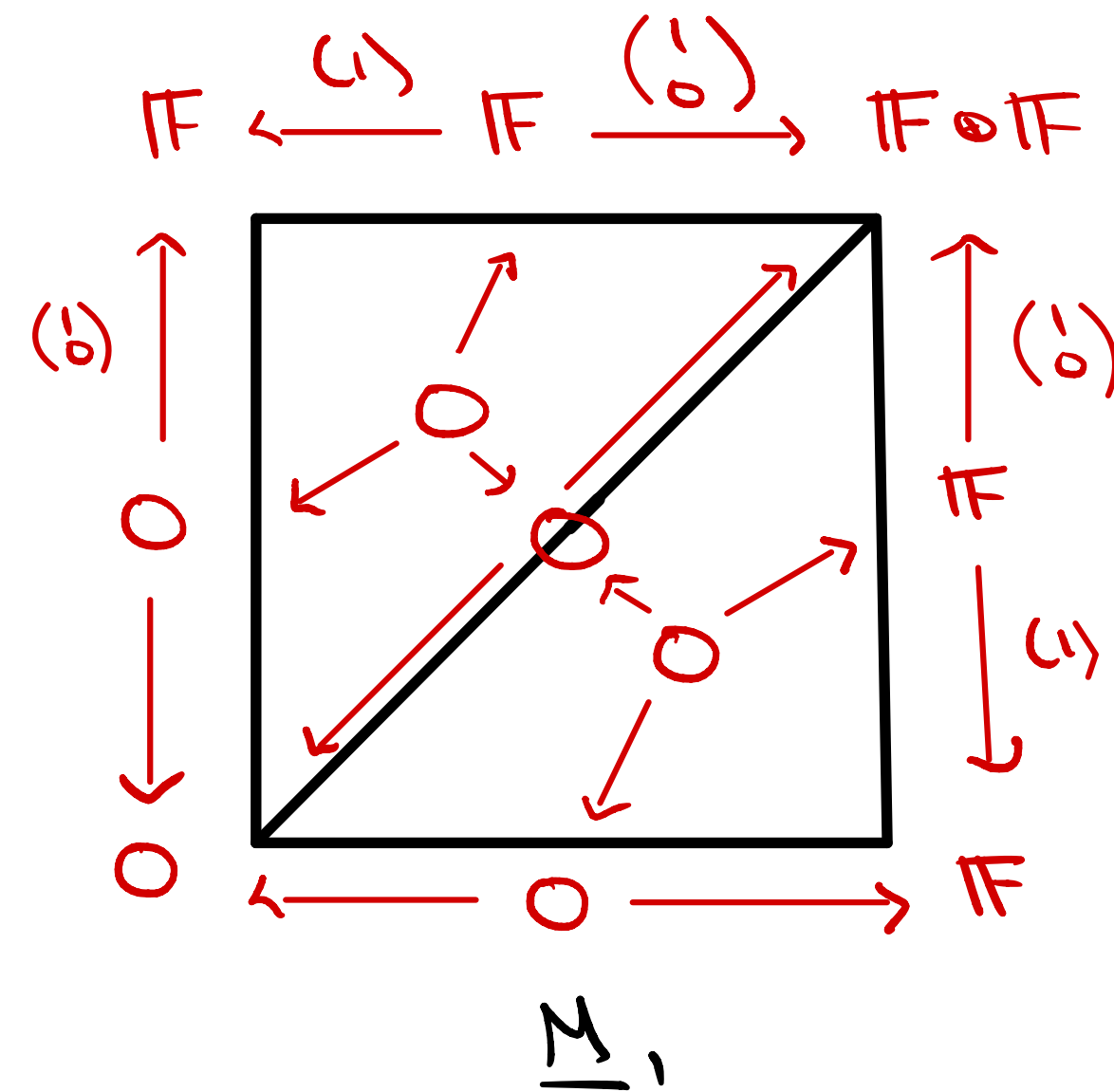
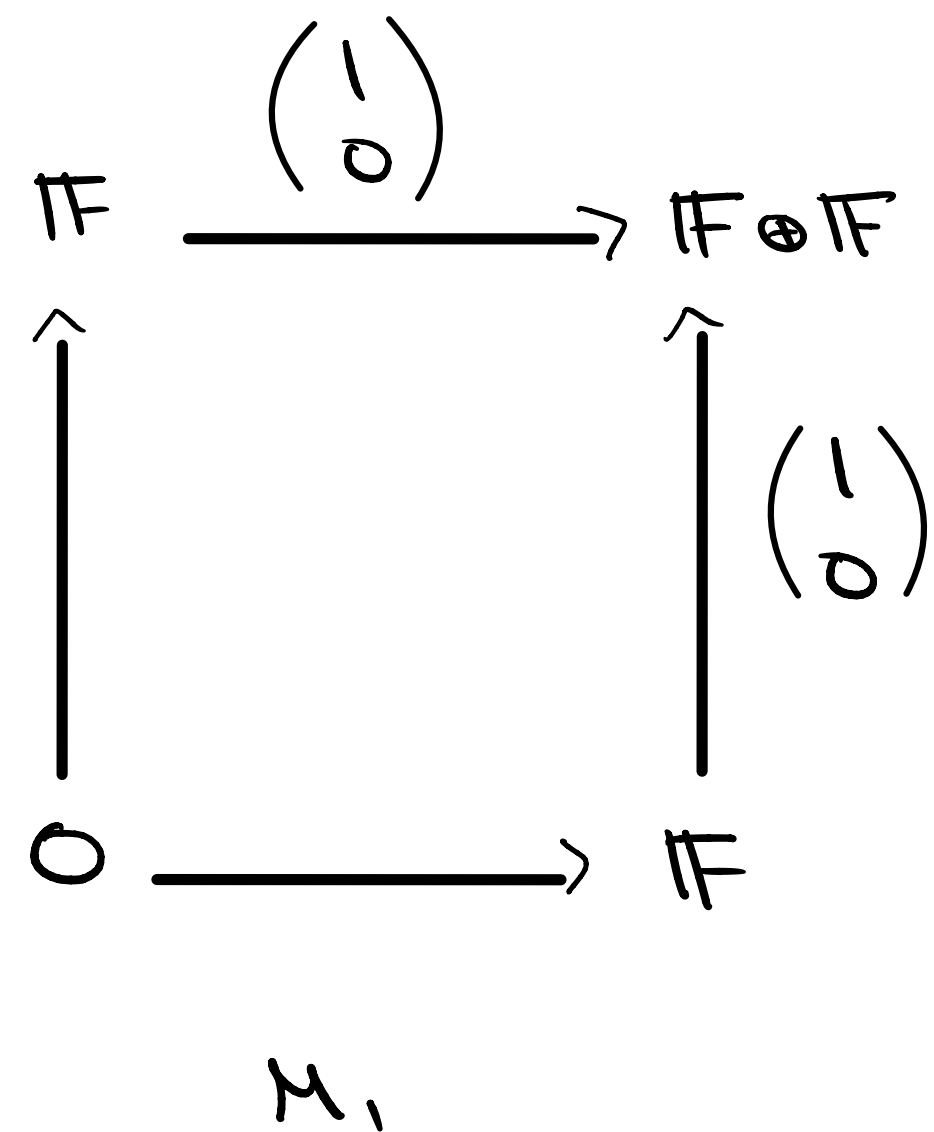
order preserving map $\text{Face}(\Delta P) \xrightarrow{\min} P$
 $\tau \leq \sigma \longmapsto \min \tau \leq \min \sigma$

Given $P \xrightarrow{M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$, define $\text{Face}(\Delta P) \xrightarrow{\underline{M}} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$ as the composition:

$$\text{Face}(\Delta P) \xrightarrow{\min} P \xrightarrow{M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$$

$\xrightarrow{\underline{M}}$

Example



Möbius Homology

Given $\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$, we have a cosheaf $\text{Face}(\Delta \mathcal{P}) \xrightarrow{\tilde{M}} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$.

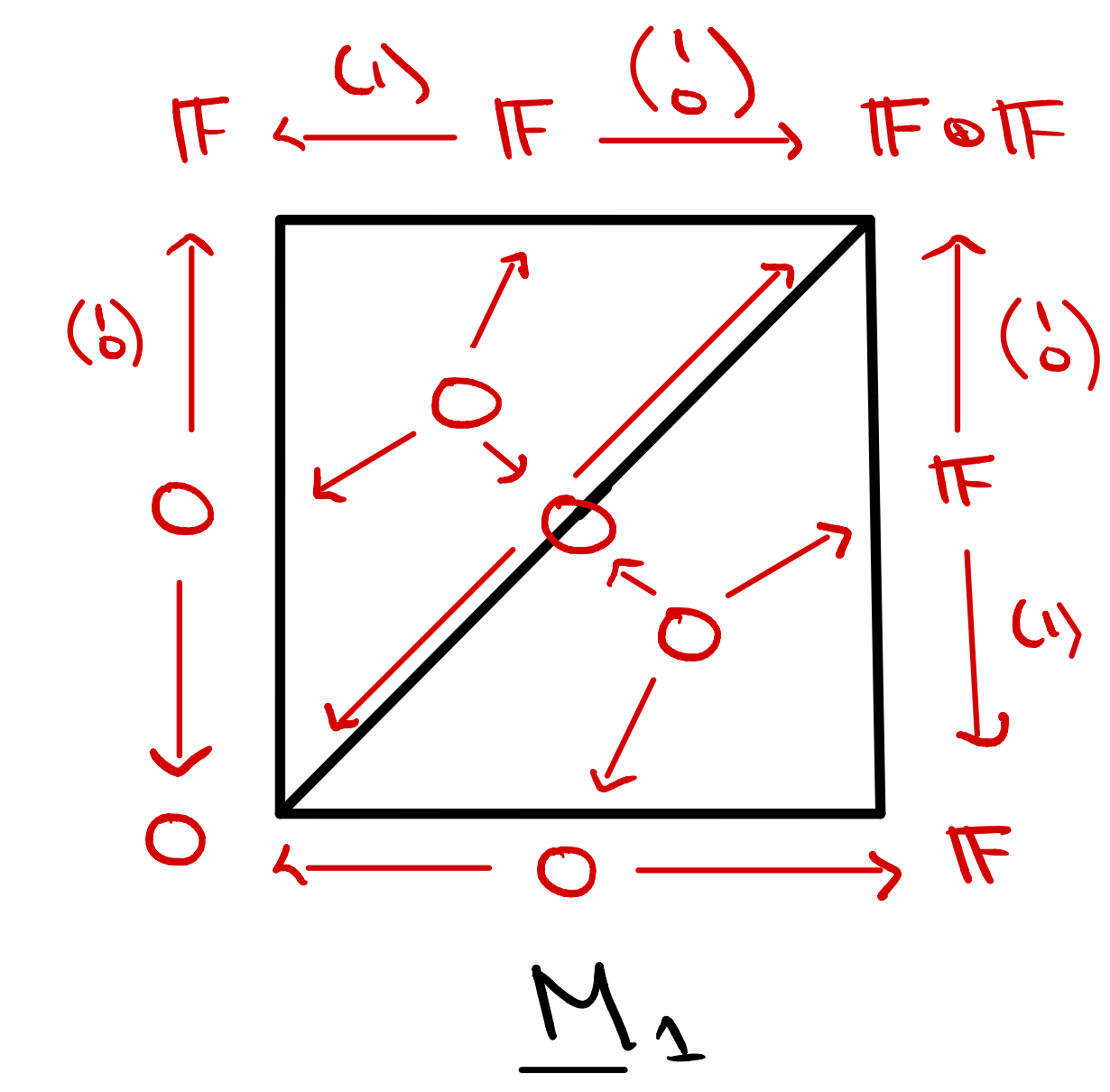
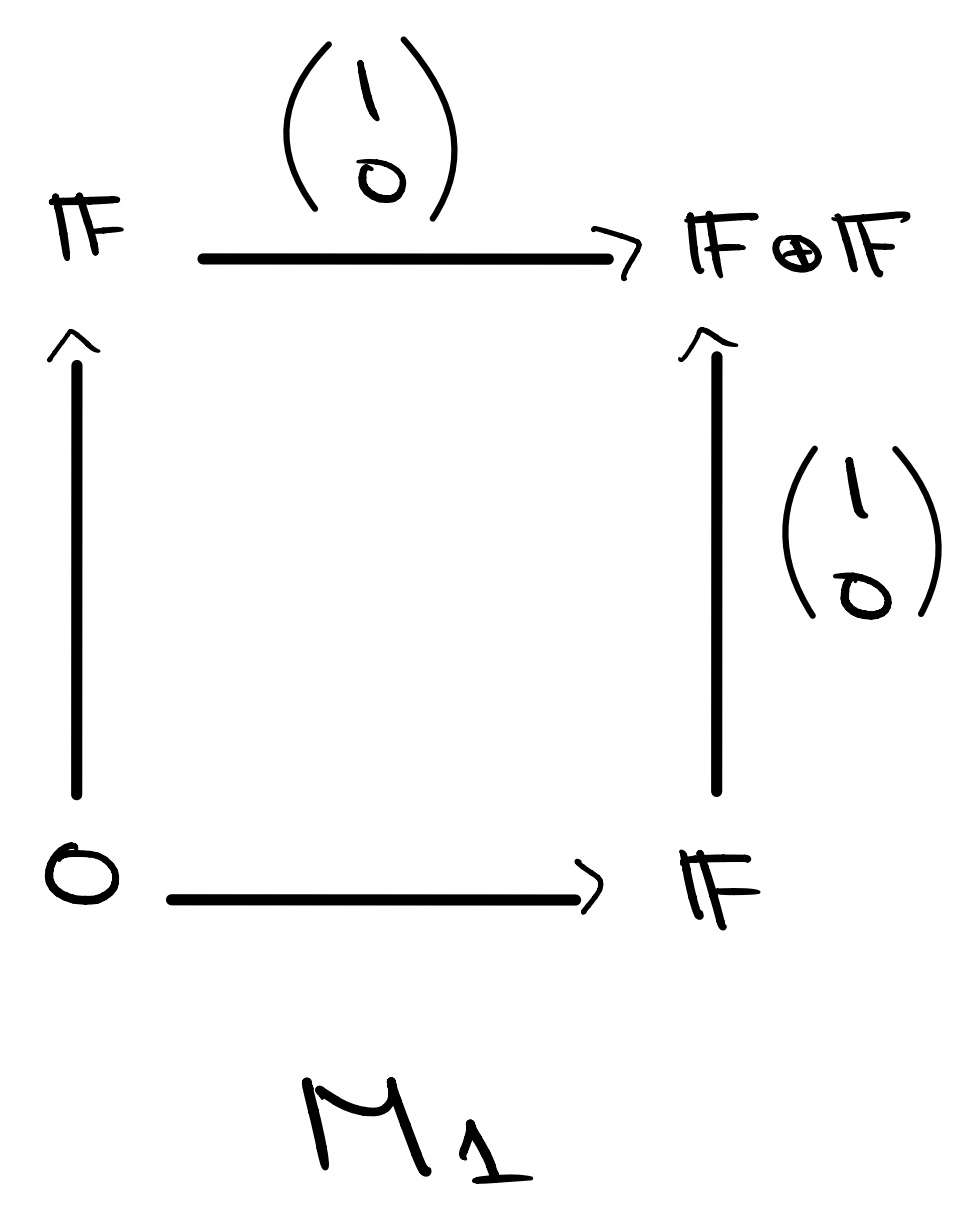
For $b \in \mathcal{P}$, let $\Delta \mathcal{P}_{\leq b} := \{\sigma \in \Delta \mathcal{P} : \max \sigma \leq b\}$

$$\Delta \mathcal{P}_{< b} := \{\sigma \in \Delta \mathcal{P} : \max \sigma < b\}$$

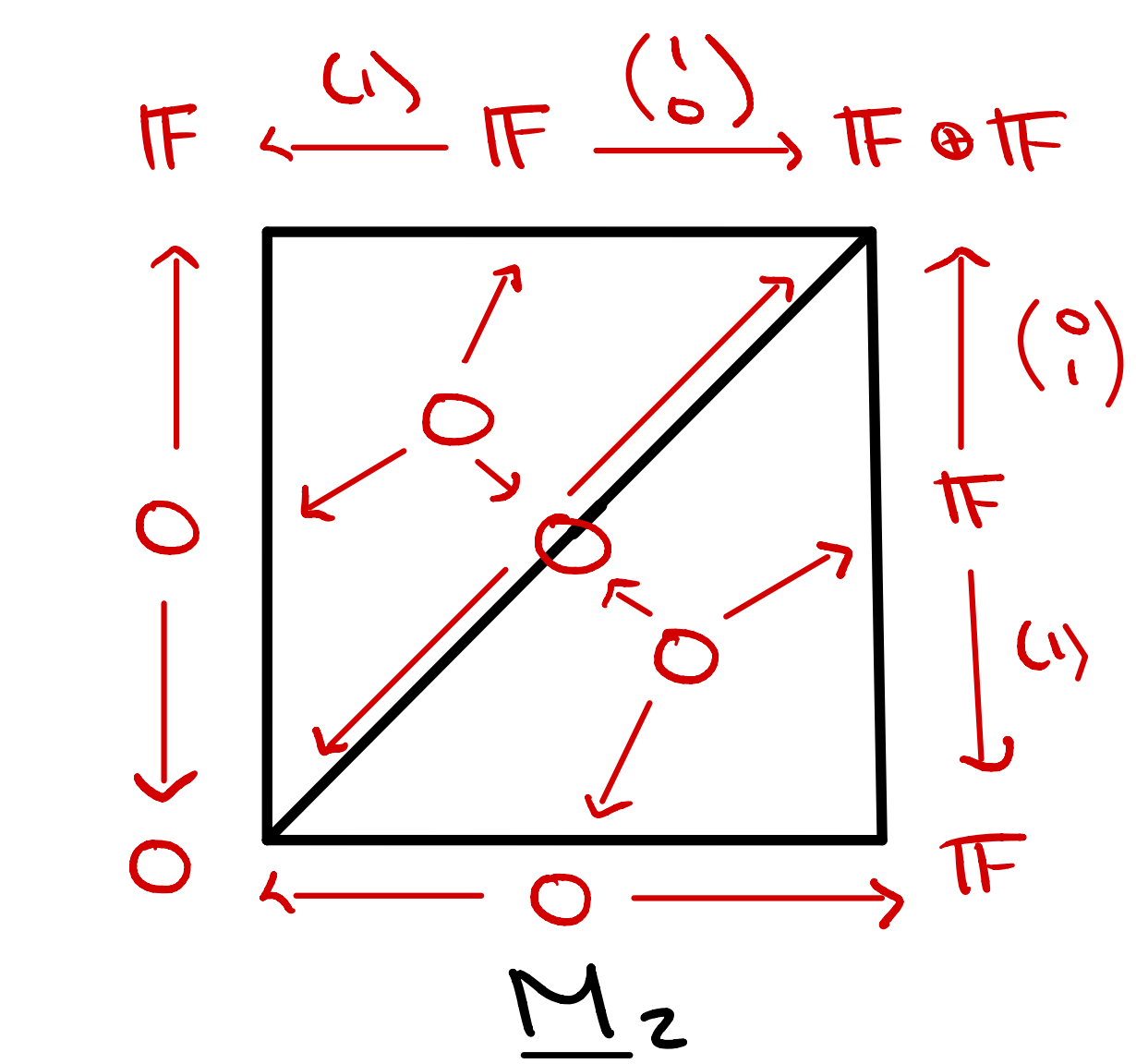
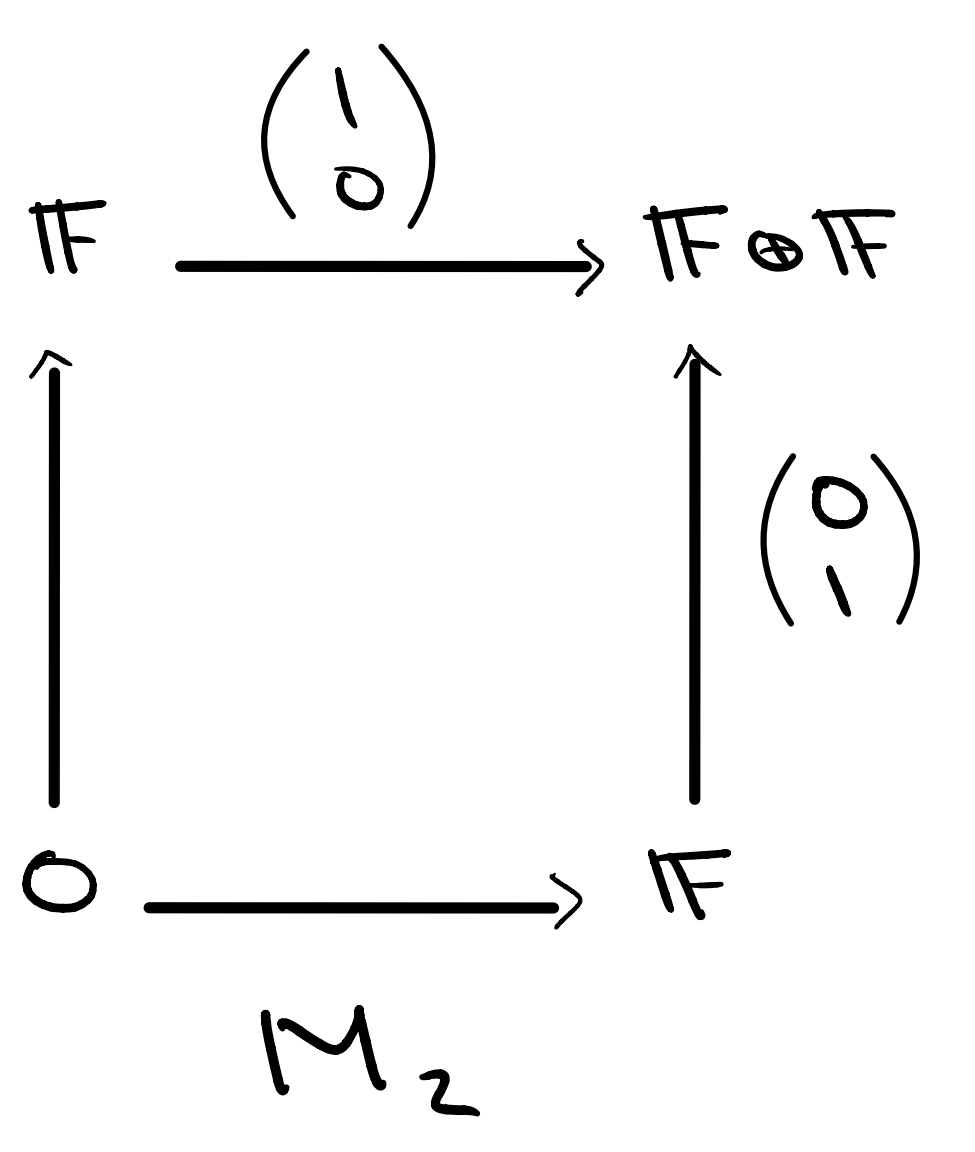
Note $\Delta \mathcal{P}_{< b} \subseteq \Delta \mathcal{P}_{\leq b}$

Define $H_*^{\downarrow}(b; M) := H_*(\Delta \mathcal{P}_{\leq b}, \Delta \mathcal{P}_{< b}; \tilde{M})$

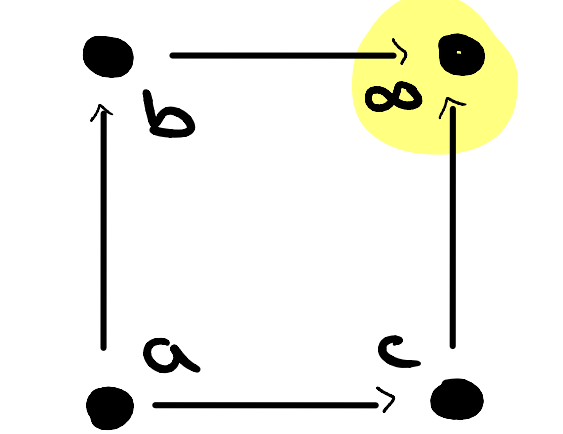
Example



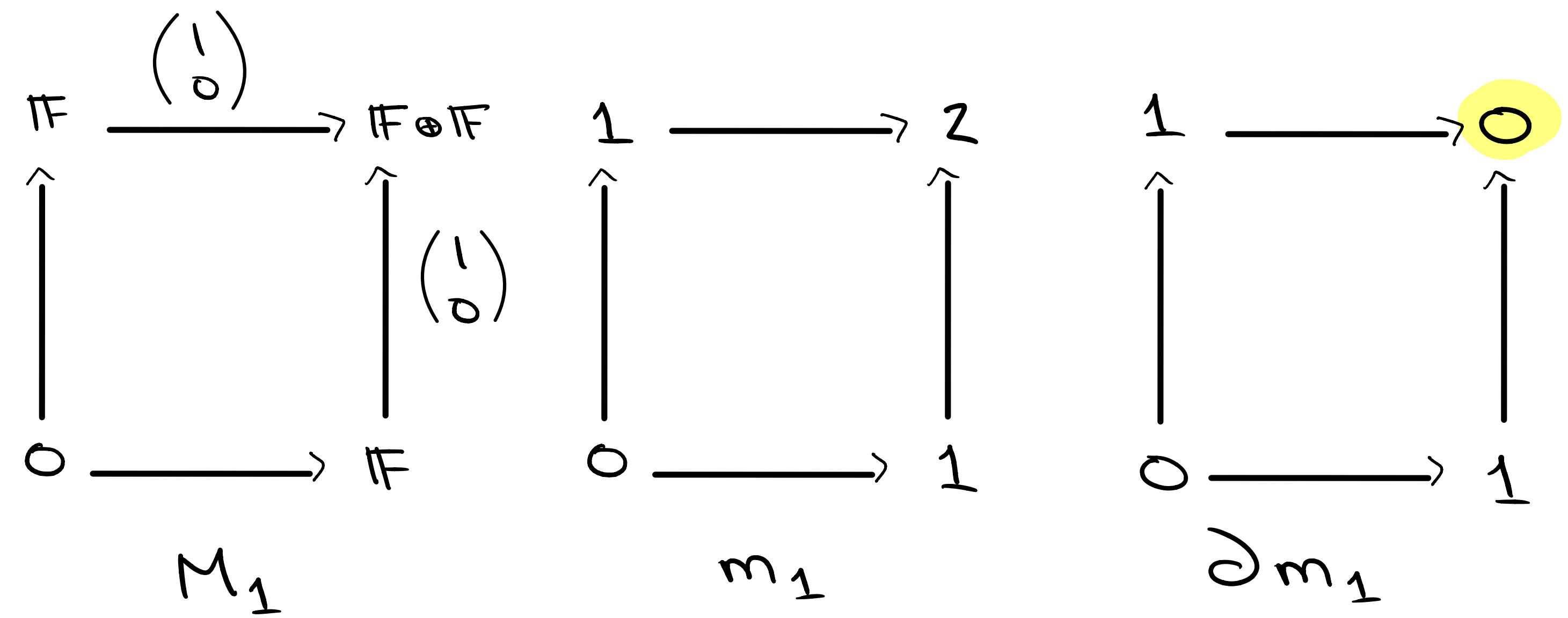
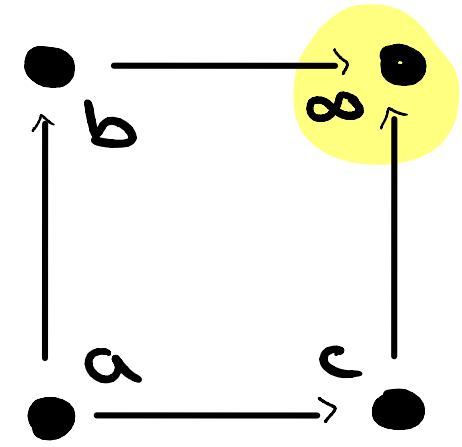
$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{F} \oplus \mathbb{F} \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbb{F} \oplus \mathbb{F} \longrightarrow 0$$
$$H_0^{\downarrow}(\infty; M_1) \cong \mathbb{F} \quad H_1^{\downarrow}(\infty; M_1) \cong \mathbb{F}$$



$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{F} \oplus \mathbb{F} \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbb{F} \oplus \mathbb{F} \longrightarrow 0$$
$$H_0^{\downarrow}(\infty; M_2) = 0 \quad H_1^{\downarrow}(\infty; M_2) = 0$$

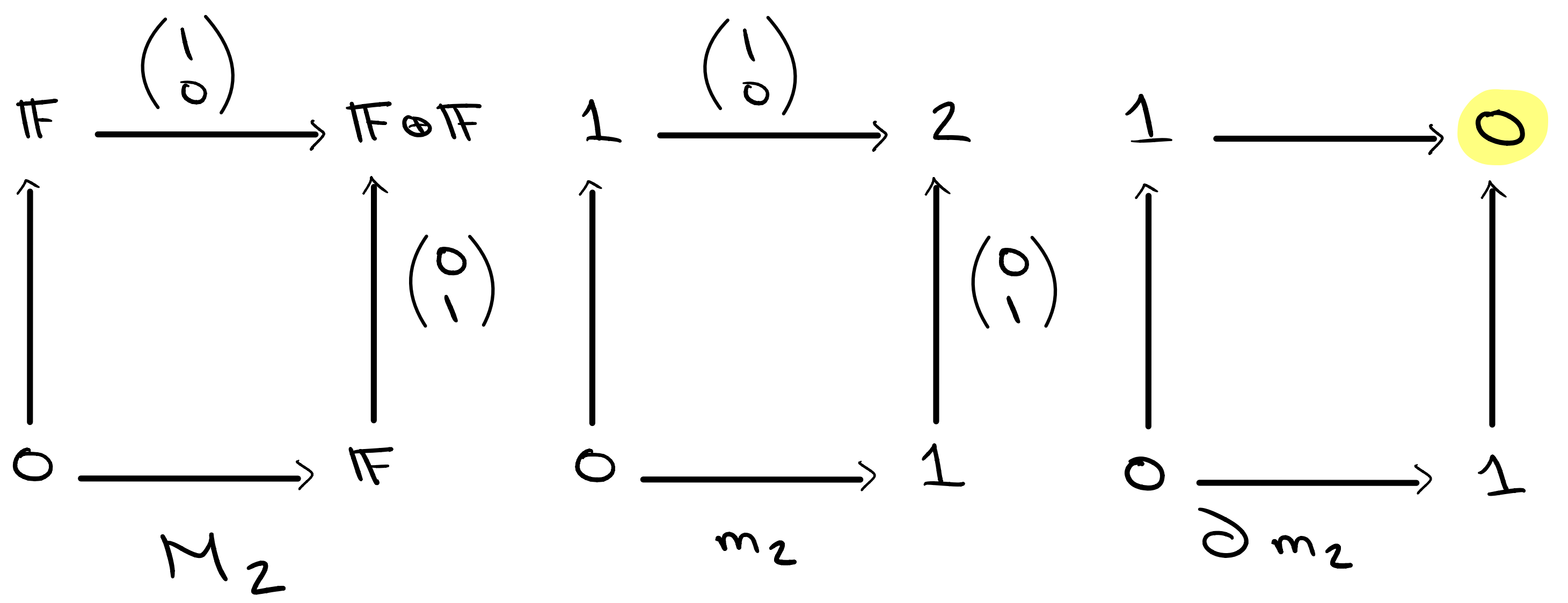


Decategorify



$$H_0^\downarrow(\infty; M_1) \cong \mathbb{F} \quad H_1^\downarrow(\infty; M_1) \cong \mathbb{F}$$

$$\chi(\infty; M_1) = 0 = \partial m_1(\infty)$$



$$H_0^\downarrow(\infty; M_2) = 0 \quad H_1^\downarrow(\infty; M_2) = 0$$

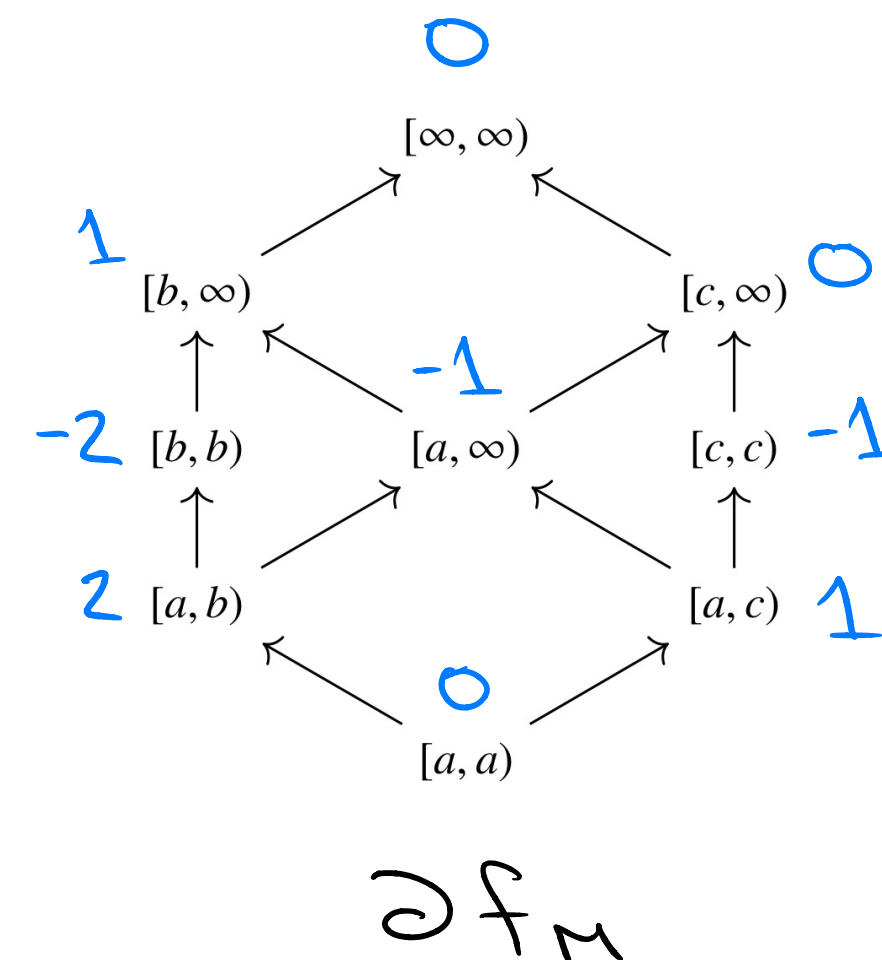
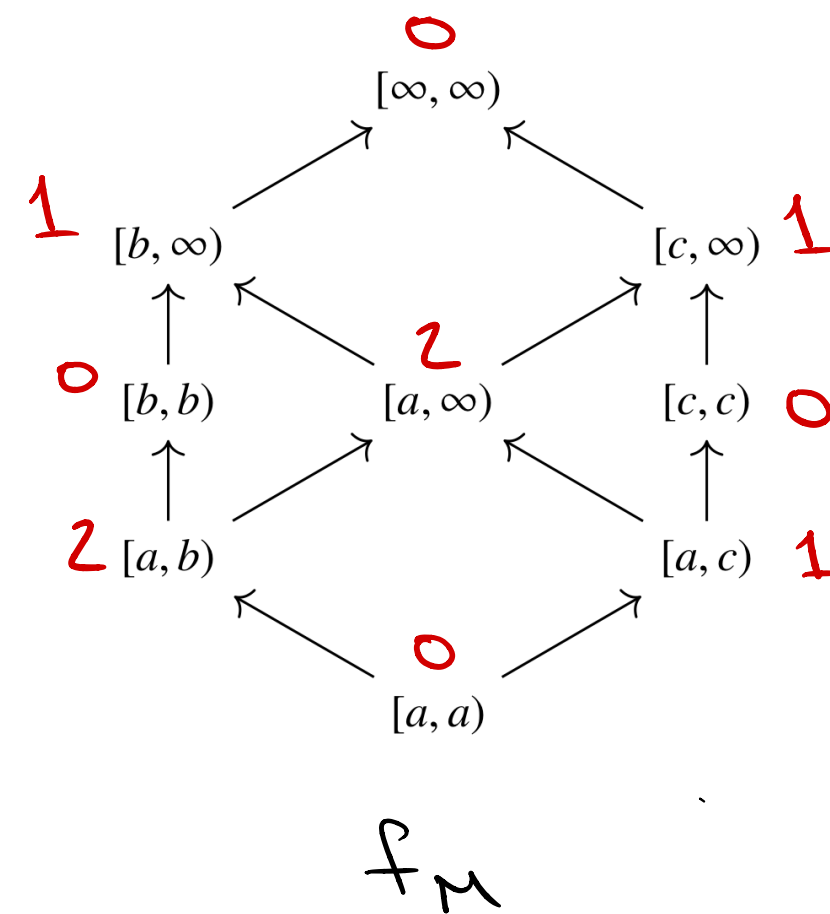
$$\chi(\infty; M_2) = 0 = \partial m_2(\infty)$$

Möbius Homology and Persistence

$$\begin{array}{ccc} b & \longrightarrow & \infty \\ \uparrow & P & \uparrow \\ a & \longrightarrow & c \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{F} & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \uparrow (0,0) & & \uparrow \\ \mathbb{F}^2 & \xrightarrow{(1,0)} & \mathbb{F} \end{array}$$

M



Kernel Module

Given $P \xrightarrow{M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$

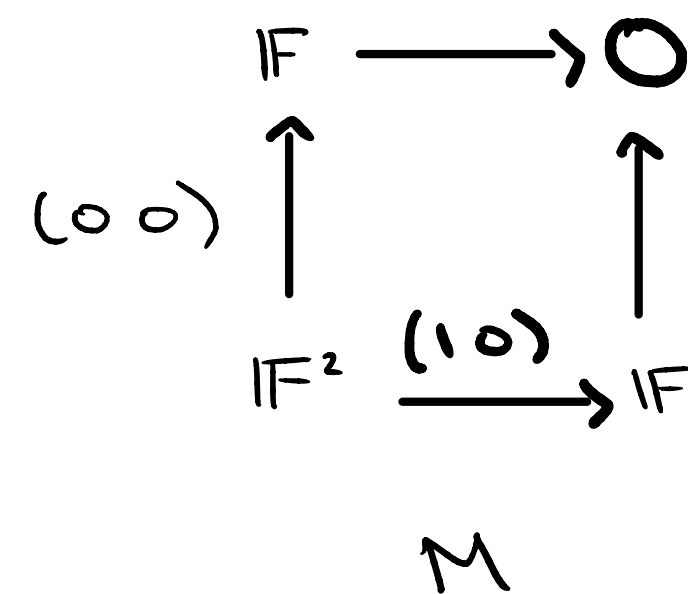
We want to lift the kernel function $\text{Int } P \xrightarrow{f_M} \mathbb{Z}$ to $\text{Int } P \longrightarrow \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$
so that we can apply Möbius Homology

For every $[a, b) \leq [c, d)$, consider

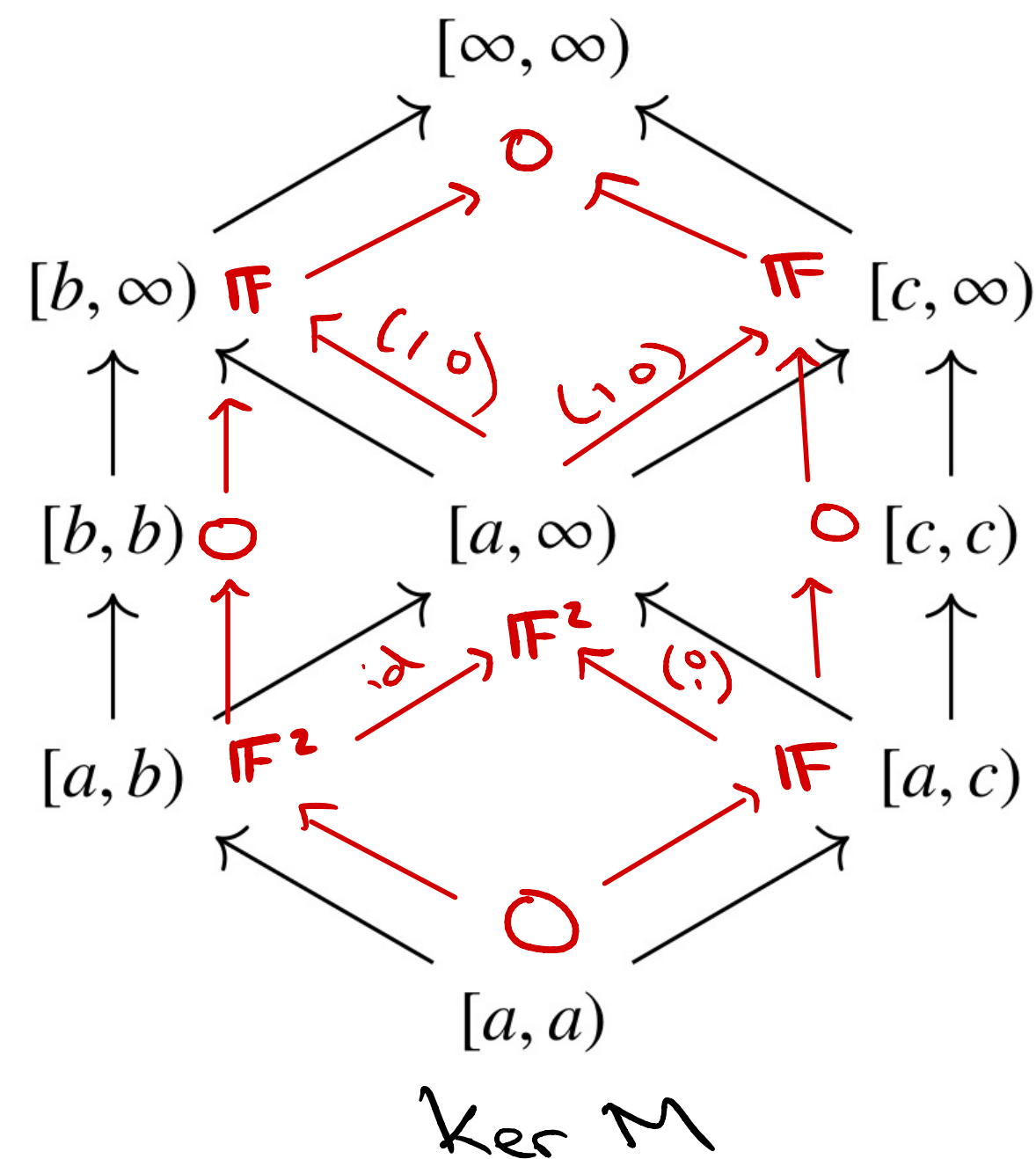
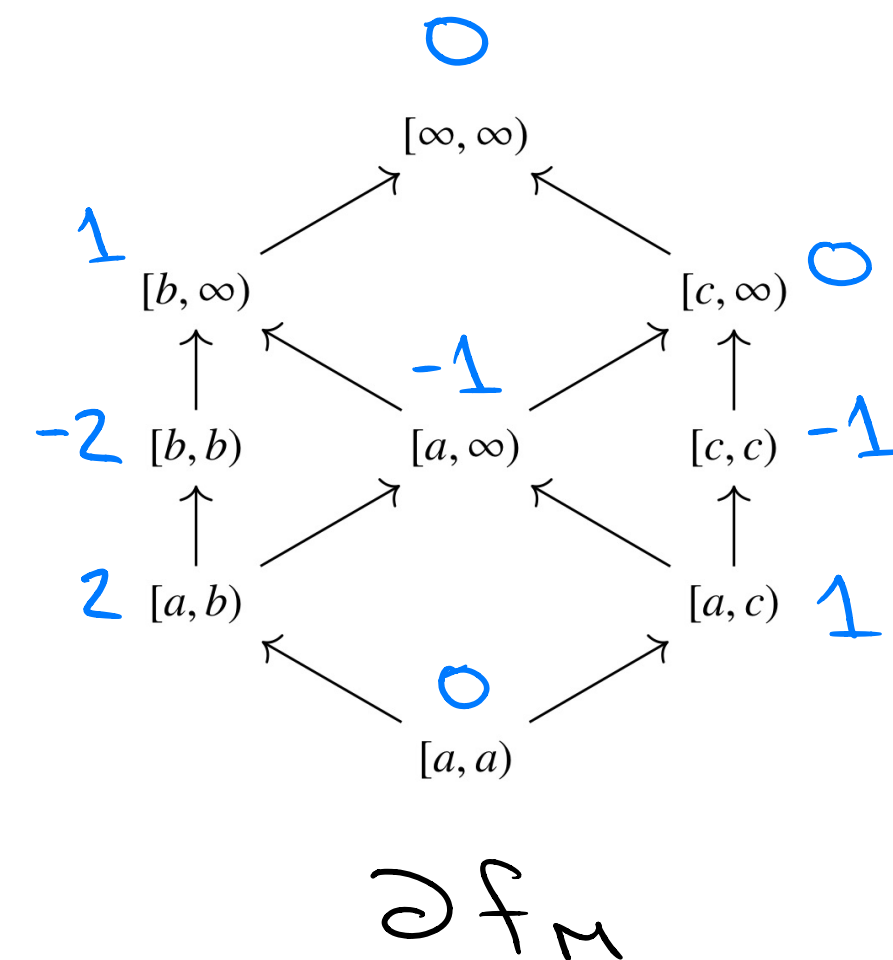
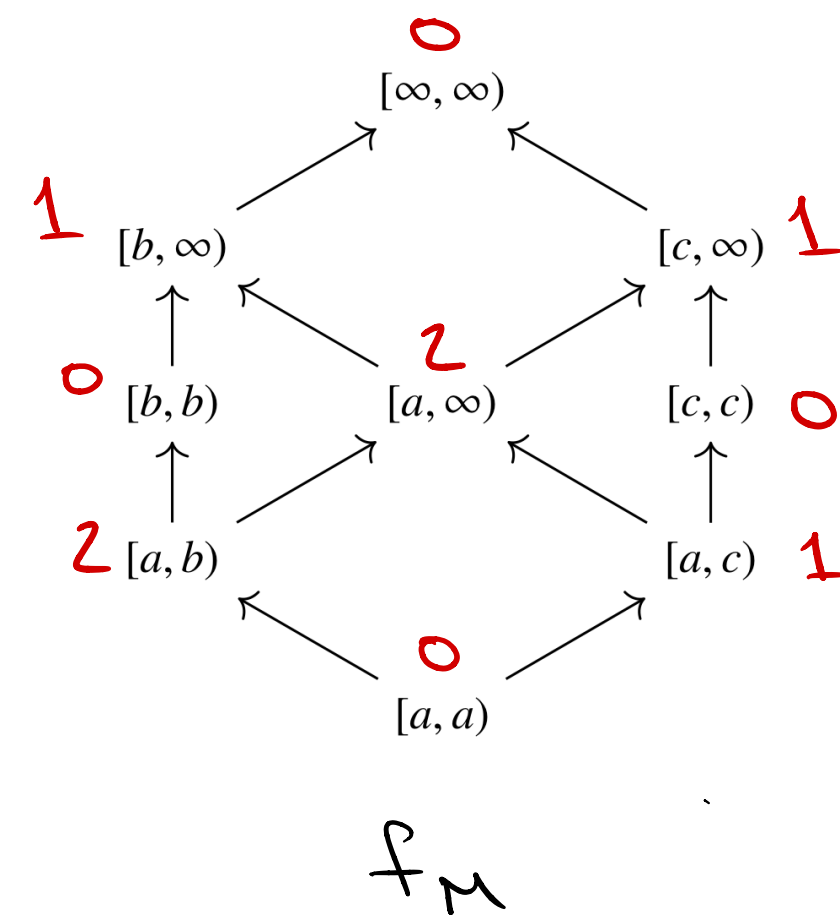
$$\begin{array}{ccc} M(a) & \xrightarrow{M(a \leq b)} & M(b) \\ M(a \leq c) \downarrow & \square & \downarrow M(b \leq d) \\ M(c) & \xrightarrow{M(c \leq d)} & M(d) \end{array}$$

$M(a \leq c)$ restricts to a map $\ker M(a \leq b) \longrightarrow \ker M(c \leq d)$

Thus, we have $\text{Int } P \xrightarrow{\ker M} \text{vec}_{\mathbb{F}}$



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 b & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \infty \\
 \uparrow & \mathcal{P} & \uparrow \\
 a & \xrightarrow{\quad} & c
 \end{array}$$



$$H_0^{\downarrow}([a, \infty); \ker M) = 0$$

$$H_1([a, \infty); \ker M) \cong \mathbb{F}$$

$$\chi([a, \infty); \ker M) = -1 = \partial f_M([a, \infty))$$

Exciting Recent Development

Been searching for a Bottleneck/Interleaving-type stability theorem
for Möbius inversions ~ 10 years

This summer, Hideto Asashiba (Prof Emeritus, Shizuoka U.) and I
found such a theorem for Möbius Homology!

Interesting Problems

Can you figure out how to use Möbius homology to categorify well known examples of Möbius inversions?

- Chromatic Polynomial
- Tutte Polynomial
- Incidence Algebra of Subgroup Lattice
- Euler's Totient Function
- Intersection Lattice of Hyperplane Arrangement

If so, what does stability imply? Apply TDA ideas to combinatorics?

Thank You