

ON CLASSIFICATION OF ALMOST POSITIVE POSETS

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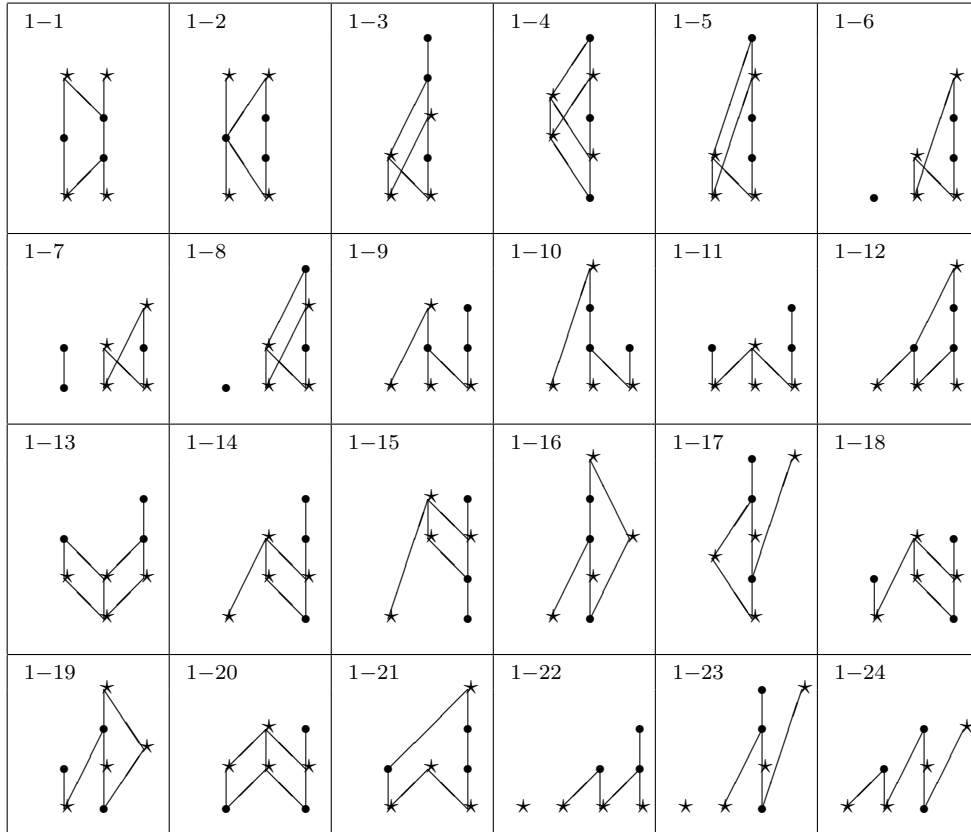
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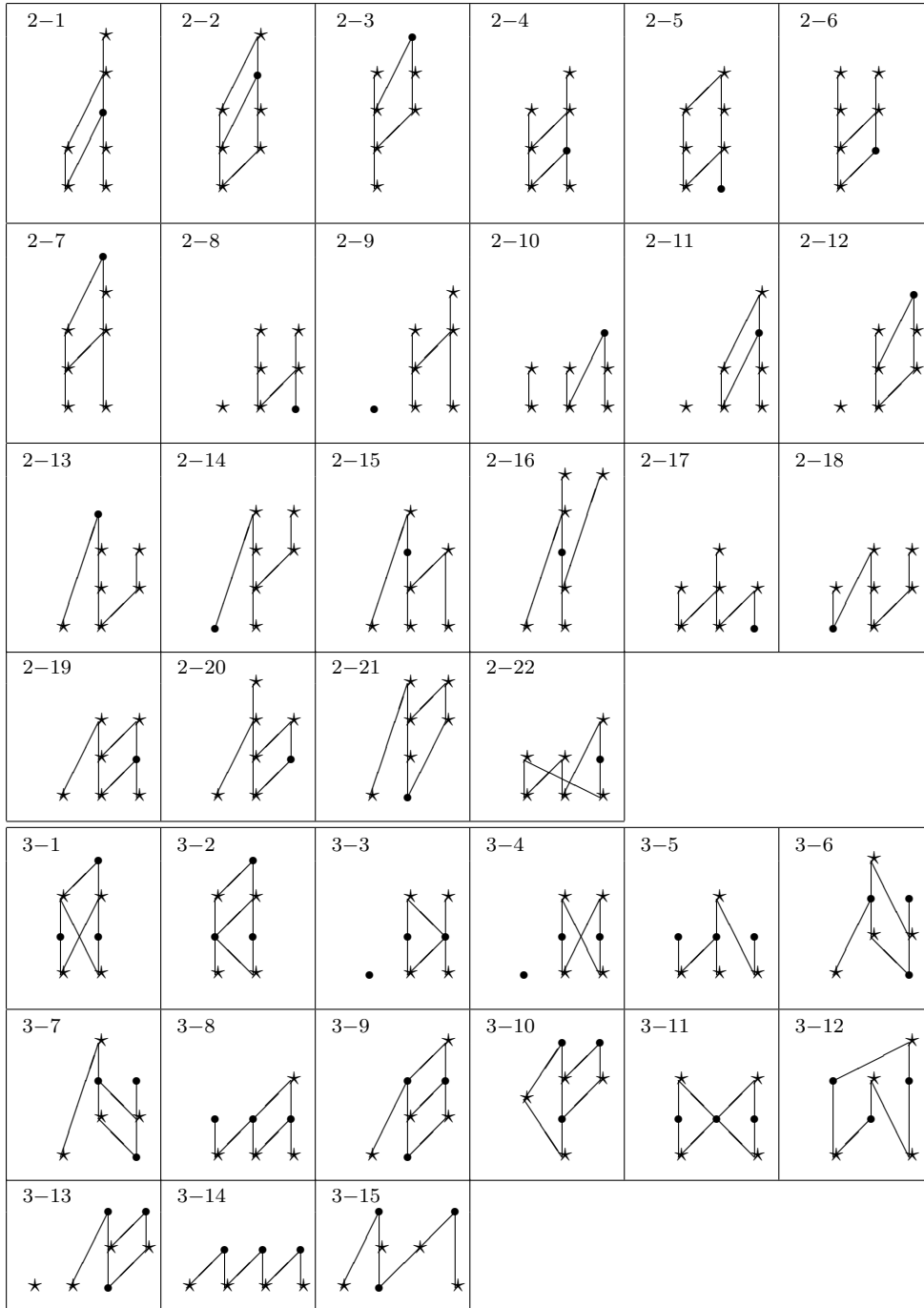
We identify finite posets with the Hasse diagrams and often use by the default terms for a poset S based on the analogous terms for its quadratic Tits form $q_S(z)$ (for example, “positive poset” means that $q_S(z)$ is positive). We call a non-positive poset S *almost positive* if there exists $x \in S$ (called *special*) such that $S \setminus x$ is positive (all the positive posets are described, by the method of minimax equivalence [1], in [2]). A special case of such posets are P -critical ones when $S \setminus x$ is positive for any $x \in S$ (they are described also in [2]). We have proved the next theorem.

Theorem 1. *For a non-negative poset S of order n the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) S is almost positive;
- (2) the subgroup $\{t \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} \mid q_S(t) = 0\}$ of \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} is infinite cyclic.

It follows from this theorem that the classification of the serial almost positive non-negative posets (which include all ones of order $n > 8$) is given by Theorems 3, 4 [3] and non-serial ones of order $n = 6, 7, 8$ by calculations using a computer program [4]. We study the second case with the help of our method of minimax equivalence. In particular, in the case $n = 7$, after elimination of the P -critical posets [2], we have the following classification up to isomorphism and duality (all posets of each table are minimax equivalent; the symbols \star denote special points).





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