

WEAK DIMENSION AND CHAIN-WEAK DIMENSION OF ORDERED SETS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we define the weak dimension and the chain-weak dimension of an ordered set by using weak orders and chain-weak orders, respectively, as realizers. First, we prove that if P is not a weak order, then the weak dimension of P is the same as the dimension of P . Next, we determine the chain-weak dimension of the product of k -element chains. Finally, we prove some properties of chain-weak dimension which hold for dimension.

1. Introduction

Let P be an ordered set. Another ordered set Q on the same underlying set as P is called an *extension* of P if $x \leq y$ in Q whenever $x \leq y$ in P . Furthermore, we say that an extension is *linear* if it is a linear order. A family \mathfrak{R} of extensions of P is called a *realizer* of P if $x \leq y$ in P whenever $x \leq y$ in L for all $L \in \mathfrak{R}$. The *dimension* of P , denoted by $\dim(P)$, is the least cardinality of a family \mathfrak{R} of linear extensions of P such that \mathfrak{R} is a realizer of P . Equivalently, the dimension of an ordered set P is the least cardinality of chains whose product embeds P .

If an extension of an ordered set P is an interval order [tree], then it is called an *interval extension* [tree extension] of P . Replacing linear extensions in the definition of dimension by interval extensions, the *interval dimension* of an ordered set was first introduced by Trotter and many authors studied this problem ([3], [4], [8]). Similarly, Behrendt[2] defined *tree dimension* by using tree extensions.

In this paper, we define the weak dimension and the chain-weak dimension of ordered sets by using weak orders and chain-weak orders, respectively, as realizers. First, we prove that if P is not a weak order, then

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the weak dimension of P is the same as the dimension of P . Next, we determine the chain-weak dimension of the product of k -element chains. Finally, we prove some properties of chain-weak dimension which hold similarly for dimension. It is presumed throughout that every ordered set is finite.

2. Weak dimension

Let P and Q be two disjoint ordered sets. The *disjoint sum* $P + Q$ of P and Q is the ordered set on $P \cup Q$ such that $x < y$ if and only if $x < y$ in P or $x < y$ in Q . The *linear sum* $P \oplus Q$ of P and Q is obtained from $P + Q$ by adding the new relations $x < y$ for all $x \in P$ and $y \in Q$. An ordered set P is called a *weak order* if P can be represented as the linear sum of antichains, that is, $P = A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n$, where A_i is an antichain for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and we call each A_i a *level* of P . We see that every weak order has dimension at most two and its realizer consisting of linear extensions can be easily obtained. Now it is natural to consider a new parameter to describe ordered sets by weak orders. For an ordered set P , an extension of P is said to be *weak* if it is a weak order and then the *weak dimension* of P , denoted by $\text{wdim}(P)$, is defined to be the least integer t for which there exist t weak extensions W_1, W_2, \dots, W_t which form a realizer of P ,

If x, y are incomparable in P , we denote $x \parallel y$ and let $\text{Inc}(P) = \{(x, y) \mid x \parallel y \text{ in } P\}$. We say that an extension L of P (not necessarily a linear extension) *reverses* $(x, y) \in \text{Inc}(P)$ if $y < x$ in L or $x \parallel y$ in L and that a family \mathfrak{R} of extensions of P *reverses* a set $S \subseteq \text{Inc}(P)$ if each $(x, y) \in S$ is reversed by at least one $L \in \mathfrak{R}$. Observe that a family \mathfrak{R} of extensions of P is a realizer if and only if \mathfrak{R} reverses $\text{Inc}(P)$.

THEOREM 2.1. *If P is not a weak order, then $\text{dim}(P) = \text{wdim}(P)$.*

Proof. First, we prove a special case in the following claim.

CLAIM. If $\text{wdim}(P) = 2$, then $\text{dim}(P) = 2$.

Let W_1 and W_2 be weak extensions which form a realizer of P . Then

$$W_1 = A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_m, \quad W_2 = B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus B_n,$$

where A_i, B_j are antichains for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. We will construct linear extensions L_1 and L_2 of P from W_1 and W_2 such that $\{L_1, L_2\}$ is a realizer of P . For each $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, let C_{ij} be any linear extension of $A_i \cap B_j$. Let $C_i = C_{i1} \oplus$

$\cdots \oplus C_{i2} \oplus C_{i1}$. Then C_i is a linear extension of A_i and so $L_1 = C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_m$ is a linear extension of P . Similarly, for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, let D_{ij} be the dual of C_{ij} and $D_j = D_{mj} \oplus \cdots \oplus D_{2j} \oplus D_{1j}$. Then $L_2 = D_1 \oplus D_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus D_n$ is a linear extension of P .

Now we show that $\{L_1, L_2\}$ is a realizer of P . It is enough to show that, for any $(x, y) \in \text{Inc}(P)$, $y < x$ in L_1 or $y < x$ in L_2 . To prove this, we have the following four cases to consider.

CASE 1. $y < x$ in W_1 or $y < x$ in W_2 .

We easily see that $y < x$ in L_1 or $y < x$ in L_2 from the construction of L_1 and L_2 .

CASE 2. $x \parallel y$ in W_1 and $x < y$ in W_2 .

Clearly, x and y are contained in the same level of W_1 and we denote this level by A_r . Let $x \in B_s$ and $y \in B_t$ for some $s, t = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then $s < t$, whence $y < x$ in C_r . Hence $y < x$ in L_1 .

CASE 3. $x < y$ in W_1 and $x \parallel y$ in W_2 .

It is similar to Case 2.

CASE 4. $x \parallel y$ in W_1 and $x \parallel y$ in W_2 .

In this case, we have $x, y \in A_s$ and $x, y \in B_t$ for some s and t . Hence $x, y \in C_{st} \cap D_{st}$. Since D_{st} is the dual of C_{st} , we have $y < x$ in L_1 or $y < x$ in L_2 .

To complete the proof, let $\text{wdim}(P) = t > 2$. Then there are weak orders W_1, W_2, \dots, W_t such that $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_t\}$ is a realizer of P . We will construct a linear extension L_i of P from each W_i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, t$. Let $W_i = A_{i1} \oplus A_{i2} \oplus \cdots \oplus A_{in_i}$, where A_{ij} is an antichain for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n_i$. We first obtain L_1 and L_2 from W_1 and W_2 as in the above claim. We then define the new order A'_{3j} on A_{3j} ($j = 1, 2, \dots, n_3$) which is induced by the dual of L_2 . Then $L_3 = A'_{31} \oplus A'_{32} \oplus \cdots \oplus A'_{3n_3}$ is a linear extension of P . Continuing the method, we obtain a linear extension L_i from L_{i-1} for $4 \leq i \leq t$.

Now we show that $\{L_1, L_2, \dots, L_t\}$ is a realizer of P . Let $(x, y) \in \text{Inc}(P)$. Then $y < x$ or $x \parallel y$ in some W_i . Let $k = \min\{i \mid y < x \text{ or } x \parallel y \text{ in } W_i\}$. Such a k exists, since otherwise $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_t\}$ is not a realizer of P . If $k \leq 2$ then we know that $y < x$ in L_1 or L_2 . If $k \geq 3$, then $x < y$ in L_{k-1} and $y < x$ in L_k from the construction of L_k . Hence, $\{L_1, L_2, \dots, L_t\}$ is a realizer of P and so $\dim(P) \leq \text{wdim}(P)$. Since $\dim(P) \geq \text{wdim}(P)$, we conclude that $\dim(P) = \text{wdim}(P)$. \square

Theorem 2.1 shows that in order to determine the dimension of an ordered set, we may take its weak extensions instead of linear extensions if it is not a weak order. In general, a weak extension reverses more incomparable pairs than a linear extension does. Hence weak extensions may be more effective than linear extensions to determine the dimension of an ordered set.

3. Chain-weak dimension

In this section, we introduce a new parameter of an ordered set which generalizes the concept of weak dimension. An ordered set P is called a *chain-weak order* if it can be represented by a linear sum of disjoint sum of chains, that is, $P = A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n$, where A_i is a disjoint sum of chains for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and again we call each A_i a *level* of P . We see that every chain-weak order has dimension at most two and its linear extensions for a realizer can be easily obtained. An extension of an ordered set P is said to be *chain-weak* if it is a chain-weak order. Then the *chain-weak dimension* of P , denoted by $\text{cwdim}(P)$, is defined to be the least integer t for which there exist t chain-weak extensions W_1, W_2, \dots, W_t of P which form a realizer of P .

PROPOSITION 3.1. *Let P be an ordered set. Then P is a chain-weak order if and only if P does not contain any of the following ordered sets as an induced suborder.*

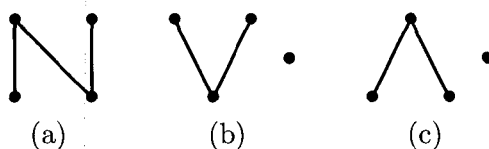
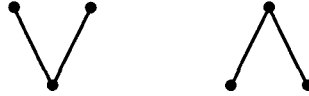


FIGURE 1

Proof. Let P be a chain-weak order, that is, $P = A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n$ and A_i is a disjoint sum of chains for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Suppose that P contains one of (a), (b), and (c) as an induced suborder. If $x \parallel y$ in P then x and y belong to the same level. Hence one of (a), (b), and (c) must be contained in the same level. But each of (a), (b), and (c) cannot be contained in a disjoint sum of chains as an induced suborder.

Conversely, suppose that P be an ordered set that does not contain any one of (a), (b), (c) as an induced suborder. To prove that P is a chain-weak order, we use an induction on $|P|$. It is well known that P does not contains (a) as an induced suborder if and only if P is series-parallel, that is, P is constructed from singletons by using only $+$ and \oplus . Hence $P = P' + P''$ or $P = P' \oplus P''$, where P' and P'' are nonempty. By induction hypothesis, P' and P'' are chain-weak orders. If $P = P' \oplus P''$, then it is clearly a chain-weak order. Suppose that $P = P' + P''$ and P' contains one of the following ordered sets as an induced suborder:



Then $P = P' + P''$ contains (b) or (c) as an induced suborder. Thus P' is a disjoint sum of chains. Similarly, P'' is also a disjoint sum of chains. Hence $P = P' + P''$ is a chain-weak order. \square

For an ordered set P , we call $(x, y) \in \text{Inc}(P)$ a *critical pair* in P if $z < x$ implies $z < y$ and $y < w$ implies $x < w$ in P . Then we denote the set of all critical pairs by $\text{Crit}(P)$. In [6], Rabinovitch and Rival proved that a family \mathfrak{R} of linear extensions of P is a realizer of P if and only if \mathfrak{R} reverses $\text{Crit}(P)$. By using the same method, we prove the following lemma.

LEMMA 3.2. *Let P be an ordered set and \mathfrak{R} be a family of chain-weak extensions of P . Then \mathfrak{R} is a realizer of P if and only if \mathfrak{R} reverses $\text{Crit}(P)$.*

Proof. It is clear that if \mathfrak{R} is a realizer of P then \mathfrak{R} reverses $\text{Crit}(P)$. Conversely, suppose that \mathfrak{R} reverses $\text{Crit}(P)$. Let $(u, v) \in \text{Inc}(P)$. We show that $v < u$ or $u \parallel v$ in some $W \in \mathfrak{R}$. Let u' be a maximal element with the property that $u' \leq u$ and $u' \not\leq v$ and similarly let v' be a minimal element with the property that $v \leq v'$ and $u' \not\leq v'$. Then $(u', v') \in \text{Crit}(P)$ and so $v' < u'$ or $u' \parallel v'$ in some $W \in \mathfrak{R}$. If $u < v$ in W , then $u' \leq u < v \leq v'$ in W , which is a contradiction. Hence, $v < u$ or $u \parallel v$ in W . \square

Now we determine the chain-weak dimension of some familiar ordered sets. First, we find an upper bound of the chain-weak dimension of generalized crowns. Trotter[7] defined the *generalized crown* S_n^k , for

integers $n \geq 3$ and $k \geq 0$, to be the bipartite ordered set with $\min(S_n^k) = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n+k}\}$, $\max(S_n^k) = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{n+k}\}$. For $i = 1, 2, \dots, n+k$, b_i and a_j are incomparable in S_n^k for $j = i, i+1, \dots, i+k$ and $b_i > a_j$ in S_n^k for $j = i+k+1, i+k+2, \dots, i+k+n-1$. Here, subscripts are to be interpreted modulo $n+k$. For example, see Figure 2 for S_4^2 .

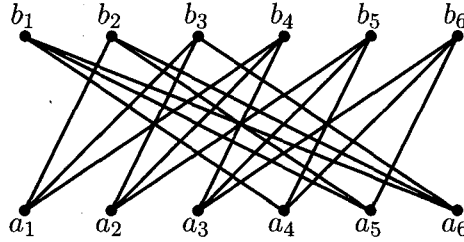


FIGURE 2. S_4^2

Let $A = \min(S_n^k)$ and $B = \max(S_n^k)$. Observe that $(a, b) \in \text{Crit}(S_n^k)$ if and only if $a \in A$, $b \in B$ and $a \parallel b$ in S_n^k . We consider the two chain-weak extensions W_1 and W_2 of the generalized crowns S_n^k in Figure 3. Let $A(b_i) = \{a \in A \mid a \parallel b_i \text{ in } S_n^k\}$. Then we can easily show that for $a \in A(b_i)$ and $i = n+k, 1, 2, \dots, k+3$,

$$a \parallel b_i \text{ or } b_i < a \text{ in } W_1 \cap W_2.$$

Let $\text{Crit}(b_i) = \{(a, b_i) \in A \times B \mid a \parallel b_i \text{ in } S_n^k\}$. Then W_1 and W_2 reverse $\text{Crit}(b_i)$ for $i = n+k, 1, 2, \dots, k+3$. Since $|\max(S_n^k)| = n+k$, we have the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 3.3. *For the generalized crown S_n^k ,*

$$\text{cwdim}(S_n^k) \leq \left\lceil \frac{2(n+k)}{k+4} \right\rceil.$$

For $k = 0$, $S_n^0 = S_n$ is the n -dimensional standard ordered set and so $\text{cwdim}(S_n) \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ by Proposition 3.3. Since $\text{cwdim}(P) \geq \lceil \frac{\dim(P)}{2} \rceil$ for any ordered set P , we have the following.

COROLLARY 3.4. *For an integer $n \geq 3$,*

$$\text{cwdim}(S_n) = \left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil.$$

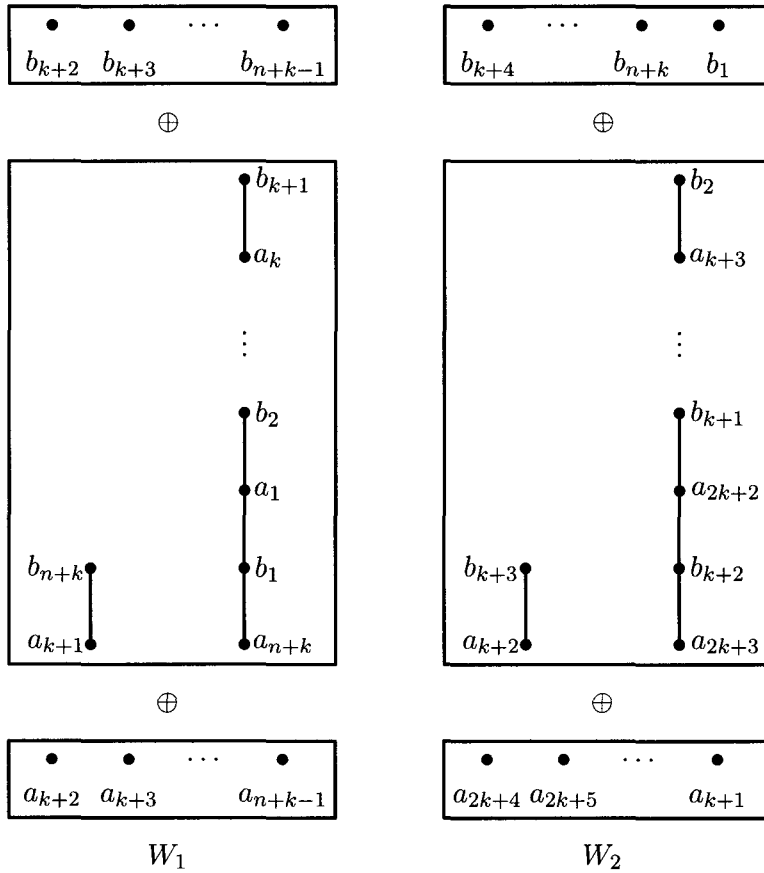


FIGURE 3

For $k \geq 1$ and $n = 3$ or 4 , we know that $1 < \left\lceil \frac{2(n+k)}{k+4} \right\rceil < 3$. Hence $\text{cwdim}(S_n^k) \leq 2$ by Proposition 3.3. Since S_n^k is not a chain-weak order, we have the following.

COROLLARY 3.5. For $k \geq 1$ and $n = 3$ or 4 ,

$$\text{cwdim}(S_n^k) = 2.$$

Next, we shall determine the chain-weak dimension of \mathbf{k}^n , the n -fold product of k -element chains. To do this, we define S_n^* for $n \geq 3$ with the ground set $X = \{a_i, a'_i, b_i, b'_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ whose order is the transitive closure of the following order relations:

(1) $\{a_i, b_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ is the n -dimensional standard ordered set.

(2) $a'_i < a_i$ and $b_i < b'_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

(3) $a'_i < b'_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

For example, the following is a diagram for S_5^* .

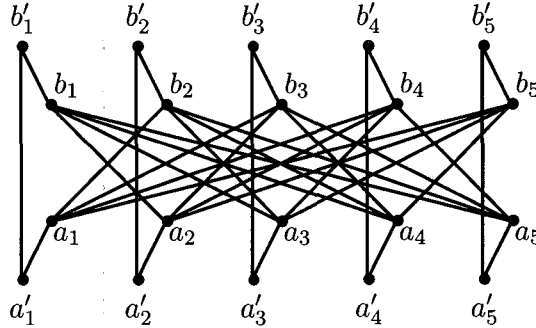


FIGURE 4. S_5^*

LEMMA 3.6. For an integer $n \geq 3$,

$$\text{cwidth}(S_n^*) = n.$$

Proof. To begin with, we divide the set of all critical pairs of S_n^* into two subsets:

$$A = \{(a_i, b'_i) \mid i = 1, \dots, n\}, \quad B = \{(a'_i, b_i) \mid i = 1, \dots, n\}.$$

Let W be any chain-weak extension of S_n^* . Then we will show that if W reverses two critical pairs in A , then W cannot reverse any critical pairs in B and vice versa.

We may assume that W reverses two critical pairs, $(a_1, b'_1), (a_2, b'_2)$ in A . Now we have the four cases to consider.

CASE 1. $b'_1 < a_1$ and $b'_2 < a_2$ in W .

Since $a_2 < b'_1$ and $a_1 < b'_2$ in S_n^* , we have $a_2 < b'_2$ in W , but it is a contradiction.

CASE 2. $a_1 \parallel b'_1$ and $b'_2 < a_2$ in W .

Then a_1 and b'_1 lie in the same level L of W . Since $a_1 < b'_2$ in S_n^* , b'_2 lies in the level L or above the level L . If b'_2 lies above L , then a_2 lies above L because $b'_2 < a_2$ in W . Since $a_2 < b'_1$ in S_n^* , b'_1 lies above L , which is a contradiction. Hence $b'_2 \in L$. For $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, a'_i lies below

the level L , because $a'_i < b'_1$ and $a'_i < b'_2$ in S_n^* . Since $b'_2 < a_2$ in W , a_1 and a_2 lie in L or above L . Hence b_i lies in L or above L . Therefore, W cannot reverse any critical pairs in B .

CASE 3. $b'_1 < a_1$ and $a_2 \parallel b'_2$ in W .

This case can be treated by a similar method to Case 2.

CASE 4. $a_1 \parallel b'_1$ and $a_2 \parallel b'_2$ in W .

In this case, a_1 and b'_1 lie in one level, and a_2 and b'_2 may lie in another level. But, since $a_1 < b_2 < b'_2$ and $a_2 < b_1 < b'_1$ in S_n^* , all these six elements lie in the same level L of W . Then, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, a'_i lies below the level L because $a'_i < b'_1$ and $a'_i < b'_2$ in S_n^* . For $j = 3, 4, \dots, n$, b_j lies above the level L because $a_1 < b_j$ and $a_2 < b_j$ in S_n^* . Hence W cannot reverse any critical pair of B .

Similarly, if W reverses two critical pairs in B then W cannot reverse any critical pairs in A . Consequently, W reverses at most two critical pairs of S_n^* . Hence, $\text{cwdim}(S_n^*) \geq n$. Since $\text{cwdim}(S_n^*) \leq \dim(S_n^*) = n$, we finally conclude that $\text{cwdim}(S_n^*) = n$. \square

Let Q be a lattice. An element $x \in Q$ is *meet irreducible* if $x = y \wedge z$ implies that $x = y$ or $x = z$. Dually, an element $x \in Q$ is *join irreducible* if $x = y \vee z$ implies that $x = y$ or $x = z$. An element $x \in Q \setminus \{0, 1\}$ is *irreducible* if it is meet irreducible or join irreducible. We denote the set of irreducible elements of Q by $\text{Irr}(Q)$. It is well known that $(x, y) \in \text{Crit}(Q)$ implies $\{x, y\} \subseteq \text{Irr}(Q)$ so that Q has the same dimension as the induced suborder of Q determined by $\text{Irr}(Q)$. Then it follows from Lemma 3.2 that $\text{cwdim}(Q) = \text{cwdim}(\text{Irr}(Q))$. Since $S_n = \text{Irr}(\mathbf{2}^n)$ and $S_n^* = \text{Irr}(\mathbf{3}^n)$, we obtain the following theorem from Corollary 3.4 and Lemma 3.6.

THEOREM 3.7. *For a natural number $k \geq 2$ and a natural number n ,*

$$\text{cwdim}(\mathbf{k}^n) = \begin{cases} \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil & \text{if } k = 2 \\ n & \text{if } k \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

In the rest of this paper, we prove some simple properties of chain-weak dimension which hold for dimension. Recall that the dimension of an ordered set P is also the least number n such that P is order-isomorphic to an induced suborder of the product of n chains. In [2], Behrendt shows that a similar result holds for tree dimension. Here we show that it also holds for chain-weak dimension.

LEMMA 3.8. *Let P be the product of a family $(P_i)_{i \in I}$ of chain-weak orders. Then $\text{cwidim}(P) \leq |I|$.*

Proof. For each $i \in I$, let $Y_i := \prod_{j \in I \setminus \{i\}} P_j$ and let Y'_i be a linear extension of Y_i . For $x \in P$ and $i \in I$, denote by x^i the image of x in Y_i under the canonical projection $P \rightarrow Y_i$ and by x_i the image of x in P_i under the canonical projection $P \rightarrow P_i$. Then we define an extension Q_i of P by $x \leq y$ in $Q_i \Leftrightarrow x_i < y_i$ in P_i , or $x_i = y_i$ and $x^i \leq y^i$ in Y'_i . Then Q_i is the lexicographic sum of Y'_i on P_i . Since Y'_i is linear, Q_i is a chain-weak order. If $x \leq y$ in P , then $x^i \leq y^i$ in Y_i and $x_i \leq y_i$ in P_i and hence $x^i \leq y^i$ in Y'_i and $x_i \leq y_i$ in P_i , that is, $x \leq y$ in Q_i . Therefore, Q_i is a chain-weak extension of P .

Let $(x, y) \in \text{Inc}(P)$. Then, x_i and y_i are incomparable in P_i for some $i \in I$, or there exist $i, j \in I$ such that $x_i < y_i$ in P_i and $y_j < x_j$ in P_j . In the first case, by definition of Q_i , x and y are incomparable in Q_i . In the second case we have $x \leq y$ in Q_i and $y \leq x$ in Q_j . Hence, $\{Q_i \mid i \in I\}$ is a realizer of P , that is, $\text{cwidim}(P) \leq |I|$. \square

PROPOSITION 3.9. *Let P be an ordered set. Then the chain-weak dimension of P is the least cardinal number n such that P is isomorphic to an induced suborder of the product of n chain-weak orders.*

Proof. By Lemma 3.8, the product of n chain-weak orders has chain-weak dimension of at most n . Now we show that every ordered set of chain-weak dimension n can be embedded into a product of n chain-weak orders. Let a family $(P_i)_{i \in I}$ of chain-weak orders be a realizer of P with $|I| = n$. Let $Q = \prod_{i \in I} P_i$ and let φ be the map from P into Q defined by $(\varphi(x))_i = x$ for all $i \in I$. Thus for $x, y \in P$, $\varphi(x) \leq \varphi(y)$ in Q if and only if $x \leq y$ in P_i for all $i \in I$ if and only if $x \leq y$ in P . Hence φ is an embedding from P into Q . \square

Baker[1] showed that for an ordered set P , $\text{dim}(P) = \text{dim}(C(P))$, where $C(P)$ is the MacNeille completion of P , that is, the smallest lattice containing P as an induced suborder. In [4], it was proved that a similar result holds for interval dimension. We have the following proposition for chain-weak dimension.

PROPOSITION 3.10. *The chain-weak dimension of an ordered set and its MacNeille completion are the same.*

Proof. Let P be an ordered set of chain-weak dimension k . By Proposition 3.9, P can be embedded into a product of k chain-weak orders, Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_k . For each $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, let $Q_i = L_{i1} \oplus L_{i2} \oplus \dots \oplus L_{it_i}$,

where L_{ij} is a level of Q_i ($j = 1, 2, \dots, t_i$). Let Q'_i be the chain-weak order obtained from Q_i by inserting elements $0, 1$ and x_{ij} ($j = 1, 2, \dots, t_{i-1}$) such that $Q'_i = \{0\} \oplus L_{i1} \oplus \{x_{i1}\} \oplus L_{i2} \oplus \{x_{i2}\} \oplus \dots \oplus \{x_{it_{i-1}}\} \oplus L_{it_i} \oplus \{1\}$. Then Q'_i is a lattice and P embeds into $\prod_{i=1}^k Q'_i$. Since $\prod_{i=1}^k Q'_i$ is a lattice and $C(P)$ is the least lattice containing P as an induced suborder, $C(P)$ is embedded into $\prod_{i=1}^k Q'_i$. Hence, $\text{cwdim}(C(P)) \leq k$. \square

Hiraguchi[5] showed that if P is an ordered set with $|P| \geq 2$ and if $P \setminus \{x\}$ is an induced suborder of P obtained by removing an element x from P , then $\text{dim}(P) \leq \text{dim}(P \setminus \{x\}) + 1$. Similarly, the following holds for chain-weak dimension.

PROPOSITION 3.11. *Let P be an ordered set with $|P| \geq 2$ and let $x \in P$. Then*

$$\text{cwdim}(P) \leq \text{cwdim}(P \setminus \{x\}) + 1.$$

Proof. Let $Q = P \setminus \{x\}$, $\text{cwdim}(Q) = t$ and $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_t\}$ be a family of chain-weak orders which realizes Q . Set $D(x) = \{y \in P \mid y < x \text{ in } P\}$ and $U(x) = \{y \in P \mid y > x \text{ in } P\}$. For each $i = 1, 2, \dots, t$, we shall construct a chain-weak extension W'_i of P by adding x to W_i . Let L_i be the level of W_i containing a maximal element of $D(x)$ in W_i . Then L_i contains no element of $U(x)$. If W'_i is obtained from W_i by replacing L_i by $L_i \oplus \{x\}$, then clearly W'_i is a chain-weak extension of P . To find the remaining one for a realizer of P , let $I(x)$ be the set of all elements incomparable to x in P and let L, M and N be any linear extensions of $I(x), D(x)$ and $U(x)$, respectively. Then $W'_{t+1} = M \oplus (L + \{x\}) \oplus N$ is a chain-weak extension of P . Now it is easy to check that $\{W'_1, W'_2, \dots, W'_{t+1}\}$ is a chain-weak realizer of P , as desired. \square

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