

Contents

Preface	iii
List of Figures	ix
1 Incidence Algebras	1
1.1 Partially Ordered Sets	1
1.2 The Incidence Algebra	9
1.3 Subalgebras	18
2 The Möbius Function	33
2.1 The Möbius Function	33
2.2 The Möbius Algebra	52
2.3 Some Applications of Möbius Inversion	87
2.4 The Polya–de Bruijn Theorem	101
3 Reduced Incidence Algebras	107
3.1 Generating Functions	107
3.2 The Reduced Incidence Coalgebra	121
3.3 Incidence Hopf Algebras	141
4 Radicals	163
4.1 Some Lattice Theory	163
4.2 The Jacobson Radical	168
4.3 Nil Radicals	173

5	Maximal Ideals	189
5.1	Maximal Ideals of $I(X, F)$	189
5.2	Maximal Ideals of $I(X, R)$	203
5.3	Omega Maximal Ideals	209
6	Minimal Prime Ideals	217
6.1	Minimal Prime Ideals of $I(X, F)$	217
6.2	Some Prime Ideals in $I(X, R)$	231
6.3	Krull Dimension	240
7	Derivations and Isomorphisms	251
7.1	Derivations	251
7.2	The Isomorphism Problem	259
7.3	Automorphisms	273
8	Ring Theoretic Properties	283
8.1	Rings of Quotients	283
8.2	Polynomial Identities	296
8.3	Additional Remarks	305
	List of Symbols	307
	Bibliography	317
	Index	327