

Linear orders as rankings

Manuel Eberl

January 23, 2026

This entry formalises the obvious isomorphism between finite linear orders and lists, where the list in question is interpreted as a *ranking*, i.e. it lists the elements in descending order without repetition.

It also provides an executable algorithm to compute topological sortings, i.e. all rankings whose linear orders are extensions of a given relation.

Contents

1	Rankings	2
1.1	Preliminaries	2
1.2	Definition	2
1.3	Transformations	5
1.4	Inverse operation and isomorphism	6
1.5	Topological sorting	6

1 Rankings

theory *Rankings*

imports

HOL-Combinatorics.Multiset-Permutations

List-Index.List-Index

Randomised-Social-Choice.Order-Predicates

begin

1.1 Preliminaries

lemma *find-index-map*: $\text{find-index } P \ (\text{map } f \ xs) = \text{find-index } (\lambda x. P \ (f \ x)) \ xs$
<proof>

lemma *map-index-self*:
assumes *distinct xs*
shows $\text{map } (\text{index } xs) \ xs = [0..<\text{length } xs]$
<proof>

lemma *bij-betw-map-prod*:
assumes *bij-betw f A B bij-betw g C D*
shows $\text{bij-betw } (\text{map-prod } f \ g) \ (A \times C) \ (B \times D)$
<proof>

definition *comap-relation* :: $('a \Rightarrow 'b) \Rightarrow 'a \text{ relation} \Rightarrow 'b \text{ relation}$ **where**
 $\text{comap-relation } f \ R = (\lambda x \ y. \exists x' \ y'. x = f \ x' \wedge y = f \ y' \wedge R \ x' \ y')$

lemma *is-weak-ranking-map-singleton-iff [simp]*:
 $\text{is-weak-ranking } (\text{map } (\lambda x. \{x\}) \ xs) \longleftrightarrow \text{distinct } xs$
<proof>

lemma *is-finite-weak-ranking-map-singleton-iff [simp]*:
 $\text{is-finite-weak-ranking } (\text{map } (\lambda x. \{x\}) \ xs) \longleftrightarrow \text{distinct } xs$
<proof>

lemma *of-weak-ranking-altdef'*:
assumes *is-weak-ranking xs*

shows $of_weak_ranking\ xs\ x\ y \longleftrightarrow x \in \bigcup (set\ xs) \wedge y \in \bigcup (set\ xs) \wedge$
 $find_index\ ((\in)\ x)\ xs \geq find_index\ ((\in)\ y)\ xs$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

1.2 Definition

A *ranking* is a representation of a linear order on a finite set as a list in descending order, starting with the biggest element. Clearly, this gives a bijection between the linear orders on a finite set and the permutations of that set.

inductive *of-ranking* :: 'alt list \Rightarrow 'alt relation **where**
 $i \leq j \implies i < length\ xs \implies j < length\ xs \implies xs\ !\ i \succeq [of_ranking\ xs]\ xs\ !\ j$

lemma *of-ranking-conv-of-weak-ranking*:
 $x \succeq [of_ranking\ xs]\ y \longleftrightarrow x \succeq [of_weak_ranking\ (map\ (\lambda x. \{x\})\ xs)]\ y$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-imp-in-set*:
assumes *of-ranking* $xs\ a\ b$
shows $a \in set\ xs\ b \in set\ xs$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-Nil [simp]*: *of-ranking* $[] = (\lambda - -. False)$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-Nil' [code]*: *of-ranking* $[]\ x\ y = False$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-Cons [code]*:
 $x \succeq [of_ranking\ (z\#\!xs)]\ y \longleftrightarrow x = z \wedge y \in set\ (z\#\!xs) \vee x \succeq [of_ranking\ xs]\ y$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-Cons'*:
assumes *distinct* $(x\#\!xs)\ a \in set\ (x\#\!xs)\ b \in set\ (x\#\!xs)$
shows *of-ranking* $(x\#\!xs)\ a\ b \longleftrightarrow b = x \vee (a \neq x \wedge of_ranking\ xs\ a\ b)$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-append*:
 $x \succeq [of_ranking\ (xs\ @\ ys)]\ y \longleftrightarrow x \in set\ xs \wedge y \in set\ ys \vee x \succeq [of_ranking\ xs]\ y \vee x \succeq [of_ranking\ ys]\ y$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-strongly-preferred-Cons-iff*:
assumes *distinct* $(x\ \#\ xs)$
shows $a \succ [of_ranking\ (x\ \#\ xs)]\ b \longleftrightarrow x = a \wedge b \in set\ xs \vee a \succ [of_ranking\ xs]\ b$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-strongly-preferred-append-iff*:
assumes *distinct* $(xs\ @\ ys)$
shows $a \succ [of_ranking\ (xs\ @\ ys)]\ b \longleftrightarrow$

$a \in \text{set } xs \wedge b \in \text{set } ys \vee a \succ[\text{of-ranking } xs] b \vee a \succ[\text{of-ranking } ys] b$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *not-strongly-preferred-of-ranking-iff*:

assumes $a \in \text{set } xs \ b \in \text{set } xs$

shows $\neg a \prec[\text{of-ranking } xs] b \longleftrightarrow a \succeq[\text{of-ranking } xs] b$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-refl*:

assumes $x \in \text{set } xs$

shows $x \preceq[\text{of-ranking } xs] x$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-altdef*:

assumes $\text{distinct } xs \ x \in \text{set } xs \ y \in \text{set } xs$

shows $\text{of-ranking } xs \ x \ y \longleftrightarrow \text{index } xs \ x \geq \text{index } xs \ y$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-altdef'*:

assumes $\text{distinct } xs$

shows $\text{of-ranking } xs \ x \ y \longleftrightarrow x \in \text{set } xs \wedge y \in \text{set } xs \wedge \text{index } xs \ x \geq \text{index } xs \ y$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-nth-iff*:

assumes $\text{distinct } xs \ i < \text{length } xs \ j < \text{length } xs$

shows $\text{of-ranking } xs \ (xs ! i) \ (xs ! j) \longleftrightarrow i \geq j$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *strongly-preferred-of-ranking-nth-iff*:

assumes $\text{distinct } xs \ i < \text{length } xs \ j < \text{length } xs$

shows $xs ! i \succ[\text{of-ranking } xs] xs ! j \longleftrightarrow i < j$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-total*: $x \in \text{set } xs \implies y \in \text{set } xs \implies \text{of-ranking } xs \ x \ y \vee \text{of-ranking } xs \ y \ x$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *of-ranking-antisym*:

$x \in \text{set } xs \implies y \in \text{set } xs \implies \text{of-ranking } xs \ x \ y \implies \text{of-ranking } xs \ y \ x \implies \text{distinct } xs \implies x =$

y

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *finite-linorder-of-ranking*:

assumes $\text{set } xs = A \ \text{distinct } xs$

shows $\text{finite-linorder-on } A \ (\text{of-ranking } xs)$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *linorder-of-ranking*:

assumes $\text{set } xs = A \ \text{distinct } xs$

shows *linorder-on A (of-ranking xs)*
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *total-preorder-of-ranking:*
assumes *set xs = A distinct xs*
shows *total-preorder-on A (of-ranking xs)*
 ⟨proof⟩

1.3 Transformations

lemma *map-relation-of-ranking:*
map-relation f (of-ranking xs) = of-weak-ranking (map (λx. f -' {x}) xs)
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *of-ranking-map:* *of-ranking (map f xs) = comap-relation f (of-ranking xs)*
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *of-ranking-permute':*
assumes *f permutes set xs*
shows *map-relation f (of-ranking xs) = of-ranking (map (inv f) xs)*
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *of-ranking-permute:*
assumes *f permutes set xs*
shows *of-ranking (map f xs) = map-relation (inv f) (of-ranking xs)*
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *of-ranking-rev [simp]:*
of-ranking (rev xs) x y ⟷ of-ranking xs y x
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *of-ranking-filter:*
of-ranking (filter P xs) = restrict-relation {x. P x} (of-ranking xs)
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *strongly-preferred-of-ranking-conv-index:*
assumes *distinct xs*
shows *x <[of-ranking xs] y ⟷ x ∈ set xs ∧ y ∈ set xs ∧ index xs x > index xs y*
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *restrict-relation-of-weak-ranking-Cons:*
assumes *distinct (x # xs)*
shows *restrict-relation (set xs) (of-ranking (x # xs)) = of-ranking xs*
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *of-ranking-zero-upt-nat:*
*of-ranking [0::nat..*n*] = (λx y. x ≥ y ∧ x < n)*
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *of-ranking-rev-zero-upt-nat*:

of-ranking (rev [0::nat..*n*]) = ($\lambda x y. x \leq y \wedge y < n$)
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *sorted-wrt-ranking: distinct xs \implies sorted-wrt (of-ranking xs) (rev xs)*

⟨proof⟩

1.4 Inverse operation and isomorphism

lemma (in *finite-linorder-on*) *of-ranking-ranking: of-ranking (ranking le) = le*

⟨proof⟩

lemma (in *finite-linorder-on*) *distinct-ranking: distinct (ranking le)*

⟨proof⟩

lemma *ranking-of-ranking*:

assumes *distinct xs*

shows *ranking (of-ranking xs) = xs*

⟨proof⟩

lemma (in *finite-linorder-on*) *set-ranking: set (ranking le) = carrier*

⟨proof⟩

lemma *bij-betw-permutations-of-set-finite-linorders-on*:

bij-betw of-ranking (permutations-of-set A) {R. finite-linorder-on A R}

⟨proof⟩

lemma *bij-betw-permutations-of-set-finite-linorders-on'*:

bij-betw ranking {R. finite-linorder-on A R} (permutations-of-set A)

⟨proof⟩

lemma *card-linorders-on*:

assumes *finite A*

shows *card {R. linorder-on A R} = fact (card A)*

⟨proof⟩

lemma *finite-linorders-on [intro]*:

assumes *finite A*

shows *finite {R. linorder-on A R}*

⟨proof⟩

end

1.5 Topological sorting

theory *Topological-Sortings-Rankings*

imports *Rankings*

begin

The following returns the set of all rankings of the given set *A* that are extensions of the

given relation R , i.e. all topological sortings of R .

Note that there are no requirements about R ; in particular it does not have to be reflexive, antisymmetric, or transitive. If it is not antisymmetric or not transitive, the result set will simply be empty.

function *topo-sorts* :: 'a set \Rightarrow 'a relation \Rightarrow 'a list set **where**

topo-sorts A R =
 (if infinite A then $\{\}$ else if $A = \{\}$ then $\{\{\}\}$ else
 $\bigcup_{x \in \{x \in A. \forall z \in A. R\ x\ z \longrightarrow z = x\}. (\lambda xs. x \# xs)}$ ' *topo-sorts* ($A - \{x\}$) ($\lambda y\ z. R\ y\ z \wedge y \neq x \wedge z \neq x$)
 <proof>

termination

<proof>

lemmas [*simp del*] = *topo-sorts.simps*

lemma *topo-sorts-empty* [*simp*]: *topo-sorts* $\{\}$ R = $\{\{\}\}$

<proof>

lemma *topo-sorts-infinite*: infinite $A \Longrightarrow$ *topo-sorts* A R = $\{\}$

<proof>

lemma *topo-sorts-rec*:

finite $A \Longrightarrow A \neq \{\} \Longrightarrow$
topo-sorts A R = $(\bigcup_{x \in \{x \in A. \forall z \in A. R\ x\ z \longrightarrow z = x\}. (\lambda xs. x \# xs)}$ ' *topo-sorts* ($A - \{x\}$) ($\lambda y\ z. R\ y\ z \wedge y \neq x \wedge z \neq x$)
 <proof>

lemma *topo-sorts-cong* [*cong*]:

assumes $A = B \wedge x\ y. x \in A \Longrightarrow y \in B \Longrightarrow x \neq y \Longrightarrow R\ x\ y = R'\ x\ y$
shows *topo-sorts* A R = *topo-sorts* B R'

<proof>

lemma *topo-sorts-correct*:

assumes $\bigwedge x\ y. R\ x\ y \Longrightarrow x \in A \wedge y \in A$
shows *topo-sorts* A R = $\{xs \in \text{permutations-of-set } A. R \leq \text{of-ranking } xs\}$
 <proof>

lemma *topo-sorts-nonempty*:

assumes finite $A \wedge x\ y. R\ x\ y \Longrightarrow x \in A \wedge y \in A \wedge x\ y. R\ x\ y \Longrightarrow \neg R\ y\ x \text{ transp } R$
shows *topo-sorts* A $R \neq \{\}$

<proof>

lemma *bij-betw-topo-sorts-linorders-on*:

assumes $\bigwedge x\ y. R\ x\ y \Longrightarrow x \in A \wedge y \in A$
shows *bij-betw of-ranking* (*topo-sorts* A R) $\{R'. \text{finite-linorder-on } A\ R' \wedge R \leq R'\}$

<proof>

In the following, we give a more convenient formulation of this for computation.

The input is a relation represented as a list of pairs (x, ys) where ys is the set of all elements such that (x, y) is in the relation.

function *topo-sorts-aux* :: ('a × 'a set) list ⇒ 'a list list **where**
topo-sorts-aux xs =
 (if xs = [] then [] else
 List.bind (map fst (filter (λ(-,ys). ys = {}) xs))
 (λx. map ((#) x) (topo-sorts-aux
 (map (map-prod id (Set.filter (λy. y ≠ x))) (filter (λ(y,-). y ≠ x) xs)))))
 ⟨proof⟩
termination
 ⟨proof⟩

lemmas [simp del] = topo-sorts-aux.simps

lemma *topo-sorts-aux-Nil* [simp]: *topo-sorts-aux* [] = []
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *topo-sorts-aux-rec*:
 xs ≠ [] ⇒ *topo-sorts-aux* xs =
 List.bind (map fst (filter (λ(-,ys). ys = {}) xs))
 (λx. map ((#) x) (topo-sorts-aux
 (map (map-prod id (Set.filter (λy. y ≠ x))) (filter (λ(y,-). y ≠ x) xs)))))
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *topo-sorts-aux-Cons*:
topo-sorts-aux (y#xs) =
 List.bind (map fst (filter (λ(-,ys). ys = {}) (y#xs)))
 (λx. map ((#) x) (topo-sorts-aux
 (map (map-prod id (Set.filter (λy. y ≠ x))) (filter (λ(y,-). y ≠ x) (y#xs)))))
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *set-topo-sorts-aux*:
assumes distinct (map fst xs)
assumes $\bigwedge x ys. (x, ys) \in \text{set } xs \Rightarrow ys \subseteq \text{set } (\text{map fst } xs) - \{x\}$
shows set (topo-sorts-aux xs) =
 topo-sorts (set (map fst xs)) (λx y. ∃ ys. (x, ys) ∈ set xs ∧ y ∈ ys)
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *topo-sorts-code* [code]:
 topo-sorts (set xs) R = (let xs' = remdups xs in
 set (topo-sorts-aux (map (λx. (x, set (filter (λy. y ≠ x ∧ R x y) xs')) xs')))
 ⟨proof⟩

end