Counting finite linearly ordered involutive bisemilattices

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Abstract. The class of involutive bisemilattices plays the role of the algebraic counterpart of paraconsistent weak Kleene logic. Involutive bisemilattices can be represented as *Plonka sums* of Boolean algebras, that is semilattice direct systems of Boolean algebras. In this paper we exploit the Plonka sum representation with the aim of counting, up to isomorphism, finite involutive bisemilattices whose direct system is given by totally ordered semilattices.

Keywords: Finite Involutive Bisemilattices \cdot Weak Kleene Logic \cdot Płonka sums.

1 Introduction

The class of involutive bisemilattices plays the role of the algebraic counterpart among one of the three-valued logics introduced by Kleene in [22], namely paraconsistent weak Kleene logic – PWK for short. PWK, essentially introduced by Halldén [16], can be defined as the logic induced by a matrix given by the weak Kleene tables with $\{1, n\}$ as truth set:

| \wedge | $0 \ n \ 1$ | V | $0 \ n \ 1$ | - | 7 | |
|----------|-------------|---|-------------|---|-----|----|
| 0 | $0 \ n \ 0$ | 0 | $0 \ n \ 1$ | | 0 |) |
| n | $n \ n \ n$ | n | $n \ n \ n$ | 1 | ı n | ļ, |
| 1 | $0 \ n \ 1$ | 1 | $1 \ n \ 1$ | (|) 1 | |

Equivalently (see [13,8]), PWK can be obtained out of (propositional) classical logic (CL) imposing the following syntactical restriction:

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathrm{PWK}} \varphi \iff$$
 there is $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$ s.t. $Var(\Delta) \subseteq Var(\varphi)$ and $\Delta \vdash_{\mathrm{CL}} \varphi$,

where $Var(\varphi)$ is the set of variables really occurring in φ .

Involutive bisemilattices consist of a *regular* variety, namely one satisfying identities of the form $\varepsilon \approx \tau$, where $Var(\varepsilon) = Var(\tau)$. More precisely, involutive bisemilattices satisfy only the regular identities holding in Boolean algebras. Due to the general theory of regular varieties, which traces back to the pioneering work of Płonka [26], involutive bisemilattices can be represented as *Plonka sums* of Boolean algebras, that is, a sum over semilattice direct systems of Boolean algebras. Over the years, Płonka sums and (some) regular varieties have been studied in depth both from a purely algebraic perspective [3,21,17,18] and in connection with their topological duals [31,32,6]. The machinery of Płonka sums has also found useful applications in the study of the constraint satisfaction problem [4] and in database semantics [23,29]. Recently, thanks to the extension of this formalism to logical matrices [10,11], Płonka sums have turned out to play a useful role in the investigation of logics featuring the presence of a non-sensical, infectious truth-value. This family of logics – including PWK and Bochvar logic [5] – provides valuable formal instruments to model computerprograms affected by errors [14]. In this paper we exploit the Płonka sum representation for the purpose of counting the finite members of a specific subclass of involutive bisemilattices, whose representation consists of a linearly ordered semilattice. In particular, we provide an algorithm offering a solution to the fine spectrum problem [34] for the class of linearly ordered involutive bisemilattices. In order to achieve this goal, we use the categorical apparatus developed in [9]. We believe that the application of the above-mentioned algebraic methods allows us to develop algorithms that are more efficient than "brute-force" procedures. This is confirmed by the computational experiments. In particular, a comparison between the efficiency of the algorithm introduced in this paper and of Mace4 is briefly discussed in Section 5.

2 Preliminaries

A semilattice is an algebra $\mathbf{A} = \langle A, \lor \rangle$, where \lor is a binary commutative, associative and idempotent operation. Given a semilattice \mathbf{A} and $a, b \in A$, we set $a \leq b \iff a \lor b = b$. It is easy to see that \leq is a partial order on A.

We briefly recall the category of semilattice direct systems, introduced in [9,6]. Intuitively, they consists of a specialization of direct (and inverse) systems of an arbitrary category, obtained by assuming the index set to be a semilattice instead of a (directed) pre-ordered set. For any unexplained notion in category theory, the reader is referred to [24].

Definition 1. Let \mathfrak{C} be an arbitrary category. A semilattice direct system in \mathfrak{C} is a triple $\mathbb{X} = \langle X_i, p_{ii'}, I \rangle$ such that

- 1. I is a semilattice.
- 2. $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$ forms an indexed family of objects in \mathfrak{C} with disjoint universes;
- 3. $p_{ii'}: X_i \to X_{i'}$ is a morphism of \mathfrak{C} , for each pair $i \leq i'$ $(i, i' \in I)$, satisfying that p_{ii} is the identity in X_i and such that $i \leq i' \leq i''$ implies $p_{i'i''} \circ p_{ii'} = p_{ii''}$.

We refer to I, X_i and $p_{ii'}$ as the index set, the terms and the transition morphisms, respectively, of the (semilattice direct) system.

A morphism between two semilattice direct systems $\mathbb{X} = \langle X_i, p_{ii'}, I \rangle$ and $\mathbb{Y} = \langle Y_j, p_{jj'}, J \rangle$ is a pair $(\varphi, \{f_i\}_{i \in I}) : \mathbb{X} \to \mathbb{Y}$ such that

- i) $\varphi \colon I \to J$ is a semilattice homomorphism
- ii) $f_i: X_i \to Y_{\varphi(i)}$ is a morphism in \mathfrak{C} , making the following diagram commutative, for each $i, i' \in I, i \leq i'$.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} X_i & \xrightarrow{p_{ii'}} & X_{i'} \\ f_i & & & \downarrow f_{i'} \\ Y_{\varphi(i)} & \xrightarrow{q_{\varphi i \varphi i'}} & Y_{\varphi(i')} \end{array}$$

It is easy to check that the semilattice direct systems of a category \mathfrak{C} form a category, which we denote by Sem-dir- \mathfrak{C} . Semilattice *inverse* systems of an arbitrary category are obtained analogously, by, intuitively, reversing the directions of transition morphisms (see [9] for precise details). Moreover, provided that two categories \mathfrak{C} and \mathfrak{D} are dually equivalent, the duality can be lifted to Sem-dir- \mathfrak{C} and Sem-inv- \mathfrak{D} (see [9, Remark 3.6]). The class of *involutive bisemilattices* has been introduced in [8] as the most suitable candidate to be the algebraic counterpart of the logic PWK.

Definition 2. An *involutive bisemilattice* is an algebra $\mathbf{B} = \langle B, \lor, \land, \neg, 0, 1 \rangle$ of type (2, 2, 1, 0, 0) satisfying:

| I1 . $x \lor x \approx x;$ | I5 . $x \wedge y \approx \neg(\neg x \vee \neg y);$ |
|--|--|
| I2 . $x \lor y \approx y \lor x;$ | I6 . $x \land (\neg x \lor y) \approx x \land y;$ |
| I3 . $x \lor (y \lor z) \approx (x \lor y) \lor z;$ | I7 . $0 \lor x \approx x;$ |
| I4 . $\neg(\neg x) \approx x;$ | I8 . $1 \approx \neg 0$. |

Involutive bisemilattices form an equational class denoted by \mathcal{IBSL} . Examples of involutive bisemilattices include any Boolean algebra, as well as any semilattice with zero. In the latter case, the two binary operations coincide and the unary operation is the identity. The variety \mathcal{IBSL} is the *regularization*⁴ of the variety \mathcal{BA} , of Boolean algebras (see [27,8]), i.e. $\mathcal{IBSL} \models \varepsilon \approx \tau$ if and only if $\mathcal{BA} \models \varepsilon \approx \tau$ and $Var(\varphi) = Var(\tau)$. Involutive bisemilattices can be connected to semilattice direct systems, in a way that we sketch. It is always possible to construct an algebra out of a semilattice direct system in an algebraic category. The construction we have in mind is called *Plonka sum* and is due to J. Plonka [26]. For standard information on Plonka sums we refer the reader to [28].

Definition 3. Let $\mathbb{A} = \langle \mathbf{A}_i, p_{ii'}, I \rangle$ be a semilattice direct system of algebras of a fixed type ν . The Plonka sum over \mathbb{A} is the algebra $\mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{A}) = \langle \bigsqcup_I A_i, g^{\mathcal{P}} \rangle$, whose universe is the disjoint union of the algebras \mathbf{A}_i and the operations $g^{\mathcal{P}}$ are

 $^{^{4}}$ For the theory of regular varieties and regularizations we refer the reader to [28].

defined as follows: for every n-ary $g \in \nu$, and $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in \bigsqcup_I A_i$, where $n \ge 1$ and $a_r \in A_{i_r}$, we set $j = i_1 \lor \cdots \lor i_n$ and define⁵

$$g^{\mathcal{P}}(a_1,\ldots,a_n) = g^{\mathbf{A}_j}(p_{i_1j}(a_1),\ldots,p_{i_nj}(a_n)).$$

Płonka sums provide a useful tool to represent algebras belonging to regular varieties. We recall here the representation theorem for involutive bisemilattices.

Involutive bisemilattices, as well as bisemilattices admit a representation as Płonka sums over a semilattice system of Boolean algebras. From [8, Thm. 46] we know that, if \mathbb{A} is a semilattice direct system of Boolean algebras, then $\mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{A})$ is an involutive bisemilattice, and if **B** is an involutive bisemilattice, then $\mathbf{B} \cong \mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{A})$, where \mathbb{A} is a semilattice direct system of Boolean algebras. The above facts can be strengthened to a full categorical equivalence.

Theorem 4 ([9, Thm. 4.5]). The categories IBEL and Sem-dir-BA are equivalent.

The equivalence is proved by the functors associating to each involutive bisemilattice the semilattice direct system of Boolean algebras corresponding to its Płonka sum representation. Conversely, to each semilattice direct system (of Boolean algebras), it is associated the Płonka sum. Upon considering Stone duality [33] between Boolean algebras and Stone spaces, \mathfrak{SA} for short, namely compact totally disconnected Hausdorff topological spaces (see e.g. [20]), we have that

Theorem 5 ([9, Thm. 4.6]). The categories IBSL and Sem-inv-SA are dually equivalent.

For the purpose of the present work, we restrict Stone duality to the finite setting, which reduces to the well-known duality between the category of finite Boolean algebras and their homomorphisms \mathfrak{FBA} , and the category of finite sets and set-functions \mathfrak{FS} . The functor implementing such duality maps any Boolean algebra **A** to the set \widehat{A} given by the atoms of **A**. Thanks to the previous considerations, the problem of counting finite involutive bisemilattices coincides with counting semilattice direct systems (with finite index set) of finite Boolean algebras.

3 Linearly ordered \mathcal{IBSL}

We confine our concern to a specific class of involutive bisemilattices, namely those ones whose corresponding direct system has a linearly ordered index set. We call this class *linearly ordered* involutive bisemilattices, $\mathcal{L-IBSL}$ for short.

 $^{^5}$ In case ν contains constants, then, it is necessary to assume that I has a least element, see [27] for details.

Remark 6. The class \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} is closed under subalgebras and homomorphic images but not under products. Closure under subalgebras is obvious. For homomorphic images, it is enough to observe that any homomorphism between elements in \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} corresponds to a morphism between the equivalent semilattice direct systems, which, restricted to the index sets, is a homomorphism of semilattices. Moreover, any homomorphic image of a totally ordered semilattice is totally ordered. As regards products, it is clear that the product of (semilattice direct) systems whose index set is linearly order may, in general, be a system whose index set is not linearly ordered.

In the following part, we provide a first-order characterization of the class \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} . Recall from [8] that, given an *involutive bisemilattice* **B**, an element $a \in B$ is called *positive* if $a \vee \neg a = a$. We denote by $P(\mathbf{B})$ the set of positive elements of **B**.

Remark 7. The set $P(\mathbf{B})$ of positive elements of an involutive bisemilattice \mathbf{B} coincides with the set of the constants 1 of each Boolean algebra in the Płonka decomposition of \mathbf{B} . In other words, $\mathbf{B} \cong \mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{A})$, with $\mathbb{A} = \langle \mathbf{A}_i, p_{ii'}, I \rangle$ a semilattice direct system of Boolean algebras, then $P(\mathbf{B}) = \bigcup_{i \in I} \{1_i\}$, where 1_i denotes the element 1 in the Boolean algebra A_i . Checking that 1_i is positive for each $i \in I$ is immediate. On the other hand, suppose that $a \in P(\mathbf{B})$, i.e. $a \vee \neg a = a$. Clearly, $a \in A_i$, for some $i \in I$, hence $\neg a \in A_i$. Therefore $a = a \vee^{\mathcal{P}_l} \neg a = a \vee^{\mathbf{A}_i} \neg a = 1_i$.

In the following result, we refer (with a slight abuse of notation) to the semilattice of indexes of a Płonka sum as $\langle I, \leq \rangle$ and to the semilattice formed by the positive elements of an involutive bisemilattice with respect to the reducts $\land (\lor, \text{ respectively})$ as $\langle P(\mathbf{B}), \land \rangle$ ($\langle P(\mathbf{B}), \lor \rangle$, respectively).

Proposition 8. Let $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{IBSL}$ and let $P(\mathbf{B})$ be the set of positive elements. Then

1. $\langle P(\mathbf{B}), \wedge \rangle \cong \langle P(\mathbf{B}), \vee \rangle;$ 2. $\langle P(\mathbf{B}), \vee \rangle \cong \langle I, \leq \rangle.$

- *Proof.* 1. The isomorphism is given by the identity map. We just check that, for any $a, b \in P(\mathbf{B}), a \wedge b = a \vee b$. In virtue of Remark 7, we can assume that $a = 1_i$ and $b = 1_j$, for some $i, j \in I$. Let $k = i \vee j$, then: $a \wedge b = 1_i \wedge^{\mathcal{P}_l} 1_j =$ $p_{ik}(1_i) \wedge^{\mathbf{A}_k} p_{jk}(1_j) = 1_k \wedge^{\mathbf{A}_k} 1_k = 1_k = 1_k \vee^{\mathbf{A}_k} 1_k = p_{ik}(1_i) \vee_{\mathbf{A}_k} p_{jk}(1_j) =$ $1_i \vee^{\mathcal{P}_l} 1_j = a \vee b$.
- 2. We again assume the identification highlighted in Remark 7. Consider the map $f: I \to P(\mathbf{B})$, defined as $f(i) \coloneqq 1_i$. The map is invertible (with inverse $g: P(\mathbf{B}) \to I, g(1_i) = i$). Moreover, we check that f is a homomorphism (of semilattices). Let $i, j \in I$ and $i \lor j = k$. Then $f(i \lor j) = f(k) = 1_k = 1_k \lor 1_k = p_{ik}(1_i) \lor p_{jk}(1_j) = 1_i \lor 1_j = f(i) \lor f(j)$.

The above results shows that any consideration about the index set of the Płonka sum representation of an involutive bisemilattice can be expressed over the (partially ordered) set of its positive elements. This turns out to be convenient since the subset of positive elements is equationally definable. Observe, moreover that the two partial orders induced by the binary operations of an involutive bisemilattice (see [8] for details) coincide over the set of positive elements.

Corollary 9. Let $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{IBSL}$ and $\langle P(\mathbf{B}), \leq \rangle$ the poset of its positive elements. The following are equivalent:

1. $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{L}\text{-}\mathcal{IBSL}$; 2. either $x \leq y$ or $y \leq x$, for any $x, y \in P(\mathbf{B})$.

We provide a useful criteria to detect isomorphic copies of linearly ordered involutive bisemilattices.

Lemma 10. Let $\mathbb{A} = \langle \mathbf{A}_i, p_{ii'}, I \rangle$ and $\mathbb{B} = \langle \mathbf{B}_i, q_{ii'}, I \rangle$ be two finite semilattice direct systems of Boolean algebras, with I linearly ordered and containing no trivial algebras. Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- 1. $\mathbb{A} \cong \mathbb{B}$
- 2. $\mathbf{A}_i \cong \mathbf{B}_i$, for every $i \in I$, and $|\widehat{A}_{i'}/ker(\widehat{p}_{ii'})| = |\widehat{B}_{i'}/ker(\widehat{q}_{ii'})|$, for every i < i'.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) Assume that $\mathbb{A} \cong \mathbb{B}$ via an isomorphism (φ , f_i), for each $i \in I$. Since \mathbb{A} and \mathbb{B} share the same, linearly ordered, index set I, we necessarily have that $\varphi = id$. Moreover, for each $i \in I$, $\mathbf{A}_i \cong \mathbf{B}_i$ via the Boolean isomorphism f_i , and the following diagram on the left (we deliberately drop indexes from p and q to make notation less cumbersome) is commutative, for each i < i', and in virtue of the duality established in Theorem 5 and the definition of inverse systems, the following diagram on the right is also commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{A}_{i} \xrightarrow{p} \mathbf{A}_{i'} & \widehat{A}_{i} \xleftarrow{\widehat{p}} \widehat{A}_{i'} \\ f_{i} \bigvee & & & & & \\ \mathbf{B}_{i} \xrightarrow{q} \mathbf{B}'_{i} & & & & & \\ \end{array}$$

By the first isomorphism theorem (for sets), we have that there exist two (unique) embeddings $\psi: \hat{A}_{i'}/ker(\hat{p}) \to \hat{A}_i$ and $\chi: \hat{B}_{i'}/ker(\hat{q}) \to \hat{B}_i$ such that $\hat{p} = \psi \circ \pi_{\hat{A}_{i'}}$ and $\hat{q} = \chi \circ \pi_{\hat{B}_{i'}}$, where $\pi_{\hat{A}_{i'}}$ and $\pi_{\hat{B}_{i'}}$ indicate the natural projections onto the quotients $\hat{A}_{i'}/ker(\hat{p})$, $\hat{B}_{i'}/ker(\hat{q})$, respectively. The above diagram can therefore be split into the following:



6

We define the map $\Phi: \widehat{A}_{i'}/ker(\widehat{p}) \to \widehat{B}_{i'}/ker(\widehat{q})$ as $\Phi([a]_p) \coloneqq [\widehat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(a)]_q$.

We claim that Φ is a bijection and this would conclude this part of the proof. In order to show the claim, let $[b] \in \hat{B}_{i'}/\ker(q)$, then $[b] = \pi_{\hat{B}_{i'}}(b)$, for some $b \in \hat{B}_{i'}$. By surjectivity of $\hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}$, there exists an element $a \in \hat{A}_{i'}$ such that $b = \hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(a)$. Therefore $[b]_q = [\hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(a)]_q = \Phi([a]_p)$, i.e. Φ is surjective. To show that Φ is also injective, assume $[a]_p \neq [b]_p$, i. e. $a \neq b$, with $a, b \in \hat{A}_{i'}$. Suppose, in view of a contradiction, that $\Phi([a]_p) = \Phi([b]_p)$, i. e. $[\hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(a)]_q = [\hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(b)]_q$. By assumption and the fact that ψ is an embedding, we have that $\psi \circ \pi_{\hat{A}_{i'}}(a) \neq \psi \circ \pi_{\hat{A}_{i'}}(b)$, i.e. $p(a) \neq p(b)$, whence $\hat{f}_i^{-1} \circ p(a) \neq \hat{f}_i^{-1} \circ p(b)$, since \hat{f}_i^{-1} is a bijection. On the other hand, $q \circ \hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(a) = \chi \circ \pi_{\hat{B}_{i'}} \circ \hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(a) = \chi \circ \pi_{\hat{B}_{i'}} \circ \hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(b) = q \circ \hat{f}_{i'}^{-1}(b)$, which is in contradiction with the commutativity of the above diagram. This shows our claim.

(\Leftarrow) Assume that $\mathbf{A}_i \cong \mathbf{B}_i$, by the family of isomorphisms $f_i \colon \mathbf{A}_i \to \mathbf{B}_i$, for each $i \in I$, and that there exists a bijection $\Phi \colon \widehat{A}_{i'}/ker(\widehat{p}) \to \widehat{B}_{i'}/ker(\widehat{q})$. Then, it is easy to check that (id, f_i) gives the desired isomorphism.

Example 11. The two linearly ordered involutive bisemilattices in the following picture (lines indicate orders in the Boolean components, dashed lines indicate Boolean homomorphisms) are isomorphic (this is an consequence of Lemma 10).



In order to exhibit a concrete isomorphism, observe that the two algebras are constructed using the very same index set (the two element lattice). An isomorphism is given by considering the identity map *id* on the lattice of indexes, the unique isomorphism on the two elements Boolean algebras and the Boolean isomorphism given by $\varphi(a) = \neg b$ (and $\varphi(\neg a) = b$) between the 4-elements Boolean algebras.

The graphical convention adopted in the above example (dotted lines for homomorphisms between algebras in the Plonka sum, black lines for the usual order relation in a Boolean algebra) will be used throughout the paper.

Remark 12. Notice that the non-triviality assumption in Lemma 10 is crucial as witnessed by the following example, where we consider the two semilattice direct systems $\langle \{\mathbf{A}_0, \mathbf{1}_1, \mathbf{1}_2\}, p_{ii'}, \{0, 1, 2\} \rangle$ and $\langle \{\mathbf{A}_0, \mathbf{1}_1, \mathbf{1}_2\}, q_{ii'}, \{0, 1, 2\} \rangle$.



The map Φ depicted between the two systems is not an isomorphism (as it is clearly not an isomorphism on the index set), however $1_2/ker(\hat{p}_{12}) = 1_2 = 1_2/ker(\hat{q}_{12})$.

We denote by $\mathbb{A}_{p_{i-1,i}}$ the family $\{\langle \mathbf{A}_i, p_{i-1,i}, I \rangle\}_{i \in I}$ of all finite semilattice direct systems of Boolean algebras obtainable from the family of algebras $\{\mathbf{A}_i\}_{i \in I}$, indexed over the linearly ordered index set I. When clear from the context, we will write \mathbb{A}_p instead of $\mathbb{A}_{p_{i-1,i}}$.

We are interested in the following question: what is the number of nonisomorphic elements in the family \mathbb{A}_p ? This, in turn, will provide an answer to the question about how many linearly ordered involutive bisemilattices have the cardinality $\bigcup_{i \in I} |A_i|$, up to isomorphism.

In the light of Theorem 5 and Lemma 10, the answer to is provided by considering the dual semilattice inverse systems $\widehat{A}_{\hat{p}}$.

Lemma 13. Let $\mathbb{A}_{p_{01}} = \langle \{\mathbf{A}_0, \mathbf{A}_1\}, p, \{0 < 1\} \rangle$ be a family of linearly ordered semilattice direct system of Boolean algebras. The number of non-isomorphic involutive bisemilattices obtained over $\mathbb{A}_{p_{01}}$ is the number of non-isomorphic involutive bisemilattices of cardinality $|A_0| + |A_1|$ and is equal to

$$N(\mathbb{A}_{p_{01}}) \coloneqq N(A_0, A_1) = \min(\mid A_0 \mid, \mid A_1 \mid),$$

where \widehat{A}_0 (\widehat{A}_1 , resp.) is the dual space of \mathbf{A}_0 (\mathbf{A}_1 , resp.)

Proof. At first observe that two elements in the family $\mathbb{A}_{p_{01}}$ differ only for the Boolean homomorphism from \mathbf{A}_0 to \mathbf{A}_1 . Therefore, by Lemma 10, two involutive bisemilattices constructed over the system $\mathbb{A}_{p_{01}}$ are not isomorphic if and only if $|\hat{A}_1/\ker(\hat{p})| \neq |\hat{A}_0/\ker(\hat{q})|$ (where p and q are the Boolean homomorphisms). In other words, this means that the kernels of \hat{p} and \hat{q} generate two partitions, over $|\hat{A}_1|$, with a different number of equivalence classes. It is known that the number of equivalence classes partitioning a finite algebra \mathbf{A} into a different number of blocks is equal to |A|. Therefore, if $|A_1| \leq |A_0|$ then $N(A_0, A_1) = |\hat{A}_1|$. Differently, since we only consider (the number of) partitions induced by (kernels of) maps from $|\hat{A}_1|$ to $|\hat{A}_0|$, we have that $N(A_0, A_1) = |\hat{A}_0|$. \Box

Remark 14. It is easily checked that the function $N(\mathbb{A}_{p_{01}})$, counting the number of involutive bisemilattices obtained over $\mathbb{A}_{p_{01}}$, can be generalized to the family $\mathbb{A}_{p_{0m}}$ of semilattice direct systems of Boolean algebras $\langle \{A_0, \ldots, A_m\}, p_{i-1,i}, I \rangle$. More precisely,

$$N(\mathbb{A}_{p_{0m}}) = N(\mathbb{A}_{p_{01}}) \cdot N(\mathbb{A}_{p_{12}}) \cdot \dots \cdot N(\mathbb{A}_{p_{m-1m}}) = \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} N(\mathbb{A}_{p_{ii+1}}).$$



Fig. 1. The linearly ordered non-isomorphic IBSLs of cardinality 6.

4 Generating and counting \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL}

The previous section provides sufficient and necessary conditions in order to identify the non-isomorphic \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} obtained over direct systems sharing both the index set and the family of Boolean algebras. In general, the elements of such a family of direct systems \mathbb{A}_p differ at most with respect to the definition of their homomorphisms. It is easy to check that, given $\mathbb{X} = \langle \mathbf{A}_i, p_{ii'}, I \rangle$ and $\mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{X}) \in \mathcal{L}$ - \mathcal{IBSL} , we can always single out the family of direct systems $\mathbb{A}_p = \{\langle \mathbf{A}_i, p_{i-1,i}, I \rangle\}$. As this fact is central in the rest of the paper, we introduce the following definition

Definition 15. Let $\mathbb{X} = \langle \mathbf{A}_i, p_{ii'}, I \rangle$ be a semilattice direct system of Boolean algebras and $\mathbf{B} \cong \mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{X}) \in \mathcal{L}\text{-}\mathcal{IBSL}$. We define the shape of \mathbf{B} as $\mathbb{X}_{\mathbf{B}} = \langle \mathbf{A}_i, I \rangle$.

Clearly, two \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} , $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{X})$, $\mathbf{B} \cong \mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{Y})$ have the same shape if and only if the semilattice direct systems \mathbb{X} and \mathbb{Y} differ at most with respect to their homomorphisms, i.e. they belong to the same family \mathbb{A}_p . So, with this terminology at hand, Lemma 13 and Remark 14 tell us the number of nonisomorphic \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} of a fixed shape. Moreover, as a consequence of Lemma 10, two \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} with different shapes are non-isomorphic.

Therefore, in order to answer our question concerning the number of finite algebras in \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} it only remains to count, for a given $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the number of shapes that an \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} of order n can have. The present section is devoted to this issue.

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$, and $e, m_i \in \mathbb{N}$ for $0 \leq i \leq e$. A binary partition of n is a decomposition of n into powers of two, that is

$$n = m_e \cdot 2^e + m_{e-1} \cdot 2^{e-1} + \dots + m_0 \cdot 2^0.$$
⁽¹⁾

Hence, the number b(n) of binary partitions⁶ of n is the number of solutions of (1). In general, binary partitions which differs by the orders of summands are considered identical.

Knowing that each finite linearly ordered \mathcal{IBSL} **B** can be decomposed as a Plonka sum of Boolean algebras \mathbf{A}_i whose direct system is indexed by a totally ordered set I, it follows that the cardinality n of **B** is always given by a solution of a binary partition (1) where $2^i = |\mathbf{A}_i|$ and $|I| = \sum_{i=0}^{e} m_i$.

The fact that binary partitions cannot differ only for the order of summands, together with (iii) in Definition 1 and Remark 14, implies that b(n) cannot account for the number of shapes that an \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} of order n can assume. Indeed, given a certain shape $\langle \mathbf{A}_i, I \rangle$ of $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{L}$ - \mathcal{IBSL} , every permutation ϕ over I that moves at least two indexes i, j such that $|\mathbf{A}_i| \neq 1, |\mathbf{A}_j| \neq 1$ defines a new shape $\langle \mathbf{A}_i, \phi(I) \rangle$. Notice that the condition about $|\mathbf{A}_i| \neq 1, |\mathbf{A}_j| \neq 1$ is justified by the fact that for any non-trivial Boolean algebra \mathbf{A} there are no homomorphisms from a trivial Boolean algebra to \mathbf{A} . Hence, we can remove from the permutations $\phi(I)$ of I all the algebras whose cardinality is 2⁰. The number of such algebras is expressed in (1) as m_0 . Now, looking at $\langle \mathbf{A}_i, I \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbf{A}_i, \phi(I) \rangle$ as binary partitions, it is immediate to observe that they only differ for the order of summands.

Define $I^+ = I \setminus \{0\}$. For these reasons, we have to consider the *permutations* with repetitions of $|I| - m_0 = \sum_{i \in I^+} m_i$, knowing that each \mathbf{A}_i is repeated m_i times. The number of such permutations is given by the *multinomial coefficient* [15]

$$pr(|I| - m_0) = \binom{|I| - m_0}{\{m_i\}_{i \in I^+}} = \frac{(\sum_{i \in I^+} m_i)!}{\prod_{i \in I^+} m_i!},$$
(2)

We now start by introducing a routine procedure that generates all the binary partitions of n in a form that makes the ensuing computations easy to handle.

Definition 16. A sequence is a list of pairs of the form $s = (m_{e_1}, 2^{e_1}) \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow (m_{e_p}, 2^{e_p})$. We define its presentation as

$$P(s) = (2_1^{e_1} \to \dots \to 2_{m_{e_1}}^{e_1}) \to \dots \to (2_1^{e_p} \to \dots \to 2_{m_{e_p}}^{e_p}).$$

Given a set S of sequences, we denote by P(S) the set of the presentations of sequences in S, that is $P(S) = \{P(s) \mid s \in S\}.$

Definition 17. Given a natural number $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ we define

$$L(n) = \{ (m_{e_1}, 2^{e_1}) \to (m_{e_2}, 2^{e_2}) \to \dots \to (m_{e_k}, 2^{e_k}) \mid n = \sum_{i=1}^k (m_{e_i} \cdot 2^{e_i}) \},\$$

10

⁶ See sequence http://oeis.org/A018819 at The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences, published electronically at https://oeis.org.

such that $e^1 > e^2 > \cdots > e^k$, that is the set of sequences that give all decompositions of n into powers of two, such as in (1).

For any sequence $l(n) \in L(n)$, define $F(l(n)) = \{m_{e_i} \mid (m_{e_i}, 2^{e_i}) \in l(n)\}$ as the set of the multiplicities in l(n), and $F^+(l(n)) = \{m_{e_i} \in F(l(n)) \mid e_i \neq 0\}$ as the subset of F(l(n)) given by the positive multiplicities in l(n).

Observe that the above definition of multiplicity and positive multiplicity in l(n) can be equally defined by looking at the presentation P(l(n)). Moreover, given a sequence $l(n) = (m_{e_1}, 2^{e_1}) \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow (m_{e_p}, 2^{e_p})$ with positive factors m_{e_1}, \dots, m_{e_z} , we denote by $P^+(l(n))$ the presentation of the sequence $(m_{e_1}, 2^{e_1}) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow (m_{e_z}, 2^{e_z})$.

Definition 18. Let $n, n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $E(n) = \{2^e, \ldots, 2^0\}$ the set of powers of two such that $2^i \leq \log_2 n$, for any $i = 0, \ldots, e$. The map $d: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to E(n)$ defined as

$$d(n_1, n_2) \coloneqq \begin{cases} max\{m \in E(n) : m < n_1, n_2\} & \text{if } n_1, n_2 \notin \{0, 1\} \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

is called the division map of (n_1, n_2) with respect to n.

By a forest we mean a disjoint union \sqcup of trees.

Given two sequences $l(n) = (m_{e_1}, 2^{e_1}) \to \cdots \to (m_{e_k}, 2^{e_k}), l'(n) = (m_{f_1}, 2^{f_1}) \to \cdots \to (m_{f_h}, 2^{f_h})$ in L(n), we say that they share a *common prefix* when for some $i \leq \min(k, h)$, we have $e_j = f_j$, for $1 \leq j \leq i$. We write $l(n) = P \to s$ and $l'(n) = P \to s'$ to denote the fact that P is the common prefix of l(n) and l'(n).

Given a set of sequences S, we construct a forest $\Gamma(S)$ in the following way. Let l and l' be two chains in S, such that P is their longest common prefix, that is $l = P \to s$ and $l' = P \to s'$. Then, the tree $P \to (s \sqcup s')$ belongs to $\Gamma(S)$. For each sequence s in S there is a unique branch of $\Gamma(S)$ that is a unique copy of s, and every branch of $\Gamma(S)$ is a copy of a unique chain in S.

The pseudocode in Algorithm 1 introduces a couple of functions that, for any given $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$, produce the set $\Gamma(L(n))$, that is the set of trees whose branches are binary partitions of n expressed as sequences of Definition 17. Notice that, to better follow the construction of sequences of $\Gamma(L(n))$, in the pseudocode of Algorithm 1 we repeatedly use expressions like 2^e . Obviously, a real-world implementation of the algorithm does not need such a level of detail, and exponents e can be used instead.

Theorem 19. $\Gamma(L(n)) = \text{GenForest}(n)$.

Proof. \supseteq . This inclusion follows by direct inspection.

 \subseteq . We prove this inclusion by an induction on n.

(B). n = 1. If n = 1 then $\Gamma(l(n)) = \{(1, 2^0)\}$. As $E(1) = \{2^0\}$ by Line 6 the algorithm calculates GENSEQ $(1, 2^0)$ which by Line 13 has as output exactly the sequence $\{(1, 2^0)\}$.

(IND). Assume the statement holds for any $\{1, \ldots, n\}$ and consider a sequence $l(n+1) = (m_1, 2^{e_1}) \rightarrow \ldots \rightarrow (m_p, 2^{e_p}) \in \Gamma(l(n+1))$. Clearly $2^{e_1} \in$

Algorithm 1

1: function GENFOREST(n) $e = \lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor$ $E = \{2^e, 2^{e-1}, \dots, 2^0\}$ 2: 3: 4: F empty list of trees for each 2^e in E do 5: $T_e = \text{GENSEQ}(n, 2^e)$ 6: $\triangleright T_e$ is a list of trees. add T_e to F7:end for 8: return F9: 10: end function 11: function $GenSeq(n,2^e)$ if e == 0 then 12:**return** a tree with root $(n, 2^0)$ 13:14:end if 15: $q = n/2^e$ 16:if q > 1 then for each $i \in \{1, \ldots, q\}$ do 17:create a tree P_i with root $(i, 2^e)$ 18: $m=n-i\cdot 2^e$ 19:if m > 0 then 20:if $m = 2^x$ and x < e then 21: 22: $d_i = m$ 23:else $\triangleright~d$ refers to the division map of Definition 18 24: $d_i = d(m, 2^e)$ 25:end if for each 2^{j} in $\{2^{0}, \ldots, d_{i}\}$ do 26: $T = \text{GENSEQ}(n - i \cdot 2^e, 2^j)$ $\triangleright T$ is a list of trees. 27:28:for every $t \in T$, add t as a child of P_i 29:end for end if 30: 31: end for end if 32: if q == 1 then 33: create a tree P_i with root $(1, 2^e)$ 34: $r=n \ \mathbf{mod} \ 2^e$ 35: 36: if r > 0 then 37: $T = \text{GenForest}(\mathbf{r})$ $\triangleright T$ is a list of trees. 38: for every $t \in T$, add t as a child of P_i 39: end if end if 40: 41: return P_i 42: end function

13

E(n+1), then in GENSEQ $(n+1, 2^{e_1})$ at Lines 15 we obtain $(n+1)/2^{e_1} = q$. We have two cases (a) $m_1 = 1$ or (b) $m_1 \ge 1$. In the first case (a), Lines 17-18 entails that $(1, 2^{e_1})$ is generated as root of the sequence in case q > 1. Similarly, when q = 1, Lines 34-35 generate $(1, 2^{e_1})$ as a root of the sequence. For the second case (b), we have $m_1 \in \{1, ..., q\}$ and by Line 18 the algorithm gives $(m_1, 2^{e_1})$ as a root of the sequence.

Now, clearly $l(n+1) \smallsetminus (m_1, 2^{e_1}) \in \Gamma(l((n+1) - m_1 \cdot 2^{e_1}))$, i.e. $l(n+1) \searrow (m_1, 2^{e_1})$ is a sequence for $(n+1) - m_1 \cdot 2^{e_1}$. By induction hypothesis $l(n+1) \searrow (m_1, 2^{e_1}) \in \text{GENFOREST}((n+1) - m_1 \cdot 2^{e_1})$. To complete the proof we have to show that the second pair $(m_2, 2^{e_2})$ in l(n+1) is generated as child of the root $(m_1, 2^{e_1})$ is some branch. In order to simplify the notation we fix $k = (n+1) - m_1 \cdot 2^{e_1}$.

We distinguish two cases:

(1). $m_2 = 1$. Then either (a) $2^{e_2} = k$ or (b) $2^{e_2} \in \{2^0, ..., d(2^1, k)\}$. In the first case (a) we have that k is a power of 2 strictly smaller than 2^1 , and by Line 21,25,26,27, follows that the computation of GENSEQ $(k, 2^0)$ returns (1, k) as child of $(m_1, 2^{e_1})$ (by Lines 12-13). In the second case (b), by Lines 26,27 the algorithm computes GENSEQ $(2^{e_2}, k)$. So, it is immediate to verify that for any $k/2^{e_2}$ computed at Line 15, by Lines 17,18 and 33,34 we obtain $(1, 2^{e_2})$ as child of $(m_1, 2^{e_1})$.

(2). $m_2 > 1$. This implies $2^{e_2} < 2^{e_2}$ and therefore $2^{e_2} \in \{2^0, ..., d(k, 2^{e_1})\}$. By Line 26 we have the computation of $\text{GENSEQ}(k, 2^{e_2})$. Clearly $m_2 \leq k/2^{e_2}$ and this, together with the assumption $m_2 > 1$ implies $k/2^{e_2} > 1$. So, by Lines 17,18 $(m_2, 2^{e_2})$ is a child of $(m_1, 2^{e_1})$.

So, as $(m_2, 2^{e_2})$ is the root of the sequence $l(n+1) \smallsetminus (m_1, 2^{e_1})$ and by induction hypothesis $l(n + 1) \smallsetminus (m_1, 2^{e_1})$ is generated by the algorithm, the fact that $(m_2, 2^{e_2})$ is generated as child of $(m_1, 2^{e_1})$ entails that l(n + 1) is generated by the algorithm, as desired.

Example 20. For n = 10 the output of GENFOREST(10) is depicted in Figure 2.

Fig. 2. The forest of sequences generated by GENFOREST(10), see Example 20.

Remark 21. It is worth noticing that, given a sequence $s = (m_{e_1}, 2^{e_1}) \to \cdots \to (m_{e_p}, 2^{e_p})$ such that $e_i \neq 0$ for any $e_1 \leq e_i < e_p$, its presentation $P(s) = (2_1^{e_1} \to \cdots \to 2_{m_{e_1}}^{e_1}) \to \cdots \to (2_1^{e_p} \to \cdots \to 2_{m_{e_p}}^{e_p})$ always describe a shape $\mathbb{X}_{\mathbf{B}}$ of an $\mathcal{L}\text{-}\mathcal{IBSL}$ **B**. More precisely, $\mathbb{X}_{\mathbf{B}} = \langle \mathbf{A}_i, I \rangle$ where $I = \{1_{e_1}, \ldots, m_{e_1}\} \cup \{1_{e_2}, \ldots, m_{e_2}\} \cup \cdots \cup \{1_{e_p}, \ldots, m_{e_p}\}$ and for each $k_{e_i} \in I$, $\mathbf{A}_{k_{e_i}}$ is a Boolean Algebra of order 2^{e_i} . Dually, given an $\mathcal{L}\text{-}\mathcal{IBSL}$ $\mathbf{B} \cong \mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{X})$, its shape $\mathbb{X}_{\mathbf{B}}$ can always be described by the presentation of an appropriate sequence.

Notation. In what follows we adopt the following notation. Given $l(n) \in L(n)$, we denote by $\pi(l(n)) = \{s_1, \ldots, s_{c(l(n))}\}$ the set of sequences obtained by a permutation with repetition over $P^+(l(n))$.

Example 22. Let $l'(10) = (1, 2^2) \rightarrow (2, 2^1) \rightarrow (2, 2^0)$ be a sequence in L(10) (compare with the branches in the biggest tree in Figure 2). The only permutation in $P^+(l'(10))$ is $(2, 2^1) \rightarrow (1, 2^2) \rightarrow (2, 2^0)$.

Theorem 23. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$, $l(n) = (m_{e_1}, 2^{e_1}) \to ... \to (m_{e_q}, 2^{e_q}) \in L(n)$ with $k = m_{e_1} + ... + m_{e_q}$ and let also $m_{e_1}, ..., m_{e_z}$ be the members of $F^+(l(n))$. Then, there are

$$c(l(n)) = \frac{(m_{e_1} + \dots + m_{e_z})!}{m_{e_1}! \cdot \dots \cdot m_{e_z}!}$$

shapes $\langle I_1, \mathbf{A}_i^1 \rangle, \ldots, \langle I_{c(l(n))}, \mathbf{A}_i^{c(l(n))} \rangle$ of finite \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} of order n such that, for each $1 \leq j \leq c(l(n)), |I_j| = k$ and \mathbf{A}_i^j is a family of Boolean Algebras whose cardinalities correspond to the members of P(l(n)).

Proof. Observe that the above formula is an instance of (2), counting the permutations with repetitions of a set of cardinality $m_{e_1} + \ldots + m_{e_z}$ knowing that each $1 \leq i \leq z$ object is repeated m_{e_i} times. By Remark 21, each $s \in \pi(l(n))$ describes a shape of an $\mathcal{L-IBSL}$ of cardinality n.

Now consider $s, s' \in \pi(l(n))$, with $s \neq s'$ and let $\leq_s, \leq_{s'}$ be the order of their presentations. The fact that $s \neq s'$ implies that for at least two elements $2_{x}^{e_i}, 2_{x'}^{e_i'} \in P^+(s), P^+(s')$ (with $e_i \neq e_i'$) it holds $2_x^{e_i} \leq_s 2_{x'}^{e_i'} \iff 2_{x'}^{e_i'} \leq_{s'} 2_x^{e_i}$. This, by applying Remark 21, proves that the shapes described by P(s), P(s') are different. Finally, consider $\mathbb{X}_{\mathbf{B}} = \langle \mathbf{A}_i, I \rangle$ a shape of an $\mathcal{L}\text{-}\mathcal{IBSL} \mathbf{B} \cong \mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{X})$ with cardinality n such that |I| = k and such that \mathbf{A}_i is a family of Boolean algebras whose cardinalities are exactly the members of P(l(n)). By Remark 21, $\mathbb{X}_{\mathbf{B}}$ can be described by the presentation P(r) of an appropriate sequence r. Moreover, the fact that the cardinalities of the algebras in the family \mathbf{A}_i are all and only the members of P(l(n)), implies that r can be obtained from l(n) by permuting at least one element $2_x^{e_i} \in P^+(l(n))$ with another $2_{x'}^{e_i'} \in P^+(l(n))$ such that $e_i \neq e_i'$. By construction, this implies $r \in \pi(l(n))$, as desired.

Corollary 24. Let $l_1(n), ..., l_p(n)$ be the elements of L(n). Then the number of shapes of \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} of order n is equal to $\sum_{i=1}^{p} c(l_i(n))$.

15

Algorithm 2

| 1: | unction $L\text{-IBSL}(n)$ |
|-----|--|
| 2: | $F = \operatorname{GenForest}(n)$ |
| 3: | for each tree T in F do |
| 4: | for each branch B in T do \triangleright Notice that B is a list of couples $(i, 2^e)$ |
| 5: | $B' = B$ without all the couples $(i, 2^0)$ |
| 6: | for each permutation P of B' do |
| 7: | for each $(i, 2^{e_i}) \rightarrow (j, 2^{e_j})$ in P do |
| 8: | $t = t \times \mathcal{N}(2^{e_i}, 2^{e_j})$ |
| 9: | end for |
| 10: | end for |
| 11: | end for |
| 12: | end for |
| 13: | return t |
| 14: | nd function |

Theorem 25. The number of all the non-isomorphic \mathcal{L} -IBSL of cardinality n is given by L-IBSL(n).

Proof. Let *B* be one of the branches of a tree in *F*, as computed in Line 2. By Theorem 19, *B* is exactly a sequence $l(n) \in L(n)$. Each one of the c(l(n)) permutations (see Theorem 23) of l(n) are computed in Line 6. Consider $s \in \pi(l(n))$. In the light of Lemma 13, for every pair $2^{e_i}, 2^{e_j}$ such that $2^{e_i} \to 2^{e_j} \in s$ the number $\prod_{i,j} N(2^{e_i}, 2^{e_j})$ gives us all the non-isomorphic \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{IBSL} of the shape described by *s*, as computed in Line 8.

5 Conclusions

The following results have been obtained on a GNU/Linux Debian 4.9.82-1 system with an Intel Core i7-5500U CPU and 8GB of RAM 7 .

To study the effectiveness of our algorithm, we have used Mace4 [25] to compute the number of finite linearly ordered IBSLs, relying on the first-order theory provided in Section 3. We point out that using this FO theory, in the LIBSL given by the Plonka sum of n trivial Boolean algebras we have 0 = 1. Mace4 assumes $0 \neq 1$, and hence such type of LIBSLs are not generated by it. To obtain Plonka sums of trivial Boolean algebras, we have to replace 1 for another constants in the FO theory.

Mace4 produces in reasonable time the algebraic structures of cardinality up to 11. For cardinality 12, Mace4 exits reaching its internal time limit. After running the isofilter program associated to Mace4, we obtain a file containing the non-isomorphic LIBLs of cardinality $2 \le n \le 11$ generated by Mace4.

The procedure introduced in the previous section has been implemented in Python and has been used to compute the number of all the non-isomorphic

⁷ The Python implementation, the Mace4 input and output files can be downloaded from: https://homes.di.unimi.it/~valota/code/libsl.zip

LIBSLs of cardinality $1 \le n \le 23$, the results are reported in Table 2. For cardinality n = 24, the script uses too much RAM and was automatically killed by the system. To measure the running times of both experiments we have used the Debian GNU/Linux command-line tool time, the results are summarized in the following table.

| Running Times | Algorithm 2 | Mace4 | interpformat | isofilter |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| real | 0m1.331s | 1m1.115s | 0m40.891s | 0m43.611s |
| user | 0m1.176s | 1 m 0.008 s | 0m40.484s | $0\mathrm{m}43.524\mathrm{s}$ |
| sys | 0m0.156s | 0 m 0.908 s | 0 m 0.232 s | 0m0.068s |

Table 1. The running times of our experiments as calculated by the tool time. The second column reports the total time used by the Python implementation of our algorithm to count all the non-isomorphic LIBSLs of cardinality $1 \le n \le 23$. The third column reports the time used by Mace4 to generate the first-order models of cardinality $2 \le n \le 11$. The fourth column reports the time used by **interpformat** to transform the Mace4 models in a format useful for **isofilter**. The fifth column reports the time used by **isofilter** to produce a file with all the non-isomorphic LIBSLs of cardinality $2 \le n \le 11$.

Comparing these running times, it is clear that also a non-optimized implementation of our algorithm is more efficient than the brute-force approach of Mace4, for counting purposes. We should point out, however, that Mace4 generates full models with tables for each operation, whereas our algorithm only produces shapes of LIBSLs and then it performs counting computations. As reported above, our Python script is memory consuming. Hence, it would be interesting to improve our implementation with a better memory management, and with additional options to generate also the algebraic structure of the counted LIBSLs. Moreover, computational complexity study and asymptotic analysis of our algorithm seems to be within reach, allowing us to establish upper and lower bounds on the number of LIBSLs of cardinality n. These research directions are outside the scope of this paper, and are left as future work.

| n | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| L-IBSL(n) | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 14 | 26 | 26 | 52 | 52 | 99 | 99 | 199 | 199 | 386 | 386 | 772 | 772 | 1508 | 1508 |

Table 2. The numbers of L-IBSL with *n* elements for $1 \le n \le 23$.

The set of cardinalities of the finite members of a variety of algebras \mathcal{V} , goes by the name of *fine spectrum* of \mathcal{V} and it has been introduced by Taylor in [34]. According to Quackenbush, when dealing with ordered structures, "the fine spectrum problem is usually hopeless" [30]. In this note we have introduced a procedure to count a specific subclass, namely linearly ordered IBSL: this represents a first step to solve the fine spectrum problem for the variety \mathcal{IBSL} . As our approach relies on the algebraic representation theorem, it can possibly be extended to different subclasses of \mathcal{IBSL} . An option is considering, for instance, the quasi-variety of \mathcal{IBSL} whose maps, in the Plonka representation, are injective (this class appears to be useful in the study of probability measures [7]). Since the index set of the Płonka sum representation of a finite IBSL is a finite semilattice, and finite semilattices coincides with finite lattices, our next step is to improve our approach with the algorithm to generates finite lattices established in [19]. Finally, we notice that our approach is heavily grounded on the duality of Theorem 5. Hence, it appears that spectra problems are easier to handle when restated in dual terms. Indeed, in literature one can find several duality-based solutions to the free spectrum problem (counting the number of k-generated free algebras) for varieties related to many-valued logics⁸ [2,12], and very recently this dual approach has been used to compute the fine spectrum of the variety of prelinear Heyting algebras [35].

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⁸ For a complete account on Lindenbaum algebras representations in many-valued logic setting, we refer the interested reader to [1]

S. Bonzio et al.

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18