

# Thomas Zaslavsky

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## Composed Partitions of a Set, With Gain Graphs

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A **composed partition** of a set  $V$  is a partition of  $V$  in which each block has a **composition** (an ordered partition) into subblocks. In a  $k$ -composed partition (sometimes unhappily called a "generalized partition"), the composition may have empty subblocks, but not more than  $k-1$  in a row. The composed and ordinary partitions of a set, like the ordinary partitions, form a geometric lattice (which means they have a nice geometrical representation). The composed partitions of all subsets of a set form a different and even more interesting geometric lattice.

Composed partitions arise from examples of additive gain graphs with symmetric, integral gains. I will explain these gain graphs and how they lead to composed partitions.

This talk will not assume any knowledge of my previous talk, "[Perpendicular Dissections of Euclidean Space, With Gain Graphs](#)".

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