

# A few things on Noetherian spaces

Jean Goubault-Larrecq, ENS Cachan, France

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# Noetherian spaces

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- ✦ **Defn.** A space is **Noetherian** iff every open is compact.

- ✦ Here compact does not entail any kind of separation.

- ✦ **Fact.** The following are equivalent:

- (1)  $X$  is Noetherian

- (2) Every subspace of  $X$  is compact

- (3) Ascending sequences  $U_1 \subseteq U_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq U_n \subseteq \dots$  of opens stabilize

- (4) Descending sequences  $C_1 \supseteq C_2 \supseteq \dots \supseteq C_n \supseteq \dots$  of closed sets stabilize

- ✦ We shall see other characterizations later.

# Outline

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- ✦ Characterizations of Noetherian spaces (half of them well-known)
- ✦ Transferring results from wqo theory to topology
- ✦ Applications in software verification
- ✦ Representations
- ✦ Conclusion



# Noetherian spaces, classically

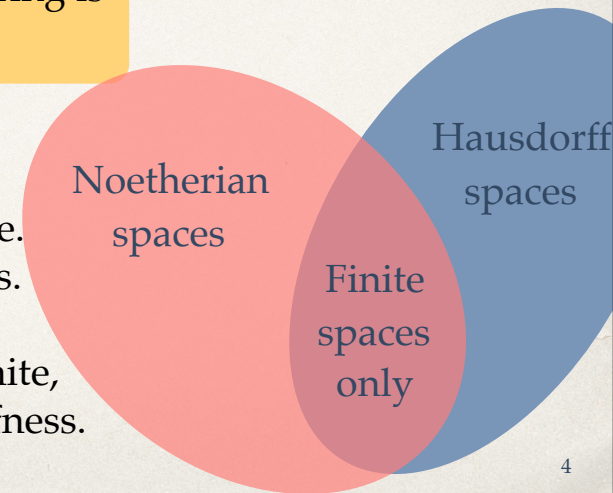
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✦ **Defn.** A space is **Noetherian** iff every open is compact.

✦ **Prop.** The spectrum of a Noetherian ring is a Noetherian space.

✦ E.g., the spectrum of a polynomial ring over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}$ , or  $\mathbb{C}$ .  
**Not** my first source of inspiration here.  
We shall see many (simpler) examples.

✦ **Note.** Noetherian + Hausdorff  $\Leftrightarrow$  finite, so we shall definitely **drop** Hausdorffness.



# Well-quasi-orders

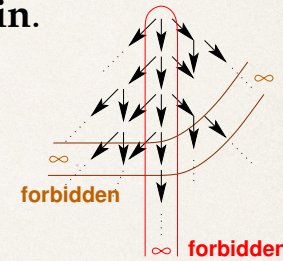
✦ **Fact.** The following are equivalent for a quasi-ordering  $\leq$ :

- (1) Every sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is **good**:  $x_m \leq x_n$  for some  $m < n$
- (2) Every sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is **perfect**: has a monotone subsequence
- (3)  $\leq$  is **well-founded** and has **no infinite antichain**.

✦ **Defn.** Such a quasi-ordering  $\leq$  is called a **well-quasi-order (wqo)**.

✦ Applications:

classification of graphs (Kuratowski, Robertson-Seymour)  
verification (computer science)  
model theory (logic: Fraïssé, Jullien, Pouzet)

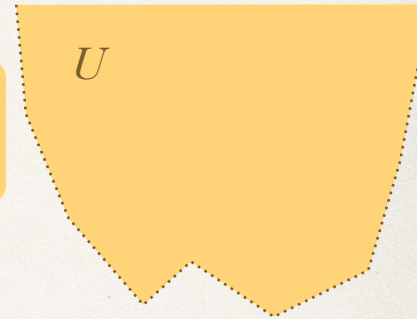




# The starting observation

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- ✦ Given a qo  $(X, \leq)$ , its **Alexandroff topology** has as opens  $U$  all upwards-closed subsets of  $X$ .
- ✦ **Prop.** Let  $(X, \leq)$  be wqo.  
With its Alexandroff topology,  $X$  is Noetherian.

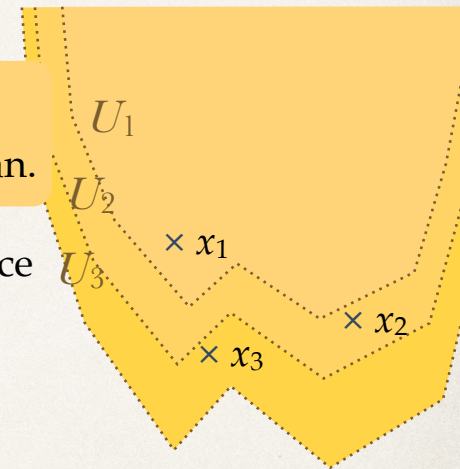


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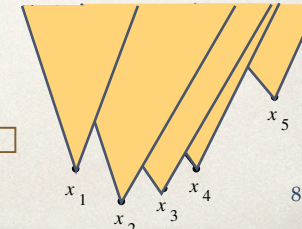
- Proof.* Consider an infinite ascending sequence  $U_1 \subsetneq U_2 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq U_n \subsetneq \dots$  of opens.  
Pick  $x_n$  in  $U_n$ , not in any previous  $U_m$ .  
By wqo,  $x_m \leq x_n$  for some  $m < n$ .  
Since  $x_m \in U_m$  upwards-closed,  $x_n \in U_m$ :  
contradiction.  $\square$



- Plenty of wqos  $\Rightarrow$  plenty of Noetherian spaces.

# Noetherian + Alexandroff

- ✦ **Prop.** Let  $(X, \leq)$  be wqo.  
With its Alexandroff topology,  $X$  is Noetherian.
- ✦ There are also Noetherian spaces that are not Alexandroff:
  - spectra of rings, with the Zariski topology
  - powersets (see later)
- ✦ **Conversely**, the qo sets  $(X, \leq)$  that are Noetherian in their Alexandroff topology are exactly the **wqo** sets.
- ✦ *Proof.* From  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  define  $U_n = \uparrow \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ .  
This stabilizes at  $n$ :  $U_{n-1} = U_n$ , so  $x_n \in \uparrow \{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$ .  $\square$





# Basic constructions

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- \* **Prop.** (1) Every **wqo** is Noetherian in its Alexandroff topology
- (2) The **spectrum** of a Noetherian ring is Noetherian
- (3) Finite **products** of Noetherian spaces are Noetherian
- (4) Finite **coproducts** of Noetherian spaces are Noetherian
- (5) **Subspaces** of Noetherian spaces are Noetherian
- (6) Topologies **coarser** than a Noetherian topology are Noetherian
- (7) Continuous **images** of Noetherian spaces are Noetherian  
(in particular, quotients)
  
- \* We shall see other constructions that preserve Noetherianness.
  
- \* We need additional characterizations of Noetherianness.

# Cluster points

\* **Prop.**  $X$  is Noetherian iff every net  $(x_i)_{i \in I}$  contains a cluster point  $x_i$ .  
(The important point is: the cluster point  $x_i$  belongs to the net.)

\* *Proof.*

( $\Rightarrow$ ) If  $X$  Noetherian, then subspace  $K = \{x_i \mid i \in I\}$  is compact,  
hence  $(x_i)_{i \in I}$  has a cluster point **in  $K$** .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $U$  be open in  $X$ .

Every net  $(x_i)_{i \in I}$  inside  $U$  has a cluster point in  $U$ , viz. some  $x_i$ .

So  $U$  is compact.  $\square$

\* **Note:** in Alexandroff spaces,  $x_i$  cluster point means that for some  $i$ ,  
cofinally [infinitely] many entries  $x_j$  are above  $x_i$ . (Take the open  $\uparrow x_i$ .)  
... hence all sequences are **good**.



# Self-convergent nets

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- \* A net  $(x_i)_{i \in I}$  is **self-convergent** iff it converges to **every**  $x_i$ .  
(A very much non-Hausdorff notion!)

\* **Thm.**  $X$  is Noetherian iff every net  $(x_i)_{i \in I}$  has a self-convergent subnet.

- \* *Proof.*  $(\Rightarrow)$  Let  $J$  be  $\{i \in I \mid x_i \text{ is a cluster point of the net}\}$ .  
By previous Prop.,  $J$  is non-empty.  
Check:  $J$  is cofinal and directed in  $I$ ; so  $(x_j)_{j \in J}$  is a subnet.  
By Kelley's Theorem,  $(x_j)_{j \in J}$  has a further subnet that is an ultranet.  
Check that this ultranet is self-convergent.  
 $(\Leftarrow)$  Obvious, using previous Prop.  $\square$
- \* In Alexandroff spaces,  $(x_i)_{i \in I}$  self-convergent iff eventually monotone  
.... hence all sequences are **perfect**.



# Ultrafilters

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✦ A similar characterization ( $\lim \mathcal{U}$  = set of limits of  $\mathcal{U}$ ):

✦ **Thm.**  $X$  is Noetherian iff every ultrafilter  $\mathcal{U}$  is compact:  $\lim \mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{U}$ .

✦ *Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $U$  be (open) complement of  $\lim \mathcal{U}$ .

If  $\lim \mathcal{U}$  not in  $\mathcal{U}$ , then  $U$  is in  $\mathcal{U}$  (ultrafilter).

Since  $U$  is compact,  $\mathcal{U}$  has a limit in  $U$ .

So  $\lim \mathcal{U}$  intersects  $U$ : contradiction.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Fix an open  $U$ . Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be an arbitrary ultrafilter containing  $U$ .

Since  $\lim \mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\lim \mathcal{U} \cap U \in \mathcal{U}$ , so  $\lim \mathcal{U} \cap U \neq \emptyset$ .

Hence  $\mathcal{U}$  has a limit in  $U$ :  $U$  is compact.  $\square$

# Application: finite products

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- ✦ Well-known: finite products of Noetherian spaces are Noetherian.  
Here is a simple proof.  
(Warning: I'm lying a bit about what a subnet is.)
- ✦ Let  $X, Y$  be Noetherian.  
Let  $(x_i, y_i)_{i \in I}$  be a net in  $X \times Y$ .  
Extract a self-convergent subnet  $(x_j)_{j \in J}$ .  
From  $(y_j)_{j \in J}$  extract a further self-convergent subnet  $(y_k)_{k \in K}$ .  
Then  $(x_k, y_k)_{k \in K}$  is a self-convergent subnet of the original net.
- ✦ This is a topological version of the Ramsey argument behind the classical wqo proofs.

# Stone duality in a nutshell

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- \* There is a functor  $\mathbf{O} : \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{Frame}^{op}$  that:
  - maps each space  $X$  to its frame  $\mathbf{O}X$  of opens
  - maps  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  to  $\mathbf{O}f : \mathbf{O}Y \rightarrow \mathbf{O}X : V \mapsto f^1(V)$ .
- \*  $\mathbf{O}$  is left-adjoint to a functor  $\mathbf{pt} : \mathbf{Frame}^{op} \rightarrow \mathbf{Top}$ .
- \*  $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{pt} \circ \mathbf{O}$  is the **sobrification** functor.
- \* **Defn.** A space  $X$  is **sober** iff it is of the form  $\mathbf{pt} L$  for some frame  $L$   
iff it is of the form  $\mathbf{S}Y$  for some space  $Y$   
iff  $X = \mathbf{S}X$  (all that, up to iso.)

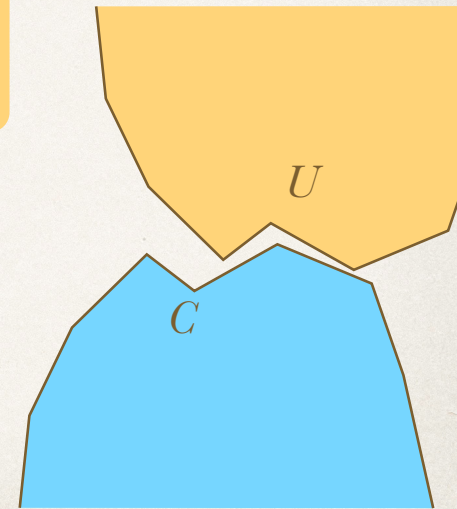


# The specialization quasi-ordering

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\* **Defn** (specialization,  $\leq$ ). In a space  $X$ ,  $x \leq y$  iff every open containing  $x$  also contains  $y$  iff  $x \in \text{cl}(\{y\})$ .

- \*  $X$  is  $T_0$  iff  $\leq$  is antisymmetric (an ordering).
- \* Every open  $U$  is upwards-closed.  
Every closed set  $C$  is downwards-closed.
- \* The closure  $\text{cl}(\{x\})$  is  $\downarrow x = \{z \mid z \leq x\}$ .



# Sober spaces

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- ✦ Call  $C$  **irreducible closed** iff closed and:  
if  $C \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n C_i$  then  $C \subseteq C_i$  for some  $i$ .  
E.g.,  $\downarrow x = \text{cl}(\{x\})$  is irreducible closed, for every point  $x$ .
- ✦ **Fact.**  $X$  is sober iff  $T_0$  and all irreducible closed sets are of this form.
- ✦ All Hausdorff spaces are sober, but there are more (e.g., continuous and quasi-continuous dcpos in domain theory).

# Sobrification

\* The sobrification functor can be described more concisely as:

—  $\mathbf{S}X = \{\text{irreducible closed subsets of } X\}$

Opens  $\diamond U = \{C \mid C \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$ ,  $U \in \mathbf{O}X$

— For  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  to,  $\mathbf{S}f: \mathbf{S}X \rightarrow \mathbf{S}Y: C \mapsto \text{cl}(f(C))$ .

—  $X$  **embeds** into  $\mathbf{S}X$  through  $\eta: X \rightarrow \mathbf{S}X: x \mapsto \downarrow x$ .

\* **Fact.**  $X$  is Noetherian iff  $\mathbf{S}X$  is Noetherian.

\* *Proof.*  $\diamond: \mathbf{O}X \rightarrow \mathbf{O}\mathbf{S}X$  iso, and Noetherianness is a property of opens (ascending sequences of opens stabilize).  $\square$

\* **Fact.** The Noetherian sober spaces  $X$  are the Stone duals **pt**  $L$  of distributive lattices  $L$  with the ascending chain condition.



# Sober Noetherian spaces

- \* An **order-theoretic** characterization.

Call sets of the form  $\downarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  **finitary**.

- \* **Thm.** A sober space  $X$  is Noetherian iff:

(1)  $\leq$  is **well-founded**, and

(2) the set of lower bounds of any finite set is **finitary**.

Then:

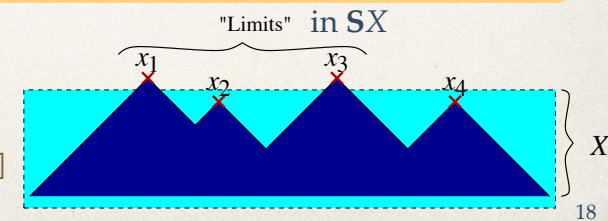
(3) The topology of  $X$  is the upper topology of  $\leq$

(4) **The closed sets are the finitary sets.**

- \* *Proof.* Folklore,

or see (JGL 2013)

or (Dickmann, Schwartz & Tressl).  $\square$

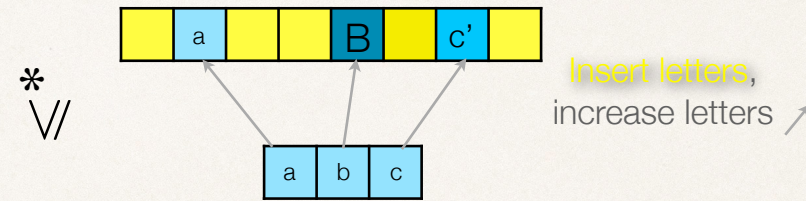


# Outline

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- ✦ Conclusion

# Higman's Lemma



- ❖ **Lemma** (Higman 1954). If  $X, \leq$  is wqo, then so is the qoset  $X^*$  of finite words under **subword** relation  $\leq^*$ .
- ❖ **Thm** (Topological Higman Lemma, JGL 2013). If  $X$  is Noetherian, then so is  $X^*$  with the **subword** topology.
- ❖ My aim here is to give you a proof of that, imitating Nash-Williams' classic proof (1963) of Higman's Lemma.



# The subword topology

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- ✦ **Defn.** For opens  $U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n$  in  $X$ , let  $[U_1 U_2 \dots U_n]$  be set of words  
...  $a_1$  ...  $a_2$  ... (etc.) ...  $a_n$  ...  
with  $a_1 \in U_1, a_2 \in U_2, \dots, a_n \in U_n$ .  
The **subword topology** on  $X^*$  is generated by those sets  $[U_1 U_2 \dots U_n]$ .
- ✦ Specialization quasi-ordering is  $\leq^*$
- ✦ If  $X$  is Alexandroff, then subword topology = Alexandroff on  $X^*$ ,  
so Higman's Lemma is a special case  
of the topological Higman Lemma.

# Bad sequences

- ✦ Let  $X$  be a topological space, with subbase  $\mathcal{B}$ .  
A **bad sequence** is a sequence  $(U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of elements of  $\mathcal{B}$  such that no  $U_n$  is included in a union  $\bigcup_{m < n} U_m$  of previous elements.
- ✦ **Lemma.** If  $X$  is not Noetherian, then (whatever the subbase) it has a bad sequence.
- ✦ *Proof.* Let  $U$  be non-compact open.  
By Alexander's Subbase Lemma,  $U$  has a cover  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  by elements of  $\mathcal{B}$  that has no finite subcover.  
Pick some  $U_{i_1}$ . Some point  $x_1$  in  $U$  is not in  $U_{i_1}$ .  
Pick  $U_{i_2}$  containing  $x_1$ . Some point  $x_2$  in  $U$  is not in  $U_{i_1} \cup U_{i_2}$ .  
Pick  $U_{i_3}$  containing  $x_2$ . Some point ... etc.  $\square$



# Minimal bad sequences

- \* Assume additionally a well-founded  $\sqsubseteq$  ordering on  $\mathcal{Z}$ .

A **bad sequence**  $(U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is **minimal** iff every

$\sqsubseteq$ -lexicographically smaller sequence  $(V_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is **good** (i.e., not bad).

[i.e.,  $V_0=U_0, V_1=U_1, \dots, V_{n-1}=U_{n-1}$ , and  $V_n \sqsubset U_n$  (strictly) for some  $n$ ]

- \* **Lemma.** If  $X$  is not Noetherian, then (whatever  $\mathcal{Z}$  and  $\sqsubseteq$ ) it has a minimal bad sequence.

- \* *Proof.* Find  $U_0 \sqsubseteq$ -minimal so that it starts a bad sequence.  
Given  $U_0$ , find  $U_1 \sqsubseteq$ -minimal so that  $U_0, U_1$  start a bad sequence.  
Given  $U_0, U_1$ , find  $U_2 \sqsubseteq$ -minimal so that ... etc.  $\square$

- \* **Note:** Similar to wqos, where bad sequences are sequences of **points**.



# Proof plan

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- ✦ On  $X^*$ , let  $\mathcal{B}$  consist of the subbasic opens  $[U_1 \ U_2 \dots \ U_m]$ .  
Let  $[U_1 \ U_2 \dots \ U_m] \sqsubseteq [V_1 \ V_2 \dots \ V_n]$  iff  
there is a (strictly) increasing map  $f: \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$   
such that  $U_k = V_{f(k)}$ .  
(I.e., the  $V_p$ s are obtained by inserting new opens in the list of  $U_k$ s.)
- ✦ If  $X^*$  is not Noetherian, then extract some minimal bad sequence.
- ✦ Using the zoom-in Lemma (next slide), find a smaller sequence: that one must be good, leading to a contradiction.

# The zoom-in Lemma

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\* **Lemma.** Let  $X$  be Noetherian, and  $a_n \in U_n$  open for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  
There is a subsequence  $(a_{n(k)})_k$  s.t.  $a_{n(k)} \in U_{n(0)} \cap \dots \cap U_{n(k)}$  for every  $k$ .

\* *Proof.* Pick a cluster point  $a_{n(0)}$  (inside the sequence itself).

Infinitely many  $a_n$ s with  $n > n(0)$  are in  $U_{n(0)}$ , forming a subsequence.  
Pick a cluster point  $a_{n(1)}$  from that subsequence.

Infinitely many  $a_n$ s with  $n > n(1)$  from that subsequence  
are in  $U_{n(0)} \cap U_{n(1)}$ , forming a sub-subsequence.  
Pick a cluster point  $a_{n(2)}$  from that sub-subsequence... etc.  $\square$



# Proving the topological Higman Lemma

\* **Thm** (Topological Higman Lemma, JGL 2013). If  $X$  is Noetherian, then so is  $X^*$  with the **subword** topology.

\* *Proof* (1/3).

Imagine  $X^*$  is not Noetherian, and let

$\mathcal{U}_n = [U_{n1} U_{n2} \dots U_{nm} \dots]$  form a minimal bad sequence.

Pick a word  $w_n$  in  $\mathcal{U}_n$  that is in no previous  $\mathcal{U}_m$ .

Let  $\mathcal{R}_n = [U_{n2} \dots U_{nm} \dots]$  be «  $\mathcal{U}_n$  without its first open  $U_{n1}$  ».

By definition,  $w_n = l_n a_n r_n$  where  $a_n \in U_{n1}$ ,  $r_n \in \mathcal{R}_n$ .

By zoom-in, extract  $(a_{n(k)})_k$  s.t.  $a_{n(k)} \in U_{n(0)1} \cap \dots \cap U_{n(k)1}$  for every  $k$ .

By minimality,  $\mathcal{U}_0, \mathcal{U}_1, \dots, \mathcal{U}_{n(0)-1}, \mathcal{R}_{n(0)}, \mathcal{R}_{n(1)}, \dots$  is **good**. So, for some  $k$ :

$$\mathcal{R}_{n(k)} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_0 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_{n(0)-1} \cup \mathcal{R}_{n(0)} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{R}_{n(k-1)}.$$



# Proving the topological Higman Lemma

\* **Thm** (Topological Higman Lemma, JGL 2013). If  $X$  is Noetherian, then so is  $X^*$  with the **subword** topology.

\* *Proof* (2/3). Recall:  $\mathcal{U}_n = [U_{n1} U_{n2} \dots U_{nm} \dots]$ ,  $w_n$  in  $\mathcal{U}_n$ , in no previous  $\mathcal{U}_m$ .

$$\mathcal{R}_n = [U_{n2} \dots U_{nm} \dots]$$

$$w_n = l_n a_n r_n \text{ where } a_n \in U_{n1}, r_n \in \mathcal{R}_n.$$

$$a_{n(k)} \in U_{n(0)1} \cap \dots \cap U_{n(k)1}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{n(k)} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_0 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_{n(0)-1} \cup \mathcal{R}_{n(0)} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{R}_{n(k-1)}.$$

\* Note  $r_{n(k)} \in \mathcal{R}_{n(k)}$ .

# Proving the topological Higman Lemma

\* **Thm** (Topological Higman Lemma, JGL 2013). If  $X$  is Noetherian, then so is  $X^*$  with the **subword** topology.

\* *Proof* (2/3). Recall:  $\mathcal{U}_n = [U_{n1} U_{n2} \dots U_{nm} \dots]$ ,  $w_n$  in  $\mathcal{U}_n$ , in no previous  $\mathcal{U}_m$ .

$$\mathcal{R}_n = [U_{n2} \dots U_{nm} \dots]$$

$$w_n = l_n a_n r_n \text{ where } a_n \in U_{n1}, r_n \in \mathcal{R}_n.$$

$$a_{n(k)} \in U_{n(0)1} \cap \dots \cap U_{n(k)1}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{n(k)} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_0 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_{n(0)-1} \cup \mathcal{R}_{n(0)} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{R}_{n(k-1)}.$$

\* Note  $r_{n(k)} \in \mathcal{R}_{n(k)}$ . **Case 1:**  $r_{n(k)} \in \mathcal{U}_m$  for some  $m$  in  $0, \dots, n(0)-1$ .

Then the larger  $w_{n(k)}$  is in  $\mathcal{U}_m$ , too. (Opens are upwards-closed.)

Impossible since  $\mathcal{U}_m$  is previous ( $m < n(k)$ ).



# Proving the topological Higman Lemma

\* **Thm** (Topological Higman Lemma, JGL 2013). If  $X$  is Noetherian, then so is  $X^*$  with the **subword** topology.

\* *Proof* (3/3). Recall:  $\mathcal{U}_n = [U_{n1} U_{n2} \dots U_{nm} \dots]$ ,  $w_n$  in  $\mathcal{U}_n$ , in no previous  $\mathcal{U}_m$ .

$$\mathcal{R}_n = [U_{n2} \dots U_{nm} \dots]$$

$$w_n = l_n a_n r_n \text{ where } a_n \in U_{n1}, r_n \in \mathcal{R}_n.$$

$$a_{n(k)} \in U_{n(0)1} \cap \dots \cap U_{n(k)1}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{n(k)} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_0 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_{n(0)-1} \cup \mathcal{R}_{n(0)} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{R}_{n(k-1)}.$$

\* Note  $r_{n(k)} \in \mathcal{R}_{n(k)}$ . **Case 2:**  $r_{n(k)} \in \mathcal{R}_{n(j)}$  for some  $j$  in  $0, \dots, k-1$ .

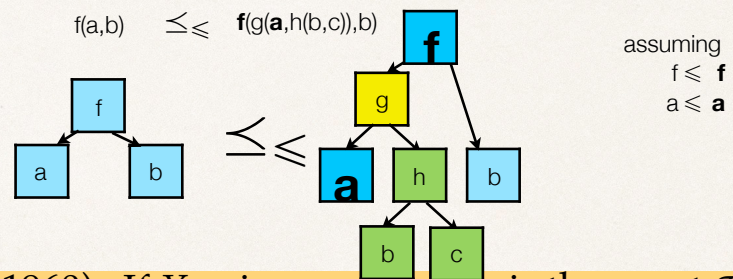
Note that  $a_{n(k)} \in U_{n(j)1}$ .

Hence  $w_{n(k)} = l_{n(k)} a_{n(k)} r_{n(k)}$  is in  $\mathcal{U}_{n(j)}$ , too.

Impossible since  $\mathcal{U}_{n(j)}$  is previous ( $j < k$ ).  $\square$



# Kruskal's Theorem



- ❖ **Thm** (Kruskal 1960). If  $X, \leq$  is wqo, then so is the qoset  $\mathcal{T}(X)$  of finite trees labeled by  $X$  under **homeomorphic embedding** relation  $\leq_{\leq}$ .
- ❖ **Thm** (Topological Kruskal Theorem, JGL 2013). If  $X$  is Noetherian, then so is  $\mathcal{T}(X)$  with the **tree** topology.
- ❖ Admitted. Slightly more complex.

# Powersets

- ✦ Let  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  come with the lower Vietoris topology, with subbase  $\diamond U = \{A \mid A \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$ ,  $U \in \mathbf{O}X$ .

✦ **Thm** (JGL, 2007). If  $X$  is Noetherian, then so is  $\mathbb{P}(X)$ .

- ✦ *Proof.* If  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  not Noetherian, let  $(\diamond U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a bad sequence:

no  $\diamond U_n$  is included in  $\bigcup_{m < n} \diamond U_m = \diamond \bigcup_{m < n} U_m$ .

Since  $\diamond$  is monotonic, no  $U_n$  is included in  $\bigcup_{m < n} U_m$ .

Therefore  $(U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is bad: contradiction.  $\square$

- ✦ Specialization qo:  $A \leq^b B$  iff every  $a \in A$  is below some  $b \in B$ .

# Powersets, or: beyond wqos

- Let  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  come with the lower Vietoris topology, with subbase  $\diamond U = \{A \mid A \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$ ,  $U \in \mathbf{O}X$ .

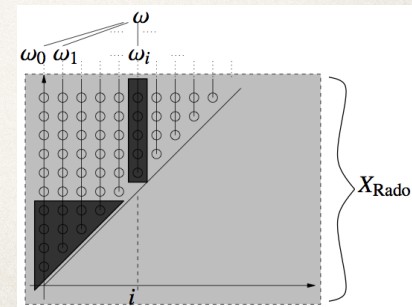
\* **Thm** (JGL, 2007). If  $X$  is Noetherian, then so is  $\mathbb{P}(X)$ .

- Specialization qo:  $A \leq^b B$  iff every  $a \in A$  is below some  $b \in B$ .

Pretty remarkable, since:

- \* **Prop** (Rado, 1957). There are wqos  $X, \leq$  such that  $\mathbb{P}(X), \leq^b$  is **not** wqo.

$$X_{\text{Rado}} = \{(i, j) \mid i < j\}, (i, j) \sqsubseteq (k, l) \text{ iff } i = k \text{ and } j \leq l \text{ or } j < k.$$





# A catalogue of Noetherian spaces

$D ::= A$	finite poset	Noetherian, not wqo
$\mathbb{N}$	natural numbers	
$D_1 \times D_2 \times \dots \times D_n$	products	
$D_1 + D_2 + \dots + D_n$	sums	
$\mathcal{S}(D)$	sobrification	
$\mathbb{P}(D)$	powerset	
$\mathbb{P}^*(D)$	non-empty powerset	
$\mathcal{H}(D)$	extended Hoare powerspace	
$\mathcal{H}_\emptyset(D)$	Hoare powerspace	
$\text{Spec}(R)$	spectrum of a ring	
$\mathbb{C}^k$	complex vector space (Zariski)	
$D^*$	words / embedding	
$D^\oplus$	multisets	
$\triangleright_{n=1}^{+\infty} D_n$	words / prefix	
$\mathcal{T}(D)$	trees / embedding	

# Outline

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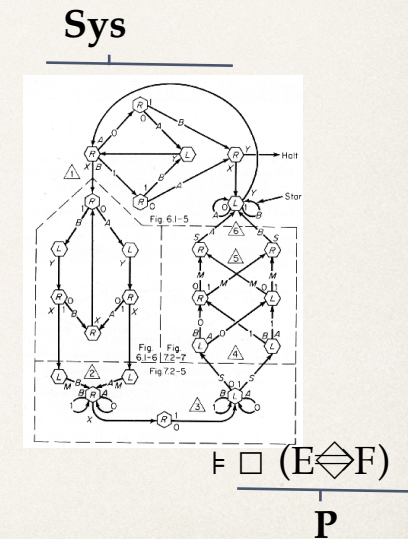
- ✦ Characterizations of Noetherian spaces (half of them well-known)
- ✦ Transferring results from wqo theory to topology
- ✦ Applications in software verification
- ✦ Representations
- ✦ Conclusion



# Verification

- ❖ How do you ensure a software/hardware system **Sys** is **correct**?
- ❖ **Testing**: fine and useful, but not exhaustive
- ❖ **Verification**: given a desirable property **P**, check that  

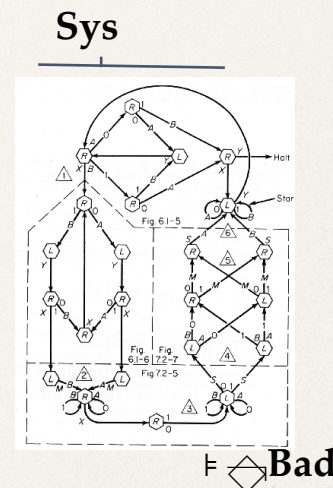
$$\text{Sys} \models \mathbf{P}$$
- ❖ That check should be done by an **algorithm**.



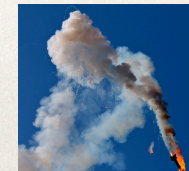


# Verification

- ✦ A paradigmatic case is given by:
  - **Sys** is a transition system  
(a directed graph, vertices=states)
  - **P** is a (non-)reachability property  
«can **Sys** evolve from an initial state  $s$   
to a state in the set **Bad**?»
- ✦ Verification is **undecidable** in general.  
Decidable for **Sys** finite.  
But most systems are infinite.
- ✦ Classes of infinite-state systems/properties  
for which verification would be decidable?



**Bad=**



# Well-Structured Transition Systems (WSTS)

\* A transition system: state space  $X$ , transition relation  $\xrightarrow{\delta}$

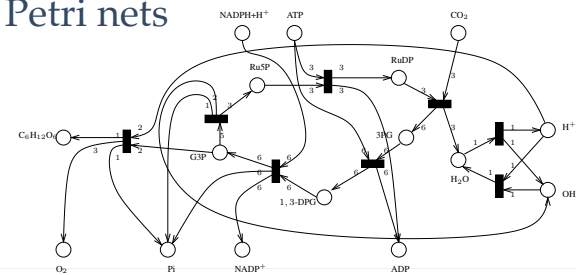
\* with a **wqo**  $\leq$

\* satisfying **monotonicity**

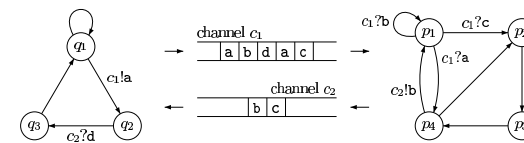
$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \xrightarrow{\leq} & x' \\ \delta \downarrow & & \downarrow \delta \\ y & \xrightarrow{\leq} & y' \end{array}$$

(Finkel 1990,  
Abdulla, Čerāns,  
Jonsson&Tsay 2000,  
Finkel&Schnoebelen 2001)

Petri nets



Lossy channel systems



... and many other examples



# Topological WSTS

- ❖ A transition system: state space  $X$ , transition relation  $\xrightarrow{\delta}$
- ❖ with a **Noetherian** topology
- ❖ satisfying **lower semi-continuity**: for every open  $U$ ,  $\delta^{-1}(U)$  open.

Petri nets

NADPH+H<sup>+</sup>   ATP   CO<sub>2</sub>

## Concurrent polynomial programs

```
while (*) {  
  recv (SIG_CALC) => if (*) { x = 2; y = 3; }  
  else { x = 3; y = 2; }  
  x = x * y - 6; y = 0;  
  if (x2 - 3 * x * y == 0)  
    while (*) { x = x + 1; y = y - 1; };  
  else send (SIG_FUZZ);  
  x = x2 + x * y;  
  | recv (SIG_QUIT) => return;  
}  
  
channel c1  
[a | b | d | a | c]  
→  
channel c2  
[b | c]  
←  
  
a = *; b = 0;  
while (*) {  
  recv (SIG_FUZZ) => send (SIG_CALC);  
  b = b + 1;  
  if (a ≠ b) { a = a + 1; }  
  c = a * b;  
  | recv (SIG_QUIT) => return;  
}
```

# The standard backward algorithm

\* **Defn** (coverability).  
**INPUT:** state  $s$ , and open state set **Bad**  
**QUESTION:**  $s \rightarrow_{\delta}^* \mathbf{Bad}$ ?

\* **Prop.** Given an effective topological WSTS, coverability is **decidable**.

\* *Proof.* The function `pre*` computes  
 $U_0 = \mathbf{Bad}$ ,  $U_{n+1} = U_n \cup \delta^{-1}(U_n)$ .  
This **terminates** because  $U_0 \subseteq U_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq U_n \subseteq \dots$  stabilizes (Noetherianness).  
At the end,  $U_n = \{s \mid s \rightarrow_{\delta}^* \mathbf{Bad}\}$ .  $\square$

```
fun pre* U =  
  let V = pre U  
  in  
    if V ⊆ U  
    then U  
    else pre* (U ∪ V)  
  end;
```

```
fun coverability (s, bad) =  
  s in pre* (bad);
```

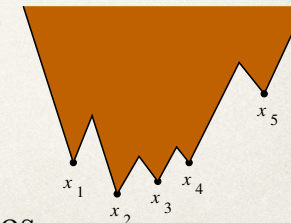
(Don't be fooled by the simplicity of the algorithm: complexity is not even primitive recursive in general —and I mean the complexity of the problem, independently of the algorithm.)

# Effective?

- ✦ By an **effective** topological WSTS, we mean one where:
  - opens  $U$  are **representable** by some data structure
  - the inclusion test  $U \subseteq V$  is **decidable**
  - one-step predecessors  $\delta^{-1}(U)$  of open sets are **computable**.

- ✦ When the Noetherian state space is Alexandroff (a wqo), there is a standard representation of open (upwards-closed) sets:

- ✦ **Prop.** In a wqo, every upwards-closed subset is the upward closure  $\uparrow\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of finitely many points.



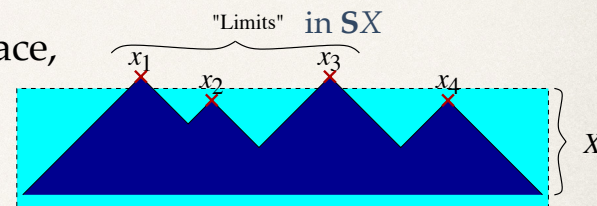
- ✦ No longer true in more general Noetherian spaces.



# Sobrification and closed sets

- ❖ Recall that, in a sober Noetherian space, every closed set  $C$  is **finitary**:

$$C = \downarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}.$$



- ❖ Provides alternate representation of open sets  $U$  in Noetherian  $X$ :
  - $U$  is also open in larger space  $SX$
  - represent  $U$  by its closed complement in  $SX$ ,
  - i.e., by finite sets of **points** in  $SX$ .

- ❖  $\Rightarrow$  Find computable **representations** of **points** of  $SX$ .

# Outline

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- ✦ Characterizations of Noetherian spaces (half of them well-known)
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# A simple case

---

- ✦ Consider  $\mathbb{N}$  with the (Alexandroff topology of) its ordering  $\leq$ .
- ✦ Its closed subsets are  $\emptyset$ ,  $[n]=\{0,1,\dots,n\}$  and the whole of  $\mathbb{N}$ .
- ✦ All except  $\emptyset$  are irreducible. Hence:
- ✦ **Prop.** A representation for  $\mathbf{SN}$  is  $\mathbb{N}_\omega$ , i.e.,  $\mathbb{N}$  plus a top element  $\omega$ .
- ✦ This is an effective representation.
- ✦ I'm not giving the topology on  $\mathbb{N}_\omega$ :  
this must be the upper topology of its ordering.



# Products

---

- ✦ Another simple case.

We know that  $\mathbf{S}(\prod_i X_i) = \prod_i \mathbf{S}X_i$ , up to iso (R.-E. Hoffmann 1979).

Hence:

- ✦ **Prop.** A representation of  $\mathbf{S}(X_1 \times \dots \times X_n)$  is the Cartesian product of representations for  $\mathbf{S}X_i$ .

- ✦ This is effective,  
provided the representations for  $\mathbf{S}X_i$  are.

# Words and regular expressions

---

- \* **Thm** (Finkel&JGL 2009). A representation for  $\mathbf{S}(X^*)$  is the space of **word products**, i.e., **regular expressions** of the form:

$$R_1 R_2 \dots R_n$$

where each  $R_i$  is of the form:

- $(\downarrow a)^?$  with  $a \in \mathbf{S}(X)$ , or
- $(\downarrow \{a_1, \dots, a_k\})^*$  with  $a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbf{S}(X)$

- \* Proof omitted. Again, effectivity is preserved.  
Was already known for wqos (Kabil&Pouzet 1992).
- \* Embedding  $X^* \rightarrow \mathbf{S}(X^*)$  maps  $a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$  to  $(\downarrow a_1)^? (\downarrow a_2)^? \dots (\downarrow a_n)^?$   
Limit elements include  $(\downarrow a_1)^? (\downarrow \{a_2, a_3\})^* (\downarrow a_1)^?$ , for example.

# Representations

✦ **Thm** (Finkel&JGL, unpublished).  
For **all** the spaces  $X$  in our catalogue  
of Noetherian spaces,  
**SX** has effective representations.

✦ ...

## A catalogue of Noetherian spaces

$D ::= A$	finite poset	
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$S(D)$	subsets	Noetherian, not wqo
$P(D)$	powerset	
$P^*(D)$	non-empty powerset	
$H(D)$	extended finite powerspace	
$H_0(D)$	finite powerspace	
$\text{Spec}(R)$	spectrum of a ring	
$\sigma^k$		
$D^*$	words / embedding	
$D^*$	multisets	
$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} D_n$	words / prefix	
$T(D)$	trees / embedding	



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\* **Thm** (Finkel&JGL, unpublished).  
For **all** the spaces  $X$  in our catalogue  
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\* ... up to a small change: replace  
 $\text{Spec}(R)$  and  $\mathbb{C}^k$  (Zariski) with some  
concrete spectrum, say,  
 $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n])$ .

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$D_1 + D_2 + \dots + D_n$	sums	
$S(D)$	subalgebra	Noetherian, not wqo
$P(D)$	powerset	
$P^*(D)$	non-empty powerset	
$H(D)$	extended finite powerspace	
$H_0(D)$	Hoare powerspace	
$\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n])$	concrete spectrum	
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\* Including (infinite) powersets!

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$T(D)$	trees / embedding	



# Representing powersets?

\* Recall  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  has subbase  $\diamond U = \{A \mid A \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$ ,  $U \in \mathbf{O}X$ .

Let  $\mathbb{F}(Y)$  be the set of **finitary** subsets of  $Y$ , with subspace topology.

\* **Prop.**  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{P}(X)) = \mathbb{F}(\mathbf{S}X)$ , up to iso.

Hence a representation for  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{P}(X))$  is given by finite sets [antichains] of elements from a representation of  $\mathbf{S}X$ .

\* *Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{H}(X)$  be subspace of closed subsets of  $X$ .

$\text{cl} : \mathbb{P}(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}(X)$  is a quasi-iso, i.e.  $\mathbf{O}(\text{cl}) : \mathbf{O}\mathbf{H}(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{O}\mathbb{P}(X)$  is iso.

(Exercise: use  $A \cap U \neq \emptyset$  iff  $\text{cl}(A) \cap U \neq \emptyset$ .)

Hence  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{P}(X)) = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{H}(X))$ .

But  $\mathbf{H}(X)$  is always sober (Schalk93): so  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{P}(X)) = \mathbf{H}(X)$ .

Since  $\mathbf{O}X = \mathbf{O}\mathbf{S}X$ ,  $\mathbf{H}(X) = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}(X))$ : so  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{P}(X)) = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}(X))$ .

All elements of  $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}(X))$  are finitary: so  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbb{P}(X)) = \mathbb{F}(\mathbf{S}X)$ .  $\square$



# Outline

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- ✦ Characterizations of Noetherian spaces (half of them well-known)
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# Conclusion

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- ❖ There is more to Noetherian spaces than algebraic geometry.  
A deep connection with **wqos**.  
Basic theory in (JGL 2013), Section 9.7.
- ❖ Any topological analogue of **better** quasi-orderings?
- ❖ Any topological analogue of the Robertson-Seymour theorem (for undirected finite graphs with labels in a Noetherian space)?
- ❖ Any topological analogue of the theory of **maximal order types** of wqos? (Hint: ordinal height of  $\mathbf{H}(X)$ , of  $\mathbf{S}X$ .)  
Application to complexity of WSTS verification tasks (à la Schnoebelen, Schmitz, Halfon).

