

# Simplicial models for trace spaces

Martin Raussen

Department of Mathematical Sciences  
Aalborg University  
Denmark

Applied Algebraic Topology

FIM, ETH Zürich

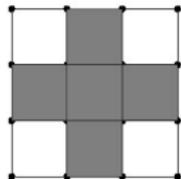
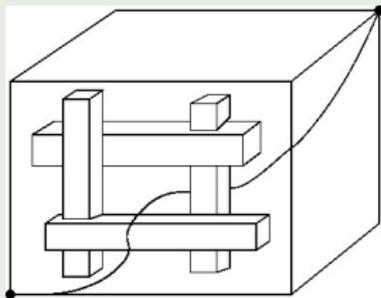
8.7.2011

- Higher Dimensional Automata: Examples of **state spaces** and associated **path spaces**
- Motivation: **Concurrency**
- A simple case: State spaces and path spaces related to **linear PV-programs**
- Tool: Cutting up path spaces into **contractible** subspaces
- Homotopy type of path space described by a **matrix poset category** and realized by a **prodsimplicial complex**
- Algorithmics: Detecting **dead** and **alive** subcomplexes/matrices
- Outlook: How to handle **general HDA**.

# Intro: State space and trace space

Problem: How are they related?

## Example 1: State space and trace space for a semaphore space



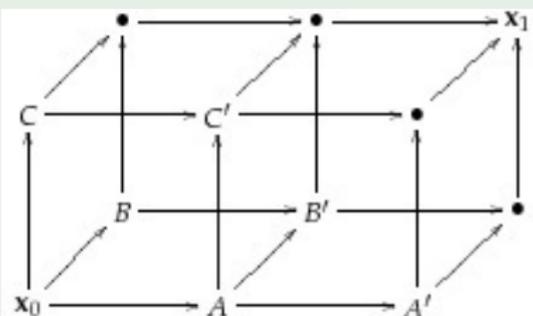
State space =  
a 3D cube  $\mathbb{T}^3 \setminus F$   
minus 4 box obstructions

Path space model contained  
in a torus  $(\partial\Delta^2)^2$  –  
homotopy equivalent to a  
wedge of two circles and a  
point:  $(S^1 \vee S^1) \sqcup *$

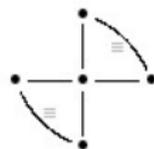
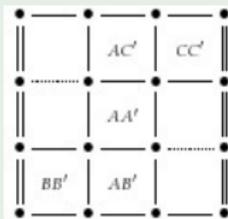
# Intro: State space and trace space

Pre-cubical set as state space

## Example 2: State space and trace space for a non-looping semi-cubical complex



**State space:** Boundaries of two cubes glued together at common square  $AB'C'$

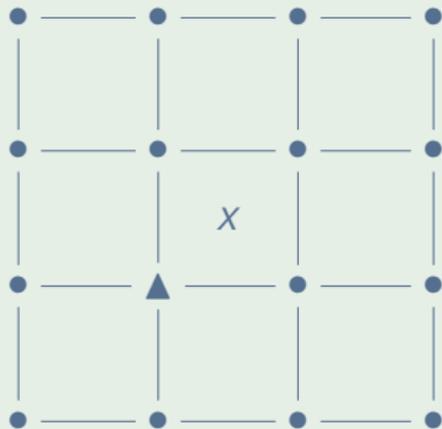


**Path space model:**  
Prodsimplicial complex  
contained in torus  $(\partial\Delta^2)^2$ —  
homotopy equivalent to  
 $S^1 \vee S^1$

# Intro: State space and trace space

with loops

## Example 3: Torus with a hole



**Path space model:**  
Discrete infinite space of  
dimension 0 corresponding  
to  $\{r, u\}^*$

**State space with hole:**

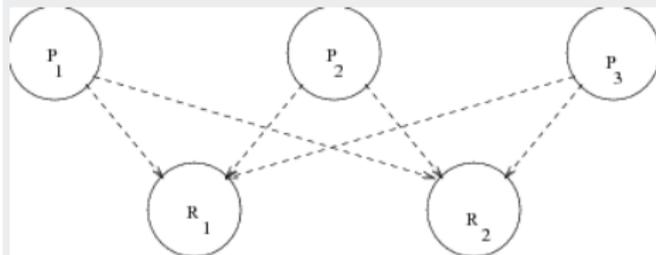
2D torus  $\partial\Delta^2 \times \partial\Delta^2$  with a  
rectangle  $\Delta^1 \times \Delta^1$  removed

# Motivation: Concurrency

Semaphores: A simple model for mutual exclusion

## Mutual exclusion

occurs, when  $n$  processes  $P_i$  compete for  $m$  resources  $R_j$ .



Only  $k$  processes can be served at any given time.

## Semaphores

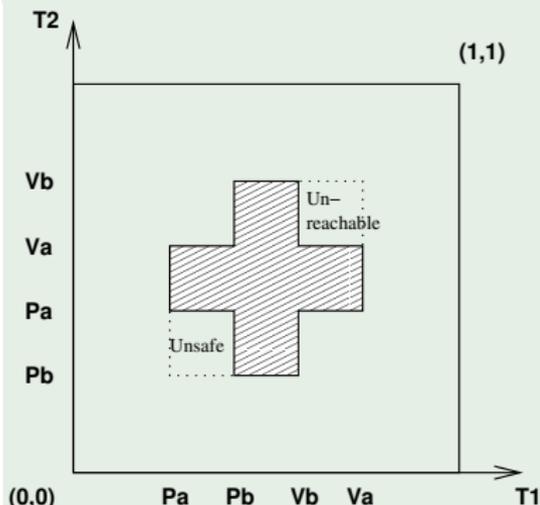
Semantics: A processor has to lock a resource and to relinquish the lock later on!

**Description/abstraction**  $P_i : \dots PR_j \dots VR_j \dots$  (E.W. Dijkstra)

**P**: pakken; **V**: vrijlaten

# A geometric model: Schedules in "progress graphs"

## The Swiss flag example



PV-diagram from

$P_1 : P_a P_b V_b V_a$

$P_2 : P_b P_a V_a V_b$

Executions are **directed paths** – since time flow is irreversible – avoiding a **forbidden region** (shaded). Dipaths that are **dihomotopic** (through a 1-parameter deformation consisting of dipaths) correspond to **equivalent** executions. **Deadlocks, unsafe and unreachable** regions may occur.

# Simple Higher Dimensional Automata

## Semaphore models

### The state space

A linear PV-program is modeled as the complement of a forbidden region  $F$  consisting of a number of holes in an  $n$ -cube  $I^n$ :

Hole = isothetic hyperrectangle

$R^i = ]a_1^i, b_1^i[ \times \cdots \times ]a_n^i, b_n^i[, 1 \leq i \leq l$ , in an  $n$ -cube:  
with minimal vertex  $\mathbf{a}^i$  and maximal vertex  $\mathbf{b}^i$ .

State space  $X = \overline{I^n} \setminus F$ ,  $F = \bigcup_{i=1}^l R^i$

$X$  inherits a partial order from  $\overline{I^n}$ .

### More general (PV)-programs:

- Replace  $\overline{I^n}$  by a product  $\Gamma_1 \times \cdots \times \Gamma_n$  of digraphs.
- Holes have then the form  $p_1^i((0, 1)) \times \cdots \times p_n^i((0, 1))$  with  $p_j^i: \overline{I} \rightarrow \Gamma_j$  a directed injective (d-)path.
- **Pre-cubical complexes**: like pre-simplicial complexes, with (partially ordered) hypercubes instead of simplices as building blocks.

# Spaces of d-paths/traces – up to dihomotopy

the interesting spaces

## Definition

- $X$  a **d-space**,  $a, b \in X$ .  
 $p: \vec{I} \rightarrow X$  a **d-path** in  $X$  (continuous and “order-preserving”) from  $a$  to  $b$ .
- $\vec{P}(X)(a, b) = \{p: \vec{I} \rightarrow X \mid p(0) = a, p(b) = 1, p \text{ a d-path}\}$ .  
**Trace space**  $\vec{T}(X)(a, b) = \vec{P}(X)(a, b)$  modulo increasing reparametrizations.  
In most cases:  $\vec{P}(X)(a, b) \simeq \vec{T}(X)(a, b)$ .
- A **dihomotopy** on  $\vec{P}(X)(a, b)$  is a map  $H: \vec{I} \times I \rightarrow X$  such that  $H_t \in \vec{P}(X)(a, b)$ ,  $t \in I$ ; ie a path in  $\vec{P}(X)(a, b)$ .

## Aim:

Description of the **homotopy type** of  $\vec{P}(X)(a, b)$  as **explicit finite dimensional prodsimplicial complex**.

In particular: its **path components**, ie the dihomotopy classes of d-paths (executions).

# Tool: Covers of $X$ and of $\vec{P}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$

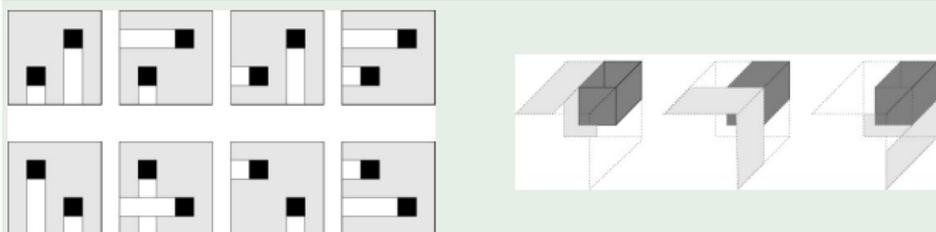
by contractible or empty subspaces

$X = \vec{I}^n \setminus F, F = \bigcup_{i=1}^l R^i; R^i = [\mathbf{a}^i, \mathbf{b}^i]; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}$  the two corners in  $I^n$ .

## Definition

$$\begin{aligned} X_{j_1, \dots, j_l} &= \{x \in X \mid \forall i : x_{j_i} \leq a_{j_i}^i \vee \exists k : x_k \geq b_k^i\} \\ &= \{x \in X \mid \forall i : x \leq \mathbf{b}^i \Rightarrow x_{j_i} \leq a_{j_i}^i\}, \quad 1 \leq j_i \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

## Examples:



## A cover:

$$\vec{P}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \bigcup_{1 \leq j_1, \dots, j_l \leq n} \vec{P}(X_{j_1, \dots, j_l})(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}).$$

# More intricate subspaces as intersections

either empty or contractible

## Definition

$\emptyset \neq J_1, \dots, J_l \subseteq [1 : n]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} X_{J_1, \dots, J_l} &= \bigcap_{j_i \in J_i} X_{j_1, \dots, j_l} \\ &= \{x \in X \mid \forall i, j_i \in J_i : x \leq \mathbf{b}^i \Rightarrow x_{j_i} \leq a_{j_i}^i\} \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem

Every path space  $\vec{P}(X_{J_1, \dots, J_l})(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  is either **empty** or **contractible**.

## Proof.

relies on: Subspaces  $X_{J_1, \dots, J_l}$  are **closed under  $\vee = \text{l.u.b.}$**   $\square$

## Question:

For which  $J_1, \dots, J_l \subseteq [1 : n]$  is  $\vec{P}(X_{J_1, \dots, J_l})(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \neq \emptyset$ ?

# Combinatorics: Bookkeeping with binary matrices

## Binary matrices

$M_{l,n}$  poset ( $\leq$ ) of binary  $l \times n$ -matrices

$M_{l,n}^R$  no row vector is the zero vector

$M_{l,n}^C$  every column vector is a unit vector

## Correspondences

Index sets  $\leftrightarrow$  Matrix sets

$(\mathcal{P}([1:n]))^l \leftrightarrow M_{l,n}$

$J = (J_1, \dots, J_l) \mapsto M^J = (m_{ij}), m_{ij} = 1 \Leftrightarrow j \in J_i$

$J^M \leftarrow M \quad J_i^M = \{j \mid m_{ij} = 1\}$

$l$ -tuples of subsets  $\neq \emptyset \leftrightarrow M_{l,n}^R$

$\{(K_1, \dots, K_l) \mid [1:n] = \bigsqcup K_i\} \leftrightarrow M_{l,n}^C$

## Question rephrased

$X_M := X_{J_M}, \quad \vec{P}(X_M)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \vec{P}(X_{J_M})(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \neq \emptyset?$

# A combinatorial model and its geometric realization

## First examples

Combinatorics: poset  
category –

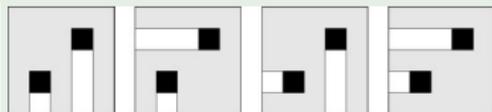
$$\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \subseteq M_{l,n}^R \subseteq M_{l,n}$$
$$J \leftrightarrow M \in \mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$$

Topology: prodsimplicial  
complex

$$\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \subseteq (\Delta^{n-1})^l$$
$$\Delta_{J_1}^{|J_1|-1} \times \cdots \times \Delta_{J_l}^{|J_l|-1} \subseteq$$
$$\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \vec{P}(X_M)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \neq \emptyset.$$

## First examples



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

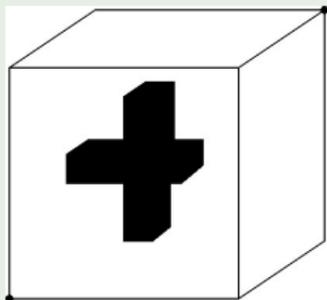
- $\mathbf{T}(X_1)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = (\partial\Delta^1)^2 = 4*$
- $\mathbf{T}(X_2)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = 3*$

$$\supset \mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$$

## State spaces and “alive” matrices

1  $X = \vec{I}^n \setminus \vec{J}^n$

2



- 1
- $\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = M_{1,n}^R \setminus \{[1, \dots, 1]\}$ .
  - $\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \partial\Delta^{n-1} \simeq \mathcal{S}^{n-2}$ .

- 2
- $\mathcal{C}_{max}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$
  - $\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \{M \in M_{l,n}^R \mid \exists N \in \mathcal{C}_{max}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) : M \leq N\}$
  - $\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = 3 \text{ diagonal squares} \subset (\partial\Delta^2)^2 = T^2 \simeq \mathcal{S}^1$ .

Many more examples in Goubault's talk!

# Homotopy equivalence between trace space $\vec{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ and the prodsimplicial complex $\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$

## Theorem

$$\vec{P}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \simeq \mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \simeq \Delta\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}).$$

## Proof.

- Functors  $\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{T} : \mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})^{(\text{op})} \rightarrow \mathbf{Top}$ :  
 $\mathcal{D}(M) = \vec{P}(X_M)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ ,  
 $\mathcal{E}(M) = \Delta_{J_1}^{|J_1|-1} \times \cdots \times \Delta_{J_l}^{|J_l|-1} = \Delta_{J_M}$ ,  
 $\mathcal{T}(M) = *$
- $\text{colim } \mathcal{D} = \vec{P}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ ,  $\text{colim } \mathcal{E} = \mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ ,  
 $\text{hocolim } \mathcal{T} = \Delta\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ .
- The trivial natural transformations  $\mathcal{D} \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{E} \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}$  yield:  
 $\text{hocolim } \mathcal{D} \cong \text{hocolim } \mathcal{T}^* \cong \text{hocolim } \mathcal{T} \cong \text{hocolim } \mathcal{E}$ .
- Projection lemma:  
 $\text{hocolim } \mathcal{D} \simeq \text{colim } \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\text{hocolim } \mathcal{E} \simeq \text{colim } \mathcal{E}$ .



# Why prodsimplicial?

rather than simplicial

- We distinguish, for every obstruction, **sets**  $J_i$  of restrictions. A joint restriction is of type  $J_1 \times \cdots \times J_l$ , and not an arbitrary subset of  $[1 : n]^l$ .
- Prodsimplicial and simplicial model (nerve of category) have the same number of **vertices** ( $\leq n^l$ ) and **dimension** ( $\leq (n-1)(l-1) - 1$ ).
- The number of cells is of different orders:  
prodsimplicial  $2^{n^l}$   
simplicial  $2^{(n^l)}$

# From $\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ to properties of path space

Questions answered by homology calculations using  $\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$

## Questions

- Is  $\vec{\mathcal{P}}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  **path-connected**, i.e., are all (execution)  $d$ -paths dihomotopic (lead to the same result)?
- Determination of **path-components**?
- Are components **simply connected**?  
Other topological properties?

## Strategies – Attempts

- **Implementation** of  $\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  in ALCOOL:  
Progress at CEA/LIX-lab.: Goubault et al
- The prodsimplicial structure on  $\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \leftrightarrow \mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  leads to an associated **chain complex** of vector spaces over a field.
- Use fast algorithms (eg Mrozek CrHom etc) to calculate the **homology** groups of these chain complexes even for very big complexes.
- Number of path-components:  $rkH_0(\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}))$ .  
For path-components alone, there are faster “discrete” methods, that also yield representatives in each path component: Goubault et al.
- Even when “exponential explosion” prevents precise calculations, inductive determination (**round by round**) of general properties ((simple) connectivity) may be possible.



# Detection of dead and alive subcomplexes

An algorithm starts with deadlocks and unsafe regions!

Allow less = forbid more!

Remove **extended** hyperrectangles  $R_j^i$

$:= [0, b_1^i[ \times \cdots \times [0, b_{j-1}^i[ \times a_j^i, b_j^i[ \times [0, b_{j+1}^i[ \times \cdots \times [0, b_n^i[ \supset R^i$ .

$$X_M = X \setminus \bigcup_{m_{ij}=1} R_j^i.$$

## Theorem

*The following are equivalent:*

- 1  $\vec{P}(X_M)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow M \notin \mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ .
- 2 *There is a map  $i : [1 : n] \rightarrow [1 : l]$  such that  $m_{i(j), j} = 1^a$  and such that  $\bigcap_{1 \leq j \leq n} R_j^{i(j)} \neq \emptyset$  – giving rise to a **deadlock** unavoidable from  $\mathbf{0}$ .*

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<sup>a</sup>corresponding to a matrix  $M(i) \in M_{l,n}^{\mathbf{C}}$  with  $M(i) \leq M$

# Partial orders and order ideals on matrix spaces

and an order preserving decision map  $\Psi$

## Dead or alive?

Consider  $\Psi : M_{l,n} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}/2$ ,  $\Psi(M) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \vec{P}(X_M)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \emptyset$ .

- $\Psi$  is **order preserving**, in particular:

$\Psi^{-1}(0), \Psi^{-1}(1)$  are closed in opposite senses:

$M \leq N : \Psi(N) = 0 \Rightarrow \Psi(M) = 0; \Psi(M) = 1 \Rightarrow \Psi(N) = 1$   
(thus  $\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  prod**simplicial**).

- $\Psi(M) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \exists N \in M_{l,n}^C$  such that  $N \leq M, \Psi(N) = 1$

$D(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \{N \in M_{l,n}^C \mid \Psi(N) = 1\}$  – dead

$\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \{M \in M_{l,n}^R \mid \Psi(M) = 0\}$  – alive

# Maximal alive – minimal dead

## Still alive – not yet dead

- $\mathcal{C}_{\max}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \subset \mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  **maximal** alive matrices.
- Matrices in  $\mathcal{C}_{\max}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  correspond to **maximal simplex products** in  $\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ .
- $D_{\min}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = D(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \cap M_{l,n}^{\mathcal{C}}$  **minimal** dead matrices.
- Connection:  $M \in \mathcal{C}_{\max}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}), M \leq N$  a successor (a single 0 replaced by a 1)  $\Rightarrow N \in D_{\min}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ .

## A cube removed from a cube

- $X = \vec{I}^n \setminus \vec{J}^n, D(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \{[1, \dots, 1]\}$ ;
- $\mathcal{C}_{\max}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ : vectors with a single 0;
- $\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = M_{l,n}^R \setminus \{[1, \dots, 1]\}$ ;
- $\mathbf{T}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) = \partial\Delta^{n-1}$ .

# Dead matrices in $D_{min}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$

Inequalities decide

## Decisions: Inequalities

- Enough to decide among the  $l^n$  matrices in  $M_{l,n}^C$ .
- A matrix  $M \in M_{l,n}^C$  is described by a (choice) map

$$i : [1 : n] \rightarrow [1 : l], m_{i(j),j} = 1.$$

- **Deadlock algorithm**  $\rightsquigarrow$  inequalities:

$$M \in D(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \Leftrightarrow a_j^{i(j)} < b_j^{i(k)} \text{ for all } 1 \leq j, k \leq n.$$

- Algorithmic organisation: Choice maps with the **same image** give rise to the same **upper** bounds  $b_j^*$ .

# From $D(X)$ to $\mathcal{C}_{max}(X)$

Minimal transversals in hypergraphs (simplicial complexes)

## Incremental search: comparisons

Construct  $\mathcal{C}_{max}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  incrementally (checking for one matrix  $N \in D(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  at a time), starting with matrix  $\mathbf{1}$ :

- 1  $N_{i+1} \not\leq M \in \mathcal{C}^i(X) \Rightarrow M \in \mathcal{C}^{i+1}(X)$ ;
- 2  $N_{i+1} \leq M \Rightarrow M$  is replaced by  $n$  matrices  $M^j$  with one additional 0.     **Example:**  $X = \vec{I}^n \setminus \vec{J}^n$ .

## Minimal transversals in a hypergraph

- A matrix in  $D(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  describes a **hyperedge** on the vertex set  $[1 : l] \times [1 : n]$ ;  $D(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  describes a **hypergraph**.
- A **transversal** in a hypergraph is a vertex set that has **non-empty intersection with each hyperedge**.
- Complements of minimal transversals correspond to matrices in  $\mathcal{C}_{max}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  – algorithms well-developed.

## More general linear semaphore state spaces

- More general semaphores (intersection with the boundary of  $I^n$  allowed)
- $n$  dining philosophers: Trace space has  $2^n - 2$  components
- Different end points:  $\vec{P}(X)(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{d})$  and iterative calculations
- End **complexes** rather than end points (allowing processes not to respond..., Herlihy & Cie)
- Same technique, modification of definition and calculation of  $\mathcal{C}(X)(-, -)$ ,  $D(X)(-, -)$  etc. ; cf preprint, submitted.

## State space components

New light on definition and determination of **components** of model space  $X$ .

# Extensions

2a. Semaphores corresponding to **non-linear** programs:

## Path spaces in product of digraphs

Products of digraphs instead of  $\vec{I}^n$ :

$\Gamma = \prod_{j=1}^n \Gamma_j$ , state space  $X = \Gamma \setminus F$ ,

$F$  a product of generalized hyperrectangles  $R^i$ .

- $\vec{P}(\Gamma)(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \prod \vec{P}(\Gamma_j)(x_j, y_j)$  – **homotopy discrete!**

## Pullback to linear situation

Represent a **path component**  $C \in \vec{P}(\Gamma)(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  by (regular)  $d$ -paths  $p_j \in \vec{P}(\Gamma_j)(x_j, y_j)$  – an interleaving.

The map  $c : \vec{I}^n \rightarrow \Gamma$ ,  $c(t_1, \dots, t_n) = (c_1(t_1), \dots, c_n(t_n))$  induces a **homeomorphism**  $\circ c : \vec{P}(\vec{I}^n)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \rightarrow C \subset \vec{P}(\Gamma)(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ .

# Extensions

## 2b. Semaphores: Topology of components of interleavings

### Homotopy types of interleaving components

Pull back  $F$  via  $c$ :

$\bar{X} = \bar{I}^n \setminus \bar{F}$ ,  $\bar{F} = \bigcup \bar{R}^i$ ,  $\bar{R}^i = c^{-1}(R^i)$  – honest hyperrectangles!

$i_X : \vec{P}(X) \hookrightarrow \vec{P}(\Gamma)$ .

Given a component  $C \subset \vec{P}(\Gamma)(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ .

The d-map  $c : \bar{X} \rightarrow X$  induces a homeomorphism

$c_\circ : \vec{P}(\bar{X})(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \rightarrow i_X^{-1}(C) \subset \vec{P}(X)(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ .

- $C$  “lifts to  $X$ ”  $\Leftrightarrow \vec{P}(\bar{X})(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}) \neq \emptyset$ ; if so:
- Analyse  $i_X^{-1}(C)$  via  $\vec{P}(\bar{X})(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ .
- Exploit relations between various components.

### Special case: $\Gamma = (S^1)^n$ – a torus

State space: A torus with rectangular holes in  $F$ :

Investigated by Fajstrup, Goubault, Mimram et al.:

Analyse by [language](#) on the alphabet  $\mathcal{C}(X)(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$  of [alive](#) matrices for a one-fold delooping of  $\Gamma \setminus F$ .

# Extensions

## 3a. D-paths in pre-cubical complexes

### HDA: Directed pre-cubical complex

Higher Dimensional Automaton: **Pre-cubical complex** – like simplicial complex but with **cubes** as building blocks – with preferred directions.

Geometric realization  $X$  with d-space structure.

### Branch points and branch cubes

These complexes have **branch points** and **branch cells** – **more than one** maximal cell with same lower corner vertex.

At branch points, one can cut up a cubical complex in simpler pieces.

Trouble: Simpler pieces may have **higher order branch points**.

# Extensions

## 3b. Path spaces for HDAs without d-loops

### Non-branching complexes

Start with complex without directed loops: After finally many iterations: Subcomplex  $Y$  **without** branch points.

### Theorem

$\vec{P}(Y)(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1)$  is *empty* or *contractible*.

### Proof.

Such a subcomplex has a preferred diagonal flow and a contraction from path space to the flow line from start to end. □

Results in a (complicated) finite category  $\mathcal{M}(X)(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1)$  on subsets of (iterated) branch cells.

### Theorem

$\vec{P}(X)(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1)$  is homotopy equivalent to the nerve  $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{M}(X)(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1))$  of that category.

# Extensions

## 3c. Path spaces for HDAs with d-loops

### Delooping HDAs

A pre-cubical complex comes with an  $L_1$ -length 1-form  $\omega = dx_1 + \dots + dx_n$  on every  $n$ -cube.

Integration:  $L_1$ -length on rectifiable paths, **homotopy invariant**.

Defines  $I : P(X)(x_0, x_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  and  $I_{\#} : \pi_1(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  with kernel  $K$ .

The (usual) covering  $\tilde{X} \downarrow X$  with  $\pi_1(\tilde{X}) = K$  is a **directed** pre-cubical complex **without** directed loops.

### Theorem (Decomposition theorem)

*For every pair of points  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1 \in X$ , path space  $\vec{P}(X)(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1)$  is homeomorphic to the disjoint union  $\bigsqcup_{n \in \mathbf{Z}} \vec{P}(\tilde{X})(\mathbf{x}_0^n, \mathbf{x}_1^n)^a$ .*

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<sup>a</sup>in the fibres over  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1$

# To conclude

- From a (rather compact) state space model to a **finite dimensional trace** space model.
- Calculations of invariants (Betti numbers) possible even for quite large state spaces.
- Dimension of trace space model reflects **not** the **size** but the **complexity** of state space (number of obstructions, number of processors) – **linearly**.
- Challenge: General properties of path spaces for algorithms solving types of problems in a **distributed** manner?  
(Connection to the work of Herlihy and Rajsbaum)

# Want to know more?

Thank you!

- Eric Goubault's talk this afternoon!

## References

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Thank you for your attention!