

# Discrete and Continuous Models for Concurrent Systems

## 1. The Geometry of Concurrency

Uli Fahrenberg

EPITA Research Laboratory (LRE), Rennes/Paris, France

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# Introduction

¿ Discrete and Continuous Models for Concurrent Systems ?

# Introduction

## Discrete and Continuous Models for Concurrent Systems

# Introduction

## Discrete and Continuous Models for Concurrent Systems

- plane ticket reservation system
- fleet of robots
- your computer!

# Introduction

## Discrete and Continuous Models for Concurrent Systems

# Introduction

## Discrete and Continuous Models for Concurrent Systems

- networks of automata
- Petri nets
- event structures
- higher-dimensional automata

# Introduction

Discrete and **Continuous Models** for Concurrent Systems

# Introduction

## Discrete and **Continuous Models** for Concurrent Systems

- Variants of directed topological spaces



# Introduction

¿ Uli Fahrenberg ?

# Introduction

Uli Fahrenberg

- 2005: PhD, *Aalborg* University, DK, Directed algebraic topology
- 2005-10: Aalborg University, Timed automata
- 2010-16: University of *Rennes*, FR, Specification theories
- 2016-21: École polytechnique, *Paris*, Geometry and concurrency

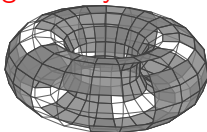
# Introduction

Uli Fahrenberg

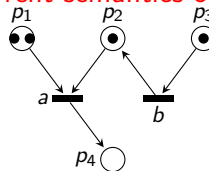
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- 2021-: **EPITA**, *Rennes/Paris*, **Automata and concurrency**



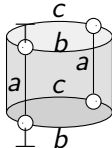
## 1. The geometry of concurrency



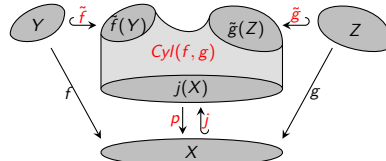
## 2. Concurrent semantics of Petri nets



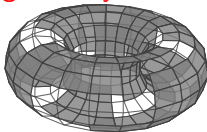
## 3. Languages of higher-dimensional aut.



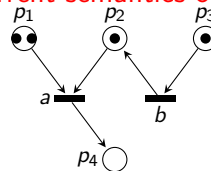
## 4. Geometry of higher-dimensional aut.



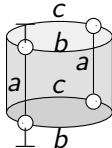
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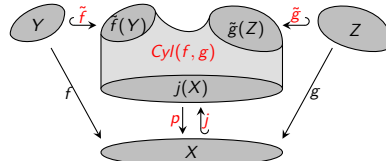
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## 4. Geometry of higher-dimensional aut.



① Introduction

② Geometric Semantics

③ Directed Algebraic Topology

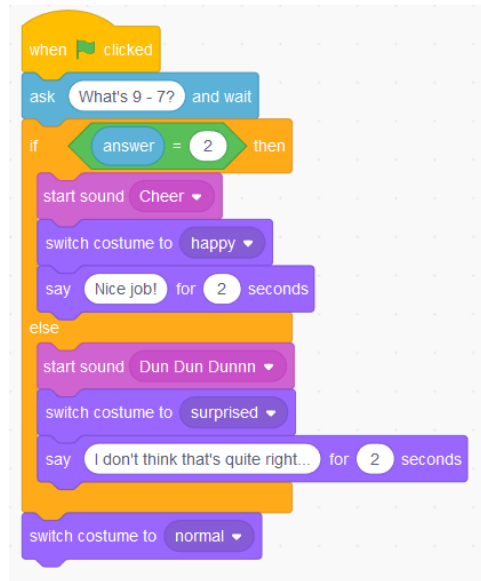
# Algebraic View

A program is

- a sequence of instructions
- plus branches
- and loops

Kleene algebra: set  $S$  with

- concatenation  $\otimes$
- choice  $\oplus$
- repetition  $*$
- idempotent semiring with unary  $*$  which computes fixed points



# Geometric View

A program is a sequence of instructions

- ignoring branches and loops for now

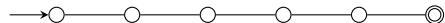




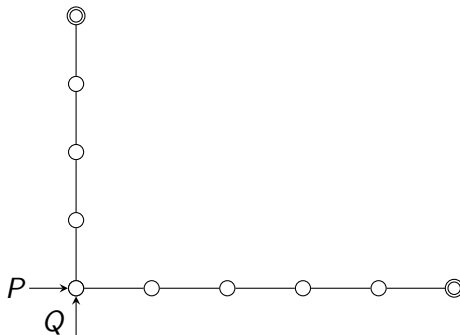
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A program is a sequence of instructions

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Now, a second program in parallel:



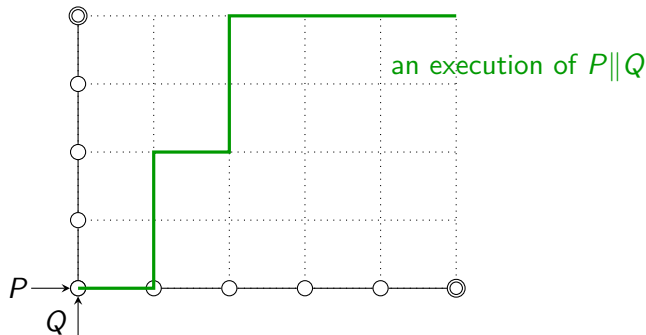
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A program is a sequence of instructions

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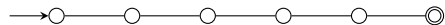
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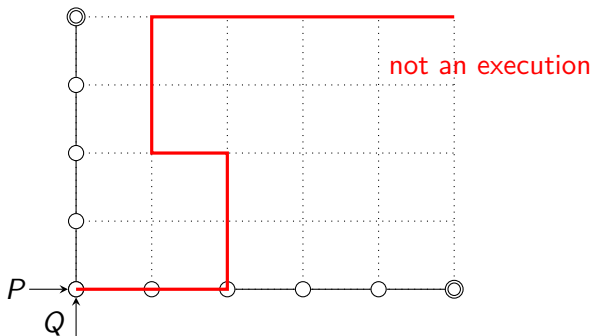
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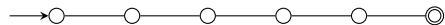
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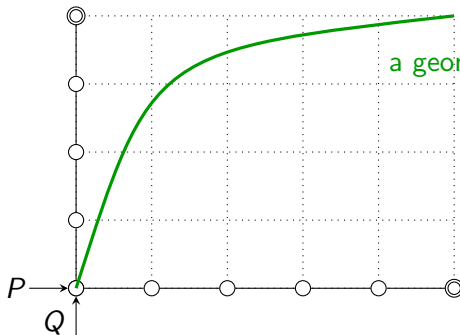
# Geometric View

A program is a sequence of instructions

- ignoring branches and loops for now



Now, a second program in parallel:



a geometric execution (!)

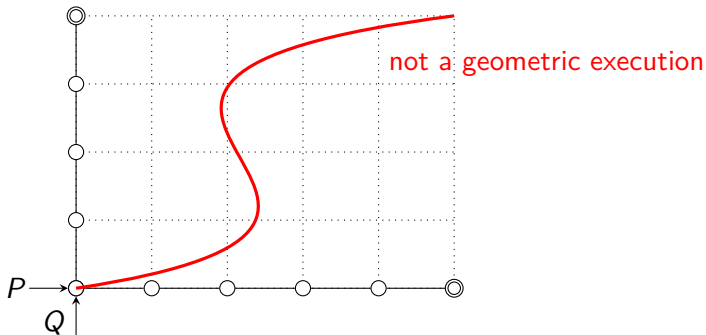
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A program is a sequence of instructions

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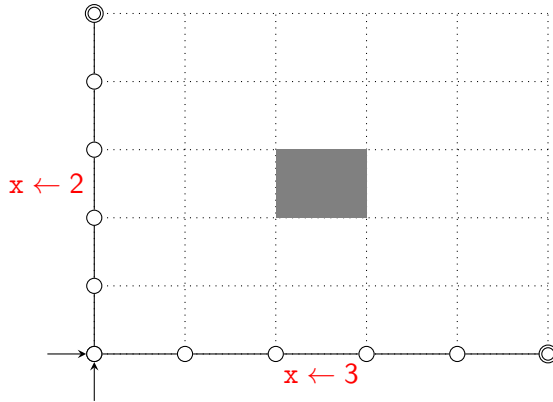


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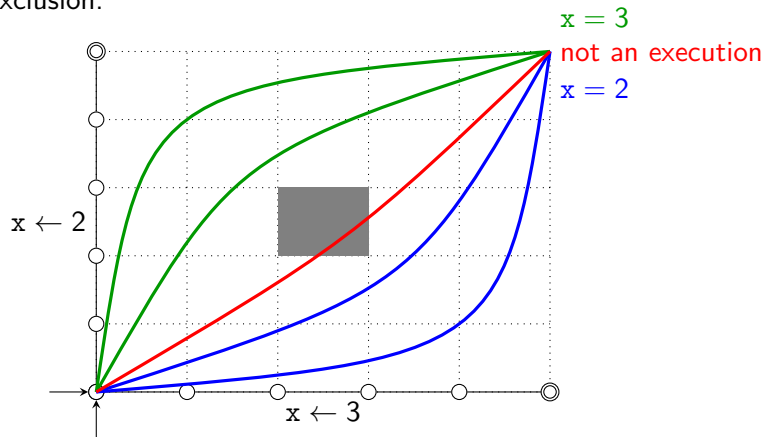
# Holes

Adding mutual exclusion:



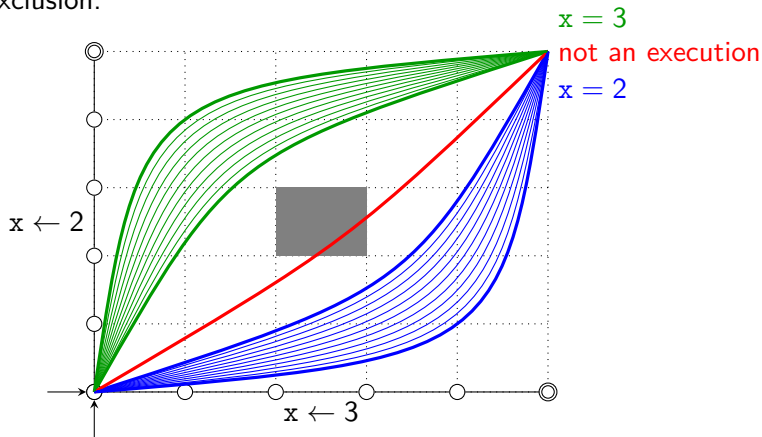
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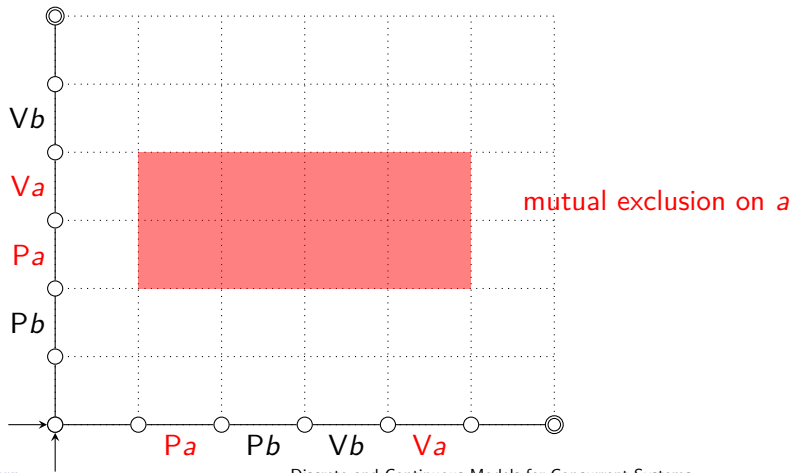


- homotopic paths  $\hat{=}$  equivalent executions



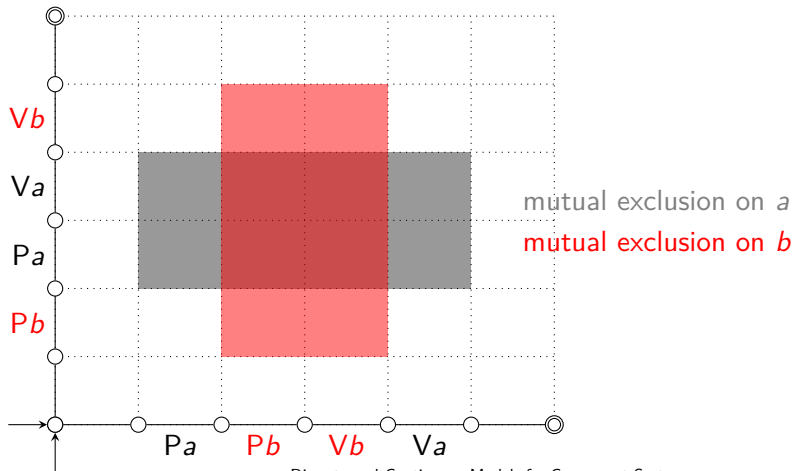
# More Holes

Semaphores à la Dijkstra ( $P \triangleq$  acquire;  $V \triangleq$  release):



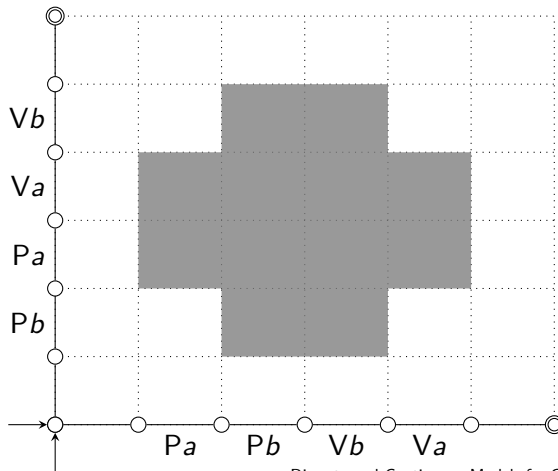
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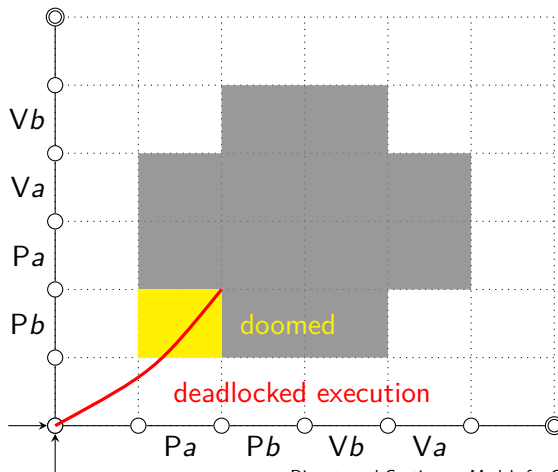
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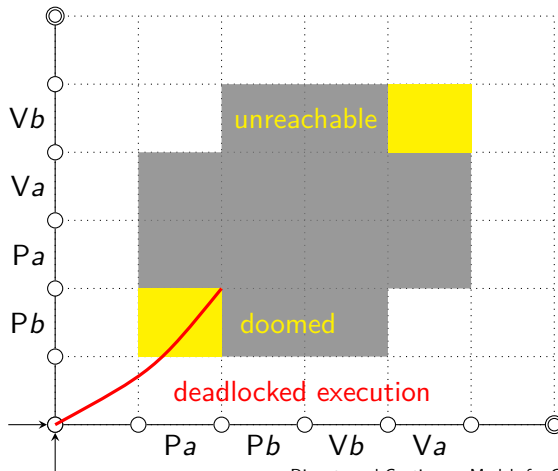
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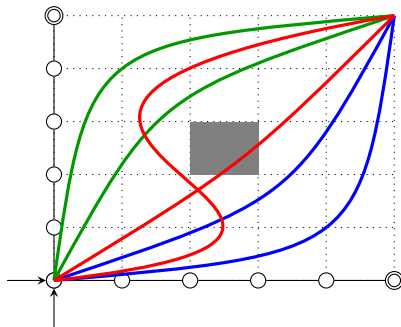


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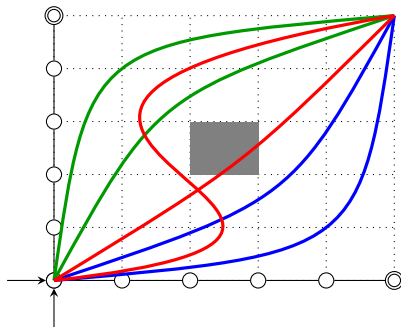


# Summing Up



- A program is a topological space
- An execution is a path through said space
- Two executions are equivalent iff their paths are homotopic
- Deadlocks and unreachable states are concave corners

# Summing Up



- A program is a **directed** topological space
- An execution is a **directed** path through said space
- Two executions are equivalent iff their **dipaths** are **dihomotopic**
- Deadlocks and unreachable states are concave corners

## ① Introduction

## ② Geometric Semantics

## ③ Directed Algebraic Topology



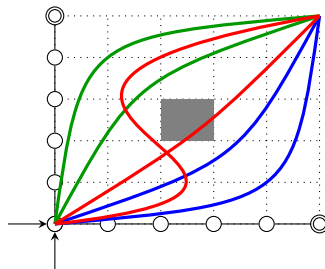
# Directed Spaces

## Definition (po-space)

A **partially ordered space** is a topological space  $X$  together with a partial order  $\leq$  on  $X$  such that  $\leq \subseteq X \times X$  is *closed* in the product topology.

A **morphism** of po-spaces is a  $\leq$ -preserving continuous function.

- a **dipath** in a po-space is a continuous & monotone path
  - a morphism  $\vec{I} \rightarrow X$
- directed interval  $\vec{I} = [0, 1]$  with usual order
- directed square  $\vec{I} \times \vec{I}$ , cube, etc.
- concatenation  $\otimes$ , branching  $\oplus$
- **no loops**



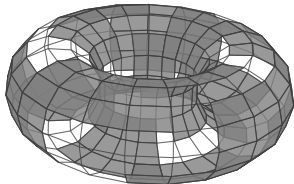
# Directed Spaces

## Definition (lpo-space)

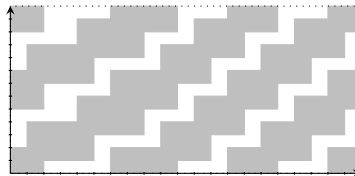
A **locally partially ordered space** is a *Hausdorff* topological space  $X$  together with a relation  $\leq$  on  $X$  in which any  $x \in X$  has an open neighborhood  $U \ni x$  such that the restriction of  $\leq$  to  $U$  is a closed partial order.

A **morphism** of po-spaces is a continuous function which is *locally*  $\leq$ -preserving.

- $\leq$  may be taken globally reflexive and transitive



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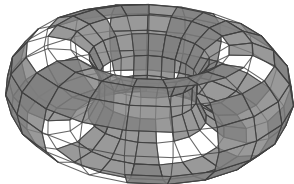
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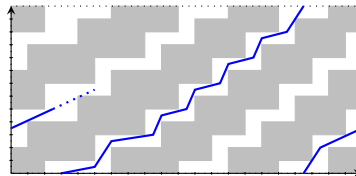
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- a **dipath** is a morphism  $\vec{I} \rightarrow X$



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# Directed Spaces

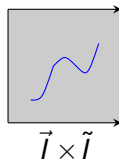
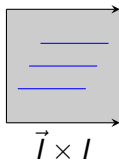
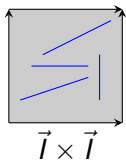
## Definition (d-space)

A **directed space** is a topological space  $X$  together with a set  $\vec{P}X$  of paths  $I \rightarrow X$ , called **directed paths**, such that

- all constant paths are directed,
- concatenations of directed paths are directed, and
- reparametrizations and restrictions of directed paths are directed.

A **morphism** of d-spaces is a continuous function which preserves directed paths.

- a **dipath** is a morphism  $p : \vec{I} \rightarrow X$ , equivalently  $p \in \vec{P}X$



# Directed Spaces

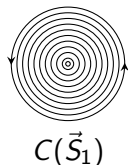
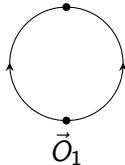
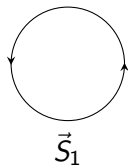
## Definition (d-space; unpacked)

A **directed space** is a topological space  $X$  together with a set  $\vec{P}X \subseteq \text{Top}(I, X)$  such that

- $\forall p \in X : \lambda x. p \in \vec{P}X$  [const]
- $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \vec{P}X : \alpha(1) = \beta(0) \implies \alpha * \beta \in \vec{P}X$  [conc]
- $\forall \alpha \in \vec{P}X, \rho : \vec{I} \rightarrow \vec{I} : \alpha \circ \rho \in \vec{P}X$  [rep-rest]

A **morphism** of d-spaces  $X, Y$  is  $f \in \text{Top}(X, Y)$  such that  $\forall \alpha \in \vec{P}X : f \circ \alpha \in \vec{P}Y$ .

Resulting category  $\text{dTop}$  is complete and cocomplete (and  $\text{dLCHaus}$  is cartesian closed).



origin is  
a **vortex**

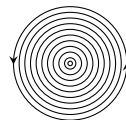
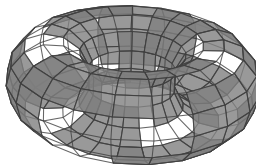
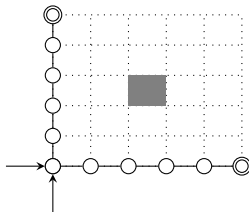
# Directed (?) Intervals

Three types of intervals:

- $\vec{I}$ :  $I = [0, 1]$  with **usual** order
  - po-space; lpo-space
  - as d-space:  $\vec{P}\vec{I}$ : all **monotone** paths
- $I$ : **trivial** order:  $x \leq y$  iff  $x = y$ 
  - po-space; lpo-space
  - as d-space:  $\vec{P}I$ : only **constant** paths
- $\tilde{I}$ : **chaotic** d-space
  - d-structure:  $\vec{P}\tilde{I}$ : **all** paths
  - not an lpo-space (every point is a vortex!), neither a po-space

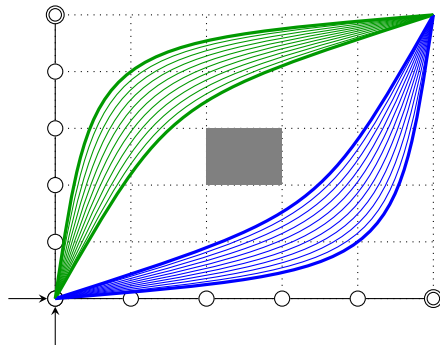
# Directed Spaces, Summary

- **po-spaces**: partially ordered topological spaces: no loops, nice but restrictive
- **lpo-spaces**: locally partially ordered top. spaces: loops OK, difficult to work with
- **d-spaces**: top. spaces with distinguished paths: nice category, but include vortices
- (other models exist)
- $\text{po-spaces} \hookrightarrow \text{lpo-spaces} \hookrightarrow \text{d-spaces}$  (not full as categories)



# Directed Paths and Homotopies

- the **directed interval**  $\vec{I}$ :  $([0, 1], \leq)$  (usual order): po-space
- **dipaths** in  $X$ : morphisms  $\vec{I} \rightarrow X$ 
  - for d-space  $(X, \vec{P}X)$ : dipaths  $\hat{=} \vec{P}X$
- a **dihomotopy**  $H : \vec{I} \times \vec{I} \rightarrow X$ :
  - all  $H(s, \cdot)$  dipaths
  - $H : I \times I \rightarrow X$  continuous
  - $H(\cdot, 0)$  and  $H(\cdot, 1)$  constant
  - (some variants exist)





# The Fundamental Category

- central object in algebraic topology: the **fundamental group** of a space  $X$
- for  $x \in X$ ,  $\pi_1(X, x) = \{\alpha : I \rightarrow X \mid \alpha(0) = \alpha(1) = x\}$  modulo homotopy
- captures **all** information on homotopy of **paths** / 1-dimensional **holes**

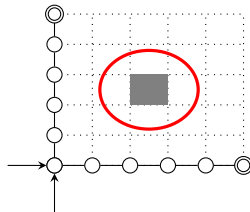
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- captures **all** information on homotopy of **paths** / 1-dimensional **holes**
- in d-spaces, loops carry little information!

## Definition (fundamental category)

The **fundamental category**  $\vec{\pi}_1(X)$  of a d-space  $X$  has as

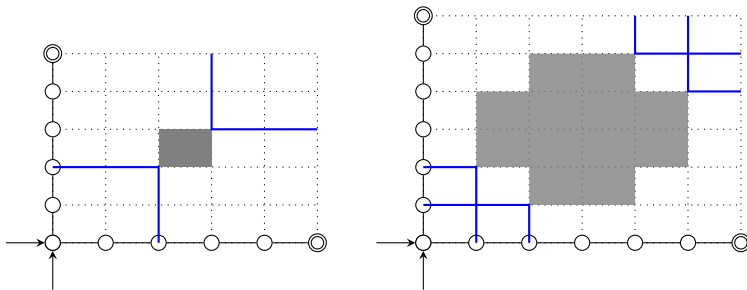
- objects **points**  $x \in X$ ,
- morphisms  $\vec{\pi}_1(X)(x, y) = \{\alpha : \vec{I} \rightarrow X \mid \alpha(0) = x, \alpha(1) = y\}$  modulo dihomotopy



# The Fundamental Category

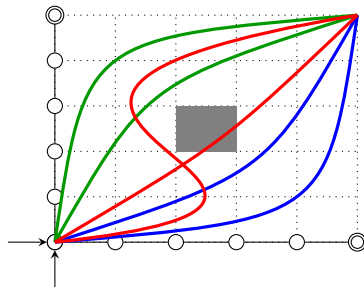
The **fundamental cat**  $\vec{\pi}_1(X)$  of a d-space  $X$  has as **objects** points  $x \in X$  and as **morphisms**  $\vec{\pi}_1(X)(x, y) = \{\alpha : \vec{I} \rightarrow X \mid \alpha(0) = x, \alpha(1) = y\}$  modulo dihomotopy.

- related: **fundamental groupoid** of topological spaces (“blow-up” of fundamental group)
- $\vec{\pi}_1(X)$  is **huge**  $\implies$  identify **components** “where nothing happens”



# Summing Up

- A program is a directed topological space  $X$ 
  - po-space, lpo-space, d-space, etc.
- An execution is a directed path  $\vec{I} \rightarrow X$
- Two executions are equivalent iff they are related by a dihomotopy  $\tilde{I} \times \vec{I} \rightarrow X$
- The fundamental category: useful invariant, but too big
- Directed homotopy equivalence; directed coverings; directed homology; directed topological complexity; etc.



## Selected Bibliography

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