



#### Fault-tolerant protocols and trace spaces



# Contents of the talk

- Some directed algebraic topology, in the shared memory, semaphore case: trace spaces
- A quick recap on fault-tolerants protocols for distributed systems (here, immediate snapshot and layered executions protocols à la Maurice Herlihy et al.)
- Links between the two approaches and future work

(ongoing work, with lots of inputs from Samuel Mimram, Emmanuel Haucourt, Christine Tasson, Lisbeth Fajstrup, Martin Raussen)



## Context of this talk

We consider in this talk concurrent programs interacting through shared memory (as an example)



- Synchronisation:
  - through semaphores (P for locking, V for unlocking), binary or "counting"
  - Or synchronisation through scan/update

# Directed Algebraic Topology

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#### Quick history

- "Progress graph" model of E. W. Dijkstra (1968)
- Applications to deadlock finding and correctness of distributed databases (serializability), Yannakakis, Lipsky, Papadimitriou etc. (1979-1985), Gunawardena (2 phase-locking protocol, 1994) etc.
- "Higher-dimensional automata" as a model for concurrency, Pratt/Van Glabbeek 1991, Goubault 1992, Raussen, Fajstrup, Grandis, Gaucher, etc., applications to static analysis of concurrent systems (state-space reduction)

(and many influences of other geometrical aspects of computer science, "Squier's theorem" 1985, Univalent Foundations of Voevodsky/Awodey 2009 etc.)

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#### Geometry

"progress graphs" E.W.Dijkstra'68

T1=Pa.Pb.Vb.Va in parallel with T2=Pb.Pa.Va.Vb



"Continuous model":  $x_i$  = local time; dark grey region=forbidden! see Algebraic Topology and Concurrency MFPS 1998/TCS 2006, L. Fajstrup, E. Goubault, M. Raussen

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#### Execution paths

are continuous

#### T1=Pa.Pb.Vb.Va in parallel with T2=Pb.Pa.Va.Vb



Traces are continuous paths increasing in each coordinate: dipaths.





#### Deadlocks





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#### Unreachables





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# Classes of equivalent dipaths up to dihomotopy





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# Examples of geometric semantics







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#### Examples of PV semantics





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# More formally

#### Basic definitions in directed algebraic topology

- Let X be a stream/d-space etc. (here we only consider a po-space, i.e. a topological space X together with a partial order ≤⊆ X × X, closed in the product topology)
- ▶  $p: I \to X$  a continuous and increasing path from po-space  $I = ([0, 1], \leq)$  (standard order) to X is a *directed path*
- Define the path space P(X)(a, b) = {p : I → X mod p(0) = a, p(1) = b, p is a directed path}
- ▶ A dihomotopy on P(X)(a, b) is a continuous map  $H: I \times I \to X$  such that  $H_t \in P(X)(a, b)$  for all  $t \in I$ .

#### Fact

Schedules are dihomotopy classes of dipaths

# Differences with classical AT



# Differences with classical AT



# DC - case of the update-scan model

Update-scan model, very close to the PV model:

- Each process P<sub>i</sub> has a distinguished local variable x<sub>i</sub>
- It can update the value of its "mirror" in global memory X<sub>i</sub>; (X<sub>i</sub>, i = 0,..., n − 1) forms a partition of global memory
- It can scan all of the global memory into its local memory
- It can perform local computations...

Processes are supposed to do (update; computation; scan)\* in parallel





Can we implement a function...given an "architecture" (faults? shared memory / message passing, synchronous / semi-synchronous / asynchronous etc.)?





# Protocol complex

Each protocol on some architecture defines:

- a simplicial set (for all rounds r):
  - ▶ vertices: sequence of "values" scanned at a given round r
  - simplices: compound states at round r
- This is an operator on an input simplex
- A choice of model of computation entails some geometrical properties of the protocol complex



One-round protocol simplicial set (2D)



First digit is the process number (identifying the local state)

► After the dot, for each round, we get a string of n bits, where n is the number of processes involved (here just one round, and n = 2)



# One-round protocol simplicial set (3D)



How can we find such pictures?

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#### How can we make the link between the two approaches?

 But where does the protocol complex comes from? The different local states should come from different schedules of execution

The higher dimensional simplexes in the protocol complexes will correspond to distinct schedules (i.e. paths mod dihomotopy classes)

To be computed from the (geometric) semantics of some "generic" scan/update program

How can we generalize this to more intricate distributed models, than scan/update?



# Examples of *scan/update* semantics





# Examples of *scan/update* semantics



In dimension *n*, the forbidden region consists of *n* crosses with n - 1 orthogonal branches.



Suppose given a program with *n* threads  $p = p_0|p_1| \dots |p_{n-1}|$ Under mild assumptions, the geometric semantics is of the form





#### Trace spaces

#### Formally

- ▶ Let X be a stream/d-space etc.
- Define the trace space T(X)(a, b) to be the path space between a and b modulo continuous and increasing reparametrizations
- We wish to study the homotopy type of T(X)(a, b)
- There is a homotopy equivalence between T(X)(a, b) and a certain prodsimplicial complex (Martin Raussen), which can be calculated combinatorially, on our simple semantics...



# Determining traces can be intricate!

Px.Py.Pz.Vx.Pw.Vz.Vy.Vw | Pu.Pv.Px.Vu.Pz.Vv.Vx.Vz Py.Pw.Vy.Pu.Vw.Pv.Vu.Vv



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- Binary semaphores are "easy" (trace spaces are discrete!)
- In general (with counting semaphores), recent result by Krzysztof Ziemański (unpublished, 2013):
   For each finite simplicial set S, there exists a finite PV-program P such that the trace space of P (from beginning to end) is homotopy equivalent to S
- So we may have the complexity of general homotopy types even with a simple computational model such as PV...



# Determining trace spaces, combinatorially

The main idea is to extend the forbidden cubes downwards in various directions and look whether there is a path from b to e in the resulting space.



By combining those information, we will be able to compute traces modulo homotopy.

The directions in which to extend the holes will be coded by boolean matrices M.

#### The index poset



# The index poset, combinatorially



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# The index poset

#### Alive and dead?

Important matrices are

- the dead poset  $D(X) = \{M \in \mathcal{M}_{l,n}^{C} / \Psi(M) = 1\}.$
- ► the index poset C(X) = {M ∈ M<sup>R</sup><sub>l,n</sub> / Ψ(M) = 0} (the alive matrices).
- ▶ consider the entrywise ordering (0 < 1) on matrices.





#### The dead poset

#### Proposition

A matrix  $M \in \mathcal{M}_{l,n}^{C}$  is in D(X) iff it satisfies

 $\forall (i,j) \in [0: I[\times [0: n[, M(i,j) = 1 \Rightarrow x_j^i < \min_{i' \in R(M)} y_j^{i'}]$ 

where R(M): indexes of non-null rows of M.



# Example, scan/update in dimension 2







#### The index poset

#### Proposition

A matrix M is in C(X) iff for every  $N \in D(X)$ ,  $N \notin M$ .

#### Remark

$$N 
eq M$$
: there exists  $(i,j)$  s.t.  $N(i,j) = 1$  and  $M(i,j) = 0$ .

#### Remark

Since C(X) is downward closed it will be enough to compute the set  $C_{max}(X)$  of maximal alive matrices.



# Connected components

#### Definition

Two matrices M and N are **connected** when  $M \wedge N$  does not contain any null row.  $(M \wedge N$ : pointwise min of M and N)

#### Proposition

The connected components of C(X) are in bijection with homotopy classes of traces  $b \rightarrow e$  in X.





Example





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# Some combinatorial considerations

#### Hypergraph transversal

- An hypergraph H = (V, E) consists of a set V of vertices and a set E of edges, where an edge is a subset of V
- ▶ A *transversal* T of H is a subset of V such that  $T \cap e \neq \emptyset$  for every edge  $e \in E$ .

#### $D(X) \Rightarrow$ hypergraph H:

- vertices: [0 : /[×[0 : n[
- ▶ hyperedges:  $\{(i,j) / D(i,j) = 1\}$  (D is a matrix in D(X))

The sets  $\{(i,j) / M(i,j) = 0\}$ , where *M* is a maximal matrix of C(X), correspond to *minimal transversals* (wrt inclusion order) of *H*.






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- $M_1$ :  $P_1$  does its scan before  $P_0$  does its update
- $M_2$ :  $P_0$  does its scan before  $P_1$  does its update
- $M_3$ :  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  do update, then do there scan together
- $M_1$ :  $P_1$  does not know the current value of  $P_0$  but  $P_0$  does
- $M_2$ :  $P_0$  does not know the current value of  $P_1$  but  $P_1$  does
- $\sim M_3$ :  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  know their values

















This is actually the minimal transversal hypergraph!





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More rounds? clean-memory/layered immediate snapshot



























#### Theorem

The clean memory model for n processes at round r produces a subdivided n simplex (up to some "flares" which do not affect (n-1)-connectedness)

(The flares are ruled out, classically, by the layered execution requirement)

- Clear relation with underlying geometric semantics
- ► All is fine, but is there a new result here? Not yet...





















Much more complicated! But fits in our framework perfectly



ightarrow each block (1 unfolding) creates an (n-1)-connected complex

- $\rightarrow$  glued under some recurrence relation
- $\rightarrow$  whose relations make it a contractible scheme for pasting blocks



Much more complicated! But fits in our framework perfectly



ightarrow each block (1 unfolding) creates an (n-1)-connected complex

- $\rightarrow$  glued under some recurrence relation
- $\rightarrow$  whose relations make it a contractible scheme for pasting blocks
- ightarrow hence (nerve lemma), creates an (n-1)-connected protocol
- complex! (not previously described, as this does not create an

iterated subdivided simplex)

# In general...: interval posets and schedules

#### Interval posets

- Let S be a set of closed intervals in ℝ (i.e. of elements of the form [a, b], a, b in ℝ)
- We define the partial order:

$$[a,b] \leqslant [c,d] \Leftrightarrow b \leqslant c$$

- ▶  $(S, \leqslant)$  is called an interval poset
- Are very well described, combinatorially
- For instance Fishburn's theorem (equivalence with (2+2)-free posets)
- And number of such posets on n elements is well known, example: 1,3,19,207,3451,... (this is A079144 on OEIS)



The dihomotopy classes of maximal paths, for the 1-round scan/update model for n processes, is in bijection with the interval posets on n elements.

The bijection associates to each dihomotopy class [p] the set of intervals in [0, 1]

$$(p\circ\pi_i)^{-1}([u_i,s_i])$$

 $(i = 1, \ldots, n)$ 

Proof relies on the characterization of dihomotopy classes through alive matrices, hence dead matrices - recall condition on being dead, as some interval inequalities!



#### Example, in dimension 2





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# What is the structure of the protocol complex now?

#### Extension order on posets

Let  $(S_1 \leq 1)$  and  $(S_2, \leq 2)$  be two partial order on some sets  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ . We say that  $\leq_1 \Rightarrow \leq_2$  if  $\forall s, t \in S_1$ ,  $s \leq_1 t \Rightarrow s \leq_2 t$ .

When  $S_1 = S_2$ , this is the linearization order.

#### Importance of the extension order for our purpose

Let  $\leq_1$  and  $\leq_2$  be interval orders on the same set of cardinal n + 1. If  $\leq_1$  is a linearization of  $\leq_2$  then the corresponding *n*-simplexes share a common (n - 1) face.

In fact, the face poset of the protocol complex is given by the extension order on interval posets up to n elements


### Structure of the protocol complex

#### Corollary

The protocol complex for scan/update in dimension n, for one round, is homotopy equivalent to the order complex for the extension order on interval posets up to n elements.

(since the order complex of the face poset is just the barycentric subdivision)

#### Theorem

The protocol complex for the scan/update model, in dimension n, for one round, is an (n-1)-connected simplicial set. It is a subdivision of  $\Delta[n]$  plus some extra contractible "flares".

The flares are ruled out, classically, by the layered execution requirement



#### Trace space

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### Reorganizing things a bit...

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### 3 of symmetry type (3,3,0)

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$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 1 0
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1
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$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 0 1	0 0 1
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	1 0 0	1 0 0
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 1 0	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 1 0	1 0 0	0 1 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	1 0 0	0 0 1
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
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$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 0 0	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 1 0	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	
	0 1 0	1 0 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	
	2 1 3	2 0 4	1 1 4	0 2 4	

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### 3 of symmetry type (4,1,1)

0	1	0	İ.	0	1	0	I.	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	Ì.				
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1	ñ	ñ		1	ñ	ñ		ñ	ň	1		1	Ô	ñ					
1	ñ	0		Ô	1	ő		ñ	1	0		ñ	1	ñ					
-1	2	0	-	3	3	0	-	2	3	1		-2	1	0					
	1	0	-	5	1	0	-	2	1	0	+	- 2	1	0	+	0	1	0	_
				1	0	0		1	1	0		1	0	0		1	1	0	
				1	0	1		1	0	1		1	0	1		1	0	1	
				1	0	1		1	0	1		1	0	1		0	1	1	
				1	0	0		1	0	1		1	0	1		0	1	1	
				T	1	0		1	0	1		0	1	1		0	1	1	
			-	0	1	0	_	1	0	0		0	1	0		0	1	0	
4	1	1		3	2	1		3	1	2		2	2	2		1	3	2	
0	1	0		0	1	0		0	1	0		0	0	1		0	0	1	
0	0	1		0	0	1		0	0	1		1	0	0		1	0	0	
0	1	0		0	0	1		0	0	1		0	0	1		0	0	1	
0	1	0		1	0	0		0	1	0		1	0	0		1	0	0	
0	0	1		0	0	1		0	0	1		1	0	0		0	0	1	
0	1	0		0	1	0		0	1	0		1	0	0		1	0	0	
0	4	2	-	1	2	3	-	0	3	3		4	0	2		3	0	3	
0	0	1		0	0	1		0	0	1		0	0	1					
1	0	0		0	0	1						0	0	1					
0	0	1		0	0	1						0	0	1					
1	0	0		1	0	0						0	1	0					
0	0	1		0	0	1						0	0	1					
0	1	0		1	0	0						0	1	0					
2	1	3	-	2	0	4	-					0	2	4					
							· //				1				1				

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## 6 of symmetry type (4,2,0)

0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0		C	1	0	
1	0	0		1	0	0	1	0	0		1	0	0	1	1	0	0	
0	1	0		0	1	0	0	1	0		0	1	0	(	)	1	0	
1	0	0		1	0	0	1	0	0		0	1	0	0	)	1	0	
1	ō	ō		1	Ō	õ	Ō	ō	1		1	0	ō	0	5	0	1	
1	0	0		0	1	0	0	1	0		0	1	0	0	5	1	0	
4	2	0		3	3	0	2	3	1	-	2	4	0		1	4	1	
0	1	0		0	1	0	0	1	0		0	1	0	(	)	1	0	_
1	0	0		1	0	0	1	0	0		1	0	0	1	1	0	0	
0	0	1		0	0	1	0	0	1		0	0	1	0	C	0	1	
1	0	0		1	0	0	1	0	0		1	0	0	0	5	1	0	
1	0	0		1	0	0	0	0	1		0	0	1	(	)	0	1	
1	0	0		0	1	0	1	0	0		0	1	0	(	)	1	0	
4	1	1		3	2	1	3	1	2	-	2	2	2	1	1	3	2	
0	1	0		0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	(	)	0	1	_
0	0	1		0	0	1	0	0	1		1	0	0	1	1	0	0	
0	1	0		0	0	1	0	0	1		0	0	1	(	)	0	1	
0	1	0		1	0	0	0	1	0		1	0	0	1	1	0	0	
0	0	1		0	0	1	0	0	1		1	0	0	(	)	0	1	
0	1	0		0	1	0	0	1	0		1	0	0	1	1	0	0	
0	4	2		1	2	3	0	3	3	1 -	4	0	2		3	0	3	
0	0	1		0	0	1	0	0	1		0	0	1					_
1	0	0		0	0	1	0	0	1		0	0	1					
0	0	1		0	0	1	0	0	1		0	0	1					
1	0	0		1	0	0	1	0	0		0	1	0					
0	0	1		0	0	1	0	0	1		0	0	1					
0	1	0		1	0	0	0	1	0		0	1	0					
2	1	3		2	0	4	1	1	4	1000	0	2	4					
							· //////											

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(3,2,1)						
	a b c	b   a c	a ' b c	c I a b	a   c b	
	c ' b a	b   c a				-





(3,3,0	D)					
	a b c	b   a c	a ' b c	c   a b	a   c b	
	c ' b a	b I ca	b c	a c b	a b	







(4,2	2,0)					
	a b c	b   a c	a b c	c   a b	a   c b	
	c ' b a	b   c a	b c	a c b	a b	
	b c	a c	a b	c b l a	b   c   a	
	c   a   b	b             	a c b	a b c		



#### Example, in dimension 3





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## Example: in dimension 3 (the 18 other schedules)





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Example: in dimension 3 (the 18 other schedules)



# Example: in dimension 3 (the 18 other schedules)





#### Logical interpretation

Each interval can be interpreted in terms of "knowledge", hence the structure of the protocol complex...













These are ruled out under the layered execution model





















#### Trace spaces: prodsimplicial structure

 A prod-simplicial space is just a space made up of simplices, and products of simplices, glued together along their faces (natural generalization of cubical and simplicial sets)





#### Trace spaces: prodsimplicial structure

- A prod-simplicial space is just a space made up of simplices, and products of simplices, glued together along their faces (natural generalization of cubical and simplicial sets)
- Example:







Each matrix of C represents a prod-simplex, product of one *n*-simplex per line, *n*=number of 1 per line minus 1...

Recall:



product of 2 0-simplices = point!



Each matrix of C represents a prod-simplex, product of one *n*-simplex per line, *n*=number of 1 per line minus 1...





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Each matrix of C represents a prod-simplex, product of one *n*-simplex per line, *n*=number of 1 per line minus 1...



- $C(X)(0,1) = \{(110), (101), (011)\}$
- and common faces are meet of matrices





Each matrix of C represents a prod-simplex, product of one *n*-simplex per line, *n*=number of 1 per line minus 1...

- $C(X)(0,1) = \{(110), (101), (011)\}$
- connected, not simply-connected (reflecting the fact that π<sub>2</sub>(X) = Z)





#### A more intricate example





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#### A more intricate example





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#### A more intricate example



#### In short: theorems

#### Theorem

The prodsimplicial set corresponding to the scan/update model, in any dimension n, for one round, is discrete. Its cardinal is the number of interval posets on n elements.

Compare with:

#### Theorem

The protocol complex for the scan/update model, in dimension n, for one round, is an (n-1)-connected simplicial set. It is a subdivision of  $\Delta[n]$  plus some extra contractible "flares".



#### In short: conjecture

#### Conjectural construction of protocol complexes

The protocol complex is homotopy equivalent to the transversal hypergraph made of dead matrices (a hypergraph is in particular a simplicial set).

For n = 2 we saw that; for n = 3, the transversal hypergraph is a 11 dimensional simplicial set; for any n it is of dimension  $n(n-1)^2 - 1$ .

Sort of duality between prodsimplicial representation and the protocol complex one?





#### Conclusion and future work

- Lots of experiments and lots of mathematics to be investigated yet on trace spaces...
- Applications to more subtle (and less combinatorial) models for protocols, in particular the "same memory model", and more intricate synchronisation primitives (test&set, fetch&add etc.)
- Extension to randomized algorithms: random simplicial sets! (account for possibility of consensus)
- Logical interpretation of these 2 frameworks, simplicial, and directed

etc.

#### Thanks for your attention!



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