

# The space of monoid preorders

Ongoing work with  
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## Question

[Metcalfe]

$\exists$ ? an algorithm that solves systems such as

$$\max\{x_1 x_2 x_3, x_4 x_5 x_6, x_7 x_8 x_9\} < \min\{x_1 x_4 x_7, x_2 x_5 x_8, x_3 x_6 x_9\}$$

... for the unknown *preorder*  $\leq$  on  $\{x^a \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^9\}$ ?

## Setting

$(\Pi, \cdot)$  : commutative monoid with neutral element 1

## Definition

A *preorder*  $\leq$  on  $\Pi$ :

- $(u \leq v \text{ and } v \leq w) \Rightarrow u \leq w$

- $u \leq u$

- $u \leq v \text{ or } v \leq u$

- $u \leq v \Rightarrow uw \leq vw$

we do *not* require:

- $(u \leq v \text{ and } v \leq u) \Rightarrow u = v$

- $1 \leq u$

- $(\Pi, \cdot) = (\mathbb{R}^k, +)$  and  $u \leq_{\text{lex}} v :\Leftrightarrow u = v$  or the first nonzero entry of  $u - v$  is  $< 0$ .
- $\rho : \Pi \rightarrow \Pi'$  a homomorphism,  $\leq'$  a preorder on  $\Pi' \rightsquigarrow \leq := \rho^*(\leq')$  by  $u \leq v :\Leftrightarrow \rho(u) \leq' \rho(v)$  is a preorder on  $\Pi$ .

## Theorem

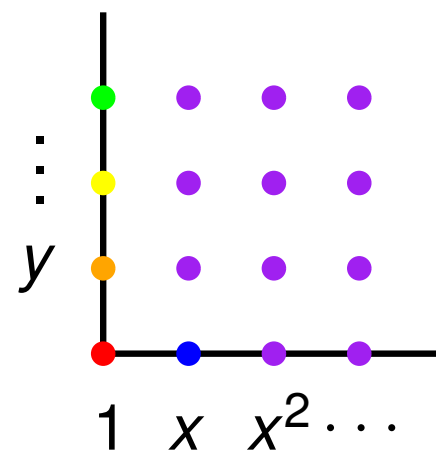
[Robbiano, 1985]

For any preorder  $\leq$  on  $(\mathbb{Z}^n, +)$  there exist  $k \leq n$  and a homomorphism  $\rho : \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  such that  $\leq = \rho^*(\leq_{\text{lex}})$ .

- $\text{Mon}_2 = \{x^i y^j \mid i, j \geq 0\} \cong \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^2$   
 $\leq$  means further up the rainbow here:

## Question

Characterisation of preorders on  $\text{Mon}_n$  à la Robbiano?



**Definition:** An *ideal* in  $\Pi$  is a subset  $I$  with  $\Pi \cdot I \subseteq \Pi$ .

- For  $\Pi = \text{Mon}_n \rightsquigarrow$  *monomial ideals* in  $K\Pi = K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .
- If  $1 \leq$  all  $u \in \Pi$ , then each up-set is an ideal; conversely, can construct positive preorders from certain ideals.

## Important observation

$\leq$  a preorder on  $\Pi \rightsquigarrow I_{\leq} := \langle \{u - v \mid u \leq v \leq u\} \rangle_K$  is a *binomial* ideal in  $K\Pi$  (in particular finitely generated).

- If  $I_{\leq}$  is *prime*, then  $\leq$  is the pull-back of a preorder on the *groupification*  $\text{Gr}(\Pi)$  ( $\cong \mathbb{Z}^n$  when  $\Pi = \text{Mon}_n$ ).
- In general:  $\leq$  is described by  $I_{\leq}$  and an *order* on monomials in  $K\Pi / I_{\leq}$ . Surely *orders* on a monoid  $\Pi$  are easy to describe?

## Notation

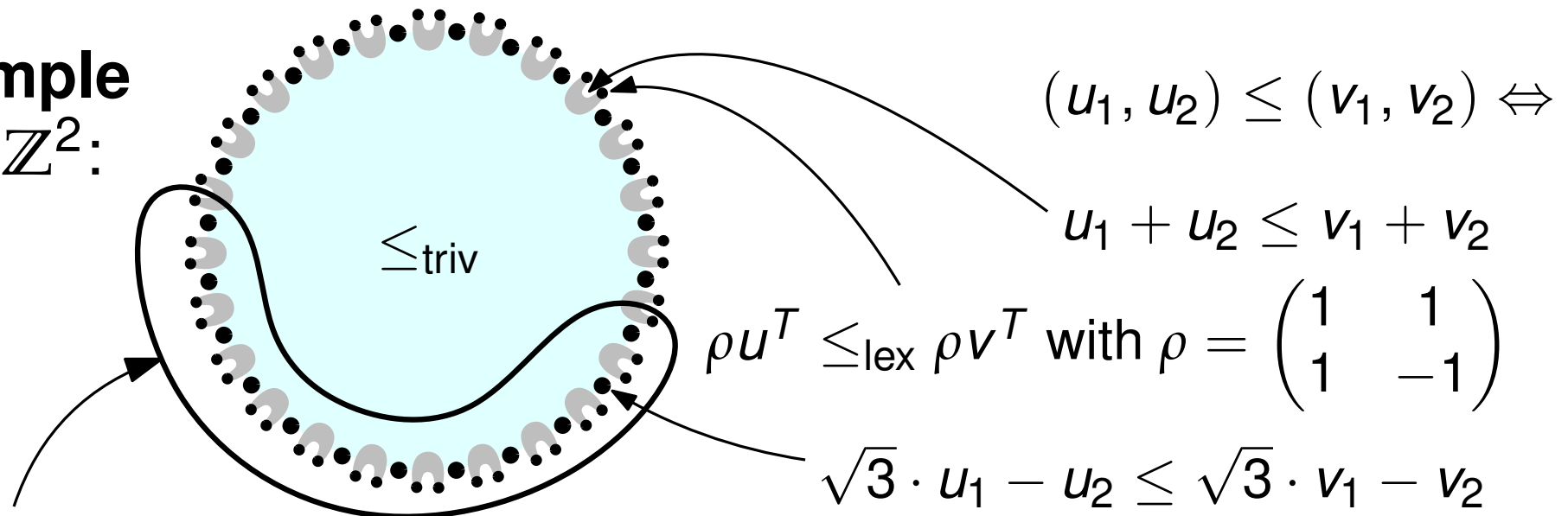
- $u \approx v$  means  $(u \leq v \text{ and } v \leq u)$
- $u < v$  means  $(u \leq v \text{ and not } v \leq u)$

## Definition

$\Pi$  a commutative monoid  $\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{P}(\Pi) = \{\text{all preorders on } \Pi\} +$   
weakest topology with  $\{\leq \mid u < v\}$  *closed* for all  $u, v$ .

## Example

$\Pi = \mathbb{Z}^2$ :



$\{\leq \mid (1, 2) < (0, 0)\}$

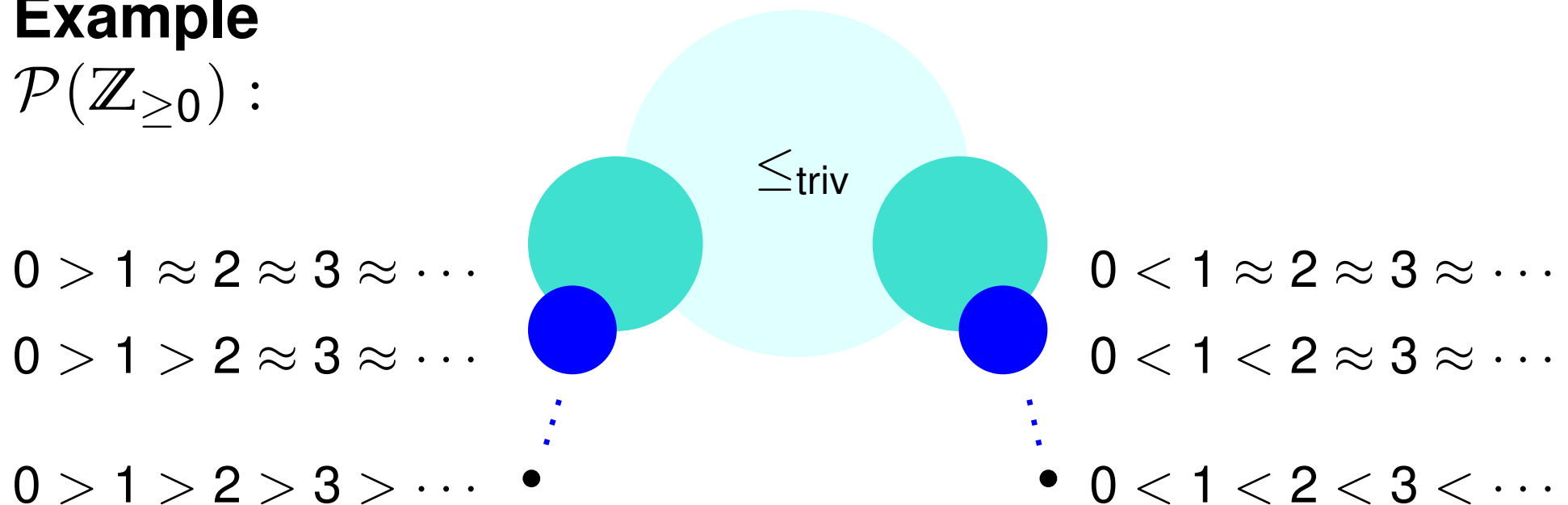


## Theorem A

- For any finitely generated commutative monoid  $\Pi$ ,  $\mathcal{P}(\Pi)$  is spectral, and every point is open in its closure.
- For all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Z}^n)$  has Krull dimension  $n$  but  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n)$  has infinite Krull dimension.

## Example

$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}) :$



## Definition

A  $\mathbb{Q}$ -constructible set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a set of the form  $A = S \setminus H$  with  $S$  semi-algebraic over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $H$  a countable union of hyperplanes through 0 defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

## Theorem B

For any finitely generated commutative monoid  $\Pi$ , there exist  $\mathbb{Q}$ -constructible sets  $A_1 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n_1}, A_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n_2}, \dots$  and continuous maps  $\varphi_i : A_i \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Pi)$  such that  $\mathcal{P}(\Pi) = \bigcup_i \text{im}(\varphi_i)$ .

## Theorem C

There exists an algorithm that on input  $\Pi$  and a finite boolean combination of basic closed sets  $\{\leq \mid u < v\} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(\Pi)$  decides whether that combination is empty.

## Definition

- A  $\Pi$ -set  $S$  is a set with a map  $\Pi \times S \rightarrow S, (u, s) \mapsto us$  s.t.  $1s = s$  and  $(uv)s = u(vs)$ ;  $S$  is *fin. gen.* if  $S = \bigcup_{i=1}^k \Pi s_i$ .
- A *preorder* on  $S$ :  $s \leq t \Rightarrow us \leq ut$ . (no preorder on  $\Pi$ )

*Theorems A,B,C hold for the space  $\mathcal{P}(S)$  of preorders on  $S$ , for any f.g. commutative monoid  $\Pi$  and any f.g.  $\Pi$ -set  $S$ .*

**Note:**  $\Pi = \text{Mon}_n, S = \text{Mon}_n \times \{1, \dots, m\} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{P}(S) = \{\text{monomial preorders for the free module } K[x_1, \dots, x_n]^m\}$ .

## Rest of this talk:

1. the case where  $\Pi$  is a group (generalisation of Robbiano's Theorem to  $\Pi$ -sets); and 2. the monoid case.



# 1. Generalising Robbiano's theorem to $\Pi$ -sets

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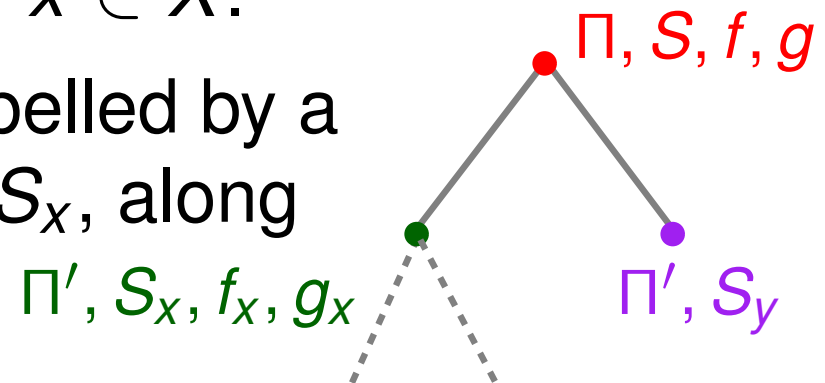
**Setting:**  $\Pi$  a f.g. abelian group and  $S$  a f.g.  $\Pi$ -set.

## Proposition

$\leq$  on  $S$  nontrivial  $\rightsquigarrow \exists f : \Pi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  homo,  $g : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  nonconstant s.t.  $g(us) = f(u) + g(s)$  and  $s \leq t \Rightarrow g(s) \leq g(t)$ .

**Induction:**  $\Pi' := \ker(f)$ ,  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  finite set of  $\text{im}(f)$ -coset representatives in  $\text{im}(g)$ ,  $S_x := g^{-1}(x) \rightsquigarrow \leq$  is determined by  $g$  and  $\leq|_{S_x}$  on the  $\Pi'$ -sets  $S_x$  for  $x \in X$ .

$\rightsquigarrow$  Get a *preotree* for  $\leq$ : vertex  $x$  labelled by a subgroup  $\Pi_x \subseteq \Pi$  and a f.g.  $\Pi_x$ -set  $S_x$ , along with *numerical data*  $(f_x, g_x)$ .



**Theorem** [DMK, Rust-Reid 97,...]: Every preorder on  $S$  comes from a preotree with numerical data, and vice versa.

## 2.a. Groupification

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**Setting:**  $\Pi$  a f.g. commutative monoid,  $S$  a f.g.  $\Pi$ -set.

### Groupifying

$\Pi \rightarrow \text{Gr}(\Pi)$ : formally invert all elements (e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^n$ )

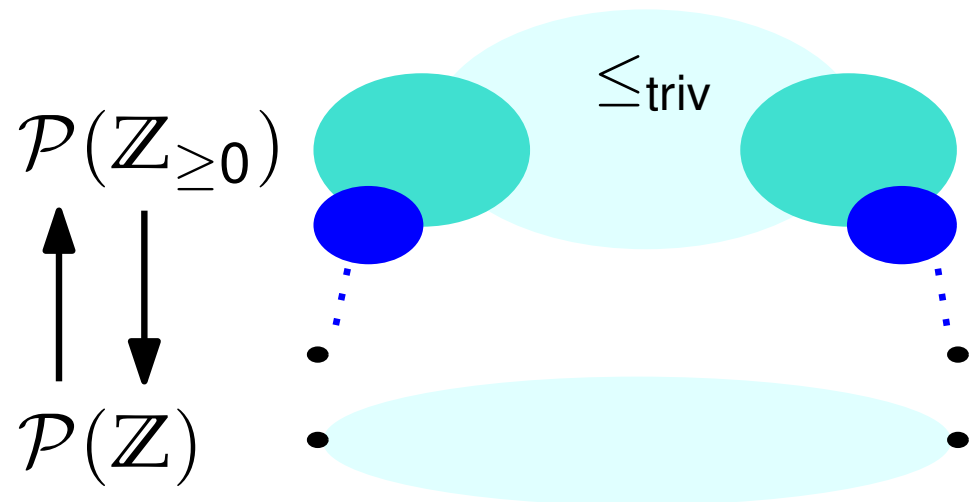
$S \rightarrow \text{Gr}(S)$ : universal  $\Pi$ -equivariant map to a  $\text{Gr}(\Pi)$ -set

**Proposition:** The pull-back  $\mathcal{P}(\text{Gr}(S)) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(S)$  is a homeomorphism with its image, a retract of  $\mathcal{P}(S)$  via  $\leq \mapsto \leq'$ , the *coarsening* of  $\leq$  defined by  $s \leq' t \Leftrightarrow \exists u \in \Pi : us \leq ut$ .

### Example

$$\Pi = S = \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$$

$$\text{Gr}(\Pi) = \text{Gr}(S) = \mathbb{Z}$$



## 2.b. The asymptotic range

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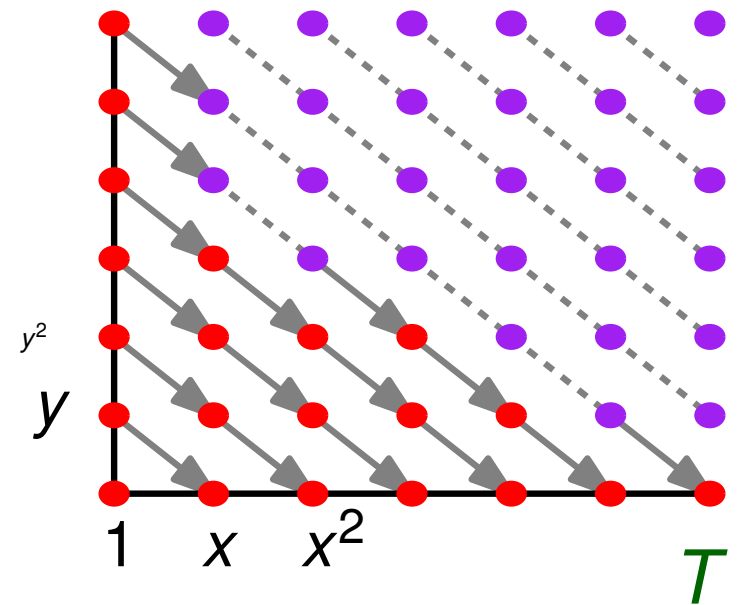
**Example:**  $\leq$  on  $\text{Mon}_2$

$$x^i y^j \leq x^k y^l \Leftrightarrow$$

$$i + j < k + l \text{ or}$$

$$i + j = k + l \text{ and } i > k \text{ or}$$

$$i + j = k + l \text{ and } x^i y^j, \dots, x^k y^l \text{ purple}$$



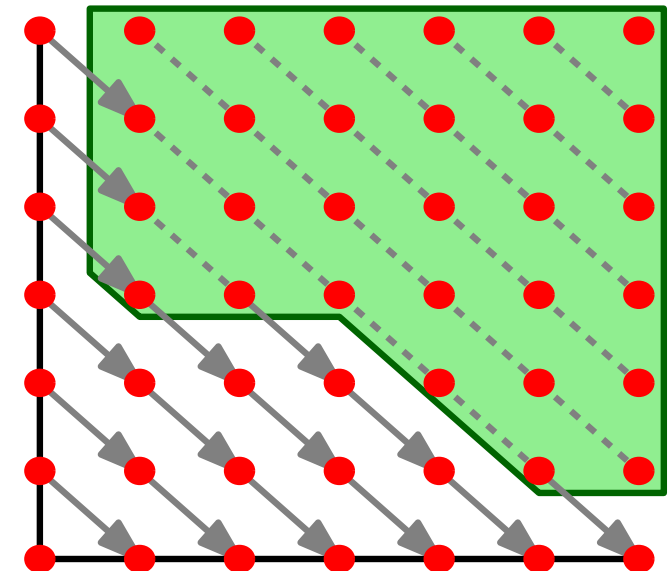
**Proposition**

$\leq$  on  $S$  with coarsening  $\leq'$

$\rightsquigarrow \exists \Pi$ -stable  $T \subseteq S$  s.t.

- $\forall s \in S \exists u \in \Pi : us \in T$
- $T$  intersects each  $\approx'$ -class either in  $\emptyset$  or in a single  $\approx$ -class.

$T$  is an *asymptotic range* for  $\leq$ .

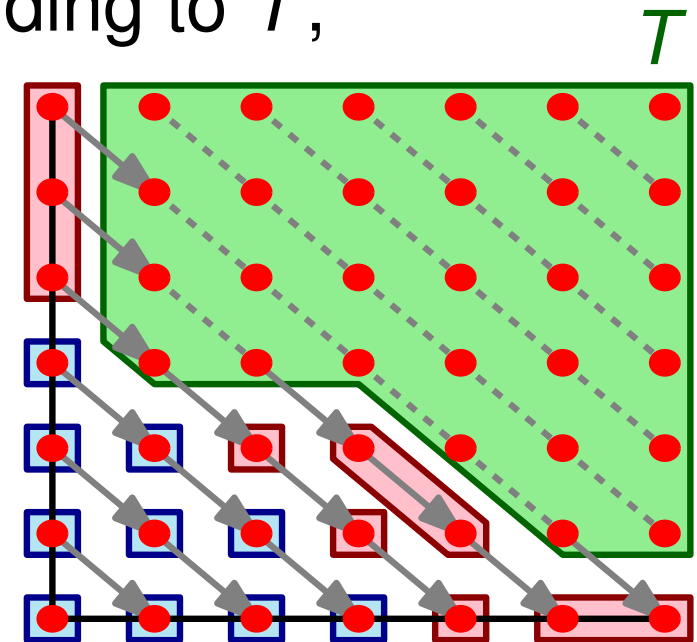


## 2.c. Homomorphisms to finite $\Pi$ -sets

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**Proposition:**  $S$  a f.g.  $\Pi$ -set,  $\leq$  preorder on  $S$ , coarsening  $\leq' \rightsquigarrow \exists$  finite  $\Pi$ -set  $X$ , a  $\Pi$ -equivariant map  $\varphi : S \rightarrow X$  & a partial order  $\preceq$  on  $X$ , s.t.:

- $s \approx' t \Rightarrow \varphi(s), \varphi(t)$  are comparable w.r.t.  $\preceq$ ;
- each stabiliser  $\Pi_x$  is a f.g. submonoid of  $\Pi$  with strictly fewer generators, except that corresponding to  $T$ ;
- each  $S_x := \varphi^{-1}(x)$  is a f.g.  $\Pi_x$ -set;
- $s \leq t \Leftrightarrow$   
 $s <' t$  or  
 $s \approx' t$  and  $\varphi(s) \prec \varphi(t)$  or  
 $s \approx' t$  and  $\varphi(s) = \varphi(t) =: x$   
 and then  $s \leq t$  in  $S_x$ .



$$|X| = 17$$

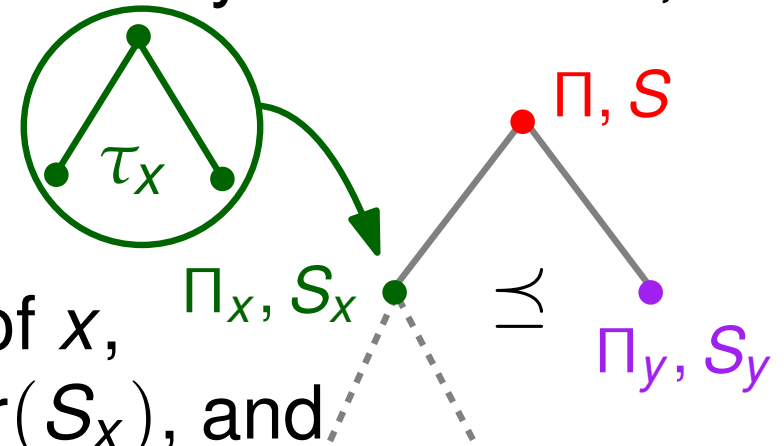
## 2. The monoid case

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### Theorem

Any preorder  $\leq$  on the  $\Pi$ -set  $S$  is given by a finite tree, in which vertex  $x$  is labelled by:

- a f.g. submonoid  $\Pi_x \subseteq \Pi$ ,
- a f.g.  $\Pi_x$ -set  $S_x \subseteq S$ ,
- a partial order  $\preceq_x$  on the children of  $x$ ,
- a pretree  $\tau_x$  for the  $\text{Gr}(\Pi_x)$ -set  $\text{Gr}(S_x)$ , and
- numerical data for  $\tau_x$ .



Conversely, the locus of numerical data  $(p_x)_x$  that gives rise to a preorder on  $S$  is a countable union of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -admissible sets.

### $\rightsquigarrow$ Theorem B

For any finitely generated commutative monoid  $\Pi$ , there exist  $\mathbb{Q}$ -admissible sets  $A_1 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n_1}, A_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n_2}, \dots$  and continuous maps  $\varphi_i : A_i \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Pi)$  such that  $\mathcal{P}(\Pi) = \bigcup_i \text{im}(\varphi_i)$ .

## Question

$\exists?$  a preorder on  $\text{Mon}_9$  s.t.

$$\max\{x_1 x_2 x_3, x_4 x_5 x_6, x_7 x_8 x_9\} < \min\{x_1 x_4 x_7, x_2 x_5 x_8, x_3 x_6 x_9\}$$

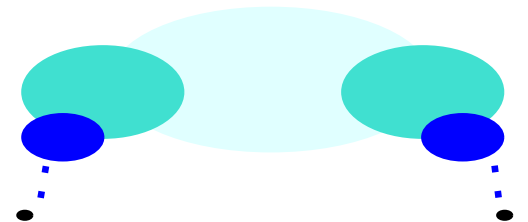
*Our algorithm in Theorem C has not been implemented . . .*

## Theorem

[Bou 15]

There is a *communication ideal*  $I \subseteq \text{Mon}_9$  (i.e., the set  $\{(I : u) \mid u \in \text{Mon}_9\}$  is totally ordered by inclusion), which contains all mons on the right but none of those on the left.

Now pull back  $\subseteq$  along  $u \mapsto (I : u) \rightsquigarrow \text{yes!}$



**Consequence:** not all closed points in  $\mathcal{P}(\text{Mon}_9)$  are *orders*.  
What is the smallest value of 9 for which this holds?

**Köszönöm szépen!**