# The Lattice of Functional Alexandroff Topologies

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**Abstract** If  $f: X \to X$  is a function, the associated functional Alexandroff topology on X is the topology  $P_f$  whose closed sets are  $\{A \subseteq X : f(A) \subseteq A\}$ . We present a characterization of functional Alexandroff topologies on a finite set X and show that the collection FA(X) of all functional Alexandroff topologies on a finite set X, ordered by inclusion, is a complemented lattice.

**Keywords** Lattice of topologies  $\cdot$  Alexandroff topology  $\cdot$  Complemented lattice

In 1937, Alexandroff [1] studied topologies whose closed sets also form a topology. Such topologies, in which arbitrary intersections of open sets are open, are now called Alexandroff topologies. Every topology on a finite set is clearly an Alexandroff topology. Topologies on finite sets such as the computer digits of real numbers like  $\pi$  or the "points" (pixels) in the plane have driven much of the modern usage of Alexandroff topologies in computer science. Alexandroff topologies defined by functions were studied in [6], and in 2011 and 2012, Ayatollah Zadeh Shirazi and Golestani [5] and Echi [9], working independently, explicitly introduced a class of functional Alexandroff topologies of x to be the orbit  $\{f^n(x): n \geq 0\}$  of x gives a topology  $P_f$  on X. A topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on X is functional Alexandroff if it is  $P_f$  for some  $f: X \to X$ . Since their recent introduction, functional Alexandroff topologies have been further investigated in [4], [10], [8], [11], [15], [16], [17].

The lattice structure of topologies on a set X has been studied for over 50 years. Much attention has been given to showing that every topology in the lattice T(X) of topologies on X has at least one complement, and when a certain type of topology has a certain type of complement. Anne Steiner [23] first showed that T(X) is a complemented lattice by showing that certain topologies have complements which are Alexandroff topologies. It is known that the collection A(X) of Alexandroff topologies on a set X is a complemented lattice. Other proofs that T(X) is complemented [12], [22], [26], results on the number of complements [7], [21], [27], and results on types of complements [2], [3], [14], [18][20], [24], [25], [28] followed.

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In this paper, we will see that the collection FA(X) of functional Alexandroff topologies on a set X need not be a lattice if X is infinite. If X is finite, we show that FA(X) is a lattice, but generally is not a sublattice of A(X) = T(X). As a subposet of A(X), we investigate when a functional Alexandroff topology has a functional Alexandroff complement, showing that FA(X) is a complemented lattice if X is finite. A special case of our complementation results framed in algebraic terminology was given in [13]. We start with a characterization of the functional Alexandroff topologies.

If X is a set, T(X) represents the lattice of all topologies on X ordered by containment. The indiscrete topology  $\mathcal{T}_I = \{\emptyset, X\}$  and the discrete topology  $\mathcal{T}_D = \mathcal{P}(X)$  are the smallest and largest elements, respectively, of T(X). The supremum of two topologies  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{T}' \in T(X)$  has subbasis  $\mathcal{T} \cup \mathcal{T}'$  and basis  $\{U \cap V : U \in \mathcal{T}, V \in \mathcal{T}'\}$ . The infimum  $\mathcal{T} \wedge \mathcal{T}'$  is  $\mathcal{T} \cap \mathcal{T}'$ . A complement of  $\mathcal{T} \in T(X)$  is a topology  $\mathcal{T}' \in T(X)$  with  $\mathcal{T} \vee \mathcal{T}' = \mathcal{T}_D$  and  $\mathcal{T} \wedge \mathcal{T}' = \mathcal{T}_I$ . T(X) is a complemented lattice since every topology on X has a complement. A topology on X generally has many complements [7], [27].

The collection A(X) of all Alexandroff topologies on X is a sublattice of T(X) and a complete lattice [23]. It is an easy exercise to show that A(X)is a complete sublattice of X if and only if A(X) = T(X), which occurs if and only if X is finite. If  $\mathcal{T}$  is an Alexandroff topology on X and  $x \in X$ , then  $N(x) = \bigcap \{ U : U \in \mathcal{T}, x \in U \}$  is the smallest neighborhood of x. Every Alexandroff topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on X defines a quasiorder (that is, a reflexive, transitive relation)  $\lesssim$  on X, called the *specialization quasiorder*, by taking  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x \in cl\{y\}$ , or equivalently, if and only if  $y \in N(x)$ . Conversely, every quasiorder on X defines an Alexandroff topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on X through the same equivalent expressions. The one-to-one correspondence between quasiorders and Alexandroff topologies is widely used. See [19] for a survey of these connections. In a quasiordered set  $(X, \leq)$ , the decreasing hull of  $A \subseteq X$ is  $d(A) = \{x \in X : \exists a \in A, x \leq a\}$ . A set is decreasing if A = d(A). We write d(x) for  $d({x})$ . Increasing hulls i(A) and increasing sets are defined dually. In the associated Alexandroff topology,  $d(x) = cl\{x\}$  and i(x) = N(x), the decreasing sets are the closed sets, and the increasing sets are the open sets. A quasiordered set will be called a *qoset*.

If  $f: X \to X$  is a function, the associated functional Alexandroff topology  $P_f$  on X is the topology whose closed sets are those  $A \subseteq X$  which satisfy  $f(A) \subseteq A$ . It is easy to see that in  $(X, P_f)$ , the closure  $cl\{x\}$  is the orbit  $\mathcal{O}(x) = \{f^n(x) : n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \geq 0\}$  and the smallest neighborhood N(x) is  $\{y : \exists n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \geq 0 \text{ with } f^n(y) = x\}$ . If  $\{a, f(a), f^2(a), \ldots, f^n(a) = a\}$  has cardinality n, we call this set a *cycle* of length n.

### 1 Characterizing finite functional Alexandroff topologies

**Theorem 1** Suppose  $P_f$  is a functional Alexandroff topology on X. If  $P_f$  is a finite topology, then X is finite.

Proof: If there exists  $a \in X$  with  $cl\{a\} = \{a, f(a), f^2(a), \ldots\}$  being infinite, then  $cl\{a\}, cl\{f(a)\}, cl\{f^2(a)\}, \ldots$  give infinitely many distinct closed sets, contrary to  $P_f$  being finite. Thus, for  $a \in X$ ,  $cl\{a\}$  is finite, so a eventually maps into a cycle of finite length. Infinitely many such cycles would imply infinitely many closed sets of form  $cl\{a\}$ , so there must be only finitely many cycles. If a point x in one of the cycles has infinitely many predecessors (i.e., points  $y \in i(x)$ , or points y with  $f^n(y) = x$  for some  $n \ge 0$ ), the smallest neighborhoods N(y) of those predecessors would give infinitely many open sets, a contradiction. Thus, each point of a cycle has only finitely many predecessors, and thus X is finite.

If |X| = n, the largest functional Alexandroff topology on X is  $P_i = \mathcal{P}(X)$ where *i* is the identity function on X. It is easy to see that the next largest functional Alexandroff topology on  $\{1, \ldots, n\}$  is generated by the function f(j) = j for  $1 \leq j < n-1$  and j = n, and f(n-1) = f(n), and this gives  $|P_f| = 2^{n-1} + 2^{n-2}$ : Every subset of  $\{1, \ldots, n-1\}$  is an open set excluding *n*, and the open sets including *n* have form  $\{n-1, n\} \cup C$  where  $C \subseteq \{1, \ldots, n-2\}$ . A complete characterization of all *k* between 2 and  $2^n$  which are realized as  $|P_f|$  for some *f* on an *n*-element set is not known to us, but we present some partial results. By  $A \subset B$  we mean  $A \subseteq B$  and  $A \neq B$ .

**Proposition 1** If |X| = n and  $2 \le k \le 2n$ , there exists  $f : X \to X$  with  $|P_f| = k$ .

*Proof:* Suppose  $X = \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ . If  $2 \le k \le n+1$ , define f(i) = i+1 for i = 1, ..., n-1 and f(n) = k-1. Then  $P_f = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, ..., \{1, 2, ..., k-2\}, X\}$  and  $|P_f| = k$ . For  $2 \le j \le n$ , define g(i) = i+1 for i = 1, ..., n-2, f(n-1) = n-1, and f(n) = j. It is easy to check that  $|P_g| = n+j$ , so the values of k between n+2 and 2n are realized as  $|P_g|$ .

If |X| = n, the example of a function  $f : X \to X$  with  $|P_f| = 2$  provided in the proof of Proposition 1 was a cycle. It is easy to see that the only way that  $|P_f| = 2$  may occur is if X is finite and f is a cycle.

The next proposition shows that the example of a function  $f : X \to X$ with  $|P_f| = 3$  provided in the proof of Proposition 1 is the only way that  $|P_f| = 3$  may occur.

**Proposition 2** If  $\emptyset \subset A \subset X$  and  $\{\emptyset, A, X\} = P_f$  for some  $f: X \to X$ , then X is a finite set, |A| = 1, and f is given by  $f(a_i) = a_{i+1}$  for i = 1, ..., n-1 and  $f(a_n) = a_2$  for some labeling  $\{a_1, a_2, ..., a_n\}$  of the elements of X.

*Proof:* Suppose  $\emptyset \subset A \subset X$  and  $\{\emptyset, A, X\} = P_f$ . If  $|A| \geq 2$ , pick distinct elements  $a_1, a_2 \in A$ . Now  $N(a_1) = i(a_1) = A = i(a_2) = N(a_2)$ , so A must contain a cycle C containing  $\{a_1, a_2\}$ . For  $b \in X - A$ , i(b) = N(b) must equal X. Now  $a_1 \in X = i(b)$ , so  $b = f^n(a_1)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and thus  $b \in cl\{a_1\} = \mathcal{O}(a_1) = C \subseteq A$ . This contradicts  $b \notin A$ . Thus, |A| = 1.

If X - A is infinite, then either (a) it contains an infinite chain c, f(c),  $f^2(c), \ldots$  and then  $cl\{c\}$  and  $cl\{f(c)\}$  are distinct proper open sets, or (b) X - A contains (at least) two finite cycles, which give two nonempty proper closed sets. Both cases contradict  $|P_f| = 3$ , so |A| = 1 and X - A is finite.

Finally, to see f has the form described, suppose  $A = \{a_1\}$  and  $b \in X - A$ . If  $cl\{b\} = \mathcal{O}(b) \neq X - A$ , then there exists  $c \in X - (A \cup cl\{b\})$  and  $X - cl\{b\}$  is an open proper set containing  $c \notin A$ , so  $X - cl\{b\} \notin \{\emptyset, A, X\}$ .

Both papers introducing functional Alexandroff spaces ([5] as *functional* Alexandroff spaces and [9] using the terminology primal spaces) give characterizations for an Alexandroff topology to be functional Alexandroff, and both papers describe this as their main result. To have a self-contained development here, we present alternate proofs of the characterization in [5], slightly reworded and in less generality to suit our purposes.

**Lemma 1 (cf. Theorem 3.5**( $C_2$ )[5]) Suppose  $\mathcal{T}$  is an Alexandroff topology on an arbitrary set X. The following are equivalent.

- (a) There exist distinct  $a, b, c \in X$  with  $N(a) = N(b) \subset N(c)$ . (See Figure 1(a).)
- (b) There exist distinct  $a, b, c \in X$  with  $cl\{c\} \subset cl\{b\} = cl\{a\}$ .

Furthermore, if  $\mathcal{T}$  satisfies these conditions,  $\mathcal{T}$  is not functional Alexandroff.

*Proof:* First, we will show  $N(b) \subseteq N(c)$  if and only if  $cl\{b\} \supseteq cl\{c\}$ . Suppose  $N(b) \subseteq N(c)$ . Now  $x \in cl\{c\} \iff c \in N(x) \iff N(c) \subseteq N(x) \Rightarrow N(b) \subseteq N(x) \iff b \in N(x) \iff x \in cl\{b\}$ . Conversely, suppose  $cl\{b\} \supseteq cl\{c\}$ . Now  $x \in N(b) \iff b \in cl\{x\} \iff cl\{b\} \subseteq cl\{x\} \Rightarrow cl\{c\} \subseteq cl\{x\} \iff c \in cl\{x\} \iff x \in N(c)$ .

Next, we will show that if  $N(b) \subset N(c)$ , then  $cl\{b\} \neq cl\{c\}$ . Indeed, under the hypotheses,  $N(b) \neq N(c) \iff c \notin N(b) \iff b \notin cl\{c\} \Rightarrow cl\{b\} \neq cl\{c\}$ . Similarly, if  $cl\{b\} \supset cl\{c\}$ , then  $b \notin cl\{c\} \Rightarrow c \notin N(b) \Rightarrow N(b) \neq N(c)$ . With the previous paragraph, this shows (a) and (b) are equivalent.

Now N(a) = N(b) implies  $b \in N(a)$ , so  $f^n(b) = a$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and similarly,  $f^m(a) = b$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus,  $a = f^n(b) = f^{n+m}(a)$ , so a and bare in a cycle. Now  $N(b) \subset N(c)$  implies  $b \in N(c)$ , so  $c = f^k(b)$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and thus c is in the cycle with a and b. This implies N(b) = N(c), contrary to  $N(b) \subset N(c)$ .

**Lemma 2 (cf. Theorem 3.5**( $C_1$ )[5]) Suppose  $\mathcal{T}$  is an Alexandroff topology on an arbitrary set X. The following are equivalent.

- (a) There exist  $a, b, c \in X$  with  $N(a) \subset N(b), N(c)$ , with N(b) and N(c) not nested (that is, with  $N(b) \not\subseteq N(c)$  and  $N(c) \not\subseteq N(b)$ . (See Figure 1(b).)
- (b) There exist  $a, b, c \in X$  with  $cl\{c\}, cl\{b\} \subset cl\{a\}$ , with  $cl\{b\}$  and  $cl\{c\}$  not nested.

Furthermore, if  $\mathcal{T}$  satisfies these conditions,  $\mathcal{T}$  is not functional Alexandroff.

*Proof:* The equivalence of (a) and (b) follows from the equivalence of  $N(b) \subseteq N(c)$  and  $cl\{b\} \supseteq cl\{c\}$  and the corresponding statement for strict inclusions given in the proof of Lemma 1. Note that the conditions (a) and (b) each imply that the points a, b, c are distinct.

Suppose  $\mathcal{T}$  satisfies (a). Now  $a \in N(b)$  implies  $b = f^n(a)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and similarly  $a \in N(c)$  implies  $c = f^m(a)$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $n \leq m$ , say m = n + k, then  $c = f^m(a) = f^k(f^n(a)) = f^k(b)$ , so  $b \in N(c)$ , giving the contradiction that  $N(b) \subseteq N(c)$ . A similar contradiction follows if m < n.



Fig. 1 Minimal neighborhood configurations which imply the space is not functional Alexandroff, as characterized in (a) Lemma 1 and (b) Lemma 2.

While the previous lemmas hold for arbitrary sets X, in the case of finite sets X they provide the only ways a topology may fail to be functional Alexandroff. The characterization of functional Alexandroff spaces in Theorem 3.5 of [5] is stronger than the one below. It contains an extra condition which does not require the assumption that X be finite. **Theorem 2 (cf. Theorem 3.5[5])** A topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on a finite set X is functional Alexandroff if and only if (a) there are no distinct points  $a, b, c \in X$ with  $N(a) = N(b) \subset N(c)$  and (b)  $N(a) \subset N(b), N(c)$  implies N(b) and N(c)are nested.

Again we note that this says the conditions of Lemmas 1 and 2 are the only things that can prevent a topology on a finite set from being functional Alexandroff. We also note that the condition (a) could be replaced by the equivalent (a)' if  $a \neq b$  and N(a) = N(b), then  $N(a) \not\subset N(c)$  for any  $c \in X$ . *Proof:* Lemmas 1 and 2 show that if  $\mathcal{T}$  is functional Alexandroff, then (a) and (b) hold. Conversely, suppose (a) and (b) hold. We give an algorithm to construct a function f for which  $\mathcal{T} = P_f$ .

**Iterative Step:** Let  $\mathcal{N} = \{N(x) : x \in X \text{ and } f(x) \text{ has not been defined}\},$  ordered by set inclusion. Pick  $a \in X$  such that N(a) is minimal in  $\mathcal{N}$ .

If N(a) contains  $b \neq a$ : the the minimality of N(a) implies N(b) = N(a). Now  $\overline{N(a)} = \{a_1, \ldots, a_k\}$  where  $N(a_i) = N(a)$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, k$ . By (a),  $N(a) \notin N(c)$  for any  $c \in X$ . Define  $f(a_i) = a_{i+1}$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, k-1$  and  $f(a_k) = a_1$ . Return to the Iterative Step.

If  $N(a) = \{a\}$ : Suppose  $N(a) \not\subset N(b)$  for any  $b \in X$ . Then define f(a) = aand return to the Iterative Step. If  $N(a) = \{a\} \subset N(b)$  for some  $b \in X$ , by (b),  $N(a) \subset N(b), N(c)$  implies N(b), N(c) are nested, so there exists  $b^* \in X$ such that N(b) is minimal among the members of  $\mathcal{N}$  which strictly contain N(a). Define  $f(a) = b^*$ .

If there exists  $b' \neq b^*$  with  $N(b') = N(b^*)$ , then by (a) there is no c with  $N(b^*) \subset N(c)$ . Let  $\{x : N(x) = N(b^*)\} = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k\}$  and define  $f(b_i) = b_{i+1}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  and  $f(b_k) = b_1$ . Return to the Iterative Step.

If  $N(b') \neq N(b^*)$  for any  $b' \neq b^*$  and  $N(b) \not\subset N(c)$  for any  $c \in X$ , return to the Iterative Step.

If  $N(b') \neq N(b^*)$  for any  $b' \neq b^*$  and there exists  $c \in X$  with  $N(b) \subset N(c)$ , by (b) there exists  $c^* \in X$  such that  $N(c^*)$  is minimal among the members of  $\mathcal{N}$  which strictly contain N(b). Define  $f(b^*) = c^*$ .

If there exists  $c' \neq c^*$  with  $N(c') = N(c^*)$ , then by (a) there is no d with  $N(c^*) \subset N(d)$ . Let  $\{x : N(x) = N(c^*)\} = \{c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k\}$  and define  $f(c_i) = c_{i+1}$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, k$  and  $f(c_k) = c_1$ . Return to the Iterative Step.

From this construction, it is clear that f is a well-defined function on X with  $P_f = \mathcal{T}$ .

#### 2 Lattice properties of functional Alexandroff topologies

The set A(X) of Alexandroff topologies on X is a sublattice of T(X) and is a complete lattice, but is not a complete sublattice unless T(X) = A(X)(that is, unless X is finite). We will consider the subposet FA(X) of functional Alexandroff spaces.

**Proposition 3** The indiscrete topology on X is functional Alexandroff if and only if X is finite.

*Proof:* If X is finite and f is any cyclic permutation of X,  $P_f = \{\emptyset, X\}$ . If X is infinite, suppose  $P_f = \{\emptyset, X\}$ . Pick  $a \in X$ . Now  $cl\{a\} = \{a, f(a), f^2(a), \ldots\} = X$ , so X is countable and  $f^n(a) \neq a$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Now  $cl\{f(a)\} = \{f(a), f^2(a), f^3(a), \ldots\}$  is a nonempty closed set not containing a, contrary to  $P_f = \{\emptyset, X\}$ .

FA(X) need not be a lattice. For example, for  $X = \mathbb{Z}$ , define f(n) = n + 1and g(n) = n - 1. Now  $P_f$  is the left ray topology  $P_f = \{(-\infty, m) : m \in \mathbb{Z}\} \cup \{\emptyset, \mathbb{Z}\}$  and  $P_g$  is the right ray topology. In T(X), the only topology coarser than both  $P_f$  and  $P_g$  is the indiscrete topology  $\mathcal{T}_I$ , so in T(X) and  $A(X), P_f \wedge P_g = \mathcal{T}_I$ . By Proposition 3, the indiscrete topology on  $\mathbb{Z}$  is not functional Alexandroff, so  $P_f$  and  $P_g$  have no lower bounds in  $FA(\mathbb{Z})$ .

The main result of this section gives several lattice properties of FA(X).

**Theorem 3** (a) FA(X) is a  $\lor$ -semilattice and  $P_f \lor P_g$  in FA(X) agrees with  $P_f \lor P_g$  in T(X).

- (b) If X is finite, FA(X) is a lattice.
- (c) FA(X) is a sublattice of A(X) if and only if  $|X| \leq 2$ .

Proof: (a) Suppose  $P_f, P_g \in FA(X)$  have associated quasiorders  $\lesssim_f, \lesssim_g$ . Then  $\lesssim_f \cap \lesssim_g$  is a quasiorder  $\lesssim$ , and it is easy to verify that the associated Alexandroff topology is  $P_f \vee P_g$ . It remains to show that the topology associated with  $\lesssim_f \cap \lesssim_g$  is functional Alexandroff. Define  $h: X \to X$  by  $h(x) = f^k(x)$  where  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  is the smallest natural number such that  $f^k(x) \in \{g(x), g^2(x), g^3(x), \ldots\}$ , or h(x) = x if there is no such k. Clearly h is a well-defined function. To show  $P_h = P_f \vee P_g$ , it suffices to show  $N_h(z) = N_f(z) \cap N_g(z)$  for any  $z \in X$ , or equivalently (since  $x \in cl\{z\}$  if and only if  $z \in N(x)$ ),  $cl_h\{x\} = cl_f\{x\} \cap cl_g\{x\}$  for all  $x \in X$ . Suppose x is given. Since  $h(x) \in cl_f\{x\} \cap cl_g\{x\}$ , it follows that  $cl_h\{x\} \subseteq cl_f\{x\} \cap cl_g\{x\}$ . Suppose  $z \in cl_f\{x\} \cap cl_g\{x\}$ . If z = x, then  $z \in cl_h\{x\}$ , so we may assume  $z = f^{k'}(x) = g^{n'}(x)$ , where k' > 0. If  $h(x) = f^{k_1}(x) = g^{n_1}(x)$ , iterating f we get an increasing sequence  $k_1 < k_2 < k_3 < \cdots$  such that  $f^{k_i}(x) \in \{g(x), g^2(x), g^3(x), \ldots\}$  and  $f^j(x) \notin \{g(x), g^2(x), g^3(x), \ldots\}$  for  $k_i < j < k_{i+1}$ . Now when  $k_i = k'$  we have  $z = f^{k_i}(x) = h^i(x)$ , so  $z \in cl_h\{x\}$ .

(b) If X is finite, FA(X) has a least element  $P_f = \{\emptyset, X\}$  where f is any cyclic permutation of X. By (a) finite (and thus arbitrary) suprema exist in FA(X), so FA(X) is a (complete) lattice.

(c) If  $X = \{a\}$ , the unique topology on X is generated by the unique function  $f : X \to X$ . If  $X = \{a, b\}$ , define f(a) = b, f(b) = a, and for  $x \in \{a, b\}, g(x) = a, h(x) = b$ , and i(x) = x. Now the four topologies on X are realized as  $P_f, P_g, P_h, P_i$ .

If  $|X| \geq 3$ , pick three distinct elements  $x_1, x_2, x_3 \in X$  and define  $f(x_1) = x_2, f(x_2) = x_3, g(x_2) = x_1, g(x_1) = x_3$ , and for  $x \in X - \{x_1, x_2\}, f(x) = g(x) = x$ . Figure 2 shows f, g, and the associated topologies  $P_f, P_g$  consisting of the increasing sets from the quasiorders shown. In  $A(X), P_f \wedge P_g$  has basis of minimal neighborhoods  $\{\{x_1, x_2\}, \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}\} \cup \{\{x\} : x \in X - \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}\}$ . By Lemma 1, this topology is not in FA(X). In  $FA(X), P_f \wedge P_g$  has basis  $\{\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}\} \cup \{\{x\} : x \in X - \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}\}$ .

**Fig. 2** Topologies whose infima in A(X) and FA(X) differ.

For the remainder of this section, we present some specific examples of infima in FA(X).

While Proposition 2 gave an explicit characterization of the three-element functional Alexandroff topologies, the next result shows that every threeelement topology on a finite set is the infimum of functional Alexandroff topologies.

**Proposition 4** If X is finite,  $\mathcal{T} \in T(X)$  and  $|\mathcal{T}| = 3$ , then  $\mathcal{T} = P_f \wedge P_g$  for some  $f, g: X \to X$ .

*Proof:* Suppose  $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, A, X\}$  where, after relabeling,  $A = \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  and  $X = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Define  $f, g: X \to X$  by

$$f(j) = \begin{cases} j+1 \ j = 1, \dots, n-1 \\ k+1 \ j = n \end{cases} \qquad g(j) = \begin{cases} k+1 \ j = 1 \\ n \ j = k+1 \\ j-1 \ j \in X - \{1, k+1\} \end{cases}$$

It is easy to check that  $P_f \wedge P_g = \mathcal{T}$ .

If  $f: X \to X$  is injective, the components (in the graph theoretic sense) of the specialization quasiorder tree can be order isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{N}$ , or a finite cycle. Note that finite chains leading into a cycle are not possible. If f is bijective, then components order isomorphic to  $\mathbb{N}$  are not possible since  $1 \notin f(\mathbb{N})$ . If f is bijective and every  $x \in X$  is part of a finite cycle, then  $P_f = P_{f^{-1}} = \mathcal{P}(\{\mathcal{O}(a) : a \in X\}) = \{C \subseteq X : C \text{ is a cycle of } f\}$ . The result below is more general.

**Proposition 5** If  $f : X \to X$  is bijective, then  $P_f \wedge P_{f^{-1}} = \mathcal{P}(\{D : D \text{ is a component of the } \leq_f qoset\})$ , and  $P_f \vee P_{f^{-1}}$  has basis  $\{\{x\} : x \text{ is not in any cycle of } f\} \cup \{C : C \text{ is a finite cycle of } f\}$ .

**Corollary 1** If  $f : X \to X$  is bijective,  $P_f \wedge P_{f^{-1}} = \{\emptyset, X\}$  if and only if X has one component (a cycle, or order isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$ ).

**Corollary 2** If  $f^{-1}$  exists,  $P_f$  is the complement of  $P_{f^{-1}}$  in A(X) if and only if X is order isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$ . (Observe that in this case,  $P_f \wedge P_{f^{-1}} \notin FA(X)$ .)

The examples below suggest useful techniques for achieving a desired infimum of  $P_f, P_g$ .

Example 1 If  $f: X \to X$  is bijective and has three components in the  $\leq_f$  qoset isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$  and two which are cycles as suggested by Figure 3, then there exists  $g: X \to X$ , as in Figure 3 with  $P_f \wedge P_g = \{\emptyset, X\}$ . Slight modifications of this example would show that if the  $\leq_f$  qoset has a finite number of components, then there exists a function g with  $P_f \wedge P_g = \{\emptyset, X\}$ .

*Example* 2 If  $f : X \to X$  is bijective and has a countably infinite number of components isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$  in the  $\lesssim_f$  qoset and a countable or finite number of components which are cycles, then there exists a  $g : X \to X$  with  $P_f \land P_g = \{\emptyset, X\}$ . Figure 4 suggests f and a function g with the desired properties.



**Fig. 4**  $P_f \wedge P_g = \{\emptyset, X\}$ 

## 3 Complementation in FA(X).

This section is devoted to describing a constructive algorithm to produce a functional Alexandroff complement to any functional Alexandroff topology on a finite set X. This will prove the following result.

**Theorem 4** If X is finite, the lattice FA(X) of functional Alexandroff topologies on X is complemented.

*Proof:* Suppose X is finite and  $P_f$  is a functional Alexandroff topology on X. We will construct a function g on X so that  $P_g$  is a complement of  $P_f$ . Let  $Q_0$  be the qoset diagram for the quasiorder  $\leq_f$  (defined by  $x \leq_f y$  if and only if  $x \in cl\{y\}$ , if and only if  $x = f^n(y)$  for some  $n \geq 0$ ). Loosely speaking, the points at the top of the qoset for f should be at the bottom of the qoset for g. Let  $C_0^1, C_0^2, \ldots, C_0^k$  be the components of  $Q_0$  which have no maximal element. Since X is finite, each  $C_0^i$  is a cycle of f. From each  $C_0^i$   $(i = 1, \ldots, k)$ , pick a representative  $c_i \in C_0^i$ .

Let  $M_0 = \{x \in X : x \text{ is maximal in } Q_0\} \cup \{c_i\}_{i=1}^k$ .

Since  $M_0$  contains all  $\leq_f$ -maximal points and a point of each cycle  $C_i^0$  not having a maximal element, it follows that every  $x \in X$  is in the orbit of some point of  $M_0$ . In particular,  $cl_f(M_0) = X$ .

Define g to be a cycle through all the points of  $M_0$ , and pick a point  $m_0 \in M_0$ . Define g(x) = x for each  $x \in C_0 \equiv \bigcup_{i=1}^k C_0^i - M_0$ . (Thus, every point of a cycle  $C_0^i$  is fixed, except the representative point  $c_i$ .)

Let  $Y_0 = C_0 \cup M_0 = \{x \in X : g(x) \text{ has been defined}\}$ . Since  $Y_0$  was taken from the top of the qoset for f, this should be at the bottom of the qoset for g. In future iterations, no further points of X will be fixed by g. All remaining points of X will appear above  $m_0$  in the qoset diagram for g.

> If  $x \in M_0 - \{c_i\}_{i=1}^k$ , then  $N_f(x) = \{x\}$ . If  $x \in C_0$ , then  $N_g(x) = \{x\}$ (since nothing will subsequently map to x in future iterations of the algorithm). If  $x = c_i = C_0^i \cap M_0$ , then  $N_f(x) = C_0^i$  and  $N_g(x) \cap C_0^i = \{x\}$ . In all cases,  $N_f(x) \cap N_g(x) = \{x\}$ .

Now we are set to start an inductive argument.

Suppose g(x) has been defined on  $Y_j$  and  $m_j$  has been defined. (\*\*)

Let  $Q_{j+1} = X - Y_j$  (considered as a qoset diagram) be the set of points of X for which g(x) has not yet been defined.

Let  $M_{j+1} = \{x \in Q_{j+1} : x \text{ is maximal in } Q_{j+1}\}$ , and

 $C_{j+1} = \{x \in Q_{j+1} : x \text{ is in a component of } Q_{j+1} \text{ which has no maximal element}\}$ . Thus,  $C_{j+1}$  consists of the points of the cycles having no "stem" leading into them.

For  $x \in C_{j+1}$ , define  $g(x) = m_j$ .

Linearly order the elements  $a_1 < a_2 < \cdots < a_i$  of  $M_{j+1}$  in any manner, and define

$$g(a_k) = a_{k+1}$$
 for  $k = 1, \dots, i-1$   
 $g(a_i) = m_j.$ 

Now let  $Y_{j+1} = Y_j \cup M_{j+1} \cup C_{j+1} = \{x \in X : g(x) \text{ has been defined}\}$  and let  $m_{j+1} = a_1$  (which is the maximal point of the main branch of the qoset diagram thus far defined for g). Iterate from (\*\*) until all points of X are exhausted.

If  $x \in C_{j+1}$ ,  $N_g(x) = \{x\}$  (since nothing will map to x in future iterations of the algorithm). From the definition of  $M_{j+1}$  as containing the maximal elements in the f-qoset  $X - Y_j$  at which g has not been previously defined, it follows that for  $x = a_k \in M_{j+1}$ ,  $N_f(x) \subseteq \{x\} \cup Y_j$ . Since  $N_g(x) \subseteq M_{j+1} \cup (X - Y_{j+1})$ , we have  $N_f(x) \cap N_g(x) = \{x\}$ . Thus,  $P_f \wedge P_g = \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

Finally, from the construction, note that for every  $x \in X - C_0$ ,  $cl_g(x) = \{x, g(x), g^2(x), \ldots\}$  eventually contains the cycle  $M_0$ . Since  $cl_f(M_0) = X$ , the only  $P_f \vee P_g$ -closed set containing x is X. If  $x \in C_0^i - \{c_i\} = C_0^i - M_0$ , then  $c_i \in cl_f(x) = C_0^i$ , and since  $cl_g(c_i) = M_0$  and  $cl_f(M_0) = X$ , again we have that the only  $P_f \vee P_g$ -closed set containing x is X.

The example below illustrates the algorithm.

*Example 3* For  $X = \{a, b, ..., l\}$ , let f be the function whose qoset diagram is shown at the top of Figure 5(a). Pick j as the representative element of

the cycle. Then  $M_0 = \{a, b, e, g, j\}$  and  $C_0 = \{k, l\}$ . We pick  $m_0 = a$ . The algorithm produces the partial qoset shown at the bottom of Figure 5(a). For the next iteration, we have  $M_1 = \{c, f\}$  and  $C_1 = \{h, i\}$ . We linearly order  $M_1$  by c < f and thus  $m_1 = f$ . Figure 5(b) show the result of this iteration. The final iteration is show in Figure 5(c).



Fig. 5 Iterations of the complementation algorithm.

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