

## $k$ -Primal Spaces

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### Abstract

A function  $f : X \rightarrow X$  determines a topology  $\mathcal{P}(f) = \{U \subseteq X : f^{-1}(U) \subseteq U\}$ . A topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is *primal* (or *functional Alexandroff*) if  $\tau = \mathcal{P}(f)$  for some function  $f$ , and is  *$k$ -primal* if  $\tau$  is the supremum of a set of  $k$  primal topologies on  $X$ . Using the associated specialization quasiorder, we give necessary and sufficient conditions for a finite topological space to be  $k$ -primal. We show that the  $k$ -primal topologies on a finite set  $X$  form a lattice and discuss lattice complements.

*Keywords:* Alexandroff space, functional Alexandroff space,  $k$ -primal space, primal space, quasiorder,  
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### 1. Introduction

In 1937, Alexandroff [1] studied topologies whose closed sets also form a topology, or equivalently, topologies in which arbitrary intersections of open sets are open. Such topologies are now called Alexandroff topologies. Since every topology on a finite set is obviously an Alexandroff topology, Alexandroff spaces are widely used in computer sciences.

The most fundamental property of Alexandroff spaces is that the category **Alx** of Alexandroff spaces with continuous maps is isomorphic to the category **Qos** of qosets (that is, quasiordered sets) with order-preserving maps. Any Alexandroff topology  $\tau$  on  $X$  gives a quasiorder  $\leq_\tau$  on  $X$  by taking

$$x \leq_\tau y \text{ if and only if } x \text{ is in the } \tau\text{-closure } \overline{\{y\}}^\tau \text{ of } y,$$

and by the same correspondence every quasiorder  $\leq$  on  $X$  gives an Alexandroff topology  $\tau_\leq$  on  $X$ . The  $\tau$ -closed sets are the  $\leq$ -decreasing sets, and in particular,  $\overline{\{x\}} = \downarrow x = \{y \in X : y \leq x\}$ . Every point  $x$  in an Alexandroff topology has a

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smallest neighborhood  $N(x) = \uparrow x = \{y \in X : x \leq y\}$ . Given an Alexandroff space  $X$ , we will interchangeably identify it by its topology or its associated “specialization” quasiorder. The specialization quasiorder  $\leq_\tau$  is a partial order if and only if  $\tau$  is  $T_0$ . For further details and applications, see [1, 14, 15, 24, 25].

Any function  $f : X \rightarrow X$  determines a topology  $\mathcal{P}(f)$  on  $X$  by taking the open sets to be those sets  $U \subseteq X$  with  $f^{-1}(U) \subseteq U$ , or equivalently, by taking the closed sets to be those sets  $C$  with  $f(C) \subseteq C$ . Thus, the  $\mathcal{P}(f)$  closed subsets of  $X$  are those sets invariant under  $f$ . A topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is *primal* if  $\tau = \mathcal{P}(f)$  for some function  $f : X \rightarrow X$ . Primal spaces were introduced independently by Ayatollah Zadeh Shirazi and Golestani [2] in 2011 and by Echi [9] in 2012. In [2], primal spaces are called *functional Alexandroff space*. Properties of these spaces have been extensively studied in the ten years since their introduction [3, 5, 10, 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22]. In a primal space  $(X, \mathcal{P}(f))$ , the specialization quasiorder is denoted  $\leq_f$ , and the closure of a point  $x$  is the orbit  $\{f^n(x) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , where  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

Here, we study  $k$ -primal topologies, which are the supremum of  $k$  primal topologies. In Section 2, we recall the Dushnik–Miller dimension, introduce the primal dimension of a finite partially ordered set and show some connections between them. Section 3 shows that a topology with finite specialization qoset  $(X, \leq)$  is  $k$ -primal for some integer  $k$  if and only if for any cyclic point  $a$  and any  $x, y \in X$  such that  $a \leq y$  and  $x \leq y$ , we have  $a \leq x$ . Section 4 shows that the topologies on a finite set which are  $k$ -primal for some positive integer  $k$  form a complemented lattice.

## 2. Counting and dimension

In this paper, we consider  $k$ -primal spaces, defined below.

**Definition 2.1.** *For any positive integer  $k$  and any family  $\{f_i : 1 \leq i \leq k\}$  of functions from a set  $X$  to itself, let  $\leq_{f_i}$  be the specialization quasiorder for  $(X, \mathcal{P}(f_i))$ . We define the  $k$ -primal topology  $\mathcal{P}(f_1, \dots, f_k)$  to be the topology having specialization quasiorder  $\leq_{f_1, \dots, f_k} = \bigcap \{\leq_{f_i} : 1 \leq i \leq k\}$ . Thus,  $x \leq_{f_1, \dots, f_k} y$  if and only if  $x \leq_{f_i} y$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . A  $k$ -primal space is a set  $X$  with a  $k$ -primal topology.*

Clearly, if  $k = 1$  we have the notion of primal spaces, and for any natural number  $k \neq 0$ , a  $k$ -primal space is  $(k + 1)$ -primal.

Since  $\leq_{f_1, \dots, f_k}$  is the intersection of the quasiorders  $\leq_{f_i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , it is also a quasiorder, so  $k$ -primal spaces are Alexandroff. Since  $N(x) = \uparrow x$  and  $\overline{\{x\}} = \downarrow x$  in any Alexandroff space, it follows that  $\overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_1, \dots, f_k)} = \bigcap_{i=1}^k \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}$ , and  $N_{\mathcal{P}(f_1, \dots, f_k)}(x) = \bigcap_{i=1}^k N_{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}(x)$  for any  $x \in X$ .

In the lattice  $TOP(X)$  of topologies on a set  $X$ , recall that  $\tau_1 \vee \tau_2$  has a basis of sets of form  $U_1 \cap U_2$  where  $U_i \in \tau_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). For Alexandroff topologies,  $\tau_1 \vee \tau_2$  has a basis of minimal neighborhoods  $N_1(x) \cap N_2(x)$ , where  $N_i(x)$  is the minimal neighborhood of  $x$  in  $\tau_i$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{P}(f_1, \dots, f_k) = \bigvee_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}(f_i)$ , where the supremum is taken in the lattice  $TOP(X)$ .

If  $\kappa$  is any non-zero cardinal number, Definition 2.1 could be generalized by declaring an Alexandroff topology  $\tau$  on  $X$  to be  $\kappa$ -primal if  $\tau = \bigvee_{i \in I} \mathcal{P}(f_i)$  where  $|I| = \kappa$ , and the supremum is taken in the lattice of Alexandroff topologies on  $X$ . We will not need this generality in this paper.

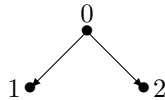
We have an immediate result.

**Proposition 2.2.** *If  $X$  is infinite, then the indiscrete topology  $\tau_I$  on  $X$  is not  $k$ -primal.*

*Proof:* Suppose to the contrary  $X$  is infinite and  $\tau_I = \mathcal{P}(f_1, \dots, f_k)$ . For any fixed  $x \in X$ , the intersection of the  $\mathcal{P}(f_i)$ -closures of  $x$  is the  $\tau_I$ -closure of  $x$ , which is  $X$ . Thus, for every  $x \in X$  and every  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ , the  $\mathcal{P}(f_i)$  closure of  $x$  is  $X$ . This shows that each topology  $\mathcal{P}(f_i)$  is indiscrete. However, this contradicts the fact ([22], Prop. 3) that the indiscrete topology on an infinite set is not primal.  $\square$

Recall that a *minimal point* in a qoset  $(X, \leq)$  is an  $x \in X$  satisfying the property: for each  $y \in X$ , if  $y \leq x$  then  $x \leq y$ . A *cyclic point* in  $(X, \leq)$  is an element  $a$  such that there exists  $b \neq a$  with  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$ . If  $a$  is a cyclic point, the associated *cycle* is the set  $\{b \in X : a \leq b \text{ and } b \leq a\}$ .

The motivation for  $k$ -primal spaces is that many Alexandroff spaces are not primal but are  $k$ -primal. The following example illustrates such a situation. Let  $X = \{0, 1, 2\}$  equipped with the quasi-order  $\leq$  where  $1 \leq 0$  and  $2 \leq 0$ , as seen in Figure 1.



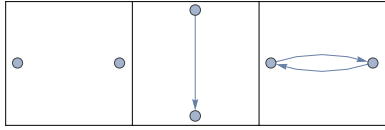
**Fig. 1.**  $k$ -primal but not primal

Using the characterization of primal spaces in [9], [2], or [22],  $(X, \leq)$  is not primal, but  $(X, \leq) = (X, \mathcal{P}(f_1, f_2))$  where  $f_1(0) = 1, f_1(1) = f_1(2) = 2$  and  $f_2(0) = 2, f_2(1) = f_2(2) = 1$ . Thus,  $(X, \leq)$  is 2-primal. This example points out that Theorem 3 of [22] is incorrect: The supremum in  $TOP(X)$  of two primal spaces need not be primal. (The error in Theorem 3 of [22] does not impact the other results given there.)

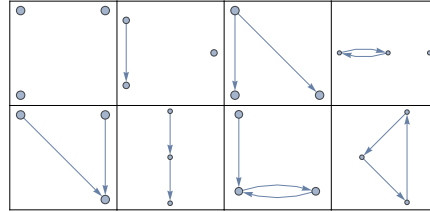
Counting topologies (with certain properties) on finite sets is an old and challenging question [11]. The number of topologies on an  $n$ -element set is only known for  $n \leq 18$ . Table 1 lists the number of distinct  $k$ -primal topologies and the number of inequivalent (i.e. nonhomeomorphic)  $k$ -primal topologies on small sets. Figures 2–5 show the associated digraphs of the inequivalent  $k$ -primal topologies for sets with 2, 3, 4 and 5 elements. Recall that a directed edge  $x \rightarrow y$  implies that  $x \geq y$ . So, the closure of a point  $x$  is the set of all vertices lying in a directed path starting from  $x$ . Table 1 and Figures 2–5 were produced by an exhaustive computer algorithm. (See [http://people.wku.edu/tom.richmond/k-Primal\\_Spaces.nb](http://people.wku.edu/tom.richmond/k-Primal_Spaces.nb) for the programming code.)

$n$	Distinct topologies	Inequivalent topologies	Distinct $k$ -primal topologies	Inequivalent $k$ -primal topologies
1	1	1	1	1
2	4	3	4	3
3	29	9	26	8
4	355	33	279	25
5	6942	139	4937	88
6	209527	718	141831	398
7	9535241	4535	6418715	2327

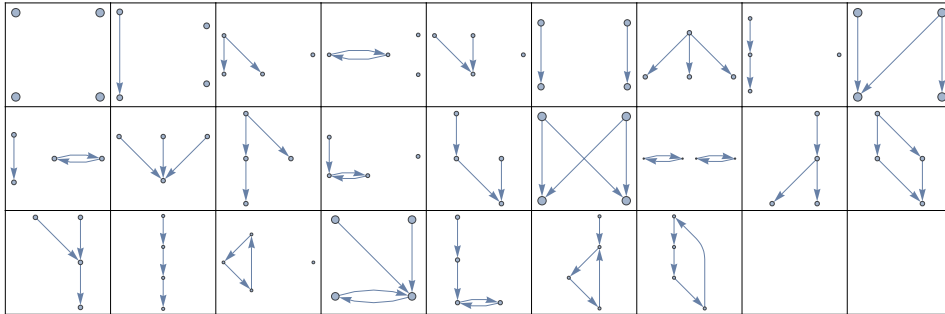
Table 1: Enumerating  $k$ -primal topologies



**Fig. 2.** 2-node nonhomeomorphic  $k$ -primal topologies



**Fig. 3.** 3-node nonhomeomorphic  $k$ -primal topologies

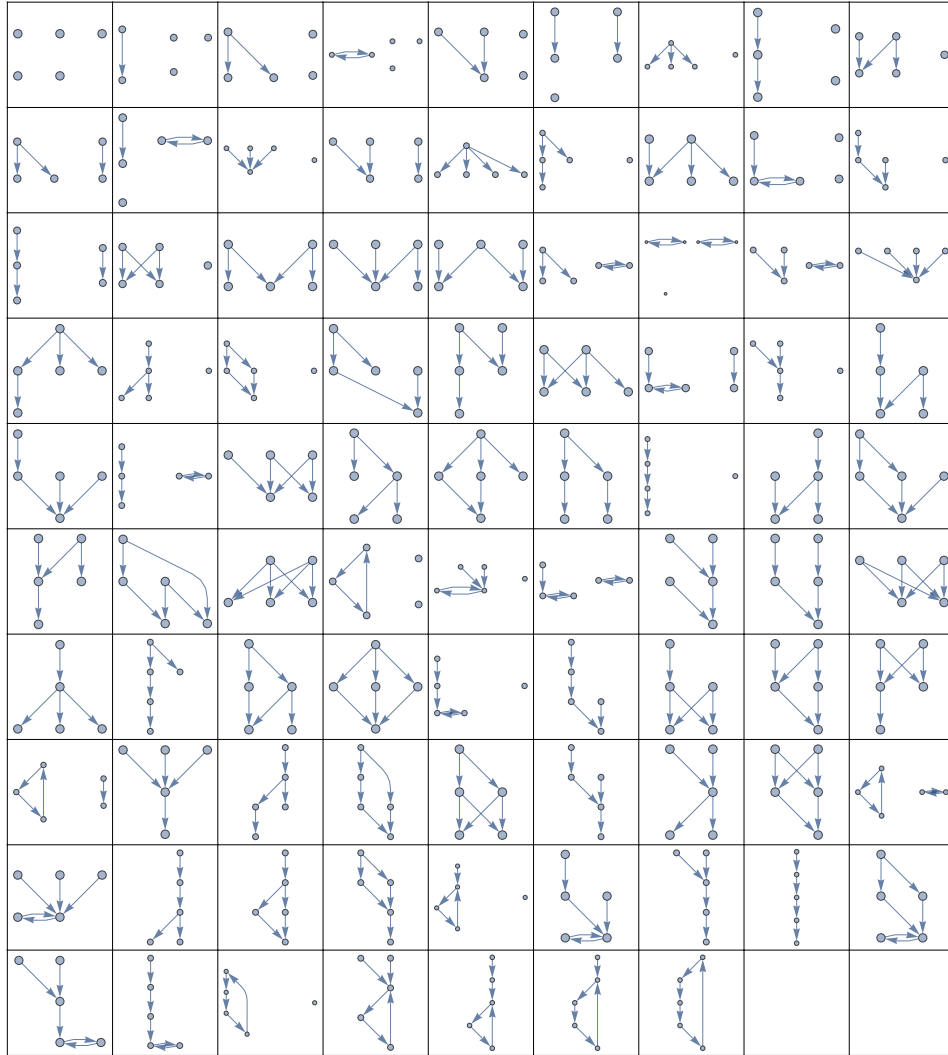


**Fig. 4.** 4-node nonhomeomorphic  $k$ -primal topologies

Recall that an element  $x$  in a primal space  $(X, \mathcal{P}(f))$  is said to be a periodic point if  $f^n(x) = x$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \neq 0$ . The least  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f^n(x) = x$  is called the period of  $x$ . Clearly, periodic points with period  $\neq 1$  are cyclic points. Because of its importance, we recall the following lemma as well as its proof.

**Lemma 2.3.** [9 Lemma 2.1]. *Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a function. Then  $x \in X$  is a minimal point of  $(X, \leq_f)$  if and only if  $x$  is a periodic point of  $f$ .*

*Proof:* Suppose that  $x$  is minimal in  $(X, \leq_f)$ . As  $f(x) \leq_f x$ , we get  $x \leq_f f(x)$ . Hence,  $x$  is periodic.



**Fig. 5.** 5-node nonhomeomorphic  $k$ -primal topologies

Conversely, if  $x$  is periodic and  $y \leq_f x$ , then there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $y = f^n(x)$ . But, as  $x$  is periodic, we may write  $x = f^m(y)$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $x \leq_f y$ , showing that  $x$  is minimal.  $\square$

If  $P = (X, \leq)$  is a partially ordered set, recall that  $\leq^*$  is called a linear extension of  $\leq$  if and only if  $\leq^*$  is a total order on  $X$  which contains  $\leq$ . Szpilrajn's theorem [28] guarantees that every partial order is contained in a linear order.

In order dimension theory, the (Dushnik–Miller) dimension of a partially ordered set  $P$  is the least natural number  $t$  for which there exists a family  $\{\leq_1, \dots, \leq_t\}$  of linear extensions of  $P$  whose intersection is the ordering of  $P$ .

Such linear extensions form a *realization* of  $P$ . We denote the dimension of  $P$  by  $\dim(P)$ .

One of the major results of dimension theory is Hiraguchi's Theorem [13], which gives the best upper bound on the dimension of a partially ordered set in terms of its cardinality. It states that the dimension of a partially ordered set  $P = (X, \leq)$  is at most  $\lfloor \frac{|X|}{2} \rfloor$ , provided  $|X| \geq 4$ .

Since every partial order on a finite set is an intersection of a finite number of linear orders and every linear order is a quasiorder, we have the following result.

**Proposition 2.4.** *Every finite partially ordered set  $P$  is a  $k$ -primal space for some positive natural number  $k$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $P = (X, \leq)$  be a finite partially ordered set and let  $(X, \sqsubseteq) = \{x_n \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq x_1\}$  be a linear extension of  $(X, \leq)$ . Then, we can define a map  $f_{\sqsubseteq} \in X^X$  by  $f_{\sqsubseteq}(x_i) = x_{i+1}$  and  $f_{\sqsubseteq}(x_n) = x_n$ .

For any realization  $\{\sqsubseteq_1, \dots, \sqsubseteq_k\}$  of  $P$ , we may form  $f_{\sqsubseteq_i}$  as above for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , and this gives a family of primal spaces  $\{(X, \mathcal{P}(f_{\sqsubseteq_i})) : i = 1, \dots, k\}$  such that

$$(X, \leq) = \left( X, \bigvee_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}(f_{\sqsubseteq_i}) \right) = (X, \mathcal{P}(f_{\sqsubseteq_1}, \dots, f_{\sqsubseteq_k})).$$

Therefore,  $(X, \leq)$  is a  $k$ -primal space.  $\square$

Using Proposition 2.4 and the Dushnik–Miller dimension, we introduce the notion of primal dimension of a partially ordered set as follows.

**Definition 2.5.** *The primal dimension of a finite partially ordered set  $P = (X, \leq)$ , denoted  $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(P)$ , is the least natural number  $k$  such that  $P$  is  $k$ -primal.*

The following result is immediate.

**Proposition 2.6.** *For any finite partially ordered set  $P$ , we have  $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(P) \leq \dim(P)$ .*

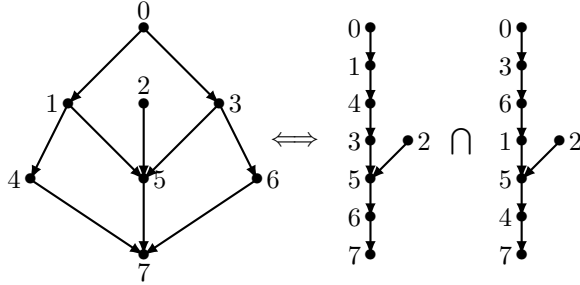
Since  $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(P) \leq \dim(P)$  and  $\dim(P)$  is at most  $\lfloor \frac{|X|}{2} \rfloor$ , we have  $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(P) \leq \lfloor \frac{|X|}{2} \rfloor$  for any  $P = (X, \leq)$  with  $|X| \geq 2$ . The following examples show that the previous inequality may be strict.

**Examples 2.7.**

1. The 2-dimensional partially ordered set ( $\dim(P) = 2$ ) illustrated in Figure 6 is 1-primal ( $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(P) = 1$ ).
2. A nontrivial example showing that the inequality in Proposition 2.6 is strict is shown in Figure 7. The 3-dimensional partially ordered set ( $\dim(P) = 3$ ) illustrated is 2-primal but not primal ( $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(P) = 2$ ).



Fig. 6. A 2-dimensional partially ordered set which is 1-primal



$$(X, \leq) = (X, \leq_{f_1}) \cap (X, \leq_{f_2})$$

Fig. 7. A 3-dimensional partially ordered set which is 2-primal

**Remark 2.8.** Hiraguchi's bound is the best possible (i.e. there exists a partially ordered set  $P = (X, \leq)$  such that  $\dim(P) = \lfloor \frac{|X|}{2} \rfloor$ ). For instance, consider the ordered set  $St_n = \{a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  ordered as follows:

$\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  and  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  are both antichains.

No  $b_i$  is a lower bound of an  $a_j$ .

$a_i \leq b_j$  if and only if  $i \neq j$ .

It is known that  $\text{Dim}(St_n) = n$  (for more information, see [8] Theorem 4.1]). The 5-dimensional ordered set  $St_5$  is illustrated in Figure 8.

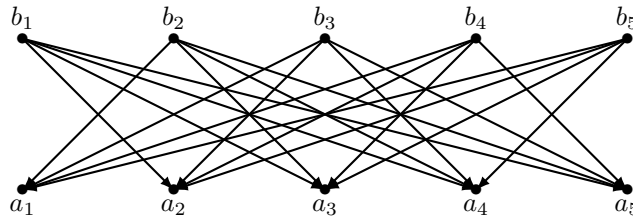


Fig. 8. The 5-dimensional ordered set  $St_5$ ;  $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(St_5) = \dim(St_5)$

Using the example of Remark 2.8 we deduce the following proposition.

**Proposition 2.9.** *Hiraguchi's bound is also the best possible bound for the primal dimension (i.e. there exists a partially ordered set  $P = (X, \leq)$  such that  $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(P) = \lfloor \frac{|X|}{2} \rfloor$ ).*

*Proof:* A similar argument can be used to show that the primal dimension  $\dim_{\mathcal{P}}(St_n) = n$  (for  $n \geq 3$ ). In fact, fix a family  $I = \{f_1, \dots, f_k\}$  of functions from  $St_n$  to itself such that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^k \leq_{f_i} = \leq$ .

For any fixed  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , there exists  $f_l \in I$  such that  $a_i \not\leq_{f_l} b_i$ . For  $j \neq i$ , then we have  $a_i < b_j$  and  $a_j < b_i$ . For  $k \neq i, j$ , we have  $a_i < b_k$  and  $a_j < b_k$ . Thus,  $\{a_i, a_j\} \subseteq (\downarrow b_k) \subseteq \overline{\{b_k\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_l)}$ . Hence,  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  are comparable in  $(X, \leq_{f_l})$ . If  $a_i <_{f_l} a_j$ , then  $a_i <_{f_l} b_i$  which is absurd. Then,  $a_j <_{f_l} a_i$  and consequently  $a_j <_{f_l} b_j$ . So we have obtained that every  $\leq_{f_l}$  ( $f_l \in I$ ) contains at most one pair  $(a_i, b_i)$  such that  $a_i \not\leq_{f_l} b_i$ . Thus there exists an injective mapping  $\varphi : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow I$  which assigns to every  $i$  a map  $f_l \in I$  such that  $a_i \not\leq_{f_l} b_i$ . Therefore  $n \leq |I|$  follows.

Hence, the Hiraguchi's bound is also the best possible bound for the primal dimension.  $\square$

### 3. A characterization of $k$ -primal spaces

Recall that a qoset  $(X, \leq)$  is connected if and only if for any  $a, b \in X$ , there exists a finite sequence  $(a = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n = b)$  such that  $x_i$  and  $x_{i+1}$  are comparable for every  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Hence, it is clear that every qoset  $(X, \leq)$  can be written as a disjoint union of connected qosets. Now, suppose that  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^k C_k$  is the decomposition of  $X$  into  $k$  disjoint connected qosets. Then, the induced quasi-order by  $\leq$  on every  $C_i$  will be denoted by  $\leq_{C_i}$ . One can see easily that for every  $x \in X$ , the downset of  $x$  in  $(X, \leq)$  is exactly the downset of  $x$  in  $(C_j, \leq_{C_j})$ , where  $C_j$  is the unique connected qoset of  $X$  containing  $x$ . In this case, we write  $(\downarrow x) = (\downarrow_{C_j} x)$ . Finally, by a *strict qoset* we mean any qoset  $(X, \leq)$  which is not a partially ordered set.

Now, we are in a position to give the main result of this paper. We show that a finite qoset  $(X, \leq)$  is  $k$ -primal for some  $k$  if and only if whenever a cyclic point  $a$  is a lower bound of  $y$ , it is below every other lower bound of  $y$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a finite qoset. Then,  $(X, \leq)$  is a  $k$ -primal space for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}, k \neq 0$  if and only if for every cyclic point  $a$  and every  $x, y \in X$  we have*

$$\begin{cases} a \leq y \\ x \leq y \end{cases} \implies a \leq x.$$

*Proof:* The proof will be divided into many steps.

Step 1: First, we remark that the condition in Theorem [3.1](#) implies that every cyclic point is minimal. Indeed, let  $a$  be a cyclic point. Consider  $x \in X$  with  $x \leq a$ . Since  $a \leq a$  and  $x \leq a$ , then by hypothesis  $a \leq x$ . Therefore,  $a$  is a minimal point.



Step 2: Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a finite strict qoset which is connected and satisfies the condition in Theorem 3.1. Let us show that  $(X, \leq)$  has a unique cycle and every minimal point is a cyclic point.

Indeed, by the hypothesis,  $\leq$  is a strict quasiorder, so there exists a cyclic point  $a \in X$  ( $a$  is also a minimal point by Step 1). Let  $b$  be a minimal point in  $X$ . We must show that  $b \in (\downarrow a)$ .

Since  $(X, \leq)$  is connected, there exists a finite sequence  $(a = v_1, \dots, v_p = b)$  with  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\} \subseteq X$ , such that  $v_i$  and  $v_{i+1}$  are always comparable. If there exists a point  $v_j$  such that  $v_j \not\leq a$ , then take  $v_{i_0}$  ( $i_0 > 1$ ) to be a first such point. Hence,  $v_{i_0-1} \geq a$  and the two points  $v_{i_0-1}$  and  $v_{i_0}$  are comparable. So, we have two cases:

- (1)  $v_{i_0-1} \leq v_{i_0} \Rightarrow a \leq v_{i_0}$ .
- (2)  $v_{i_0} \leq v_{i_0-1} \Rightarrow a \leq v_{i_0}$  (by our condition, since  $a \leq v_{i_0-1}$ ).

In both cases,  $a \leq v_{i_0}$ . Finally,  $a \leq b$  and by the minimality of  $b$ ,  $b \leq a$ . So  $b$  is in the same cycle with  $a$ .

Step 3: Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a finite connected strict qoset which satisfies the condition of Theorem 3.1. Then,  $(X, \leq)$  is  $k$ -primal. Indeed, let  $(\downarrow v_1) = \{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$  be the unique cycle in  $(X, \leq)$ . Define the subset  $X^* = (X - (\downarrow v_1)) \cup \{v_1\}$  endowed with the induced quasi-order  $\leq_{X^*}$ . Then,  $(X^*, \leq_{X^*})$  is a partial ordered set (note that  $v_1$  is the least element in  $X^*$ ). So, by Proposition 2.4  $(X^*, \leq_{X^*})$  is  $k$ -primal. Hence, there exist  $f_1^*, \dots, f_k^* \in X^{*X^*}$  such that

$$\leq_{X^*} = \leq_{f_1^*, \dots, f_k^*}.$$

For any  $x \in X^*$ , if we denote by  $(\downarrow_{X^*} x)$  the downset of  $x$  in  $X^*$ , we can write:

$$(\downarrow x) = (\downarrow_{X^*} x) \cup (\downarrow v_1) = \bigcap_{i=1}^k \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i^*)} \cup (\downarrow v_1).$$

For each function  $f_i^*$  we define the function  $f_i \in X^X$  by:

$$\begin{cases} f_i(x) = f_i^*(x), \forall x \in X^* - \{v_1\} \\ f_i(v_j) = v_{j+1} \text{ if } 1 \leq j \leq p-1 \text{ and } f_i(v_p) = v_1 \end{cases}.$$

So, it is clear that  $\forall x \in X^*$ ,  $\overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i^*)} \subseteq \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}$ . Since  $\forall x \in X^*$ ,  $v_1 \in \bigcap_{i=1}^k \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i^*)}$ , then for each  $f_i$  and for each  $x \in X^*$ ,  $v_1 \in \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}$  and consequently

$$\forall x \in X^*, \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} = \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i^*)} \cup (\downarrow v_1),$$

and if  $x \in (\downarrow v_1)$ , then by the construction  $\overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} = \{v_1, \dots, v_p\} = (\downarrow v_1) = (\downarrow x)$ .

In summary, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\forall x \in X^*, \quad \bigcap_{i=1}^k \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} &= \bigcap_{i=1}^k \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i^*)} \cup (\downarrow v_1) = (\downarrow x). \\ \forall x \in (\downarrow v_1), \quad \bigcap_{i=1}^k \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} &= \bigcap_{i=1}^k (\downarrow x) = (\downarrow x).\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\leq = \leq_{f_1, \dots, f_k}$  and  $(X, \leq)$  is  $k$ -primal.

Step 4: The proof of the main theorem.

Let  $(\overline{X}, \leq)$  be a  $k$ -primal space.

Suppose  $a, x, y \in \overline{X}$ ,  $a$  is a cyclic point, and  $a \leq y$ ,  $x \leq y$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}(\downarrow a) \cup \{x\} &\subset (\downarrow y) \\ \implies (\downarrow a) \cup \{x\} &\subset \overline{\{y\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, k.\end{aligned}$$

But  $(\overline{\{y\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}, \leq_{f_i})$  is totally quasi-ordered (because  $(X, \leq_{f_i})$  is a primal space). So,  $a$  and  $x$  are comparable in  $(X, \leq_{f_i})$  and thus by Lemma 2.3,  $\forall i = 1, \dots, k$ ,  $a \leq_{f_i} x$ . Finally,  $a \leq x$ .

Conversely, let  $\{C_1, \dots, C_p\}$  be the family of connected components of  $(X, \leq)$  each endowed with the quasi-order induced by that of  $X$ .

Since each connected quasi-ordered set  $(C_i, \leq_{C_i})$  fulfills our condition, then by Proposition 2.4 and Step 3 each  $(C_i, \leq_{C_i})$  is  $k_i$ -primal. That is,  $\forall i = 1, \dots, p$ , there exist  $k_i$  functions  $f_{i,1}, \dots, f_{i,k_i}$  from  $C_i$  to  $C_i$  such that

$$\leq_{C_i} = \leq_{f_{i,1}, \dots, f_{i,k_i}}.$$

Let  $k = \max\{k_i : i = 1, \dots, p\}$ . For each  $i = 1, \dots, p$  and  $k_i < j \leq k$  define the functions  $f_{i,j} = f_{i,1}$ .

We define the functions  $g_t \in X^X$  ( $t = 1, \dots, k$ ) by

$$g_t(x) = f_{i,t}(x) \text{ if } x \in C_i.$$

Thus,  $g_t$  restricted to component  $C_i$  is the map  $f_{i,t}$ .

Now, let  $x \in X$ . Since  $x$  belongs to a unique  $C_n$ , we have

$$(\downarrow x) = (\downarrow_{C_n} x) = \bigcap_{j=1}^{k_n} \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_{n,j})} = \bigcap_{j=1}^k \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_{n,j})} = \bigcap_{j=1}^k \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(g_j)}.$$

In conclusion,  $(X, \leq)$  is a  $k$ -primal space for  $k = \max\{k_i : i = 1, \dots, p\}$ .  $\square$

The general form of a  $k$ -primal space is suggested in Figure 13 and the first paragraph of the proof of Theorem 4.3

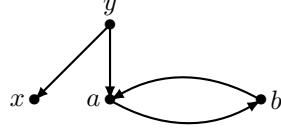


Fig. 9. A qoset which is not  $k$ -primal

**Examples 3.2.** 1. Let  $X = \{x, y, a, b\}$  equipped with the quasiorder defined as in Figure 9

Suppose that  $(X, \leq)$  is  $k$ -primal for some integer  $k$ . Hence,  $\leq$  is generated by the  $k$  functions  $f_i : i = 1, \dots, k$ . Since  $(\downarrow a) = (\downarrow b) = \{a, b\}$ , then for any function  $f_i$  we have  $\overline{\{a\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} = \overline{\{b\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}$  and thus  $a, b$  are cyclic points in  $(X, \leq_{f_i})$ , which implies by Lemma 2.3 that  $a$  and  $b$  are minimal points in  $(X, \leq_{f_i})$ .

Now, since  $(\downarrow y) = X$ , then  $\overline{\{y\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} = X$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Hence  $(X, \leq_{f_i})$  is a totally quasi-ordered set containing the minimal points  $a$  and  $b$ , so  $\{a, b\} \subseteq \overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Therefore  $\{a, b\} \subseteq \overline{\{x\}}^{\tau^{\leq}}$ . This is a contradiction because  $\overline{\{x\}}^{\tau^{\leq}} = \{x\}$ .

In this example, we have  $a$  is a cyclic point,  $a \leq y$  and  $x \leq y$  but  $x$  and  $a$  are not comparable.

2. An infinite qoset  $(X, \leq)$  satisfying the condition of the main result need not be  $k$ -primal for any integer  $k$ .

For this, take the partially ordered set  $(\mathbb{N}, \vdash)$  where the partial order  $\vdash$  is defined by  $\forall n \neq 0, n \vdash 0$  and the numbers  $1, 2, \dots$  are pairwise incomparable, as shown in Figure 10

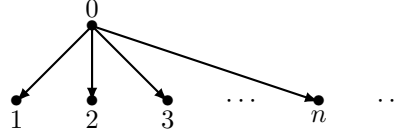


Fig. 10. An infinite partially ordered set which is not  $k$ -primal

Then,  $(\downarrow 0) = \mathbb{N}$  and for each  $a \neq 0$ ,  $(\downarrow a) = \{a\}$ . Suppose  $(\mathbb{N}, \vdash)$  is  $k$ -primal, with  $\vdash$  generated by the  $k$  functions  $f_i, (i = 1, \dots, k)$ . Then,  $(\downarrow 0) = \bigcap_{i=1}^k \overline{\{0\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} = \mathbb{N}$ . So, for any function  $f_i$  we have  $\overline{\{0\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} = \mathbb{N}$  and consequently,

$$\forall i = 1, \dots, k, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^* = \mathbb{N} - \{0\}, \exists! \alpha_{i,n} \in \mathbb{N}^* : n = f_i^{\alpha_{i,n}}(0).$$

Now, for each  $f_i$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\{1\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)} &= \{1, f_i(1), \dots, f_i^n(1), \dots\} \\ &= \left\{ f_i^{\alpha_{i,1}}(0), f_i^{\alpha_{i,1}+1}(0), \dots, f_i^{\alpha_{i,1}+n}(0), \dots \right\} \\ &\quad \text{(for some unique } \alpha_{i,1} \in \mathbb{N}^*) \\ &= \mathbb{N} - \left\{ 0, f_i(0), \dots, f_i^{\alpha_{i,1}-1}(0) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$\overline{\{1\}}^{\tau \leq} = \bigcap_{i=1}^k \overline{\{1\}}^{\mathcal{P}(f_i)}$  is an infinite set, which is impossible. While the partially ordered set  $(\mathbb{N}, \vdash)$  has no primal dimension, we note that it is 2-dimensional: for the two linear extensions  $\leq_1$  and  $\leq_2$  of  $\vdash$  given by

$$\begin{aligned} n+1 &\leq_1 n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \\ n &\leq_2 n+1 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^* \quad \text{and } n \leq_2 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \end{aligned}$$

the family  $\{\leq_1, \leq_2\}$  is a realization of  $(\mathbb{N}, \vdash)$ .

#### 4. Complementation in the lattice $KPTOP(X)$

The study of complementation in the lattice  $TOP(X)$  of all topologies on a set  $X$  was advanced by A. Steiner [27] and variations on this theme have been studied extensively since. (See [6, 7, 17, 22, 23, 25, 26].) Recall that  $\tau$  and  $\tau^*$  are complements if  $\tau \vee \tau^*$  is the discrete topology and  $\tau \wedge \tau^*$  is the indiscrete topology. For a positive integer  $k$ , let  $k$ - $PTOP(X)$  be the collection of  $k$ -primal topologies on  $X$ . Let  $KPTOP(X) = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} k$ - $PTOP(X) = \{\tau \in TOP(X) : \tau \text{ is } k\text{-primal for some } k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , ordered by  $\subseteq$ . Recall that  $\tau \in KPTOP(X)$  if and only if there exists a natural number  $k$  and primal topologies  $\mathcal{P}(f_i)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, k$ ) with  $\tau = \bigvee_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}(f_i)$ , where the supremum is taken in  $TOP(X)$ . It follows that  $KPTOP(X)$  is closed under finite suprema. Since the indiscrete topology on  $X = \{x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$  is  $\mathcal{P}(f)$  where  $f(x_i) = x_{(i+1) \bmod n}$ , it is the smallest element of  $KPTOP(X)$ . Thus, if  $X$  is finite,  $KPTOP(X)$  is a (complete) lattice. Any lattice which contains the primal topologies must contain finite suprema of primal topologies. We record this as a theorem.

**Theorem 4.1.** *If  $X$  is finite,  $KPTOP(X)$  is a lattice, and is the smallest lattice in  $TOP(X)$  which contains all the primal spaces.*

We note that if  $X = \{\dots, a_{-2}, a_{-1}, a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots\}$  is countably infinite,  $KPTOP(X)$  is not a lattice. With  $f(a_i) = a_{i+1}$  and  $g(a_i) = a_{i-1}$ , we find that the only lower bound of  $\mathcal{P}(f)$  and  $\mathcal{P}(g)$  in  $TOP(X)$  is the indiscrete topology, so the only candidate for  $\mathcal{P}(f) \wedge \mathcal{P}(g)$  in  $KPTOP(X)$  is the indiscrete topology. However, by Proposition 2.2, the indiscrete topology  $X$  is not  $k$ -primal, so  $KPTOP(X)$  is not a lattice.

**Theorem 4.2.** *The following are equivalent.*

- (a)  $KPTOP(X)$  is a sublattice of  $TOP(X)$ .
- (b)  $KPTOP(X)$  is a distributive lattice.
- (c)  $|X| \leq 2$ .

*Proof:* If  $|X| \leq 2$ , then  $KPTOP(X) = TOP(X)$ , so (c) implies (a) and (b). Suppose  $X = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  for  $n \geq 3$ . The example used in Theorem 3(c) of [22] shows (a) implies (c). Specifically, consider the topologies  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  on  $X$  whose specialization quasiorders are  $\leq_1$  on  $X$  defined by  $i \leq_1 i$  for all  $i \in X$  and  $3 \leq_1 2 \leq_1 1$ , and  $\leq_2$  on  $X$  defined by  $i \leq_2 i$  for all  $i \in X$  and  $3 \leq_2 1 \leq_2 2$ . Figure 11 shows  $\tau_1, \tau_2$ , and  $\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2$ , where the inf is taken in  $TOP(X)$ . By Theorem 3.1, this inf is not in  $KPTOP(X)$ , so  $KPTOP(X)$  is not a sublattice of  $TOP(X)$ . In  $TOP(X)$ ,  $\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2$  has basis of minimal neighborhoods  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\} \cup \{\{i\} : i \in X - \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ . In  $KPTOP(X)$ ,  $\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2$  has basis  $\{\{1, 2, 3\}\} \cup \{\{i\} : i \in X - \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ .

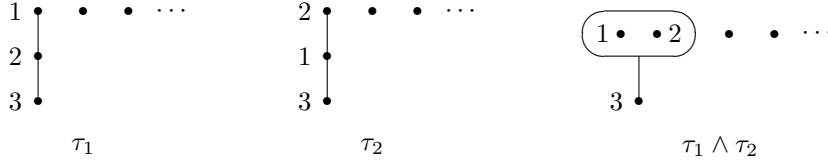


Fig. 11.  $\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2$  is not in  $KPTOP(X)$

To see (b) implies (c), suppose  $X = \{1, 2, 3\} \cup X'$ . Consider the topologies  $\tau_i$  having specialization quasiorders  $\leq_i$  as shown in Figure 12. Now  $\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2$  is

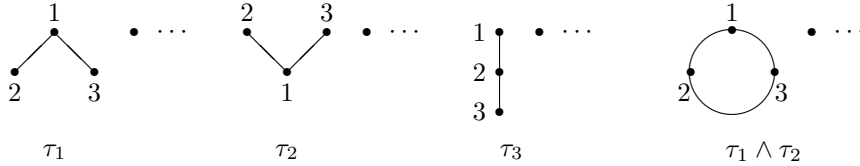


Fig. 12.  $\tau_1 \wedge [\tau_2 \vee \tau_3] \neq [\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2] \vee [\tau_1 \wedge \tau_3]$

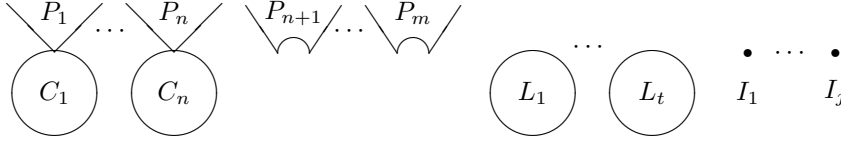
also shown in Figure 12. It is easy to see that  $\tau_1 \wedge \tau_3 = \tau_3$ , and then  $[\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2] \vee [\tau_1 \wedge \tau_3] = \tau_3$ . However, since  $\tau_2 \vee \tau_3$  is the discrete topology,  $\tau_1 \wedge [\tau_2 \vee \tau_3] = \tau_1 \neq [\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2] \vee [\tau_1 \wedge \tau_3]$ . Thus,  $KPTOP(X)$  is not distributive. (It is also easy to check that  $\tau_3 \vee [\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2] = \tau_3 \neq \tau_1 = [\tau_3 \vee \tau_1] \wedge [\tau_3 \wedge \tau_2]$ .)  $\square$

By Theorem 3.1 if a finite connected Alexandroff topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is  $k$ -primal, then the associated specialization quasi-order  $\lesssim$  on  $X$  is either a partially ordered set (if it has no cyclic points), or it is obtained from a partially ordered set with minimum element by splitting the minimum element into several elements in a cycle. That is, if  $(X, \lesssim)$  is given the equivalence

relation  $a \approx b$  if and only if  $a \lesssim b$  and  $b \lesssim a$ , then there is one equivalence class  $[x]$  which is not a singleton, and it is minimum in the resulting partial order on the  $\approx$ -equivalence classes defined by  $[a] \leq [b]$  if and only if  $a \lesssim b$ . This quotient space of  $\approx$ -equivalence classes, with the specialization topology consisting of the  $\leq$ -increasing sets, is the  $T_0$ -reflection of  $(X, \tau)$ . See [4] [16] for further information on this theme. It is well-known that an Alexandroff space  $(X, \tau)$  is connected (as a topological space) if and only if the associated quasiorder  $(X, \lesssim)$  is connected (as a graph). If  $X = (X, \leq)$  is a quasiordered set, by  $X^{op}$  we mean the quasiordered set  $(X, \geq)$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** *If  $X$  is finite,  $KPTOP(X)$  is a complemented lattice. That is, if  $\tau$  is a  $k$ -primal topology on a finite set  $X$  then  $\tau$  has a complement which is  $j$ -primal for some  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof:* Suppose  $\tau$  is  $k$ -primal with connected components  $P_1 \cup C_1, \dots, P_n \cup C_n, P_{n+1}, \dots, P_m, L_1, \dots, L_t, I_1, \dots, I_j$ , where each  $C_i$  is a cycle (with more than one point) appearing below the partially ordered set  $P_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ), each  $P_i$  ( $n+1 \leq i \leq m$ ) is a partially ordered set with more than one element, each  $L_i$  is a cycle with more than one element, and  $|I_i| = 1$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j$ ), as suggested in Figure [13]



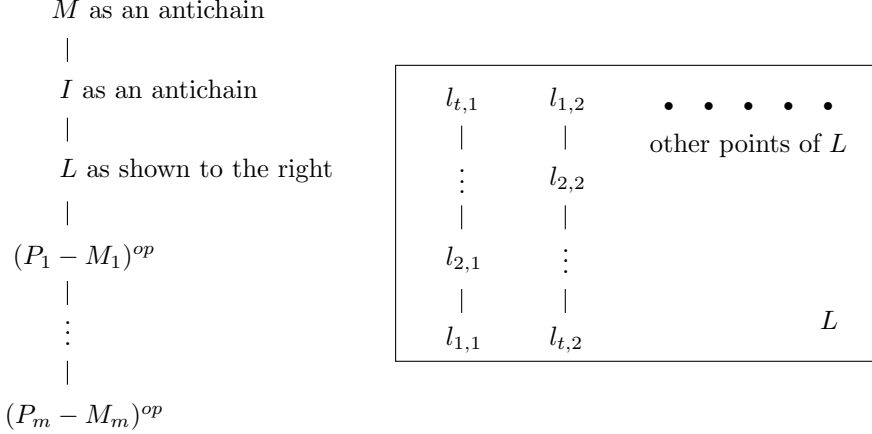
**Fig. 13.** The quasiorder for an arbitrary  $k$ -primal space  $(X, \tau)$

For  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $M_i = C_i$ , and for  $n+1 \leq i \leq m$  let  $M_i$  be the set of minimal points in  $P_i$ . (Thus, in all cases,  $M_i$  is the set of minimal points in its component.) Let  $M = \bigcup_{i=1}^m M_i$ ,  $L = \bigcup_{i=1}^t L_i$ , and  $I = \bigcup_{i=1}^j I_i$ .

Case 1:  $M = \emptyset$ . Then there are no components of form  $P_i \cup C_i$  or  $P_j$ , so  $X = L \cup I$ . For each  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , pick  $l_i \in L_i$  and let  $U = I \cup \{l_i\}_{i=1}^t$ . With  $\tau^* = \{U\} \cup \{\{x\} : x \in X - U\}$ , it is easy to see that  $\tau^*$  is a complement of  $\tau$ . Furthermore, since  $\tau^*$  has one cycle and several isolated points, it is 1-primal.

Case 2:  $M \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $(X, \tau^*)$  be the Alexandroff space whose specialization quasiorder  $\leq^*$  is the partially ordered set depicted in Figure [14]. We describe the order  $\leq^*$  on  $L$ . Each  $L_i$  has at least two elements  $l_{i,1}$  and  $l_{i,2}$ . We form chains  $l_{1,1} <^* l_{2,1} <^* \dots <^* l_{t,1}$  and  $l_{t,2} <^* \dots <^* l_{2,2} <^* l_{1,2}$ , with elements of each chain unrelated to elements of the other, and with every element of  $L$  not in one of these chains related only to itself. Recall that the smallest  $\tau^*$ -neighborhood  $N^*(x)$  of  $x$  is  $\uparrow_* x$ , and  $U$  is  $\tau^*$ -open if and only if  $U = \uparrow_* U = \{y \in X : \exists u \in U, u \leq^* y\}$ . In  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $N(x) = \uparrow x$ , or for emphasis,  $\uparrow_X x$ .

First we show that  $N(x) \cap N^*(x) = \{x\}$  for all  $x \in X$  by considering cases based on where  $x$  lies.



**Fig. 14.** The quasiorder for the complement  $(X, \tau^*)$

If  $x \in I$ ,  $N(x) = \{x\}$ . If  $x \in M$ ,  $N^*(x) = \{x\}$ . In each of these cases,  $N(x) \cap N^*(x) = \{x\}$ .

If  $x \in L_i$ , then  $N(x) \cap N^*(x) = L_i \cap N^*(x) = \{x\}$ .

If  $x \in P_i - M_i$ ,

$$N^*(x) = \uparrow_* x = M \cup I \cup L \cup \bigcup_{j=1}^{i-1} P_j \cup \downarrow_{P_i} x = M \cup I \cup L \cup \bigcup_{j=1}^{i-1} P_j \cup \downarrow_X x.$$

Since  $N(x) = \uparrow_X x = \uparrow_{P_i} x \subseteq P_i$ , we have  $N(x) \cap N^*(x) = \uparrow_X x \cap \downarrow_X x = \{x\}$ . Thus,  $\tau \vee \tau^*$  is the discrete topology.

Next, we show that  $\tau \cap \tau^* = \{\emptyset, X\}$ . Suppose  $U \in \tau \cap \tau^*$  and  $x \in U$ . Again, we consider cases based on where  $x$  lies. Now  $U$  is  $\leq$ -increasing and  $\leq^*$  increasing, so we may show  $U = X$  by showing that starting from  $x$  and iteratively taking  $\uparrow$  and  $\uparrow_*$ , we get every point of  $X$ .

If  $x \in I$ ,  $M \subseteq \uparrow_* x \subseteq U$ , so  $\uparrow M \subseteq U$ . But since  $M \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\uparrow M$  contains  $P_i - M_i$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . Now  $\uparrow_*(P_m - M_m) = X$ . Thus,  $U = X$ .

If  $x \in M_i$  for some  $i$ , then  $N(x) = \uparrow x \subseteq U$  and  $\uparrow x$  contains a point  $x' \in P_i - M_i$ . Now  $\uparrow_* x'$  contains  $M \cup I \cup L$ , so  $U$  contains  $M \cup I \cup L$ . Now  $U = \uparrow U$  must contain  $\uparrow(M \cup I \cup L) = X$ . Thus,  $U = X$ .

If  $x \in (P_i - M_i)$  for some  $i$ , then  $M \cup I \cup L \subseteq \uparrow_* x \subseteq U$ , and  $\uparrow(M \cup I \cup L) \subseteq \uparrow U = U$ , so  $U = X$ .

If  $x \in L_i$  for some  $i$ , then  $L_i = N(x) = \uparrow x \subseteq U$ . Considering the order  $\leq^*$  on  $L$  (as shown in the box in Figure 14),  $N^*(x) = \uparrow_* x$  contains one point  $a_k \in \{l_{k,1}, l_{k,2}\}$  from each  $L_k$  ( $1 \leq k \leq j$ ), so  $U$  must contain  $N(a_k) = L_k$

for each  $k$ . This shows  $L \subseteq U$ . Thus,  $\uparrow_* L = (M \cup I \cup L) \subseteq U$ , and thus  $X = \uparrow(M \cup I \cup L) \subseteq U$ . Thus,  $U = X$ .

In all cases,  $\tau \cap \tau^* = \{\emptyset, X\}$ , so  $\tau^*$  is a complement of  $\tau$ .

Finally, since the quasiorder for  $\tau^*$  is in fact a partial order, Proposition 2.4 or Theorem 3.1 show that  $\tau^* \in KPTOP(X)$ .  $\square$

Since the quasiorder for  $\tau^*$  described in Figure 14 is a partial order, this construction produces a  $T_0$  complement for  $X$ . In particular, together with Proposition 2.4 this shows that every  $T_0$  topology on a finite set has a  $T_0$  complement.

Also, it is easy to see that if  $X$  is connected and is a partially ordered set  $P_1$  or a partially ordered set above a cycle  $P_1 \cup C_1$ , then this algorithm produces a complement which is also connected.

Note that the result of Theorem 4.3 fails if  $X$  is infinite: the discrete topology  $\mathcal{P}(id)$  is 1-primal, but its only complement is the indiscrete topology, which is not  $k$ -primal for any  $k$ .

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