

Generalizing the d -nucleus to stably continuous frames

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Topology, Algebra, and Categories in Logic

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Joint work with G. Bezhanishvili, P. Bhattacharjee, and M. A. Moshier

A SUMMER SCHOOL +
CONFERENCE IN LOGIC

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In a sense, the *d-nucleus* captures the part of double negation determined by *compact approximations*. The generalized *d-nucleus* replaces these compact approximations by *way-below approximations*.

Double negation in topology

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If X is compact Hausdorff, the Stone space of $\text{RO}(X)$ is the **Gleason cover** of X , that is, its projective cover. It is extremally disconnected, and the canonical surjection onto X is irreducible.

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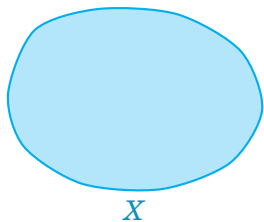
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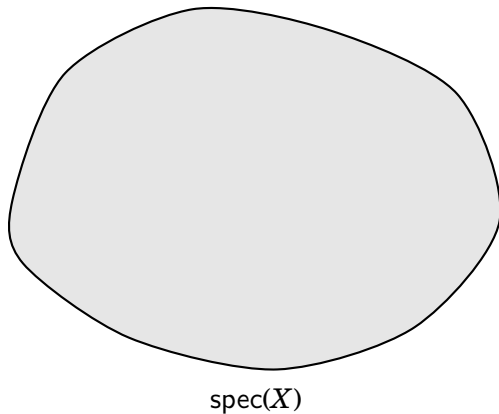
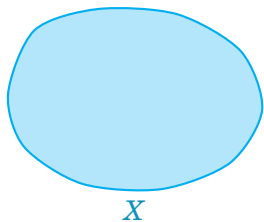
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Thus, there is a natural embedding $X \longrightarrow \text{spec}(X)$ given by $x \longmapsto \mathcal{N}_x$.

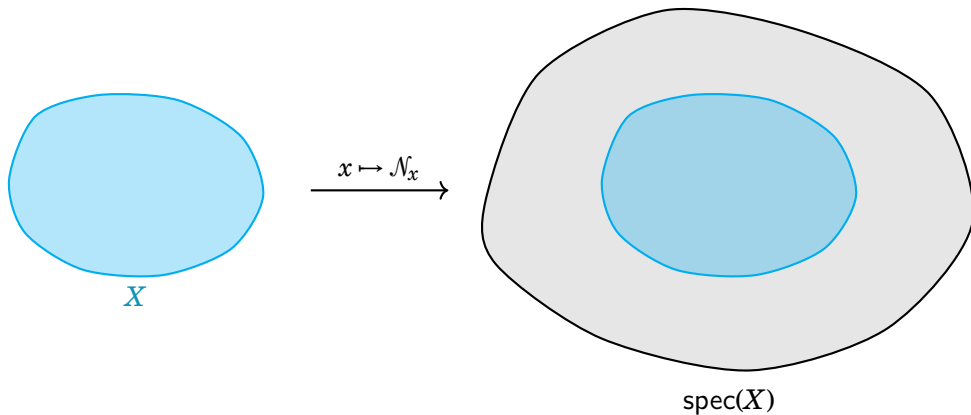
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Studying X through $\operatorname{spec}(X)$

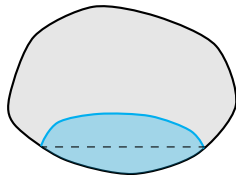
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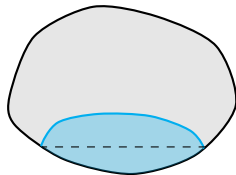
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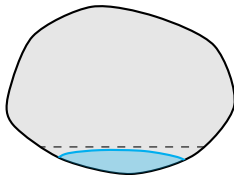
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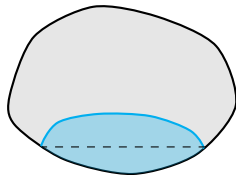
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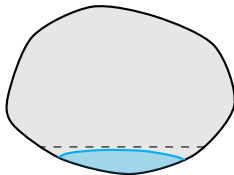
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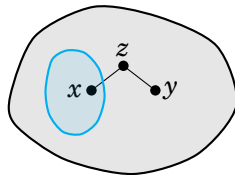
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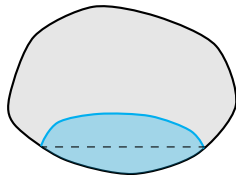


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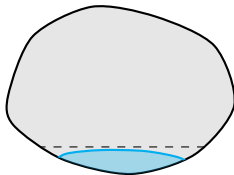
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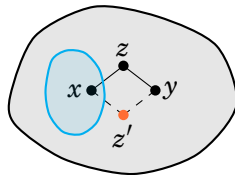
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Diamond property.

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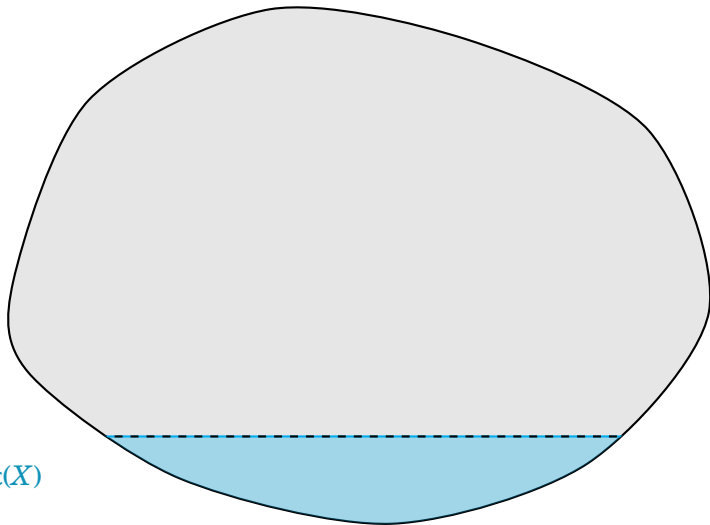
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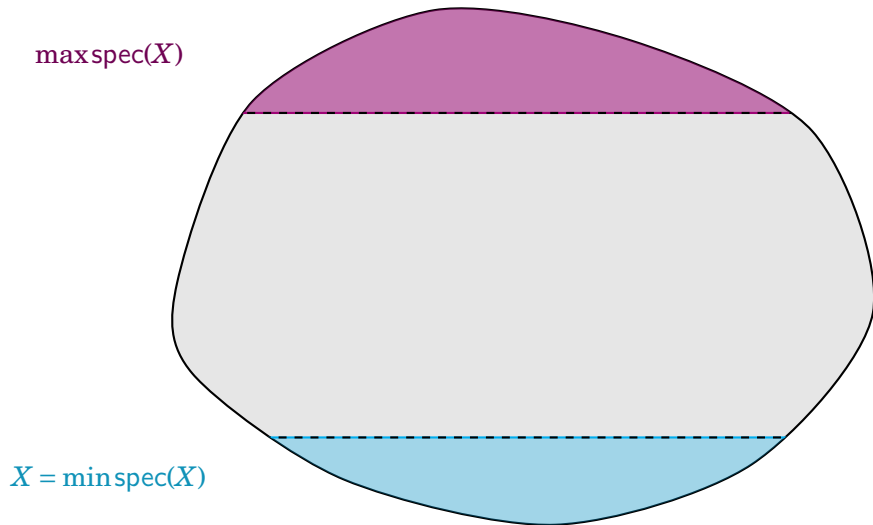
In short, the restriction $g : \text{maxspec}(X) \rightarrow X$ realizes the Gleason cover.

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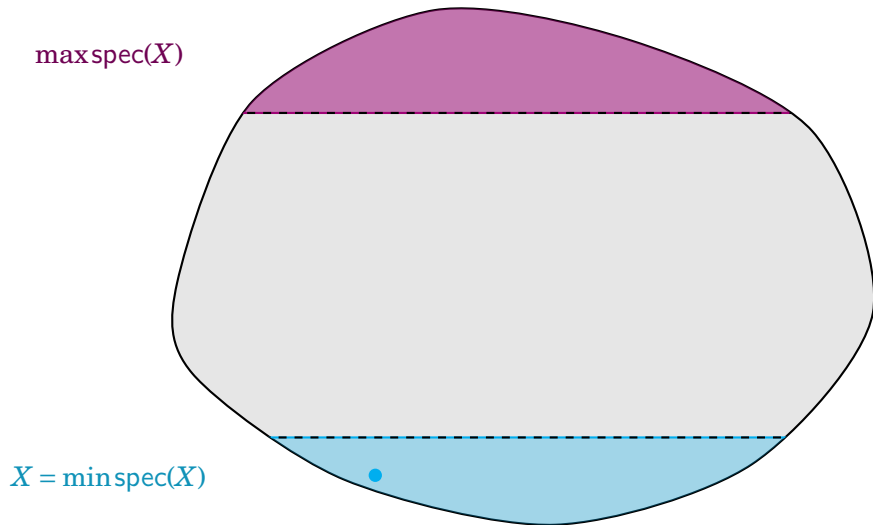
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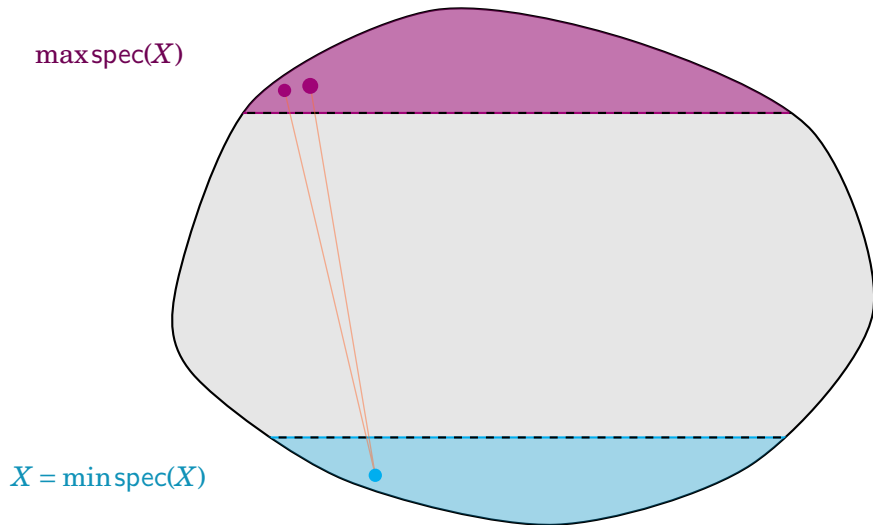
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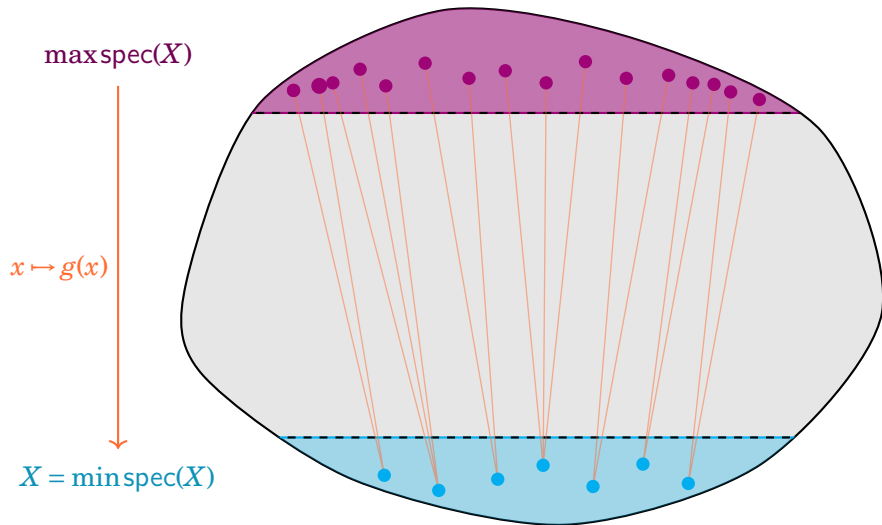
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Nuclei correspond order-reversingly, via their images, to sublocales. These are the pointfree analogues of subspaces. Thus, Isbell's theorem says that the booleanization $B(L)$ is the smallest dense sublocale of L .

From sublocales back to spaces

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for every directed $D \subseteq L$. (Every finite subset of D has an upper bound in D .) Equivalently, the corresponding sublocale is closed under directed joins.

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Theorem (Escardó, 1998)

Every sober space has a smallest dense Scott continuous subspace.

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The frame of ℓ -ideals is **algebraic** (the compact elements are join-dense), and its compact elements are closed under binary meets. A frame with these two properties is called **arithmetic**.

Martínez and Zenk showed that, on every arithmetic frame L , the formula

$$da = \bigvee \{ \neg \neg k \mid k \text{ is compact and } k \leq a \}$$

defines a nucleus, called the **d -nucleus**. For the frame of ℓ -ideals, the fixpoints of d are precisely the d -ideals.

From arithmetic to stably continuous frames

For $b, a \in L$, we say b is way below a , and write $b \ll a$, if whenever $a \leq \bigvee D$ for a directed set $D \subseteq L$, there is some $d \in D$ with $b \leq d$.

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Passing from algebraic frames to continuous frames amounts to replacing approximation by compact elements with approximation via the way-below relation.

This suggests replacing the compact elements in the definition of the d -nucleus by the elements way below a .

(Recall $da = \bigvee \{\neg\neg k \mid k \text{ is compact and } k \leq a\}$.)

The generalized d -nucleus

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Lemma (Escardó, 1998)

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Applied to double negation nucleus, this gives

$$\underline{d}a := \underline{\neg\neg}a = \bigvee \{\neg\neg b \mid b \ll a\}.$$

Thus, $\underline{d}$ is the largest Scott continuous nucleus below double negation. On algebraic frames, *way-below approximation* reduces to approximation by compact elements, so $\underline{d} = d$.

The $\underline{d}$ -subspace in Priestley duality

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Theorem ([BBMM26])

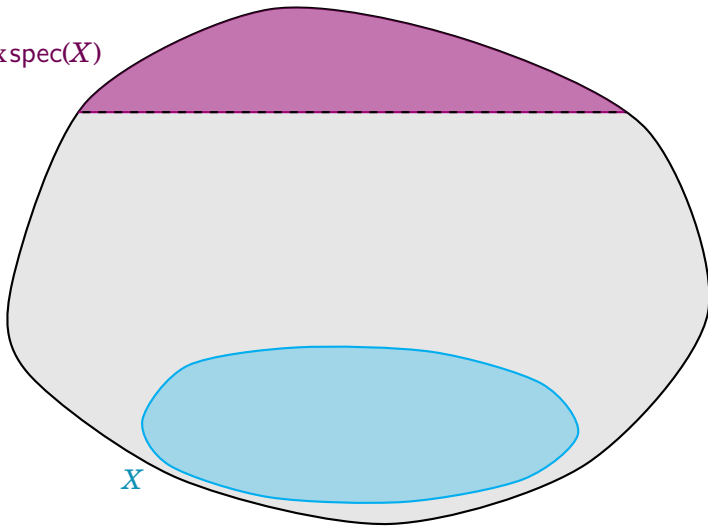
The subspace of X corresponding to the $\underline{d}$ -nucleus is

$$X_{\underline{d}} = \{x \in X \mid x \text{ is the greatest point of } X \text{ below some } y \in \text{maxspec}(X)\}.$$

Consequently, $X_{\underline{d}}$ is the smallest dense Scott continuous subspace of X .

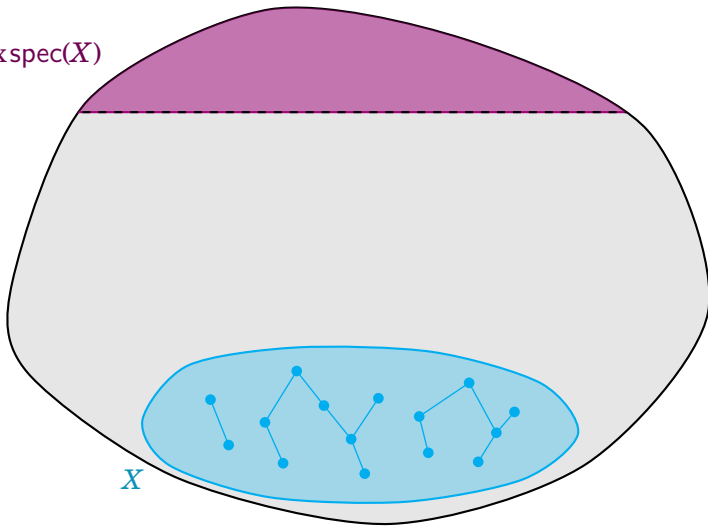
(Recall that the booleanization corresponds to $\text{maxspec}(X)$.)

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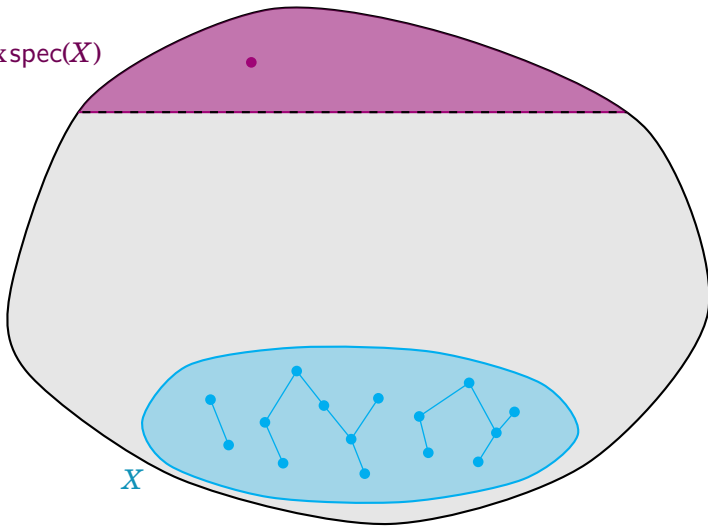


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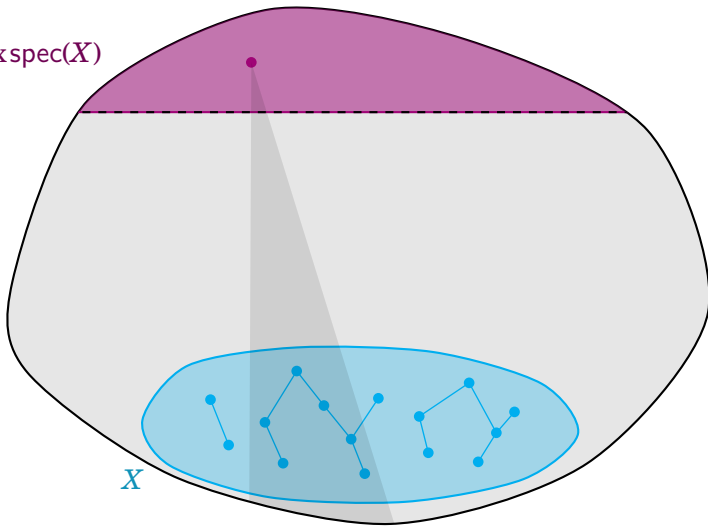


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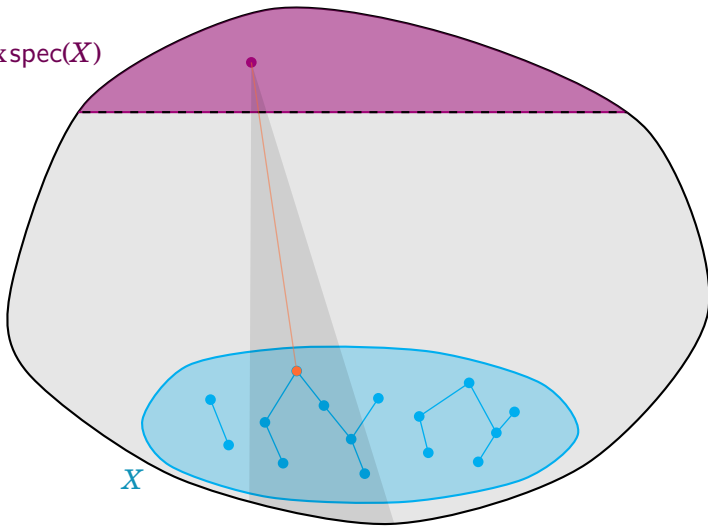


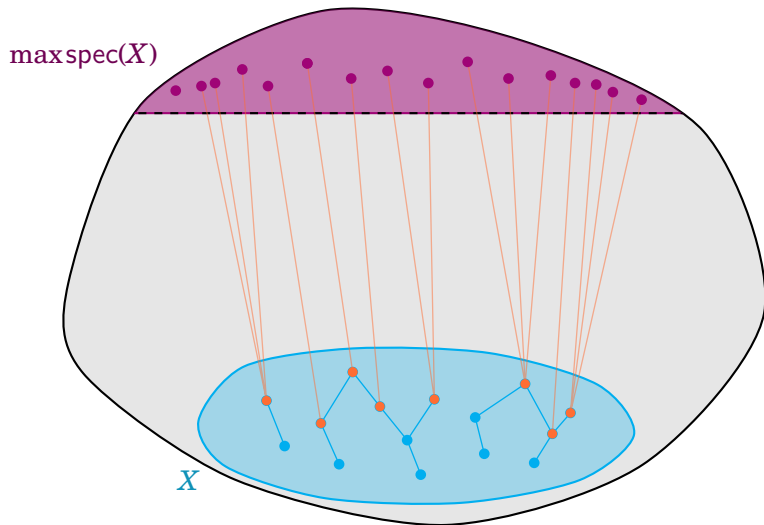
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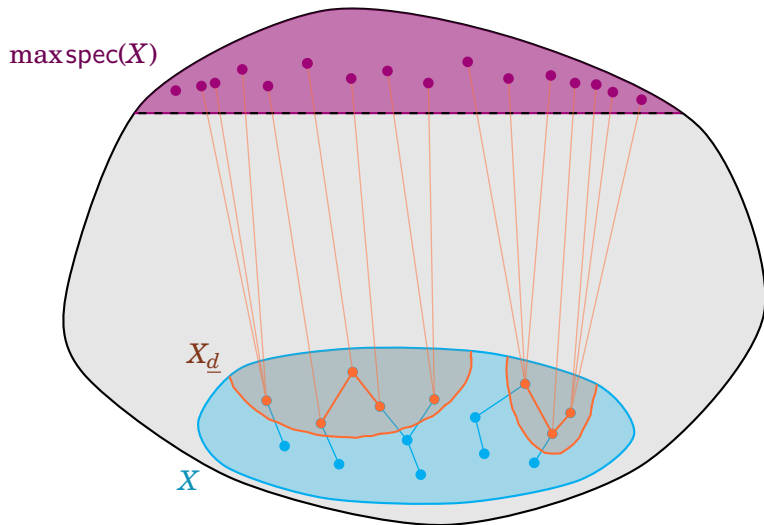
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Maximal d -spectra

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Definition

The *maximal j -spectrum* is the space $\max(jL) \subseteq \text{pt}(jL)$ of maximal proper j -elements.

For the d -nucleus on the frame of ℓ -ideals of a Riesz space, this recovers the *space of maximal d -ideals* studied by Huijsmans and de Pagter. Bhattacharjee later introduced the maximal d -spectrum of an arbitrary arithmetic frame.

Iterating the Priestley construction

Let X be compact Hausdorff and let $\text{spec}(X)$ be the Priestley space of $\Omega(X)$. As before, we identify X with $\text{minspec}(X)$, while $\text{maxspec}(X)$ forms the Gleason cover of X .

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We can now apply the Priestley description of the $\underline{d}$ -subspace of $\text{spec}(X)$, yielding that

$$\text{spec}(X)_{\underline{d}} = \{x \in \text{spec}(X) \mid x \text{ is the greatest point below some } y \in \text{maxspec}^2(X)\}$$

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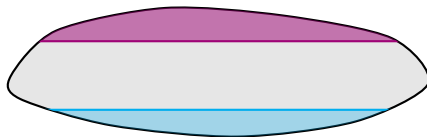
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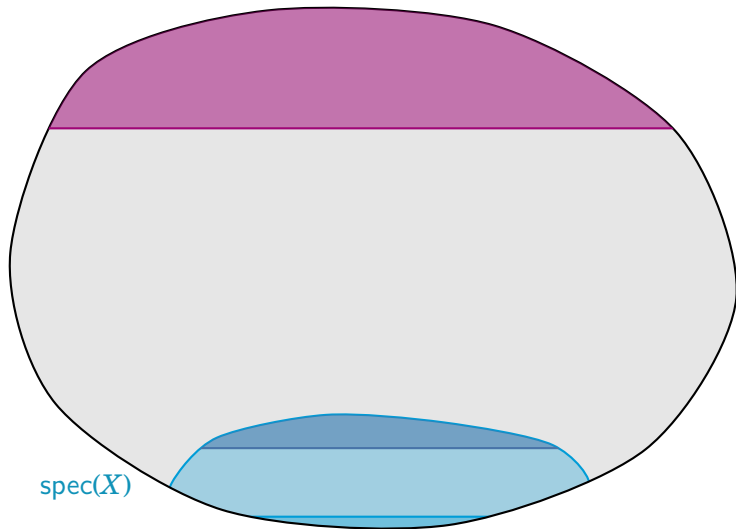
This subspace is another realization of the Gleason cover, as the next slide illustrates.

$\text{spec}(X)$



$$X = \min \text{spec}(X)$$

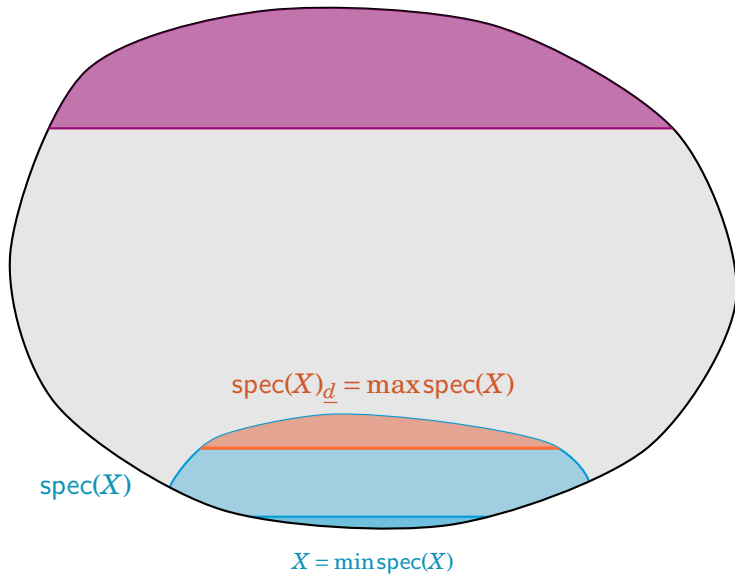
$\text{spec}^2(X)$



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$X = \text{minspec}(X)$

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The Gleason cover as a maximal d -spectrum

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Since maximal $\underline{d}$ -elements of the frame of ideals are maximal d -ideals, we obtain the following:

Theorem ([BBMM26])

The Gleason cover of a compact Hausdorff space X is homeomorphic to the space of maximal d -ideals of $\Omega(X)$.

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The Gleason cover of a compact Hausdorff space X is homeomorphic to the space of maximal d -ideals of $\Omega(X)$.

Consequently, every extremally disconnected compact Hausdorff space is realized as a maximal d -spectrum.

Units and compactness

Maximal d -spectra of arithmetic frames are always T_1 , but they need not be compact. A standard additional assumption is that the frame has a **unit**, that is, a compact dense element. Here **dense** means that $\neg e = 0$.

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Stably continuous frames need not have many compact elements, so requiring a unit is too restrictive.

We therefore call $e \in L$ a **Scott unit** if $\{a \in L \mid e \ll a\}$ is a Scott-open filter consisting of dense elements. On arithmetic frames, the existence of a Scott unit is equivalent to the existence of a unit.

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Theorem ([BBMM26])

A stably continuous frame L has a Scott unit iff $\underline{d}L$ is max-bounded and $\max(\underline{d}L)$ is compact.

Here, $\underline{d}L$ is **max-bounded** if every proper $\underline{d}$ -element lies below a maximal $\underline{d}$ -element.

The maximal d -spectrum problem

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Theorem ([BBMM26])

Every locally compact Hausdorff space is homeomorphic to the maximal $\underline{d}$ -spectrum of a continuous regular frame. In particular, every compact Hausdorff space is homeomorphic to the maximal $\underline{d}$ -spectrum of a compact regular frame.

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The key observation is that $\underline{d}$ is the identity on every continuous regular frame. Moreover, for a continuous regular frame, the maximal spectrum agrees with its space of points.

The arithmetic case

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Corollary ([BBMM26])

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Corollary ([BBMM26])

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This solves the representation problem in the zero-dimensional case.

TACL

2026

Thanks!

Topology, Algebra, and
Categories in Logic

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