

# Measuring well quasi-orders and complexity of verification

PHD DEFENSE OF ISA VIALARD

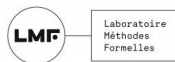
---

PhD advisor: Philippe Schnoebelen, Directeur de recherche, CNRS, LMF

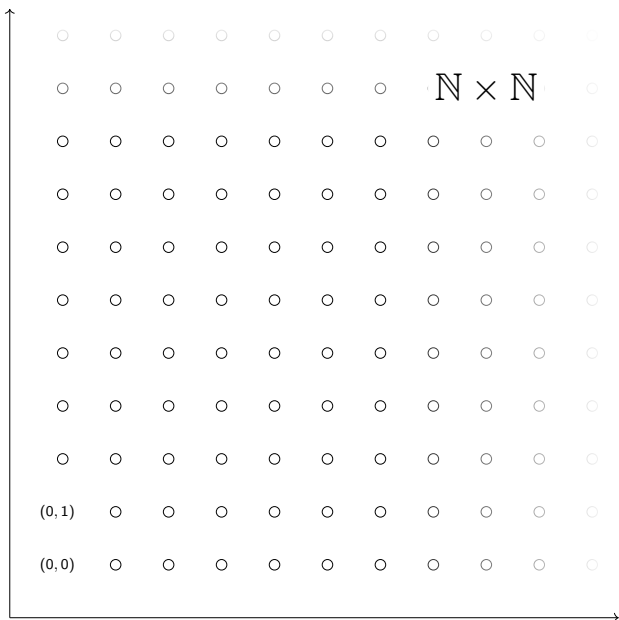
July 3, 2024

école  
normale  
supérieure  
paris—saclay

université  
PARIS-SACLAY



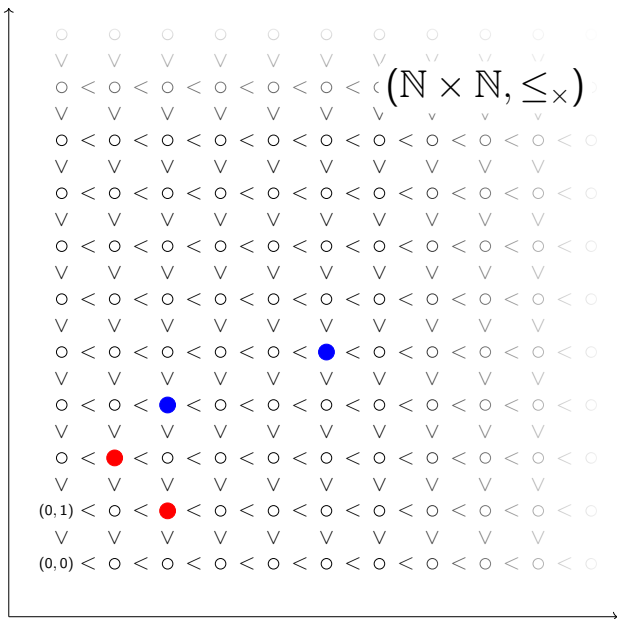
## Definitions: Quasi-order



Quasi-order:

reflexive, transitive,  
can be partial

## Definitions: Quasi-order



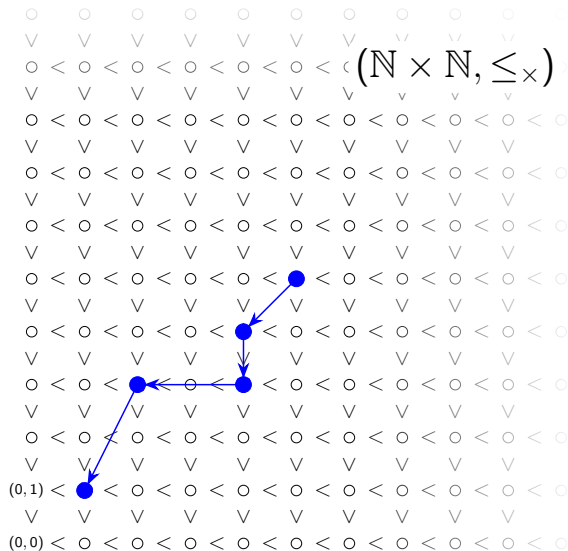
Quasi-order:

reflexive, transitive,  
can be partial

Ex:  $(2, 3) \leq_x (5, 4)$

but  $(1, 2) \not\leq_x (2, 1)$

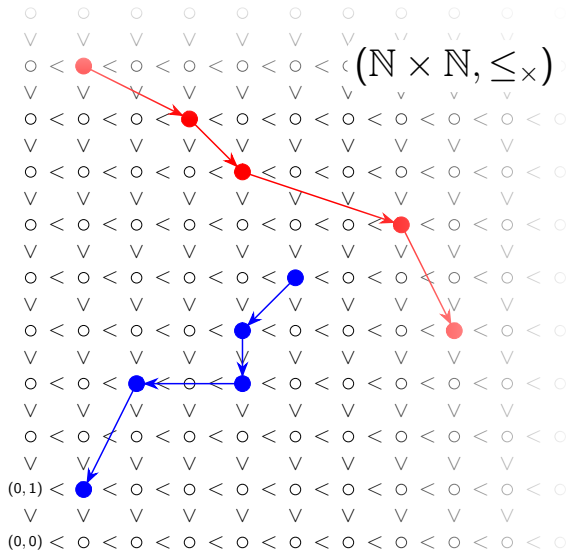
# Some interesting sequences



— decreasing sequence

$$(5, 5) > (4, 4) > (4, 3) > (2, 3) > (1, 1)$$

# Some interesting sequences

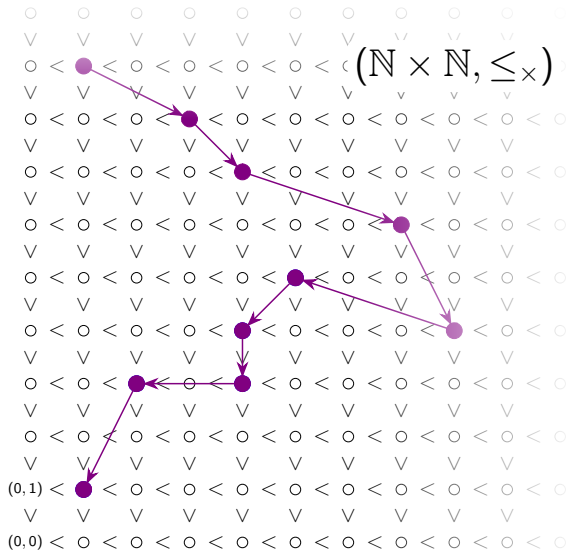


— decreasing sequence

— incomparable sequence  
(or antichain)  
i.e. pairwise incomparable

$(1, 9) \perp (3, 8), (4, 7), (7, 5), \dots$

# Some interesting sequences



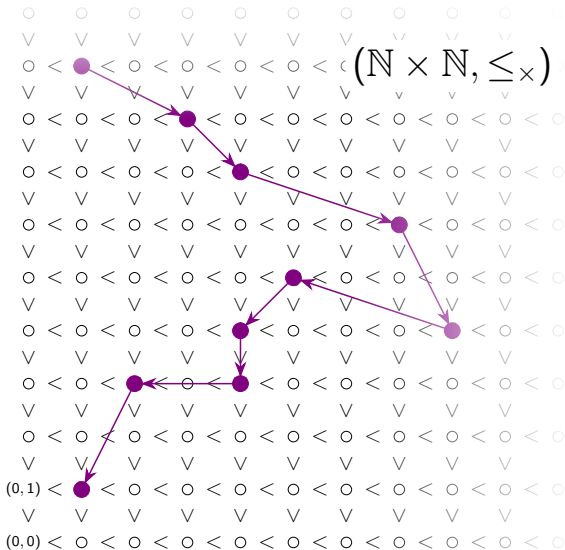
— decreasing sequence

— incomparable sequence  
(or antichain)  
i.e. pairwise incomparable

— bad sequence  
i.e. pairwise non increasing

$(1, 9) \not\leq (3, 8), (4, 7), (7, 5), \dots$

# Definitions: Well Quasi-Order



— decreasing sequence

— antichain  
i.e. pairwise incomparable

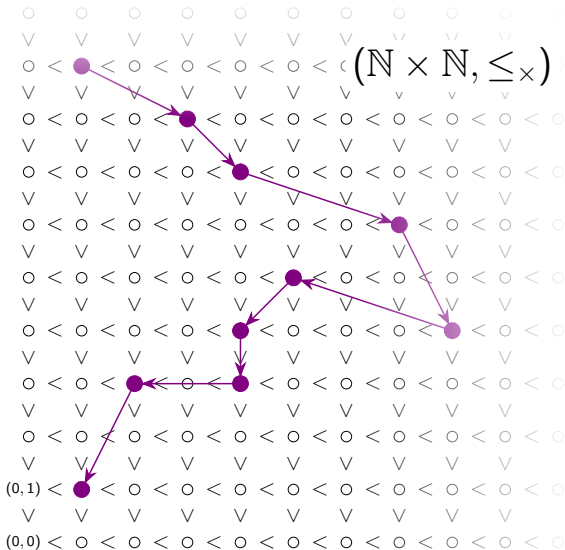
— bad sequence  
i.e. pairwise non increasing

WQO



No infinite antichain  
or decreasing seq

# Definitions: Well Quasi-Order



— decreasing sequence

— antichain  
i.e. pairwise incomparable

— bad sequence  
i.e. pairwise non increasing

WQO

$\Updownarrow$

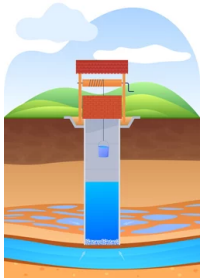
No infinite antichain  
or decreasing seq

$\Updownarrow$

No infinite bad seq



# Definitions: Well Quasi-Order



Some see wqos as wells  
Blass & Gurevich (2008)

WQO

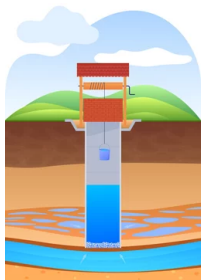


No infinite **antichain**  
or **decreasing seq**



No infinite **bad seq**

# Definitions: Well Quasi-Order



Some see wqos as wells  
Blass & Gurevich (2008)



Others see chairlift queue  
My parents (2023)

WQO



No infinite **antichain**  
or **decreasing seq**



No infinite **bad seq**

# Definitions: Well Quasi-Order



Some see wqos as wells  
Blass & Gurevich (2008)



Others see chairlift queue  
My parents (2023)

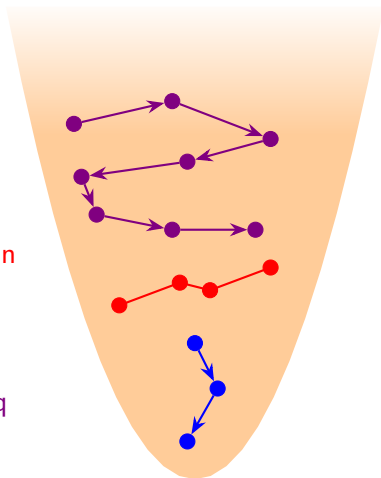
WQO



No infinite **antichain**  
or **decreasing seq**



No infinite **bad seq**



## ◆ Reasons to study wqos

- “It is fun” (Kříž & Thomas (1990))

## ◆ Reasons to study wqos

- “It is fun” (Kříž & Thomas (1990))
- Applications in proof theory, term rewriting, graph theory, ... and program verification!

## ◆ Reasons to study wqos

- “It is fun” (Kříž & Thomas (1990))
- Applications in proof theory, term rewriting, graph theory, ... and program verification!

## ♣ Well-structured transition systems

Finkel (1994), Abdulla & Jonsson (1996)

- Set of configurations: WQO
- $\leq$  a simulation relation

$$\begin{array}{ccc} t_1 & \xrightarrow{\text{red}} & t_2 \\ \vee | & & \vee | \\ s_1 & \longrightarrow & s_2 \end{array}$$

## ◆ Reasons to study wqos

- “It is fun” (Kříž & Thomas (1990))
- Applications in proof theory, term rewriting, graph theory, ... and program verification!

## ♣ Well-structured transition systems

Finkel (1994), Abdulla & Jonsson (1996)

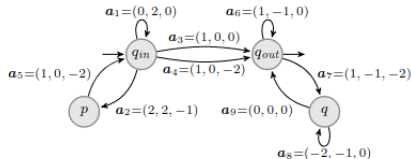
- Set of configurations: WQO
- $\leq$  a simulation relation

$$t_1 \longrightarrow t_2$$

$$\forall | \quad \quad \quad \forall |$$

$$s_1 \longrightarrow s_2$$

- *Ex: Counter machines, Petri nets, VASS, Lossy channel systems ...*



Vector Addition Systems with States

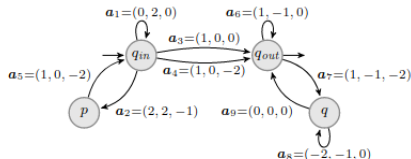
## ♣ Well-structured transition systems

Finkel (1994), Abdulla & Jonsson (1996)

- Set of configurations: WQO
- $\leq$  is *upward-compatible*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} t_1 & \longrightarrow & t_2 \\ \vee | & & \vee | \\ s_1 & \longrightarrow & s_2 \end{array}$$

- *Ex: Counter machines, Petri nets, VASS, Lossy channel systems ...*



Vector Addition Systems with States

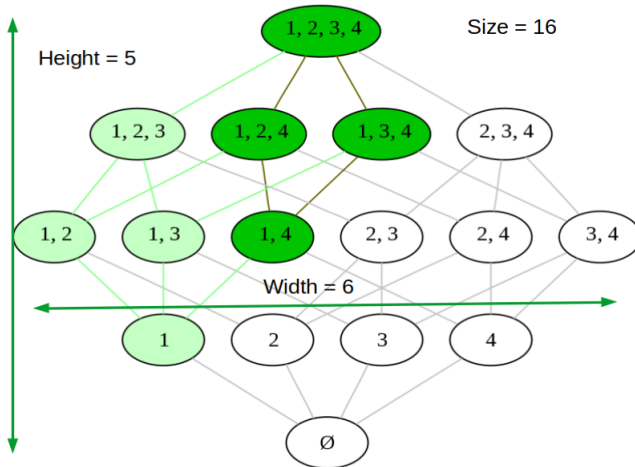
## ♦ Complexity and expressiveness

Schmitz & Schnoebelen (2011)

- Controlled bad sequences (even decreasing, or antichains)
- Can we bound the length of controlled sequences by measuring wqo?



## ♣ Natural notions of measure when finite





# Crash course on ordinal numbers

## ◆ Enumerate well-orders (i.e. linear wqos)

Cantor(1883)

$$0 < 1 < \dots < n < \dots$$

# Crash course on ordinal numbers

## ◆ Enumerate well-orders (i.e. linear wqos)

Cantor(1883)

$$\begin{array}{c} \omega \\ \vee \\ 0 < 1 < \dots < n < \dots \end{array}$$

## ◆ Enumerate well-orders (i.e. linear wqos)

Cantor(1883)

Two operations to build well-orders:

Successor: Add an element on top

Limit: Infinite union of increasing well-orders is well-ordered

$$\omega < \omega + 1 < \dots < \omega + n < \dots$$

$$0 < 1 < \dots < n < \dots$$

## ◆ Enumerate well-orders (i.e. linear wqos)

Cantor(1883)

Two operations to build well-orders:

Successor: Add an element on top

Limit: Infinite union of increasing well-orders is well-ordered

$$\omega \cdot n < \dots$$

⋮

$$\omega \cdot 2 < \dots$$

$$\omega < \omega + 1 < \dots < \omega + n < \dots$$

$$0 < 1 < \dots < n < \dots$$

## ◆ Enumerate linear wqos

Cantor(1883)

Ordinal as transitive sets:

$$\alpha = \{ \beta < \alpha \}$$

$$\omega \cdot n < \dots$$

$\vdots$

$$\omega \cdot 2 < \dots$$

$$\omega < \omega + 1 < \dots < \omega + n < \dots$$

$$0 < 1 < \dots < n < \dots$$

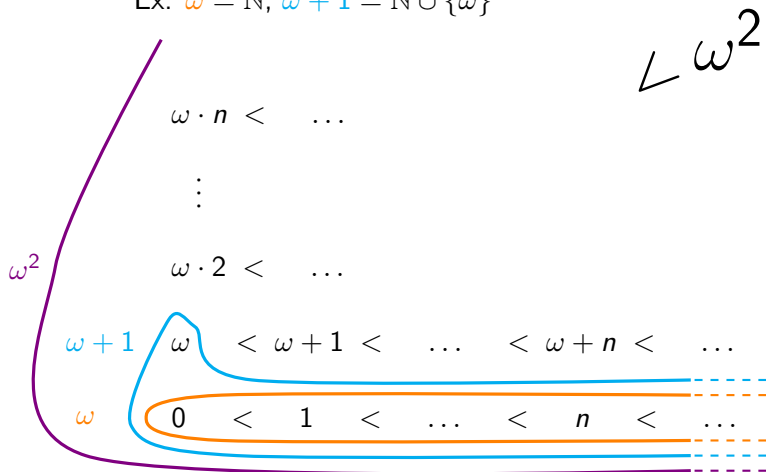
## ◆ Enumerate linear wqos

Cantor(1883)

Ordinal as transitive sets:

$$\alpha = \{ \beta < \alpha \}$$

$$\text{Ex: } \omega = \mathbb{N}, \omega + 1 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{\omega\}$$





# Crash course on ordinals

## ◆ Enumerate linear wqos

Cantor(1883)

Two operations to build well-orders:

Successor: Add an element on top

Limit: Union of increasing sequence of well-orders is well-ordered

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & & \vdots & \\ & & & & & \vdots & \\ & & & & & \omega^2 & \dots \\ & & & \swarrow & & & \\ \omega \cdot n & < & \dots & & & & \\ & & \vdots & & & & \\ \omega \cdot 2 & < & \dots & & & & \\ \omega & < & \omega + 1 & < & \dots & < & \omega + n & < & \dots \\ 0 & < & 1 & < & \dots & < & n & < & \dots \end{array}$$

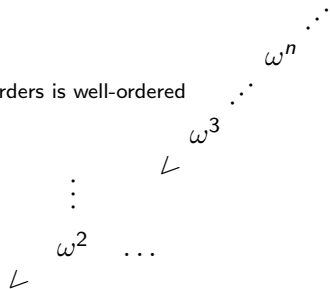
## ◆ Enumerate linear wqos

Cantor(1883)

Two operations to build well-orders:

Successor: Add an element on top

Limit: Union of increasing sequence of well-orders is well-ordered



$$\omega \cdot n < \dots$$

⋮

$$\omega \cdot 2 < \dots$$

$$\omega < \omega + 1 < \dots < \omega + n < \dots$$

$$0 < 1 < \dots < n < \dots$$

# Crash course on ordinals

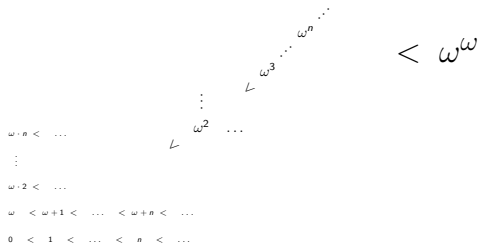
## ◆ Enumerate linear wqos

Cantor(1883)

Two operations to build well-orders:

Successor: Add an element on top

Limit: Infinite union of increasing well-orders is well-ordered



# Crash course on ordinals

## ◆ Enumerate linear wqos

Cantor(1883)

Two operations to build well-orders:

Successor: Add an element on top

Limit: Infinite union of increasing well-orders is well-ordered



$$< \omega^\omega < \omega^{\omega^\omega} < \dots < \omega^{\omega^{\dots^\omega}} < \dots$$

## ◆ Enumerate linear wqos

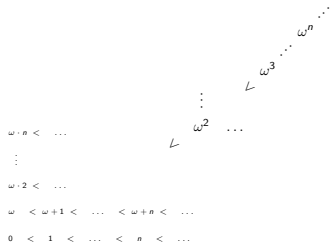
Cantor(1883)

Two operations to build well-orders:

Successor: Add an element on top

Limit: Infinite union of increasing well-orders is well-ordered

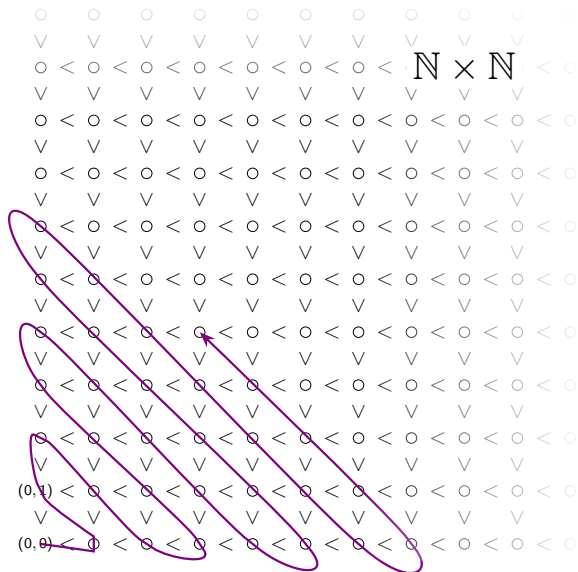
$\vdots$   
 $\varepsilon_0$   
 $\vee$



$< \omega^\omega < \omega^{\omega^\omega} < \dots < \omega^{\omega^{\dots^\omega}} < \dots$



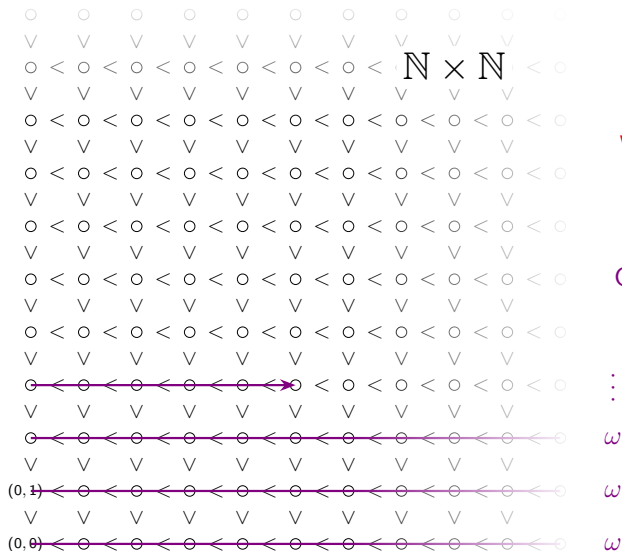
## ♣ Let's extend height and width to infinite wqos with ordinals



Width and height:  
at least  $\omega$

Counting elements:  
at least  $\omega$

## ♣ Let's extend height and width to infinite wqos with ordinals



Width and height:  
at least  $\omega$

Counting elements:  
at least  $\omega^2$

$\vdots$

$w$

$w$

$w$



## Definition (Maximal order type, Width and Height)

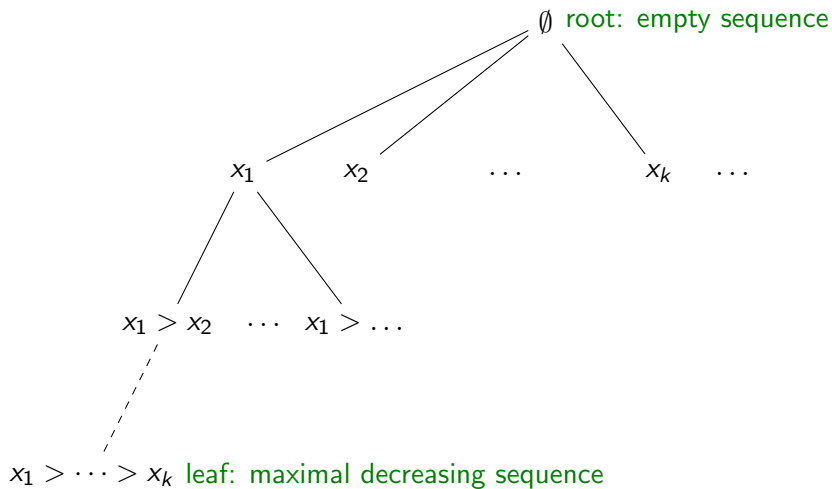
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} o(X) \\ w(X) \\ h(X) \end{array} \right. = \text{ordinal rank of the tree of } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{bad sequences} \\ \text{antichain sequences} \\ \text{decreasing sequences} \end{array} \right. \text{ in } X.$$

Definition from Kříž & Thomas(1990) (first definition of ordinal width)

First definition of maximal order type by De Jongh & Parikh(1977)

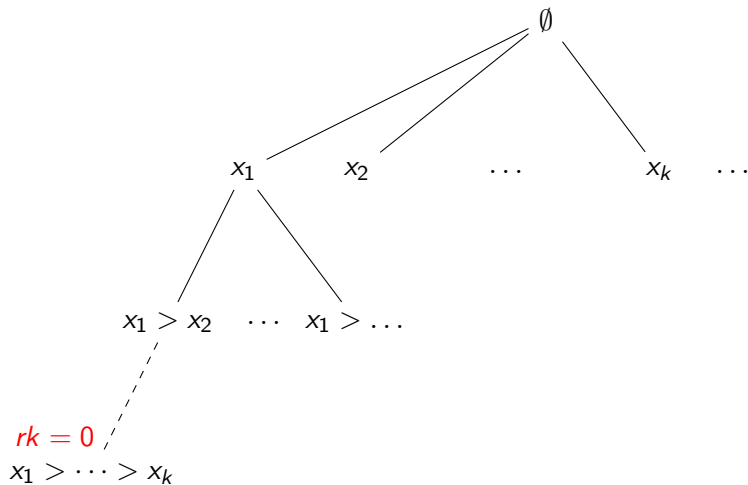
## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

### ♣ Ex: Tree of decreasing sequences



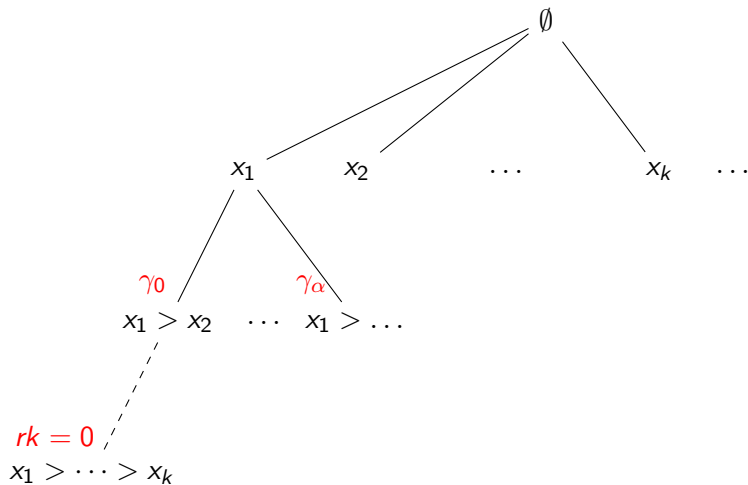
## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

♣ Ex: Tree of decreasing sequences



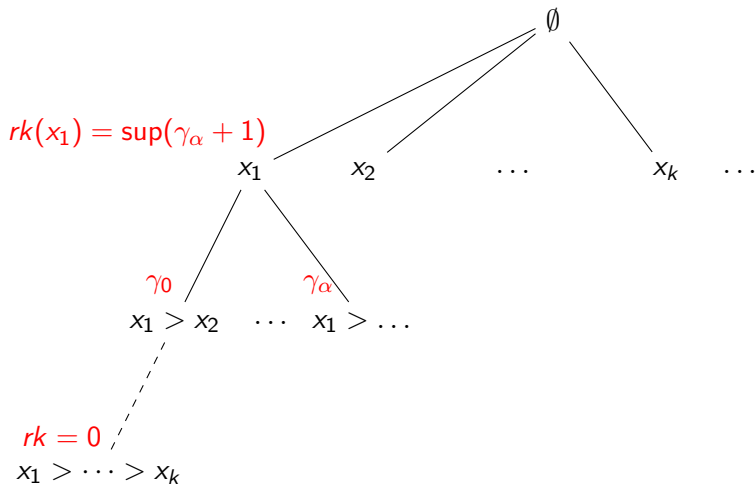
## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

### ♣ Ex: Tree of decreasing sequences



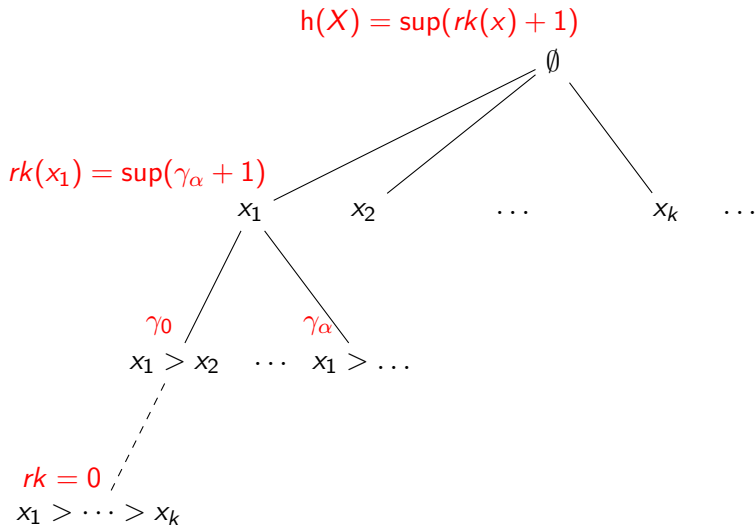
## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

### ♣ Ex: Tree of decreasing sequences



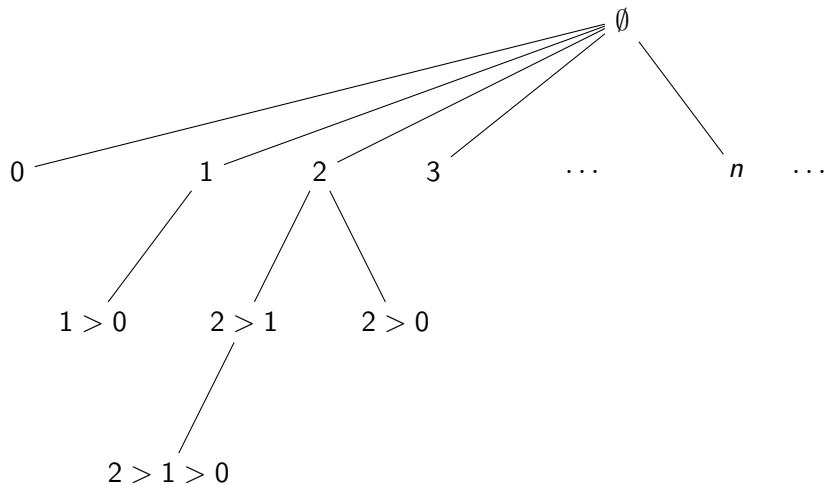
## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

### ♣ Ex: Tree of decreasing sequences



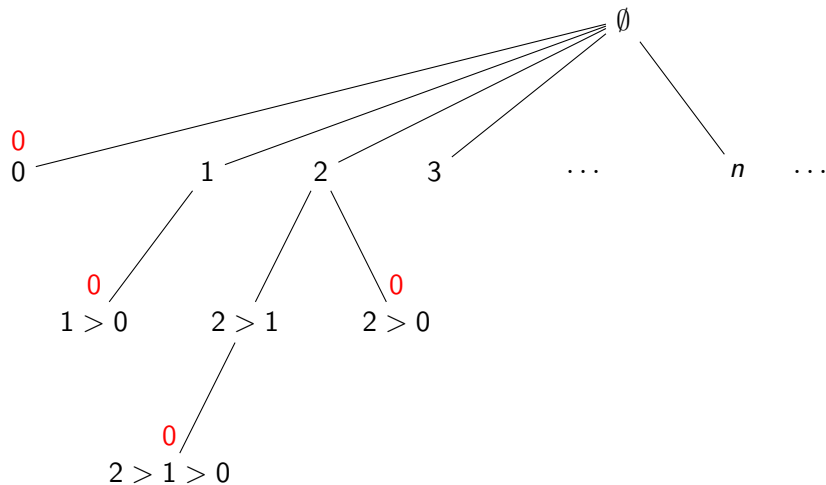
## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

♣ Ex: Height of  $\mathbb{N}$



## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

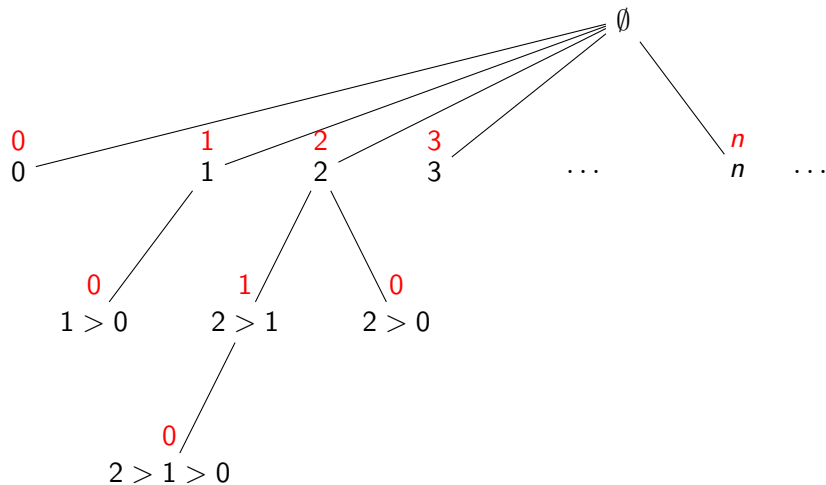
♣ Ex: Height of  $\mathbb{N}$





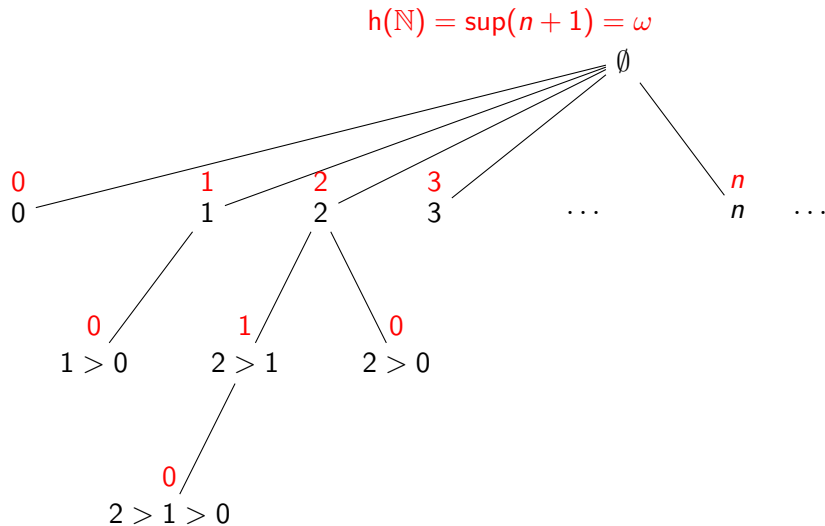
## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

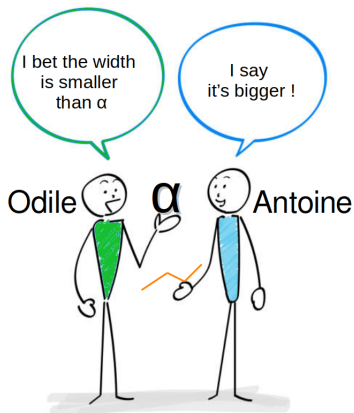
♣ Ex: Height of  $\mathbb{N}$



## Definition: Rank of well-founded trees

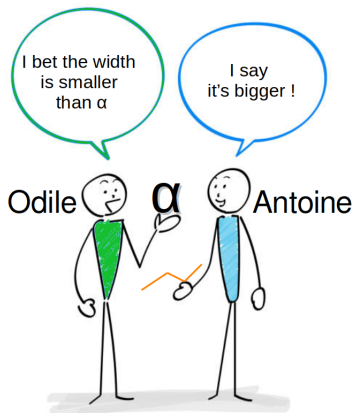
### ♣ Ex: Height of $\mathbb{N}$





## ◆ Game: $\alpha$ vs $w(X)$

- Initial configuration:
  - Odile :  $\gamma = \alpha$ ,
  - Antoine :  $S = \emptyset$
- Player alternate:
  - Odile picks  $\gamma' < \gamma$
  - Antoine extends  $S$  into  $S :: x$  an antichain,
- End: You lose if you cannot play anymore



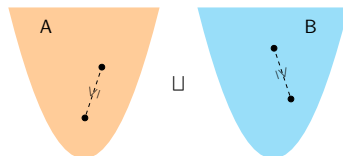
## ◆ Game: $\alpha$ vs $w(X)$

- Initial configuration:
  - **Odile** :  $\gamma = \alpha$ ,
  - **Antoine** :  $S = \emptyset$
- Player alternate:
  - **Odile** picks  $\gamma' < \gamma$
  - **Antoine** extends  $S$  into  $S :: x$  an antichain,
- End: You lose if you cannot play anymore

## Theorem (Blass & Gurevich (2008))

- **Antoine** has winning strategy when **Odile** begins  $\Leftrightarrow \alpha \leq w(X)$
- **Odile** has winning strategy when **Antoine** begins  $\Leftrightarrow \alpha \geq w(X)$

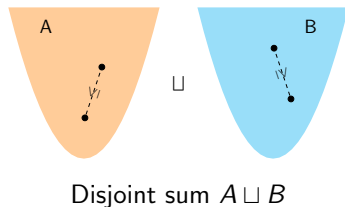
## Example: Playing on the on disjoint sum



Disjoint sum  $A \sqcup B$

**Theorem:**  $o(A \sqcup B) = o(A) \oplus o(B)$  (De Jongh & Parikh(1977))

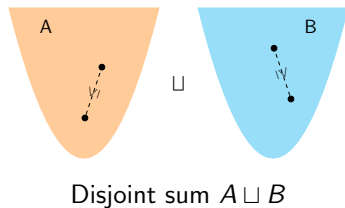
## Example: Playing on the on disjoint sum



**Theorem:**  $o(A \sqcup B) = o(A) \oplus o(B)$  (De Jongh & Parikh(1977))

$$\text{Ex: } (\omega^\omega + \omega^3) \oplus (\omega^5 + \omega + 1) = \omega^\omega + \omega^5 + \omega^3 + \omega + 1$$

## Example: Playing on the on disjoint sum



**Theorem:**  $o(A \sqcup B) = o(A) \oplus o(B)$  (De Jongh & Parikh(1977))

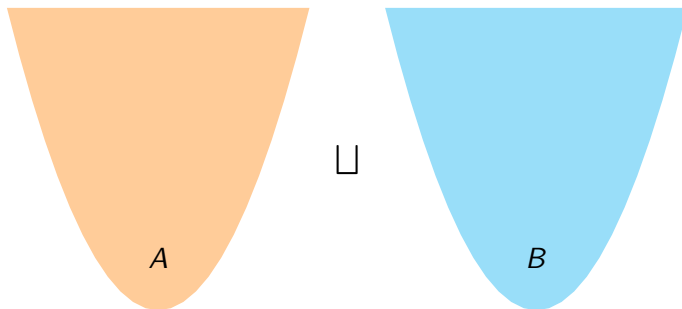
This theorem is easy to prove with games!

## Example: Playing on the disjoint sum

Odile

Antoine

$$o(A) \oplus o(B)$$



$o(A \sqcup B) \leq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Odile wins when Antoine begins

$o(A \sqcup B) \geq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Antoine wins when Odile begins

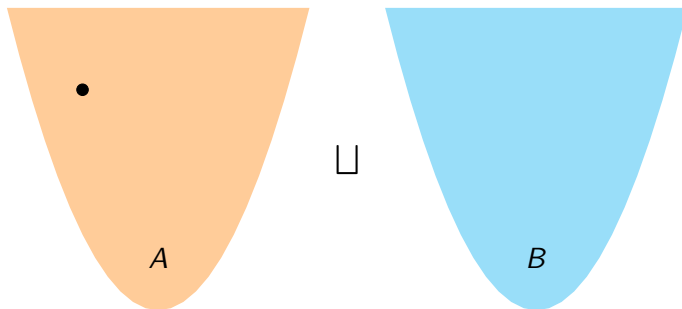


## Example: Playing on the disjoint sum

Odile

Antoine

$$o(A) \oplus o(B)$$



$o(A \sqcup B) \leq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Odile wins when Antoine begins

$o(A \sqcup B) \geq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Antoine wins when Odile begins

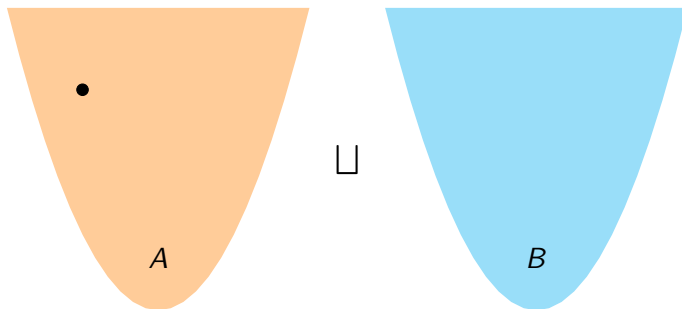
## Example: Playing on the disjoint sum

Odile

Antoine

$$o(A) \oplus o(B)$$

$$\alpha_1 \oplus o(B)$$



$o(A \sqcup B) \leq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Odile wins when Antoine begins

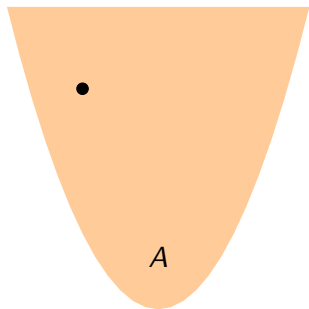
$o(A \sqcup B) \geq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Antoine wins when Odile begins

## Example: Playing on the disjoint sum

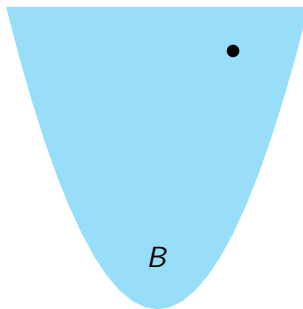
Odile

$$o(A) \oplus o(B)$$

$$\alpha_1 \oplus o(B)$$



Antoine



$\sqcup$

$o(A \sqcup B) \leq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Odile wins when Antoine begins

$o(A \sqcup B) \geq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Antoine wins when Odile begins

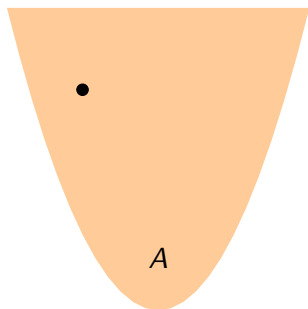
## Example: Playing on the disjoint sum

Odile

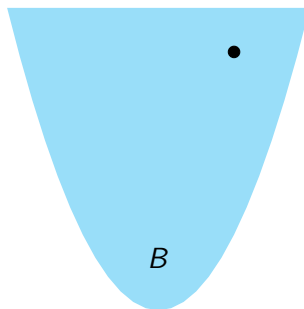
$$o(A) \oplus o(B)$$

$$\alpha_1 \oplus o(B)$$

$$\alpha_1 \oplus \beta_1$$



Antoine



$\sqcup$

$o(A \sqcup B) \leq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Odile wins when Antoine begins

$o(A \sqcup B) \geq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Antoine wins when Odile begins

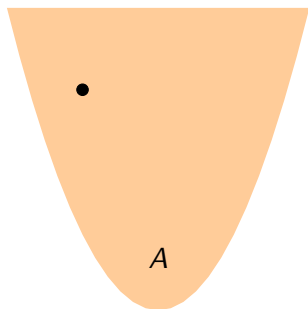
## Example: Playing on the disjoint sum

Odile

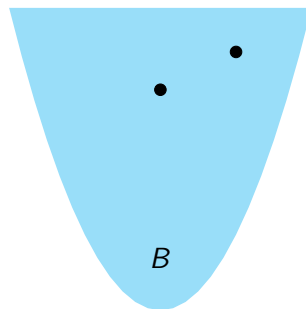
$$o(A) \oplus o(B)$$

$$\alpha_1 \oplus o(B)$$

$$\alpha_1 \oplus \beta_1$$



Antoine



$\sqcup$

$o(A \sqcup B) \leq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Odile wins when Antoine begins

$o(A \sqcup B) \geq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Antoine wins when Odile begins

## Example: Playing on the disjoint sum

Odile

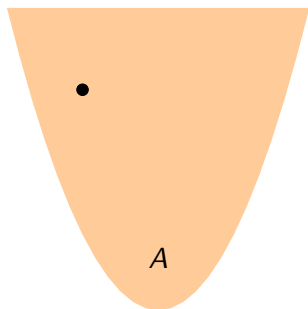
Antoine

$$o(A) \oplus o(B)$$

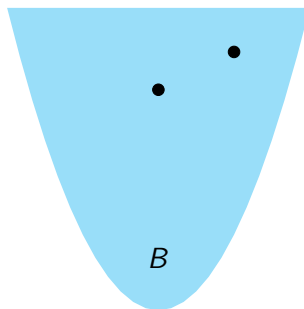
$$\alpha_1 \oplus o(B)$$

$$\alpha_1 \oplus \beta_1$$

$$\alpha_1 \oplus \beta_2$$



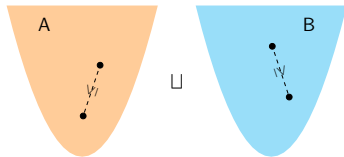
$\sqcup$



$o(A \sqcup B) \leq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Odile wins when Antoine begins

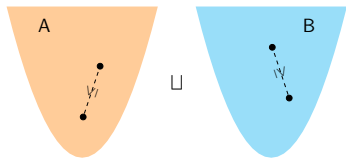
$o(A \sqcup B) \geq o(A) \oplus o(B)$  if Antoine wins when Odile begins

## Other classical operations on WQOs

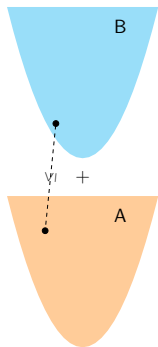


Disjoint sum  $A \sqcup B$

## Other classical operations on WQOs



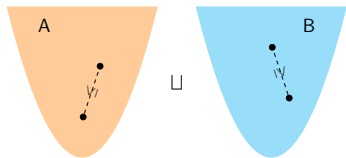
Disjoint sum  $A \sqcup B$



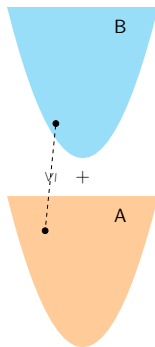
Direct sum  $A + B$



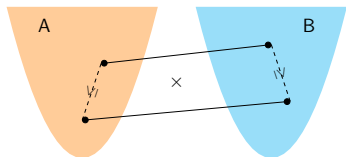
# Other classical operations on WQOs



Disjoint sum  $A \sqcup B$

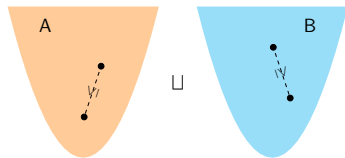


Direct sum  $A + B$

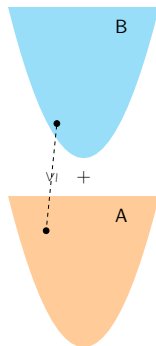


Cartesian product  $A \times B$

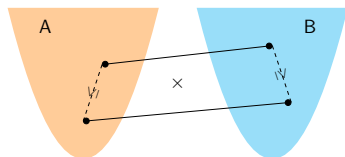
# Other classical operations on WQOs



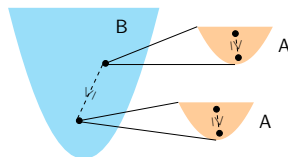
Disjoint sum  $A \sqcup B$



Direct sum  $A + B$



Cartesian product  $A \times B$



Lexicographic product  $A \cdot B$

## ... And their ordinal invariants

|                 | Space        | M.O.T.              | Height                   | Width              |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Disjoint sum    | $A \sqcup B$ | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$  | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$ |
| Direct sum      | $A + B$      | $o(A) + o(B)$       | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$ |
| Cartesian prod. | $A \times B$ | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$ | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | ?                  |
| Direct prod.    | $A \cdot B$  | ?                   | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$  |

## ... And their ordinal invariants

|                 | Space           | M.O.T.                          | Height                                     | Width                                |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Disjoint sum    | $A \sqcup B$    | $\circ(A) \oplus \circ(B)$      | $\max(\mathbf{h}(A), \mathbf{h}(B))$       | $\mathbf{w}(A) \oplus \mathbf{w}(B)$ |
| Direct sum      | $A + B$         | $\circ(A) + \circ(B)$           | $\mathbf{h}(A) + \mathbf{h}(B)$            | $\max(\mathbf{w}(A), \mathbf{w}(B))$ |
| Cartesian prod. | $A \times B$    | $\circ(A) \otimes \circ(B)$     | $\mathbf{h}(A) \hat{\oplus} \mathbf{h}(B)$ | ?                                    |
| Direct prod.    | $A \cdot B$     | ?                               | $\mathbf{h}(A) \cdot \mathbf{h}(B)$        | $\mathbf{w}(A) \odot \mathbf{w}(B)$  |
| Fin. words      | $A^*$           | $\omega^{\omega(\circ(A)^\pm)}$ | $\mathbf{h}^*(A)$                          | $\omega^{\omega(\circ(A)^\pm)}$      |
| Fin. multisets  | $M^\diamond(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{\circ(A)}}$   | $\mathbf{h}^*(A)$                          | ?                                    |
|                 | $M^\circ(A)$    | $\omega^{\circ(A)}$             | ?  | ?                                    |
| Fin. Powerset   | $P_f(A)$        | ?                               | ?  | ?                                    |

Credits to: De Jongh & Parikh(1977), Schmidt(1979), Abraham & Bonnet(1999), Van der

Meeren, Rathjen & Weiermann(2009,2015), Džamonja, Schmitz & Schnoebelen(2020)

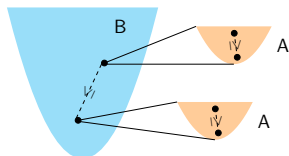
# My contributions

| Space        | M.O.T.  | Height                   | Width                       |
|--------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$ | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$                                | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$          |
| $A + B$      | $o(A) + o(B)$                                     | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$          |
| $A \times B$ | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$                               | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | $\geq w(o(A) \times o(B))$  |
| $A \cdot B$  | $o(A) \cdot \text{pred}_k(o(B)) + o(A) \otimes k$ | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$           |
| $A^*$        | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$                       | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}}$                         | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}-1}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{o(A)}$                                   | $\omega^{h(A)}$          | $\omega^{o_\perp(A)}$       |
| $P_f(A)$     | $\leq 2^{o(A)}$                                   | $\leq 2^{h(A)}$          | $\geq 2^{w(A)}$             |

| Space           | M.O.T.                          | Height                                     | Width                                |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$    | $\circ(A) \oplus \circ(B)$      | $\max(\mathbf{h}(A), \mathbf{h}(B))$       | $\mathbf{w}(A) \oplus \mathbf{w}(B)$ |
| $A + B$         | $\circ(A) + \circ(B)$           | $\mathbf{h}(A) + \mathbf{h}(B)$            | $\max(\mathbf{w}(A), \mathbf{w}(B))$ |
| $A \times B$    | $\circ(A) \otimes \circ(B)$     | $\mathbf{h}(A) \hat{\oplus} \mathbf{h}(B)$ | ?                                    |
| $A \cdot B$     | ?                               | $\mathbf{h}(A) \cdot \mathbf{h}(B)$        | $\mathbf{w}(A) \odot \mathbf{w}(B)$  |
| $A^*$           | $\omega^{\omega(\circ(A)^\pm)}$ | $\mathbf{h}^*(A)$                          | $\omega^{\omega(\circ(A)^\pm)}$      |
| $M^\diamond(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{\circ(A)}}$   | $\mathbf{h}^*(A)$                          | ?                                    |
| $M^\circ(A)$    | $\omega^{\circ(A)}$             | ?  | ?                                    |
| $P_f(A)$        | ?                               | ?  | ?                                    |

Credits to: De Jongh & Parikh(1977), Schmidt(1979), Abraham & Bonnet(1999), Van der Meeren, Rathjen & Weiermann(2009,2015), Džamonja, Schmitz & Schnoebelen(2020)

## Quick look at the direct product



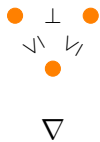
Lexicographic product  $A \cdot B$

◆ I was told that  $o(A \cdot B) = o(A) \cdot o(B)$

... but only the lower bound is true:  $o(A \cdot B) \geq o(A) \cdot o(B)$

Mistake noticed by Harry Altman (March, 2024)

## Quick look at the direct product



$$o = 3$$

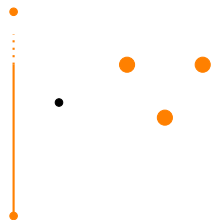
$$h = 2$$

$$w = 2$$

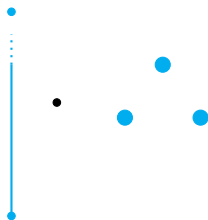




## Quick look at the direct product

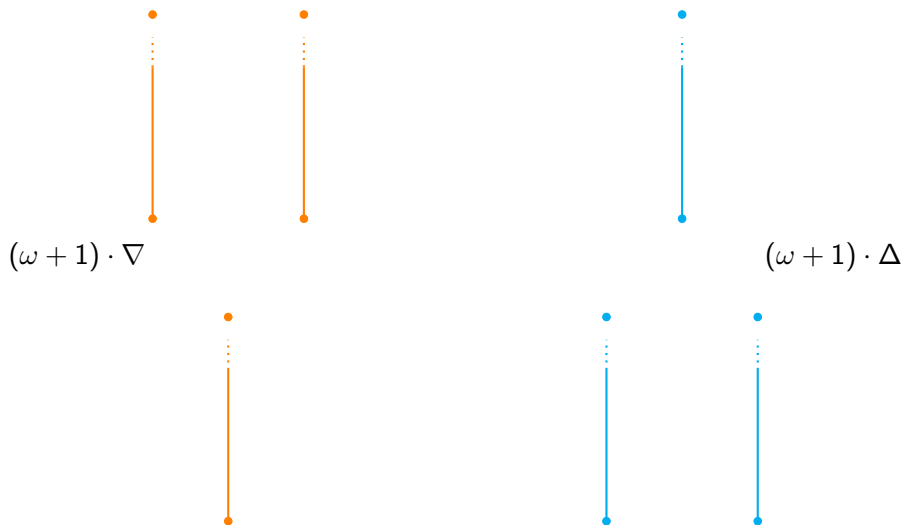


$$(\omega + 1) \cdot \nabla$$



$$(\omega + 1) \cdot \Delta$$

## Quick look at the direct product



## Quick look at the direct product

$$\begin{aligned}o((\omega + 1) \cdot \nabla) &= \\ [(\omega + 1) \oplus (\omega + 1)] &+ \\ (\omega + 1) & \\ &= \omega \cdot 3 + 2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}o((\omega + 1) \cdot \Delta) &= \\ (\omega + 1) &+ \\ [(\omega + 1) \oplus (\omega + 1)] & \\ &= \omega \cdot 3 + 1 \\ &= o(\omega + 1) \cdot o(\nabla)\end{aligned}$$

## What about the other operations?

| Space        | M.O.T.                      | Height                   | Width                       |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$ | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$          | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$          |
| $A + B$      | $o(A) + o(B)$               | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$          |
| $A \times B$ | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$         | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | ?                           |
| $A \cdot B$  | <i>Not functional</i>       | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$           |
| $A^*$        | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}}$   | $h^*(A)$                 | ?                           |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{o(A)}$             | ?                        | ?                           |
| $P_f(A)$     | ?                           | ?                        | ?                           |

Credits to: De Jongh & Parikh(1977), Schmidt(1979), Abraham & Bonnet(1999), Van der Meeren, Rathjen & Weiermann(2009,2015), Džamonja, Schmitz & Schnoebelen(2020)

## What about the other operations?

| Space        | M.O.T.                      | Height                   | Width                       |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$ | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$          | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$          |
| $A + B$      | $o(A) + o(B)$               | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$          |
| $A \times B$ | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$         | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | <i>Not functional</i>       |
| $A \cdot B$  | <i>Not functional</i>       | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$           |
| $A^*$        | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}}$   | $h^*(A)$                 | ?                           |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{o(A)}$             | ?                        | ?                           |
| $P_f(A)$     | ?                           | ?                        | ?                           |

Credits to: De Jongh & Parikh(1977), Schmidt(1979), Abraham & Bonnet(1999), Van der Meeren, Rathjen & Weiermann(2009,2015), Džamonja, Schmitz & Schnoebelen(2020)

## What about the other operations?

| Space        | M.O.T.                      | Height                   | Width                       |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$ | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$          | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$          |
| $A + B$      | $o(A) + o(B)$               | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$          |
| $A \times B$ | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$         | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | <i>Not functional</i>       |
| $A \cdot B$  | <i>Not functional</i>       | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$           |
| $A^*$        | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}}$   | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}-1}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{o(A)}$             | ?                        | ?                           |
| $P_f(A)$     | ?                           | ?                        | ?                           |

Credits to: De Jongh & Parikh(1977), Schmidt(1979), Abraham & Bonnet(1999), Van der Meeren, Rathjen & Weiermann(2009,2015), Džamonja, Schmitz & Schnoebelen(2020)

## What about the other operations?

| Space           | M.O.T.                      | Height                   | Width                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$    | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$          | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$          |
| $A + B$         | $o(A) + o(B)$               | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$          |
| $A \times B$    | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$         | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | <i>Not functional</i>       |
| $A \cdot B$     | <i>Not functional</i>       | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$           |
| $A^*$           | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ |
| $M^\diamond(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}}$   | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}-1}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$    | $\omega^{o(A)}$             | $\omega^{h(A)}$          | ?                           |
| $P_f(A)$        | ?                           | ?                        | ?                           |

Credits to: De Jongh & Parikh(1977), Schmidt(1979), Abraham & Bonnet(1999), Van der Meeren, Rathjen & Weiermann(2009,2015), Džamonja, Schmitz & Schnoebelen(2020)

## What about the other operations?

| Space           | M.O.T.                      | Height                   | Width                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$    | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$          | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$          |
| $A + B$         | $o(A) + o(B)$               | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$          |
| $A \times B$    | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$         | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | <i>Not functional</i>       |
| $A \cdot B$     | <i>Not functional</i>       | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$           |
| $A^*$           | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ |
| $M^\diamond(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}}$   | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}-1}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$    | $\omega^{o(A)}$             | $\omega^{h(A)}$          | <i>Not functional</i>       |
| $P_f(A)$        | ?                           | ?                        | ?                           |

Credits to: De Jongh & Parikh(1977), Schmidt(1979), Abraham & Bonnet(1999), Van der Meeren, Rathjen & Weiermann(2009,2015), Džamonja, Schmitz & Schnoebelen(2020)

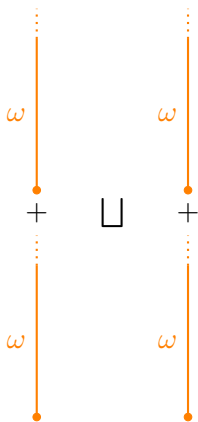


## What about the other operations?

| Space        | M.O.T.                      | Height                   | Width                       |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$ | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$          | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$          |
| $A + B$      | $o(A) + o(B)$               | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$          |
| $A \times B$ | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$         | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | <i>Not functional</i>       |
| $A \cdot B$  | <i>Not functional</i>       | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$           |
| $A^*$        | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}}$   | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}-1}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{o(A)}$             | $\omega^{h(A)}$          | <i>Not functional</i>       |
| $P_f(A)$     | <i>Not functional</i>       | <i>Not functional</i>    | <i>Not functional</i>       |

Credits to: De Jongh & Parikh(1977), Schmidt(1979), Abraham & Bonnet(1999), Van der Meeren, Rathjen & Weiermann(2009,2015), Džamonja, Schmitz & Schnoebelen(2020)

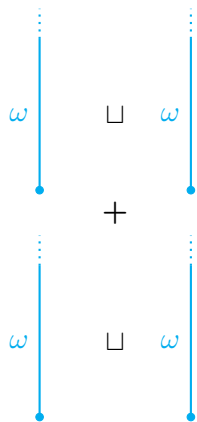
# Non functional example for $P_f$



$$o = \omega \cdot 4$$

$$h = \omega \cdot 2$$

$$w = 2$$

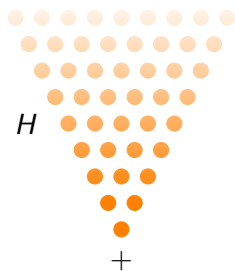


$$Y_1 = (\omega + \omega) \sqcup (\omega + \omega)$$

$$Y_2 = (\omega \sqcup \omega) + (\omega \sqcup \omega)$$

$$f(P_f(Y_1)) \neq f(P_f(Y_2)) \text{ for } f = o, h, w$$

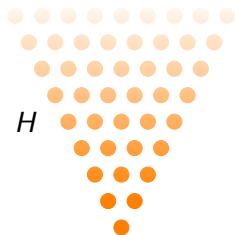
# Non functional example for Cartesian product and multiset ordering



$$o = \omega \cdot 2$$

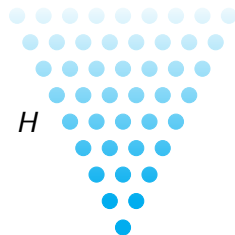
$$h = \omega \cdot 2$$

$$w = \omega$$



$$X_1 = H + H$$

$$w(X_1 \times \omega) \neq w(X_2 \times \omega)$$



$$X_2 = H + \omega$$

$$w(M^o(X_1)) \neq w(M^o(X_2))$$

# **Non functionality**

---

**What can we do?**

### ◆ Three main approaches

- Finding functional (tight) bounds

## ◆ Three main approaches

- Finding functional (tight) bounds

## ♣ Bounds on the finite powerset

From a joint article with Abriola, Halfon, Lopez, Schmitz, Schnoebelen

$$1 + o(A) \leq o(P_f(A)) \leq 2^{o(A)}$$

$$1 + h(A) \leq h(P_f(A)) \leq 2^{h(A)}$$

$$2^{w(A)} \leq w(P_f(A))$$

## ◆ Three main approaches

- Finding functional (tight) bounds

## ♣ Bounds on the finite powerset

From a joint article with Abriola, Halfon, Lopez, Schmitz, Schnoebelen

$$1 + o(A) \leq o(P_f(A)) \leq 2^{o(A)}$$

$$1 + h(A) \leq h(P_f(A)) \leq 2^{h(A)}$$

$$2^{w(A)} \leq w(P_f(A))$$

Hence  $2^{w(A)} \leq w(P_f(A)) \leq o(P_f(A)) \leq 2^{o(A)}$

## ◆ Three main approaches

- Finding functional (tight) bounds

## ♣ Bounds on the finite powerset

From a joint article with Abriola, Halfon, Lopez, Schmitz, Schnoebelen

$$1 + o(A) \leq o(P_f(A)) \leq 2^{o(A)}$$

$$1 + h(A) \leq h(P_f(A)) \leq 2^{h(A)}$$

$$2^{w(A)} \leq w(P_f(A))$$

Hence  $2^{w(A)} = w(P_f(A)) = o(P_f(A)) = 2^{o(A)}$  when  $w(A) = o(A)$



### ◆ Three main approaches

- Finding functional (tight) bounds
- Delimiting a wide family of well-behaved wqos  
Ex: Wqos that verify  $w = o$ , Cartesian product of ordinals

### ◆ Three main approaches

- Finding functional (tight) bounds
- Delimiting a wide family of well-behaved wqos  
Ex: Wqos that verify  $w = o$ , Cartesian product of ordinals
- *the third one will amaze you!*

# **Bounding ordinal invariants**

---

**Upper bounds**

## ◆ Residuals of a wqo

$$A_{<x} = \{y \in A \mid y < x\}$$

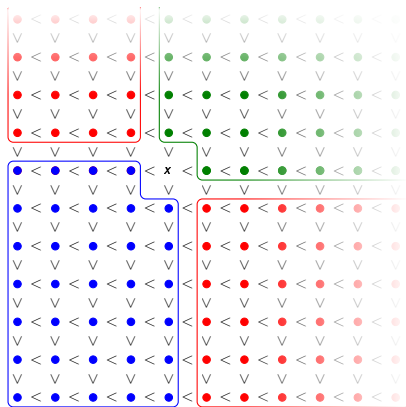
$$A_{\perp x} = \{y \in A \mid y \perp x\}$$

$$A_{>x} = \{y \in A \mid y \not\leq x\}$$

$$A_{\not\leq x} = \{y \in A \mid y \not\leq x\}$$

$$= A_{<x} \cup A_{\perp x}$$

♣ Ex: Residuals of  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$   
 . a.k.a.  $\omega \times \omega$



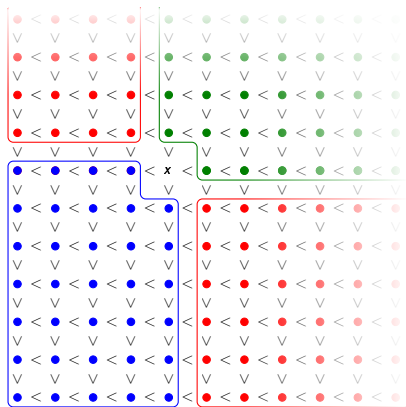
## ◆ Residual equations

$$o(A) = \sup_{x \in A} o(A_{\succeq x}) + 1$$

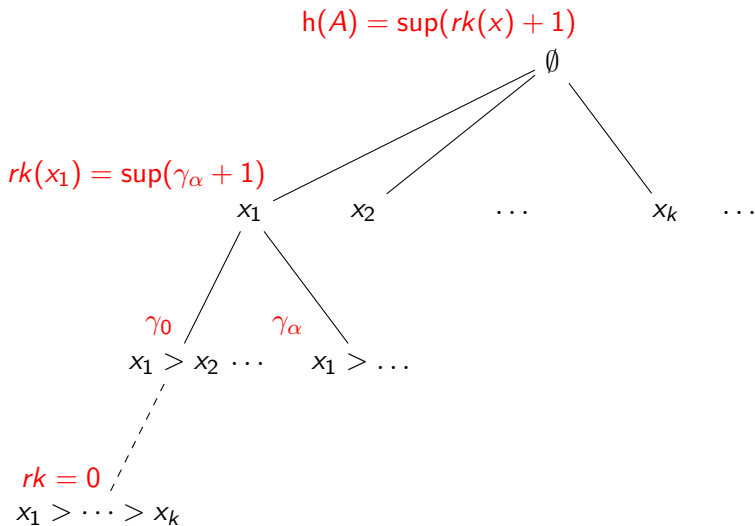
$$h(A) = \sup_{x \in A} h(A_{< x}) + 1$$

$$w(A) = \sup_{x \in A} w(A_{\perp x}) + 1$$

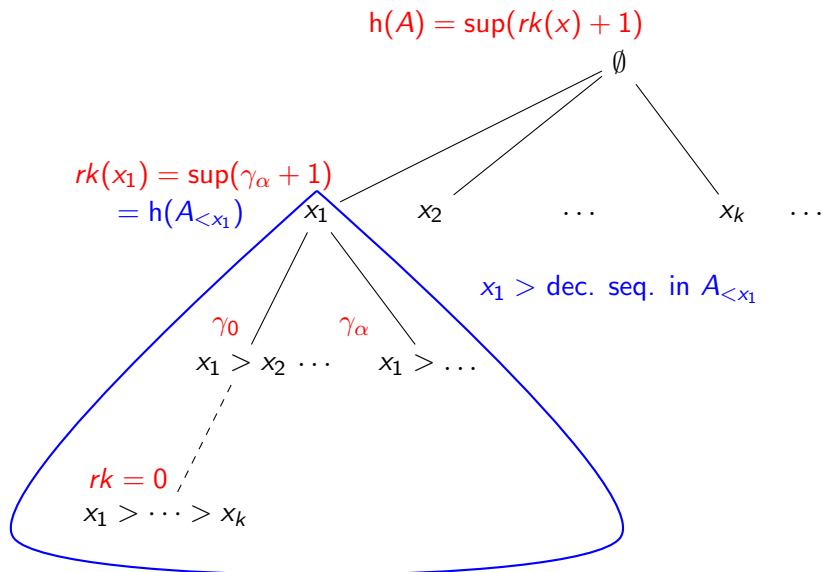
♣ Ex: Residuals of  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$   
 . a.k.a.  $\omega \times \omega$



## Link with tree rank definition

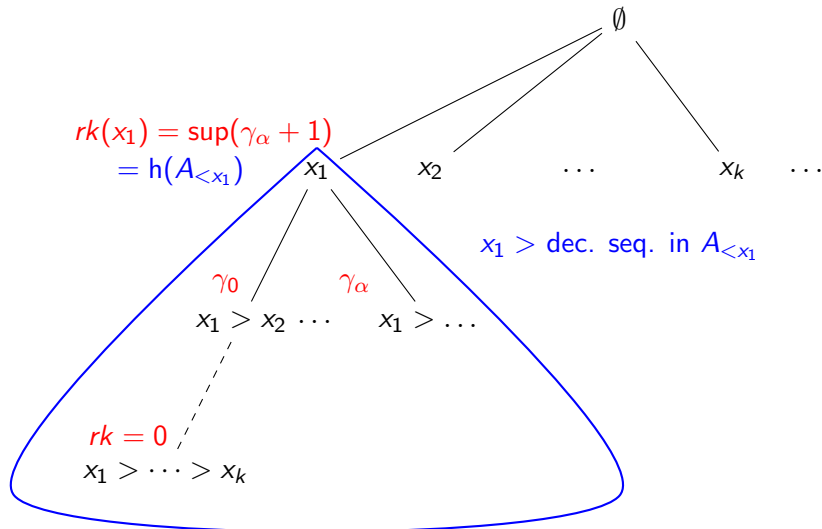


## Link with tree rank definition



## Link with tree rank definition

$$h(A) = \sup(\text{rk}(x) + 1) = \sup(h(A_{<x}) + 1)$$





## ◆ Residual equations

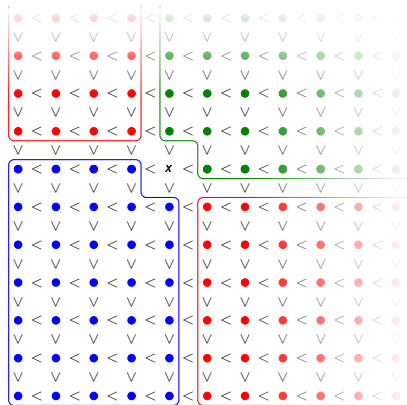
$$o(A) = \sup_{x \in A} o(A_{\succeq x}) + 1$$

$$h(A) = \sup_{x \in A} h(A_{< x}) + 1$$

$$w(A) = \sup_{x \in A} w(A_{\perp x}) + 1$$

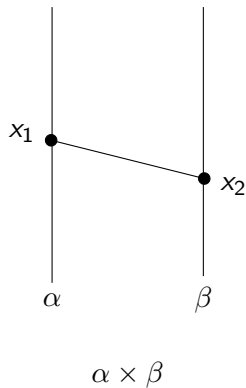
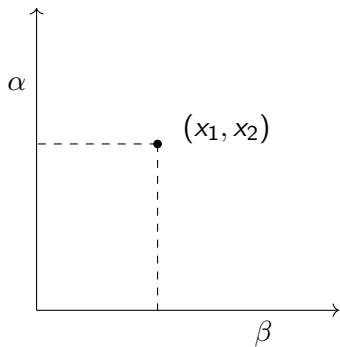
## ♣ Properties

- $o(A_{\succeq x}) < o(A)$ ,
- $h(A_{< x}) < h(A)$ ,  $o(A_{< x}) < o(A)$
- $w(A_{\perp x}) < w(A)$ ,  $o(A_{\perp x}) < o(A)$
- However,  $(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N})_{> x}$  contains a copy of  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$



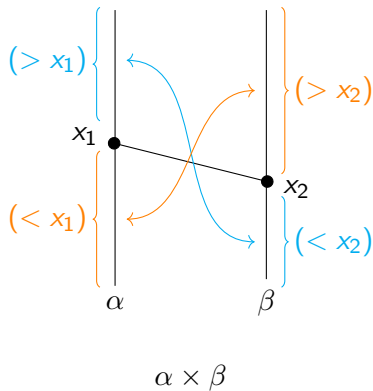
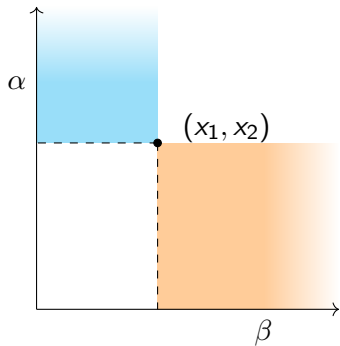
## Example: Using the residual equations

♣ How to compute  $w(\alpha \times \beta)$  (From Abraham (1987))



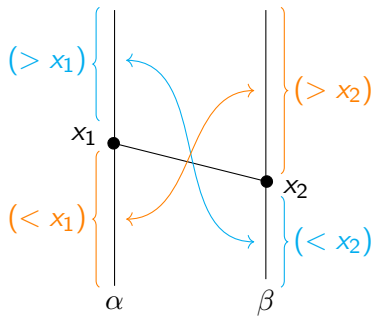
## Example: Using the residual equations

♣ How to compute  $w(\alpha \times \beta)$  (From Abraham (1987))



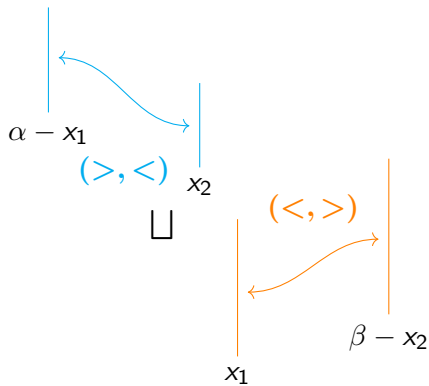
## Example: Using the residual equations

♣ How to compute  $w(\alpha \times \beta)$  (From Abraham (1987))



$\alpha \times \beta$

residuation  $\rightarrow$

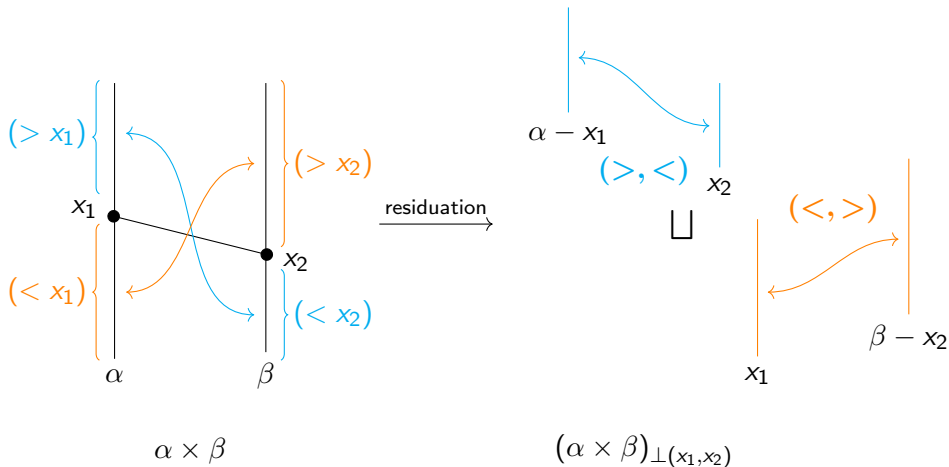


$(\alpha \times \beta)_{\perp(x_1, x_2)}$

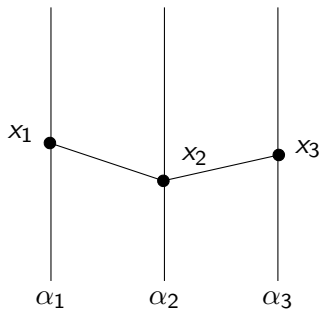
## Example: Using the residual equations

♣ How to compute  $w(\alpha \times \beta)$  (From Abraham (1987))

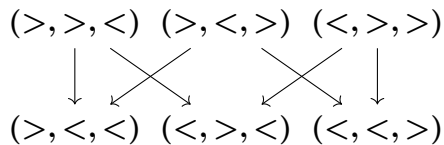
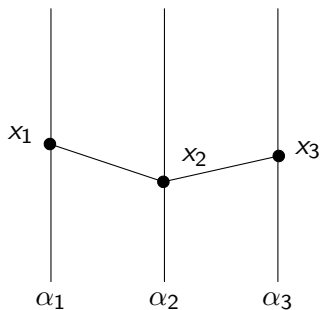
$$w(\alpha \times \beta) = \sup_{x_1, x_2} (w((\alpha - x_1) \times x_2) \oplus w(x_1 \times (\beta - x_2))) + 1$$



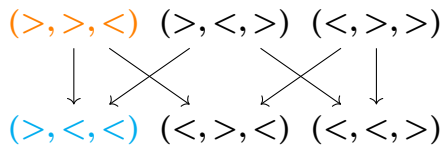
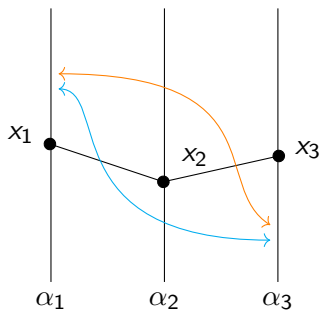
## Same method, for three ordinals



## Same method, for three ordinals



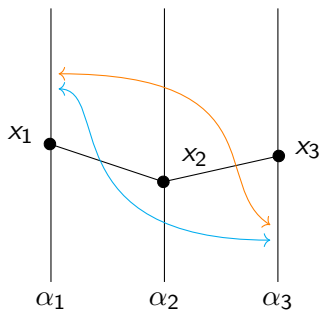
## Same method, for three ordinals





## Same method, for three ordinals

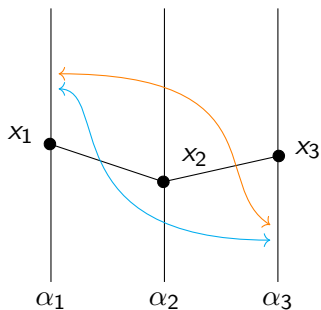
$$w(\alpha_1 \times \alpha_2 \times \alpha_3) \leq \sup_{x_1, x_2, x_3} (w((\alpha_1 - x_1) \times (\alpha_2 - x_2) \times x_3) \\ \oplus (w((\alpha_1 - x_1) \times x_2 \times x_3) \oplus \dots + 1))$$



$$\leq_w \begin{array}{ccc} (\color{orange}{>}, \color{orange}{>}, \color{orange}{<}) & (\color{orange}{>}, \color{orange}{<}, \color{orange}{>}) & (\color{orange}{<}, \color{orange}{>}, \color{orange}{>}) \\ \vdots \color{red}{\times} \quad \color{red}{\times} \quad \sqcup \quad \color{red}{\times} \quad \vdots \\ (\color{blue}{>}, \color{blue}{<}, \color{blue}{<}) & (\color{blue}{<}, \color{blue}{>}, \color{blue}{<}) & (\color{blue}{<}, \color{blue}{<}, \color{blue}{>}) \end{array}$$

## Same method, for three ordinals

$$w(\alpha_1 \times \alpha_2 \times \alpha_3) \leq \sup_{x_1, x_2, x_3} (w((\alpha_1 - x_1) \times (\alpha_2 - x_2) \times x_3) \\ \oplus (w((\alpha_1 - x_1) \times x_2 \times x_3) \oplus \dots + 1))$$



$$\leq_w \begin{array}{ccc} (>, >, <) & (>, <, >) & (<, >, >) \\ \vdots & \swarrow \times & \searrow \times \\ & \sqcup & \\ \vdots & \swarrow \times & \searrow \times \\ (>, <, <) & (<, >, <) & (<, <, >) \end{array}$$

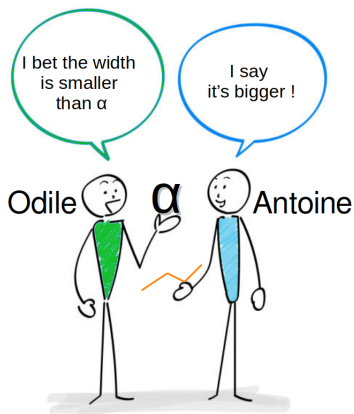
◆ The method of residuals provides an upper bound. . .

How can we prove a lower bound ?

# Bounding ordinal invariants

---

Lower bounds



## ◆ Game: $\alpha$ vs $w(X)$

- Initial configuration:

- Odile :  $\gamma = \alpha$ ,
- Antoine :  $S = \emptyset$

- Each turn:

- Odile :  $\gamma \leftarrow \gamma' < \gamma$
- Antoine :  $S \leftarrow S \cup x$ ,

Requires:  $S$  antichain

- End: First one who can't play loses!

♣ Lower bound: we want a winning strategy for Antoine

◆ Imagine this is a wqo...



Slice  $X$  into disjoint subsets whose width is known ([Antoine](#) has a winning strategy)



Slice  $X$  into disjoint subsets whose width is known (Antoine has a winning strategy)

Can Antoine combine his strategies on the slices into a winning strategy on  $X$  against  $\Sigma w(\text{slices})$

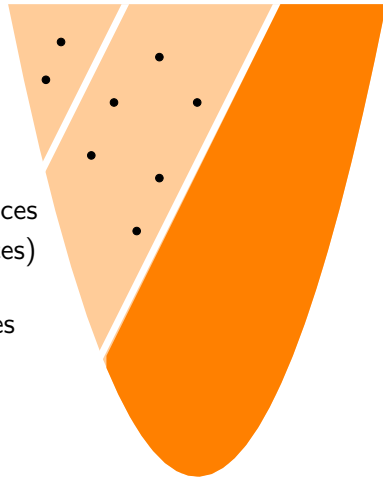


## Reasoning with games: Slices

Slice  $X$  into disjoint subsets whose width is known (Antoine has a winning strategy)

Can Antoine combine his strategies on the slices into a winning strategy on  $X$  against  $\sum w(\text{slices})$

Assume he finished playing on the first slices  
What is left of the next slice?





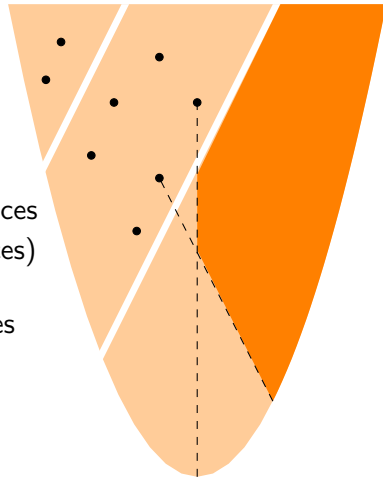
## Reasoning with games: Slices

Slice  $X$  into disjoint subsets whose width is known (Antoine has a winning strategy)

Can Antoine combine his strategies on the slices into a winning strategy on  $X$  against  $\sum w(\text{slices})$

Assume he finished playing on the first slices  
What is left of the next slice?

We need  $w(\text{residual}) = w(\text{slice})$

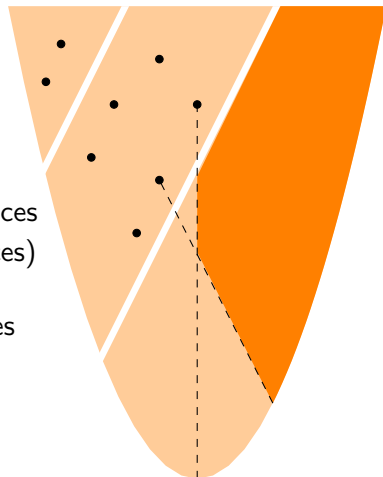


Slice  $X$  into disjoint subsets whose width is known (Antoine has a winning strategy)

Can Antoine combine his strategies on the slices into a winning strategy on  $X$  against  $\sum w(\text{slices})$

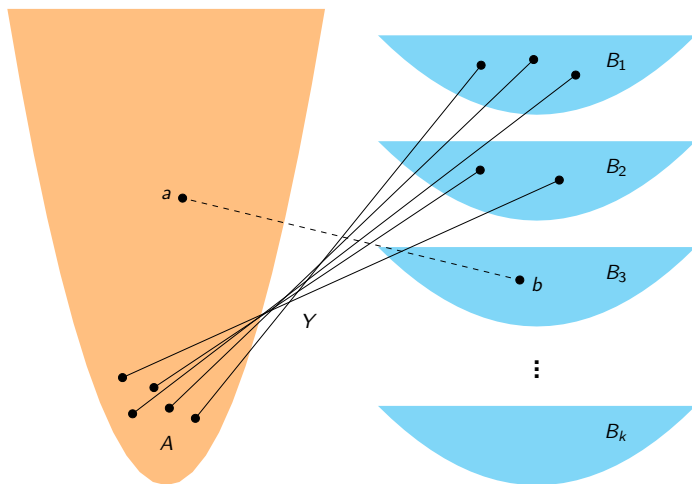
Assume he finished playing on the first slices  
What is left of the next slice?

We need  $w(\text{residual}) = w(\text{slice})$

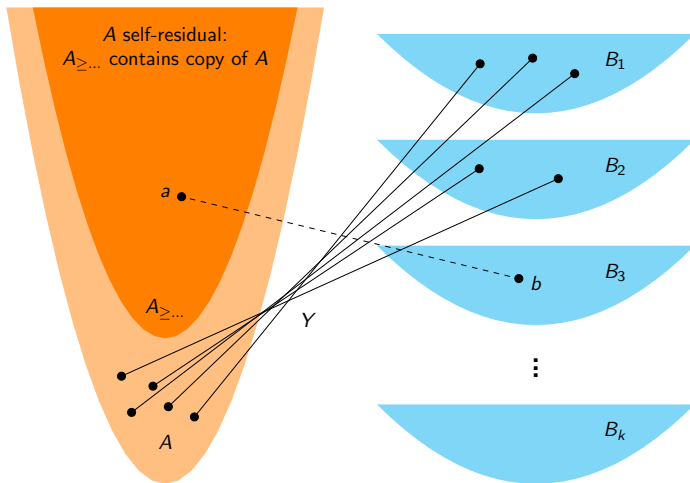


→ Quasi-incomparable subsets

Example:  $w(A \times (B + \dots + B))$



Example:  $w(A \times (B + \dots + B))$



♣ If  $A$  self-residual

Then  $w(A \times (B + \dots + B)) = w(A \times B) + \dots + w(A \times B)$

## **Study family of examples**

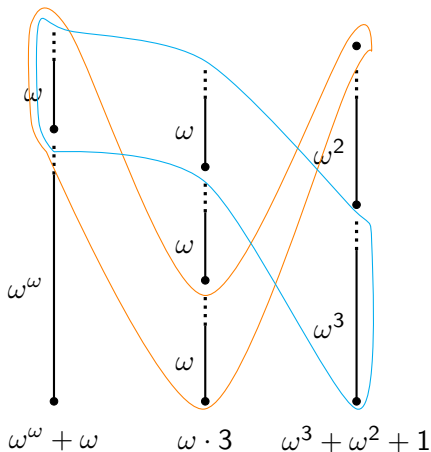
---

**Cartesian product of ordinals**

# A family to study width of CP

## ♣ Computing $w(\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_n)$

- is functional
- $w(\alpha \times \beta)$  is known (Abraham (1987))
- Easy to slice into quasi-incomparable subsets  $\omega^{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times \omega^{\alpha_n}$
- New insight for CP of non-linear wqos



## ♣ Width of CP of $n$ ordinals

$$w(\alpha_1 \times \cdots \times \alpha_n) = \bigoplus_{\substack{s \in I_1 \times \cdots \times I_{k-1}, \\ \min s = 0}} \omega^{\eta(\alpha_{1,s(1)}, \dots, \alpha_{k-1,s(k-1)})} \otimes \left( \prod_{k \leq i \leq n} \alpha_i \right)$$

## ♦ When does one have $w = o$ ?

$w(\alpha_1 \times \cdots \times \alpha_n) = o(\alpha_1 \times \cdots \times \alpha_n)$  iff

- $\exists i$  s.t.  $\alpha_i = \omega^\beta$
- $\exists j \neq k$  s.t.  $\alpha_j$  and  $\alpha_k$  are divisible by  $\omega^\omega$

## ♦ New insight for the CP of non-linear wqos

Let  $o(A_j) = \alpha_j$ . Then

$$w(\alpha_1 \times \cdots \times \alpha_n) \leq w(A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n) \leq o(A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n) = o(\alpha_1 \times \cdots \times \alpha_n)$$

## ♣ Translating conditions

$w(A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n) = o(A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n)$  if

- $\exists i$  s.t.  $o(A_i) = \omega^\beta$
- $\exists j \neq k$  s.t.  $o(A_j)$  and  $o(A_k)$  are divisible by  $\omega^\omega$



## Third approach

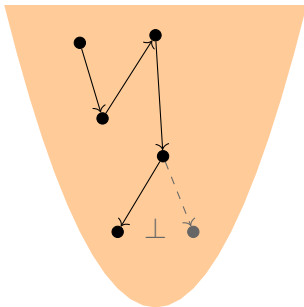
---

**Not functional in  $o, w, h$ ? Never mind! Let's find some new invariants**

# The fourth ordinal invariant

## Definition (Friendly order type)

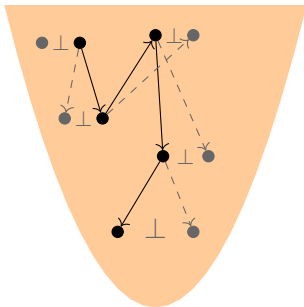
$o_{\perp}(X)$  = rank of the tree of *open-ended* bad sequences



# The fourth ordinal invariant

## Definition (Friendly order type)

$o_{\perp}(X)$  = rank of the tree of *open-ended* bad sequences



## Theorem (Width of $M^\circ$ )

$$w(M^\circ(X)) = \omega^{\circ\perp}(X)$$

| Space | $o, h, w$ | $o_{\perp}$ |
|-------|-----------|-------------|
|-------|-----------|-------------|

## Theorem (Width of $M^{\circ}$ )

$$w(M^{\circ}(X)) = \omega^{o_{\perp}(X)}$$

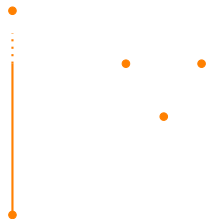
?

?

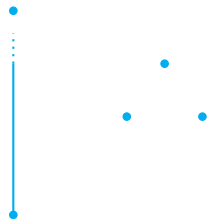
?

### ◆ How to compute the fot?

- Exists  $X' \subseteq X$  such that  $\text{Bad}(X') \subseteq \text{Bad}_{\perp}(X)$
- $\text{limit\_part}(o(\text{str}(X))) \leq o_{\perp}(X) \leq o(\text{str}(X))$  with  $\text{str}(X) = \{x \in X \mid \exists y \in X, y \perp x\}$
- $w(X) - 1 \leq o_{\perp}(X)$
- if  $w(A) = o(A)$  limit, then  $o_{\perp}(X) = o(X)$
- $o_{\perp}(A \sqcup B) = o(A) \oplus o(B)$



$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot (\omega + 1) \\ \circ = \omega \cdot 3 + 2 \\ \text{max\_elt} = 2 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \cdot (\omega + 1) \\ \circ = \omega \cdot 3 + 1 \\ \text{max\_elt} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

### Theorem (M.o.t. of the direct product)

$$\circ(A) \cdot \text{pred}^k(\circ(B)) + \circ(A) \otimes k \text{ if } \text{max\_elt}(B) = k$$

# Conclusion

| Space        | M.O.T.   | Height                   | Width                       |
|--------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A \sqcup B$ | $o(A) \oplus o(B)$   | $\max(h(A), h(B))$       | $w(A) \oplus w(B)$          |
| $A + B$      | $o(A) + o(B)$  | $h(A) + h(B)$            | $\max(w(A), w(B))$          |
| $A \times B$ | $o(A) \otimes o(B)$  | $h(A) \hat{\oplus} h(B)$ | $\geq w(o(A) \times o(B))$  |
| $A \cdot B$  | $o(A) \cdot \text{pred}^k(o(B)) + o(A) \otimes k$<br>if $\text{max\_elt}(B) = k$ | $h(A) \cdot h(B)$        | $w(A) \odot w(B)$           |
| $A^*$        | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$  | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\omega(o(A)^\pm)}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}}$  | $h^*(A)$                 | $\omega^{\widehat{o(A)}-1}$ |
| $M^\circ(A)$ | $\omega^{o(A)}$  | $\omega^{h(A)}$          | $\omega^{o_\perp(A)}$       |
| $P_f(A)$     | $\leq 2^{o(A)}$  | $\leq 2^{h(A)}$          | $\geq 2^{w(A)}$             |

## ♣ Measuring well quasi-orders

- is fun!
- Often not functional but... everyday-life wqos are well-behaved!
- Elementary family of wqos

$E := \alpha \geq \omega^\omega$  mult. indec. |  $E_1 \sqcup E_2$  |  $E_1 \times E_2$  |  $M^\diamond(E)$  |  $M^\circ(E)$  |  $E^*$  |  $P_f(E)$

- Application in well-structured transition systems



## ♣ Measuring well quasi-orders

- is fun!
- Often not functional but... everyday-life wqos are well-behaved!
- Elementary family of wqos

$$E := \alpha \geq \omega^\omega \text{ mult. indec. } | E_1 \sqcup E_2 | E_1 \times E_2 | M^\diamond(E) | M^\circ(E) | E^* | P_f(E)$$

- Application in well-structured transition systems

## ♦ Open questions

- New invariants:
  - Computing the fot
  - Is there an invariant that would make CP and  $P_f$  functional?
- New operations: Infinite words, variants of trees, graph minor, ...



Parosh Aziz Abdulla and Bengt Jonsson.

**Undecidable verification problems for programs with unreliable channels.**

*Inf. Comput.*, 130(1):71–90, 1996.

doi:10.1006/INCO.1996.0083.



U. Abraham.

**A note on Dilworth's theorem in the infinite case.**

*Order*, 1987.



U. Abraham and R. Bonnet.

**Hausdorff's theorem for posets that satisfy the finite antichain property.**

*Fund. Math.*, 1999.



A. Blass and Y. Gurevich.

**Program termination and well partial orderings.**

*ACM Trans. Computational Logic*, 2008.



D. H. J. de Jongh and R. Parikh.

**Well-partial orderings and hierarchies.**

*Indag. Math.*, 1977.



M. Džamonja, S. Schmitz, and Ph. Schnoebelen.

**On ordinal invariants in well quasi orders and finite antichain orders.**

In *Well Quasi-Orders in Computation, Logic, Language and Reasoning*, volume 53 of *Trends in Logic*. 2020.



Alain Finkel.

**Decidability of the termination problem for completely specified protocols.**

*Distributed Comput.*, 1994.



I. Kříž and R. Thomas.

**On well-quasi-ordering finite structures with labels.**

*Graphs and Combinatorics*, 1990.



I. Kříž and R. Thomas.

**Ordinal types in Ramsey theory and well-partial-ordering theory.**

*In Mathematics of Ramsey Theory, Algorithms and Combinatorics.*  
1990.



D. Schmidt.

**Well-Partial Orderings and Their Maximal Order Types.**

Habilitationsschrift, Heidelberg, 1979.

Reprinted as [?].



S. Schmitz and Ph. Schnoebelen.

**Multiply-recursive upper bounds with Higman's lemma.**

In *ICALP*, 2011.



J. Van der Meeren, M. Rathjen, and A. Weiermann.

**Well-partial-orderings and the big Veblen number.**

*Archive for Mathematical Logic*, 2015.



A. Weiermann.

**A computation of the maximal order type of the term ordering on finite multisets.**

In *Proc. 5th Conf. Computability in Europe (CiE 2009), Heidelberg, Germany, July 2009*, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 2009.

### On wqos

- I. Vialard, On the Width of the Cartesian Product of Ordinals, Order (2024).
- I. Vialard, Ordinal Measures of the Set of Finite Multisets, MFCS 2023.
- S. Abriola, S. Halfon, A. Lopez, S. Schmitz, Ph. Schnoebelen, I. Vialard, Measuring well quasi-ordered finitary powersets, soon to be submitted to MSCS.

### On piecewise complexity and minimality index

- M. Praveen, Ph. Schnoebelen, I. Vialard, J. Veron, On the piecewise complexity of words and periodic words, SOFSEM 2024