

ON THREE PROBLEMS OF FRANKLIN AND WALLACE  
CONCERNING PARTIALLY ORDERED SPACES\*

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**1. Introduction.** In what follows a *partially ordered space* is a topological space  $X$  endowed with a partial order which, regarded as a subset of  $X \times X$ , is closed. If the space  $X$  is endowed with a closed, reflexive and transitive relation, then it is called a *quasi ordered space*. The symbol  $2^X$  denotes the space of closed subsets of  $X$  with the Vietoris topology [4]. That is, if  $\{U_1, \dots, U_n\}$  is a finite collection of open subsets of  $X$ , then  $\langle U_1, \dots, U_n \rangle$  denotes the set of all  $A \in 2^X$  such that  $A \subset U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_n$  and  $A \cap U_i$  is non-empty for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . The family of all such  $\langle U_1, \dots, U_n \rangle$  is a base for the Vietoris topology.

If  $X$  is a quasi-ordered space, then  $\mathcal{M}(X)$  denotes the family of all maximal chains of  $X$ . It is known [6] that  $\mathcal{M}(X)$  is a subset of  $2^X$ . The set of all closed chains of  $X$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{C}(X)$ . We let  $\text{Max}(X)$  (resp.,  $\text{Min}(X)$ ) be the set of maximal (resp., minimal) elements of  $X$ . If  $X$  is compact, then  $\text{Max}(X)$  and  $\text{Min}(X)$  are non-empty [6]. If  $R$  is any relation on  $X$  we follow the standard terminology:

$$Rx = \{y \in X : (y, x) \in R\}, \quad xR = \{y \in X : (x, y) \in R\}$$

for each  $x \in X$ . However, in the case of a quasi-order  $Q$  we shall also write  $x \leq y$  when  $(x, y) \in Q$  as well as  $L(x) = Qx$  and  $M(x) = xQ$ , for each  $x \in X$ . If  $A \subset X$ , then

$$L(A) = \bigcup \{L(x) : x \in A\}, \quad M(A) = \bigcup \{M(x) : x \in A\}.$$

Two quasi-orders  $P$  and  $Q$  on  $X$  are said to be *chain equivalent* if  $P \cup P^{-1} = Q \cup Q^{-1}$ . Finally, if  $R$  is a reflexive relation on  $X$ , then  $\Sigma$  denotes the subfamily of  $2^X$  each of whose members contains an  $R$ -least element.

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Recently Franklin and Wallace [3] have asked three questions on relations in topological spaces which we are able to answer in whole or in part.

**P 555.** *If  $X$  is a compact quasi-ordered Hausdorff space, is the set of maximal members of  $\Sigma$  a closed subset of  $2^X$ ?*

**P 556.** *If  $X$  is a compact partially ordered space, is  $\mathcal{M}(X)$  a closed subset of  $2^X$ ?*

**P 557.** *If  $X$  is a compact quasi-ordered Hausdorff space with quasi-order  $Q$ , under what conditions does  $Q$  contain a closed partial order which is chain equivalent to  $Q$ ?*

**2. Problem 555.** The theorem which follows shows that the answer to this question is in the negative, even if the relation is a closed partial order. In fact, in this setting a complete answer is easy to establish.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $X$  be a compact partially ordered space and let  $\Sigma_M$  denote the set of maximal members of  $\Sigma$ . Then  $\Sigma_M$  is a closed subset of  $2^X$  if and only if  $\text{Min}(X)$  is closed and the mapping  $\varphi: \text{Min}(X) \rightarrow 2^X$  defined by  $\varphi(x) = M(x)$  is continuous.*

**Proof.** We note first that

$$\Sigma_M = \{M(x) : x \in \text{Min}(X)\} = \varphi(\text{Min}(X)).$$

If  $\text{Min}(X)$  is closed and  $\varphi$  is continuous, then  $\Sigma_M$  is compact and hence closed in  $2^X$ . Conversely, if  $\Sigma_M$  is closed, suppose  $e_\alpha$  is a net in  $\text{Min}(X)$  which converges to  $e \in X$ ; then the net  $M(e_\alpha)$  in  $\Sigma_M$  has a cluster point  $M(e_1)$ , where  $e_1 \in \text{Min}(X)$ . Since the partial order has a closed graph, it is easy to see that  $e_1 = e$ . This proves that  $\text{Min}(X)$  is closed and that  $\varphi$  is continuous.

**3. Problem 556.** For this problem it is convenient to use the following result of Nachbin [5]:

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $X$  be a compact partially ordered space and suppose that  $F_0$  and  $F_1$  are closed subsets of  $X$  such that  $x_1 \text{ non } \leq x_0$  whenever  $x_0 \in F_0$  and  $x_1 \in F_1$ . Then there exist disjoint open sets  $U_0$  and  $U_1$  such that  $F_0 \subset U_0 = L(U_0)$  and  $F_1 \subset U_1 = M(U_1)$ .*

**LEMMA 3.1.** *If  $X$  is a partially ordered space, then  $\mathcal{C}(X)$  is a closed subset of  $2^X$ .*

**Proof.** If  $A \in 2^X - \mathcal{C}(X)$ , then  $A$  contains elements  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  which are not comparable. Since the partial order has a closed graph there exist open sets  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  containing  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ , respectively, and such that no element of  $U_1$  is comparable with any element of  $U_2$ . It follows that  $A \in \langle U_1, U_2, X \rangle$  but that no chain is a member of  $\langle U_1, U_2, X \rangle$ , and hence that  $\mathcal{C}(X)$  is closed.

A partially ordered set  $S$  is *order-dense* provided whenever  $a$  and  $b$  are members of  $S$  and  $a < b$ , then there exists  $c \in S$  with  $a < c < b$ .

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $X$  be a compact, order-dense partially ordered space. Then  $\mathcal{M}(X)$  is a closed subset of  $2^X$  if and only if  $\text{Max}(X)$  and  $\text{Min}(X)$  are closed sets.*

**Proof.** If  $\text{Max}(X)$  is not closed, then there exists a net  $e_a$  in  $\text{Max}(X)$  with  $e_a \rightarrow a \in X - \text{Max}(X)$ . For each  $a$  there exists  $M_a \in \mathcal{M}(X)$  with  $e_a = \sup M_a$ . By Lemma 3.1 we know that  $\mathcal{C}(X)$  is closed in  $2^X$ , and, since  $2^X$  is compact, the net  $M_a$  has a subnet converging to a closed chain  $C$ . Since the partial order has a closed graph, it follows that  $\sup C = a$  and hence  $C$  is a member of the closure of  $\mathcal{M}(X)$  but not of  $\mathcal{M}(X)$ . A dual argument applies if  $\text{Min}(X)$  is not closed.

Conversely, suppose that  $\text{Max}(X)$  and  $\text{Min}(X)$  are both closed sets. In view of Lemma 3.1 it suffices to show that if  $C \in \mathcal{C}(X) - \mathcal{M}(X)$ , then  $C$  lies in an open set of  $2^X$  which is disjoint from  $\mathcal{M}(X)$ . Since  $C$  is compact, it has a supremum and an infimum which it contains. Since  $C$  is not maximal, we distinguish three cases: either  $\sup C \in X - \text{Max}(X)$ , or  $\inf C \in X - \text{Min}(X)$ , or  $C = C_0 \cup C_1$ , where  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  are closed chains and there exists an element which is strictly between  $\sup C_0$  and  $\inf C_1$ .

In the first case we note that  $C$  and  $\text{Max}(X)$  are closed sets satisfying the hypotheses of Theorem 2 and hence there is an open set  $U$  with

$$C \subset U = L(U) \subset X - \text{Max}(X).$$

Accordingly,  $C \in \langle U \rangle$ , but since every maximal chain meets  $\text{Max}(X)$ , it follows that  $\langle U \rangle$  and  $\mathcal{M}(X)$  are disjoint. A dual argument applies in the second case.

In the third case we again apply Theorem 2. There exist disjoint open sets  $U_0$  and  $U_1$  such that  $C_0 \subset U_0 = L(U_0)$  and  $C_1 \subset U_1 = M(U_1)$  so that  $C \in \langle U_0, U_1 \rangle$ . But no member of  $\mathcal{M}(X)$  can lie in  $\langle U_0, U_1 \rangle$  since the maximal chains of a compact, order-dense partially ordered space are connected [6].

The hypothesis of order-density is essential to Theorem 3. For in the Hilbert cube  $I^\omega$  let

$$T_n = \{t : t_m = 0 \text{ if } m \neq n \text{ and } 0 \leq t_n \leq 2^{-n}\}$$

and let  $S = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \{T_n\} \cup \{1\}$ . We give  $S$  the coordinatewise partial order inherited from  $I^\omega$ :  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x_n \leq y_n$  for each  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then  $S$  is a compact partially ordered space and  $\text{Max}(S)$  and  $\text{Min}(S)$  are singletons. The maximal chains of  $S$  are all of the form  $T_n \cup \{1\}$  and it is a routine exercise to verify that  $\{0, 1\}$  lies in the closure of  $\mathcal{M}(S)$ .

As a matter of fact  $S$  is actually a lattice, but the join operation is not continuous. If it is assumed that  $S$  is a topological lattice; then no

assumptions of order-density are necessary in order to guarantee that  $\mathcal{M}(S)$  is closed.

**THEOREM 4.** *If  $S$  is a compact topological lattice, then  $\mathcal{M}(S)$  is a closed subset of  $2^S$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.1 it suffices to show that if  $C \in \mathcal{C}(S) - \mathcal{M}(S)$ , then  $C$  has a neighborhood disjoint from  $\mathcal{M}(S)$ . As in the proof of Theorem 3 we distinguish three cases.

If  $\sup C < 1$ , then  $C$  is contained in an open set  $U$  such that  $U = L(U)$  and  $1 \in S - U$ , by Theorem 2. Thus  $C \in \langle U \rangle$  and no maximal chain can be a member of  $\langle U \rangle$ . The case  $0 < \inf C$  follows in the same way. It remains to consider the case where  $C = C_0 \cup C_1$ , where  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  are members of  $\mathcal{C}(S)$  and there exists  $t \in S$  such that  $\sup C_0 < t < \inf C_1$ . If each neighborhood of  $C$  meets  $\mathcal{M}(S)$ , then there exists a net  $M_\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{M}(S)$  such that  $M_\alpha \rightarrow C$  in the space  $2^S$ . By Theorem 2 there are disjoint open sets  $U_0$  and  $U_1$  such that  $C_0 \subset U_0 = L(U_0)$  and  $C_1 \subset U_1 = M(U_1)$ , and hence the net  $M_\alpha$  is eventually in  $\langle U_0, U_1 \rangle$ . That is, eventually  $M_\alpha = M_{\alpha,0} \cup M_{\alpha,1}$ , where  $M_{\alpha,0} \rightarrow C_0$  and  $M_{\alpha,1} \rightarrow C_1$ . Since the partial order is closed, a simple argument shows that  $\sup M_{\alpha,0} \rightarrow \sup C_0$  and  $\inf M_{\alpha,1} \rightarrow \inf C_1$ . Consequently, if we define

$$t_\alpha = (\sup M_{\alpha,0} \vee t) \wedge \inf M_{\alpha,1},$$

then  $t_\alpha$  converges to  $(\sup C_0 \vee t) \wedge \inf C_1 = t$ . In particular,  $t_\alpha$  is eventually in the complement of  $M_\alpha$ . But it is clear from the definition of  $t_\alpha$  that

$$\sup M_{\alpha,0} \leq t_\alpha \leq \inf M_{\alpha,1},$$

so that  $M_\alpha \cup \{t_\alpha\}$  is a chain, contrary to the maximality of  $M_\alpha$ .

**4. Problem 557.** The following result is contained in the dissertation of Franklin [2]:

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $X$  be a compact Hausdorff space. Then the relation  $R \subset X \times X$  is closed if and only if the set function  $x \rightarrow xR$  is upper semi-continuous and has closed point-images.*

If  $X$  is a quasi ordered space, we write  $E(x) = L(x) \cap M(x)$  for each  $x \in X$ .

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $X$  be a compact quasi ordered Hausdorff space with quasi order  $Q$ . Then  $Q$  contains a closed chain equivalent partial order  $P$  if and only if for each  $x \in X$  there exists a simple order  $\Gamma_x$  on  $E(x)$  such that*

(i)  $\Gamma_x = \Gamma_y$  if  $y \in E(x)$ ,

(ii) *the set function  $x \rightarrow (xQ - Qx) \cup x\Gamma_x$  is upper semi-continuous and has closed point-images.*

**Proof.** If (i) and (ii) are satisfied, let  $(x, y) \in P$  if and only if  $y \in (xQ - Qx) \cup x\Gamma_x$ . It is routine to verify that  $P$  is a partial order,  $P \subset Q$  and  $P$  and  $Q$  are chain equivalent. That  $P$  has a closed graph follows from Theorem 5. Conversely, the chain equivalence of  $P$  and  $Q$  implies that each set  $E(x)$  is a  $P$ -chain; letting  $\Gamma_x = P \cap (E(x) \times E(x))$  we have (i), and (ii) follows from Theorem 5.

Under certain conditions we can assert the *uniqueness* of the partial order  $P$ . First we establish

**LEMMA 7.1.** *Let  $Q$  be a closed quasi order on the compact space  $X$  and suppose  $Q$  contains a closed chain equivalent partial order  $P$ . Suppose that  $xQ \cup Qx$  is connected, for each  $x \in X$ . Then*

- (i)  $E(x)$  is a (possibly degenerate) arc<sup>(1)</sup> which is also a  $P$ -chain,
- (ii) if  $m_x$  and  $l_x$  are the  $P$ -maximal and  $P$ -minimal elements, respectively, of  $E(x)$ , then  $m_x$  and  $l_x$  are the endpoints of  $E(x)$ ,
- (iii) if  $xQ - Qx$  is non-empty (resp.,  $Qx - xQ$  is non-empty), then  $m_x = (xQ - Qx) \cap E(x)$  (resp.,  $l_x = (Qx - xQ) \cap E(x)$ ).

**Proof.** If  $x \in X$ , then  $E(x)$  is by Theorem 6 a  $P$ -chain and  $E(x)$  is closed since  $E(x) = xQ \cap Qx$ . Note that

$$(*) \quad xQ \cup Qx = m_x P \cup E(x) \cup P l_x$$

which is a connected set by hypothesis. If  $E(x)$  is not degenerate, then  $m_x P$  and  $P l_x$  are disjoint closed sets and hence  $E(x)$  is connected. Since  $E(x)$  is a continuum and a chain, it is an arc. The assertion (ii) is clear. To verify (iii) we may assume that  $x = m_x$ ; then  $xQ - Qx = xP - x$ , so that by (\*) and the connectedness of  $xQ \cup Qx$  we may conclude

$$\overline{xQ - Qx} = \overline{xP - x} = xP.$$

Therefore

$$\overline{(xQ - Qx) \cap E(x)} = x = m_x,$$

and the statement for  $l_x$  follows by a dual argument.

**THEOREM 7.** *Let  $Q$  be a closed quasi-order on the compact space  $X$  and suppose that  $xQ \cup Qx$  is connected and that  $E(x) \neq xQ \cup Qx$  for each  $x \in X$ . If  $Q$  contains a closed chain equivalent partial order  $P$ , then  $P$  is unique.*

**Proof.** For if  $P$  and  $P'$  are distinct closed partial orders which are contained in  $Q$  and are chain equivalent to  $Q$ , suppose  $(x, y) \in P - P'$ . Then  $(y, x) \in P' \subset Q$  and hence  $y \in E(x)$ . By Lemma 7.1 the arc  $E(x)$  is a chain relative to both  $P$  and  $P'$ . It follows from (iii) of Lemma 7.1 that  $P \cap (E(x) \times E(x)) = P' \cap (E(x) \times E(x))$ , a contradiction.

<sup>(1)</sup> An *arc* is a continuum with exactly two non-cutpoints.

If the spaces under consideration are taken to be metric spaces, then the notion of a radially convex metric sheds light on the existence of closed chain equivalent partial orders. If  $X$  is a space with metric  $\rho$  and  $P$  is a partial order on  $X$ , then  $\rho$  is *radially convex (with respect to  $P$ )* provided whenever  $x \leq y \leq z$  in  $X$  it follows that  $\rho(x, y) + \rho(y, z) = \rho(x, z)$ . The following basic theorem on such metrics is due to Carruth [1].

**THEOREM 8.** *Every compact metric partially ordered space admits a radially convex metric.*

**THEOREM 9.** *Let  $Q$  be a closed quasi-order on the compact metric space  $X$ , and let  $P$  be a partial order on  $X$  such that  $P \subset Q$ ,  $P$  is chain equivalent to  $Q$  and  $Px$  is closed for each  $x \in X$ . Suppose in addition that  $\text{Min}(X, P)$ , the set of  $P$ -minimal elements of  $X$ , is a closed set. Then  $P$  is closed if and only if  $X$  admits a metric which is radially convex with respect to  $P$ .*

**Proof.** If  $P$  is closed then the existence of a radially convex metric follows at once from Theorem 8. Conversely, suppose  $X$  admits a metric  $\rho$  which is radially convex with respect to  $P$ . Let  $x_\alpha$  and  $y_\alpha$  be nets in  $X$  such that  $x_\alpha \rightarrow x$ ,  $y_\alpha \rightarrow y$  and  $(x_\alpha, y_\alpha) \in P$  for each  $\alpha$ . It is sufficient to show that  $(x, y) \in P$ . Since  $P$  is chain equivalent to  $Q$  and  $Q$  is closed, we have  $(x, y) \in Q$  or  $(y, x) \in Q$ . Since the sets  $Px_\alpha$  are closed, there exists  $n_\alpha \in \text{Min}(X, P) \cap Px_\alpha$ , and since  $\text{Min}(X, P)$  is closed, the net  $n_\alpha$  has a cluster point  $n \in \text{Min}(X, P)$ . Since  $Q$  is closed, we infer that  $(n, x) \in Q$  and  $(n, y) \in Q$ . Now

$$\rho(n, x) = \lim \rho(n_\alpha, x_\alpha) \leq \lim \rho(n_\alpha, y_\alpha) = \rho(n, y)$$

since  $\rho$  is radially convex, and hence  $(x, y) \in P$ .

We give one more theorem on the existence of closed chain equivalent partial orders which is independent of what has gone before,

**THEOREM 10.** *Let  $Q$  be a closed quasi-order on the compact space  $X$ . let  $S = \{x \in X : E(x) \neq x\}$  and suppose the following three conditions are satisfied:*

- (i)  $X - S$  is dense in  $X$ ,
- (ii) the mapping  $x \rightarrow (xQ \cup Qx)$  is continuous,
- (iii) if  $x$  and  $y$  are distinct elements of  $X$  and  $(x, y) \in Q$ , then there exist disjoint neighborhoods  $U$  and  $V$  of  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively, such that either
  - (iiia)  $(Q \cup Q^{-1}) \cap (U \times V) \subset Q$  or
  - (iiib)  $(Q \cup Q^{-1}) \cap (U \times V) \subset Q^{-1}$ .

*Then  $Q$  contains a closed chain equivalent partial order.*

**Proof.** Define

$$P = Q \cap \{(x, y) ; \text{iiia) holds}\}.$$

Since (iiia) is satisfied vacuously on the diagonal of  $X$ , it is clear that  $P$  is reflexive. Moreover, if (iiib) holds for  $(x, y)$ , then  $(y, x) \in P$  and hence  $P \cup P^{-1} = Q \cup Q^{-1}$ . To prove that  $P$  is asymmetric, suppose  $(x, y)$  and  $(y, x)$  are members of  $P$  with  $x \neq y$ . Then disjoint open sets  $U$  and  $V$  may be chosen so that  $x \in U, y \in V$  and

$$(Q \cup Q^{-1}) \cap (U \times V) \subset Q \cap Q^{-1}.$$

Moreover, by (ii) the open sets  $U$  and  $V$  can be chosen so that if  $x' \in U$ , then there exists

$$y' \in V \cap (x'Q \cup Qx')$$

and hence

$$(x', y') \in (U \times V) \cap (Q \cup Q^{-1}) \subset Q \cap Q^{-1},$$

i.e.,  $y' \in E(x')$ . But by (i) we may choose  $x' \in U$  such that  $E(x') = x'$ . This contradicts the assumption that  $U$  and  $V$  are disjoint.

To see that  $P$  is transitive, suppose  $(x, y) \in P$  and  $(y, z) \in P$ , where  $x, y$  and  $z$  are all distinct. Then there are neighborhoods  $U, V$  and  $W$  of  $x, y$  and  $z$ , respectively, which are mutually disjoint and are such that

$$(Q \cup Q^{-1}) \cap (U \times V) \subset Q, \quad (Q \cup Q^{-1}) \cap (V \times W) \subset Q.$$

By the transitivity of  $Q$ , we infer

$$(Q \cup Q^{-1}) \cap (U \times W) \subset Q$$

and hence  $(x, z) \in P$ .

It remains to prove that  $P$  is closed. Let  $(x_\alpha, y_\alpha)$  be a net in  $P$  with  $(x_\alpha, y_\alpha) \rightarrow (x, y)$ ; then  $(x, y) \in Q$  since  $Q$  is closed and we may assume  $x \neq y$ . Choose  $U$  and  $V$  according to (iii). Eventually  $(x_\alpha, y_\alpha) \in U \times V$  and since  $U$  and  $V$  are disjoint, we have  $(x_\alpha, y_\alpha) \in P - P^{-1}$ . Thus  $(Q \cup Q^{-1}) \cap (U \times V)$  cannot be contained in  $Q^{-1}$  and there exists  $x' \in U - S$  and  $y' \in V$  with  $(x', y') \in Q - Q^{-1}$ . It follows that (iiia) must occur and hence  $(x, y) \in P$ . The proof is complete.

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