# Characterization of metrizable Esakia spaces via some forbidden configurations

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- $(X, \tau)$  is a compact topological space;
- $(X, \leq)$  is a poset;
- (Priestley separation axiom) for all  $x, y \in X$  if  $x \nleq y$  then there is a clopen upset U such that  $x \in U$  and  $y \notin U$ .



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To any bounded distributive lattice *L* it is associated the set *X* of its prime filters ordered by inclusion and endowed with the topology generated by the basis  $\{\beta(a) \setminus \beta(b) \mid a, b \in L\}$ . Where  $\beta(a) = \{x \in X \mid a \in x\}$ . To any Priestley space *X* it is associated the lattice *L* of its clopen upsets.

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Esakia duality is a restricted version of Priestley duality: it states the existence of a dual equivalence between the category of Heyting algebras and the category of Esakia spaces and continuous p-morphisms.

$$\mathsf{Hey} \stackrel{d}{\cong} \mathsf{Esa}$$

We want to give a characterization of Priestley spaces that are not Esakia by looking at their subspaces. We consider three simple Priestley spaces that are not Esakia that we call  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3$ .







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- there is a topological and order embedding  $e: Z_i \rightarrow X$  and
- there is an open neighborhood U of e(y) such that  $e^{-1}(\downarrow U) = \{x, y\}$ .



#### Theorem

A metrizable Priestley space X is not an Esakia space iff one of  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3$  is a forbidden configuration for X.









Case 1:  $\{w_i\}$  contains an infinite chain.



Case 2a:  $\{w_i\}$  contains an infinite anti-chain above x.



Case 2b:  $\{w_i\}$  contains an infinite anti-chain not above x.



We now want to translate this theorem to its lattice-theoretic dual statement.

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 $eg c_1 = c_1 \rightarrow 0$  doesn't exist.







 $\neg c_2 = c_2 \rightarrow \varnothing$  doesn't exist.






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## Metrizability and countability

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Thus, if X is a metrizable Priestley space, then it is second countable. This implies that every clopen is a finite union of elements from the countable basis. In particular the set of clopen upsets, and so L, is countable. On the other hand, if L is countable then X has countably many clopen upsets and therefore countably many clopen subsets which are a basis. So X is second countable and hence metrizable.

### Algebraic dual statement of the main result

#### Definition

Let L be a bounded distributive lattice and  $a, b \in L$ . Let  $I_{a \rightarrow b}$  be the ideal

$$I_{a \to b} := \{ c \in L \mid c \land a \leq b \}$$

#### Remark

 $I_{a \to b}$  is principal iff  $a \to b$  exists in L and, in that case,  $I_{a \to b} = \downarrow (a \to b)$ .

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 $I_{a o b}$  is principal iff a o b exists in L and, in that case,  $I_{a o b} = \downarrow (a o b)$ .

#### Theorem

Let L be a countable bounded distributive lattice. Then L is not a Heyting algebra iff one of  $L_i$  (i = 1, 2, 3) is a homomorphic image of L such that the homomorphism  $h_i : L \to L_i$  satisfies the following property:

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# Characterization of p-spaces

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### Definition

Let X be a Priestley space. We say that  $Z_i$  (i = 1, 2, 3) is a p-configuration for X if  $Z_i$  is a forbidden configuration for X and in addition the open neighborhood U of e(y) is an upset.

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### Corollary

Let X be a metrizable Priestley space. X is not a p-space iff one of  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3$  is a p-configuration for X.

### Characterization of duals of co-Heyting algebras

We recall that co-Heyting algebras are order-duals of Heyting algebras. The Priestley spaces dual to co-Heyting algebras are the ones with the property that the upset of each clopen is clopen. We recall that co-Heyting algebras are order-duals of Heyting algebras. The Priestley spaces dual to co-Heyting algebras are the ones with the property that the upset of each clopen is clopen.

Let  $Z_1^*, Z_2^*, Z_3^*$  be the Priestley spaces obtained by reversing the order in  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3$ , respectively.

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Then dualizing the result for Heyting algebras yields:

#### Corollary

A metrizable Priestley space X is not the dual of a co-Heyting algebra iff there are a topological and order embedding e from one of  $Z_1^*, Z_2^*, Z_3^*$  into X and an open neighborhood U of e(y) such that  $e^{-1}(\uparrow U) = \{x, y\}$ .

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Bi-Heyting algebras are the lattices which are both Heyting algebras and co-Heyting algebras.

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Putting together the results for Heyting algebras and co-Heyting algebras yields:

### Corollary

A metrizable Priestley space X is not dual to a bi-Heyting algebra iff one of  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3$  is a forbidden configuration for X or there are a topological and order embedding e from one of  $Z_1^*, Z_2^*, Z_3^*$  into X and an open neighborhood U of e(y) such that  $e^{-1}(\uparrow U) = \{x, y\}$ . In the proof we used the metrizability hypothesis only to find a sequence  $\{w_i\}$  contained in the complement of  $\downarrow U$  converging to  $x \in \downarrow U \setminus U$ .



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### Definition

A space X is called sequential if every non-closed subset contains a sequence converging outside it.

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The following examples show that the metrizability (sequentiality) hypothesis cannot be dropped.

### Counterexamples



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Dually this means that every Priestley space embeds into an Esakia space. More precisely, if the Priestley space is dual to the lattice L, then X embeds into  $2^L$  where 2 is the poset  $\{0 < 1\}$  with the discrete topology. The space  $2^L$  is endowed with the product topology and the product order and it is an Esakia space. The embedding maps  $x \in X$  to the element of  $2^L$  corresponding to the set of clopen upsets containing x. Therefore there is no way to characterize Esakia spaces by forbidding embeddings of some set of Priestley spaces. We really need that additional condition on the embedding. Therefore there is no way to characterize Esakia spaces by forbidding embeddings of some set of Priestley spaces. We really need that additional condition on the embedding.

The space  $2^{L}$  we just described is really big and complex for almost every Priestley space X. In the following slides we present much simpler examples of Esakia spaces into which  $Z_1$  and  $Z_3$  embed but for which they are not forbidden configurations.

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We don't have any nice lattice-theoretic characterization of the lattices dual to sequential Priestley spaces.

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An obvious direction of the investigation would be trying to generalize the theorem to the non-sequential case. It seems that the problem gets really complex.

# Thanks for your attention!