

# Languages of Higher-Dimensional Automata via Pomset Objects

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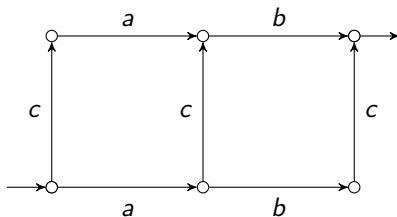
1 Motivation

2 Precubical Sets

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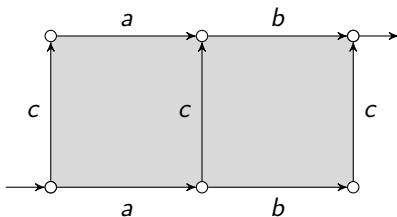
# Higher-Dimensional Automata



an **automaton**

$$L(A) = \{abc, acb, cab\}$$

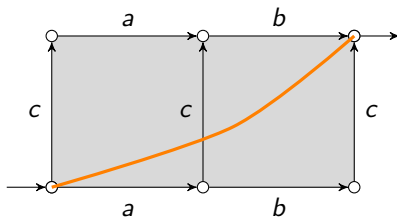
# Higher-Dimensional Automata



a **higher-dimensional automaton** (HDA)

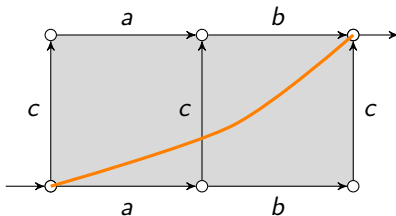
$$L(A) = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{c} a \longrightarrow b \\ c \end{array} \right), \dots \right\}$$

# Higher-Dimensional Automata

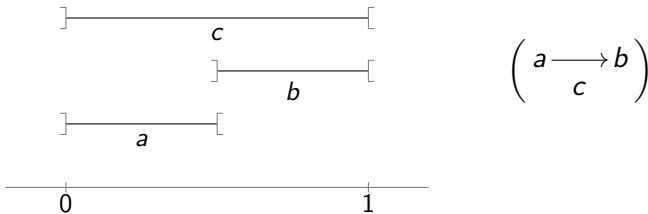


executions are **directed paths** (d-paths)

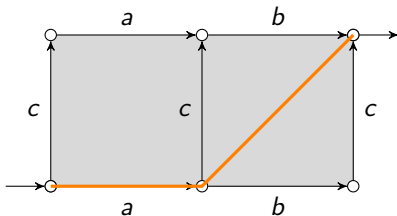
# Higher-Dimensional Automata



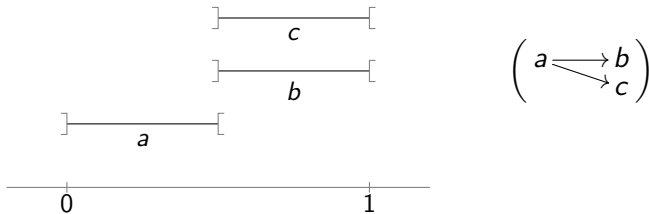
interval arrangement of d-path:



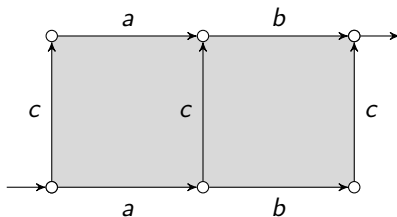
# Higher-Dimensional Automata



different d-path:



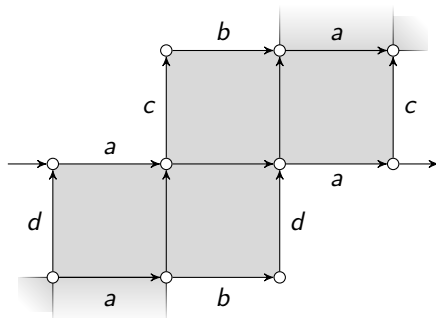
# Higher-Dimensional Automata



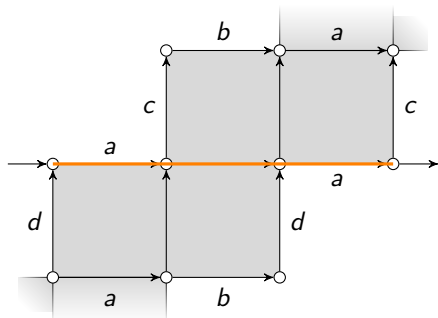
$$\begin{aligned}
 L(A) &= \left\{ \left( a \xrightarrow{\quad} b \right), \left( a \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\quad} b \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} c \end{array} \right), \left( a \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\quad} b \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} c \end{array} \right), \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left( a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \right), \left( a \rightarrow c \rightarrow b \right), \left( c \rightarrow a \rightarrow b \right) \right\} \\
 &= \left\{ \left( a \xrightarrow{\quad} b \right) \right\} \downarrow
 \end{aligned}$$



# Another Example

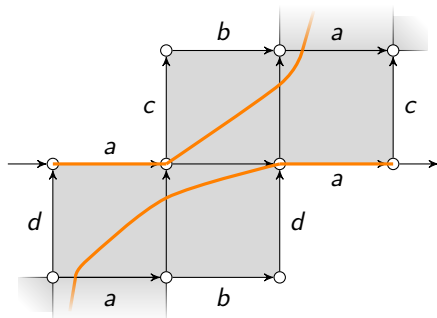


# Another Example



$$L(A) = \left\{ (a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a), \left( \begin{array}{ccccccc} a & \rightarrow & b & \rightarrow & a & \rightarrow & b & \rightarrow & a \\ & & \searrow & & \searrow & & \searrow & & \searrow \\ & & c & \rightarrow & d & \rightarrow & & & \end{array} \right), \dots \right\} \downarrow$$

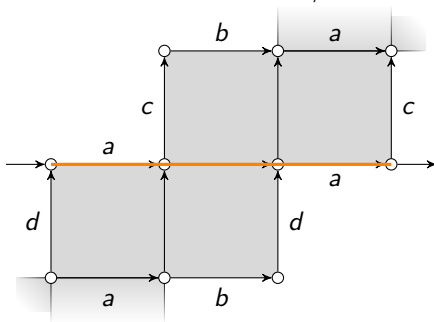
## Another Example



$$L(A) = \left\{ (a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a), \left( \begin{array}{c} a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a \\ \phantom{a \rightarrow} \searrow \phantom{\rightarrow} \phantom{\rightarrow} \phantom{\rightarrow} \phantom{\rightarrow} \\ \phantom{a \rightarrow} \phantom{\rightarrow} c \phantom{\rightarrow} \phantom{\rightarrow} d \phantom{\rightarrow} \phantom{\rightarrow} \phantom{\rightarrow} \phantom{\rightarrow} \end{array} \right), \dots \right\} \downarrow$$

# Tracks

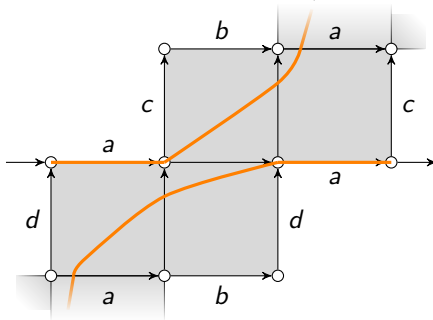
Sequences of cells connected at boundaries / faces:



*a, b, a*

# Tracks

Sequences of cells connected at boundaries / faces:



$$a, \begin{pmatrix} b \\ c \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} a \\ c \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} a \\ d \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} b \\ d \end{pmatrix}, a$$

- correspondence d-paths – tracks

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# The Large Precube Category

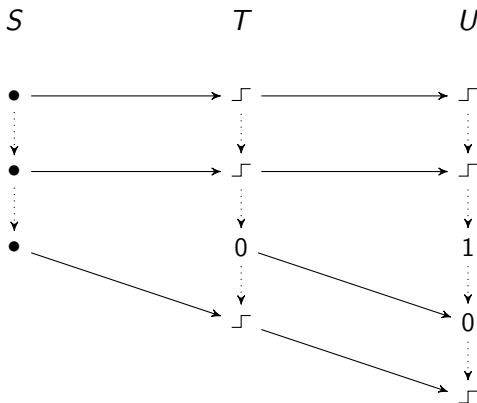
The “Ziemiański” category  $\square$ :

- objects totally ordered sets  $S$
- $\square(S, T) = \{(f, \varepsilon) \mid f : S \rightarrow T \text{ order injection, } \varepsilon : T \rightarrow \{0, \lrcorner, 1\}, f(S) = \varepsilon^{-1}(\lrcorner)\}$
- $(g, \zeta) \circ (f, \varepsilon) : S \rightarrow T \rightarrow U = (g \circ f, \eta)$ :

$$\eta(u) = \begin{cases} \varepsilon(g^{-1}(u)) & \text{for } u \in g(T), \\ \zeta(u) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- **0**: not started; **⌞**: executing; **1**: terminated (*cf.* Chu spaces)

$\implies$  in an injection  $f : S \rightarrow T$ , events in  $f(S)$  are executing; the others are “at the boundary”

Composition in  $\square$ 

$$(g, \zeta) \circ (f, \varepsilon) : S \rightarrow T \rightarrow U = (g \circ f, \eta):$$

$$\eta(u) = \begin{cases} \varepsilon(g^{-1}(u)) & \text{for } u \in g(T), \\ \zeta(u) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



## Context

augmented presimplex category  $\Delta$ objects  $\{1 < \dots < n\}$  for  $n \geq 0$ 

morphisms order injections

skeletal

large aug. presimplex category  $\Delta$ 

objects totally ordered sets

morphisms order injections

isos are unique

 $\Delta \leftrightarrow \Delta$  equivalence with unique left inverse(augmented) precube category  $\square$ objects  $\{0, 1\}^n$  for  $n \geq 0$ 

morphisms index-order injections

skeletal

large (aug.) precube category  $\square$ 

objects totally ordered sets

morphisms  $(f, \varepsilon)$ 

isos are unique

 $\square \leftrightarrow \square$  equivalence with unique left inverse

- **presimplicial sets**:  $\text{Set}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}}$  or  $\text{Set}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}}$ ; makes no difference
- **precubical sets**:  $\text{Set}^{\square^{\text{op}}}$  or  $\text{Set}^{\square^{\text{op}}}$ ; makes no difference

# Precubical Sets

In elementary terms: a precubical set (**pc-set**) is a graded set  $X = \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} X_n$  (disjoint union) together with elementary face maps

$$\delta_{i,n}^\nu : X_n \rightarrow X_{n-1} \quad (i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \nu \in \{0, 1\})$$

which are usually written without the extra index “ $n$ ” and satisfy the precubical identities

$$\delta_i^\nu \delta_j^\mu = \delta_{j-1}^\mu \delta_i^\nu \quad (i < j)$$

# Labelings and Events

- the **labeling object** on a finite set  $\Sigma$ : the presheaf  $!\Sigma(S) = \text{Set}(S, \Sigma)$
- $!\Sigma_n = \Sigma^n$ ;  $\delta_i^\nu((a_1, \dots, a_n)) = (a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n)$
- a **labeled precubical set**:  $\lambda : X \rightarrow !\Sigma$
- the **event object** on a finite set  $E$ : the presheaf  $!!E(S) = \text{Inj}(S, E)$   
(*injective functions*)
- $!!E_n = \{(e_1, \dots, e_n) \in E^n \mid \forall i \neq j : e_i \neq e_j\}$ ;  $\delta_i^\nu$  as above
- an **event consistent** precubical set:  $\exists f : X \rightarrow !!E$

Not all precubical sets are event consistent, but we're only interested in those which are.

## Lemma

$X$  is event consistent iff the equivalence  $\sim_{\text{ev}}$  generated on  $X_1$  by  $\{(\delta_1^0 x, \delta_1^1 x), (\delta_2^0 x, \delta_2^1 x) \mid x \in X_2\}$  satisfies  $\forall x \in X_2 : \delta_1^0 x \not\sim_{\text{ev}} \delta_2^0 x$ .

- $E_X = X_1 / \sim_{\text{ev}}$ : the **universal events** of  $X$

# Higher-Dimensional Automata

## Definition

An **higher-dimensional automaton**, over a finite alphabet  $\Sigma$ , is a labeled event-consistent precubical set  $\lambda : X \rightarrow !\Sigma$  together with subsets  $I, F \subseteq X$  of **initial** and **final** cells.

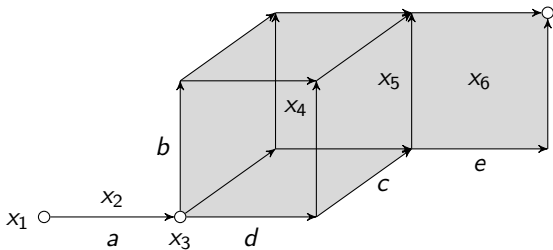
- Labeling factors uniquely through universal events:  
 $\lambda = \lambda^{\text{ev}} \circ \text{ev} : X \rightarrow !!E_X \rightarrow !\Sigma$
- For the purpose of this talk, we will mostly ignore the labeling.

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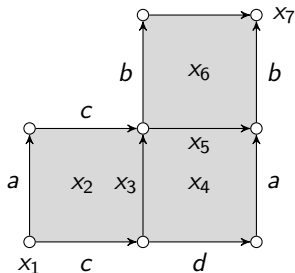


A **track** in  $X$ : a sequence  $\rho = (x_1, \dots, x_m)$ ,  $m \geq 1$ , s.t. for all  $i$ :

$$x_i = \delta_A^{0, \dots, 0} x_{i+1} \quad \text{or} \quad x_{i+1} = \delta_A^{1, \dots, 1} x_i$$

for some  $A$

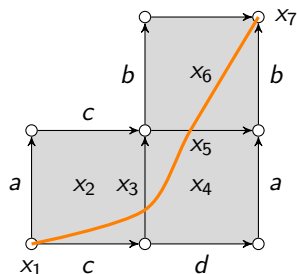
# Poset Labels of Tracks



Informally, the **label** of a track: gluing of maximal cells along minimal cells

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho &= x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7 \\
 &= \emptyset, \begin{pmatrix} a \\ c \end{pmatrix}, a, \begin{pmatrix} a \\ d \end{pmatrix}, d, \begin{pmatrix} b \\ d \end{pmatrix}, \emptyset \\
 \ell(\rho) &= \begin{pmatrix} a \longrightarrow b \\ c \longrightarrow d \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

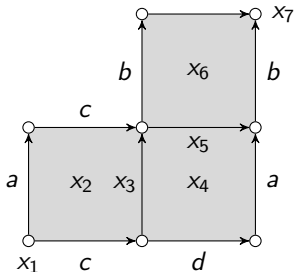
# Properties



- For every track there is a d-path with the same label.
- For every d-path there is a track with the same label.
- Labels of tracks are **interval orders**.
- Track  $(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  **accepting** if  $x_1 \in I$  (initial) &  $x_m \in F$  (final)
- **Language** of HDA  $X$ :  $L(X) = \{\ell(\rho) \mid \rho \text{ accepting}\}$

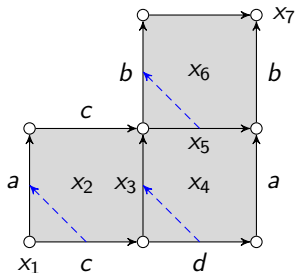


# But Wait, There's More



Precubical sets are **locally ordered** (due to event consistency):

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Precubical sets are **locally ordered** (due to event consistency):

$$\rho = \emptyset, \left( \begin{array}{c} a \\ \uparrow \\ c \end{array} \right), a, \left( \begin{array}{c} a \\ \uparrow \\ d \end{array} \right), d, \left( \begin{array}{c} b \\ \uparrow \\ d \end{array} \right), \emptyset$$

$$\ell(\rho) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} a & \longrightarrow & b \\ \uparrow & \text{---} & \uparrow \\ c & \longrightarrow & d \end{array} \right)$$

# From Posets to Tracks

An **iposet**  $(P, <, \dashrightarrow)$ : two partial orders  $<$ ,  $\dashrightarrow$  s.t.  $< \cup \dashrightarrow$  is *total*.

- All  $<$ -antichains in  $P$  are totally  $\dashrightarrow$ -ordered.

Define relation  $\prec$  on  $\{0, \lrcorner, 1\}$  by  $\prec = \{(0, 0), (\lrcorner, 0), (1, 0), (1, \lrcorner), (1, 1)\}$

## Definition

The **poset object** of an iposet  $P$  is the precubical set  $\square^P$ , as follows:

- $\square_k^P = \{x : (P, <) \rightarrow (\{0, \lrcorner, 1\}, \prec) \mid |x^{-1}(\lrcorner)| = k\}$
- for  $x \in \square_k^P$  and  $x^{-1}(\lrcorner) = \{p_1 \dashrightarrow \dots \dashrightarrow p_k\}$ ,

$$\delta_i^{\nu}(x)(p) = \begin{cases} \nu & \text{for } p = p_i \\ x(p) & \text{for } p \neq p_i \end{cases}$$

# Example

Recall  $\prec = \{(0, 0), (\ulcorner, 0), (1, 0), (1, \ulcorner), (1, 1)\}$ . Let  $P = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} a & & b \\ \ulcorner & & \ulcorner \\ c & & d \end{array} \right)$ .

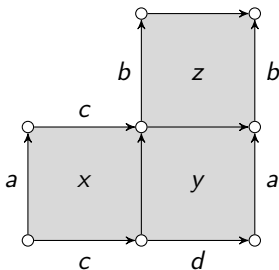
- $\square_2^P$ :  $x = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} \ulcorner & \rightarrow & 0 \\ \ulcorner & \nearrow & 0 \\ \ulcorner & \rightarrow & 0 \end{array} \right)$      $y = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} \ulcorner & \rightarrow & 0 \\ 1 & \nearrow & \ulcorner \\ 1 & \rightarrow & \ulcorner \end{array} \right)$      $z = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \rightarrow & \ulcorner \\ 1 & \nearrow & \ulcorner \\ 1 & \rightarrow & \ulcorner \end{array} \right)$
- $\delta_1^\nu x = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} \ulcorner & \rightarrow & 0 \\ \nu & \nearrow & 0 \\ \nu & \rightarrow & 0 \end{array} \right)$      $\delta_2^\nu x = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} \nu & \rightarrow & 0 \\ \ulcorner & \nearrow & 0 \\ \ulcorner & \rightarrow & 0 \end{array} \right)$     etc.

# Example

Recall  $\prec = \{(0, 0), (\lrcorner, 0), (1, 0), (1, \lrcorner), (1, 1)\}$ . Let  $P = \begin{pmatrix} a & \longrightarrow & b \\ \lrcorner & \nearrow & \lrcorner \\ c & \longrightarrow & d \end{pmatrix}$ .

- $\square_2^P$ :  $x = \begin{pmatrix} \lrcorner & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \lrcorner & \nearrow & \lrcorner \\ \lrcorner & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{pmatrix}$      $y = \begin{pmatrix} \lrcorner & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ 1 & \nearrow & \lrcorner \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & \lrcorner \end{pmatrix}$      $z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \longrightarrow & \lrcorner \\ 1 & \nearrow & \lrcorner \end{pmatrix}$

- $\delta_1^y x = \begin{pmatrix} \lrcorner & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \nu & \nearrow & 0 \end{pmatrix}$      $\delta_2^y x = \begin{pmatrix} \nu & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \lrcorner & \nearrow & 0 \end{pmatrix}$     etc.



# Properties

## Proposition

For any interval order  $P$  there is a unique (up to ...) track  $\rho$  in  $\square^P$  with  $\ell(\rho) = P$ .

## Proposition

Let  $X$  be a precubical set and  $P$  an interval order. There is a track  $\rho$  in  $X$  with  $\ell(\rho) = P$  iff  $\exists f : \square^P \rightarrow X$ .

The construction  $P \mapsto \square^P$  also works if  $P$  is not an interval order; but then the above do not hold.

# Interesting!?

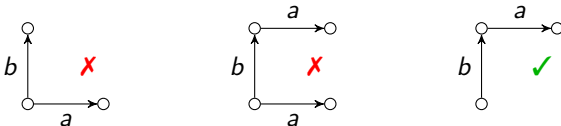
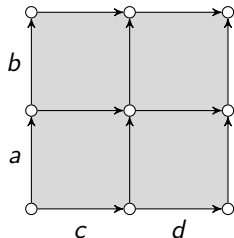
The construction  $P \mapsto \square^P$  also works if  $P$  is not an interval order.

- For example for  $P = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} a & & b \\ & \swarrow & \searrow \\ c & & d \end{array} \right)$ ,  $\square^P$  is

(not a track object)

- (Generally,  $\square^{P \parallel Q} \cong \square^P \otimes \square^Q$ .)

So then, which precubical sets are poset objects?



- no “concave corners” / no “horns”
- **connected Cat-0 sculptures?**

# Conclusion

## Languages of HDA:

- subsumption-closed sets of interval orders (“**weak**”)
- closed under union & parallel composition
- bisimulation invariant
- Towards a **Kleene theorem** for HDA!?

## Precubical sets:

- new large precube category based on totally ordered sets
- very useful for us
- extensions: degeneracies  $\Leftarrow$  use non-injective maps  
symmetries  $\Leftarrow$  use unordered sets
- useful also for **cubical HoTT**? (see [[Bezem-Coquand-Huber '13](#)] for a similar category)



## 5 Posets for Concurrency: Interval Orders

# Posets for Concurrency: Interval Orders


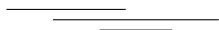


- posets which are good for concurrency?
- already in [Wiener 1914], then [Winkowski '77], [Lamport '86], [van Glabbeek '90], [Vogler '91], [Janicky '93], etc.
- **interval orders**: posets which have representation as (real) intervals, ordered by  $\max_1 \leq \min_2$
- Lemma (Fishburn '70): A poset is interval iff it does not contain  $\mathbb{I} = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} : & \longrightarrow & : \\ : & \longrightarrow & : \end{array} \right)$  as induced subposet.
- intuitively: if  $a \longrightarrow b$  and  $c \longrightarrow d$ , then also  $a \longrightarrow d$  or  $c \longrightarrow b$

## Gluing of Interval Orders

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \left( \begin{array}{c} a \\ c \end{array} \right) \overset{a}{*} \left( \begin{array}{c} a \\ d \end{array} \right) \overset{d}{*} \left( \begin{array}{c} b \\ d \end{array} \right) \\
 \\
 \frac{a}{c} \text{ --- } \frac{a}{d} \text{ --- } \frac{b}{d} \\
 \\
 \frac{a}{c} \quad \frac{b}{d}
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c}
 \left( \begin{array}{c} a \longrightarrow b \\ c \longrightarrow d \end{array} \right) \\
 \\
 \frac{a}{c} \quad \frac{b}{d}
 \end{array}$$

## Interval Orders vs ST-Traces

- An **ST-trace**:  $a^+ b^+ a^+ a^- a^- b^-$  [van Glabbeek '90]  

- as intervals: 

## Proposition

ST-traces up to the equivalence generated by  $a^+ b^+ \sim b^+ a^+$  and  $a^- b^- \sim b^- a^-$  are the same as labeled interval orders.