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## On a conjecture about spectral sets

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### Abstract

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity. We denote by  $\text{Spec}(R)$  the set of prime ideals of  $R$ . Call a partial ordered set *spectral* if it is order isomorphic to  $(\text{Spec}(R), \subseteq)$  for some  $R$ . A longstanding open question about spectral sets (since 1976), is that of Lewis and Ohm [Canad. J. Math. 28 (1976) 820, Question 3.4]: "If  $(X, \leq)$  is an ordered disjoint union of the posets  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , and if  $(X, \leq)$  is spectral, then are the  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  also spectral?"

Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a poset and  $x \in X$ . Recall that the *D-component* of  $x$  is defined to be the intersection of all subsets of  $X$  containing  $x$  that are closed under specialization and generalization (i.e., under  $\leq$  and  $\geq$ ). Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set which is an ordered disjoint union of the posets  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . It is clear that  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  is a disjoint union of *D-components* of  $X$ . Thus the conjecture of Lewis and Ohm is equivalent to the following question: "Is a *D-component* of a spectral set spectral?"

This paper deals with topological properties of a *D-component* of a spectral set, improving the understanding of the conjecture of Lewis and Ohm. The concepts of up-spectral topology and down-spectral topology are introduced and studied.

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## Introduction

Let  $\text{Spec}(R)$  denote the set of prime ideals of a commutative ring  $R$  with identity, ordered by inclusion, and call a partial ordered set *spectral* if it is order isomorphic to  $\text{Spec}(R)$  for some  $R$ . The prime spectrum of a general commutative unitary ring, endowed with the Zariski topology, is a well established tool in algebraic geometry. Note also that spectral sets are posets which arise as the prime ideals of distributive lattices with 0 and 1, ordered by inclusion. In the lattice theory literature spectral sets have usually been called *representable posets*. Such spectral sets are of interest not only in (topological) ring and lattice theory, but also in computer science, in particular, in domain theory.

In order that an ordered set  $(X, \leq)$  be spectral it is necessary (but not sufficient [10]) that it satisfies two conditions:

- $(K_1)$ : Each nonempty totally ordered subset of  $(X, \leq)$  has a supremum and an infimum (that is,  $X$  is *up-complete* and *down-complete*).
- $(K_2)$ : For each  $a < b$  in  $X$ , there exist two adjacent elements  $a_1 < b_1$ , such that  $a \leq a_1 < b_1 \leq b$  (that is,  $X$  is *weakly atomic*).

These properties were noted, for a ring spectrum, by I. Kaplansky (see [7, Theorems 9 and 11]), and then are called respectively the *first condition* and the *second condition* of Kaplansky.

Note that Lewis and Ohm have added another necessary condition  $(H)$ : for  $(X, \leq)$  to be spectral;

Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{S(x) \mid x \in X\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G} = \{G(x) \mid x \in X\}$ , where  $S(x) = \{y \in X \mid y \geq x\}$  and  $G(x) = \{y \in X \mid y \leq x\}$ .

$(H)$ : If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a collection of subsets of  $X$  such that  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  or  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , then  $\bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{F}} F = \emptyset$  implies that there is a finite collection of sets from  $\mathcal{F}$  whose intersection is empty.

Following [10], there exists a partially ordered set which satisfies the conditions  $(K_1)$ ,  $(K_2)$ , and  $(H)$  but is not spectral, thus showing that these conditions are not sufficient for a partially ordered set to be spectral.

Recall that if  $R$  is a ring, the *Zariski topology* or the *hull-kernel topology* for  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is defined by letting  $C \subseteq \text{Spec}(R)$  be closed if and only if there exists an ideal  $\mathfrak{a}$  of  $R$  such that

$$C = \{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid \mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}\}.$$

Although many results about spectral sets have been obtained by Dobbs, Hochster, Fontana, Lewis, Ohm, and others (see [1,2,4–10]), a complete algebraic characterization of spectral sets still seems very far off.

On the other hand, the corresponding topological question of characterizing *spectral spaces* (that is, topological spaces homeomorphic to the prime spectrum of a ring equipped with the Zariski topology) was completely answered by Hochster in [6]. Recall that a closed subset  $C$  of a topological space  $X$  has a *generic point* if there is some  $x \in C$  such that  $\overline{\{x\}} = C$ . A topological space in which every nonempty irreducible closed subset has a generic point is called a *sober space*. A topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on a set  $X$  is spectral if and only if the following axioms hold:

- (i)  $X$  is a  $T_0$ -space.
- (ii)  $X$  is quasi-compact and has a basis of quasi-compact open subsets.
- (iii) The family of quasi-compact open subsets of  $X$  is closed under finite intersections.
- (iv) Every nonempty irreducible closed subset has a generic point.

Let  $R$  be a ring and  $\mathcal{T}$  the Zariski topology on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ . Then for each  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , we have

$$\overline{\{\mathfrak{p}\}} = S(\mathfrak{p}) = \{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid \mathfrak{p} \subseteq \mathfrak{q}\}.$$

According to [10], if  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a topological space and  $\leq$  is a partial ordering on  $X$ , the topology  $\mathcal{T}$  is said to be *compatible with*  $\leq$ , if  $\overline{\{x\}} = S(x)$ , for each  $x \in X$ .

Note that  $\mathcal{T}$  is compatible with  $\leq$  if and only if the following conditions hold:

- (1)  $S(x)$  is closed for all  $x \in X$ , and
- (2) closed sets of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  are closed under specialization.

It is clear that any order compatible topology is a  $T_0$ -topology. Conversely, if  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a  $T_0$ -space, then  $\mathcal{T}$  is compatible with the ordering  $\leq$  defined by:  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $y \in \overline{\{x\}}$ . One can obviously see that  $(X, \leq)$  is spectral if and only if there exists an order compatible spectral topology on  $X$ . Thus, the concept of spectral sets may be considered as a merely topological notion.

Now, let us consider the two natural examples of posets  $(\mathbb{N}, \leq)$  and  $(\mathbb{N}, \geq)$ . Set  $\tilde{\mathbb{N}} = \mathbb{N} \cup \{\omega\}$  and equip  $\tilde{\mathbb{N}}$  with the ordering  $\leq^\omega$  (respectively  $\geq_\omega$ ) extending  $\leq$  (respectively  $\geq$ ) on  $\mathbb{N}$  and making  $\omega$  the greatest (respectively smallest) element of  $(\tilde{\mathbb{N}}, \leq^\omega)$  (respectively  $(\tilde{\mathbb{N}}, \geq_\omega)$ ). Then  $(\tilde{\mathbb{N}}, \leq^\omega)$  and  $(\tilde{\mathbb{N}}, \geq_\omega)$  are spectral sets [9, Theorem 3.1].

The two previous examples motivate us to introduce two notions linked to spectral sets. These notions are important in obtaining information concerning a longstanding open question about spectral sets (since 1976) stated by Lewis and Ohm [10, Question 3.4]: if a poset  $(X, \leq)$  is the disjoint union of posets  $\{(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda), \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ , we shall say that  $X$  is the *ordered disjoint union* of the  $X_\lambda$ 's if  $x \leq y$  if and only if there is an  $\lambda$  such that  $x, y \in X_\lambda$  and  $x \leq_\lambda y$ .

Theorem 3.1 of [10] says that if  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  is spectral for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , then  $(X, \leq)$  is spectral. However, Lewis and Ohm have not been able to establish the converse of the previous theorem and they raise the following question:

“If  $(X, \leq)$  is the ordered disjoint union of posets  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda), \lambda \in \Lambda$ , and if  $(X, \leq)$  is spectral, then are the  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  also spectral?”.

Let us introduce the two new concepts.

**Definition 0.1.** Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a poset,  $\omega \notin X$  and  $\tilde{X} = X \cup \{\omega\}$ . Equip  $\tilde{X}$  with the partial order  $\leq^\omega$  (respectively  $\leq_\omega$ ) extending  $\leq$  on  $X$  and making  $\omega$  the greatest (respectively smallest) element of  $(\tilde{X}, \leq^\omega)$  (respectively  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_\omega)$ ). The poset  $(X, \leq)$  is said to be *up-spectral* (respectively *down-spectral*) if  $(\tilde{X}, \leq^\omega)$  (respectively  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_\omega)$ ) is a spectral set.

Naturally, one can wonder what the topological analog is of each of the notions subsequently introduced. We propose the following definitions.

**Definition 0.2.** Let  $X$  be a topological space.

- (1)  $X$  is said to be an *up-spectral* space if it satisfies the axioms of a spectral space with the exception that  $X$  is not necessarily quasi-compact.
- (2)  $X$  is said to be a *down-spectral* space if it satisfies the axioms of a spectral space with the exception that  $X$  does not necessarily have a generic point when it is irreducible.

It will be shown that a poset  $(X, \leq)$  is a down-spectral (respectively up-spectral) set if and only if there exists an order compatible down-spectral (respectively up-spectral) topology on  $(X, \leq)$ .

We finish this introduction by stating the main results of this paper.

**Result A.** Any disjoint union of down-spectral (respectively up-spectral) sets is a down-spectral (respectively up-spectral) set.

**Result B** [Proposition 4.1]. Suppose that  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a disjoint union of topological spaces  $(X_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$  ( $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ). Then  $X$  is up-spectral if and only if each  $X_\lambda$  is up-spectral.

Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a poset and  $x \in X$ . Recall that the *D-component* of  $x$  is defined to be the intersection of all subsets of  $X$  containing  $x$  that are closed under specialization and generization.

Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set which is an ordered disjoint union of the posets  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . It is clear that  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  is a disjoint union of *D-components* of  $X$ . Thus the conjecture of Lewis and Ohm is equivalent to the following question: “Is a *D-component* of a spectral set spectral?”

The aim of this paper is to give some topological properties of a *D-component* of a spectral set, improving the understanding of the question raised in 1976 about disjoint order unions of posets.

Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set,  $\mathcal{D}$  a *D-component* of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  an order compatible spectral topology on  $X$ .

Lazard has proved in [8], that there exists a family of subsets  $(E^n, n \in \mathbb{N})$  of  $X$  such that:

- (i)  $\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} E^n$  (the Lazard’s formula for a *D-component*).
- (ii)  $E^n \subseteq E^{n+1}$ .
- (iii) For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $E^n$  is a closed subset of  $X$ .

We define on  $\mathcal{D}$  two topologies  $\mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{D})$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D})$  by

$(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{D}))$  is the disjoint union of the subspaces  $E^0, E^n \setminus E^{n-1}, n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$ .

Since  $E^n$  is a closed subspace of  $(X, T)$ , it is spectral. Let  $T_n$  be the topology induced by  $T$  on  $E^n$ . We define the topology  $T_2(\mathcal{D})$  on  $\mathcal{D}$  by letting the closed sets be the  $F$  with the property that there exists some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $F$  is a closed subset of  $(E^n, T_n)$ . Observe that a set  $O$  is open in  $(\mathcal{D}, T_2(\mathcal{D}))$  if and only if it is of the form  $O = U \cup (\mathcal{D} \setminus E^k)$ , where  $k$  is a sufficiently large integer so that  $\mathcal{D} \setminus E^k \subseteq O$ , and  $U$  is open in  $(E^k, T_k)$ .

Under the previous notation we have the two following topological results, improving the understanding of the conjecture of Lewis and Ohm.

**Result C** [Theorem 5.1]. *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set,  $\mathcal{D}$  be a  $D$ -component of  $X$  and  $T$  an order compatible spectral topology on  $X$ . Then  $(\mathcal{D}, T_1(\mathcal{D}))$  is an up-spectral topology.*

**Result D** [Theorem 5.5]. *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set,  $\mathcal{D}$  be a  $D$ -component of  $X$  and  $T$  an order compatible spectral topology on  $X$ . Then the space  $(\mathcal{D}, T_2(\mathcal{D}))$  satisfies the following properties:*

- (1)  $T_2(\mathcal{D})$  is compatible with the order induced by  $\leq$  on  $\mathcal{D}$ .
- (2)  $T_2(\mathcal{D})$  is quasi-compact.
- (3) Each nonempty irreducible closed subset of  $(\mathcal{D}, T_2(\mathcal{D}))$  distinct from  $\mathcal{D}$  has a generic point.

## 1. Down-spectral topology

We start by describing how to construct down-spectral spaces.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $(X, T)$  be a topological space. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $(X, T)$  is a down-spectral space.
- (ii) There exists a spectral space  $Y$  with minimum element  $\omega$ , such that  $X$  is equal to the subspace  $Y \setminus \{\omega\}$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Let  $\omega \notin X$  and  $\tilde{X} = X \cup \{\omega\}$ . When  $(X, T)$  is reducible (respectively irreducible), we consider the topology  $\tilde{T}$  on  $\tilde{X}$  such that the closed subsets are  $\tilde{X}$  and the closed subsets of  $(X, T)$  (respectively  $\tilde{X}$  and the closed subsets of  $(X, T)$  distinct from  $X$ ).

Clearly,  $\overline{\{\omega\}} = \tilde{X}$ , and  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{T})$  is a quasi-compact  $T_0$ -space. Thus,  $\omega$  is the least element of  $(\tilde{X}, \leq)$ , where  $\leq$  is the ordering induced by the topology  $\tilde{T}$  on  $\tilde{X}$ .

If  $U \subseteq X$  is open, then  $U \cup \{\omega\}$  is open in  $Y = \tilde{X}$ .

Let  $O$  be a nonempty open subset of  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{T})$ , then the following properties hold:

- (1) There exists an open subset  $U$  of  $(X, T)$  such that  $O = U \cup \{\omega\}$ .
- (2)  $O = U \cup \{\omega\}$  is quasi-compact in  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{T})$  if and only if  $U$  is quasi-compact in  $(X, T)$ .

Hence  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{T})$  has a basis of quasi-compact open subsets which is stable under finite intersections.

Let  $C$  be an irreducible closed subset of  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{T})$ .

- If  $\omega \in C$ , then  $C = \overline{\{\omega\}} = \tilde{X}$ .
- If  $\omega \notin C$ , then  $C$  is an irreducible closed subset of  $(X, T)$ . According to the definition of the topology  $\tilde{T}$ ,  $C$  is necessarily distinct from  $X$ . Thus,  $C$  has a generic point.

Therefore,  $Y = \tilde{X}$  is a spectral space with minimum element  $\omega$  and  $X$  is equal to the subspace  $Y \setminus \{\omega\}$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). Let  $Y$  be a spectral space with minimum element  $\omega$  and  $X$  is equal to the subspace  $Y \setminus \{\omega\}$ . Let us prove that  $X$  is a down-spectral space.

Let  $(U_i, i \in I)$  be an open covering of  $X$  (with  $U_i \neq \emptyset$ ). Then  $(U_i \cup \{\omega\}, i \in I)$  is an open covering of  $Y$ . Since  $Y$  is quasi-compact, there exists a finite sub-covering of  $(U_i, i \in I)$  for  $X$ . Thus,  $X$  is quasi-compact.

Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a basis of quasi-compact open subsets of  $Y$  which is stable under finite intersections. Then  $\mathcal{B}' = \{U \setminus \{\omega\} \mid U \in \mathcal{B}\}$  is a basis of quasi-compact open subsets of  $X$  which is stable under finite intersections.

Let  $C$  be an irreducible closed subset of  $X$  such that  $C \neq X$ . Then  $C$  is also an irreducible closed subset of  $Y$ . Hence  $C$  has a generic point; there exists  $x \in C$  such that  $C = \overline{\{x\}}^Y = \overline{\{x\}}^X$ .

Therefore,  $X$  is a down-spectral space.  $\square$

Let  $A$  be a subset of a topological  $X$ . We say that  $A$  is *closed under specialization* if  $\overline{\{x\}} \subseteq A$ , for each  $x \in A$ .

The next result gives another tool for building down-spectral spaces.

**Proposition 1.2.** *Let  $(X, T)$  be a spectral space and  $A$  a subset of  $X$  such that  $X \setminus A$  is quasi-compact and  $A$  is closed under specialization. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the topology on  $A$ , where the closed subsets are  $A$  and the closed subsets of  $(X, T)$  contained in  $A$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}$  is a down-spectral topology on  $A$ .*

**Proof.** Note that  $V \subseteq A$  is open in  $\mathcal{C}$  if and only if  $V = O \cap A$ , for some open set  $O$  of  $X$  satisfying  $X \setminus A \subseteq O$ .

Of course,  $\overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{C}} = \overline{\{x\}}^X$ . Thus,  $(A, \mathcal{C})$  is a  $T_0$ -space.

Clearly  $(A, \mathcal{C})$  is quasi-compact and every irreducible closed subset of  $(A, \mathcal{C})$  distinct from  $A$  has a generic point.

Let  $O$  be a quasi-compact open subset of  $(X, T)$  such that  $X \setminus A \subseteq O$ . We prove that  $O \cap A$  is quasi-compact in  $(A, \mathcal{C})$ . To do so, let  $(O_i, i \in I)$  be a family of open subsets of  $(X, T)$  such that for each  $i \in I$ ,  $X \setminus A \subseteq O_i$  and  $(O_i \cap A, i \in I)$  is an open covering of  $O \cap A$  in  $(A, \mathcal{C})$ . Hence  $O \cap A = \bigcup_{i \in I} (O_i \cap A) = (\bigcup_{i \in I} O_i) \cap A$ . This forces  $O = \bigcup_{i \in I} O_i$ . Since  $O$  is quasi-compact, there exist finitely many elements  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n \in I$  such that  $O = O_{i_1} \cup O_{i_2} \cup \dots \cup O_{i_n}$ . Thus,  $O \cap A = (O_{i_1} \cap A) \cup (O_{i_2} \cap A) \cup \dots \cup (O_{i_n} \cap A)$ . Therefore,  $O \cap A$  is quasi-compact in  $(A, \mathcal{C})$ .

Let  $U$  be a quasi-compact open subset of  $(A, \mathcal{C})$ . We may write  $U = O \cap A$ , where  $O$  is an open subset of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  such that  $X \setminus A \subseteq O$ . We claim that  $O$  is quasi-compact. Indeed, let  $(O_i, i \in I)$  be an open covering of  $O$ , then  $X \setminus A \subseteq \bigcup_{i \in I} O_i$ . Thus there exists a finite subset  $J \subseteq I$ , such that  $X \setminus A \subseteq \bigcup_{j \in J} O_j$ . Let  $V_i = O_i \cup (\bigcup_{j \in J} O_j)$ , then  $O = \bigcup_{i \in I} V_i$ , and  $X \setminus A \subseteq V_i$  for each  $i \in I$ . Thus,

$$U = O \cap A = \bigcup_{i \in I} (V_i \cap A).$$

Hence, there exists a finite subset  $K$  of  $I$  such that

$$U = \bigcup_{k \in K} (V_k \cap A) = \left( \bigcup_{k \in K} V_k \right) \cap A.$$

Hence  $O \cap A = (\bigcup_{k \in K} V_k) \cap A$ ; and thus  $O = \bigcup_{k \in K} V_k = \bigcup_{i \in K \cup J} O_i$ . It follows that  $O$  is quasi-compact.

Therefore the quasi-compact open subsets of  $(A, \mathcal{C})$  are the intersections of  $A$  with the quasi-compact open subsets of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  containing  $X \setminus A$ .

Now, it is easily seen that the following properties hold:

- $(A, \mathcal{C})$  has a basis of quasi-compact open subsets.
- The collection of quasi-compact open subsets of  $(A, \mathcal{C})$  is closed under finite intersections.

This proves that  $(A, \mathcal{C})$  is a down-spectral space.  $\square$

The next result is in the spirit of an analogous one about spectral sets.

**Proposition 1.3.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be an ordered set. Then  $(X, \leq)$  is a down-spectral set if and only if there exists an order compatible down-spectral topology on  $X$ .*

**Proof.** *Necessary condition.* Let  $\omega \notin X$  and  $\tilde{X} = X \cup \{\omega\}$ , where  $\omega$  is the least element of  $\tilde{X}$ . Then  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_\omega)$  is a spectral set. Hence there exists an order compatible spectral topology  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$  on  $\tilde{X}$ . Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be the topology on  $X$ , where the closed subsets are  $X$  and the closed subsets of  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{\mathcal{T}})$  which are contained in  $X$ . It is clear, in view of Proposition 1.2, that  $\mathcal{T}$  is an order compatible down-spectral topology on  $X$ .

*Sufficient condition.* Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be an order compatible down-spectral topology on  $(X, \leq)$ . According to Theorem 1.1, there exists an order spectral topology on  $(\tilde{X} = X \cup \{\omega\}, \leq_\omega)$ . Therefore,  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_\omega)$  is a spectral set, completing the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.4.** *Every spectral set is down-spectral.*

The following result gives an important tool to construct down-spectral sets from spectral sets.

**Corollary 1.5.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set and  $x \in X$ . Then  $(X \setminus G(x), \leq)$  is a down-spectral set.*

**Proof.** Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$  be an order compatible spectral topology on  $X$ . The subset  $A = X \setminus G(x)$  is closed under specialization and  $X \setminus A$  is quasi-compact. Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be the topology on  $A = X \setminus G(x)$  such that the closed subsets are  $X \setminus G(x)$  and the closed subsets of  $(X, \tilde{\mathcal{T}})$  contained in  $X \setminus G(x)$ . Hence, according to Proposition 1.2,  $(A, \mathcal{T})$  is a down-spectral space. On the other hand, we have  $\overline{\{x\}}^{\mathcal{T}} = \overline{\{x\}}^{\tilde{\mathcal{T}}} = S(x)$ . Thus  $\mathcal{T}$  is compatible with  $\leq$ . Therefore,  $(X \setminus G(x), \leq)$  is a down-spectral set by Proposition 1.3.  $\square$

The following result indicates that to discuss the spectrality of a down-complete ordered set with finitely many minimal elements, we may suppose, without loss of generality, that it has only one minimum element.

Recall that an ordered set  $(X, \leq)$  is said to be *down-complete* if each nonempty totally ordered subset of  $(X, \leq)$  has an infimum.

**Proposition 1.6.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a down-complete ordered set with finitely many minimal elements. Then  $(X, \leq)$  is spectral if and only if  $(X, \leq)$  is down-spectral.*

**Proof.** It remains to prove that if  $(X, \leq)$  is down-spectral, then it is spectral. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an order compatible down-spectral topology on  $X$ . Since  $X$  is down-complete and has finitely many minimal elements,  $X = S(a_1) \cup S(a_2) \cup \dots \cup S(a_n)$ , where  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\} = \text{Min}(X)$ . Hence  $X$  is reducible or has a generic point, in which case  $n = 1$ , and there is a minimum element.  $X$  is spectral in either case.  $\square$

## 2. Up-spectral topology

We start by describing how to construct up-spectral spaces.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is up-spectral.
- (ii) There exists a spectral space  $Y$  with a maximum element  $\omega$ , such that  $X$  is equal to the subspace  $Y \setminus \{\omega\}$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Let  $\omega \notin X$  and  $\tilde{X} = X \cup \{\omega\}$ . Consider the topology  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}} = \mathcal{T} \cup \{\tilde{X}\}$  on  $\tilde{X}$ . It is easily seen that  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{\mathcal{T}})$  is a quasi-compact  $T_0$ -space and has a basis of quasi-compact open subsets which is stable under finite intersections. Clearly,  $\omega$  is the maximum of  $\tilde{X}$  with respect to the ordering induced by the topology  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$ .

Let  $C$  be a nonempty irreducible closed subset of  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{\mathcal{T}})$ . Then  $\omega \in C$  and  $C = K \cup \{\omega\}$ , where  $K$  is a closed subset of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ . We discuss two cases:

Case 1.  $K = \emptyset$ . In this case,  $C = \{\omega\}$  has a generic point.

Case 2.  $K \neq \emptyset$ . Necessarily,  $K$  is an irreducible closed subset of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ . Hence there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $C = \overline{\{x\}}^X = \overline{\{x\}}^{\tilde{X}}$ .

Therefore,  $X = \tilde{X} \setminus \{\omega\}$  is an up-spectral subspace of  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{\mathcal{T}})$ .



(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). Let  $(Y, \mathcal{T})$  be a spectral space with a maximum element  $\omega$ . Suppose that  $X = Y \setminus \{\omega\}$  is a nonempty subspace of  $Y$ . Let us prove that  $X$  is an up-spectral subspace of  $Y$ .

Since  $Y$  is the unique open subset of  $Y$  containing  $\omega$ , the topology of  $X$  is  $\{X\} \cup \{U \in \mathcal{T} \mid \omega \notin U\}$ . Hence  $X$  has a basis of quasi-compact open subsets which is stable under finite intersections.

Let  $C$  be an irreducible closed subset of  $X$ . Then  $C \cup \{\omega\}$  is an irreducible closed subset of  $(Y, \mathcal{T})$ . Hence there exists  $x \in C$  such that  $C \cup \{\omega\} = \overline{\{x\}}^Y$ . Thus  $C = \overline{\{x\}}^X$ , showing that  $X$  is a sober space.  $\square$

It is natural to have the following.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be an ordered set. Then  $(X, \leq)$  is an up-spectral set if and only if there exists an order compatible up-spectral topology on  $X$ .*

**Proof.** *Necessary condition.* Let  $\omega \notin X$  and  $\tilde{X} = X \cup \{\omega\}$ . We define on  $\tilde{X}$  the ordering  $\leq^\omega$  extending  $\leq$  on  $X$  and making  $\omega$  the greatest element of  $\tilde{X}$ . Since  $(X, \leq)$  is an up-spectral set,  $(\tilde{X}, \leq^\omega)$  is a spectral set. Hence there exists an order compatible spectral topology  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$  on  $\tilde{X}$ . According to Theorem 2.1[(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)], the subspace  $X = \tilde{X} \setminus \{\omega\}$  is up-spectral, its topology is, obviously, compatible with the ordering  $\leq$  of  $X$ .

*Sufficient condition.* Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be an order compatible up-spectral topology on  $X$ . Then  $\tilde{X}$  endowed with the topology  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}} = \mathcal{T} \cup \{\tilde{X}\}$  is a spectral space (cf. the proof of Theorem 2.1(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii)). Clearly,  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$  is compatible with  $\leq^\omega$ . Thus  $(\tilde{X}, \leq^\omega)$  is a spectral set, showing that  $(X, \leq)$  is an up-spectral set.  $\square$

According to [6, Proposition 8], if  $(X, \leq)$  is spectral, then  $(X, \geq)$  is also spectral.

It follows, immediately, from the definitions and [6, Proposition 8] that we have the following result.

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be an ordered set. Then  $(X, \leq)$  is down-spectral if and only if  $(X, \geq)$  is up-spectral.*

The previous proposition permits us to state a list of corollaries giving the analogs of results concerning down spectral sets.

**Corollary 2.4.** *Every spectral set is up-spectral.*

**Corollary 2.5.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set and  $x \in X$ . Then  $(X \setminus S(x), \leq)$  is an up-spectral set.*

**Corollary 2.6.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be an up-complete ordered set with finitely many maximal elements. Then  $(X, \leq)$  is spectral if and only if  $(X, \leq)$  is up-spectral.*

### 3. Ordered disjoint unions of down-spectral sets

In this section we will restrict our attention to ordered disjoint unions of down-spectral sets.

**Theorem A.** *Any disjoint union of down-spectral sets is a down-spectral set.*

**Proof.** Let  $X$  be the ordered disjoint union of the ordered disjoint sets  $((X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda), \lambda \in \Lambda)$ . Suppose that for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  is down-spectral. The problem here is to prove that  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_\omega)$  is a spectral set. To do this, take  $\mathcal{T}_\lambda$  an order compatible spectral topology on  $\tilde{X}_\lambda = X_\lambda \cup \{\omega_\lambda\}$ , where  $\omega_\lambda$  is least in  $\tilde{X}_\lambda$ . Let  $Y = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \tilde{X}_\lambda$  be the ordered disjoint union of  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_{\lambda\omega})$ . Consider the topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on  $Y$ , where the open sets are the  $\bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} U_\lambda$ , with  $U_\lambda$  is an open set of  $(\tilde{X}_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$ , for  $\lambda$  in a finite subset  $L$  of  $\Lambda$ , and  $U_\lambda = \tilde{X}_\lambda$ , for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda \setminus L$ .

**Step 3.1.**  $(Y, \mathcal{T})$  is a down-spectral space.

**Proof.**

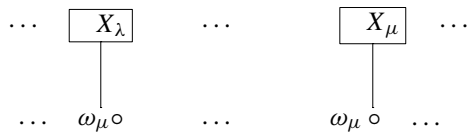
**Claim 3.1.1.**  $\mathcal{T}$  is compatible with  $\leq$ , and  $(Y, \mathcal{T})$  is quasi-compact. Moreover,  $\mathcal{T}$  has a basis of quasi-compact open subsets which is stable under finite intersections.

It suffices to observe that if  $U_\lambda$  is quasi-compact and open in  $X_\lambda$ , for each  $\lambda \in L \subseteq \Lambda$  with  $|L| < \infty$  and  $U_\lambda = X_\lambda$ , for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda \setminus L$ , then  $U = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} U_\lambda$  is quasi-compact.

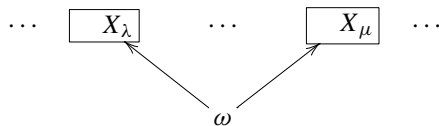
**Claim 3.1.2.** Each irreducible closed subset of  $(Y, \mathcal{T})$  distinct from  $Y$  has a generic point.

Let  $C$  be an irreducible closed subset of  $(Y, \mathcal{T})$  distinct from  $Y$ . Hence there exists a finite subset  $L$  of  $\Lambda$  such that  $C = \bigcup_{\lambda \in L} C_\lambda$  with  $C_\lambda$  a closed subset of  $\tilde{X}_\lambda$ . Thus there exists  $\lambda \in L$  such that  $C = C_\lambda$ , by irreducibility of  $C$ . Thus  $C = C_\lambda$  is an irreducible closed subset of  $(\tilde{X}_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$ . It follows that  $C$  has a generic point, completing the proof of Claim 3.1.2.

One may represent the ordered set  $(Y, \leq)$  as follows:



Now let us identify all the  $\omega_\lambda$  to one,  $\omega$ . This yields the ordered set  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_\omega)$ , which looks like

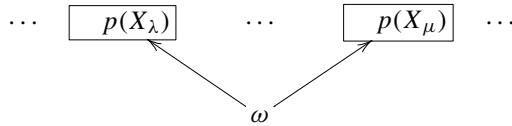


This idea permits to prove that  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_\omega)$  is spectral. Consider the equivalence relation  $\mathcal{R}$  on  $Y$  such that the equivalence classes are given as follows:  $\text{cl}_{\mathcal{R}}(x) = \{x\}$ , for each  $x \in X = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} X_\lambda$  and  $\text{cl}_{\mathcal{R}}(\omega_\mu) = \{\omega_\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ , for each  $\mu \in \Lambda$ .

The quotient set  $Z = Y/\mathcal{R}$  is ordered by letting:

- for each  $x, y \in X_\lambda$ ,  $\text{cl}_{\mathcal{R}}(x) \leq \text{cl}_{\mathcal{R}}(y)$  if and only if  $x \leq_\lambda y$ ;
- $\omega \leq \text{cl}_{\mathcal{R}}(x)$ , for each  $x \in X = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} X_\lambda$ .

Let  $p: Y \rightarrow Z$  be the canonical surjection, then the ordered set  $(Z, \leq)$  looks like



It is easily seen that  $(Z, \leq)$  is order isomorphic to  $(\tilde{X}, \leq_\omega)$ . Thus we are aiming to prove that  $(Z, \leq)$  is a spectral set.

Let  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$  be the quotient topology on  $Z = Y/\mathcal{R}$ . To complete the proof of this theorem, it suffices to show that  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$  is an order compatible spectral topology on  $(Z, \leq)$ .

**Step 3.2.**  $(Z, \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}, \leq)$  is a spectral space.

The notation of Step 3.1 remains in effect.

**Claim 3.2.1.**  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$  is compatible with the ordering  $\leq$  on  $Z$ .

The proof consists of showing that  $\overline{\{\alpha\}} = S(\alpha)$ , for each  $\alpha \in Z$ . We need to consider the following two cases:

– Suppose that  $\alpha = \omega$ . Let  $V$  be a nonempty open subset of  $Z = Y/\mathcal{R}$ , then  $p^{-1}(V)$  is a nonempty open subset of  $(Y, \mathcal{T})$ . Let  $x \in p^{-1}(V)$ , then there exists  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  such that  $x \in X_\lambda$ . Hence  $\omega_\lambda \in G(x) \subseteq p^{-1}(V)$ . Therefore,  $\omega \in V$ , proving that  $\overline{\{\omega\}} = S(\omega) = Z$ .

– Suppose that  $\alpha = p(x)$ , where  $x \in X = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} X_\lambda$ . From the definition of the order on  $Z$ , it is clear that  $p^{-1}(S(\alpha)) = S(x)$ . Hence  $S(\alpha)$  is a closed subset of  $Z$ . It follows that  $\overline{\{\alpha\}} \subseteq S(\alpha)$ . Conversely, let  $p(y) \in S(\alpha)$  and  $V$  an open subset of  $Z$  containing  $p(y)$ . There exists a saturated (under  $\mathcal{R}$ ) open subset  $U$  of  $Y$  such that  $V = p(U)$ . Hence  $x \in G(y) \subseteq U$ , so that  $\alpha = p(x) \in V$ . Thus  $p(y) \in \overline{\{\alpha\}}$ . Therefore,  $\overline{\{\alpha\}} = S(\alpha)$ .

**Claim 3.2.2.**  $(Z, \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}})$  is quasi-compact.

Since  $(Y, \mathcal{T})$  is quasi-compact and  $p$  is continuous,  $Z = p(Y)$  is also quasi-compact.

**Claim 3.2.3.**  $(Z, \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}})$  has a basis of quasi-compact open subsets which is stable under finite intersections.

Let  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{R}} = \{p(U) \mid U \in \mathcal{B} \text{ and } \{\omega_\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\} \subseteq U\}$ . Any  $U \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $\{\omega_\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\} \subseteq U$  is a saturated open subset of  $Y$ , so that  $p(U)$  is an open subset of  $Z = Y/\mathcal{R}$ . It is clear that  $p(U)$  is quasi-compact since  $U$  is.

Now, let  $V$  be a nonempty open subset of  $Z$ . Then  $\omega \in V$ . Hence  $U = p^{-1}(V)$  is a nonempty open subset of  $(Y, T)$  containing  $\{\omega_\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ . There exists a finite subset  $L$  of  $\Lambda$  such that

$$U = p^{-1}(V) = \bigcup_{\lambda \in L} U_\lambda,$$

with  $U_\lambda$  an open set of  $(\widetilde{X}_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$ , for each  $\lambda \in L$ , and  $U_\lambda = \widetilde{X}_\lambda$ , for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda \setminus L$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}_\lambda$  be a basis of quasi-compact open subsets of  $\widetilde{X}_\lambda$ . Then for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,  $U_\lambda$  is a union of some nonempty elements of  $\mathcal{B}_\lambda$  each of them contains  $\omega_\lambda$  (since  $\overline{\{\omega_\lambda\}} = \widetilde{X}_\lambda$ ). Hence  $V = p(U)$  is a union of some elements of  $\mathcal{B}_R$ , proving that  $\mathcal{B}_R$  is a basis of quasi-compact open subsets of  $(Z, \mathcal{T}_R)$ .

Let  $p(U)$  and  $p(V) \in \mathcal{B}_R$ . Since  $U$  and  $V$  are saturated, we get

$$p(U) \cap p(V) = p(U \cap V),$$

showing that  $\mathcal{B}_R$  is stable under finite intersections.

**Claim 3.2.4.**  $(Z, \mathcal{T}_R)$  is sober.

Let  $G$  be an irreducible closed subset of  $Z$ . We discuss two cases.

*Case 1.*  $\omega \in G$ . In this case,  $G = \overline{\{\omega\}} = Z$ . Thus  $G$  has a generic point.

*Case 2.* Suppose that  $\omega \notin G$ . Then there exists a finite subset  $L$  of  $\Lambda$  such that  $p^{-1}(G) = \bigcup_{\lambda \in L} F_\lambda$ , where  $F_\lambda$  is a closed subset of  $(\widetilde{X}_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$  and  $\omega_\lambda \notin F_\lambda$ , for each  $\lambda \in L$ , in this case the  $F_\lambda$  are saturated. Hence the  $p(F_\lambda)$  are closed subsets of  $Z$ . Since  $G = \bigcup_{\lambda \in L} p(F_\lambda)$  and  $G$  is irreducible, there is some  $\lambda \in L$ , with  $G = p(F_\lambda)$  and  $F_\lambda$  is necessarily irreducible in  $(\widetilde{X}_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$ . Thus there exists  $x \in Y \setminus \{\omega_\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  such that  $p^{-1}(G) = F_\lambda = \overline{\{x\}} = S(x)$ . By the definition of the ordering on  $Y$ , we have  $p(S(x)) = S(p(x))$ , for each  $x \in Y \setminus \{\omega_\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ . Therefore,  $G = S(p(x))$ , proving that  $G$  has a generic point.  $\square$

The following result is an immediate consequence of Theorem A and Proposition 2.3.

**Corollary 3.3.** Any disjoint unions of up-spectral sets is an up-spectral set.

#### 4. Disjoint union of up-spectral spaces

Let  $(X, \leq)$  be an ordered disjoint union of the posets  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . Our concern in this section is to give necessary and sufficient topological conditions on  $X$  in order to get all the  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  spectral.

Let  $T$  be a topology on  $X$ . We denote by  $(X/\Lambda, T/\Lambda)$  the quotient space of the topological space  $(X, T)$  by the equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $X$  whose equivalence classes are the  $X_\lambda$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** Suppose that  $(X, T)$  is a disjoint union of topological spaces  $(X_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$  ( $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ). Then  $X$  is up-spectral if and only if each  $X_\lambda$  is up-spectral.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is an up-spectral space. Since  $X_\lambda$  is a clopen subset of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ , it is an up-spectral space.

Suppose that each  $(X_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$  is an up-spectral space. The disjoint union  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is easily a  $T_0$ -space.

Let  $\mathcal{B}_\lambda$  be a basis of quasi-compact open subsets of  $((X_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda))$  which is stable under finite intersections. Then clearly,  $\mathcal{B} = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \mathcal{B}_\lambda$  is a basis of quasi-compact open subsets of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  stable under finite intersections.

Let  $C$  be a nonempty irreducible closed subset of  $X$ . Then  $C = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} C_\lambda$ , where  $C_\lambda$  is a closed subset of  $(X_\lambda, \mathcal{T}_\lambda)$ . For each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,  $X_\lambda$  is a clopen subset of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ . Hence the  $C_\lambda$  are closed in  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ . Thus there exists  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  such that  $C = C_\lambda$ . So that  $C$  is a nonempty irreducible closed subset of  $X_\lambda$ . Accordingly, there exists  $x \in X_\lambda$  such that  $\overline{\{x\}}^{X_\lambda} = C$ . Since  $X_\lambda$  is a closed subset of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ ,  $\overline{\{x\}}^X = \overline{\{x\}}^{X_\lambda} = C$ . Thus,  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is sober.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be an ordered disjoint union of the posets  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , such that  $\Lambda$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *For each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$   $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  is an up-spectral set.*
- (ii) *There exists an order compatible up-spectral topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on  $X$  such that  $(X/\Lambda, \mathcal{T}/\Lambda)$  is a discrete space.*

**Corollary 4.3.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be an ordered disjoint union of  $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , such that  $\Lambda$  is finite. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *For each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$   $(X_\lambda, \leq_\lambda)$  is a spectral set.*
- (ii) *There exists an order compatible spectral topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on  $X$  such that  $(X/\Lambda, \mathcal{T}/\Lambda)$  is a  $T_1$ -space.*
- (iii) *There exists an order compatible spectral topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on  $X$  such that  $(X/\Lambda, \mathcal{T}/\Lambda)$  is a discrete space.*

## 5. D-components of a spectral space

Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set,  $\mathcal{D}$  a  $D$ -component of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  an order compatible spectral topology on  $X$ . In the introduction we have recalled the Lazard’s formula for a  $D$ -component.

We define on  $\mathcal{D}$  two topologies  $\mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{D})$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D})$  by:

$$(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{D})) \text{ is the disjoint union of the subspaces } E^0, E^n \setminus E^{n-1}, n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}.$$

Since  $E^n$  is a closed subspace of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ , it is spectral. Let  $\mathcal{T}_n$  be the topology induced by  $\mathcal{T}$  on  $E^n$ . We define the topology  $\mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D})$  on  $\mathcal{D}$  by letting the closed sets be the  $F$  with the property that there exists some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $F$  is a closed subset of  $(E^n, \mathcal{T}_n)$ . Observe that a set  $O$  is open in  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D}))$  if and only if it is of the form  $O = U \cup (\mathcal{D} \setminus E^k)$ , where  $k$  is a sufficiently large integer so that  $\mathcal{D} \setminus E^k \subseteq O$ , and  $U$  is open in  $(E^k, \mathcal{T}_k)$ .

Under the previous notation, we have the two following topological results, shedding some light on the conjecture of Lewis and Ohm.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set,  $\mathcal{D}$  be a  $D$ -component of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  an order compatible spectral topology on  $X$ . Then  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{D}))$  is an up-spectral topology.*

We need three lemmata.

**Lemma 5.2** [3, Proposition 7, p. 122]. *Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $U$  a nonempty open subset of  $X$ . Then the mapping  $V \mapsto \bar{V}$  defines a bijection from the set of irreducible nonempty closed subsets of  $U$  onto the set of irreducible nonempty closed subsets of  $X$  meeting  $U$ . The inverse bijection is  $Z \mapsto Z \cap U$ .*

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $X$  be a sober space and  $U$  a nonempty open subset of  $X$ . Then  $U$  is sober.*

**Proof.** Let  $F$  be a nonempty irreducible closed subset of  $U$ . According to Lemma 5.2,  $\bar{F}$  is an irreducible closed subset of  $X$ . Hence  $\bar{F}$  has a generic point  $x$ . Let us write  $\bar{F} = \overline{\{x\}}^X$ , and note that  $x \in U$ . Clearly,  $x \in F = \bar{F} \cap U$ . Thus  $F = \overline{\{x\}}^U$ .  $\square$

Let  $U$  be an open subset of a topological space  $X$ . If  $X$  has a basis  $\mathcal{B}$  of quasi-compact open subsets closed under finite intersections, then  $\mathcal{B}_U = \{O \in \mathcal{B} \mid O \subseteq U\}$  is a basis of quasi-compact open subsets of  $U$  which is closed under finite intersections. Therefore, according to Lemma 5.3, the following lemma is easily checked.

**Lemma 5.4.** *Any open subset of an up-spectral space is up-spectral.*

**Proof of Theorem 5.1.** For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(E^n, \mathcal{T}_n)$  is a spectral space. On the other hand  $E^n \setminus E^{n-1}$  is an open subset of  $E^n$ , hence  $E^n \setminus E^{n-1}$  is up-spectral (cf. Lemma 5.4). Therefore,  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{D}))$  is an up-spectral space, by Proposition 4.1.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.5.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a spectral set,  $\mathcal{D}$  be a  $D$ -component of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  an order compatible spectral topology on  $X$ . Then the space  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D}))$  satisfies the following properties:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D})$  is compatible with the order induced by  $\leq$  on  $\mathcal{D}$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D})$  is quasi-compact.
- (3) Each nonempty irreducible closed subset of  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D}))$  distinct from  $\mathcal{D}$  has a generic point.

(Thus what is missing in the conclusion of this theorem to make the topology  $\mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D})$  down-spectral is that it has a basis of quasi-compact open subsets closed under finite intersections.)

**Proof.** (1) Let  $x \in \mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} E^n$ . There exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $x \in E^n$ . Hence  $S(x)$  is a closed subset of  $E^n$ . Thus,  $S(x)$  is a closed subset of  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D}))$ . On the other hand, it is

easily seen that any closed subset of  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D}))$  is closed under specialization, since each closed subset of  $E^n$  has this property. Therefore,  $\mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D})$  is compatible with the ordering  $\leq$  on  $\mathcal{D}$ .

(2) Let  $(\mathcal{U}_i, i \in I)$  be a collection of open subsets of  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D}))$  such that  $\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{i \in I} \mathcal{U}_i$ .  $\mathcal{U}_i$  has the form  $\mathcal{U}_i = U_{n_i}^i \cup (\mathcal{D} \setminus E^{n_i})$ , and  $U_{n_i}^i$  is an open subset of  $(E^{n_i}, \mathcal{T}_{n_i})$ . Let  $p = \min\{n_i : i \in I\}$ . Of course,  $E^p = \bigcup_{i \in I} (\mathcal{U}_i \cap E^p)$  and  $\mathcal{U}_i \cap E^p$  is an open subset of  $E^p$ . Thus, there exists a finite subsets  $J$  of  $I$ , such that  $E^p = \bigcup_{i \in J} (\mathcal{U}_i \cap E^p)$ . The equality  $\mathcal{D} = E^p \cup (\mathcal{D} \setminus E^p)$  implies that  $\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{i \in J} \mathcal{U}_i$ , proving that  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D}))$  is quasi-compact.

(3) Any nonempty irreducible closed subset of  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{D}))$  distinct from  $\mathcal{D}$  is necessarily of the form  $F = F_n$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $F_n$  is an irreducible closed subset of  $(E^n, \mathcal{T}_n)$ . Therefore,  $F$  has a generic point.  $\square$

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