

# Rothberger, Menger and inbetween

Leandro F. Aurichi<sup>1</sup>   Rodrigo R. Dias

ICMC-USP

UFABC, Brazil

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<sup>1</sup>Supported by FAPESP

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If  $p \in T$  then an open neighborhood for  $p$  is of the form  $V_p \setminus \bigcup_{q \in F} V_q$ , where  $F \subset Suc(p)$  is finite.

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- If  $S$  is a Suslin tree, then every point has a countable local base;
- Every level in  $S$  is countable;
- In  $S$ , the union of the first  $\alpha$  levels is closed for every  $\alpha$ .



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## Exercise

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## Proposition

*If  $D \subset S$  is discrete, then  $\overline{D}$  is countable.*

## Proof.

By the previous result,  $D$  is countable. Therefore it is a subset of the first  $\alpha$  levels of  $S$  for some  $\alpha < \omega_1$ . Note that this union is closed and countable.  $\square$

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## Lemma (Shapiro)

*Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $(V_x)_{x \in X}$  be an ona. Then there is a discrete subset  $D \subset X$  such that  $X = \bigcup_{d \in D} V_d \cup \overline{D}$ .*

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## Corollary

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Given a basic open set  $V_p \setminus \bigcup_{q \in F} V_q$ , we will say that  $\{p\} \cup F$  is the support of this open set. Note that the support is always finite and, since we have countably many open coverings and each one is also countable, the union of all the supports considered here is also countable.

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$$V_r \subset V_p \setminus \bigcup_{q \in F} V_q$$



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But below the  $\alpha$ -th level, there are only countably many elements. Therefore we can use the  $\mathcal{C}_{2k+1}$ 's to cover them.

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It can seem that we could use the same idea to prove that **TWO** has a winning strategy in  $G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ .

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And as we will see, in fact **TWO** has no winning strategy (and since **ONE** also does not have one, the game is undetermined).



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We did this for the 0-th inning. We can do the same thing for the other (possible) innings and define:

$$K_s = \bigcap_{\mathcal{C} \in \mathcal{O}} \sigma(s \frown \mathcal{C})$$

where  $s$  is a finite sequence of open coverings. As before,  $|K_s| \leq 1$ .



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What we will do in the following is to reduce how many  $s$ 's we have to keep, while the union of the respective  $K_s$ 's still covers the whole  $X$ .

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## Lemma

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Note that there are only countably many open coverings here and therefore only countably many  $K_s$ 's.

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(which is basically the same thing because of the duality)

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Suppose not. Let  $y \in X$  be such that  $y \neq x_s$  for every  $s \in \omega^{<\omega}$ . Note that, for each inning, TWO (even being stupid) can play a  $V_k^{x_s}$  that does not contain  $y$  - and in that case TWO would win.

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You can prove this by definition and using regularity (it is a nice proof). We will do something different.

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Then if we repeat the argument of the “all possible answers are countable” and “for each answer there is a question”, we obtain that  $X$  is the union of countably many  $K_s$ 's.

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In this case, we have the following:

### Proposition

*Let  $X$  be a Hausdorff space. Then for every  $s \in \mathcal{O}^{<\omega}$ ,  $|K_s| \leq 2$ .*

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## Proposition

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Doing as we did before, we can prove:

## Proposition

*Let  $X$  be a Hausdorff space such that every point is a  $G_\delta$ . If TWO has a winning strategy in  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ , then  $X$  is countable.*

Actually, the same is true if we change  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  to  $G_k(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ .