

#### Formal Verification of Financial Algorithms, Progress and Prospects

Grant Olney Passmore ACL2-2017, Austin

Joint work with Denis Ignatovich and our incredible team at Al





Financial markets have become notoriously unstable.

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Flash Crashes: systemic events characterised by non-trivial co-dependence of trading algorithms (e.g., May 2010, drop of \$1tr)

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Lack of Transparency: issues of misrepresentation (e.g., misleading marketing materials or regulatory filings) of trading algorithm behaviour (e.g., BATS/Direct Edge \$14M settlement with the SEC)

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Flash Crashes: systemic events characterised by non-trivial co-dependence of trading algorithms (e.g., May 2010, drop of \$1tr)

Lack of Transparency: issues of misrepresentation (e.g. misleading marketing materials or regulatory filings) of trading algorithm behaviour (e.g., BATS/Direct Edge \$14M settlement with the SEC)

Glitches: trading system errors in design or implementation, often causing significant losses (e.g., Knight Capital's loss of \$400M)

 Concepts: venue, exchange, dark pool, order book, order type (market, limit, pegged), matching logic, market microstructure, smart order router

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- Regulations: Transparency, safety and fairness (Reg ATS-N), best execution (Reg NMS)
- Practice: Be able to write a spec and analyse basic regulatory properties of a trading venue's matching logic

#### Intuitions:

- "Venue matching logics" = "ISA of the market"
- Pressing need for:
  - venues to be bullet-proof w.r.t. safety and fairness regulations
  - matching logics to be formally described to regulators and market participants
  - matching logics to be formally analysed w.r.t. precise encodings of regulatory directives
  - financial mathematics (stochastic calculus) that takes precise discrete behaviour of matching logics into account

# The Stack of Financial Algorithms $m{1}$ The Logic of Financial Risk $^{\scriptscriptstyle{\mathsf{TM}}}$ / 11

## The Stack of Financial Algorithms Venues lacksquare The Logic of Financial Risk $^{\scriptscriptstyle ext{ iny M}}$ / 12

**Smart Order Routers** 

**Trading Algos** 

**Smart Order Routers** 

Algo Containers

**Trading Algos** 

**Smart Order Routers** 

Inventory Management

Algo Containers

Trading Algos

**Smart Order Routers** 

Collateral Trading

Inventory Management

Algo Containers

Trading Algos

**Smart Order Routers** 

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Collateral Trading

Inventory Management

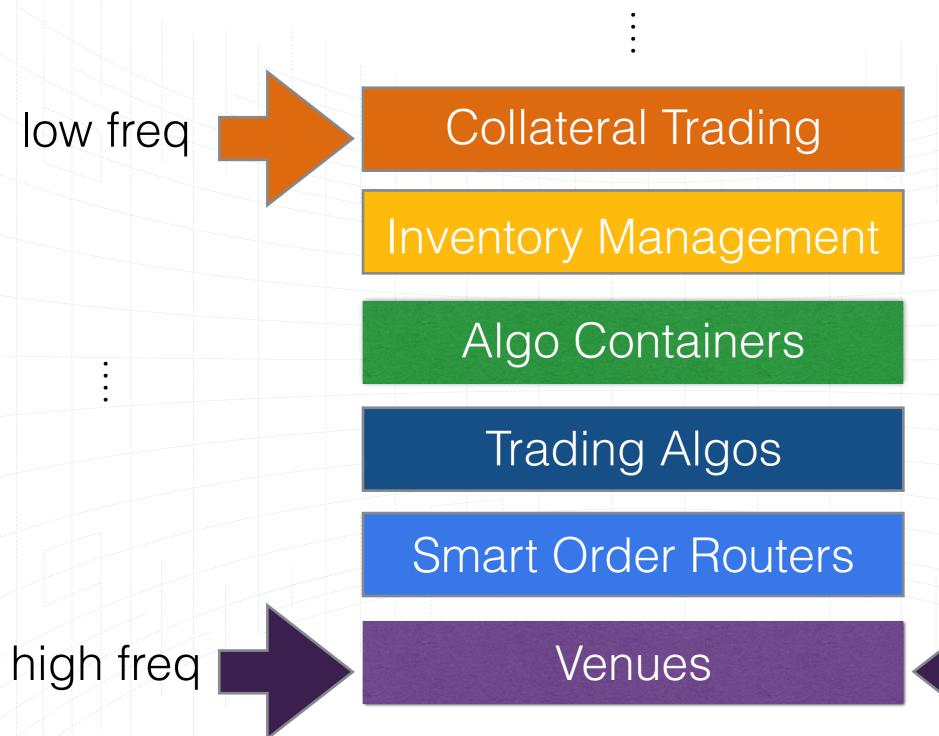
Algo Containers

Trading Algos

**Smart Order Routers** 

Collateral Trading low freq Inventory Management Algo Containers Trading Algos **Smart Order Routers** Venues

high freq





discrete, nonlinear

low freq

Collateral Trading

Inventory Management

Algo Containers

Trading Algos

**Smart Order Routers** 

Venues

\_\_\_\_\_

 $X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t \mu_s \, ds + \int_0^t \sigma_s \, dB_s$ 

continuous, nonlinear

discrete, nonlinear

high freq



























Swiss Exchange



London Stock Exchange







Turquoise









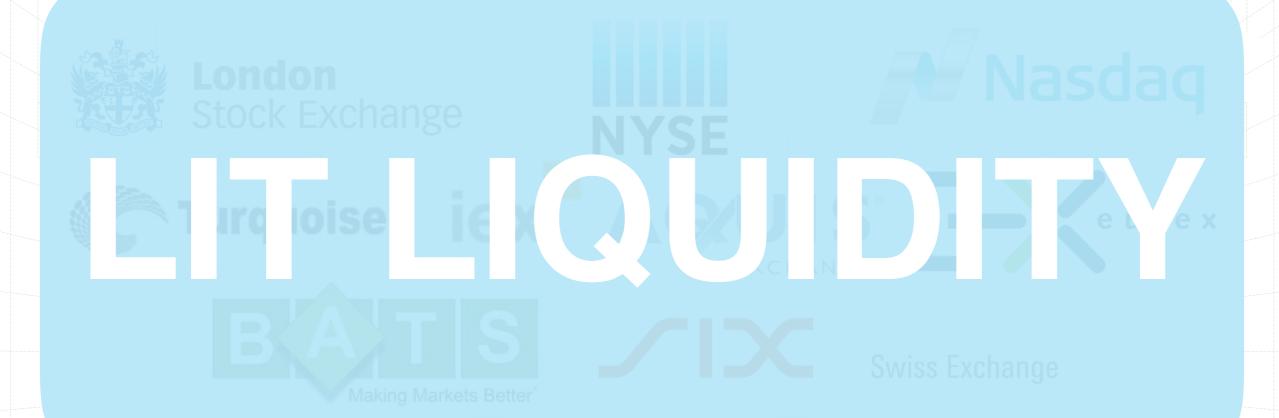


Swiss Exchange





Morgan UBS Goldman Stanley



### DARK LIQUIDITY





620 companies 52 countries





Jan, 2015: UBS fined \$14M by the SEC for issues of unfairness in their dark pool design

We analysed it, found more issues



620 companies 52 countries





Form ATS Page 1	UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549	Date filed (MM/DD/YY):	OFFIC
Execution Page	INITIAL OPERATION REPORT, AMENDMENT TO INITIAL OPERATION REPORT AND CESSATION OF OPERATIONS REPORT FOR ALTERNATIVE TRADING SYSTEMS	6/1/15	ONL
books a	raillure to keep this form current and to file accurate supplementary information on a timely basis, or the failur and records or otherwise to comply with the provisions of faw applying to the conduct of alternative trading seral securities laws and may result in disciplinary, administrative or criminal action.  INTENTIONAL MISSTATEMENTS OR OMISSIONS OF FACTS MAY CONSTITUTE CRIMINAL VIOLATION	ystems would violate	
☐ INITIAL O	PERATION REPORT AMENDMENT TO INITIAL OPERATION REPORT CESSATION OF OPERATIO	NS REPORT	
trading	name, principal business address, mailing address, if different, and telephone number of system:  Ill name of alternative trading system (if sole proprietor, last, first and middle name):	of alternative	
B. Na	ame(s) under which business is conducted, if different from Item 1A:		
	28 Securities LLC  RD Number: 7654  D. SEC File No.: 8-22651		
sp	this filing makes a name change on behalf of the alternative trading system, enter the projectify whether the name change is of the alternative trading system name (1 isiness name (1B):	revious name and A), or	<b>5</b>
	revious name:terious name:		
	285 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019		
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G. M	ailing address (if different):		
_	ailing address (if different):  usiness telephone and facsimile number:		
H. Bu		ile)	
— Н. Ві	usiness telephone and facsimile number:  (Telephone) (Facsimi	ile)	
— Н. Ві	usiness telephone and facsimile number:  (Telephone) (Facsimi	ile)	
H. Bu  I. Co  EXECUTION SEC or a set or confirmed or, said atter herein, included.	usiness telephone and facsimile number:  (Telephone) (Facsimile)  (Name and Title) (Telephone Number) (Facsimile)  ON: The alternative trading system consents that service of any civil action brought by, or notice of any prosecution in connection with the alternative trading system's activities may be given by registed telegram, to the alternative trading system's contact employee at the main address, or mailing address if of The undersigned, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he/she has executed this form on behalf of mative trading system. The undersigned and alternative trading system represent that the information and string exhibits, schedules, or other documents attached hereto, and other information filed herewith, all of wourrent, true, and complete.	oceeding before, the steredor certified mail differengiven in Items and with the authority statements contained thich are made a pag	1 7 1
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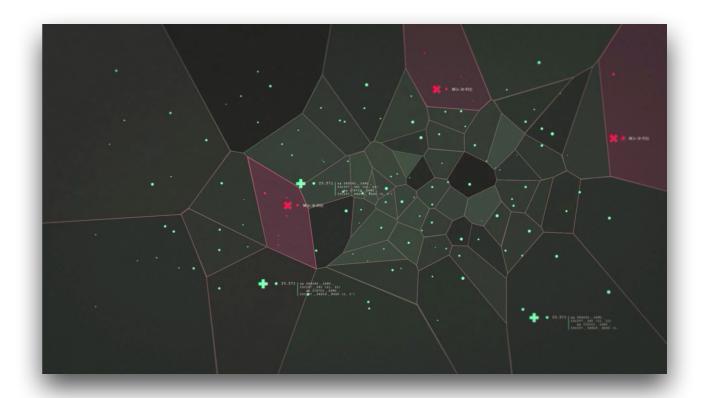


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#### What is Imandra?

- Programming language
- Mathematical logic
- Reasoning engine

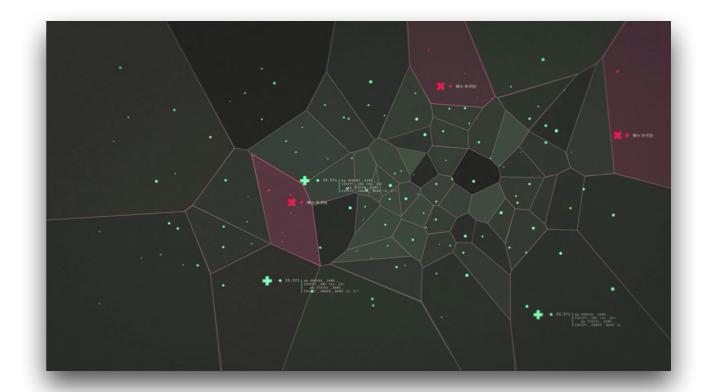




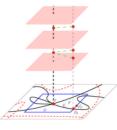
#### What is Imandra?



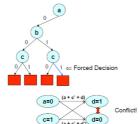
- Programming language
- Mathematical logic
- Reasoning engine
  - First-class counterexamples
  - Nonlinear + SE decomposition
  - Proof automation for various financial regulations
  - Test suite generation
  - Documentation generation

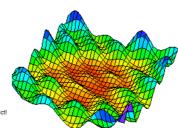








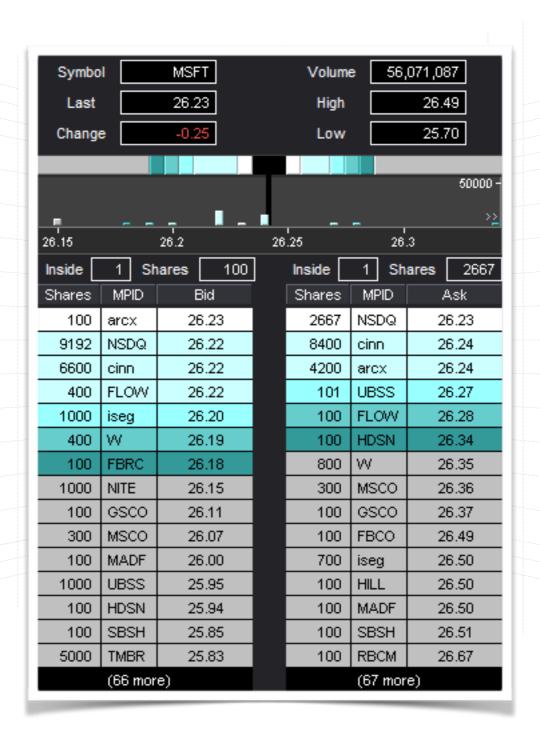


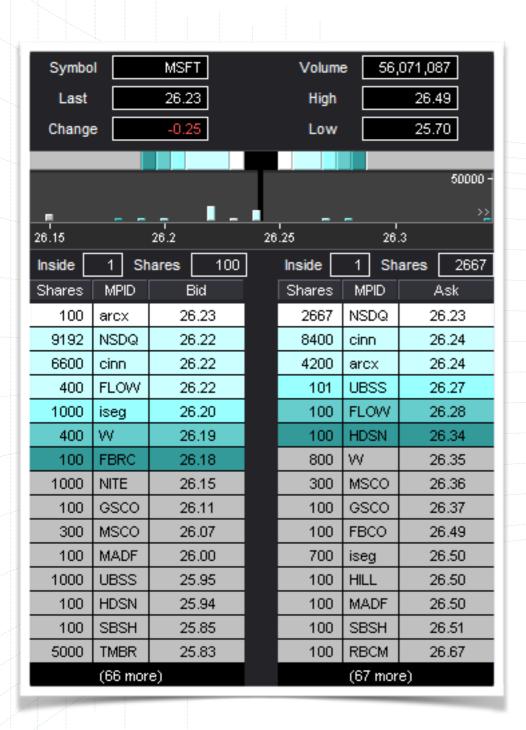


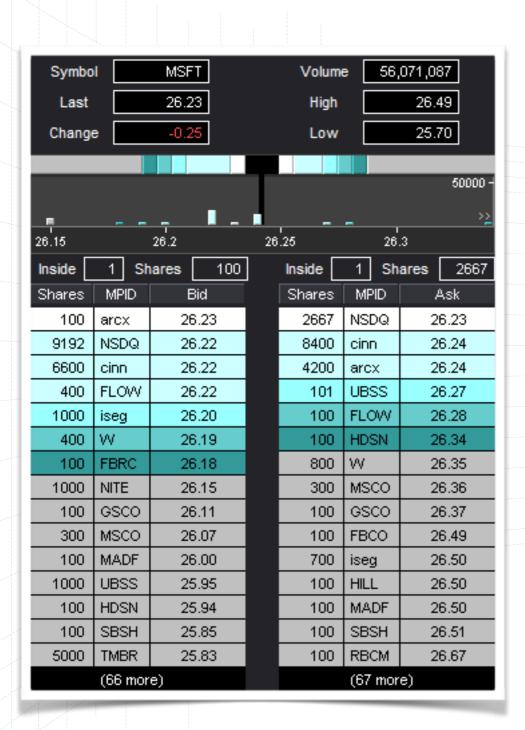
#### What does a venue do?

- maintain an order book
- process incoming orders
- match orders ('trade'!)
- send `fills'
- route orders away (`best-ex')
- report on market activity

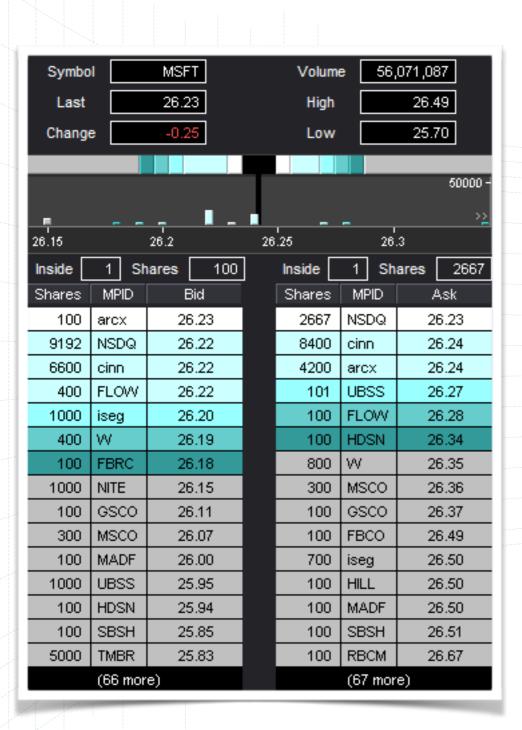
...all according to a (precisely?) defined 'spec' ...while obeying many complex regulations





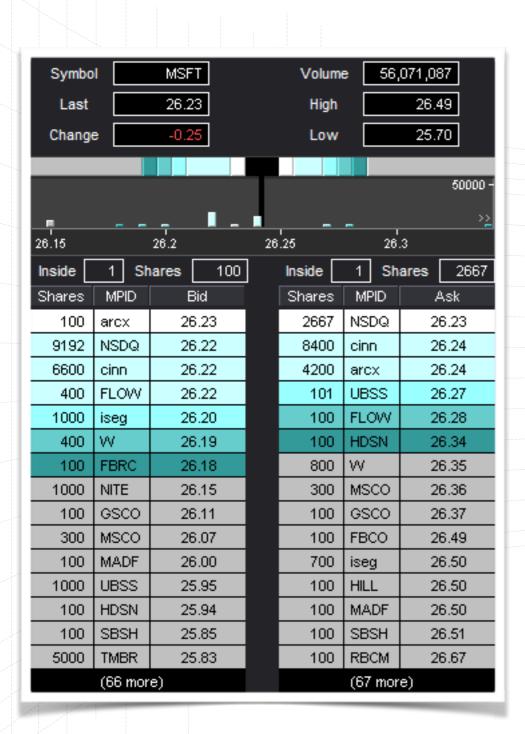


at each discrete time-step, the book is sorted.



how is it sorted?

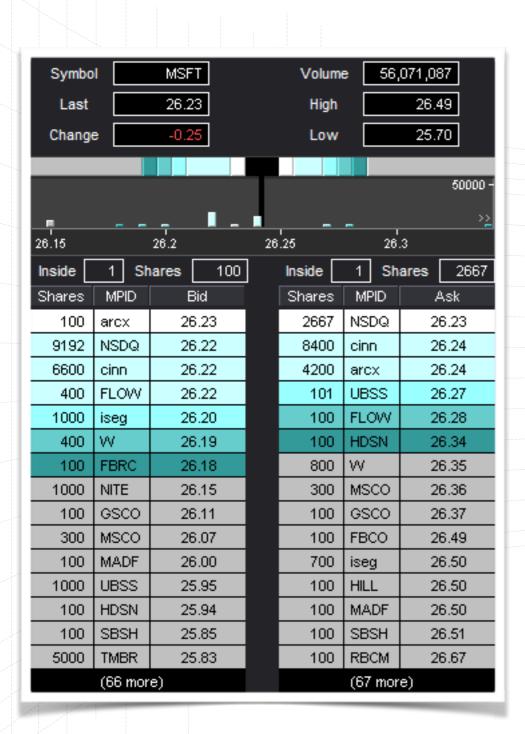
### What is an order book?



how is it sorted?

VERY COMPLEX ANSWER!

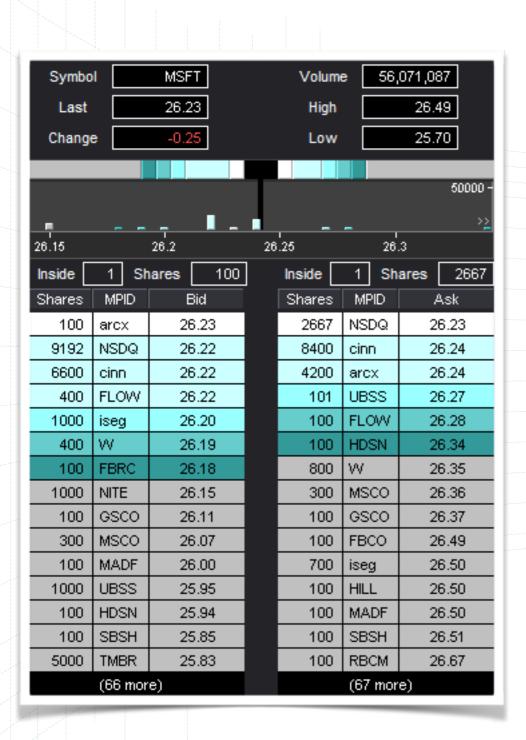
### What is an order book?



how is it sorted?

INTUITION: Price/Time Priority

### What is an order book?



how is it sorted?

INTUITION: Price/Time Priority

REALITY: Let's see!

an instruction to

- buy or sell a given security
- in a specified manner,
- subject to market constraints, and
- order parameters.

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"buy 100 shares of MSFT, with price at most \$50"

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- order parameters.

"buy 100 shares of MSFT, with price at most \$50"

"buy 100 shares of MSFT"

```
o1 = \{ id = 437; \}
       peg = NEAR;
       client_id = 5;
       order_type = FIRM_UP_LIMIT;
       qty = 2438;
       min_qty = 60;
       leaves_qty = 0;
       price = 2533;
       time = 8857;
       src = 7;
       order_attr = RESIDENT;
       capacity = Principal;
       category = C_ONE;
       cross_restrict = { cr_self_cross = false;
                           cr_ubs_principal = false;
                           cr_round_lot_only = true;
                           cr_no_locked_nbbo = false;
                           cr_pegged_mid_point_mode = 3;
                           cr_enable_conditionals = true;
                           cr_min_qty = false;
                           cr_cat_elig = { c_one_elig = false;
                                           c_two_elig = false;
                                           c_three_elig = false;
                                           c_four_elig = false; }; };
        locate_found = false;
        expiry_time = 8; };
```

# What is an order type? MARKET ORDER lacksquare The Logic of Financial Risk $^{\scriptscriptstyle t M}$ ig/44

# What is an order type? MARKET ORDER LIMIT ORDER lacksquare The Logic of Financial Risk $^{\scriptscriptstyle t M}/45$

# What is an order type? MARKET ORDER LIMIT ORDER ICEBERG ORDER $m{1}$ The Logic of Financial Risk $^{\scriptscriptstyle{ ext{M}}}/46$

MARKET ORDER

LIMIT ORDER

ICEBERG ORDER

STOP LOSS ORDER

## Simplicity Is the Goal of Nasdaq's New Order Type, CEO Says

by Annie Massa

ightharpoonup antoniabmassa

August 15, 2016 - 11:26 PM CEST







Makes an appeal to investors, as IEX prepares for exchange

f ¥

Nasdaq Inc. is responding to a competitor preparing to enter the exchange arena.

Start your day with what's moving markets.

Get our markets daily newsletter.

Nasdaq plans to offer a new order type aimed at longterm investors, the company announced Monday. The exchange operator expects to have the new order available for use by the end of year, said Nasdaq Chief

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August 15, 2016 - 11:26 PM CEST

- CEO Greifeld expects to release new order by end of year
- Makes an appeal to investors, as IEX prepares for exchange

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Nasdaq Inc. is responding to a competitor preparing

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### 'Hide Not Slide' Orders Were Slippery and Hidden

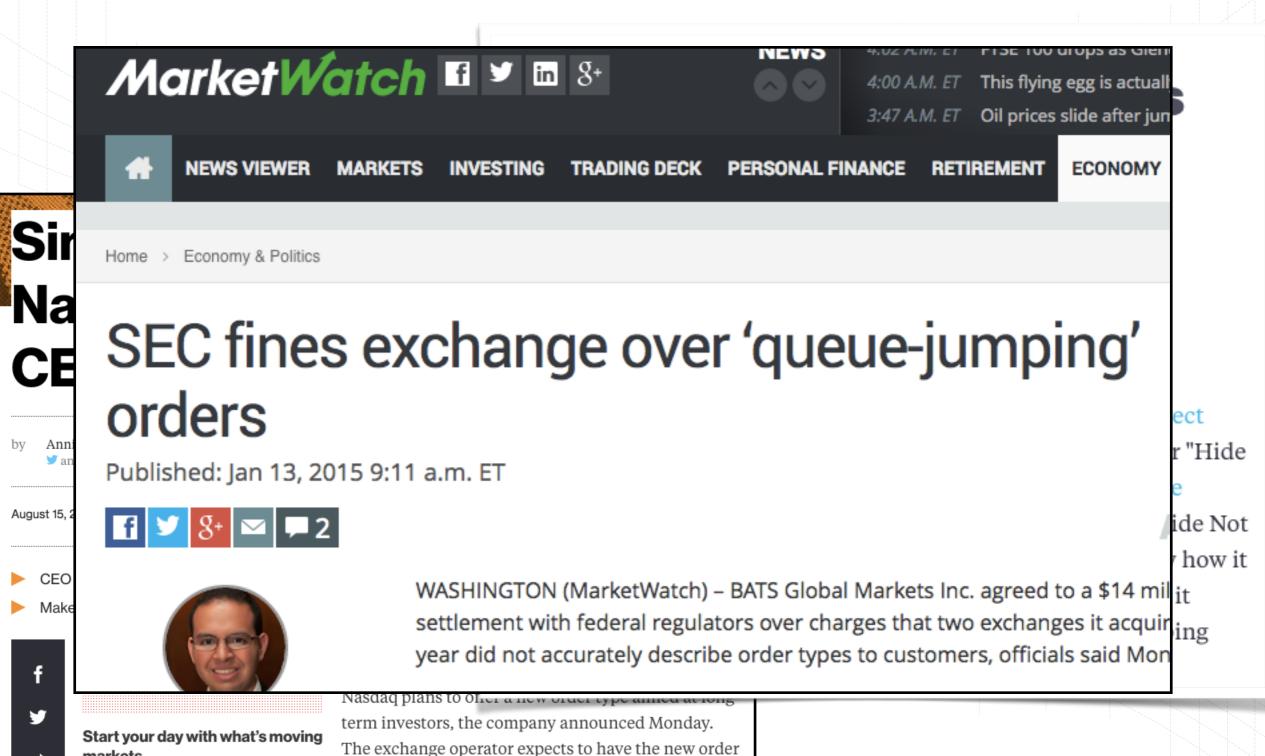
12 S JAN 12, 2015 7:35 PM EST

By Matt Levine

Today, the Securities and Exchange Commission fined the Direct Edge stock exchanges \$14 million for violations involving their "Hide Not Slide" order types. Here's a 2012 Wall Street Journal article that comes with basically a graphic novel devoted to how a "Hide Not Slide" order works, and I refer you to there if you want to know how it works. The thing is that you probably don't want to know how it works. But here's the basic idea, without the cartoon of a jumping man in a suit:

Nasdaq plans to ofter a new order type annea at rong term investors, the company announced Monday.

The exchange operator expects to have the new order available for use by the end of year, said Nasdaq Chief



available for use by the end of year, said Nasdaq Chief

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### Is your venue fair?

#### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. ≡











#### MARKETS

#### BATS Faces Record SEC Fine Over Direct Edge's Actions

Regulator Near Settlement of Up to \$13 Million Over How the Exchange Handled Investors' Orders

#### By SCOTT PATTERSON

7 COMMENTS

Dec. 4, 2014 6:35 p.m. ET

WASHINGTON—A three-year investigation by market regulators into allegedly unfair treatment of investors by stock exchanges could result in the largest fine ever levied against a stock exchange, according to people familiar with the matter.

Securities and Exchange Commission investigators are nearing a settlement of about \$12 million to \$13 million with BATS Global Markets Inc. over how its Direct Edge Holdings LLC exchanges handled customer orders, these people said. The current record fine for an exchange came in May 2013, when Nasdaq OMX Group Inc. agreed to pay \$10 million to settle securities-law violations tied to its handling of the chaotic Facebook Inc. public offering a year earlier.

#### Difficult questions:

- Is your venue *fair*?
- Can you prove it?
- If it's not fair, how can you *fix* it?
- Can your collection of order-types ever *violate* regulatory directives?
- Does your high-performance *implementation* conform to your high-level design specification?
- Does your documentation of your ordertypes truly match your implementation?
- How can you *automate* both *testing* and *compliance*?
- What is the *strongest possible evidence* you can give to regulators?

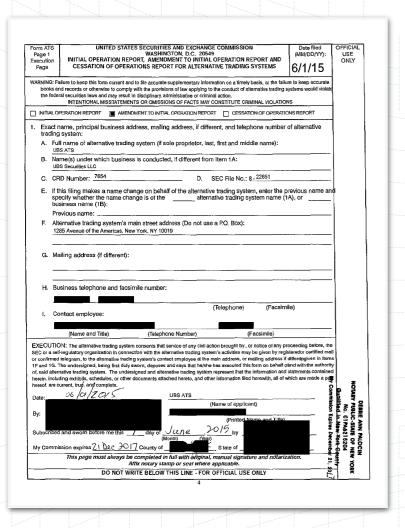


#### Formal analysis of trading venues

- Analysis of safety and fairness properties of trading venues (dark pools, exchanges, etc.)
- In use at top global investment banks
- Principled way to manage growing order-type proliferation
- Exciting developments in regulatory space (more soon...!)

```
I (Quote, Limit) ->
  if bb.order_time > bs.order_time then
      let nextSellLimit = next_sell s in
      if bb.order_qty < bs.order_qty then Known bs.order_price</pre>
      else if bb.order_qty = bs.order_qty then
        match nextSellLimit with
                     -> Known bb.order_price
         | Some ord -> Known ord.order_price
      else Unknown
    end
    Known bb.order_price
I (Quote, Market) ->
  if bb.order_time > bs.order_time then
    begin
      let nextSellLimit = next_sell s in
      if bb.order_qty < bs.order_qty then Known bs.order_price
      else if bb.order_qty = bs.order_qty then
        match nextSellLimit with
                    -> Known bb.order_price
         I Some ord -> Known ord.order_price
      else Unknown
    end
    Known bb.order_price
```

### Running Example: UBS ATS



Demo:

Transitivity of order ranking





### Example: SIX Swiss Exchange

										Pre-Opening
								Duration		06:00 CET until Opening
								Random Time		not applicable
eriod ove	erview								Day	Yes
		Pre-Opening	Opening	Continuous Trading	End of Without Closing Auction	Trading With Closing Auction			Immediate or Cancel	No
n		06:00 CET until Opening	not applicable	Opening until End of Trading	not applicable	10 Minutes	er Entry	STI Orders	Fill or Kill	No
m Time	Day	not applicable Yes	2 Minutes No	not applicable Yes	None No	2 Minutes at Run Auction and Close Yes			At the Opening	Yes
ders	Immediate or Cancel Fill or Kill At the Opening	No No Yes	No No No	Yes Yes No	No No No	No No No				
	At the Close Good for Date	Yes Yes	No No	Yes Yes	No No	Yes Yes			At the Close	Yes
	Day Immediate or Cancel	Yes No	No No	Yes Yes	No No	Yes No			Good for Date	Yes
lers	Fill or Kill At the Opening	No Yes	No No	Yes No	No No	No No		5	Day	Yes
otes	At the Close	Yes Yes	No No	Yes Yes	No No	Yes Yes	Order			
	Day Immediate or Cancel	Yes	No No	Yes Order deletion of no execution	No No	Yes Order expiry after End of Trading No	cti	OTI Orders	Immediate or Cancel	No
ders	Fill or Kill At the Opening	No Yes	No Order expiry if not executed in Opening	Order deletion of no execution No	No No	No No			Fill or Kill	No
	At the Close Good for Date	Yes Yes	No No	Yes Yes	No No	Yes Order expiry if not executed in Aucti Yes			At the Opening	Yes
	Day	Yes	No	Yes	No No	Yes Order expiry after End of Trading				
ders	Fill or Kill	No No Yes	No No Order expiry if not executed in Opening	Order deletion of no execution Order deletion of no execution	No No	No No			At the Close	Yes
	At the Close	Yes	Order expiry it not executed in Opening  No	Yes	No No	Yes Order expiry if not executed in Aucti		QTI Quotes		Yes
utions		Yes	No  Executions according to largest best execution principle	Yes  Continuous execution of orders and quotes	No No	Yes  Jea Closing Auction  At Run Auction and Closs  Executions according			Day	Yes
Calculation		Theoretical Opening Price	Opening Price	Reference Price Stop Trading Non Opening	Closing Price	to largest best execution principle Closing Price	-	STI Orders	Immediate or Cancel	No
		None Yes	Non Opening  Yes  Observe "Limit to trade on order book"	Underlying Condition  Yes	None Yes	Non Opening Yes			Fill or Kill	No
order Book Report	rting	Limit to trade on order book not applicable	Observe "Limit to trade on order book"  where applicable	Observe - imit to trade on order book* where - policable	Observe "Limit to trade on order book" where applicable	Observe "Limit to trade on order box where applicable			At the Opening	Yes
							Expiry		At the Close	Yes
							ంర		Good for Date	Yes

### Pricing Logic: Informal

5. Example: Execution of an incoming quote in order book at best quote or at best remaining limit when quote volume < bid/ask volume and book contains limit orders and quotes.

Example 5.1: Incoming quote, buy 550 units, limit CHF 75.00

Туре	Bid Size	Bid	Ask	Ask Size	Туре
→ Quote	550	75.00	71.00	200	Order
			72.00	200	Order
			73.00	100	Quote
			74.00	100	Order

Туре	Bid Size	Price	Ask Size	Туре
→ Quote	550	75.00		
		74.00	100	Order
		73.00	100	Quote
		72.00	200	Order
		71.00	200	Order

### Pricing Logic: Formal

```
let bb = best_buy s in
let bs = best_sell s in
     I (Quote, Quote) --
Known (otder_price (bb, bs))
             let bestBuy = next_buy s in
            let bBid =
match bestBuy with
              Some bestBuy ->
if bestBuy.order_type = Market then None
else Some bestBuy.order_price
| _ -> None in
             let bestSell = next_sell s in
                I _ -> None in
                 (None, None) -> Known s.ref_price
None, Some ask) ->
                         ask < s.ref_price then Known ask
               | 1 (Some bit None) ->
| if bid > s.ref_price then Known bid else Known s.ref_price |
| (Some bid, Some bit) ->
| if bid > s.ref_pric then Known bid |
                       if ask < s.ref_price than Known ask
               let nextSellLimit = next_sell s in
                 | None -> Known bb.order_price
| Some ord -> Known ord.order_price
                let nextSellLimit = next_sell s in
     Exchange.ml 45% (264,69) Git-master (Tuareg) 11:08AM 1.92
```

```
I (Quote, Limit) ->
  if bb.order_time > bs.order_time then
    begin
       let nextSellLimit = next_sell s in
      if bb.order_qty < bs.order_qty then Known bs.order_price
      else if bb.order_qty = bs.order_qty then
        match nextSellLimit with
         None
                    -> Known bb.order_price
         | Some ord -> Known ord.order_price
      else Unknown
    end
    Known bb.order_price
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    begin
       let nextSellLimit = next_sell s in
      if bb.order_qty < bs.order_qty then Known bs.order_price</pre>
      else if bb.order_qty = bs.order_qty then
         match nextSellLimit with
                    -> Known bb.order_price
         | Some ord -> Known ord.order_price
      else Unknown
    end
    Known bb.order_price
```

- Consider specification of the SIX Swiss matching logic we will prove that client ID, although used by the system, does not factor into pricing and matching decisions
- We will use IML to encode both the matching logic and the fairness principle, and then use Imandra to reason about the model
- Our example highlights iterative nature of the specification process: We discover, through a non-trivial counter-example, that our original hypothesis is incorrect. We then update our specification or model accordingly and iterate.

- The following is an overview of the SIX Swiss Matching Engine
- Three market models: CLOB, MMB, and MMB-FoK
- Six business periods, 5 order types with numerous attributes
- 22 product types across equities, bonds, funds, and structured products with specific trading parameters
- Randomised auction times, volatility circuit breakers, order validities, and regulatory reporting requirements
- Complexity stems from the need to meet diverse client needs while operating a heavily regulated business

State S			State S'		
Bids	MKT	Offers	Bids	MKT	Offers
	104			104	
	103			103	
	102			102	
	101	S1		101	S2
B1	100		B2	100	
	99			99	
	98			98	
	97			97	
	96			96	

?

MatchPrice(S) = MatchPrice(S')

• S\_1 == S\_2 except Client ID

State S		
Bids	MKT	Offers
	104	?
	103	?
	102	?
	101	S1
B1	100	
?	99	
?	98	
?	97	
	96	

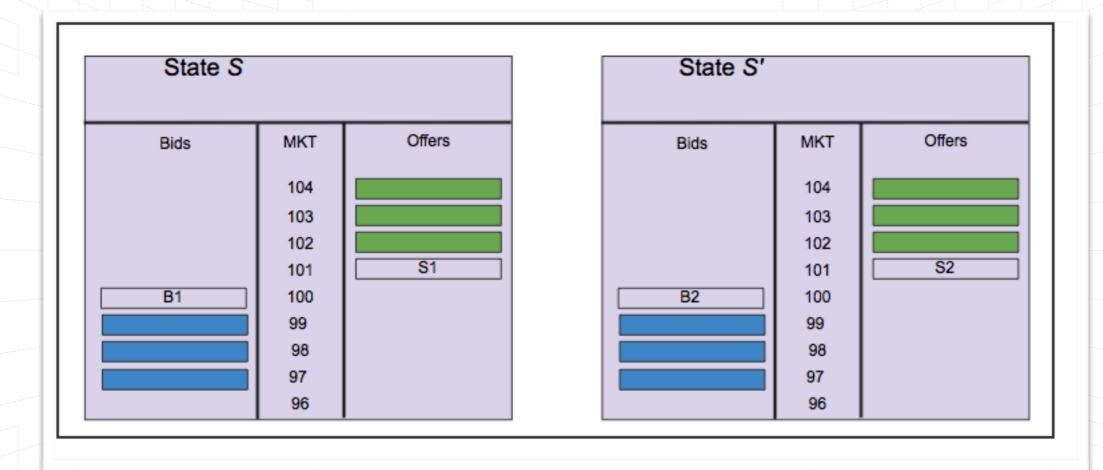
State S'						
Bids	MKT	Offers				
	104	?				
	103	?				
	102	?				
	101	S2				
B2	100					
?	99					
?	98					
?	97					
	96					

• B\_1 == B\_2 except Client ID

NO

MatchPrice(S) = MatchPrice(S')

• S\_1 == S\_2 except Client ID

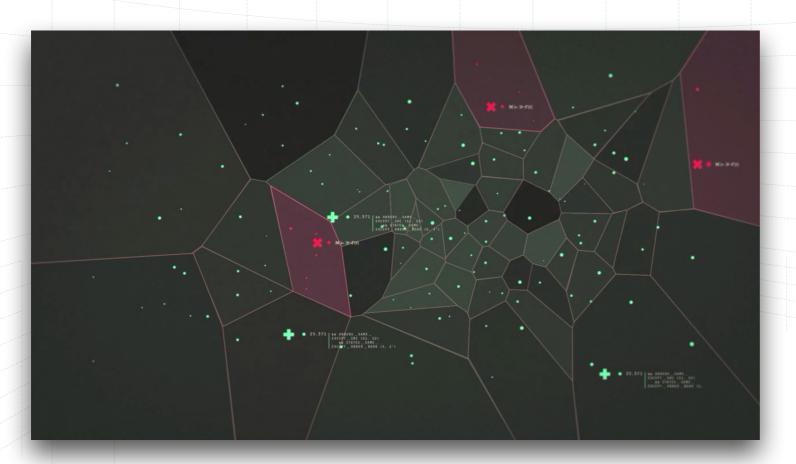


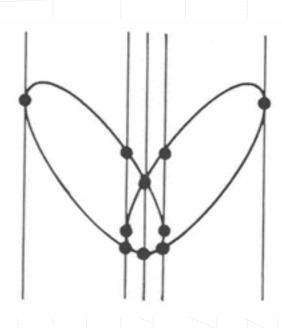
MatchPrice(S) = MatchPrice(S')

• S\_1 == S\_2 except Client ID

### Principal Region Decomposition

- symbolic execution modulo nonlinear sign-invariance
- intuitively, a generalisation of cylindrical algebraic decomposition to programs
- the basis of IMANDRA's test-suite and documentation generation





### The Stack of Financial Algorithms

Collateral Trading low freq Inventory Management Algo Containers Trading Algos **Smart Order Routers** high freq Venues

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we're here

### The Stack of Financial Algorithms

low freq

Collateral Trading

Inventory Management

Algo Containers

Trading Algos

**Smart Order Routers** 

Venues

 $X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t \mu_s \, ds + \int_0^t \sigma_s \, dB_s$ 

how do we get here?

we're here

high freq



### Formalized Financial Mathematics

$$\begin{split} dX(t) &= rX(t) \ dt + \sigma X(t) \ dB(t). \\ p(\tau; \ x,y) &= \frac{1}{\sigma y \sqrt{2\pi\tau}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\tau\sigma^2} \left[\log\frac{y}{x} - (r - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)\tau\right]^2\right\}. \end{split}$$

Assuming every order is a MARKET ORDER is ridiculous.

We need *new* financial mathematics that takes the precise discrete market microstructure into account.

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Assuming every order is a MARKET ORDER is ridiculous.

We need *new* financial mathematics that takes the precise discrete market microstructure into account.







Stochastic Calculus

**Brownian Motion** 

Wiener Processes

Martingales

### Conclusion

- Pressing need for:
  - venues to be bullet-proof w.r.t. safety and fairness regulations
  - matching logics to be formally described to regulators and market participants
  - matching logics to be formally analysed w.r.t. precise encodings of regulatory directives
  - financial mathematics (stochastic calculus) that takes precise discrete behaviour of matching logics into account
  - this is a *killer app* for formal methods!