

# Borel reducibility and symmetric models

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# Borel equivalence relations

An equivalence relation  $E$  on a Polish space  $X$  is **Borel** if  $E \subseteq X \times X$  is Borel.

## Definition

Let  $E$  and  $F$  be Borel equivalence relations on Polish spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  respectively.

- ▶ A Borel map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a **reduction** of  $E$  to  $F$  if for any  $x, x' \in X$ ,  
 $x E x' \iff f(x) F f(x')$ .
- ▶ Say that  $E$  is **Borel reducible to  $F$** , denoted  $E \leq_B F$ , if there is a Borel reduction.

# Friedman-Stanley jumps

## Definition

Let  $E$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $X$ .

A **complete classification** of  $E$  is a map  $c: X \rightarrow I$  such that for any  $x, y \in X$ ,  $xEy$  iff  $c(x) = c(y)$ .

The elements of  $I$  are called **complete invariants** for  $E$ .

## Definition

- ▶ The first Friedman-Stanley jump,  $\cong_2$  (also called  $=^+$ ) on  $\mathbb{R}^\omega$  is defined such that the map

$$\langle x(i) \mid i < \omega \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^\omega \mapsto \{x(i); i \in \omega\} \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{N})$$

is a complete classification.

- ▶ Similarly,  $\cong_\alpha$  is classifiable by hereditarily countable elements in  $\mathcal{P}_\alpha(\mathbb{N})$ .

# Potential complexity

Let  $E$  be a Borel equivalence relation on a Polish space  $X$ .

## Definition

$E$  is potentially  $\Gamma$  if there is an equivalence relation  $F$  on a Polish space  $Y$  so that  $F \subseteq Y \times Y$  is  $\Gamma$  and  $E$  is Borel reducible to  $F$ .

## Example

Consider the equality relation  $=_{\mathbb{R}}$  on the reals.

Then  $=_{\mathbb{R}}$  is  $\Pi_1^0$  but not potentially  $\Sigma_1^0$ .

## Definition

$\Gamma$  is *the* potential complexity of  $E$  if it is minimal such that  $E$  is potentially  $\Gamma$ .

# The equivalence relations of Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau

Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau (1998) completely classified the possible *potential complexities* of Borel equivalence relations which are induced by closed subgroups of  $S_\infty$ . (A set is in  $D(\Gamma)$  if it is the difference of two sets in  $\Gamma$ )

For each class they found a maximal element.

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc} \Delta_1 & \Pi_1^0 & \Sigma_2^0 & \Pi_3^0 & D(\Pi_3^0) & \Pi_4^0 & D(\Pi_4^0) \dots & \Pi_\omega^0 \\ =_{\mathbb{N}} & =_{\mathbb{R}} & E_\infty & \cong_2 & & \cong_3 & & \cong_\omega \\ & & & (=^+) & & (=^{++}) & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \Sigma_{\omega+1}^0 & \Pi_{\omega+2}^0 & D(\Pi_{\omega+2}^0) & \Pi_{\omega+3}^0 & D(\Pi_{\omega+3}^0) \dots & \\ & \cong_{\omega+1} & & \cong_{\omega+2} & & \end{array}$$

## Definition (Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau 1998)

The relation  $\cong_{\alpha+1,\beta}^*$  for  $2 \leq \alpha$  and  $\beta < \alpha$  is defined as follows.

An invariant for  $\cong_{3,1}^*$  is a set  $A$  such that

- ▶  $A$  is a hereditarily countable set in  $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbb{N})$  (i.e., a  $\cong_3$ -invariant – a set of sets of reals);
- ▶ There is a ternary relation  $R \subseteq A \times A \times \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{N})$ , *definable from  $A$* , such that;
- ▶ given any  $a \in A$ ,  $R(a, -, -)$  is an injective function from  $A$  to  $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{N})$ .

Note: for  $\gamma \leq \beta$ ,  $\cong_{\alpha+1,\gamma}^* \leq_B \cong_{\alpha+1,\beta}^*$ .

 $\cong_4$  $\cong_{4,2}^*$  $\cong_{4,1}^*$  $\cong_{4,0}^*$  $\cong_3$  $\cong_{3,1}^*$  $\cong_{3,0}^*$  $\cong_2$

# The equivalence relations of Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau

## Theorem (Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau 1998)

Let  $E$  be a Borel equivalence relation induced by a  $G$ -action where  $G$  is a closed subgroup of  $S_\infty$ . Then

1. If  $E$  is potentially  $D(\Pi_n^0)$  then  $E \leq_B \cong_{n,n-2}^*$  ( $n \geq 3$ );
2. If  $E$  is potentially  $\Sigma_{\lambda+1}^0$  then  $E \leq_B \cong_{\lambda+1, < \lambda}^*$  ( $\lambda$  limit);
3. If  $E$  is potentially  $D(\Pi_{\lambda+n}^0)$  then  $E \leq_B \cong_{\lambda+n, \lambda+n-2}^*$  ( $n \geq 2$ ).

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc}
 \Delta_1 & \Pi_1^0 & \Sigma_2^0 & \Pi_3^0 & D(\Pi_3^0) & \Pi_4^0 & D(\Pi_4^0) \dots & \Pi_\omega^0 \\
 & & & & \cong_{3,1}^* & & \cong_{4,2}^* & \\
 \Sigma_{\omega+1}^0 & \Pi_{\omega+2}^0 & D(\Pi_{\omega+2}^0) & \Pi_{\omega+3}^0 & D(\Pi_{\omega+3}^0) \dots & & & \\
 \cong_{\omega+1, < \omega}^* & & \cong_{\omega+2, \omega}^* & & \cong_{\omega+3, \omega+1}^* & & & 
 \end{array}$$

# Abelian group actions

## Theorem (Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau 1998)

Let  $E$  be a Borel equivalence relation induced by a  $G$ -action where  $G$  is an **abelian** closed subgroup of  $S_\infty$ . Then

1. If  $E$  is potentially  $D(\Pi_n^0)$  then  $E \leq_B \cong_{n,0}^*$  ( $n \geq 3$ );
2. If  $E$  is potentially  $\Sigma_{\lambda+1}^0$  then  $E \leq_B \cong_{\lambda+1,0}^*$  ( $\lambda$  limit);
3. If  $E$  is potentially  $D(\Pi_{\lambda+n}^0)$  then  $E \leq_B \cong_{\lambda+n,0}^*$  ( $n \geq 2$ ).

$$\Delta_1 \quad \Pi_1^0 \quad \Sigma_2^0 \quad \Pi_3^0 \quad D(\Pi_3^0) \quad \Pi_4^0 \quad D(\Pi_4^0) \dots \Pi_\omega^0$$

$G$  is **abelian**

$$\cong_{3,0}^*$$

$$\cong_{4,0}^*$$

$$\Sigma_{\omega+1}^0 \quad \Pi_{\omega+2}^0 \quad D(\Pi_{\omega+2}^0) \quad \Pi_{\omega+3}^0 \quad D(\Pi_{\omega+3}^0) \dots$$

$$\cong_{\omega+1,0}^*$$

$$\cong_{\omega+2,0}^*$$

$$\cong_{\omega+3,0}^*$$



# Abelian group actions

## Theorem (Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau 1998)

For all countable ordinals  $\alpha$ ,  $\cong_{\alpha+3,\alpha}^* <_B \cong_{\alpha+3,\alpha+1}^*$ .

## Question (Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau 1998)

Are the reductions  $\cong_{\omega+1,0}^* \leq_B \cong_{\omega+1,<\omega}^*$   
and  $\cong_{\omega+2,0}^* \leq_B \cong_{\omega+2,\omega}^*$  strict?

Expecting a positive answer Hjorth-Kechris-Louveau further conjectured that the entire  $\cong_{\alpha,\beta}^*$  hierarchy is strict.

## Theorem (S.)

$\cong_{\alpha+1,\beta}^* <_B \cong_{\alpha+1,\beta+1}^*$  for any  $\alpha, \beta$  (when defined).

$$\cong_{\omega+1,<\omega}^* <_B \cong_{\omega+1,1}^*$$

$$\cong_{\omega+1,1}^* <_B \cong_{\omega+1,0}^*$$

$$\cong_{\omega+1,0}^*$$

$$\cong_{4,2}^* <_B \cong_{4,1}^*$$

$$\cong_{4,1}^* <_B \cong_{4,0}^*$$

$$\cong_{4,0}^*$$

# The “Basic Cohen model”

Let  $\langle x_n \mid n < \omega \rangle$  be a generic sequence of Cohen reals and  $A = \{x_n; n \in \omega\}$  the unordered collection.

The “Basic Cohen model” where the axiom of choice fails can be expressed as

$$V(A)$$

*The set-theoretic definable closure of (the transitive closure of)  $A$ .*

Any set  $X$  in  $V(A)$  is definable (in  $V(A)$ ) using  $A$ , finitely many parameters  $\bar{a}$  from the transitive closure of  $A$ , and a parameter  $v$  from  $V$ .

That is,  $X$  is the unique solution to  $\psi(X, A, \bar{a}, v)$ .

## Theorem (S.)

Suppose  $E$  and  $F$  are Borel equivalence relations, classifiable by countable structures (and fix a collection of invariants).

Assume further that  $E$  is Borel reducible to  $F$ .

Let  $A$  be an  $E$ -invariant in some generic extension.

Then there is an  $F$ -invariant  $B$  s.t.  $B \in V(A)$  and

$$V(A) = V(B).$$

Furthermore,  $B$  is definable in  $V(A)$  using only  $A$  and parameters from  $V$ .

## Remark

The proof uses tools from Zapletal “Idealized Forcing” (2008) and Kanovei-Sabok-Zapletal “Canonical Ramsey theory on Polish Spaces” (2013).

## A simple example

Assume  $E$  is Borel reducible to  $F$  and  $A$  is a generic  $E$ -invariant. Then  $V(A) = V(B)$  for some  $F$ -invariant  $B$  which is definable in  $V(A)$  using only  $A$  and parameters from  $V$ .

### Example

The “Basic Cohen Model” is  $V(A)$  for a generic  $=^+$ -invariant  $A$ .  $V(A)$  is not of the form  $V(r)$  for any real  $r$  (an  $=_{\mathbb{R}}$ -invariant). (Recall that for any real  $r$ ,  $V(r)$  satisfies choice.)

It follows that  $=^+$  is not Borel reducible to  $=_{\mathbb{R}}$

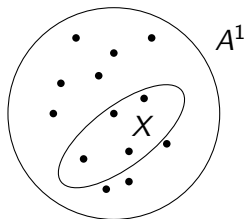
*To prove the main theorem,  
we need to find “good” invariants for  $\cong_{\alpha,\beta}^*$ .*

$\cong_{3,1}^*$  is not Borel reducible to  $\cong_{3,0}^*$

Let  $V(A^1)$  be the Basic Cohen model as before.  
Let  $X \subseteq A^1$  be generic over  $V(A^1)$ .

$$A = \{X \Delta \bar{a}; \bar{a} \subseteq A^1 \text{ is finite}\} \in \mathcal{P}_3(\mathbb{N}).$$

For any  $Y \in A$  the map  $Z \mapsto Z \Delta Y$  is injective  
from  $A$  to the reals.



**Thus  $A$  is a  $\cong_{3,1}^*$ -invariant.** Note that  $V(A) = V(A^1)[X]$ .

To prove  $\cong_{3,1}^* \not\leq_B \cong_{3,0}^*$  it suffices to show

**Proposition**

$V(A) \neq V(B)$  whenever  $B \in V(A)$  is a set of sets of reals and  $B$  is countable and  $B$  is definable from  $A$ .

# Proof of the proposition

Assume for contradiction that  $B$  is a countable set of sets of reals  $B$ , definable from  $A$  alone, such that  $V(A) = V(B)$ .

Then  $X \in V(B)$ . Assume that for some  $U \in B$

$X$  is defined by  $\psi(X, B, U)$ .

Applying finite permutations to the poset adding  $X$ , we get that for any  $a \in A^1$  there is  $U_a \in B$  such that

$X \Delta \{a\}$  is defined by  $\psi(X \Delta \{a\}, B, U_a)$ .

*$A$  is preserved under finite changes of  $X$  and therefore so is  $B$  since  $B$  is definable from  $A$  alone.*

This gives an injective map from the Cohen set  $A^1$  to  $B$ .

Since  $B$  is countable, so is  $A^1$ . This is a contradiction since:

Fact:  $V(A^1)$  and  $V(A^1)[X]$  have the same reals.

## Dealing with $\cong_{\omega+1, < \omega}^*$ and $\cong_{\omega+2, \omega}^*$

- ▶ The trick above produces “good” invariants for the  $\cong^*$  equivalence relations starting from “good” invariants for the Friedman-Stanley jumps.
- ▶ Monro (1973) produced models  $V(A^n)$ ,  $A^n \in \mathcal{P}_{n+1}(\mathbb{N})$ , in which the generalized Kinna-Wagner principles  $\text{KWP}^{n-1}$  fail. It can be shown that  $V(A^n) \neq V(B)$  for any  $B \in \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{N})$ .
- ▶ Karagila (2019) constructed a model  $M_\omega = V(A^\omega)$  in which  $\text{KWP}^n$  fails for all  $n$ . He asked whether Monro’s construction can be continued past  $\omega$ .
- ▶ The only previously known failure of  $\text{KWP}^\omega$  is in the *Bristol model*. (The construction uses L-like combinatorial principles.)
- ▶ It is open which large cardinals are consistent with high failure of Kinna-Wagner principles (Woodin’s *Axiom of Choice Conjecture* implies that extendible cardinals are not.)

## Theorem (S.)

For any  $\alpha < \omega_1$  there is a Monro-style model  $V(A^\alpha)$ .

- ▶  $A^\alpha$  is a generic  $\cong_\alpha$ -invariant;
- ▶  $V(A^\alpha)$  is not of the form  $V(B)$  for any set  $B$  in  $\mathcal{P}_{<\alpha}(\mathbb{N})$ ;
- ▶  $\text{KWP}^\alpha$  fails in  $V(A^{\alpha+1})$ ;
- ▶ Works over any  $V$ .

## Corollary

- ▶ (Friedman-Stanley)  $\cong_{\alpha+1}$  is not Borel reducible to  $\cong_\alpha$ .
- ▶ Together with a few more tricks, the main theorem follows. That is, the  $\cong_{\alpha,\beta}^*$  hierarchy is strict.