

# Hjorth Analysis of General Polish Group Actions

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# Polish Spaces

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- A subspace of a Polish space is Polish if and only if it is  $G_\delta$ .
- The product of a countable collection of Polish spaces is Polish. In particular,  $\omega^\omega$  and  $2^\omega$  are both Polish.

# Polish Groups and Polish Actions

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- A continuous action of a Polish group  $G$  on a Polish space  $X$  is called a *Polish action*. We will denote by  $E_G^X$  the induced orbit equivalence relation on  $X$ .
- The orbit equivalence relation  $E_G^X$  is analytic, but not always Borel.

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- $Mod(\mathcal{L})$  inherits the Polish topology of  $\prod_{i \in \omega} 2^{\omega^{n_i}}$ .
- This is exactly the topology generated by

$$A_{\phi, \bar{a}} = \{\mathcal{M} : \mathcal{M} \models \phi(\bar{a})\}.$$

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- The induced orbit equivalence relation is  $\simeq_{\mathcal{L}}$ .

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- $(\mathcal{M}, \bar{a}) \equiv_{\alpha+1} (\mathcal{N}, \bar{b})$  if for every  $c \in \omega$  there is  $d \in \omega$  s.t.  
 $(\mathcal{M}, \bar{a} \frown c) \equiv_{\alpha} (\mathcal{N}, \bar{b} \frown d)$  and for every  $d \in \omega$  there is  $c \in \omega$   
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s.t.  $(\mathcal{N}, \bar{b} \frown d) \equiv_\alpha (\mathcal{M}, \bar{a} \frown c)$ .
- For  $\lambda$  limit,  $(\mathcal{M}, \bar{a}) \equiv_\lambda (\mathcal{N}, \bar{b})$  if for every  $\alpha < \lambda$ ,  
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## Definition

For  $\mathcal{M} \in \text{Mod}(\mathcal{L})$ ,  $\delta(\mathcal{M})$ , the *Scott rank* of  $\mathcal{M}$ , is the least such  $\alpha$ .

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$$\mathcal{N} \equiv_{\delta(\mathcal{M})+\omega} \mathcal{M} \implies \mathcal{M} \simeq \mathcal{N}.$$

## Theorem ( Becker - Kechris )

$\simeq_{\mathcal{L}}$  is Borel if and only if there is an  $\alpha < \omega_1$  such that for every  $\mathcal{M} \in \text{Mod}(\mathcal{L})$ ,  $\delta(\mathcal{M}) < \alpha$

# Questions

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## Question ( Hjorth )

Let  $\alpha$  be a countable ordinal. Is the following set Borel:

$$\mathbb{A}_\alpha = \{x : [x] \text{ is } \mathbf{\Pi}_\beta^0 \text{ for } \beta < \alpha + \omega\}$$

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- 3  $\leq_\alpha$  is Borel.

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and vice versa:

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$\equiv_\alpha$  is a Borel and  $G$  - invariant equivalence relation.



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- By the invariance of  $A$ ,  $y$  must be in  $A$ . □

# So far...

- 1 A decreasing sequence  $\equiv_\alpha$  of Borel equivalence relations which are invariant under  $G$ .
- 2  $E_G^X = \bigcap_{\alpha < \omega_1} \equiv_\alpha$ .
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Hjorth rank is  $G$  invariant and Borel. In fact:  
For every countable ordinal  $\alpha$ :

$$\{x : \delta(x) \leq \alpha\}$$

is  $\Pi^0_{\alpha+k(\alpha)}$ , for  $k(\alpha) \in \omega$ .

# Scott's Isomorphism Theorem

## Proposition

If  $\delta(x_0), \delta(x_1) \leq \delta$  and  $x_0 \equiv_{\delta+1} x_1$ , then  $x_0$  and  $x_1$  are orbit equivalent.

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# Scott's Isomorphism Theorem

## Proposition

If  $\delta(x_0), \delta(x_1) \leq \delta$  and  $x_0 \equiv_{\delta+1} x_1$ , then  $x_0$  and  $x_1$  are orbit equivalent.

## Theorem

*For every  $x \in X$  there is a natural number  $m$  such that*  
 $[x] = \{y : y \equiv_{\delta(x)+m} x\}$ .

## Proof.

- The set  $\{z : \delta(z) \leq \delta(x)\}$  is  $\Pi_{\delta(x)+m}^0$  for some  $m \in \omega$ .
- So if  $y \equiv_{\delta(x)+m} x$  then  $\delta(y) \leq \delta(x)$ .
- Hence if  $x$  and  $y$  are  $\delta(x) + m + 1$  equivalent, they are orbit equivalent.



# 1st mission accomplished

- 1 A decreasing sequence  $\equiv_{\alpha}$  of Borel equivalence relations which are invariant under  $G$ .
- 2  $E_G^X = \bigcap_{\alpha < \omega_1} \equiv_{\alpha}$ .
- 3 A function  $\delta : X \rightarrow (\omega_1, <)$  which is Borel and  $G$ -invariant.
- 4 There is an  $\alpha < \omega_1$  such that for every  $x \in X$  and for every  $y \in X$ :

$$x \equiv_{\delta(x)+\alpha} y \implies x E_G^X y.$$

In our case,  $\alpha = \omega$ .

# What about the boundedness principle ?

## Theorem

$E_G^X$  is Borel if and only if there is an  $\alpha$  such that for every  $x \in X$ ,  $\delta(x) \leq \alpha$ .

# Complexity of $B \cdot x$

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$B \cdot x$  is Borel if and only if  $B \cdot G_x$  is Borel. In particular,  $U \cdot x$  is Borel, for  $U$  open.

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If  $G \cdot x$  is  $\Pi_{\alpha+1}^0$  for  $\alpha \geq 1$  then for every open  $U$ ,  $U \cdot x$  is  $\Pi_{\alpha+1}^0$ .

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- By a theorem of Effros, the canonical bijection  $G/G_x \rightarrow G \cdot x$  is a homeomorphism.
- Then  $U \cdot x$  is open in  $G \cdot x$ , hence  $G_\delta$  in  $X$ .

## Sketch of proof ( ctd. )

- For arbitrary  $\alpha$ ,  $G \cdot x = \bigcap_{n \in \omega} B_n$ . for  $\langle B_n : n \in \omega \rangle \Sigma^0_\alpha$  sets.

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- We then apply a Theorem of Hjorth to refine the topology of  $X$  to a topology in which  $G \cdot x$  is  $G_\delta$ .
- Using the case  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $U \cdot x$  is  $G_\delta$  in the new topology , and hence  $U \cdot x$  was  $\Pi^0_{\alpha+1}$  in the original topology.

# The Boundedness Theorem

## Theorem

*Let  $(G, X)$  be a Polish action. Then  $E_G^X$  is Borel if and only if there is an  $\alpha$  such that for every  $x$ ,  $\delta(x) \leq \alpha$ .*

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- For all  $U \subseteq G$  open,  $U \cdot x$  is  $\Pi_{\alpha+1}^0$ .
- It turns out that in this case,  $\delta(x) \leq \alpha + 1$ . □

# The Decomposition Theorem

## Theorem ( Decomposition of Polish actions )

Let  $X$  be a Polish  $G$  - Space. There is a sequence  $\{A_\zeta\}_{\zeta < \omega_1}$  of pairwise disjoint Borel subsets of  $X$  such that:

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- 2  $E_G^X \upharpoonright A_\zeta$  is Borel.
- 3 ( Boundedness ) If  $A \subseteq X$  is Borel invariant and  $E_G^X \upharpoonright A$  is Borel, then  $A \subseteq \bigcup_{\zeta < \alpha} A_\zeta$  for some  $\alpha < \omega_1$ .

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Proof.

$$A_\zeta = \{x : \delta(x) = \zeta\}$$



# Hjorth's question

## Theorem

For  $\alpha$  countable, the set

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## Corollary

For every countable  $\alpha$ , there are either countably many or perfectly many orbits that are  $\mathbf{\Pi}_\beta^0$ , for  $\beta < \alpha + \omega$ .