

# Boolean algebras and semi-retractions

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# Outline

- 1 Background
- 2 Semi-retractions
- 3 Categorical perspective

## Ages

- Given an  $L$ -structure  $\mathcal{M}$ ,  $\text{age}(\mathcal{M})$  is the class of all finitely generated substructures of  $\mathcal{M}$  closed under isomorphism.
- $\mathcal{M}$  is **ultrahomogeneous** if any isomorphism between finitely generated substructures of  $\mathcal{M}$  extends to an automorphism of  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- Fraïssé's theorem: For any countable signature  $L$  and countable (up to  $\cong$ ) nonempty class  $\mathcal{K}$  of finitely generated  $L$ -structures satisfying HP, JEP and AP, there is a unique (up to  $\cong$ ) countable structure  $\mathcal{F} = \text{Flim}(\mathcal{K})$  such that  $\mathcal{F}$  is ultrahomogeneous and  $\text{age}(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{K}$ .
- For any countable structure  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\text{age}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ , there is an embedding of  $\mathcal{A}$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ .

# Ramsey property (RP)

- For structures  $A$  and  $C$ , let  $\binom{C}{A}$  denote all substructures  $A' \subseteq C$  such that  $A' \cong A$ .
- A  $k$ -coloring  $c$  of  $\binom{C}{A}$  is any function  $c : \binom{C}{A} \rightarrow k$ .
- By  $C \rightarrow (B)_k^A$  we mean that for any  $k$ -coloring  $c$  of  $\binom{C}{A}$ , there is  $B' \in \binom{C}{B}$  such that for any  $A', A'' \in \binom{B'}{A}$ ,  $c(A') = c(A'')$ .

## Definition

We say that a class  $\mathcal{K}$  of finitely-generated  $L$ -structures has the **Ramsey property (RP)** if for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{K}$  and integers  $k \geq 2$  there exists  $C \in \mathcal{K}$  such that  $C \rightarrow (B)_k^A$

We say that  $B'$  is a copy of  $B$  **homogeneous for  $c$  (on copies of  $A$ )**.

- Given a structure  $\mathcal{A}$ , we say that  $\mathcal{A}$  **has RP** if  $\text{age}(\mathcal{A})$  has RP.
- Working in  $\mathcal{A}$  allows us to sweep some compactness arguments under the rug, e.g. show that for all  $A, B, k$ :  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow (B)_k^A$  (to show RP:  $\mathcal{A}$ ).

# Examples

- RP: All finite sets in  $L = \emptyset$ .  
RP: All finite linear orders in  $L = \{<\}$ . (order forgetful)
- $\neg$  RP: All finite simple graphs with no loops in  $L = \{E\}$   
RP: All finite simple graphs with no loops with any ordering on the vertices in  $L = \{E, <\}$ . (not order forgetful)
- RP: Convexly ordered finite equivalence relations in  $L = \{E, <\}$ .  
 $\neg$  RP: Finite equivalence relations with any ordering on points in  $L = \{E, <\}$ .
- RP: Finite Boolean algebras in  $L = \{\vee, \wedge, \neg, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\}$  (Graham-Rothschild, '71)  
RP: Finite Boolean algebras with natural orders in  $L = \{\vee, \wedge, \neg, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}, <\}$  (Kechris-Pestov-Todorcevic, '05) (order forgetful)
- RP:  $\text{age}(\langle \mathbb{Z}, p, s \rangle)$   
 $\neg$  RP:  $\text{age}(\langle \mathbb{Z}, s \rangle)$
- board #3 ...

# Rigidity

- Rigidity can be accomplished with a definable linear order:

## Definition

We say that a structure  $A$  is **rigid** if the only automorphism of  $A$  is the identity map.

## Proposition

*If  $\text{age}(\mathcal{B})$  consists of rigid elements, then for any  $C, C' \in \text{age}(\mathcal{B})$ , if  $C \cong_{\mathcal{B}} C'$ , then this is witnessed by a unique isomorphism  $\tau : C \rightarrow C'$ .*

## Semi-retractions

- Given length- $n$  sequences  $\bar{i}, \bar{j}$  from some structure  $\mathcal{M}$ , by

$$\bar{i} \sim_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{j}$$

we mean that  $\text{qftp}^{\mathcal{M}}(\bar{i}) = \text{qftp}^{\mathcal{M}}(\bar{j})$ .

- Given any structures  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$ , we say that an injection  $h : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is **qftp-respecting** if for all finite, same-length tuples  $\bar{i}, \bar{j}$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ ,

$$\bar{i} \sim_{\mathcal{A}} \bar{j} \Rightarrow h(\bar{i}) \sim_{\mathcal{B}} h(\bar{j}).$$

- Not to be mysterious,  $h(\bar{i}) := (h(i_0), \dots, h(i_{n-1}))$ .

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  be any structures. We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a **semi-retract of  $\mathcal{B}$  (via  $(g, f)$ )** if

- there exist qftp-respecting injections:  $\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{g} \mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{f} \mathcal{A}$
- such that:  $\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{fg} \mathcal{A}$  is an embedding

Say  $(g, f)$  is a **semi-retraction between  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$** .

- board #1...



# Terminology history

- From [Ahlbrandt and Ziegler(1986)]:

## Definition

Given countable,  $\aleph_0$ -categorical structures  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a **retraction** of  $\mathcal{B}$  if there exist interpretations  $f : \mathcal{A} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{B}$   $g : \mathcal{B} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{A}$  such that  $g \circ f$  is homotopic to the identity interpretation on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

## Theorem (T. Coquand)

*Given countable  $\aleph_0$ -categorical structures  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a retraction of  $\mathcal{B}$  iff there are continuous homomorphisms*

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A}) \xrightarrow{\varphi} \text{Aut}(\mathcal{B}) \xrightarrow{\psi} \text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})$$

*such that  $\psi \circ \varphi = 1$ .*

- In contrast, semi-retraction maps are pointwise on the underlying sets:

$$\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{g} \mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{f} \mathcal{A}$$

such that  $fg$  is an embedding.

- board #2...

# Reducts

- Reducts of structures with RP do not necessarily have RP (could lose AP, rigidity, ...)
- We will use this definition:

## Definition

We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a **quantifier-free reduct** of  $\mathcal{B}$  if  $|\mathcal{A}| = |\mathcal{B}| = M$  and  $\sim_{\mathcal{B}}$  refines  $\sim_{\mathcal{A}}$  on  $M$ , i.e. for all finite same-length tuples  $\bar{i}, \bar{j}$  from  $|\mathcal{A}|$ ,  $\bar{i} \sim_{\mathcal{B}} \bar{j} \Rightarrow \bar{i} \sim_{\mathcal{A}} \bar{j}$ .

- Note:  $\mathcal{A}$  is a quantifier-free reduct of  $\mathcal{B}$  if and only if  $|\mathcal{A}| = |\mathcal{B}|$  and the identity map  $id : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is qftp-respecting.
- We say that  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  are **quantifier-free interdefinable** if  $|\mathcal{A}| = |\mathcal{B}|$  and each of  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  is a quantifier-free reduct of the other.
- Note: If  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  are quantifier-free interdefinable, then the identity maps between  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  give a semi-retraction (in either order).

# Results

- Previous results

## Theorem ([Scow(2021)])

*Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be any structures. Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a semi-retract of  $\mathcal{B}$ . Furthermore, suppose that  $\mathcal{B}$ -indexed indiscernible sets have the modeling property. Then  $\mathcal{A}$ -indexed indiscernible sets have the modeling property.*

## Corollary

*Let both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be locally finite ordered structures. Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a semi-retract of  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  has RP. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  has RP.*

- Newer results

## Theorem ([Bartošová and Scow()])

*Let  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  be structures in any signatures and suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a semi-retract of  $\mathcal{B}$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is locally finite and  $\text{age}(\mathcal{B})$  consists of rigid elements. If  $\mathcal{B}$  has RP, then  $\mathcal{A}$  has RP.*

- The rigidity and local finiteness assumptions can be dropped if both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are in relational signatures.

## Nonlocally finite example

- $\mathcal{A} = (\mathbb{Z}, s)$  (not locally finite) is a semi-retract of  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathbb{Z}, s, p)$  (non-rigid age)
- The identity maps on the underlying sets give a semi-retraction ( $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  are qf-interdefinable):

$$\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{id} \mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{id} \mathcal{A}$$

The transfer theorem does not apply because both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  fail to satisfy the conditions.

- **RP:**  $\mathcal{B}$   
**RP:**  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $\neg$  **RP:**  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- board #4...
- A slight modification gives an example on  $\mathbb{N}$ :
- $\mathcal{A}' = (\mathbb{N}, p)$  define  $p(0) = 0$  (locally finite + rigid age) is a semi-retract of  $\mathcal{B}' = (\mathbb{N}, s, p)$  (rigid age)
- The identity maps on the underlying sets give a semi-retraction ( $\mathcal{A}', \mathcal{B}'$  are qf-interdefinable):

$$\mathcal{A}' \xrightarrow{id} \mathcal{B}' \xrightarrow{id} \mathcal{A}'$$

- **RP:**  $\mathcal{B}' \Rightarrow$  **RP:**  $\mathcal{A}'$ .  
**RP:**  $\mathcal{B}'$  (trivially)  
**RP:**  $\mathcal{A}'$  !!
- Fun question: what is the Fraïssé limit of  $\text{age}(\mathcal{A}')$ ? It should have one.

# Boolean algebras

- If  $A$  is a finite Boolean algebra, a linear order  $<_A$  on  $A$  is **natural** if it is the antilexicographic order on  $A$  induced by some linear order on the atoms of  $A$ .
- The ordered Boolean algebra  $(\mathcal{B}_{ba}, <)$  is the Fraïssé limit of the class of finite Boolean algebras with natural linear orders. We refer to  $<$  as a **normal** order on  $\mathcal{B}_{ba}$ .
- We say that  $B = \{b_i : i < \omega\}$  is an **antichain** if the elements are pairwise disjoint, i.e.  $b_i \wedge b_j = \mathbf{0}$  for every  $i \neq j$ .

## Ordered and unordered

## Theorem

$(\mathcal{R}, <)$  (locally finite) is a semi-retract of  $(\mathcal{B}_{ba}, <)$  (rigid age).

- By the transfer theorem, RP should transfer from  $(\mathcal{B}_{ba}, <)$  to  $(\mathcal{R}, <)$ .
- RP:  $(\mathcal{B}_{ba}, <)$   
RP:  $(\mathcal{R}, <)$

## Theorem

$\mathcal{A} := \mathcal{R}$  (locally finite) is a semi-retract of  $\mathcal{B} := \mathcal{B}_{ba}$  (non-rigid age).

- The transfer theorem does not apply because  $\mathcal{B}$  fails to satisfy the rigidity condition.
- RP:  $\mathcal{B}_{ba}$   
¬ RP:  $\mathcal{R}$

# Categorical notions

- In [Mašulović and Scow(2017)] we determined that adjunctions transfer RP. Mašulović has found a more general notion that is sufficient to transfer RP:

## Definition

Let  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbf{D}$  be categories and let  $F : \text{Ob}(\mathbf{D}) \rightleftarrows \text{Ob}(\mathbf{C}) : G$  be maps on objects. We say that  $(F, G)$  is a **pre-adjunction** if for every  $A \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{D})$  and  $C \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{C})$  we have a map

$$\Phi_{A,C} : \text{hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(F(A), C) \rightarrow \text{hom}_{\mathbf{D}}(A, G(C)),$$

such that

$$\forall A, B \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{D}) \forall C \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{C}) \forall v \in \text{hom}_{\mathbf{D}}(A, B) \forall \psi \in \text{hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(F(B), C)$$

$$\exists w \in \text{hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(F(A), F(B)) \text{ such that } \Phi_{A,C}(\psi \circ w) = \Phi_{B,C}(\psi) \circ v.$$

## Theorem ([Mašulović(2018)])

If  $\mathbf{C}$  has the Ramsey property (“for morphisms”) and  $F : \text{Ob}(\mathbf{D}) \rightleftarrows \text{Ob}(\mathbf{C}) : G$  is a **pre-adjunction**, then  $\mathbf{D}$  has the Ramsey property (“for morphisms”).

- If an age  $\mathcal{K}$  consists of rigid elements and we consider  $\text{Ob}(\mathbf{C}) := \mathcal{K}$  and embeddings as morphisms then the above Ramsey property (“for morphisms”) is equivalent to the RP as we defined it.

# Pre-adjunctions

- semi-retractions  $\Rightarrow$  pre-adjunctions

## Theorem

*Any semi-retraction  $(g, f)$  between  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  defines a pre-adjunction between the categories of finite tupes of  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ , respectively, with qftp-preserving injections.*

- More specifically, in the category in which we determine the RP:

## Theorem

*Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be locally finite and let  $(g, f)$  be a semi-retraction between  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ . Then there is a pre-adjunction between  $\text{age}(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\text{age}(\mathcal{B})$  with embeddings as morphisms.*

- Question: can any pre-adjunction be understood somehow as pointwise maps, as in the case of semi-retractions?



# When are transfers witnessed by semi-retractions

- Among reducts of a structure with RP: semi-retractions characterize those with RP, under simplifying assumptions for  $\mathcal{B}$ :

## Theorem

*Fix locally finite ordered structures  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  and suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a quantifier-free reduct of  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  is saturated.*

*Suppose that there are only finitely many quantifier-free  $n$ -types in  $\mathcal{B}$  for any  $n \geq 1$ .*

*Suppose that  $\mathcal{B}$  has RP. Then,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a semi-retract of  $\mathcal{B}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{A}$  has RP.*

# References



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