

# The bi-embeddability relation on countable torsion-free abelian groups

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Descriptive Set Theory in Turin  
September 8, 2017

# Notation

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## Definition

Let  $T, U \in X_{Gr}$ .

$$T \sqsubseteq_{Gr} U \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \exists h \in \omega^\omega \text{ (} f \text{ is an isomorphism from } T \text{ to } U \upharpoonright \text{Im}(f)\text{)}.$$

$$T \equiv_{Gr} U \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} T \sqsubseteq_{Gr} U \text{ and } U \sqsubseteq_{Gr} T.$$

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$\sqsubseteq_{Gr}$  and  $\equiv_{Gr}$  are  $\Sigma_1^1$  subsets of  $X_{Gr} \times X_{Gr}$ .

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## Definition

Let  $Q, R$  be quasi-orders on the standard Borel spaces  $X, Y$ , respectively. We say that  $Q$  **Borel reduces** to  $R$  ( $Q \leq_B R$ ) if there exists a Borel  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  such that for all  $x, y \in X$

$$x Q y \iff f(x) R f(y).$$



## Starting point

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### Theorem (J. Williams 2014)

*The relation  $\equiv_{Gp}$  is a complete  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation. That is, whenever  $E$  is a  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation  $E \leq_B \equiv_{Gp}$ .*

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### Proof (outline)

By producing a Borel map  $f: X_{Gr} \rightarrow X_{Gp}$  such that

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It follows that  $\equiv_{Gp}$  is a complete  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation.  $\square$

For every  $T \in X_{Gr}$ , the group  $f(T)$  is **non-abelian** and have **many torsion elements**, which are used to encode the edge-relation.

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### Question

What is the Borel complexity of the bi-embeddability relation  $\equiv_{TFA}$  on the space of countable **torsion-free abelian** group?

Recall that an abelian group  $(G, +, 0)$  is **torsion-free** if

$$\forall g \in G \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\} (ng = 0 \rightarrow g = 0).$$

## A first possible strategy

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### Theorem (Przeździecki 2014)

There exists an **almost-full embedding**  $G$  from  $\mathcal{G}$ raphs into  $\mathcal{A}b$ .  
That is, for every two graphs  $T, V$

$$\mathbb{Z}[\text{Hom}(T, V)] \cong \text{Hom}(GT, GV).$$

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Every group in the target is actually torsion-free, and  $G$  preserves injectiveness.

## A “generalized” result

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By slightly modifying Przeździecki's functor we have

### Theorem (C.)

*If  $\kappa$  is uncountable and  $\kappa^{<\kappa} = \kappa$ , then  $\sqsubseteq_{Gr}^{\kappa}$  Borel reduces to  $\sqsubseteq_{TFA}^{\kappa}$ .*



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Combined with (Motto Ros 2013; Mildenberger-Motto Ros)...

### Corollary

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The functor cannot be used in the classical case because it maps countable graphs to groups of size  $2^{\aleph_0}$ .

## Completeness of $\equiv_{TFA}$

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### Theorem (C.-Thomas)

*The bi-embeddability relation  $\equiv_{TFA}$  on the space of countable torsion free abelian group is a complete  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation.*

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### Proof (outline)

Louveau-Rosendal 2005 defined a complete  $\Sigma_1^1$  quasi-order  $\leq_{max}$  on a Polish space  $\mathcal{T}$  of trees on  $2 \times \omega$  (normal trees).

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We define a reduction of  $\leq_{max}$  to  $\sqsubseteq_{TFA}$  by composition

$$T \mapsto G_T \mapsto A(G_T).$$

Where  $G_T$  is the combinatorial tree built from  $T$  as in (Louveau-Rosendal 2005). And  $A(G_T)$  is an adaptation of the torsion-free abelian group built from  $G_T$  as in (Downey-Montalban 2008).

We prove that

$$T \leq_{max} U \iff A(G_T) \sqsubseteq_{TFA} A(G_U).$$

It follows that  $\equiv_{TFA}$  is a complete  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation.



# Classical vs. generalized DST

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## Theorem (C.-Thomas; Törnquist)

*The bi-embeddability relation  $\equiv_{TFA}$  on the space of countable torsion-free abelian group is a complete  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation.*

## Theorem (C.)

*If  $\kappa$  is uncountable and  $\kappa^{<\kappa} = \kappa$ , then  $\equiv_{TFA}^\kappa$  is a complete  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation.*

The proofs use essentially different techniques.



## Torsion-free vs. torsion

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### Theorem (C.-Thomas; Törnquist)

*The bi-embeddability relation  $\equiv_{TFA}$  on the space of countable torsion free abelian group is a complete  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation.*

Consider  $X_{TA}$  the space of torsion abelian group.

### Theorem (C.-Thomas)

*The equivalence relations  $\equiv_{TA}$  and  $\cong_{TA}$  are incomparable up to Borel reducibility.*

# Invariant universality

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## Theorem (C.-Motto Ros)

For every  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation  $E$ , there exists a Borel  $B_E \subseteq X_{Gp}$  such that

- $B_E$  is  $\cong_{Gp}$ -invariant
- $E \sim (\equiv_{Gp} \upharpoonright B_E)$ .

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Using the terminology of (Camerlo-Marcone-Motto Ros 2013),  $(\equiv_{Gp}, \cong_{Gp})$  is **invariantly universal**.

# Invariant universality

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## Theorem (C.-Motto Ros)

For every  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation  $E$ , there exists a Borel  $B_E \subseteq X_{G_p}$  such that

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Using the terminology of (Camerlo-Marcone-Motto Ros 2013),  $(\equiv_{G_p}, \cong_{G_p})$  is **invariantly universal**.

## Corollary

For every  $\Sigma_1^1$  equivalence relation  $E$ , there exists a sentence  $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega}$  such that  $E \sim \equiv_{G_p} \upharpoonright \text{Mod}_\varphi$ .

## How about $\equiv_{TFA}$ ?

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### Conjecture

$(\equiv_{TFA}, \cong_{TFA})$  is invariantly universal.

## Impossible not to mention...

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Theorem (Hjorth 2002)

*The isomorphism relation  $\cong_{TFA}$  is not Borel.*

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### Theorem (Hjorth 2002)

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### Question

Is  $\cong_{TFA}$  a complete  $S_\infty$ -equivalence relation?



# A good conjecture

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Suspect (Törnquist)

$\cong_{TFA}$  is NOT a complete  $S_\infty$ -equivalence relation.

# A good conjecture

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## Conjecture (Törnquist)

$\cong_{TFA}$  is NOT a complete  $S_\infty$ -equivalence relation.

What is a good conjecture?

*“The most interesting statement as possible...which is not provably false.”*

*-Simon Thomas*