

Model theory in positive and continuous logics

Itay Ben-Yaacov

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1 Positive logic

1.1 Motivation: the semantics of hyperimaginary sorts

Classical approach: Semantics encoded by syntactic objects

Syntax		Semantics
Formulae	\rightsquigarrow	\emptyset -Definable sets
$\mathcal{L}(n) = \{\varphi(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})\}$		$\mathcal{L}_{\emptyset}(n) = \mathcal{L}(n)/\equiv$

Let S_n be the Stone space of the Boolean algebra $\mathcal{L}_{\emptyset}(n)$, i.e., the set of all complete consistent n -types in \mathcal{L} . By Stone duality:

S_n	=	{ultrafilters on $\mathcal{L}_{\emptyset}(n)$ }
{clopen sets in S_n }	=	$\mathcal{L}_{\emptyset}(n)$
{closed sets in S_n }	=	type-definable properties

If T is a theory, we have a similar duality between $\mathcal{L}_T(n) = \mathcal{L}(n)/\equiv_T$ and $S_n(T)$.

Positive model theory: an alternative (and more general) approach to semantics in model theory

- Idea: Semantics can be coded by topological objects.
- Advantage: it is easier to “relax the hypotheses” on a topological space than on a Boolean algebra.
- Why should we want to relax the hypotheses? For example, hyperimaginary sorts.

Imaginary elements: first order syntax works

Let $E(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ be a definable equivalence relation on n -tuples, and:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}^* &= \mathcal{L} \cup \{\pi_E\} \\ M^* &= M \cup M^n/E, \quad \pi_E^{M^*}(\bar{a}) = \bar{a}/E. \\ T^* &= \text{Th}_{\mathcal{L}^*}\{M^* : M \models T\} \\ &= T \cup \{\text{“for all } \bar{x}, \pi_E(\bar{x}) \text{ is the } E\text{-class of } \bar{x}\text{”}\}.\end{aligned}$$

If M is a monster model of T then M^* is a monster model of T^* ; if T is model complete so is T^* ; etc.

Example: cosets

Let $M = \langle G, 1, \cdot, \dots \rangle$ be a group, and $H \leq G$ a definable subgroup. Let $E(x, y)$ be the formula

$$\exists z (z \in H \wedge x = yz).$$

Then E is a definable equivalence relation, and the sort M_E is the sort of left cosets of H : $\{gH : g \in G\}$.

If H is a normal subgroup, then we can define multiplication on M_E by the formula $\varphi(x_E, y_E, z_E)$:

$$\exists xy (\pi_E(x) = x_E \wedge \pi_E(y) = y_E \wedge \pi_E(xy) = z_E).$$

Hypermaginary elements: first order syntax fails

Let $E(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ be a type-definable equivalence relation on α -tuples (possibly infinite).

E -classes are called *hyperimaginary elements*.

If $\alpha = n < \omega$, we may again try to define:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}^* &= \mathcal{L} \cup \{\pi_E\} \\ M^* &= M \cup M^n/E, \quad \pi_E^{M^*}(\bar{a}) = \bar{a}/E. \\ T^* &= \text{Th}_{\mathcal{L}^*}\{M^* : M \models T\}.\end{aligned}$$

However, even if M is saturated M^* needs not be, and in a saturated model $N^* \models T^*$ we may find \bar{a}, \bar{b} such that $E(\bar{a}, \bar{b})$ but $\pi_E(\bar{a}) \neq \pi_E(\bar{b})$.

For the purpose of studying E -classes, T^* is useless.

Example: infinitesimals

Let RCF be the theory of real closed fields in the language of ordered rings. Let $E(x, y)$ be “ $x - y$ is infinitesimal”. This is type-definable:

$$E(x, y) = \{-1/n < x - y < 1/n : n < \omega\}.$$

If $M \models RCF$ then the set $\pi_E(x) \neq \pi_E(y) \cup E(x, y)$ is finitely realised in M^* , but not realised. It would be realised in a saturated model of T^* , which means that π_E is not what we want it to be.

Solution: semantics via types

Let U be a monster model for T , $U_E = U^\alpha/E$ a hyperimaginary sort.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{As sets: } S_n(T) &= U^n / \text{Aut}(U), \\ S_\alpha(T) &= U^\alpha / \text{Aut}(U), \text{ etc.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow S_E(T) = U_E / \text{Aut}(U).$$

We obtain a projection $S_\alpha(T) \rightarrow S_E(U)$. We equip $S_E(U)$ with the quotient topology: it is compact and Hausdorff. We can similarly construct $S_{n,m \times E}(T)$ (n real elements, m E -classes), and do the same with more than one equivalence relation.

From definable sets to type-definable ones

We have a new feature: the type-space $S_E(T)$ is not necessarily totally disconnected (no base of clopen sets).

Hence, no Stone duality with a Boolean algebra, and no canonical notion of a formula/definable set. We do have a formal analogue of the notion of type-definable properties, i.e., properties definable by a set of formulae, through the classical correspondence:

$$\text{type-definable properties} \leftrightarrow \text{closed sets of types.}$$

The family of type-definable properties is closed under conjunction, disjunction, existential (and universal) quantification, *but not negation*. It also satisfies:

Compactness for type-definable properties

If $\{p_i(\bar{x}) : i \in I\}$ is a family of type-definable properties which is finitely satisfiable, then it is satisfiable.

Recovering some syntax

Let \mathcal{L}_E consist of a n -ary predicate symbol P_R for every closed set $R \subseteq S_{m \times E}(T)$. Let Δ_E be the set of all quantifier-free positive \mathcal{L}_E -formulae. Then U_E is naturally an \mathcal{L}_E structure.

The type of a tuple in U_E is determined by the Δ_E -formulae it satisfies (its Δ_E -type), and every finitely satisfiable small set of Δ_E -formulae is satisfied (more precise definitions follow).

(We can do the same with several sorts simultaneously.)

This is our motivating example for positive logic.

1.2 Positive fragments and universal domains

Syntax for positive logic

Let \mathcal{L} be any first order language.

Definition. A *positive fragment* of \mathcal{L} is a subset $\Delta \subseteq \mathcal{L}$ closed under positive Boolean combinations, change of variables and sub-formulae. (Caution: only $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \exists$ are allowed.)

We fix a positive fragment Δ and define:

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma = \exists\Delta &= \{\exists\bar{y} \varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) : \varphi \in \Delta\} && \text{(positive existential formulae)} \\ \Pi = \neg\Sigma &= \{\forall\bar{y} \neg\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) : \varphi \in \Delta\} && \text{(negative universal formulae)} \end{aligned}$$

Note that Σ is also a positive fragment.

Universal domains

Definition. A (partial) Δ -homomorphism between two structures $f: M \rightarrow N$ ($f: M \dashrightarrow N$) is a mapping such that for all $\bar{a} \in \text{dom}(f)$ and $\varphi(\bar{x}) \in \Delta$:

$$M \models \varphi(\bar{a}) \implies N \models \varphi(f(\bar{a})).$$

Definition. A (κ -)universal domain is an \mathcal{L} -structure U satisfying:

- *Δ -Compactness:* Every small ($< \kappa$) set of Δ -formulae which is finitely realised in U is realised in U .
- *Δ -Homogeneity:* Every partial Δ -homomorphism $f: U \dashrightarrow U$ with small domain extends to an automorphism of U .
- *Elimination of \exists :* Every Σ -formula $\exists\bar{y} \varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ is equivalent in U to some partial Δ -type $p(\bar{x})$.

Complete positive Robinson theories

Universal domains replace the monster models: big homogeneous models in which the saturation assumption is restricted to our positive fragment Δ . Therefore:

A partial Δ -type (i.e., a set of Δ -formulae) $\Phi(\bar{x})$ is realised in U if and only if it is consistent with its negative universal theory:

$$T = \text{Th}_{\Pi}(U) = \{\forall\bar{x} \neg\varphi(\bar{x}) : \varphi \in \Delta \text{ and } U \models \forall\bar{x} \neg\varphi(\bar{x})\}.$$

We therefore say that U is a *universal domain for T* .

Definition. A *complete positive Robinson theory* is a Π -theory which has a universal domain.

Examples

Example. If $\Delta = \mathcal{L}_{\omega,\omega}$, T is a complete first order theory, and U is a monster model of T .

We call this the “first order” case.

Example. With U_E and Δ_E as constructed in the example of hyperimaginaries, U_E is a universal domain with respect to Δ_E .

Example. If Δ is closed for negation, T is a Robinson theory and U is its universal domain (Hrushovski [Hru97]), whence the term “positive Robinson theory”.

1.3 On Δ -inductive theories and e.c. models

Δ -inductive limits

Fix a positive fragment Δ of \mathcal{L} . Here Δ -homomorphisms will play the role of embeddings. Note that a Δ -homomorphism $f: M \rightarrow N$ needs not be injective, so we cannot say that N extends M . Instead, we will say that N *continues* M .

Δ -inductive limits

Let $(I, <)$ be totally ordered, $(M_i: i \in I)$ be structures, and for each $i < j$ let $f_{ij}: M_i \rightarrow M_j$ be a Δ -homomorphism such that $f_{jk} \circ f_{ij} = f_{ik}$.

One can construct in the obvious manner a direct limit $N = \varinjlim M_i$, equipped with Δ -homomorphisms $g_i: M_i \rightarrow N$, such that $g_j \circ f_{ij} = g_i$ for $i < j$.

If $\Delta = \{\mathbf{q.f. formulae}\} \dots$

Then a Δ -homomorphism is an embedding, and a Δ -inductive limit is an increasing union.

Δ -inductive theories

Definition. A first order theory T is Δ -inductive if an inductive limit of models of T is a model of T .

For example, every Π -theory is Δ -inductive. More generally:

Lemma (Characterisation of Δ -inductive theories). *A first order theory T is Δ -inductive if and only if it can be axiomatised by sentences of the form*

$$\forall \bar{x} \exists \bar{y} \varphi(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \quad \varphi, \psi \in \Delta.$$

If $\Delta = \{\mathbf{q.f. formulae}\} \dots$

This is the classical characterisation of inductive theories.

Existentially closed (e.c.) models

Definition. A model M of a theory T is *existentially closed* if for every Δ -homomorphism $f: M \rightarrow N \models T$, and every $\bar{a} \in M$ and $\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \in \Delta$:

$$N \models \exists \bar{y} \varphi(f(\bar{a}), \bar{y}) \implies M \models \exists \bar{y} \varphi(\bar{a}, \bar{y}).$$

We can use the classical chain argument to show:

Lemma (Existence of existentially closed models). *If T is Δ -inductive and $M \models T$, then M continues to an e.c. model $N \models T$. (Uses the Axiom of Choice.)*

If $\Delta = \{\mathbf{q.f. formulae}\} \dots$

This is the classical definition of e.c. models.

Companions

We will be interested in what happens in the class of e.c. models of a Δ -inductive theory. If two such theories have precisely the same e.c. models, we call them *companions*, and for our purposes they are equivalent.

Lemma. *The companionship class of a Δ -inductive theory T is determined by the set of Π -consequences of T , denoted T_Π .*

Therefore, on the one hand we may restrict our consideration to Π -theories. On the other, when it is convenient to consider other Δ -inductive theories, we are allowed to do so.

Example (Positive Morleyisation). Let $\Delta \subseteq \mathcal{L}_{\omega, \omega}$ be a positive fragment, and T an Δ -inductive theory (e.g., a Π -theory).

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}' &= \{R_\varphi(\bar{x}) : \varphi(\bar{x}) \in \Delta\} \\ \Delta' &= \text{positive quantifier-free } \mathcal{L}'\text{-formulae} \\ T' &= \forall \bar{x} \exists \bar{y} R_\varphi(\bar{x}) \rightarrow R_\psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \quad \forall \bar{x} \exists \bar{y} \varphi(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \in T \\ &\quad \forall \bar{x} \exists ! y R_{f(\bar{x})=y}(\bar{x}, y) \quad f \in \mathcal{L} \\ &\quad \forall \bar{x} R_{\neg \varphi}(\bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \neg R_\varphi(\bar{x}) \quad \neg \varphi \in \Delta \\ &\quad \forall \bar{x} R_{\exists \bar{y} \varphi}(\bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \exists \bar{y} R_\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \quad \exists \bar{y} \varphi \in \Delta \\ &\quad \dots (\text{same for } \vee, \wedge) \end{aligned}$$

Then T' is Δ' -inductive, and up to a change of language it has the same e.c. models as T .

\therefore We may always assume that Δ consists only of positive quantifier-free formulae.

Positive Robinson theories, revisited

We can now re-define positive Robinson theories by a “quantifier elimination” property:

Definition. Let T be a Δ -inductive theory. It is:

- A *positive Robinson theory* if every Σ -formula $\exists \bar{y} \varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ is equivalent, in the class of e.c. models of T , to a partial Δ -type (a set of Δ -formulae).
- *Complete* if every two models of T continue to a third (“positive JEP”).

Our new definition of a complete positive Robinson theory agrees with the previous one:

Theorem. A Π -theory is a complete positive Robinson theory if and only if it has a κ -universal domain for some (all) big enough κ .

Proof. \implies : The class of e.c. models of T has enough amalgamation properties to construct a sufficiently homogeneous e.c. model of T in which all small e.c. models Δ -embed.

\impliedby : Verify the definition for small (cardinality $< \kappa$) e.c. models by Δ -embedding them in the universal domain. The same properties for arbitrary e.c. models follow easily. \square

Types and type spaces

- Classical concepts and methods transfer (mostly) to positive logic:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Monster model} & & \text{Universal domain} \\ & \rightsquigarrow & \\ \mathcal{L}_{\omega, \omega} & & \Delta \end{array}$$

- Types (over a small set $A \subseteq U$):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tp}(\bar{a}/A) &= \{\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{b}) : \varphi \in \Delta, \bar{b} \in A, U \models \varphi(\bar{a}, \bar{b})\} \\ S_n(A) &= U^n / \text{Aut}_A(U) = \{\text{tp}(\bar{a}/A) : \bar{a} \in U^n\} \end{aligned}$$

- Topology: every Δ -formula with parameters in A defines a closed subset:

$$[\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{a})] = \{p(\bar{x}) \in S_n(A) : \varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{a}) \in p\}.$$

These sets form a base of closed sets for a compact, T_1 topology.

A word of caution

Because there is no canonical notion of a formula, the choice of language is even more arbitrary than in first order logic: Δ -formulae define closed sets of types (i.e., a partial type), but a closed set of types may or not be defined by a Δ -formula. If such a closed set is not definable by a Δ -formula, we can always expand the language so that it is. The semantic contents, coded by the type spaces, would not change. Therefore:

Different positive Robinson theories in different (arbitrary!) languages with the homeomorphic type spaces are to be considered equivalent. The common semantic contents will be referred to as a *compact abstract theory*, or *cat*.

1.4 Simplicity

Closing the circle: simplicity

Our motivation for positive logic was the notion of hyperimaginary elements. These were introduced by Hart, Kim and Pillay [HKP00] for the construction of canonical bases in first order simple theories.

They had to re-prove for hyperimaginaries most of the theorems concerning independence in simple theories.

One can define indiscernible sequences, non-dividing and simplicity (= local character of non-dividing) in the positive setting.

Caution: not all equivalent definitions of first order logic are equivalent.)

Definition. • A sequence of tuples $(\bar{a}_i : i < \omega)$ is *indiscernible over A* if for all $i_0 < i_1 < \dots < i_{n-1} < \omega$: $\text{tp}(\bar{a}_{i_0}, \dots, \bar{a}_{i_{n-1}}/A)$ depends solely on n .

- A type $p(\bar{x}, \bar{b}, A) \in S_n(\bar{b}A)$ *divides* over A if There exists an A -indiscernible sequence $(\bar{b}_i : i < \omega)$ such that $\bar{b}_0 = \bar{b}$, and $\bigcup_{i < \omega} p(\bar{x}, \bar{b}_i, A)$ is inconsistent.
- Let $A, B, C \subseteq U$. If $\text{tp}(\bar{a}/\bar{b}C)$ does not divide over C for all $\bar{a} \in A, \bar{b} \in B$, we say that A and B are *independent over C* , in symbols $A \downarrow_C B$.
- A cat T is *simple* if for all a and A there is $A_0 \subseteq A, |A_0| \leq |\mathcal{L}|$, such that $a \downarrow_{A_0} A$.

Theorem. *If T is simple, then \downarrow satisfies:*

- *Symmetry:* $A \downarrow_C B \iff B \downarrow_C A$.
- *Transitivity:* $A \downarrow_B CD \iff [A \downarrow_B C \wedge A \downarrow_{BC} D]$.
- *Invariance, finite character, local character.*
- *Extension only holds for some types (e.g., types over sufficiently saturated models). We call such types extendible.*
- *Independence theorem for extendible Lascar strong types.*

Conversely, if \downarrow satisfies these hypotheses, then T is simple and $\downarrow' = \downarrow$.

Moreover, extendible Lascar strong types admit hyperimaginary canonical bases.

As we may add hyperimaginary sorts and remain within positive logic, we may always assume that canonical bases exist in the structure, achieving our original goal.

Definition. A cat T is *Hausdorff* if $S_n(T)$ is Hausdorff for all n . It follows that $S_\alpha(A)$ is Hausdorff for every α and set of parameters A .

Example. Adding hyperimaginary sorts to a first order theory (as in the beginning) yields a Hausdorff cat.

Theorem. *If T is Hausdorff (in fact, a weaker assumption, “thickness”, suffices) then:*

- *Every type has non-dividing extensions to arbitrary sets.*
- *The theory of hyperdefinable groups [Wag01] holds.*
- *Lovely/beautiful pairs construction can be carried out.*
- *Etc.*

2 Continuous first order logic

2.1 Characterising first order logic

Going back a bit closer to first order logic

- It really is fun to look for the most general context in which a certain argument works.
- But our original goal was merely to “relax the conditions defining first order logic”, whatever that means.

So what precisely does define the full first order logic?

Let T be a complete first order theory (equivalently: a positive Robinson theory with $\Delta = \mathcal{L}_{\omega, \omega}$). Then:

- $S_n(T)$ is totally disconnected for all T (i.e., has a base of clopen sets).
- The restriction mapping $S_{n+1}(T) \rightarrow S_n(T)$ is open.

If a cat satisfies the latter property we say it is *open*.

(The mapping $S_{n+1}(T) \rightarrow S_n(T)$ is continuous and closed for every cat.)

Conversely, let T be a cat:

- If $S_n(T)$ is totally disconnected for all n , then we may choose a language for it such that Δ is closed for negation.
- Then, T being open is equivalent to the class of e.c. models of T being elementary, or to any universal domain being a saturated model of its own theory.

First order logic without negation?!

- When adding a hyperimaginary sort we relaxed the first condition, replacing “totally disconnected” with “Hausdorff” (which is indeed next-best.)
- In the totally disconnected case (i.e., “with negation”), openness of $S_{n+1}(T) \rightarrow S_n(T)$ meant the existence of a first order model completion for T . In the case without negation, does it still mean that some kind of a first order model completion exists?
- Surprisingly enough: YES.
- By the way, hyperimaginary sorts do satisfy the openness hypothesis.

Convention. From now on we assume T is an open Hausdorff cat, i.e., that $S_n(T)$ is Hausdorff and $S_{n+1}(T) \rightarrow S_n(T)$ is open for all n .

Continuous predicates

- A compact totally disconnected topology is given by the family of clopen sets; equivalently: by the family of functions to $\{0, 1\}$ (also known as $\{T, F\}$).
- Similarly: A compact Hausdorff topology is given by the family of all continuous functions to $[0, 1]$ (or to \mathbb{C}).
- In first order logic, a continuous mapping from $S_n(T)$ to $\{0, 1\}$ is simply a formula, or a definable n -ary predicate.
- By analogy, we define:

Definition. A (*definable*) *continuous n -ary predicate* is a continuous mapping $\varphi: S_n(T) \rightarrow [0, 1]$. For a tuple $\bar{a} \in U^n$ we write $\varphi(\bar{a})$ instead of $\varphi(\text{tp}(\bar{a}))$.

A lemma concerning open mappings

Lemma. *Let X and Y be compact Hausdorff space, $f: X \rightarrow Y$ a continuous (\implies closed) and open projection. Let $\varphi: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be a continuous mapping, and define*

$$\psi(y) = \inf_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} \varphi(x).$$

Then $\psi: Y \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is continuous.

Proof. For any $r \in [0, 1]$: $\psi^{-1}([0, r]) = f(\varphi^{-1}([0, r]))$ is closed. Assume now that $\psi(y) < r$: then there is $x \in f^{-1}(y)$ such that $\varphi(x) < r$, and there is a neighbourhood U of x such that $\varphi(U) \subseteq [0, r)$. Then $f(U)$ is a neighbourhood of y , and $\psi(f(U)) \subseteq [0, r)$. Thus $\psi^{-1}([0, r))$ is open. \square

Operations on continuous predicates

- **Variable manipulation:** If $\varphi(x, y)$ is a definable predicate, then so are:

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(x, y, z) &:= \varphi(x, y) && \text{(dummy variables)} \\ \chi(x) &:= \varphi(x, x) && \text{(repetition of variables)}.\end{aligned}$$

- **Continuous (instead of Boolean) combinations:** If $f: [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is continuous and $\varphi(x, y)$ and $\psi(x, z)$ are definable continuous then so is:

$$\chi(x, y, z) := f(\varphi(x, y), \psi(x, z)).$$

- **Continuous quantification:** If $\varphi(\bar{x}, y)$ is a definable continuous predicate, then so are:

$$\psi(\bar{x}) := \inf_y \varphi(\bar{x}, y) \quad \chi(\bar{x}) := \sup_y \varphi(\bar{x}, y).$$

(Applying the Lemma to $S_{n+1}(T) \rightarrow S_n(T)$.)

An (important) example

Assume $|\mathcal{L}| \leq \omega$. As $[x = y] \subseteq S_2(T)$ is closed, it is the zero set of a continuous mapping $\varphi: S_2(T) \rightarrow [0, 1]$.

In other words, we have a definable continuous predicate $\varphi(x, y)$ such that for every $a, b \in U$: $\varphi(a, b) = 0 \iff a = b$.

Let $d(x, y) := \sup_z |\varphi(x, z) - \varphi(y, z)|$. Then d is also a definable continuous predicate, satisfying:

$$\begin{aligned}d(x, y) &= d(y, x) \\ d(x, y) &\leq d(x, w) + d(w, x) \\ d(x, y) &= 0 \iff x = y.\end{aligned}$$

In other words, d is a *definable metric*.

Uniform continuity

Notation. If $\varphi(\bar{x})$ is an n -ary definable continuous predicate, let $[\varphi(\bar{x}) \leq r]$ denote the (closed) set $\{p \in S_n(T) : \varphi(p) \leq r\}$.

Let $\varphi(x, \bar{z})$ be any definable continuous predicate, and $\varepsilon > 0$. Then:

$$[\sup_{\bar{z}} |\varphi(x, \bar{z}) - \varphi(y, \bar{z})| \geq \varepsilon] \cap \bigcap_{\delta > 0} [d(x, y) \leq \delta] = \emptyset.$$

By compactness, there is $\delta > 0$ such that for all $a, b \in U$:

$$d(a, b) \leq \delta \implies \sup_{\bar{c}} |\varphi(a, \bar{c}) - \varphi(b, \bar{c})| < \varepsilon.$$

In other words, every definable continuous predicate is uniformly continuous with respect to d .

A similar argument shows that if $f: U^n \rightarrow U$ is type-definable (i.e., its graph is) then it is uniformly continuous.

If d' is another definable metric, then d and d' are uniformly continuous w.r.t. each other, i.e., they are uniformly equivalent.

We have all we need to motivate continuous logic.

(Another motivation: local stability. Not in this talk.)

2.2 Formal definitions

Continuous logic

Continuous first order logic as presented here was defined independently by B. and Usvyatsov [BUa]. It is similar to the logic defined by Chang & Keisler [CK66], but is far better adapted to our needs.

- We replace the set of truth values $\{T, F\}$ with the compact interval $[0, 1]$. (It turns out to be more elegant to identify “True” with 0 rather than 1.)
- The distinguished equality symbol $=$ is replaced with a distinguished metric symbol d .
- First order logic requires that $=$ be a congruence relation for all predicate and function symbols. Analogously, we require that all symbols be uniformly continuous w.r.t. d .

Definition. A *continuous signature* is a collection \mathcal{L} of predicate and function symbols, with various arities, where each symbol s is equipped with a uniform continuity modulus $\varepsilon \mapsto \delta_s(\varepsilon)$.

Continuous structures

Definition. A *continuous pre- \mathcal{L} -structure* consists of:

- A set M_0 .
- For each n -ary predicate symbol a mapping $P^{M_0}: M_0^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$.
- For each n -ary function symbol a mapping $f^{M_0}: M_0^n \rightarrow M_0$.

Such that in addition d^{M_0} is a pseudometric, and all the interpretations of the symbols respect their uniform continuity moduli.

Definition. A *continuous structure* is a pre-structure M in which d^M is a complete metric.

For every pre-structure M_0 we may construct its *completion* $M = \hat{M}_0$ by modding out $d(a, b) = 0$ and completing.

Continuous syntax

- **Terms:** constructed using variables and function symbols as usual.
- **Atomic formulae:** defined as usual.
- **Connectives:** In theory any continuous function $f: [0, 1]^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$: if $\varphi_i, i < n$ are formulae then so is

$$f(\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_{n-1}).$$

- **Quantifiers:** inf and sup:

$$\sup_x \varphi \quad \inf_x \varphi.$$

Continuous semantics

Writing $\varphi(\bar{x})$ we mean that all free variables of φ are in \bar{x} .

If M is a structure, then every term $t(\bar{x})$ and formula $\varphi(\bar{x})$ induce uniformly continuous mappings (by induction on the structure of the term or formula):

$$\begin{aligned} t^M &: M^{|\bar{x}|} \rightarrow M \\ \varphi^M &: M^{|\bar{x}|} \rightarrow [0, 1]. \end{aligned}$$

For example, if $\psi(\bar{x}) = \sup_y \varphi(\bar{x}, y)$, then:

$$\psi^M(\bar{a}) = \sup\{\varphi^M(\bar{a}, b) : b \in M\}.$$

A little more about connectives

The family of all possible continuous connectives is of the size of the continuum. In practise, it suffices to use:

$$\begin{aligned} \neg x &= 1 - x && \text{(unary - like negation)} \\ \frac{1}{2}x &= \frac{x}{2} && \text{(unary - no analogue)} \\ x \dot{\div} y &= \begin{cases} x - y & x \geq y \\ 0 & x < y \end{cases} && \text{(binary - like “} y \rightarrow x \text{”)} \end{aligned}$$

We can get most of the connectives we'd like to use by composing these:

$$|x - y| = \neg(\neg(x \dot{\div} y) \dot{\div} (y \dot{\div} x))$$

By lattice Stone-Weierstrass: every continuous function can be uniformly approximated by terms in $\neg, \frac{1}{2}, \dot{\div}$.

2.3 Theories

Statements and compactness

Definition. A *statement* is something of the form “ $r \leq \varphi(\bar{x}) \leq s$ ”. It is closed if φ has no free variables.

Theorem (Łoś’s Theorem for continuous logic). Let $(M_i : i \in I)$ be \mathcal{L} -structures, \mathcal{U} an ultrafilter on I . Let $M = \prod M_i / \mathcal{U}$. Then for every formula $\varphi(\bar{x})$, and tuples $\bar{a}_i \in M_i$:

$$\varphi^M([\bar{a}_i : i \in I]) = \lim_{\mathcal{U}} \varphi^{M_i}(\bar{a}_i).$$

Corollary (Compactness for continuous first order logic). A set of statements which is finitely satisfiable is satisfiable.

Theories

Definition. A *theory* is a set of closed statements. (We could restrict to statements of the form $\varphi = 0$, so theories are “ideals” – this boils down to the same thing).

Definition. We say that T *eliminates quantifiers* if for every formula $\varphi(\bar{x})$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a quantifier-free formula $\theta(\bar{x})$ such that:

$$\begin{aligned} & T \vDash \sup_{\bar{x}} |\varphi - \theta| \leq \varepsilon \\ \text{i.e.:} & \quad M \vDash T \implies (\sup_{\bar{x}} |\varphi - \theta|)^M \leq \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Example: probability algebras

The language: functional language of Boolean algebras + one unary predicate symbol μ :
 $\mathcal{L}_{PrAlg} = \{0, 1, \vee, \wedge, \cdot^c, \mu\}$.

The theory T_{PrAlg} : “Boolean algebra with an additive probability measure; distance is the measure of the symmetric difference”.

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{x,y} d(x^c \wedge y^c, (x \vee y)^c) = 0 \quad (\text{i.e., } \forall xy \ x^c \wedge y^c = (x \vee y)^c) \\ & \dots \text{axioms of Boolean algebras} \dots \\ & \mu(1) = 1 \\ & \mu(0) = 0 \\ & \forall xy \ \mu(x) + \mu(y) = \mu(x \vee y) + \mu(x \wedge y) \quad (\sup |\dots - \dots| = 0) \\ & \forall xy \ d(x, y) = \mu((x \wedge y^c) \vee (y \wedge x^c)) \end{aligned}$$

$T_{AtlsPrAlg} = T_{PrAlg} +$ “no atoms”:

$$\sup_x \inf_y \left| \mu(x \wedge y) - \frac{1}{2} \mu(x) \right| = 0$$

The theory $T_{AtlsPrAlg}$ is complete and eliminates quantifiers (a back-and-forth argument). It is the “model completion” of the “universal theory” T_{PrAlg} (note that $M \subseteq N \vDash T_{PrAlg} \implies M \vDash T_{PrAlg}$).

Types

- A *complete n -type* is a maximal (finitely) satisfiable set $p(\bar{x})$ of statements of the form $\varphi(\bar{x}) = r_{p,\varphi} \in [0, 1]$. We may also view it as a mapping $\varphi(\bar{x}) \mapsto \varphi(\bar{x})^p = r_{p,\varphi}$.
- The type of an n -tuple $\bar{a} \in M$ is given by:

$$\text{tp}^M(\bar{a}) = \{\varphi(\bar{x}) = \langle \text{value of } \varphi^M(\bar{a}) \rangle : \varphi(\bar{x}) \in \mathcal{L}\}.$$

- The space of all n -types consistent with a theory T is denoted $S_n(T)$. It is equipped with the minimal topology in which the sets:

$$[r \leq \varphi(\bar{x}) \leq s] := \{p : r \leq \varphi^p \leq s\}$$

are closed (equivalently: such that all the mappings $p \mapsto \varphi^p$ are continuous).

- T eliminates quantifiers if and only if every $p \in S_n(T)$ is determined by the mappings $\varphi \mapsto \varphi^p$ for quantifier-free φ .

Back to the motivation

The expressive power of an open Hausdorff cat T is the same as that of a continuous first order theory T' :

- To get from T to T' : define a continuous language

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}' &= \{P_\varphi \text{ } n\text{-ary predicate: continuous } \varphi : S_n(T) \rightarrow [0, 1]\} \\ T' &= \text{Th}_{\mathcal{L}'}(U) \quad \text{viewing } U \text{ as an } \mathcal{L}'\text{-structure } U'. \end{aligned}$$

Then T' eliminates quantifiers and U is a monster model.

- To go back, using a monster model $U' \models T'$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \{P_R \text{ } n\text{-ary predicate: closed } R \subseteq S_n(T')\} \\ \Delta &= \{\text{quantifier-free positive formulae}\} \\ T &= \text{Th}_\Pi(U) \quad \text{viewing } U' \text{ as an } \mathcal{L}\text{-structure } U. \end{aligned}$$

Then U is a universal domain for T .

- Going in either direction we have

$$S_n(T) \cong S_n(T').$$

3 The metric

3.1 In continuous logic, every space is metric...

What now?

We can proceed to look at:

- Existentially closed models, inductive theories, model completions, model companions...
- Definability: Beth, Svenonius.
- Saturation, homogeneity. Monster models.
- Omitting types, isolated (and semi-isolated) types, Ryll-Nardzewski.
- Stability, and *local* stability (counting types \iff non order property \iff notion of independence).
- Superstability.

Many of these require us to take into account the metric on the universal domain, and metrics it induces on other spaces.

My message for the day: do not forget the metric

In continuous logic, each time we have an object we might think of as a “set with additional structure”, it is in fact a *metric space* with additional structure (in classical logic the metric is discrete, so these ARE just sets...):

- In a continuous structure, the interpretations of the symbols are uniformly continuous: this is a (complete) metric space with additional structure.
- Spaces of types admit a natural metric:

$$d(p, q) = \inf\{d(\bar{a}, \bar{b}) : \bar{a} \models p, \bar{b} \models q\}.$$

(Here $d(\bar{a}, \bar{b}) = \max_{i < n} d(a_i, b_i)$.) Although this may be less obvious, one should view type spaces as metric spaces (rather than sets) with a topological structure: shows up when considering superstability, omitting types, and even ω -saturation.

And yet another metric (to be looked at...)

If M is a countable discrete structure, then $\text{Aut}(M)$ is a polish group in the pointwise convergence topology. The uniform convergence metric is discrete.

In the separable metric case, the *topological* structure of pointwise convergence comes on top of the (non-trivial) *metric* structure of uniform convergence:

	M is discrete	Hilbert space: $U(H)$
Pointwise (polish):	...	Strong operator topology
Uniform (metric):	discrete	Operator norm.

Question. Can we simply take a categorical definition of a topological space in the category of sets, and transfer it to the category of metric spaces?

3.2 Omitting types

“Any fool can realise a type, but it takes a model-theorist to omit one.” G.S.

Theorem (Omitting Types Theorem, classical version). *Let T be a first order theory in a countable language, and for each $n < \omega$, let $X_n \subseteq S_n(T)$ be meagre. Then there is a model $M \models T$ omitting every type in $\bigcup X_n$.*

Proof. The set of all $p \in S_\omega(T)$ which are types of enumerations of models of T is co-meagre (Tarski-Vaught test). Removing countably many meagre sets we still have something co-meagre, and in particular non-empty. \square

Corollary. *A closed set $X \subseteq S_n(T)$ is realised in every model if and only if it has non-empty interior.*

Theorem. *Let T be a continuous first order theory in a countable language, and for each $n < \omega$, let $X_n \subseteq S_n(T)$ be meagre. Then there is a pre-model $M_0 \models T$ (i.e., a dense subset of a model $M \models T$) omitting every type in $\bigcup X_n$.*

Proof: same. The set of all $p \in S_\omega(T)$ which are types of enumerations of pre-models of T is co-meagre (Tarski-Vaught test)... \square

Corollary. *A closed set $X \subseteq S_n(T)$ is realised in every dense subset of model if and only if it has non-empty interior.*

So what?! Well, we forgot the metric

A “classical” example: Isolated (principal) types

Recall: $d(p, q) = \inf\{d(\bar{a}, \bar{b}) : \bar{a} \models p, \bar{b} \models q\}$.

The metric limits the resolution: we cannot “see” single points, only balls of positive radius:

Definition. A type $p \in S_n(T)$ is isolated if for every $\varepsilon > 0$, the ε -ball p^ε is a neighbourhood of p .

Theorem (Henson). *A type can be omitted in a model if and only if it is non-isolated.*

Proof. If p is not isolated, it’s that p^ε is nowhere dense for some $\varepsilon > 0$. Then there is a pre-model M_0 which omits p^ε , and the model $M = \hat{M}_0$ omits p . Conversely: construct a convergent sequence... \square

Omitting more than a single type: 0^+ -interior

Definition. • Let $X \subseteq S_n(T)$, $\varepsilon > 0$ The ε -interior of X , denoted $X^{\varepsilon, \circ}$, is the interior of $X^\varepsilon = \{p: d(p, X) \leq \varepsilon\}$ (if X is closed, so is X^ε).

- The 0^+ -interior of X is defined as:

$$X^{0^+, \circ} = \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} X^{\varepsilon, \circ}.$$

- X is nowhere 0^+ -dense if $\bar{X}^{0^+, \circ} = \emptyset$.
- X is 0^+ -meagre if it is a countable union of nowhere 0^+ -dense sets.

Real Omitting Types Theorem

Remark. A type p is isolated if and only if $\{p\}^{0^+, \circ} \neq \emptyset$, if and only if $\{p\}^{0^+, \circ} = \{p\}$.

Therefore, the omission of non-principal types is a special case of:

Theorem. *Let T be a continuous theory in a countable language. Let $X_n \subseteq S_n(T)$ be 0^+ -meagre for all n . Then there exists a model $M \models T$ omitting $\bigcup X_n$.*

Proof. We may assume we only need to omit one $X \subseteq S_n(T)$, that X is closed and $X^{0^+, \circ} = \emptyset$. For $m < \omega$ define

$$Y_m = \partial(X^{\frac{1}{m}}) = X^{\frac{1}{m}} \setminus X^{\frac{1}{m}, \circ}.$$

Each Y_m is closed and nowhere dense, so there is a pre-model M_0 omitting them all.

Assume that $p \in X$. Then there is $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $p \notin X^{2\varepsilon, \circ}$.

Let $W = X^{\varepsilon, \circ}$. Then W is open, and it follows that $W^{<\varepsilon}$ is also open, so $W^{<\varepsilon} \subseteq X^{2\varepsilon, \circ}$. Therefore $d(p, W) \geq \varepsilon$. Let $m > \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$. Then $p^{\frac{1}{m}} \subseteq X^{\frac{1}{m}}$, and

$$p^{\frac{1}{m}} \cap X^{\frac{1}{m}, \circ} \subseteq p^{<\varepsilon} \cap W = \emptyset.$$

Therefore $p^{\frac{1}{m}} \subseteq Y_m$.

As Y_m is omitted by M_0 , p is omitted by $M = \hat{M}_0$. □

3.3 Semi-isolation and superstability

Semi-isolation

Definition (Classical case: Pillay [Pil83]). Let \bar{a}, \bar{b} be finite tuples, $p(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \text{tp}(\bar{a}, \bar{b})$, $q(\bar{y}) = \text{tp}(\bar{b})$.

We say that \bar{a} *semi-isolates* \bar{b} (over \emptyset) if there exists $\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \in p$ such that $\varphi(\bar{a}, \bar{y}) \vdash q(\bar{y})$.

In other words: let $X = [q(\bar{y})] \subseteq S_n(\bar{a})$. Then \bar{a} semi-isolates \bar{b} if and only if $p(\bar{a}, \bar{y}) \in X^\circ$.

Definition (Semi-isolation, continuous version). Let $X = [\text{tp}(\bar{b})] \subseteq S_n(\bar{a})$ as above. Then \bar{a} semi-isolates \bar{b} if $\text{tp}(\bar{b}/\bar{a}) \in X^{0^+, \circ}$.

Semi-isolation and realising types

Corollary. *Assume that p and q are types over \emptyset , and every model of T realising p also realises q . Then there exists $\bar{a} \models p$ which semi-isolates a realisation $\bar{b} \models q$.*

Proof. Let $\bar{a} \models p$ in a large model M , and let $T' = T(\bar{a}) = \text{Th}(M, \bar{a})$. Let $X = [q] \subseteq S_m(\bar{a}) = S_m(T')$. Then by assumption every model of T' realises X , whereby $X^{0^+, \circ} \neq \emptyset$.

Let \bar{b} realise a type $\text{tp}(\bar{b}/\bar{a}) \in X^{0^+, \circ}$. Then \bar{a} semi-isolates \bar{b} . \square

Corollary (Towards Lachlan's Theorem). *Assume T has finitely many separable models, and let $(\bar{a}_i : i < \omega)$ be any sequence. Then there is $n < \omega$, and a copy $\bar{b}_{\leq n}$ of $\bar{a}_{\leq n}$, such that $\bar{a}_{< n}$ semi-isolates $\bar{b}_{\leq n}$*

Properties of semi-isolation still hold with this definition:

- If $\text{tp}(\bar{b}/\bar{a})$ is isolated then \bar{a} semi-isolates \bar{b} .
- If \bar{a} semi-isolates \bar{b} , and \bar{b} semi-isolates \bar{c} , then \bar{a} semi-isolates \bar{c} .
- In a stable theory, if \bar{a} semi-isolates \bar{b} , but $\text{tp}(\bar{b})$ is not isolated, then $\bar{a} \not\downarrow \bar{b}$.

Proof of last item. Let $q(\bar{y}) = \text{tp}(\bar{b})$, $X = [q]^{S_n(\bar{a})}$.

Assume we did have $\bar{a} \downarrow \bar{b}$. We know there is $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $(q^\varepsilon)^\circ$ is empty. But then: $\text{tp}(\bar{b}/\bar{a}) \in X^{\varepsilon, \circ} \subseteq X^\varepsilon$, so by the Open Mapping Theorem: q^ε has non-empty interior.

Contradiction. \square

Approximate dependence/independence

In the previous argument we wasted information: assume that $\varepsilon > 0$ is such that $(q^{2\varepsilon})^\circ = \emptyset$. Then the same argument shows that if $d(\bar{b}', \bar{b}) \leq \varepsilon$ then $\bar{b}' \not\downarrow \bar{a}$ as well.

Definition (Approximate independence). Let \bar{b} be a finite tuple, and $\varepsilon > 0$. We say that $\bar{b}^\varepsilon \downarrow_B C$ (" \bar{b} is independent up to ε from C over B ") if there is a tuple \bar{b}' such that $d(\bar{b}, \bar{b}') \leq \varepsilon$ and $\bar{b}' \downarrow_C B$.

So in fact we proved:

Lemma. *Assume that $\text{tp}(\bar{b})$ is not isolated. Then there is $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for every tuple \bar{a} , if \bar{a} semi-isolates \bar{b} , then $\bar{b}^\varepsilon \not\downarrow \bar{a}$.*

A further consequence

Lemma (Towards Lachlan's Theorem). *Assume T is stable and has finitely many separable models, and that $p \in S_1(T)$ is non-isolated. Let $(a_i : i < \omega)$ be a Morley sequence in p . Then there is $\varepsilon > 0$, $n < \omega$, and an independent sequence $(b_i : i < \omega)$ of realisations of p , such that $b_j^\varepsilon \not\downarrow a_{< n}$ for all $j < \omega$.*

Proof. By a previous lemma, there are $n < \omega$, and a copy $c_{\leq n}^0$ of $a_{\leq n}$ such that $a_{< n}$ semi-isolates $c_{\leq n}^0$. Then $a_{< n}$ semi-isolates $b_0 = c_n^0$, and $a_{< n}$ semi-isolates $c_{< n}^0$.

Now find $c_{\leq n}^1$ such that $c_{\leq n}^1 c_{< n}^0 \equiv c_{\leq n}^0 a_{< n}$ and $c_{\leq n}^1 c_{< n}^0 \downarrow b_0$. Let $b_1 = c_n^1$. Proceed by induction.

Existence of ε is by non-isolation of p . \square

Superstability

Definition (Iovino, for Banach spaces). • T is λ -stable, if for every set $|A| \leq \lambda$, the space of types $S_n(A)$ has metric density character λ .

- T is superstable if it is λ -stable for all $\lambda \geq 2^{|\mathcal{L}|}$.

Theorem. T is superstable if and only if T is stable and for every singleton (or finite tuple) a and set A :

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists A_0 \subseteq A \text{ finite s.t.} \quad a^\varepsilon \underset{A_0}{\downarrow} A.$$

If we do not take the metric into account, no “truly continuous” theory can be superstable. With these definitions, most known stable examples are superstable.

Putting some of this together: Lachlan’s Theorem

Theorem (improved version of B.,Usvyatsov [BUB]). Assume that: (1) T is superstable; and (2) there are “enough” elements a such that $\forall \varepsilon \exists \delta$ such that if $a^\delta \downarrow b$ then $b^\varepsilon \downarrow a$. Then T has either one or infinitely many separable models.

Sketch of proof. Assume the contrary. Then there is a non-isolated type, and there is therefore one p whose realisations satisfy (2).

Find an independent sequence $\bar{a} = (a_i : i < n)$ in p , and an infinite independent sequence $(b_i : i < \omega)$ in p , and ε such that $b_j^\varepsilon \not\downarrow a_{<n}$ or all j .

Since \bar{a} consists of independent realisations of p , it also satisfies (2), and choose δ accordingly, so $\bar{a}^\delta \not\downarrow b_j$ for all j .

As $(b_j : j < \omega)$ are independent, it follows that $\bar{a}^\delta \not\downarrow_{b_{<j}} b_j$ for all j , contradicting superstability. \square

Remarks about the proof

- Assumption (2) is not redundant. For example, the theory of L_p Banach lattices is superstable, but if we name a single parameter it has precisely two models:

The models of $\text{Th}\langle L_1([0, 1]), \chi_{[0,1]} \rangle$ are

- $\langle L_1([0, 1]), \chi_{[0,1]} \rangle$ ($\chi_{[0,1]}$ supports everything).
- $\langle L_1([0, 2]), \chi_{[0,1]} \rangle$ ($\chi_{[0,1]}$ does not support everything).

Indeed, $\chi_{[0,1]}$ does not satisfy the property in (2) and it cannot even be approximated by elements which do.

- Pillay’s proof of Lachlan’s Theorem [Pil83] used the fact that if T has finitely many countable models then a prime model M exists over every finite tuple \bar{a} (and \bar{a} isolates, and therefore semi-isolates, every tuple in M). This is not true in continuous logic, but we can get semi-isolation directly using the Omitting Types Theorem.

Further questions

- Find a necessary and sufficient condition for a closed set $X \subseteq S_n(T)$ to be always realised (in first order: $X^\circ \neq \emptyset$):

We showed that if X is closed and $X^{0^+, \circ} = \emptyset$, it can be omitted.

It is fairly easy to show that if X is closed and $X^{0^+, \circ} = X$, then X is always realised (suffices: X closed in the metric).

What if $\emptyset \subsetneq X^{0^+, \circ} \subsetneq X$? Boils down to: what if $X \neq X^{0^+, \circ}$ but $X = \overline{X^{0^+, \circ}}$?

Further questions, cntd.

- Structure perturbation:

Theorem: if T is a superstable (supersimple) continuous theory, so is the theory T_P of its beautiful (lovely) pairs.

But: there exists a superstable continuous theory T such that T_A (T + generic automorphism) is not supersimple: for example, the theory of probability algebras [BH, Ben04].

Maybe this is because we should only look at an automorphism up to the uniform convergence metric (i.e., allow minor perturbations of the automorphism)?

Related to a theorem of Henson (unpublished...) characterising theories of pure Banach spaces which are separably categorical up to small perturbation of the norm. A more general version has recently been proved [Ben05b].

Some background references:

- Positive logic: [Ben05a] (BSL survey).
- Continuous logic:
 - Mostly oriented towards local stability: B., Usvyatsov [BUa].
 - Text from Henson and Berenstein's tutorial: <http://www.math.uiuc.edu/~henson/newton/newton.pdf>
 - An older, too-general-and-yet-not-general-enough approach: [CK66].

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