

# ON RATIONAL LIMITS OF SHELAH-SPENCER GRAPHS

JUSTIN BRODY AND MICHAEL C. LASKOWSKI

ABSTRACT. Given a sequence  $\{\alpha_n\}$  in  $(0, 1)$  converging to a rational, we examine the model theoretic properties of structures obtained as limits of Shelah-Spencer graphs  $G(m, m^{-\alpha_n})$ . We show that in most cases the model theory is either extremely well-behaved or extremely wild, and characterize when each occurs.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The study of random graphs, initiated by Erdős and Renyi in 1959, was subsequently examined from a logical viewpoint – notably in papers of Shelah, Spencer, and Baldwin ([6], [1]). In particular, for  $\alpha$  irrational in  $(0, 1)$  the model theory connected with the graphs  $G(n, n^{-\alpha})$  has been extensively studied. The latter objects are probability spaces whose events consist of all order  $n$  graphs – each of these occurs with a probability uniquely determined by demanding that every potential edge occurs independently with probability  $n^{-\alpha}$ . A key result of Shelah and Spencer [6] is the following 0-1 law: For  $\sigma$  any first order sentence in the language of graphs,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pr[G(n, n^{-\alpha}) \models \sigma]$  is 0 or 1. Thus, for a fixed irrational  $\alpha$  the *almost sure theory*, denoted  $T^\alpha$ , is complete. More recently, the second author gave an  $\forall\exists$ -axiomatization for  $T^\alpha$  (see [5]).

Baldwin and Shelah pointed out in [1] that models of the resulting theory could be obtained via Hrushovski’s amalgamation construction. This proceeds by amalgamating a class of finite structures to obtain a *generic* of the class. The amalgamation is controlled by a notion of “strong substructure”, which is in turn often determined by a *pre-dimension function*. In the current context such a function limits the proportion of new edges to new vertices in a strong extension.

Arguably, the crucial observation in the connection between the probabilistic and model-theoretic approaches is that the expected number of copies of a given extension is determined by precisely such a function. Specifically, if a given graph  $A$  almost surely occurs as a subgraph of  $G(n, n^{-\alpha})$  in the limit, then the expected number of copies of an extension  $B$  is asymptotic to  $n^{\delta(B/A)}$ , where  $\delta(B/A)$  is a pre-dimension function given by  $|B \setminus A| - \alpha e(B/A)$ , for  $e(B/A)$  the number of edges in  $AB$  that aren’t in  $A$ . When  $\alpha$  is irrational,  $\delta(B/A)$  is never zero, hence  $n^{\delta(B/A)}$  has asymptotic limit zero or one. However, when  $\alpha$  is rational, this need not be the case, and indeed Spencer demonstrated in [7] that  $G(n, n^{-\alpha})$  does not have a 0-1 law in this case.

This paper examines the rational case from a model-theoretic perspective. There are two distinct ways of handling pairs of graphs  $A \subseteq B$  with  $\delta(B/A) = 0$ , which leads to two distinct classes, which we denote by  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$  and  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$ . On the

---

*Date:* August 30, 2011.

Partially supported by NSF grants DMS-0600217 and DMS-0901336.

surface, these classes are similar. They both satisfy Baldwin and Shi's notion of full amalgamation and have generic structures, each unique up to isomorphism, which we denote by  $M_\alpha$  and  $M_\alpha^+$ , respectively.

However, when we look at the theories of these structures, we see a Jekyll and Hyde dichotomy. The theory of  $M_\alpha$  is tame, being decidable,  $\forall\exists$ -axiomatizable, and  $\aleph_0$ -stable. On the other hand, Section 3 is devoted to showing that the theory of  $M_\alpha^+$  is wild. There is a subtheory  $\Sigma_\alpha^+$  that allows coding of finite sets, interprets a fragment of arithmetic, and is essentially undecidable.

In the final section, we give a partial explanation for the lack of a 0-1 law when  $\alpha$  is rational. We see that any ultraproduct of generics coded by a sequence  $\{\alpha_n\}$  converging to  $\alpha$  **from below** has a theory that is elementarily equivalent to the 'nice'  $M_\alpha$ . On the other hand, any ultraproduct of generics coded by a sequence  $\{\alpha_n\}$  converging to  $\alpha$  **from above** has a theory that is elementarily equivalent to the 'uncouth'  $M_\alpha^+$ . This gives a model-theoretic parallel to Spencer's result in [7] that the blockage of a 0-1 law is really a one-sided phenomenon, with convergence to  $\alpha$  from above being the problematic part.

## 2. PARAMETERIZED FAMILIES OF FINITE GRAPHS

For the purposes of this paper, we restrict our attention to classes of graphs. In particular, we work in the language  $L = \{E\}$  of a single, binary relation and all  $L$ -structures we consider have  $E$  being symmetric and irreflexive. However, by using coding techniques developed by Ikeda, Kikyo, and Tsuboi in Lemma 3.6 of [4], all of our results extend to any finite, relational language in which each relation is symmetric in its variables.

As notation, we denote  $A \cup B$  simply by  $AB$ , and write  $A \subseteq_\omega M$  to indicate that  $A$  is a *finite* substructure of  $M$ . For any finite graph  $A$ , we implicitly fix an enumeration of  $A$  and denote its quantifier free type by  $\Delta_A(\bar{x})$ .

We begin by defining two separate parameterized families of classes  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$  of finite graphs. Fix a real number  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and define

$$\delta_\alpha(A) = v(A) - \alpha e(A)$$

for any finite (symmetric) graph  $A$ , where  $v(A)$  denotes the number of vertices of  $A$ , and  $e(A)$  denotes the number of edges. As notation, if  $A \subseteq B$ , let  $\delta_\alpha(B/A) = \delta_\alpha(B) - \delta_\alpha(A)$ . If  $A, B, C$  are finite graphs satisfying  $B \cap C = A$ , the *free join of  $B, C$  over  $A$* , denoted  $B \oplus_A C$ , is the graph  $D$  with vertices  $B \cup C$ , and edges  $E^D = E^B \cup E^C$ . More generally, if  $\{B_i : i < n\}$  satisfy  $B_i \cap B_j = A$  for all  $i \neq j$ , then  $\oplus_{i < n} (B_i/A)$  has universe  $\bigcup_{i < n} B_i$  and edge set  $\bigcup_{i < n} E^{B_i}$ .

The following computations are routine:

**Lemma 2.1.** *For all  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and for all finite graphs  $A, B, B_i, C$ ,*

- (1)  $\delta_\alpha(\oplus_{i < n} (B_i/A)) = \sum_{i < n} \delta_\alpha(B_i/A)$  and
- (2) [**Monotonicity**] *If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \cap C = \emptyset$ , then  $\delta_\alpha(BC/AC) \leq \delta_\alpha(B/A)$ .*

**Definition 2.2.** Our two parameterized classes are  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$  and  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$ , where

- $\mathbf{K}_\alpha = \{\text{finite } A : \delta_\alpha(B) \geq 0 \text{ for every substructure } B \subseteq A\}$  and  $A \leq_\alpha B$  if and only if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $\delta_\alpha(C/A) \geq 0$  for all  $A \subseteq C \subseteq B$ .
- $\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+ = \{\text{finite } A : \delta_\alpha(B) > 0 \text{ for every nonempty } B \subseteq A\}$  and  $A \preceq_\alpha B$  if and only if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $\delta_\alpha(C/A) > 0$  for all  $A \subsetneq C \subseteq B$ .

Obviously,  $\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+ \subseteq \mathbf{K}_\alpha$ , and  $A \preceq_\alpha B$  implies  $A \leq_\alpha B$ . Furthermore, if  $\alpha$  is irrational, then the classes  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$  and  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$  are identical. The results of the following Lemma are well known for the classes  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$ , but, using Lemma 2.1, the verifications for  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$  are equally routine.

**Lemma 2.3.** *For every  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ , both of the classes  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$  and  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$  satisfy the following axioms of a class  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$ :*

- (1)  $\mathbf{K}$  is closed under isomorphisms and substructures;
- (2) The relation  $A \leq B$  is invariant under isomorphisms of the pair  $(A, B)$ ;
- (3)  $\leq$  is a partial order on  $\mathbf{K}$ , with  $\emptyset \leq A$  for all  $A \in \mathbf{K}$ ;
- (4)  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$  is a full amalgamation class in the sense of Baldwin-Shi [3], i.e., if  $A, B, C \in \mathbf{K}$  and  $A \leq B$ ,  $A \subseteq C$ , then  $C \leq D$ , where  $D = B \oplus_A C$
- (5) If  $A, B, C \in \mathbf{K}$  and  $A \leq B$ , then  $A \cap C \leq B \cap C$ .

**Definition 2.4.** Given a class  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$  of finite structures, an element  $A \in \mathbf{K}$ , and a (possibly infinite) structure  $M$  such that every finite substructure of  $M$  is an element of  $\mathbf{K}$ , a *strong embedding*  $f : A \rightarrow M$  is an isomorphic embedding satisfying  $A \leq B$  for all finite  $B$  satisfying  $A \subseteq B \subseteq M$ . A (countable) structure  $M$  is  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$ -*generic* if it satisfies the following three conditions:

- (1) There are  $\langle A_n : n \in \omega \rangle$  from  $\mathbf{K}$  such that  $A_0 \leq A_1 \leq \dots$  and  $M = \bigcup_{n \in \omega} A_n$ ;
- (2) Every  $A \in \mathbf{K}$  embeds strongly into  $M$ ; and
- (3) For all pairs  $A \leq B$  from  $\mathbf{K}$ , every strong embedding  $f : A \rightarrow M$  extends to a strong embedding  $g : B \rightarrow M$ .

It is well known that if  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$  is a class of finite structures closed under isomorphism, substructure, joint embedding, and amalgamation, then there is a  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$ -generic structure  $M$ . Moreover,  $M$  is unique up to isomorphism. In our context, all of our classes  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$  and  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$  satisfy amalgamation by Lemma 2.3(4) and joint embedding since  $\emptyset \leq A$  for every  $A$  in all of our families.

**Definition 2.5.** For each  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ , let  $M_\alpha$  denote the  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$ -generic, and let  $M_\alpha^+$  denote the  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$ -generic.

To understand these structures, we proffer three axiom schemata for a given amalgamation class  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$ ; note that collectively these encode Baldwin and Shelah's notion of a semi-generic structure in [1]:

**Definition 2.6.**

- Universal sentences  $\sigma(m)$ , indexed by  $m \in \omega$ , asserting that every  $m$ -element substructure is an element of  $\mathbf{K}$ ;
- $\forall\exists$  sentences  $\psi(A, B)$ , indexed by all pairs  $A \leq B$  from  $\mathbf{K}$  stating that every embedding of  $A$  into a model  $M$  of  $\psi(A, B)$  extends to an embedding of  $B$  into  $M$ ;
- $\forall\exists\forall$  sentences  $\theta(A, B, m)$ , indexed by  $A \leq B$  from  $\mathbf{K}$  and  $m \in \omega$ , asserting that every embedding of  $A$  into a model  $M$  of  $\theta(A, B, m)$  extends to an embedding of  $B$  into  $M$  such that for every  $C$  satisfying  $B \subseteq C \subseteq M$  with  $|C \setminus B| \leq m$ , either  $B \leq C$  or the substructure of  $M$  with universe  $BC \cong B \oplus_A (C \setminus B)A$ .

If  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$  is a full amalgamation class (i.e., satisfies the conclusions of Lemma 2.3) then the  $(\mathbf{K}, \leq)$ -generic structure  $M$  satisfies all of the axioms stated above. (To

see that  $M \models \theta(A, B, m)$ , choose any  $A' \subseteq M$  isomorphic to  $A$ . Choose  $n$  least such that  $A' \subseteq A_n$ , where  $A_n \leq M$ . Let  $D = A_n \oplus_A B$ . Then  $A_n \leq D$ , so choose a strong embedding  $g : D \rightarrow M$  that is the identity on  $A_n$ . Then  $g|B$  has the required property.)

As notation, we let  $S_\alpha$  and  $S_\alpha^+$  denote the first two schemata with respect to  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$  and  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$ . Dually, let  $\Sigma_\alpha$  and  $\Sigma_\alpha^+$  denote all three schemata with respect to  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$  and  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$ , respectively.

The next two Theorems are culminations of work by many authors.

**Theorem 2.7.** *If  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  is irrational, then  $Th(M_\alpha)$  is axiomatized by  $S_\alpha$ . It is decidable, stable, but not superstable, with nfcp, and has the Dimensional Order Property (DOP). Furthermore, it is precisely the almost sure theory of the sequence of random graphs  $G(n, n^{-\alpha})$ .*

*Proof.* Shelah and Spencer (see e.g., [6] and [7]) showed that the almost sure theory of the random graphs  $G(n, n^{-\alpha})$  contains  $\Sigma_\alpha$ , and that  $\Sigma_\alpha$  is complete and therefore decidable. The connection with model theory was first noted by Baldwin. In [1] and [2] Baldwin and Shelah proved that the  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$ -generic  $M_\alpha \models \Sigma_\alpha$ , and that the theory is strictly stable, with nfcp and has the DOP. In [5], the second author proved that  $S_\alpha$  entails  $\Sigma_\alpha$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.8.** *If  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  is rational, then again  $Th(M_\alpha)$  is axiomatized by  $S_\alpha$ . This theory is decidable and  $\aleph_0$ -stable.*

*Proof.* For rational  $\alpha$ , Shelah and Spencer proved that there is no complete, almost sure theory of the random graphs  $G(n, n^{-\alpha})$ . Nevertheless, Baldwin and Shi [3] showed that a  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$ -generic exists, and proved that its theory is  $\aleph_0$ -stable. In [1], Baldwin and Shelah proved that  $\Sigma_\alpha$  is equivalent to  $Th(M_\alpha)$ , thereby yielding decidability of the theory. Later, Ikeda, Kikyo, and Tsuboi [4] proved that  $S_\alpha$  is equivalent to the theory of the generic.  $\square$

Note that for  $\alpha$  irrational, the classes  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha, \leq_\alpha)$  and  $(\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+, \preceq_\alpha)$  coincide, hence  $M_\alpha$  is isomorphic to  $M_\alpha^+$ . However, as we see in the next section, when  $\alpha$  is rational, the theory of  $M_\alpha^+$  is substantially different from the theory of  $M_\alpha$ .

### 3. 0-EXTENSIONS AND THE THEORY $\Sigma_r^+$

For the whole of this section, we fix a rational  $r \in (0, 1)$  and investigate the theory  $\Sigma_r^+$ . We see that this theory is far from being decidable and has  $2^{\aleph_0}$  distinct completions. The engine that is driving the distinction between the well-behaved theory  $\Sigma_r$  and the wild  $\Sigma_r^+$  is how they handle minimal 0-extensions, which we now define.

**Definition 3.1.** Fix a rational  $r \in (0, 1)$ . A *minimal 0-extension* is a pair of structures  $A \subsetneq B$  from  $\mathbf{K}_r^+$  such that  $\delta_r(B/A) = 0$ , but  $A \preceq_r C$  for any proper  $A \subseteq C \subsetneq B$ . A *biminimal 0-extension*  $(A, B)$  is a minimal 0-extension in which every element of  $A$  is connected to at least one element of  $B \setminus A$ .

The notion of a minimal 0-extension is a special type of *minimal pair*, which has been used by many authors. The notion of biminimality is used by Wagner in his exposition of the Hrushovski constructions [9].

Note that if  $(A, B)$  is a minimal 0-extension in  $\mathbf{K}_r^+$ , then the same pair satisfies  $A \leq_r B$  from the point of view of  $(\mathbf{K}_r, \leq_r)$ . Thus, in the  $(\mathbf{K}_r, \leq_r)$ -generic  $M_r$ , for

every embedding  $f : A \rightarrow M_r$ , there are infinitely many embeddings  $g_i : B \rightarrow M_r$  extending  $f$ . This can be thought of as a type of homogeneity possessed by  $M_r$ . On the other hand, since  $A \not\prec_r B$  for a minimal 0-extension, given an embedding  $f : A \rightarrow M_r^+$  into the  $(\mathbf{K}_r^+, \prec_r)$ -generic, the number of embeddings  $g : B \rightarrow M_r^+$  extending  $f$  can vary. As we will see with Theorem 3.5, this freedom allows us to interpret Robinson's R into any model of  $\Sigma_r^+$ . It is necessary to consider biminimal 0-extensions because we want to 'recover  $A$ ' from an arbitrary embedding of  $B$  into a model of  $\Sigma_r^+$ .

We begin by showing that biminimal 0-extensions exist in abundance.

**Lemma 3.2.** *Fix any rational  $r \in (0, 1)$ . For every integer  $n > 0$ , there is an integer  $m$  such that for any  $A \in \mathbf{K}_r^+$  of size  $n$ , there is a graph  $C \supseteq A$  such that  $|C \setminus A| = m$  and  $(A, C)$  is a biminimal 0-extension.*

*Proof.* First, note that if  $(A, C)$  is a biminimal 0-extension, and  $f : A \rightarrow A'$  is any bijection (possibly not preserving the edge relation) then there is a biminimal 0-extension  $(A', C')$ , where the subgraph  $C' \setminus A'$  is isomorphic to the subgraph  $C \setminus A$ , and where  $E^{C'}(c', f(a))$  holds if and only if  $E^C(c, a)$ .

As a consequence, if we can construct a biminimal 0-extension  $(A, C^*)$  for any  $A \in \mathbf{K}_r^+$  with  $|A| = n$ , then taking  $m = |C^* \setminus A|$ , the construction will yield a biminimal 0-extension  $(A', C')$  with  $|C' \setminus A'| = m$  for every  $A' \in \mathbf{K}_r$  with  $|A'| = n$ . Thus we fix a nonempty  $A \in \mathbf{K}_r^+$  with  $|A| = n$  and define an appropriate  $C^*$ . Before doing so, we introduce some other relevant graphs.

In [4], Ikeda, Kikyo, and Tsuboi demonstrate the existence of a 'minimal, proper,  $(1+r)$ -component'  $D(a, b)$ . That is,  $D$  is a graph,  $a, b \in D$ ,  $a \neq b$ ,  $\neg E(a, b)$ ,  $\delta_r(X) \geq 1+r$  for any  $X$  satisfying  $\{a, b\} \subseteq X \subseteq D$  with equality holding only when  $X = D$ , and  $\delta_r(X) \geq 1$  for every nonempty  $X \subseteq D$ ,  $\delta_r(X) \geq 1$ .

For any  $k \geq 1$ , let  $\{b_0, \dots, b_k\}$  be a null graph, and for each  $i < k$  let  $D(b_i, b_{i+1})$  be isomorphic to  $D(a, b)$ , with  $D(b_i, b_{i+1}) \cap D(b_j, b_{j+1}) = \{b_i, b_{i+1}\} \cap \{b_j, b_{j+1}\}$  for all  $i \neq j$ , and let

$$D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k) = D(b_0, b_1) \oplus_{b_1} D(b_1, b_2) \oplus_{b_2} \cdots \oplus_{b_{k-1}} D(b_{k-1}, b_k)$$

We make two assertions:

- (1) For nonempty  $X \subseteq D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k)$ ,  $\delta_r(X) \geq 1 + (l-1)r$ , where  $l = |X \cap \{b_0, \dots, b_k\}|$ ;
- (2) If  $\{b_0, \dots, b_k\} \subseteq X \subseteq D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k)$ , then  $\delta_r(X) = 1 + kr$  if and only if  $X = D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k)$ .

For the first assertion, note that since  $r < 1$ , it suffices to partition  $X$  into its connected components and handle each component separately. So assume  $X$  is nonempty and connected, and let  $l = |X \cap \{b_0, \dots, b_k\}|$ . If  $l = 0$ , then  $X \subseteq D(b_i, b_{i+1})$  for some  $i$ , hence  $\delta_r(X) \geq 1$  by the definition of being a  $(1+r)$ -component. If  $l \neq 0$ , then by connectedness,  $X \cap \{b_0, \dots, b_k\} = \{b_i, \dots, b_{i+l-1}\}$  for some  $i$ . Let  $X_{-1} = \{b_0\}$ ,  $X_j = X \cap D(b_j, b_{j+1})$  for each  $j < k$ , and  $X_{k+1} = \{b_k\}$ . Then  $X = X_{i-1} \oplus_{b_i} \cdots \oplus_{b_{i+l-1}} X_{i+l}$ , where  $\delta_r(X_{i-1}), \delta_r(X_{i+l}) \geq 1$  and  $\delta_r(X_j) \geq 1+r$  for all  $i \leq j < i+l$ . It follows that  $\delta_r(X) \geq 2 + (l-1)(1+r) - l = 1 + (l-1)r$ , as desired.

For the second assertion, suppose  $\{b_0, \dots, b_k\} \subseteq X$ . Then we can write  $X = X_0 \oplus_{b_1} X_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus_{b_{k-1}} X_{k-1}$ , where  $X_i = D(b_i, b_{i+1})$ . Since  $\{b_i, b_{i+1}\} \subseteq X_i$  for each  $i$   $\delta_r(X_i) \geq 1+r$ , with equality holding if and only if  $X_i = D(b_i, b_{i+1})$  and the second assertion follows.

Next, let  $C_k = C_k(b^*, b_1, \dots, b_{k-1})$  be the graph formed from  $D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k)$  by identifying the nodes  $b_0$  and  $b_k$  into a new node  $b^*$ . That is,  $E(b^*, y)$  holds in  $C_k$  if and only if either  $E(b_0, y)$  or  $E(b_k, y)$  holds in  $D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k)$ . One can think of  $C_k$  as a ‘circle’. In particular, there is an automorphism of  $C_k$  fixing  $\{b^*, \dots, b_{k-1}\}$  setwise formed by  $b^* \mapsto b_1, b_i \mapsto b_{i+1}, b_{k-1} \mapsto b^*$ , and extended by choosing isomorphisms between  $D(b_i, b_{i+1})$  and  $D(b_{i+1}, b_{i+2})$ , etc.

We claim that for any nonempty  $Y \subseteq C_k$ ,  $\delta_r(Y) \geq mr$ , where  $m = Y \cap \{b^*, b_1, \dots, b_{k-1}\}$ , with equality holding only when  $Y = C_k$ .

To see this, first suppose that  $b^* \notin Y$ . Then  $Y$  can be construed as a subgraph of  $D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k)$ , and  $Y \cap \{b^*, b_1, \dots, b_{k-1}\} = Y \cap \{b_0, \dots, b_k\}$ , so  $\delta_r(Y) \geq 1 + (m - 1)r > mr$  since  $r < 1$ . Second, by iterating the automorphism above, we again obtain  $\delta_r(Y) > mr$  unless  $\{b^*, b_1, \dots, b_{k-1}\} \subseteq Y$ . Finally, assume that  $m = k$ , i.e.,  $\{b^*, b_1, \dots, b_{k-1}\} \subseteq Y$ . In this case, let  $X^*$  be the ‘unpacking’ of  $Y$  in  $D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k)$ , i.e., the nodes of  $X^*$  are  $Y \setminus \{b^*\} \cup \{b_0, b_k\}$ . Then  $v(X^*) = v(Y) + 1$ ,  $e(X^*) = e(Y)$ , and  $|X \cap \{b_0, \dots, b_k\}| = k + 1$ . From above,  $\delta_r(X^*) \geq 1 + kr$ , with equality holding if and only if  $X^* = D_k(b_0, \dots, b_k)$ . Thus,  $\delta_r(Y) \geq kr$ , with equality holding if and only if  $Y = C_k$ .

We can now produce a graph  $C^* \supseteq A$  such that  $(A, C^*)$  is a biminimal 0-extension. Fix an enumeration  $\{a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}\}$  of  $A$ . Define  $C^*$  to be the graph with universe the disjoint union  $A \cup C_n(b^*, \dots, b_{n-1})$  and edges defined by  $E^{C^*}(x, y)$  iff  $(x, y) \in A$  and  $E^A(x, y)$ , or  $(x, y) \in C_n$  and  $E^{C_n}(x, y)$ , or  $(x, y) = (a_0, b^*)$ , or  $(x, y) = (a_i, b_i)$  for some  $1 \leq i < n$ . Then for any  $Y \subseteq C_n$ , if  $l = |Y \cap \{b^*, \dots, b_{n-1}\}|$ , then  $\delta_r(AY/A) = \delta_r(Y) - lr$ . From above, this number is always nonnegative, and is zero precisely when  $Y$  is empty or equal to  $C_n$ .  $\square$

We now use the existence of a biminimal 0-extensions  $(A, B)$  with  $|A| = k + 1$  to be able to ‘mark’ any desired subset  $X \subseteq [S]^k$  of any finite subset  $S$  of any model  $M$  of  $\Sigma_r^+$ . The idea of using the existence of an extension to code arbitrary subsets of a given finite set was used by Spencer in [7]. Recall that for any set  $Y$ ,  $[Y]^k$  denotes the subsets of  $Y$  with cardinality precisely  $k$ .

**Proposition 3.3** (Definability of Finite Relations). *For every rational  $r \in (0, 1)$  and every integer  $k \geq 1$  there is a definable  $R^k(x_1, \dots, x_k, v)$ , symmetric in the first  $k$  variables, such that for every  $M \models \Sigma_r^+$ , for every finite  $S \subseteq M$ , and for every subset  $X \subseteq [S]^k$ , there is  $v \in M$  such that for any  $\bar{a} \in [S]^k$  with  $k$  distinct entries,*

$$M \models R^k(\bar{a}, v) \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \text{range}(\bar{a}) \in X$$

*Proof.* Fix a rational  $r \in (0, 1)$  and an integer  $k \geq 1$ . Let  $m$  be the integer from Lemma 3.2 corresponding to  $k + 1$ . Let  $R^k(x_1, \dots, x_k, v)$  assert that there exist  $\bar{y}$  with  $|\bar{y}| = m$  such that all of the entries in  $\bar{x}\bar{y}v$  are distinct,  $\neg E(x_i, v)$  for all  $i$ , and the pair  $(\bar{x}v, \bar{x}v\bar{y})$  is a biminimal 0-extension.

To see that this works, let  $M \models \Sigma_r^+$ , let  $S \subseteq M$  be finite, and let  $X \subseteq [S]^k$  be given. For the moment, view the subgraph  $S$  as a graph in its own right. Choose an element  $e$  (not necessarily in  $M$ ) and let  $Se$  be the one-point extension of  $S$  with  $e$  unconnected to any vertex of  $S$ . For each  $A \in X$ , let  $C_A \supseteq Ae$  be such that  $(Ae, C_A)$  is a biminimal 0-extension,  $|C_A \setminus Ae| = m$ , and  $C_A \cap Se = Ae$ .

**Claim 1.**  $A \preccurlyeq_r C_A$  for each  $A \in X$ .

*Proof.* Choose  $Z \neq A$  such that  $A \subseteq Z \subseteq C_A$ . If  $Z = Ae$ , then  $\delta_r(Z/A) = 1$ . If  $Z = C_A$ , then  $\delta_r(Z/A) = \delta_r(Z/Ae) + \delta_r(Ae/A) = 0 + 1 = 1$ . If  $Z = C_A \setminus \{e\}$ , then since

$e$  is connected to some element of  $Z$  by biminimality,  $\delta_r(Z/A) \geq \delta_r(Ze/Ae) + r \geq r$ . In all other cases,  $Ze \neq Ae, C_A$ , so  $\delta_r(Z/A) \geq \delta_r(Ze/Ae) > 0$ .  $\square$

Letting  $W = \oplus_A C_A$ , it follows immediately from Claim 1 that  $S \preccurlyeq_r W$ . As well, note that for any  $V$  satisfying  $Se \subseteq V \subseteq W$ , we have  $\delta_r(V/Se) \geq 0$ , with equality holding if and only if  $V = Se \cup \{C_A : A \in Y\}$  for some subset  $Y \subseteq X$ .

Since  $M \models \theta(S, W, m)$ , there is an embedding  $g : W \rightarrow M$  such that  $g|_S = id$  and for any  $B \subseteq M \setminus g(W)$  with  $|B| \leq m$ , either  $B \preccurlyeq_r W$  or the subgraph of  $M$  with universe  $Bg(W)$  is isomorphic to  $BS \oplus_S g(W)$ .

We now work entirely within  $M$ . By abuse of notation, we write  $W$  for  $g(W)$ ,  $e$  for  $g(e)$ , and  $C_A$  for  $g(C_A)$  for each  $A \in X$ . That is,  $e, W$ , and each  $C_A$  are from  $M$ .

Clearly, for every  $A \in X$  and every enumeration  $\bar{a}$  of  $A$ ,  $M \models R^k(\bar{a}, e)$ , as witnessed by  $C_A$ . Conversely, choose any  $B \in [S]^k$  and any enumeration  $\bar{b}$  of  $B$  such that  $M \models R^k(\bar{b}, e)$ . Choose any graph  $C^* \subseteq M$  witnessing this, i.e.,  $Be \subseteq C^*$ ,  $|C^* \setminus Be| = m$ , and  $(Be, C^*)$  is a biminimal 0-extension. We argue that  $B \in X$ .

Begin by partitioning  $C^*$  into three sets,

$$P = C^* \cap Se, \quad Q = (C^* \cap SW) \setminus P, \quad R = C^* \setminus SW$$

**Claim 2.**  $RSW \cong RS \oplus_S W$ .

*Proof.* This is trivial if  $R$  is empty, so assume otherwise. If  $R \neq \emptyset$ , then  $Be \subseteq C^* \cap SW \subsetneq C^*$ , so  $\delta_r(C^*/C^* \cap SW) \leq 0$ , hence  $\delta_r(SWR/SW) \leq 0$  by monotonicity. Thus,  $SW \not\preccurlyeq_r SWR$ . But also,  $|R| \leq m$ , so the last statement follows from our choice of embedding  $g$ .  $\square$

We next argue that  $Q \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $(Be, C^*)$  is biminimal, there is some  $c \in C^*$  such that  $E(c, e)$  holds.  $E$  is irreflexive and  $e$  is unconnected to any  $c \in S$ , so  $c \notin P$ . However,  $c \in R$  contradicts the conclusion of Claim 2. Thus,  $c \in Q$ , so  $Q$  is nonempty.

**Claim 3.**  $RP = Be$ , i.e.,  $C^* = BeQ$ .

*Proof.* Since  $RSW \cong RS \oplus_S W$ , it follows that  $C^* = RPQ \cong RP \oplus_P QP$ . So

$$0 = \delta_r(C^*/Be) = \delta_r(RP/Be) + \delta_r(QPe/Be) - \delta_r(P/Be)$$

As well,  $\delta_r(QSe/Se) \geq 0$ , hence  $\delta_r(QP/P) \geq 0$ . Since  $\delta_r(QPe/Be) - \delta_r(P/Be) = \delta_r(QP/P)$ , we must have  $\delta_r(RP/Be) \leq 0$ . But  $Be \subseteq RP \subseteq C^*$ , so  $\delta_r(RP/Be) \geq 0$ , and is only equal to zero when  $RP = Be$  or  $RP = C^*$ . However, the latter is impossible since  $Q$  is nonempty.  $\square$

Now  $Q \subseteq W \setminus Se$ , and  $W \setminus Se$  is a free join of sets  $C_A$  over  $Se$ . Choose  $A \in X$  such that  $Q \cap C_A \neq \emptyset$ .

**Claim 4.**  $Q = (C_A \setminus Se)$ .

*Proof.* We first argue that  $Q \subseteq C_A$ . If this were not the case, then let  $Q_A = Q \cap C_A$  and  $Q' = Q \setminus C_A$ . Then  $C^* = BeQ$  would be isomorphic to  $Q_A Be \oplus_{Be} Q' Be$ . But then,

$$0 = \delta_r(C^*/Be) = \delta_r(Q_A Be/Be) + \delta_r(Q' Be/Be)$$

which is impossible, since both summands are strictly positive by the minimality of  $(Be, C^*)$ . Thus,  $Q \subseteq C_A$ . But  $Q$  is disjoint from  $Se$  and  $|Q| = m = |C_A \setminus Se|$ , hence  $Q = C_A \setminus Se$ .  $\square$

By biminimality and the construction of  $C_A$ ,  $\{s \in S : s \text{ is connected to some node in } C_A \setminus Se\} = A$ . But also, by biminimality, every element of  $B$  is connected to some node of  $Q = (C_A \setminus Se)$ . Thus,  $B = A$  and  $A \in X$ , as desired.  $\square$

This coding technique is enough to show that any model of  $\Sigma_r^+$  interprets Robinson's  $R$ , which we now define.

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $L_R = \{+, \cdot, \leq, \eta_k\}_{k \in \omega}$ . Robinson's  $R$  is the following  $L_R$ -theory: For every  $k, \ell \in \omega$ :

- (1)  $\eta_k + \eta_\ell = \eta_{k+\ell}$
- (2)  $\eta_k \cdot \eta_\ell = \eta_{k\ell}$
- (3)  $\eta_k \neq \eta_\ell$  for  $k \neq \ell$
- (4)  $\forall x(x \leq \eta_k \rightarrow x = \eta_0 \vee \dots \vee x = \eta_k)$
- (5)  $\forall x(x \leq \eta_k \vee \eta_k \leq x)$

**Theorem 3.5.** For any rational  $r \in (0, 1)$ , the theory  $\Sigma_r^+$  interprets Robinson's  $R$ .

*Proof.* Fix a rational  $r \in (0, 1)$ . For ease of discourse, also fix a model  $M \models \Sigma_r^+$ . The interpretation  $(\Omega, +, \cdot, \leq, \eta_k)_{k \in \omega}$  we give will be uniform in  $M$ . Also fix a minimal 0-extension  $(A, B)$ . That is,  $A, B \in \mathbf{K}_r^+$ ,  $A \subsetneq B$ ,  $\delta_r(B) = \delta_r(A)$ , but  $\delta_r(B') > \delta_r(A)$  for every  $A \subsetneq B' \subsetneq B$ . As notation, let  $C$  be the subgraph with universe  $B \setminus A$ . Suppose  $|A| = n$  and  $|C| = m$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{a \in M^n : \text{there is an isomorphism } f : A \rightarrow a \text{ such that for all embeddings } g_1, g_2 : B \rightarrow M \text{ extending } f, \text{ either } g_1(B) = g_2(B) \text{ (setwise) or else } g_1(B) \cap g_2(B) = a\}$ .

For  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ , let  $\mathcal{C}_a = \{c \in M^m : (a, ac) \cong (A, B)\}$  and let  $\mathcal{C}_a^* = \bigcup \mathcal{C}_a$ . It follows from our definition of  $\mathcal{A}$  that  $c \cap c' = \emptyset$  for all distinct  $c, c' \in \mathcal{C}_a$ . A subset  $\mathcal{B}_a \subseteq \mathcal{C}_a^*$  is a *basis* for  $\mathcal{C}_a$  if it consists of exactly one element from each  $c \in \mathcal{C}_a$ .

We wish to define the notion of ' $\mathcal{C}_a$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{a'}$  having the same cardinality.' Proposition 3.3 allows us to succeed, at least when the sets  $\mathcal{C}_a$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{a'}$  are finite. For a fixed parameter  $u$ , let  $R_u^k(\bar{x})$  denote the relation  $R^k(\bar{x}, u)$ . Then for  $a, a' \in \mathcal{A}$ , say  $a \sim a'$  if and only if  $\exists u, v, w [R_u^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_a^*$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{C}_a$ ,  $R_v^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_{a'}^*$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{C}_{a'}$ , and  $R_w^2(M)$  codes a bijection between  $R_u^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_a^*$  and  $R_v^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_{a'}^*]$ .

More formally, say that a set  $R$  of unordered pairs 'codes a bijection between the sets  $S$  and  $T$ ' if the following three conditions hold: (1)  $\{x, y\} \in R$  implies either  $[x \in S \setminus T \text{ and } y \in T \setminus S]$  or  $[x \in T \setminus S \text{ and } y \in S \setminus T]$ , (2)  $\bigcup R = S \Delta T$ , and (3) if  $\{x, y\}, \{x', y'\} \in R$  are distinct sets, then they are disjoint.

**Claim:** If  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_a$  is finite, then for every  $a' \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $a \sim a'$  if and only if  $|\mathcal{C}_a| = |\mathcal{C}_{a'}|$ .

*Proof.* It is evident that if  $a, a' \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_a$  is finite, then for any bases  $\mathcal{B}_a$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{a'}$  of  $\mathcal{C}_a$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{a'}$ , respectively, the existence of a bijection between  $\mathcal{B}_a$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{a'}$  implies  $|\mathcal{C}_a| = |\mathcal{C}_{a'}|$ . Thus,  $a \sim a'$  implies  $|\mathcal{C}_a| = |\mathcal{C}_{a'}|$ .

Conversely, if  $|\mathcal{C}_a| = |\mathcal{C}_{a'}|$  and is finite, then let  $\mathcal{B}_a$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{a'}$  be any two bases for  $\mathcal{C}_a$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{a'}$ , respectively. As these sets are finite and of the same cardinality, regardless of their intersection there is a set  $W \subseteq [\mathcal{C}_a^* \cup \mathcal{C}_{a'}^*]^2$  of unordered pairs 'coding a bijection' as described above. But, by Proposition 3.3, since all three sets are finite there are elements  $u, v, w \in M$  such that  $R_u^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_a^* = \mathcal{B}_a$ ,  $R_v^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_{a'}^* = \mathcal{B}_{a'}$ , and  $R_w^2(M) = W$ , so  $a \sim a'$ .  $\square$



Despite the fact that  $\sim$  is well-behaved whenever  $\mathcal{C}_a$  is finite, it need not be an equivalence relation on all of  $\mathcal{A}$ . It is visibly symmetric on  $\mathcal{A}$ , but since we have no control over the coding of infinite sets, it need not be either reflexive or transitive on all of  $\mathcal{A}$ . To remedy this, let

$$\mathcal{A}' = \{a \in \mathcal{A} : a \sim a \wedge \forall a', a'' \in \mathcal{A}[(a \sim a' \wedge a \sim a'') \rightarrow (a' \sim a'')]\}$$

Clearly,  $\mathcal{A}'$  is a definable subset of  $M^n$  and  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathcal{A}'$ . Let

$$\Omega = \mathcal{A}' / \sim$$

For each  $k \in \omega$ , let  $D_k = \oplus_{i < k} (B/A)$  be the free join of  $k$  copies of  $B$  over  $A$ . Each  $D_k \in \mathbf{K}_r^+$ , so since  $M \models \theta(\emptyset, D_k, m)$ , there is  $a_k \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $|\mathcal{C}_{a_k}| = k$ . By the Claim,  $a_k \in \mathcal{A}'$  as well, so define  $\eta_k = a_k / \sim$ . Again, by the Claim, this is well-defined. That is, for any  $k$ ,  $\eta_k = a / \sim$  for any  $a \in \mathcal{A}'$  such that  $|\mathcal{C}_a| = k$ .

To define  $\leq$  on  $\Omega$ , by analogy with coding bijections above, say that a set  $R \subseteq [S \cup T]^2$  codes an injection from  $S$  into  $T$  if (1)  $\{x, y\} \in R$  implies either  $[x \in S \setminus T$  and  $y \in T \setminus S]$  or  $[x \in T \setminus S$  and  $y \in S \setminus T]$ , (2)  $(S \setminus T) \subseteq \bigcup R$ , and (3) if  $\{x, y\}, \{x', y'\} \in R$  are distinct sets, then they are disjoint.

Then, for  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}' \in \Omega$ , define  $\mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{a}'$  if and only if there exist  $a \in \mathbf{a}$ ,  $a' \in \mathbf{a}'$  and there exist  $u, v, w$  such that  $R_u^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_a^*$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{C}_a$ ,  $R_v^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_{a'}^*$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{C}_{a'}$ , and  $R_w^2(M)$  codes an injection between  $R_u^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_a^*$  and  $R_v^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_{a'}^*$ .

It is not at all clear that  $\leq$  defines a partial order on all of  $\Omega$ , but this is not relevant. It is clear that for  $k, \ell \in \omega$ ,  $\eta_k \leq \eta_\ell$  if and only if  $k \leq \ell$  and that  $\eta_k \leq a / \sim$  for any  $a \in \mathcal{A}'$  such that  $|\mathcal{C}_a| \geq k$ .

To define addition and multiplication on  $\Omega$  requires one additional idea. Call a triple  $\{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}', \mathbf{a}''\} \subseteq \Omega$  mutually separable if there exist  $a \in \mathbf{a}$ ,  $a' \in \mathbf{a}'$ ,  $a'' \in \mathbf{a}''$  with pairwise disjoint bases  $\mathcal{B}_a, \mathcal{B}_{a'}, \mathcal{B}_{a''}$  for  $\mathcal{C}_a, \mathcal{C}_{a'}, \mathcal{C}_{a''}$ , respectively.

Note that for any  $j, k, \ell \in \omega$ , the graph  $D_{j,k,\ell} := D_j \oplus_{\emptyset} D_k \oplus_{\emptyset} D_\ell$  is in  $\mathbf{K}_r^+$ , so since  $M \models \theta(\emptyset, D_{j,k,\ell}, m)$ , there exist  $a_j, a_k, a_\ell \in M^n$  such that  $\mathcal{C}_{a_j}^*, \mathcal{C}_{a_k}^*, \mathcal{C}_{a_\ell}^*$  are pairwise disjoint. Thus, any triple  $\{\eta_j, \eta_k, \eta_\ell\}$  of ‘standard’ elements from  $\Omega$  is mutually separable.

Now define addition on  $\Omega$  by  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}' = \mathbf{a}''$  if and only if EITHER they are mutually separable and there exist  $a \in \mathbf{a}, a' \in \mathbf{a}', a'' \in \mathbf{a}''$  and disjoint bases  $\mathcal{B}_a, \mathcal{B}_{a'}, \mathcal{B}_{a''}$  of  $\mathcal{C}_a, \mathcal{C}_{a'}, \mathcal{C}_{a''}$  and there exist  $u_1, u_2, u_3, w$  such that  $R_{u_1}^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_a^* = \mathcal{B}_a$ ,  $R_{u_2}^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_{a'}^* = \mathcal{B}_{a'}$ ,  $R_{u_3}^1(M) \cap \mathcal{C}_{a''}^* = \mathcal{B}_{a''}$  and  $R_w^2$  codes a bijection between  $\mathcal{B}_a \cup \mathcal{B}_{a'}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{a''}$  OR either they are not mutually separable or such  $u_1, u_2, u_3, w$  do not exist and  $\mathbf{a}'' = \mathbf{a}$ .

From the above, it is clear that for any  $k, \ell \in \omega$ , the first clause holds in evaluating  $\eta_k + \eta_\ell$ , and it is easily checked that  $\eta_k + \eta_\ell = \eta_{k+\ell}$ .

The definition of multiplication on  $\Omega$  is almost identical. The only change is that  $R_w^3$  codes a bijection between unordered pairs from  $\mathcal{B}_a \cup \mathcal{B}_{a'}$  (one element from each set) and  $\mathcal{B}_{a''}$ . Again, this function is well behaved on the ‘standard part’ i.e.,  $\eta_k \cdot \eta_\ell = \eta_{k\ell}$  for all  $k, \ell \in \omega$ .

Thus, the structure  $(\Omega, +, \cdot, \leq, \eta_k)_{k \in \omega} \models R$ .  $\square$

Recall that a consistent theory  $T$  is essentially undecidable if every consistent extension of  $T$  is undecidable.

**Corollary 3.6.**  $\Sigma_r^+$  is essentially undecidable.

*Proof.* It is shown in Part II, Theorem 9 of [8] that  $R$  is essentially undecidable. Tarski shows that essential undecidability is transferred by interpretations in Part I, Theorem 7.  $\square$

*Remark 3.7.* It is worth noting that while the interpreted model satisfies Robinson's  $Q$  when  $M$  is the generic, this is not generally true. In particular, for the ultraproducts  $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} M_{\alpha_n}$  with  $\{\alpha_n\}$  a sequence of decreasing irrationals converging to  $r$  and  $M_{\alpha_n}$  the Shelah-Spencer graph of weight  $\alpha_n$ , there is a sentence  $\sigma$  which says that there is some copy of  $A$  which has the maximal possible number of copies of  $B$  embedded over it. This sentence is true in the ultraproduct as well, and the order type of the interpreted  $(\omega, \leq)$  has a copy of  $\omega^*$  ( $\omega$  reversed) as a tail.

Finally, we conclude this section by showing that  $\Sigma_r^+$  has the maximal number of completions.

**Corollary 3.8.**  $\Sigma_r^+$  has  $2^{\aleph_0}$  completions.

*Proof.* As any finite extension of  $\Sigma_r^+$  is recursively axiomatizable, it cannot be complete. Using this, we define a tree  $\{T_\eta : \eta \in {}^{<\omega}2\}$  of consistent, finite extensions of  $\Sigma_r^+$ , with  $T_\eta \subseteq T_\nu$  whenever  $\eta \triangleleft \nu$  and  $T_{\eta \smallfrown 0} \cup T_{\eta \smallfrown 1}$  inconsistent for each  $\eta$ . Each of the branches extends to a complete extension.  $\square$

#### 4. GOING UP, COMING DOWN, AND GENERAL ULTRAPRODUCTS

Recall that for any  $\alpha$ ,  $\mathbf{K}_\alpha^+ \subseteq \mathbf{K}_\alpha$  and  $A \preceq_\alpha B$  implies  $A \leq_\alpha B$ , with equality holding whenever  $\alpha$  is irrational. Furthermore, it follows immediately from the definition of the dimension functions that for all  $\alpha < \beta$ ,  $\mathbf{K}_\beta \subseteq \mathbf{K}_\alpha^+$  and  $A \leq_\beta B$  implies  $A \preceq_\alpha B$  for all finite graphs  $A, B$ .

##### 4.1. Increasing sequences.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $\alpha^*$  be given. Then*

- (1) *If  $A \notin \mathbf{K}_{\alpha^*}$  then there is  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $A \notin \mathbf{K}_\alpha^+$  for all  $\alpha \in (\alpha^* - \epsilon, \alpha^*)$*
- (2) *If  $A, B \in \mathbf{K}_{\alpha^*}$  and  $A \leq_{\alpha^*} B$ , then there is  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for any  $\alpha \in (\alpha^* - \epsilon, \alpha^*)$ ,  $A, B \in \mathbf{K}_\alpha$  and  $A \leq_\alpha B$ .*

**Theorem 4.2.** *Assume that  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is a strictly increasing sequence from  $(0, 1)$  that converges to some  $\alpha^* \in (0, 1]$ . For each  $n \in \omega$ , let  $N_n$  be elementarily equivalent to either  $M_{\alpha_n}$  or  $M_{\alpha_n}^+$  and let  $\mathcal{U}$  be any non-principal ultrafilter on  $\omega$ . Then the ultraproduct  $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} N_n$  is elementarily equivalent to  $M_{\alpha^*}$ . In particular, its theory is decidable,  $\Pi_2$ -axiomatized by  $S_{\alpha^*}$  and is stable. The theory is  $\aleph_0$ -stable if  $\alpha^*$  is rational, but strictly stable if  $\alpha^*$  is irrational.*

*Proof.* In light of Theorems 2.7 and 2.8 we need only show that  $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models S_{\alpha^*}$ . For each  $m$ , let  $\sigma(m)$  be the universal sentence in  $S_{\alpha^*}$  prescribing the substructures of size  $m$ . Since up to isomorphism there are only finitely many graphs of size  $m$ , and since each finite graph has only finitely many subgraphs, Lemma 4.1(1) implies that there is an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $N_n \models \sigma(m)$  whenever  $\alpha_n \in (\alpha^* - \epsilon, \alpha^*)$ . Thus,  $N_n \models \sigma(m)$  for cofinitely many  $n$ , so  $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models \sigma(m)$  by Łoś's theorem since  $\mathcal{U}$  is non-principal.

The justification that  $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models \psi(A, B)$  for each  $A \leq_{\alpha^*} B$  is identical, using Lemma 4.1(2).  $\square$

**4.2. Decreasing sequences.** In this subsection we consider decreasing sequences  $\{\alpha_n\}$  from  $(0, 1)$ . We first note a special case. What distinguishes it from the other cases is the lack of 0-extensions, minimal or otherwise.

*Remark 4.3.* A special case occurs when  $\alpha^* = 0$ . Note that  $\mathbf{K}_0^+ = \mathbf{K}_0$  is the class of all finite graphs, and for any graphs  $A, B$ ,  $A \leq_0 B$  if and only if  $A \preceq_0 B$  if and only if  $A \subseteq B$ . Thus, the generic  $M_0$  of  $(\mathbf{K}_0, \leq_0) = \mathbf{K}_0^+, \preceq_0$  is the Fraïssé limit of the class of all finite graphs and is usually referred to as the ‘Random Graph.’ Its theory is decidable, being axiomatized by the set of  $\forall\exists$  axioms asserting that for any two finite, disjoint subsets  $F$  and  $G$ , there exists an element connected to every point in  $F$ , and to no point of  $G$ . As well, the theory of the Random Graph is  $\omega$ -categorical but unstable, being the paradigm of a theory with the Independence Property.

**Theorem 4.4.** *Assume that  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is a strictly decreasing sequence from  $(0, 1)$  that converges to some  $\alpha^*$ . For each  $n \in \omega$ , let  $N_n$  be elementarily equivalent to either  $M_{\alpha_n}$  or  $M_{\alpha_n}^+$  and let  $\mathcal{U}$  be any non-principal ultrafilter on  $\omega$ . Then the ultraproduct  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models \Sigma_{\alpha^*}^*$  satisfies one of the following three conditions, depending on  $\alpha^*$ :*

- *If  $\alpha^*$  is irrational, then its theory is decidable,  $\forall\exists$ -axiomatizable, and strictly stable.*
- *If  $\alpha^*$  is rational and positive, then  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n$  interprets Robinson’s  $R$ , its theory is unstable, and some subtheory is essentially undecidable.*
- *If  $\alpha^* = 0$ , then the theory of the ultraproduct is equivalent to the theory of the Random Graph, which is decidable,  $\forall\exists$ -axiomatizable,  $\omega$ -categorical, and unstable.*

*Proof.* We begin by showing that  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models \Sigma_{\alpha^*}^*$ . Clearly, for each  $m$  and  $\sigma(m) \in \Sigma_{\alpha^*}^+$ , every  $N_n \models \sigma(m)$ , so  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models \sigma(m)$  as well. As  $\theta(A, B, m)$  implies  $\psi(A, B)$ , it now suffices to prove that  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models \theta(A, B, m)$  for all  $A, B \in \mathbf{K}_{\alpha^*}^+$  satisfying  $A \preceq_{\alpha^*} B$ . So fix  $A, B \in \mathbf{K}_{\alpha^*}^+$  such that  $A \preceq_{\alpha^*} B$ . Arguing as in Lemma 4.1 with the inequalities reversed, there is an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $A, B \in K_{\alpha}$  and  $A \preceq_{\alpha_n} B$  for all  $\alpha \in (\alpha^*, \alpha^* + \epsilon)$ . Furthermore, since there are only finitely many graphs  $C \supseteq B$  satisfying  $|C \setminus B| \leq m$ , by shrinking  $\epsilon$  we may additionally assume that  $B \preceq_{\alpha^*} C \Leftrightarrow B \preceq_{\alpha} C$  for each of these  $C$ ’s and for every  $\alpha \in (\alpha^*, \alpha^* + \epsilon)$ . Since each  $N_n \models \theta(A, B, m)$  whenever  $A \preceq_{\alpha_n} B$ , it follows that  $N_n \models \theta(A, B, m)$  for cofinitely many  $n \in \omega$ . Thus,  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models \theta(A, B, m)$  since  $\mathcal{U}$  is non-principal.

Now that  $Th(\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n)$  extends  $\Sigma_{\alpha^*}^+$ , the itemized cases follow from Theorem 2.7, Theorem 3.5, and Remark 4.3, respectively.  $\square$

**4.3. General ultraproducts.** We extend our results to arbitrary  $\omega$ -sequences  $\{\alpha_n\}$  and arbitrary ultrafilters  $\mathcal{U}$  on  $\omega$ .

**Definition 4.5.** Suppose  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is an  $\omega$ -sequence of real numbers from  $(0, 1)$ ,  $\mathcal{U}$  is an ultrafilter on  $\omega$ , and  $\alpha^* \in [0, 1]$ . We say that

- $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to  $\alpha^*$  if  $\{n \in \omega : |\alpha_n - \alpha^*| < \epsilon\} \in \mathcal{U}$  for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ;
- $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to  $\alpha^*$  from below if  $\{n \in \omega : \alpha_n \in (\alpha^* - \epsilon, \alpha^*)\} \in \mathcal{U}$  for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ;
- $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to  $\alpha^*$  from above if  $\{n \in \omega : \alpha_n \in (\alpha^*, \alpha^* + \epsilon)\} \in \mathcal{U}$  for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ; and
- $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -concentrates on  $\alpha^*$  if  $\{n \in \omega : \alpha_n = \alpha^*\} \in \mathcal{U}$ .

**Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $\{\alpha_n\}$  be any  $\omega$ -sequence of real numbers from  $(0, 1)$  and let  $\mathcal{U}$  be any ultrafilter on  $\omega$ . Then  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to a unique real number  $\alpha^* \in [0, 1]$ . Moreover, the  $\mathcal{U}$ -convergence is either from above, from below, or  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -concentrates on  $\alpha^*$ , and these possibilities are mutually exclusive.*

*Proof.* For each  $k \geq 1$  and  $i < 2^k$ , let  $Q_i$  denote the half-open interval  $[i/2^k, (i+1)/2^k)$  and let  $\overline{Q_i}$  denote its closure. For each  $k \geq 1$ , as  $\{Q_i : i < 2^k\}$  is a finite partition of  $[0, 1)$ , there is a unique  $i(k)$  such that  $\{n \in \omega : \alpha_n \in Q_{i(k)}\} \in \mathcal{U}$ . Moreover, for each  $k$ ,  $Q_{i(k+1)} \subseteq Q_{i(k)}$  and the diameters are decreasing to zero, so there is a unique real number  $\alpha^* \in \bigcap_{k \geq 1} \overline{Q_{i(k)}}$ . The trichotomy follows immediately, since the three sets  $\{n \in \omega : \alpha_n < \alpha^*\}$ ,  $\{n \in \omega : \alpha_n = \alpha^*\}$ , and  $\{n \in \omega : \alpha_n > \alpha^*\}$  obviously partition  $\omega$ .  $\square$

*Remark 4.7.* Clearly, if the ultrafilter is non-principal, and either  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to 1 or the sequence  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is strictly increasing, then the  $\mathcal{U}$ -convergence is from below. By inspecting the proof of Theorem 4.2, it is easily checked that if  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to  $\alpha^*$  from below, then the ultraproduct  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n$  is elementarily equivalent to  $M_{\alpha^*}$ .

*Remark 4.8.* Dually, if  $\mathcal{U}$  is non-principal and either  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to 0 or the sequence  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is strictly decreasing, then the  $\mathcal{U}$ -convergence is from above. As well, the proof of Theorem 4.4 holds whenever  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to  $\alpha^*$  from above.

We summarize our results with the Theorem below.

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $\{\alpha_n\}$  be any sequence of reals in  $(0, 1)$ , for each  $n \in \omega$  let  $N_n$  be elementarily equivalent to either  $M_{\alpha_n}$  or  $M_{\alpha_n}^+$ , and let  $\mathcal{U}$  be any ultrafilter on  $\omega$ . Then exactly one of the four possibilities hold:*

- (1) *For some rational  $\alpha^* \in (0, 1]$ ,  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \equiv M_{\alpha^*}$ . Its theory is decidable,  $\Pi_2$ -axiomatized by  $S_{\alpha^*}$ , and  $\aleph_0$ -stable.*
- (2) *For some irrational  $\alpha^* \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \equiv M_{\alpha^*}$ . Its theory is decidable,  $\Pi_2$ -axiomatized by  $S_{\alpha^*}$ , and stable, unsuperstable.*
- (3) *For some rational  $\alpha^* \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n \models \Sigma_{\alpha^*}^+$  and interprets Robinson's  $R$ . Its theory is unstable and contains an essentially undecidable subtheory.*
- (4)  *$\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n$  is elementarily equivalent to the classical 'Random graph'.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{\alpha_n\}$ ,  $\{N_n\}$ , and  $\mathcal{U}$  be given. Let  $\alpha^* \in [0, 1]$  be the unique value to which  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges. If  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to  $\alpha^*$  from below, then by Remark 4.7  $\Pi_{\mathcal{U}} N_n$  is elementarily equivalent to  $M_{\alpha^*}$ , and we are in either Case 1 or Case 2, depending on whether  $\alpha^*$  is rational or irrational.

If  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -converges to  $\alpha^*$  from above and  $\alpha^* \neq 0$ , then Remark 4.8 places us into Case 2 or Case 3, again depending on the rationality of  $\alpha^*$ .

Next, suppose that  $\{\alpha_n\}$   $\mathcal{U}$ -concentrates on  $\alpha^*$ . If  $\alpha^*$  is irrational, then we are visibly in Case 2. On the other hand, if  $\alpha^*$  is rational, then we are in either Case 2 or Case 3, depending on which of the sets  $\{n \in \omega : N_n \equiv M_{\alpha^*}\}$ ,  $\{n \in \omega : N_n \equiv M_{\alpha^*}^+\}$  is in the ultrafilter.

Finally, if  $\alpha^* = 0$ , then the  $\mathcal{U}$ -convergence must be from above and Remark 4.3 applies, placing us in Case 4.  $\square$

We close by remarking that this Theorem demonstrates that almost no property, positive or negative, is preserved under ultraproducts. For example, it may be that each  $N_n$  has an  $\omega$ -stable, decidable theory, yet the ultraproduct interprets

Robinson's  $R$ . Conversely, we may have models  $N_n$ , each interpreting Robinson's  $R$ , for which the theory of the ultraproduct is  $\omega$ -stable and decidable.

## REFERENCES

1. John T. Baldwin and Saharon Shelah, *Randomness and semigenercity*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **349** (1997), no. 4, 1359–1376. MR MR1407480 (97j:03065)
2. ———, *Dop and fcp in generic structures*, J. of Symbolic Logic **63** (1998), 427–438.
3. John T. Baldwin and Niandong Shi, *Stable generic structures*, Ann. Pure Appl. Logic **79** (1996), no. 1, 1–35. MR MR1390325 (97c:03103)
4. Koichiro Ikeda, Hirotaka Kikyo, and Akito Tsuboi, *On generic structures with a strong amalgamation property*, J. Symbolic Logic **74** (2009), no. 3, 721–733. MR 2548475 (2011e:03054)
5. Michael C. Laskowski, *A simpler axiomatization of the Shelah-Spencer almost sure theories*, Israel J. Math. **161** (2007), 157–186. MR MR2350161
6. Saharon Shelah and Joel Spencer, *Zero-one laws for sparse random graphs*, J. Amer. Math. Soc. **1** (1988), no. 1, 97–115. MR MR924703 (89i:05249)
7. Joel Spencer, *The strange logic of random graphs*, Algorithms and Combinatorics, vol. 22, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2001. MR MR1847951 (2003d:05196)
8. Alfred Tarski, A. Mostowski, and R.M. Robinson, *Undecidable Theories*, North-Holland, 1968.
9. Frank O. Wagner, *Relational structures and dimensions*, Automorphisms of first-order structures, Oxford Sci. Publ., Oxford Univ. Press, New York, 1994, pp. 153–180. MR MR1325473

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND