

The isomorphism and bi-embeddability relations for countable torsion abelian groups

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12th October 2017

Countable torsion abelian groups

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Fact

If A is a countable torsion abelian group, then $A = \bigoplus_{p \in P} A_p$ is the direct sum of its (possibly finite) **p -primary components**

$$A_p = \{ a \in A \mid (\exists n \geq 0) p^n a = 0 \}.$$

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Furthermore, if $B = \bigoplus_{p \in P} B_p$ is a second countable torsion abelian group, then:

- $A \cong B$ iff $A_p \cong B_p$ for every prime p ;

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Fact

Furthermore, if $B = \bigoplus_{p \in P} B_p$ is a second countable torsion abelian group, then:

- $A \cong B$ iff $A_p \cong B_p$ for every prime p ;
- A, B are bi-embeddable iff A_p, B_p are bi-embeddable for every prime p .

Notation

For each prime p ,

- \mathcal{A}_p is the space of countable abelian p -groups;
- \cong_p is the isomorphism relation on \mathcal{A}_p ;
- \equiv_p is the bi-embeddability relation on \mathcal{A}_p .

Isomorphism vs bi-embeddability of abelian p -groups

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Theorem

\cong_p and \equiv_p are *incomparable* with respect to Borel reducibility.

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Hypothesis (RC)

There exists a Ramsey cardinal.

Theorem (RC)

\cong_p is *strictly more complex* than \equiv_p with respect to Δ_2^1 reducibility.

Comparing different primes

Comparing different primes

Theorem

If $p \neq q$ are distinct primes, then the isomorphism relations \cong_p and \cong_q are Δ_2^1 bireducible.

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If $p \neq q$ are distinct primes, then the bi-embeddability relations \equiv_p and \equiv_q are Δ_2^1 bireducible.

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Conjecture

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The Ulm analysis of countable abelian p -groups

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Definition

If A is a countable abelian p -group, then the α -th Ulm subgroup A^α is defined inductively by:

- $A^0 = A$;
- $A^{\alpha+1} = \bigcap_{n < \omega} p^n A^\alpha$;
- $A^\delta = \bigcap_{\alpha < \delta} A^\alpha$, if δ is a limit ordinal.

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The *Ulm length* $\tau(A)$ is the least ordinal τ such that $A^\tau = A^{\tau+1}$.

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- $A^{\tau(A)}$ is the maximal divisible subgroup of A .
- A is **reduced** if $A^{\tau(A)} = 0$.

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For each $\alpha < \tau(A)$, the α th Ulm factor is $A_\alpha = A^\alpha / A^{\alpha+1}$.

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Fact

Each Ulm factor A_α is a Σ -cyclic p -group; i.e.

$$A_\alpha \cong \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} C_{p^n}^{(s_n)} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} \underbrace{C_{p^n} \oplus \cdots \oplus C_{p^n}}_{s_n \text{ times}}$$

where C_{p^n} is cyclic of order p^n and $s_n \in \omega \cup \{\omega\}$.

The Ulm analysis of countable abelian p -groups

Theorem (Ulm)

If A and B are countable abelian p -groups, then $A \cong B$ iff the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) $\tau(A) = \tau(B)$;*
- (ii) $A_\alpha \cong B_\alpha$ for each $\alpha < \tau(A) = \tau(B)$;*
- (ii) The (possibly trivial) divisible subgroups $A^{\tau(A)}$, $B^{\tau(B)}$ are isomorphic.*

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Remark

- $A^{\tau(A)}$ is isomorphic to a direct sum of d copies of the quasi-cyclic group $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ for some $d \in \omega \cup \{\omega\}$.

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- We write $\text{rk}(A^{\tau(A)}) = d$.

The Zippin realization theorem

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Theorem (Zippin)

Suppose that $0 < \tau < \omega_1$ and that $(C_\alpha \mid \alpha < \tau)$ is a sequence of nontrivial countable (possibly finite) Σ -cyclic p -groups. Then the following statements are equivalent:

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Suppose that $0 < \tau < \omega_1$ and that $(C_\alpha \mid \alpha < \tau)$ is a sequence of nontrivial countable (possibly finite) Σ -cyclic p -groups. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) There exists a countable **reduced** abelian p -group A with $\tau(A) = \tau$ such that $A_\alpha \cong C_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \tau$.

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- (i) There exists a countable **reduced** abelian p -group A with $\tau(A) = \tau$ such that $A_\alpha \cong C_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \tau$.
- (ii) C_α is unbounded for each α such that $\alpha + 1 < \tau$.

Definition

A Σ -cyclic p -group $G = \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} C_{p^n}^{(s_n)}$ is **bounded** if there exists an integer $m \geq 0$ such that $s_n = 0$ for all $n \geq m$.

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Theorem

If $p \neq q$ are distinct primes, then the isomorphism relations \cong_p and \cong_q are Δ_2^1 bireducible.

Proof.

There exist Δ_2^1 maps

$$A \in \mathcal{A}_p \mapsto \mathbf{u}(A) \mapsto A' \in \mathcal{A}_q$$

such that $\mathbf{u}(A') = \mathbf{u}(A)$. □

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- (b) $\text{rk}(A^{\tau(A)}) = \text{rk}(B^{\tau(B)}) < \omega$ and the following conditions hold:
 - (i) $\tau(A) = \tau(B)$;
 - (ii) if $\tau(A) = \tau(B) = \beta + 1$, then the *final* Ulm factors A_β, B_β are bi-embeddable.

Observation

If $G = \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} C_{p^n}^{(s_n)}$ and $H = \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} C_{p^n}^{(t_n)}$, where each $s_n, t_n \in \omega \cup \{\omega\}$, then G and H are bi-embeddable iff one of the following holds:

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- (i) G and H are both unbounded.

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- (i) G and H are both unbounded.
- (ii) G and H are both infinite bounded Σ -cyclic p -groups and
 - $m_G = \max\{n \mid s_n = \omega\} = \max\{n \mid t_n = \omega\} = m_H$;
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- (iii) G and H are isomorphic finite p -groups.

Bi-embeddability of countable Σ -cyclic p -groups

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Remark

In particular, there are only countably many countable Σ -cyclic p -groups up to bi-embeddability.

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Remark

Each bi-embeddability class countable Σ -cyclic p -groups contains a “**maximal**” isomorphism class.

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Theorem

If $p \neq q$ are distinct primes, then the bi-embeddability relations \equiv_p and \equiv_q are Δ_2^1 bireducible.

Lemma

The bi-embeddability relation \equiv_p is Δ_2^1 reducible to the isomorphism relation \cong_p .

Bi-embeddability vs isomorphism

Lemma

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Proof.

In fact, there exists a Δ_2^1 map which selects the **maximal** isomorphism class within each bi-embeddability class. □

Bi-embeddability vs isomorphism

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*The bi-embeddability relation \equiv_p is **not** Borel reducible to the isomorphism relation \cong_p .*

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Proof.

- $D_\infty = \{ A \in \mathcal{A}_p \mid \text{rk}(A^{\tau(A)}) = \omega \}$ is a single \equiv_p -class.

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- Every \cong_p -class is Borel.

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Proof.

- $D_\infty = \{ A \in \mathcal{A}_p \mid \text{rk}(A^{\tau(A)}) = \omega \}$ is a single \equiv_p -class.
- Every \cong_p -class is Borel.
- Thus it is enough to prove that D_∞ is not Borel.



D_∞ is a complete analytic subset of \mathcal{A}_p

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Definition (Feferman)

For each infinite tree $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$, let $G_p(T)$ be the abelian p -group generated by the elements $\{a_t \mid t \in T\}$ subject to the relations

- $pa_{t \smallfrown \ell} = a_t$
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- $G_p(T)^{(\omega)} \in D_\infty$ iff T is **not** well-founded.



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- By Shoenfield Absoluteness, we can suppose that $2^\omega > \omega_1$.

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- Suppose that \cong_p is Borel reducible to \equiv_p .
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- But there are 2^ω many \cong_p -classes and only ω_1 many \equiv_p -classes.



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Theorem (RC)

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Proof.

By Martin-Solovay Absoluteness.



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Furthermore, if $B = \bigoplus_{p \in P} B_p$ is a second countable torsion abelian group, then:

- $A \cong B \iff A_p \cong_p B_p$ for every prime p ;
- $A \equiv B \iff A_p \equiv_p B_p$ for every prime p .

Notation

- \mathcal{A}_{tor} is the space of countable torsion abelian groups;
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Lemma

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Proof.

There exists a Δ_2^1 map which selects an isomorphism class within each bi-embeddability class. \square

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Otherwise, we can pass to a suitable forcing extension

$$V[G] \models \omega_1^\omega < (2^\omega)^{<\omega_1}$$

and then apply absoluteness. □

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and then apply absoluteness. □

Pinned names

Definition (Kanovei)

Let E be an analytic equivalence relation on the Polish space X and let \mathbb{P} be a forcing notion. Then a \mathbb{P} -name τ is *E -pinned* if:

- $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}} \tau \in X^{V^{\mathbb{P}}}$
- $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{P}} \tau_{\text{left}} E^{V^{\mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{P}}} \tau_{\text{right}}$

Here $\tau_{\text{left}}, \tau_{\text{right}}$ are the $(\mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{P})$ -names such that if $G \times H$ is $(\mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{P})$ -generic, then $\tau_{\text{left}}[G \times H] = \tau[G]$ and $\tau_{\text{right}}[G \times H] = \tau[H]$.

Example

- Let E_{cntble} be the Borel equivalence relation on \mathbb{R}^ω defined by

$$z E_{cntble} z' \iff \{z(n) \mid n \in \omega\} = \{z'(n) \mid n \in \omega\}.$$

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- Let \mathbb{P} consist of all finite partial functions $p : \omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- Let $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ be generic and let $g = \bigcup G$.
- If τ is the canonical \mathbb{P} -name of g , then τ is E_{cntble} -pinned.

Definition (Zapletal)

Let E be an analytic equivalence relation on the Polish space X and let \mathbb{P} be a forcing notion. Then we can extend E to the class $X(\mathbb{P}, E)$ of E -pinned \mathbb{P} -names by defining

$$\sigma E \sigma' \iff \Vdash_{\mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{P}} \sigma_{\text{left}} E \sigma'_{\text{right}}$$

Definition (Zapletal)

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Theorem

Suppose that κ is a Ramsey cardinal and that $|\mathbb{P}| < \kappa$. If E, F are analytic equivalence relations and E is Δ_2^1 reducible to F , then $\lambda_{\mathbb{P}}(E) \leq \lambda_{\mathbb{P}}(F)$.

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