

# An Upper Bound for the Partial Type Counting Function in Simple Theories

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In this document we prove an upper bound for the partial type counting function for simple theories. This is done because the proof given in Casanovas's paper (Theorem 2.8 (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2)) uses the claim  $f_T^n(\kappa, \lambda) \leq \prod_{\varphi} f_{\varphi}^n(\kappa, \lambda)$  which is not obvious, and perhaps false in general (though true a fortiori in the simple case). The given argument generalizes the crucial Lemma 2.4 present there to get the desired result directly.

**Definition.** For all  $\lambda \geq \kappa \geq \aleph_0$  and  $n \geq 1$ , define

$$f_T^n(\kappa, \lambda) = \sup\{|P| \mid P \text{ is a family of pairwise incompatible } n\text{-types } p, |p| \leq \kappa \\ \text{taking parameters in some fixed } A, |A| \leq \lambda\}.$$

**Theorem 1.** Suppose  $T$  is simple and  $|T| \leq \kappa \leq \lambda$ . Then for all  $n$ ,  $f_T^n(\kappa, \lambda) \leq \lambda^{|T|} + 2^\kappa$ .

*Proof.* Suppose for contradiction that  $P$  is a family of pairwise incompatible types  $p$ ,  $|p| \leq \kappa$ , all with parameters in some fixed  $A$ ,  $|A| \leq \lambda$ , and  $|P| > \lambda^{|T|} + 2^\kappa$ . Shrinking  $P$ , we may assume  $|P| = \mu$  is regular. We also assume that each  $p \in P$  is closed under conjunctions. Enumerate  $P = \{p_\alpha \mid \alpha < \mu\}$  and each  $p_\alpha = \{\varphi_i^\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{a}_i^\alpha) \mid i < \kappa\}$ . By local character of simplicity, each  $p_\alpha$  does not fork over some  $A_\alpha \subseteq A$ ,  $|A_\alpha| \leq |T|$ . Since  $\mu > \lambda^{|T|}$  and is regular, we may shrink  $P$  (still size  $\mu$ ) and get that all  $A_\alpha = A_0$ .

Now each  $p_\alpha$  induces a type  $q_\alpha = \text{tp}(\bar{a}^\alpha/A_0)$  where  $\bar{a}^\alpha$  is the sequence formed by concatenating all  $\bar{a}_i^\alpha$ ,  $i < \kappa$ . So  $q_\alpha$  is a type in  $\kappa$  many variables over  $|A_0| \leq |T|$ . There are at most  $2^{|T|}$   $n$ -types over  $A_0$  and  $\kappa \geq |T|$  so there are at most  $(2^{|T|})^\kappa = 2^\kappa$  types  $q_\alpha$ , and  $\mu > 2^\kappa$  is regular so again we may assume that all  $q_\alpha = q_0$ . In other words, for all  $\alpha, \beta < \mu$ ,  $\bar{a}^\alpha \equiv_{A_0} \bar{a}^\beta$ .

For  $\alpha < \beta < \mu$ , let  $h(\alpha, \beta) = (i, j)$  such that  $\{\varphi_i^\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{a}_i^\alpha), \varphi_j^\beta(\bar{x}, \bar{a}_j^\beta)\}$  is inconsistent (this using the fact that each type is closed under conjunctions). This gives  $\kappa$  many colors on  $\mu > 2^\kappa$  many nodes, so by Erdős-Rado there is some  $I \subseteq \mu$ ,  $|I| \geq \kappa^+$ , such that  $h(\alpha, \beta) = (i_0, j_0)$  for all  $\alpha < \beta$  both in  $I$ . Since  $|I| > |T|$  and can be assumed regular, we can shrink  $I$  (maintaining  $|I| > |T|$  but losing  $|I| > \kappa$ ) and assume that the maps  $\alpha \mapsto \varphi_{i_0}^\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}_{i_0}^\alpha)$  and  $\alpha \mapsto \varphi_{j_0}^\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}_{j_0}^\alpha)$  are constant  $= \varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ . In particular, for all  $\alpha \in I$  we get  $\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{a}_{i_0}^\alpha) \in p_\alpha$  and also  $\{\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{a}_{i_0}^\alpha) \mid \alpha \in I\}$  is infinite and 2-inconsistent. We also have that  $\bar{a}_{i_0}^\alpha \equiv_{A_0} \bar{a}_{i_0}^\beta$  for all  $\alpha, \beta$ , which means that in fact every  $p_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in I$  divides over  $A_0$ . But this contradicts the choice of  $A_0$ . We conclude that no such family  $P$  can exist, and the upper bound on the partial type counting function holds for simple theories.  $\square$