# COMPOSITIONS OF PERIODIC AUTOMORPHISMS

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ABSTRACT. We introduce a notion of separability that holds of all Borel automorphisms of standard Borel spaces and automorphisms of complete Boolean algebras. We then prove that separable automorphisms of  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebras are products of various types of periodic automorphisms in their full groups. As applications, we show that a wide variety of groups of automorphisms consist solely of commutators and satisfy the Bergman property, that natural strengthenings of the Bergman property characterize the inexistence of invariant Borel probability measures in standard Borel spaces and standard measure spaces, and that the length four normal closure of any Borel automorphism of  $\mathbb R$  with uncountable support is the group of all Borel automorphisms of  $\mathbb R$ .

#### Introduction

A Borel space is a set X equipped with a  $\sigma$ -algebra of Borel subsets. A function between Borel spaces is Borel if preimages of Borel sets are Borel. A Borel automorphism of a Borel space is a Borel bijection of the space with itself whose inverse is also Borel.

Given a binary relation R on a set X, we say that a family of subsets of X separates R-related points if, for all distinct R-related points x and y, there is a set in the family that contains x but not y. When X is a Borel space, we say that R is separable if there is a countable family of Borel subsets of X that separates R-related points. We say that a Borel automorphism  $T \colon X \to X$  is separable if the graphs of its powers are separable. If there is a countable separating family of Borel subsets of X, then every Borel automorphism of X is separable.

We say that a subrelation R of the orbit equivalence relation  $E_{\Gamma}^X$  generated by a countable group  $\Gamma$  of Borel automorphisms of X is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable if there is a sequence  $(B_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  of Borel subsets of X with the property that  $R = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \upharpoonright B_{\gamma})$ . We say that a partial function  $T \colon X \to X$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable if its graph is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. It is easy to see that the set  $[\Gamma]$  of all  $\Gamma$ -decomposable Borel automorphisms

<sup>2010</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 03E15, 28A05, 37B05.

Key words and phrases. Bergman property, Borel automorphisms, full groups. The author was partially supported by FWF grant P29999.

of X forms a group under composition; we refer to it as the *full group* of  $\Gamma$ . In the special case that there is a single Borel automorphism  $T: X \to X$  for which  $\Gamma$  is the group  $\langle T \rangle$  generated by T, we say that a partial function  $S: X \to X$  is T-decomposable if it is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable, we define the *full group* of T to be the full group of  $\Gamma$ , and we use [T] to denote  $[\Gamma]$ .

In what follows, we establish various algebraic properties of full groups of separable Borel automorphisms. While these results essentially appeared some time ago in [Mil04, §1], here we follow a more systematic approach that yields substantially more readable proofs of somewhat stronger theorems. This is only part of the justification for publishing these results now, however, as questions have recently arisen concerning analogs of properties of the group of Borel automorphisms of  $\mathbb{R}$  for the group of permutations of  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Q}$  with Borel graphs, and the answers to such questions—which will appear in a subsequent paper—rely heavily upon the arguments presented here.

In §1, we consider *involutions* (i.e., functions  $I: X \to X$  for which  $I^2 = \mathrm{id}_X$ ). Although only the simplest Borel automorphisms are compositions of two Borel involutions in their full groups, we establish:

**Theorem 1.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $T: X \to X$  is a separable Borel automorphism. Then there are Borel involutions  $I_1, I_2, I_3 \in [T]$  for which  $T = I_3 \circ I_2 \circ I_1$ .

In  $\S 2$ , we consider more general products. We say that a permutation is (a)periodic if all of its orbits are (in)finite. We show that separability is not only sufficient for the above result, but necessary, even to obtain an ostensibly weaker conclusion:

**Theorem 2.** Suppose that  $k \geq 2$ , X is a Borel space,  $T: X \to X$  is an aperiodic Borel automorphism, and there are periodic Borel automorphisms  $S_1, \ldots, S_k \in [T]$  with the property that  $T = S_k \circ \cdots \circ S_1$ . Then T is separable.

We then determine the circumstances under which an aperiodic separable Borel automorphism is a composition of two Borel automorphisms with prescribed periods in its full group:

**Theorem 3.** Suppose that  $k_1 \geq 2$ ,  $k_2 \geq 3$ , X is a Borel space, and  $T: X \to X$  is an aperiodic separable Borel automorphism. Then there exist  $S_1, S_2 \in [T]$  such that every orbit of  $S_1$  has cardinality  $k_1$ , every orbit of  $S_2$  has cardinality 1 or  $k_2$ , and  $T = S_2 \circ S_1$ .

In §3, we show that every aperiodic separable Borel automorphism is a special kind of commutator:

**Theorem 4.** Suppose that  $k \geq 3$ , X is a Borel space, and  $T: X \rightarrow X$  is an aperiodic separable Borel automorphism. Then there exist  $S_1, S_2 \in [T]$  such that  $S_1^{-1}$  and  $S_2$  are conjugate in [T], every orbit of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  has cardinality 1 or k, and  $T = S_2 \circ S_1$ .

We say that a countable group of permutations is *aperiodic* if all of its orbits are infinite. More generally, we show that every Borel automorphism in the full group of an aperiodic countable group of separable Borel automorphisms is a special kind of commutator:

**Theorem 5.** Suppose that  $k \geq 3$ , X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is an aperiodic countable group of separable Borel automorphisms of X, and  $T \in [\Gamma]$ . Then there exist  $S_1, S_2 \in [T]$  such that  $S_1^{-1}$  and  $S_2$  are conjugate in  $[\Gamma]$ , every orbit of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  has cardinality 1, 2, or k, and  $T = S_2 \circ S_1$ .

A Borel measure on X is a measure  $\mu$  on the Borel subsets of X. We say that such a measure is  $\Gamma$ -invariant if  $\mu(B) = \mu(\gamma B)$  for all Borel sets  $B \subseteq X$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . As this easily implies that  $\mu(B) = \mu(T(B))$  for all Borel sets  $B \subseteq X$  and  $T \in [\Gamma]$ , the special cases of Theorems 1, 3, and 5 for Lebesgue-measure-preserving Borel automorphisms of [0, 1] easily yield the results of [Ryz85].

In §4, we focus on Borel spaces X that are *standard*, in the sense that the Borel structure on X is generated by a second-countable complete metric on X. The *support* of a function  $T: X \to X$  is given by  $\text{supp}(T) = \{x \in X \mid x \neq T(x)\}$ . Our main result is the following strengthening of Shortt's theorem that the quotient of the group of Borel automorphisms of a standard Borel space by the subgroup of permutations with countable supports is simple (see [Sho90]):

**Theorem 6.** Suppose that X is a standard Borel space and  $T: X \to X$  is a Borel automorphism with uncountable support. Then every Borel automorphism  $S: X \to X$  is a composition of four conjugates of  $T^{\pm 1}$  by Borel automorphisms of X.

In §5, we consider algebraic properties originating in [Ber06]. We say that a group  $\Gamma$  of Borel automorphisms of X is closed under countable decomposition if  $[\Delta] \subseteq \Gamma$  for all countable subgroups  $\Delta$  of  $\Gamma$ . Given a group  $\Gamma$ , we say that an increasing sequence  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of subsets of  $\Gamma$  is exhaustive if  $\Gamma = \bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} \Gamma_n$ . We say that  $\Gamma$  has the Bergman property if, for every exhaustive increasing sequence  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of subsets of  $\Gamma$ , there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\Gamma = (\Gamma_k)^k$ . The following fact implies Bergman's theorem that the symmetric group of permutations of  $\mathbb{N}$  has the latter property (see [Ber06, Theorem 6]), as well as the analogous fact for the group of Borel automorphisms of  $\mathbb{R}$  (see [DG05, Theorem 3.4]):

**Theorem 7.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $\Gamma$  is a group of separable Borel automorphisms of X that is closed under countable decomposition and has an aperiodic countable subgroup. Then  $\Gamma$  has the Bergman property.

For each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we say that  $\Gamma$  has the k-Bergman property if, for every exhaustive increasing sequence  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of subsets of  $\Gamma$ , there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\Gamma = (\Gamma_n)^k$ . When  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of permutations of X, we say that a set  $Y \subseteq X$  is  $\Gamma$ -complete if  $X = \Gamma Y$ . We say that a countable group  $\Gamma$  of Borel automorphisms of X is compressible if there is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable injection  $T: X \to X$  for which  $\sim T(X)$  is  $\Gamma$ -complete. The proofs of [Ber06, Theorem 6] and [DG05, Theorem 3.4] show that the corresponding groups have the 17-Bergman property, which is also an easy consequence of:

**Theorem 8.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $\Gamma$  is a group of separable Borel automorphisms of X that is closed under countable decomposition and has a compressible countable subgroup. Then  $\Gamma$  has the 14-Bergman property.

As a corollary, we obtain the following characterization of the existence of invariant Borel probability measures:

**Theorem 9.** Suppose that  $k \geq 14$ , X is a standard Borel space, and  $\Gamma$  is an aperiodic countable group of Borel automorphisms of X. Then exactly one of the following holds:

- (1) There is a  $\Gamma$ -invariant Borel probability measure on X.
- (2) The group  $[\Gamma]$  has the k-Bergman property.

We say that a Borel measure  $\mu$  on X is  $\Gamma$ -quasi-invariant if  $\mu(B) = 0 \iff \mu(\gamma B) = 0$  for all Borel sets  $B \subseteq X$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . Given such a  $\mu$ , let  $[\Gamma]/\mu$  denote the quotient of  $[\Gamma]$  by the subgroup of Borel automorphisms in  $[\Gamma]$  with  $\mu$ -null supports. We also obtain:

**Theorem 10.** Suppose that  $k \geq 14$ , X is a standard Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is an aperiodic countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and  $\mu$  is a  $\Gamma$ -quasi-invariant  $\sigma$ -finite Borel measure on X. Then exactly one of the following holds:

- (1) There is a  $\Gamma$ -invariant Borel probability measure  $\nu \ll \mu$ .
- (2) The group  $[\Gamma]/\mu$  has the k-Bergman property.

In §6, we generalize Theorems 1–5 and 7–8 to  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebras. To achieve this, we use essentially the same arguments as those utilized in [Fre04, §382M] to obtain the main result of [Ryz93] as a consequence of Theorem 1. However, by avoiding the use of Stone spaces, we eliminate the need for choice (beyond DC).

## 1. Products of involutions

The saturation of a set  $Y \subseteq X$  under a partial injection  $T \colon X \to X$  is given by  $[Y]_T = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^n(\text{dom}(T^n) \cap Y)$  (where  $T^0$  is the identity function on X), the T-orbit of a point  $x \in X$  is given by  $[x]_T = [\{x\}]_T$ , and a transversal of T is a set  $Y \subseteq X$  whose intersection with each T-orbit is a singleton. When X is a Borel space, we say that a Borel automorphism  $T \colon X \to X$  is smooth if it admits a Borel transversal. We begin this section by noting that the existence of involutions  $I, J \in [T]$  for which  $T = I \circ J$  is equivalent to a slight weakening of smoothness:

**Proposition 1.1.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $T: X \to X$  is a Borel automorphism. Then the following are equivalent:

- (1) There are involutions  $I_0, I_1 \in [T]$  for which  $T = I_1 \circ I_0$ .
- (2) There is a Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  whose intersection with each T-orbit is a singleton or doubleton.

*Proof.* To see (1)  $\Longrightarrow$  (2), define a function  $D: X \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Z})$  by setting  $D(x) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid I_0(x) = T^n(x)\}$  for all  $x \in X$ .

**Lemma 1.2.** Suppose that  $x \in X$ . Then there is at most one point  $y \in [x]_T \setminus \{x\}$  for which  $D(x) \cap D(y) \neq \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* For all  $M \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , define  $M - n = \{m - n \mid m \in M\}$ .

Sublemma 1.3. If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $D(T^n(x)) = D(x) - 2n$ .

*Proof.* It is sufficient to show that  $D(x) - 2n \subseteq D(T^n(x))$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , as this implies that  $D(T^n(x)) - 2(-n) \subseteq D((T^{-n} \circ T^n)(x)) = D(x)$ , so  $D(T^n(x)) \subseteq D(x) - 2n$ , thus  $D(T^n(x)) = D(x) - 2n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . But if  $m \in D(x)$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then

$$(I_0 \circ T^n)(x) = (I_0 \circ (I_1 \circ I_0)^n)(x)$$

$$= ((I_0 \circ I_1)^n \circ I_0)(x)$$

$$= (T^{-n} \circ I_0)(x)$$

$$= T^{m-n}(x)$$

$$= (T^{m-2n} \circ T^n)(x),$$

so  $m-2n \in D(T^n(x))$ , thus  $D(x)-2n \subseteq D(T^n(x))$ .

If  $k = |[x]_T|$  is infinite, then D(y) is a singleton for all  $y \in [x]_T$ , so Sublemma 1.3 ensures that  $\forall y \in [x]_T \setminus \{x\} \ D(x) \cap D(y) = \emptyset$ . Otherwise, D(y) is a translate of  $k\mathbb{Z}$  for all  $y \in [x]_T$ , in which case Sublemma 1.3 implies that  $\forall y \in [x]_T \setminus \{x\} \ D(x) \cap D(y) = \emptyset$  if k is odd, whereas  $\forall y \in [x]_T \setminus \{x, T^{k/2}(x)\} \ D(x) \cap D(y) = \emptyset$  if k is even.

Fix Borel sets  $B_n \subseteq X$  for which  $I_0 = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^n \upharpoonright B_n$ . Note that if  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in B_n$ , then  $n \in D(x)$ , so Lemma 1.2 ensures that  $B_n$  intersects each T-orbit in at most two points. Fix an enumeration  $(k_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  and define  $B'_n = B_{k_n} \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} [B_{k_m}]_T$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then the set  $B = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B'_n$  intersects each T-orbit in a singleton or doubleton.

To see (2)  $\Longrightarrow$  (1), first recall that the *hitting time function* associated with B and T is the map  $h_B^T \colon X \to \mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{\infty\}$  given by

$$h_B^T(x) = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \text{ and } x \in T^{-n}(B) \setminus \bigcup_{0 < m < n} T^{-m}(B) \text{ and } \\ \infty & \text{if } x \notin \bigcup_{n > 0} T^{-n}(B), \end{cases}$$

and the return time function is the restriction  $r_B^T$  of  $h_B^T$  to B. Define  $\overline{T}_B \colon (h_B^T)^{-1}(\mathbb{Z}^+) \to B$  by  $\overline{T}_B(x) = T^{h_B^T(x)}(x)$ . The corresponding induced transformation is given by  $T_B = \overline{T}_B \upharpoonright (r_B^T)^{-1}(\mathbb{Z}^+)$ . These functions are clearly Borel (when  $\mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{\infty\}$  is endowed with the power set Borel structure).

Note that the set  $B_{\infty} = (r_B^T)^{-1}(\{\infty\})$  intersects each infinite T-orbit in a singleton and misses each finite T-orbit, whereas the set  $B_{<\infty} = \{x \in (r_B^T)^{-1}(\mathbb{Z}^+) \mid r_B^T(x) \geq (r_B^T \circ T_B)(x)\}$  misses each infinite T-orbit and intersects each finite T-orbit in a singleton or a set of the form  $\{x, T^{k/2}(x)\}$ , where  $x \in X$  and  $k = |[x]_T|$  is even. Set  $A = B_{<\infty} \cup B_{\infty}$ .

**Lemma 1.4.** Suppose that  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in A$ , and  $T^{-m}(x) = T^{-n}(y)$ . Then  $T^m(x) = T^n(y)$ .

Proof. If x = y, then  $T^{-m}(x) = T^{-n}(y) = T^{-n}(x)$ , so  $x = T^{m-n}(x)$ , thus  $T^{n}(y) = T^{n}(x) = T^{m}(x)$ . Otherwise, set  $k = |[x]_{T}| = |[y]_{T}|$ . Then  $y = T^{-k/2}(x) = T^{k/2}(x)$ , so  $T^{-m}(x) = T^{-n}(y) = T^{-k/2-n}(x)$ , thus  $x = T^{-k/2+m-n}(x)$ , hence  $T^{k/2-m+n}(x) = x$ , and it follows that  $T^{n}(y) = T^{k/2+n}(x) = T^{m}(x)$ .

Define an involution  $I_1 \in [T]$  by  $I_1 = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^{2n} \upharpoonright T^{-n}(A)$ , as well as

$$I_{0} = I_{1} \circ T$$

$$= \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (T^{2n} \upharpoonright T^{-n}(A)) \circ T$$

$$= \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^{2n} \circ (T \upharpoonright T^{-(n+1)}(A))$$

$$= \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^{2n+1} \upharpoonright T^{-(n+1)}(A).$$

Then  $I_1 \circ I_0 = I_1 \circ I_1 \circ T = T$  and  $I_0^2 = I_0 \circ I_1 \circ T = T^{-1} \circ T = \mathrm{id}$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

**Remark 1.5.** In the special case that no T-orbit has even finite cardinality, condition (2) of Proposition 1.1 is equivalent to the smoothness of T. This can be established by noting that, in this case, the set A from the proof of (2)  $\Longrightarrow$  (1) is a transversal of  $E_T^X$ .

**Remark 1.6.** For future arguments, it will be important to note the number of fixed points of the involutions  $I_0$  and  $I_1$  arising in the proof of (2)  $\Longrightarrow$  (1) along the T-orbit of each  $x \in A$ . Towards this end, first observe that if  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $y = T^{-n}(x)$ , then

$$I_{1}(y) = y \iff I_{1}(T^{-n}(x)) = T^{-n}(x)$$

$$\iff T^{n}(x) = T^{-n}(x)$$

$$\iff T^{2n}(x) = x$$
and
$$I_{0}(y) = y \iff (I_{1} \circ T)(T^{-n}(x)) = T^{-n}(x)$$

$$\iff I_{1}(T^{-(n-1)}(x)) = T^{-n}(x)$$

$$\iff T^{n-1}(x) = T^{-n}(x)$$

$$\iff T^{2n-1}(x) = x.$$

If  $k = |[x]_T|$  is infinite, then n = 0 is the unique solution to the first equation and there are no solutions to the second, so x is the unique fixed point of  $I_1 \upharpoonright [x]_T$  and  $I_0 \upharpoonright [x]_T$  has no fixed points. Otherwise, the solutions to the first equation are given by  $2n \equiv 0 \pmod{k}$  and the solutions to the second are given by  $2n - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{k}$ . If k is odd, then n = 0 is the unique solution in k to the first congruence and n = (k+1)/2 is the unique solution in k to the second, so x is the unique fixed point of  $I_1 \upharpoonright [x]_T$  and  $T^{-(k+1)/2}(x)$  is the unique fixed point of  $I_0 \upharpoonright [x]_T$ . If k is even, then n = 0 and n = k/2 are the unique solutions in k to the first congruence and there are no solutions to the second, so x and  $T^{-k/2}(x)$  are the unique fixed points of  $I_1 \upharpoonright [x]_T$  and  $I_0 \upharpoonright [x]_T$  has no fixed points.

**Remark 1.7.** By applying  $(2) \implies (1)$  to  $T^{-1}$ , one obtains involutions  $I_0, I_1 \in [T]$  for which  $T = I_1 \circ I_0$  and the number of fixed points of  $I_1$  and  $I_0$  along each T-orbit is as in Remark 1.6, but with the roles of  $I_1$  and  $I_0$  reversed.

We next turn our attention to writing automorphisms as compositions of three involutions.

**Proposition 1.8.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $T: X \to X$  is a Borel automorphism whose graph is separable. Then the support of T is Borel.

*Proof.* Fix a sequence  $(B_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of Borel sets separating graph(T)-related points, and observe that  $\operatorname{supp}(T) = \bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} B_n \setminus T^{-1}(B_n)$ .

For all cardinals  $\kappa$  and sets X, let  $[X]^{\kappa}$  denote the set of all subsets of X of cardinality  $\kappa$ .

**Proposition 1.9.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X with Borel supports,  $B \subseteq X$  is Borel, and  $k \leq \aleph_0$ . Then  $\{x \in X \mid |B \cap \Gamma x| = k\}$  is Borel.

Proof. It is enough to show that if  $k < \aleph_0$ , then the corresponding set  $A = \{x \in X \mid |B \cap \Gamma x| \geq k\}$  is Borel. Towards this end, define  $C_{\Delta} = \bigcap_{\delta \in \Delta} \delta^{-1}B$  and  $D_{\Delta} = \bigcap_{\gamma \in \Delta} \bigcap_{\delta \in \Delta \setminus \{\gamma\}} \operatorname{supp}(\gamma^{-1}\delta)$  for all  $\Delta \in [\Gamma]^k$ , and observe that  $A = \bigcup_{\Delta \in [\Gamma]^k} C_{\Delta} \cap D_{\Delta}$ .

Given a Borel automorphism  $T\colon X\to X$ , let  $\leq_T$  denote the quasiorder on X given by  $x\leq_T y\iff\exists n\in\mathbb{N}\ T^n(x)=y$  and  $<_T$  denote the strict quasi-order on X given by  $x<_T y\iff (x\leq_T y\text{ and }\neg y\leq_T x)$ . Given  $x,y\in X$ , set  $(x,y)_T=\{z\in X\mid x<_T z<_T y\}$  (and define  $[x,y)_T,\ (x,y]_T$ , and  $[x,y]_T$  analogously). Given  $S\in[T]$ , we say that a point  $x\in X$  is covered by a point  $y\in[x]_T$  if  $y\leq_T x<_T S(y)$ . Observe that if such a y exists, then  $[x]_T$  is infinite (since otherwise  $<_T\upharpoonright[x]_T=\emptyset$ ), so there is a  $\leq_T$ -maximal such y. We use  $c_S(x)$  to denote this point. We say that S is T-covering if every point in X is covered by a point in its T-orbit. Observe that the existence of such an element of [T] ensures that T is aperiodic. We say that S is T-noncrossing if  $(x,S(x))_T$  is S-invariant for all  $x\in X$ . We say that S is T-oriented if  $S(x)\leq_T x\implies \forall y\in[x]_S y\leq_T x$  for all  $x\in X$ .

A reduction of an equivalence relation E on a set X to an equivalence relation F on a set Y is a function  $\pi \colon X \to Y$  with the property that  $w \to E \times F$  and  $E \to F$  with the property that  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  with the property that  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$  and  $E \to F$  are  $E \to F$ 

**Proposition 1.10.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $T: X \to X$  is a Borel automorphism,  $S \in [T]$  is T-covering, T-non-crossing, and T-oriented, and  $R = S^{-1} \circ T$ . Then  $c_S$  is a reduction of  $E_R^X$  to equality.

Proof. Fix  $x, y \in X$ . To see that  $c_S(x) \neq c_S(y) \Longrightarrow \neg x \ E_R^X \ y$ , it is enough to handle the case that  $x \ E_T^X \ y$ . By reversing the roles of x and y if necessary, we can assume that  $x <_T y$ . Then  $y <_T (S \circ c_S)(x) \Longrightarrow c_S(x) \leq_T c_S(y)$  and  $c_S(y) \leq_T x \Longrightarrow c_S(y) \leq_T c_S(x)$ , so the fact that  $c_S(x) \neq c_S(y)$  ensures that  $(S \circ c_S)(x) \leq_T y$  or  $x <_T c_S(y)$ , in which case  $y \notin [c_S(x), (S \circ c_S)(x))_T$  or  $x \notin [c_S(y), (S \circ c_S)(y))_T$ . To see that  $\neg x \ E_R^X \ y$ , it is therefore sufficient to show the following:

**Lemma 1.11.** For all  $z \in X$ , the set  $[c_S(z), (S \circ c_S)(z))_T$  is R-invariant.

Proof. If  $z' \in [c_S(z), (S \circ c_S)(z))_T$ , then  $T(z') \in (c_S(z), (S \circ c_S)(z)]_T$ , so  $T(z') \in (c_S(z), (S \circ c_S)(z))_T$  or  $T(z') = (S \circ c_S)(z)$ . The S-invariance of  $(c_S(z), (S \circ c_S)(z))_T$  ensures that  $R(z') \in (c_S(z), (S \circ c_S)(z))_T$  in the former case, and clearly  $R(z') = c_S(z)$  in the latter.

To see that  $c_S(x) = c_S(y) \implies x E_R^X y$ , note that  $c_S$  is finite-to-one, so—by the obvious induction—it is sufficient to establish the special case where y is the  $\leq_T$ -minimal element of  $[x]_T$  for which  $x <_T y$  and  $c_S(x) = c_S(y)$ . Observe that  $c_S(z) \in (x, y)_T$  for all  $z \in (x, y)_T$ .

**Lemma 1.12.** There exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with the property that  $(S^n \circ T)(x) = y$  and  $(S^m \circ T)(x) <_T (S^{m+1} \circ T)(x)$  for all m < n.

Proof. If  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(S^m \circ T)(x) <_T (S^{m+1} \circ T)(x)$  for all m < n, and  $(S^n \circ T)(x) <_T y$ , then  $(S^n \circ T)(x) \in (x, y)_T$ , so  $(c_S \circ S^n \circ T)(x) \in (x, y)_T$ . As  $((S^m \circ T)(x), (S^{m+1} \circ T)(x))_T$  is S-invariant for all m < n, it follows that  $(c_S \circ S^n \circ T)(x) = (S^n \circ T)(x)$ , so  $(S^n \circ T)(x) <_T (S^{n+1} \circ T)(x)$ , and the fact that  $c_S(y) <_T (S^n \circ T)(x) <_T y$  ensures that  $(S^{n+1} \circ T)(x) \le_T y$ . The obvious induction therefore yields the desired result.

As  $c_S(y) <_T y$ , it follows that  $S(y) \leq_T y$ , in which case the fact that  $((S^m \circ T)(x), (S^{m+1} \circ T)(x))_T$  is S-invariant for all m < n ensures that  $S(y) \leq_T T(x)$ . If  $S(y) <_T T(x)$ , then  $y \neq (S^{-1} \circ T)(x)$ , so the fact that S is T-oriented ensures that  $(S^{-1} \circ T)(x) <_T T(x)$ , thus the S-invariance of  $((S^{-1} \circ T)(x), T(x))_T$  implies that  $c_S(x) = (S^{-1} \circ T)(x)$ ; but  $T(x) \leq_T y$ , so  $c_S(y) \neq (S^{-1} \circ T)(x)$ , contradicting the fact that  $c_S(x) = c_S(y)$ . It follows that S(y) = T(x), hence y = R(x).

**Remark 1.13.** As  $c_S$  is finite-to-one, the conclusion of Proposition 1.10 immediately implies that R is periodic.

The vertical sections of a set  $R \subseteq X \times Y$  are the sets of the form  $R_x = \{y \in Y \mid x \ R \ y\}$ , where  $x \in X$ . The restriction of a binary relation R on X to a set  $Y \subseteq X$  is the binary relation  $R \upharpoonright Y$  on Y given by  $R \upharpoonright Y = R \cap (Y \times Y)$ . A digraph on X is an irreflexive binary relation G on X, and a graph is a symmetric digraph. A set  $Y \subseteq X$  is G-independent if  $G \upharpoonright Y = \emptyset$ , and an I-coloring of G is a function  $c: X \to I$  such that  $c^{-1}(\{i\})$  is G-independent for all  $i \in I$ . Equip  $\mathbb N$  with the power set Borel structure, and note that the existence of a Borel  $\mathbb N$ -coloring of a digraph G on a Borel space X is equivalent to the existence of a cover  $(B_n)_{n \in \mathbb N}$  of X by G-independent Borel sets. The following facts are simple generalizations of results from [KST99, §4]:

**Proposition 1.14.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and G is a separable  $\Gamma$ -decomposable digraph on X whose vertical sections are finite. Then there is a Borel  $\mathbb{N}$ -coloring of G.

*Proof.* Fix Borel sets  $A_{\gamma} \subseteq X$  for which  $G = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \upharpoonright A_{\gamma})$ , as well as an enumeration  $(B_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of a family of Borel sets that separates

G-related points and is closed under finite intersections. Then the set

$$C_n = \{x \in B_n \mid B_n \cap G_x = \emptyset\} = B_n \setminus (\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} A_\gamma \cap \gamma^{-1} B_n)$$

is Borel and G-independent for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . But  $X = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} C_n$ .

**Proposition 1.15.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and G is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable graph on X that admits a Borel  $\mathbb{N}$ -coloring. Then every G-independent Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  is contained in a Borel maximal G-independent set.

*Proof.* Fix Borel sets  $A_{\gamma} \subseteq X$  for which  $G = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \upharpoonright A_{\gamma})$ , as well as a cover  $(B_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of X by G-independent Borel sets. Set  $C_0 = B$  and recursively define

$$C_{n+1} = C_n \cup \{x \in B_n \mid \neg \exists y \in C_n \ x \ G \ y\}$$
$$= C_n \cup (B_n \setminus \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} A_\gamma \cap \gamma^{-1} C_n)$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . As each of these sets is Borel and G-independent, so too is the set  $C_{\infty} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} C_n$ . To see that  $C_{\infty}$  is a maximal G-independent set, suppose that  $x \in X$  and  $C_{\infty} \cup \{x\}$  is G-independent, fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $x \in B_n$ , and observe that  $x \in C_{n+1} \subseteq C_{\infty}$ .

The diagonal on X is given by  $\Delta(X) = \{(x,y) \in X \times X \mid x = y\}$ . A transversal of an equivalence relation is a set that intersects every equivalence class in a single point.

**Proposition 1.16.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of separable Borel automorphisms of X, and  $B \subseteq X$  is a Borel set whose intersection with every  $\Gamma$ -orbit is finite. Then there is a Borel transversal of  $E_{\Gamma}^{X} \upharpoonright B$ .

*Proof.* Proposition 1.8 ensures that the graph

$$\begin{split} G &= (E_{\Gamma}^X \setminus \Delta(X)) \cap (B \times B) \\ &= \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \upharpoonright (\operatorname{supp}(\gamma) \cap B \cap \gamma^{-1}B)) \end{split}$$

is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. As it also has finite vertical sections and is separable, Propositions 1.14 and 1.15 yield a Borel maximal G-independent set  $A \subseteq X$ . But the intersection of any such set with B is a transversal of  $E_{\Gamma}^{X} \upharpoonright B$ .

Given n > 0 and an aperiodic Borel automorphism  $T: X \to X$ , we say that a set  $Y \subseteq X$  is  $T^{\leq n}$ -independent (or  $T^{<(n+1)}$ -independent) if it is independent with respect to the digraph  $G = \bigcup_{1 \leq m \leq n} \operatorname{graph}(T^m)$ . We also use  $R_T^X$  to denote  $\leq_T$ . Given a quasi-order R on X, we say that a set  $Y \subseteq X$  is R-complete if it intersects every vertical section of

R. A balanced marker sequence for T is a decreasing sequence  $(B_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of  $R_{T^{-1}}^X$  and  $R_T^X$ -complete Borel subsets of X such that

$$\forall x \in X \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ (x \notin B_n \text{ and } \forall i \in \{\pm 1\} \ \overline{(T^i)}_{B_n}(x) \notin B_{n+1}).$$

**Proposition 1.17.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $T: X \to X$  is an aperiodic separable Borel automorphism. Then T has a balanced marker sequence.

Proof. We first consider the special case of the proposition where there is an  $E_T^X$ -complete Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  with the property that the set  $B_n = \{x \in X \mid d_T(x,B) \geq n\}$  is  $R_{T^{-1}}^X$ - and  $R_T^X$ -complete for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $d_T(x,B) = \min\{|i| \mid i \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } T^i(x) \in B\}$ . Clearly  $(B_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is decreasing. As  $|d_T(x,B) - d_T(T(x),B)| \leq 1$  for all  $x \in X$ , it follows that, if  $x \in X$  and  $n > d_T(x,B)$ , then  $x \notin B_n$  and  $d_T(\overline{(T^i)}_{B_n}(x),B) = n$  for all  $i \in \{\pm 1\}$ , so  $\overline{(T^i)}_{B_n}(x) \notin B_{n+1}$  for all  $i \in \{\pm 1\}$ , thus  $(B_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a balanced marker sequence for T.

For the general case, define  $B_0 = X$ . Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and an  $R_{T^{-1}}^X$  and  $R_T^X$ -complete Borel set  $B_n \subseteq X$ , appeal to Propositions 1.14 and 1.15 to obtain a Borel maximal  $(T_{B_n})^{\leq 2}$ -independent set  $B_{n+1} \subseteq B_n$ . A straightforward induction shows that  $r_{B_n}^T$  is bounded below by  $3^n$ , so the set  $A_n = \{x \in {}^{\sim}B_n \mid \forall i \in \{\pm 1\} \ \overline{(T^i)}_{B_n}(x) \notin B_{n+1} \}$  contains  $\bigcup_{0 < i < 3^n} (T^i \circ T_{B_n})(B_{n+1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Set  $B = {}^{\sim}\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$ , and note that the special case yields a balanced marker sequence for  $T \upharpoonright [B]_T$ , whereas  $(B_n \setminus [B]_T)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a balanced marker sequence for  $T \upharpoonright [B]_T$ .

**Proposition 1.18.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $T: X \to X$  is an aperiodic separable Borel automorphism. Then there is a T-covering T-non-crossing involution  $I \in [T]$ .

Proof. By Proposition 1.17, there is a balanced marker sequence  $(B_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  for T. Let I be the involution agreeing with  $(T^{-i})_{B_n} \circ (T^i)_{B_{n+1}} \circ (T^{-i})_{B_n}$  on  $(T^i)_{B_n}(B_{n+1}) \setminus B_{n+1}$  for all  $i \in \{\pm 1\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and fixed elsewhere. To see that I is T-covering, note that if  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x \in {}^{\sim}B_n$ ,  $\overline{(T^i)}_{B_n}(x) \notin B_{n+1}$  for all  $i \in \{\pm 1\}$ , and  $x_i = ((T^{-i})_{B_n} \circ \overline{(T^i)}_{B_{n+1}})(x)$  for all  $i \in \{\pm 1\}$ , then  $x_{-1} <_T x <_T x_1$  and  $I(x_{-1}) = x_1$ . To see that I is T-non-crossing, suppose that  $y \in (x, I(x))_T$  and let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  be the maximal natural number for which  $x \in B_n$ . Then  $B_{n+1} \cap [x, I(x)]_T = \emptyset$ . Moreover, if  $I(y) \neq y$  and m is the maximal natural number for which  $y \in B_m$ , then m < n and  $B_{m+1} \cap ([y, I(y)]_T \cup [I(y), y]_T) = \emptyset$ . As  $x, I(x) \in B_n \subseteq B_{m+1}$ , it follows that  $x, I(x) \notin [y, I(y)]_T \cup [I(y), y]_T$ , so  $I(y) \in (x, I(x))_T$ .

We can now give the following:

Proof of Theorem 1. By Propositions 1.8 and 1.9, the periodic part of T, given by  $\operatorname{Per}(T) = \{x \in X \mid |[x]_T| < \aleph_0\}$ , is Borel. As Proposition 1.16 ensures that  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}(T)$  is smooth, Proposition 1.1 implies that it is the composition of two involutions in its full group. We can therefore assume that T is aperiodic, so Proposition 1.18 yields a T-covering T-non-crossing involution  $I_2 \in [T]$ . As every involution in [T] is T-oriented, Remark 1.13 ensures that  $I_2 \circ T$  is periodic, so Propositions 1.1 and 1.16 yields involutions  $I_0, I_1 \in [I_2 \circ T] \subseteq [T]$  with the property that  $I_2 \circ T = I_1 \circ I_0$ , thus  $T = I_2 \circ I_1 \circ I_0$ .

# 2. Products of Periodic Automorphisms

We begin this section with the following:

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Define  $\phi: X \to \mathbb{N}$  by

$$\phi(x) = \min\{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid \bigcup_{1 \le i \le k} [x]_{S_i} \subseteq [T^{-n}(x), T^n(x)]_T\}.$$

As  $S_1, \ldots, S_k \in [T]$ , it follows that  $\phi$  is Borel, thus so too is the set

$$B = \{x \in X \mid \forall m \in \mathbb{Z} \exists n \in \mathbb{Z} \ (\phi \circ T^n)(x) \neq (\phi \circ T^{m+n})(x)\}.$$

Clearly B is T-invariant and  $(B \cap (\phi \circ T^n)^{-1}(\{i\}))_{(i,n)\in\mathbb{N}\times\mathbb{Z}}$  separates  $E^B_{T\upharpoonright B}$ -related points, so  $T\upharpoonright B$  is separable. Suppose, towards a contradiction, that  $B\neq X$ . Then there exists  $x\in \sim B$ , in which case the function  $n\mapsto (\phi\circ T^n)(x)$  is periodic, and therefore bounded. Define  $m=\max\phi([x]_T)$ .

For all  $S \in [T]$  and  $y \in [x]_T$ , let  $n_S(y)$  be the unique integer with the property that  $S(y) = T^{n_S(y)}(y)$ . Define  $\overline{n}_S = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i < n} n_S(T^i(x))$ . As  $\overline{n}_T = 1$ , we need only show that  $\overline{n}_{S_k \circ \cdots \circ S_1} \neq 1$ , since this contradicts our assumption that  $T = S_k \circ \cdots \circ S_1$ .

Towards this end, note that if  $1 \le j \le k$ ,  $n \ge 2(2k-1)m$ , and  $I_{\ell} = [T^{\ell m}(x), T^{n-\ell m}(x))_T$  for all  $0 \le \ell \le 2k-1$ , then

$$(S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)^{-1}([(S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_{2k-1})]_{S_j})$$

$$\subseteq (S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)^{-1}([I_k]_{S_j})$$

$$\subseteq (S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)^{-1}(I_{k-1})$$

$$\subseteq I_0,$$

so 
$$[(S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_{2k-1})]_{S_j} \subseteq (S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_0)$$
. Define 
$$D_i = (S_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_0) \setminus [(S_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_{2k-1})]_{S_i}$$

and observe that

$$|D_{j}| \leq |(S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_{1})(I_{0}) \setminus (S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_{1})(I_{2k-1})|$$

$$= |(S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_{1})(I_{0} \setminus I_{2k-1})|$$

$$= |I_{0} \setminus I_{2k-1}|$$

$$= 2(2k-1)m.$$

Moreover, the  $S_j$ -invariance of  $[(S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_{2k-1})]_{S_j}$  ensures that  $\sum_{y \in [(S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_{2k-1})]_{S_j}} n_{S_j}(y) = 0$ , for if  $y \in X$  and  $\ell = |[y]_{S_j}|$ , then

$$\sum_{z \in [y]_{S_i}} n_{S_j}(z) = \sum_{i < \ell} (n_{S_i} \circ S_j^i)(y) = n_{S_j^{\ell}}(y) = 0.$$

It now follows that if  $n \geq 2(2k-1)m$ , then

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i < n} n_{S_k \circ \cdots \circ S_1}(T^i(x)) 
= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{y \in I_0} n_{S_k \circ \cdots \circ S_1}(y) 
= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \le j \le k} \sum_{y \in I_0} (n_{S_j} \circ S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(y) 
= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \le j \le k} \sum_{y \in (S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_0)} n_{S_j}(y) 
= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \le j \le k} \sum_{y \in D_j} n_{S_j}(y) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \le j \le k} \sum_{y \in [(S_{j-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_1)(I_{2k-1})]_{S_j}} n_{S_j}(y) 
\le \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \le j \le k} |D_j| m 
\le \frac{2k(2k-1)m^2}{n},$$

so 
$$\overline{n}_{S_k \circ \cdots \circ S_1} \leq \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{2k(2k-1)m^2}{n} = 0.$$

In order to construct T-covering T-non-crossing T-oriented elements of [T] with prescribed finite periods, we will need analogous finitary notions. Given integers a and b, we will use the notation (a,b), (a,b], [a,b), and [a,b] to denote the corresponding intervals of integers. Given a permutation  $\sigma$  of [a,b], we say that a point  $i \in [a,b)$  is covered by a point  $j \in [a,b)$  if  $j \leq i < \sigma(j)$ . If such a j exists, then we use  $c_{\sigma}(i)$  to denote the maximal such j. We say that  $\sigma$  is covering if every point in [a,b) is covered by a point in [a,b).

**Proposition 2.1.** Suppose that  $a \leq b$  are integers and  $\sigma$  is a permutation of [a,b] for which  $\sigma(b)=a$ . Then  $\sigma$  is covering.

*Proof.* Given  $i \in [a, b)$ , fix the least positive integer n with the property that  $i < \sigma^n(b)$ . As  $\sigma(b) = a$ , it follows that n > 1, so n - 1 is a positive integer, thus  $\sigma^{n-1}(b) \le i$ , hence  $\sigma^{n-1}(b)$  covers i.

We say that  $\sigma$  is non-crossing if  $\forall i \in [a, b] \ (i, \sigma(i))$  is  $\sigma$ -invariant.

**Proposition 2.2.** Suppose that  $a \le b$  are integers and  $\sigma$  is a covering non-crossing permutation of [a,b]. Then  $\sigma(b) = a$ .

Proof. Suppose, towards a contradiction, that  $a < \sigma(b)$ . As b does not cover any point of [a,b), it follows that  $b \neq c_{\sigma}(\sigma(b)-1)$ , so  $\sigma(b) \neq (\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(\sigma(b)-1)$ , thus  $\sigma(b) \in (c_{\sigma}(\sigma(b)-1), (\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(\sigma(b)-1))$ . As  $b \notin (c_{\sigma}(\sigma(b)-1), (\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(\sigma(b)-1))$ , this contradicts the  $\sigma$ -invariance of  $(c_{\sigma}(\sigma(b)-1), (\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(\sigma(b)-1))$ .

The following observation eliminates the need to verify T-orientation, thereby explaining why we do not consider its finitary analog:

**Proposition 2.3.** Suppose that  $T: X \to X$  is an aperiodic Borel automorphism of a Borel space and  $S \in [T]$  is periodic and T-non-crossing. Then S is T-oriented.

Proof. Suppose, towards a contradiction, that there exists  $x \in X$  for which  $S(x) \leq_T x$  but x is not the  $\leq_T$ -maximal element of  $[x]_S$ . As S is periodic, there is a least  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $x <_T S^n(x)$ , in which case  $S^n(x) \not\leq_T S^{n-1}(x)$ , so  $x \neq S^{n-1}(x)$ , thus  $x \in (S^{n-1}(x), S^n(x))_T$ . As  $S^{n-1}(x), S^n(x) \notin (S^{n-1}(x), S^n(x))_T$ , this contradicts the S-invariance of  $(S^{n-1}(x), S^n(x))_T$ .

Given integers  $a \leq i \leq b$  and  $c \leq d$ , define  $\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \colon [a,i) \cup (i,b] \rightarrow [a,i) \cup (i+d-c,b+d-c]$  by

$$\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}(j) = \begin{cases} j & \text{if } j \in [a,i) \text{ and} \\ j+d-c & \text{if } j \in (i,b], \end{cases}$$

and  $\phi_{[c,d],i}$ :  $[c,d] \to [i,i+d-c]$  by  $\phi_{[c,d],i}(j) = i+j-c$ . Given a permutation  $\sigma$  of [a,b] fixing i and a permutation  $\tau$  of [c,d], the amalgamation of  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  at i is the permutation of [a,b+d-c] given by  $\sigma *_i \tau = (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1}) \cup (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \tau \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})$ .

**Proposition 2.4.** Suppose that  $a \leq i \leq b$  and  $c \leq d$  are integers,  $\sigma$  is a covering non-crossing permutation of [a,b] fixing i, and  $\tau$  is a covering non-crossing permutation of [c,d]. Then  $\sigma *_i \tau$  is covering and non-crossing. Moreover, the corresponding function  $c_{\sigma *_i \tau}$  is the unique extension of  $(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ c_{\sigma} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1}) \cup (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ c_{\tau} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})$  with the property that  $c_{\sigma *_i \tau}(i+d-c)=c_{\sigma}(i)$ .

*Proof.* If  $i \in \{a, b\}$ , then  $a = \sigma(a)$  or  $b = \sigma(b)$ . As Proposition 2.2 ensures that  $a = \sigma(b)$ , it follows that a = b, so  $\sigma *_i \tau = \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \tau \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1}$ , which easily yields the desired conclusion. We can therefore assume that  $i \in (a, b)$ .

To see that  $\sigma *_i \tau$  is covering, appeal to Proposition 2.2 to see that

$$(\sigma *_{i} \tau)(b+d-c) = (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(b+d-c)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma)(b)$$

$$= \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}(a)$$

$$= a,$$

and apply Proposition 2.1.

To see that  $\sigma *_i \tau$  is non-crossing, note first that if  $j \in [a, i)$  and  $(\sigma *_i \tau)(j) \in (i + d - c, b + d - c]$ , then the fact that  $\sigma$  is non-crossing ensures that  $(j, \sigma(j))$  is  $\sigma$ -invariant, in which case the fact that  $\sigma$  fixes i implies that  $(j, i) \cup (i, \sigma(j))$  is  $\sigma$ -invariant, so

$$(\sigma *_{i} \tau)((j, (\sigma *_{i} \tau)(j)))$$

$$= (\sigma *_{i} \tau)((j, i) \cup [i, i + d - c] \cup (i + d - c, (\sigma *_{i} \tau)(j)))$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})((j, i)) \cup [i, i + d - c] \cup$$

$$(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})((i + d - c, (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j)))$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma)((j, i)) \cup [i, i + d - c] \cup (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma)((i, \sigma(j)))$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma)((j, i) \cup (i, \sigma(j))) \cup [i, i + d - c]$$

$$= \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}((j, i) \cup (i, \sigma(j))) \cup [i, i + d - c]$$

$$= \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}((j, i)) \cup [i, i + d - c] \cup \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}((i, \sigma(j)))$$

$$= (j, i) \cup [i, i + d - c] \cup (i + d - c, (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j))$$

$$= (j, (\sigma *_{i} \tau)(j)).$$
But if  $j \in [a, b + d - c], j < i \iff (\sigma *_{i} \tau)(j) < i$ , and

$$(\phi_j, \rho_j) = \begin{cases} (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}, \sigma) & \text{if } j \in [a,i) \cup (i+d-c,b+d-c] \text{ and} \\ (\phi_{[c,d],i}, \tau) & \text{if } j \in [i,i+d-c], \end{cases}$$

then the fact that  $\rho_j$  is non-crossing ensures that  $(\phi_j^{-1}(j), (\rho_j \circ \phi_j^{-1})(j))$  is  $\rho_j$ -invariant, so

$$(\sigma *_{i} \tau)((j, (\sigma *_{i} \tau)(j)))$$

$$= (\phi_{j} \circ \rho_{j} \circ \phi_{j}^{-1})((j, (\phi_{j} \circ \rho_{j} \circ \phi_{j}^{-1})(j)))$$

$$= (\phi_{j} \circ \rho_{j})((\phi_{j}^{-1}(j), (\rho_{j} \circ \phi_{j}^{-1})(j)))$$

$$= \phi_{j}((\phi_{j}^{-1}(j), (\rho_{j} \circ \phi_{j}^{-1})(j)))$$

$$= (j, (\sigma *_{i} \tau)(j)).$$

To see that  $c_{\sigma *_i \tau}(i+d-c) = c_{\sigma}(i)$ , observe that no element of  $(c_{\sigma}(i), i)$  covers i+d-c (with respect to  $\sigma *_i \tau$ ), no element of [i, i+d-c] covers

i+d-c (again with respect to  $\sigma *_i \tau$ ), and  $c_{\sigma}(i) < i < (\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(i)$ , so  $(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ c_{\sigma})(i) < i+d-c < (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(i)$ , thus  $c_{\sigma}(i) < i+d-c < ((\sigma *_i \tau) \circ c_{\sigma})(i)$ .

Finally, suppose that  $j \in [a, b+d-c) \setminus \{i+d-c\}$ . Then  $(c_{\rho_j} \circ \phi_j^{-1})(j)$  is the maximal element k of  $\operatorname{dom}(\rho_j)$  for which  $k \leq \phi_j^{-1}(j) < \rho_j(k)$ , so  $(\phi_j \circ c_{\rho_j} \circ \phi_j^{-1})(j)$  is the maximal element  $\ell$  of  $\phi_j(\operatorname{dom}(\rho_j))$  for which  $\ell \leq j < (\phi_j \circ \rho_j \circ \phi_j^{-1})(\ell)$ . If  $j \in [a, i) \cup (i+d-c, b+d-c)$ , then the fact that no element of [i, i+d-c] covers j therefore ensures that  $(\phi_j \circ c_{\rho_j} \circ \phi_j^{-1})(j)$  is the maximal element  $\ell$  of [a, b+d-c] for which  $\ell \leq j < (\sigma *_i \tau)(\ell)$ . If  $j \in [i, i+d-c)$ , then the fact that no element of (i+d-c, b+d-c] covers j therefore ensures that  $(\phi_j \circ c_{\rho_j} \circ \phi_j^{-1})(j)$  is the maximal element  $\ell$  of [a, b+d-c] for which  $\ell \leq j < (\sigma *_i \tau)(\ell)$ . In both cases, it follows that  $c_{\sigma *_i \tau}(j) = (\phi_j \circ c_{\rho_j} \circ \phi_j^{-1})(j)$ .

Given natural numbers  $k_1, k_2 \geq 2$ , we say that a permutation  $\sigma$  of a finite subinterval of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary if it is covering and non-crossing, the  $c_{\sigma}$ -preimage of every singleton has cardinality 0 or  $k_1$ , and every  $\sigma$ -orbit has cardinality 1 or  $k_2$ . Let Succ denote the successor function on  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Proposition 2.5.** Suppose that  $k_1 \geq 2$  and  $k_2 \geq 3$ . Then there is a function  $f: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  such that the following hold for all integers a < b and  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutations  $\sigma$  of (a, b]:

- (1) For all  $n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , there is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $[a, b + nk_1(k_2 1))$ .
- (2) For all i > b+1, there is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ dromedary permutation  $\tau$  of  $[a, b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1))$  for which  $i \notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau) \cup \{b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1), b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1)+1\}$ .

Proof. We first show that it is sufficient to establish the special case of the proposition where a=0. To see (1), note that if  $n \in \{1,2,3,4\}$ , then the special case yields an extension  $\tau'$  of  $\operatorname{Succ}^{-a} \circ \sigma \circ \operatorname{Succ}^a$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $[0, b-a+nk_1(k_2-1))$ , in which case  $\operatorname{Succ}^a \circ \tau' \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-a}$  is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $[a, b+nk_1(k_2-1))$ . To see (2), note that if i>b+1, then i-a>b-a+1 and f((i-a)-(b-a))=f(i-b), so the special case yields an extension  $\tau'$  of  $\operatorname{Succ}^{-a} \circ \sigma \circ \operatorname{Succ}^a$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $[0, b-a+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1))$  for which  $i-a \notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau') \cup \{b-a+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1), b-a+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1)+1\}$ , in which case  $\operatorname{Succ}^a \circ \tau' \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-a}$  is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau$  of  $[a, b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1))$  with the property that  $i \notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau) \cup \{b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1), b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1)+1\}$ .

We next show that it is sufficient to establish the further special case of the proposition where b=1. To see (1), note that if  $n \in \{1,2,3,4\}$ , then the further special case yields a  $(k_1,k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau'$  of  $[0,1+nk_1(k_2-1))$  for which  $\tau'(1)=1$ , so Proposition 2.4 ensures that  $\tau'*_1\sigma$  is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1,k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $[0,b+nk_1(k_2-1))$ . To see (2), note that if i>b+1, then i-(b-1)>2 and f((i-(b-1))-1)=f(i-b), so the further special case yields a  $(k_1,k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau'$  of  $[0,1+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1))$  with  $\tau'(1)=1$  and  $i-(b-1)\notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau')\cup\{1+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1),1+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1)+1\}$ , in which case Proposition 2.4 ensures that  $\tau'*_1\sigma$  is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1,k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau$  of  $[0,b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1))$  with the property that  $i\notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau)\cup\{b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1),b+f(i-b)k_1(k_2-1)+1\}$ .

To establish the further special case, define  $f: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  by

$$f(i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \notin \{jk_1 - 1 \mid 0 < j < k_2\} \cup \{k_1(k_2 - 1), k_1(k_2 - 1) + 1\}, \\ 2 & \text{if } i \in \{jk_1 - 1 \mid 0 < j < k_2\}, \\ 3 & \text{if } i = k_1(k_2 - 1), \text{ and} \\ 4 & \text{if } i = k_1(k_2 - 1) + 1. \end{cases}$$

Define  $\sigma_1$  on  $[0, k_1(k_2 - 1)]$  by  $\sigma_1 = (0 \ k_1 \cdots k_1(k_2 - 1))$ . Proposition 2.1 ensures that  $\sigma_1$  is covering, the fact that  $\sigma_1 \upharpoonright (jk_1, (j+1)k_1)$  is the identity for all  $j < k_2 - 1$  implies that  $\sigma_1$  is non-crossing and the  $c_{\sigma_1}$ -preimage of  $jk_1$  is  $[jk_1, (j+1)k_1)$  for all  $j < k_2 - 1$ , and the unique non-trivial  $\sigma_1$ -orbit is  $\{jk_1 \mid j < k_2\}$ , thus  $\sigma_1$  is  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary. If 0 < j < n, then  $jk_1 - 1$  is fixed by  $\sigma_1$ , so Proposition 2.4 ensures that the permutation  $\sigma_{2,j} = \sigma_1 *_{jk_1-1} \sigma_1$  is  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary. As 1 is fixed by  $\sigma_1$ , it follows that  $jk_1$  is fixed by  $\sigma_{2,j}$  for all  $0 < j < k_2$ , so Proposition 2.4 ensures that the permutation  $\sigma_3 = \sigma_{2,k_2-1} *_{k_1(k_2-1)} \sigma_1$  is  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary. As 1 is fixed by  $\sigma_1$ , it follows that  $k_1(k_2-1)+1$  is fixed by  $\sigma_3$ , so Proposition 2.4 ensures that the permutation  $\sigma_4 = \sigma_3 *_{k_1(k_2-1)+1} \sigma_1$  is  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary. As 1 is fixed by  $\sigma_1$ , it follows that  $k_1(k_2-1)+1$   $\sigma_1$  is  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary. As 1 is fixed by  $\sigma_1$ , it follows that  $k_1(k_2-1)+2$  is fixed by  $\sigma_4$ .

To see (1), observe that  $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_{2,j}$  (for any  $0 < j < k_2$ ),  $\sigma_3$ , and  $\sigma_4$  are as desired. To see (2), suppose that i > 2. If f(i-1) = 1, then  $i \notin \{jk_1 \mid 0 < j < k_2\} \cup \{k_1(k_2-1)+1,k_1(k_2-1)+2\}$ , so the permutation  $\tau = \sigma_1$  is as desired. If f(i-1) = 2, then  $i = jk_1$  for some  $0 < j < k_2$ , in which case the permutation  $\tau = \sigma_{2,j}$  is as desired. If f(i-1) = 3, then  $i = k_1(k_2-1)+1$ , so the permutation  $\tau = \sigma_3$  is as desired. And if f(i-1) = 4, then  $i = k_1(k_2-1)+2$ , so the permutation  $\tau = \sigma_4$  is as desired.

Given integers  $a \leq b$  and a permutation  $\sigma$  of [a, b], let  $\overline{\sigma}$  denote the permutation of [-b, -a] given by  $\overline{\sigma}(i) = -\sigma^{-1}(-i)$ .

**Proposition 2.6.** Suppose that  $a \leq b$  are integers and  $\sigma$  is a covering non-crossing permutation of [a,b]. Then  $\overline{\sigma}$  is a covering non-crossing permutation of [-b,-a] with the property that  $c_{\overline{\sigma}}(i) = -(\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(-i-1)$  for all  $i \in [-b,-a)$ .

*Proof.* As Proposition 2.2 ensures that  $\overline{\sigma}(-a) = -\sigma^{-1}(a) = -b$ , Proposition 2.1 implies that  $\overline{\sigma}$  is covering. To see that  $\overline{\sigma}$  is non-crossing, note that if  $i \in [-b, -a]$ , then the  $\sigma$ -invariance of  $(\sigma^{-1}(-i), -i)$  ensures that

$$\begin{split} \overline{\sigma}((i,\overline{\sigma}(i))) &= \overline{\sigma}((i,-\sigma^{-1}(-i))) \\ &= -\sigma^{-1}((\sigma^{-1}(-i),-i)) \\ &= -(\sigma^{-1}(-i),-i) \\ &= (i,-\sigma^{-1}(-i)) \\ &= (i,\overline{\sigma}(i)). \end{split}$$

Finally, note that if  $i \in [-b, -a)$  and j' is the least element of (a, b] for which  $\sigma^{-1}(j') \leq -i - 1 < j'$ , then  $j' = (\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(-i - 1)$ , since otherwise  $\sigma^{-1}(j') < c_{\sigma}(-i - 1) \leq -i - 1 < j' < (\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(-i - 1)$ , contradicting the  $\sigma$ -invariance of  $(\sigma^{-1}(j'), j')$ . It therefore follows that

$$c_{\overline{\sigma}}(i) = \max\{j \in [-b, -a) \mid j \leq i < \overline{\sigma}(j)\}\$$

$$= \max\{j \in [-b, -a) \mid j \leq i < -\sigma^{-1}(-j)\}\$$

$$= -\min\{j' \in (a, b] \mid -j' \leq i < -\sigma^{-1}(j')\}\$$

$$= -\min\{j' \in (a, b] \mid \sigma^{-1}(j') < -i \leq j'\}\$$

$$= -\min\{j' \in (a, b] \mid \sigma^{-1}(j') \leq -i - 1 < j'\}\$$

$$= -(\sigma \circ c_{\sigma})(-i - 1),$$

which completes the proof.

In what follows, we will implicitly use the straightforward observation that the map  $\sigma \mapsto \overline{\sigma}$  is an involution.

 $\boxtimes$ 

**Proposition 2.7.** Suppose that  $k_1 \geq 2$  and  $k_2 \geq 3$ . Then there is a function  $f: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  such that the following hold for all integers a < b and  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutations  $\sigma$  of [a, b):

- (1) For all  $n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , there is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $(a nk_1(k_2 1), b]$ .
- (2) For all i < a 1, there is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ dromedary permutation  $\tau$  of  $(a f(a i)k_1(k_2 1), b]$  for which  $i \notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau) \cup \{a f(a i)k_1(k_2 1) 1, a f(a i)k_1(k_2 1)\}.$

Proof. To see (1), suppose that  $n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , appeal to Proposition 2.6 to see that  $\overline{\sigma}$  is a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of (-b, -a], appeal to Proposition 2.5 to obtain an extension of  $\overline{\sigma}$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau'$  of  $[-b, -a + nk_1(k_2 - 1))$ , and appeal once more to Proposition 2.6 to see that  $\overline{\tau'}$  is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $(a - nk_1(k_2 - 1), b]$ .

To see (2), fix  $f: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  as in Proposition 2.5, appeal to Proposition 2.6 to see that  $\overline{\sigma}$  is a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of (-b, -a], and note that if i < a - 1, then -i > -a + 1 and f(a - i) = f((-i) - (-a)), so there is an extension of  $\overline{\sigma}$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau'$  of  $[-b, -a + f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1))$  with the property that  $-i \notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau') \cup \{-a + f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1), -a + f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1) + 1\}$ , thus one more application of Proposition 2.6 ensures that  $\overline{\tau'}$  is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau$  of  $(a - f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1), b]$  with  $i \notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau) \cup \{a - f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1) - 1, a - f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1)\}$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

**Proposition 2.8.** Suppose that a < b, i < a - 1, j > b + 1,  $k_1 \ge 2$ , and  $k_2 \ge 3$  are integers and  $\sigma$  is a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of (a, b]. Then there exist  $n \in \{1, 2, \ldots, 10\}$  and an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau$  of  $(a - nk_1(k_2 - 1), b + nk_1(k_2 - 1)]$  with the property that  $i \notin \text{supp}(\tau) \cup \{a - nk_1(k_2 - 1) - 1, a - nk_1(k_2 - 1)\}$  and  $j \notin \text{supp}(\tau) \cup \{b + nk_1(k_2 - 1) + 1\}$ .

Proof. If  $i < a - 4k_1(k_2 - 1) - 1$  and  $f: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  is the function given by Proposition 2.5, then there is an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau'$  of  $[a, b + f(j-b)k_1(k_2-1))$  for which  $j \notin \text{supp}(\tau') \cup \{b + f(j-b)k_1(k_2-1), b + f(j-b)k_1(k_2-1) + 1\}$ , so part (1) of Proposition 2.7 yields the desired extension of  $\tau'$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $(a - f(j-b)k_1(k_2-1), b + f(j-b)k_1(k_2-1)]$ .

Similarly, if  $j > b + 4k_1(k_2 - 1) + 1$  and  $f: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  is the function given by Proposition 2.7, then part (1) of Proposition 2.5 yields an extension of  $\sigma$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau'$  of  $[a, b + f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1))$ , in which case the defining property of f yields the desired extension of  $\tau'$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau$  of  $(a - f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1), b + f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1)]$  with the property that  $i \notin \text{supp}(\tau) \cup \{a - f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1) - 1, a - f(a - i)k_1(k_2 - 1)\}$ .

It only remains to handle the case that  $a-4k_1(k_2-1)-1 \leq i$  and  $j \leq b+4k_1(k_2-1)+1$ . We will recursively construct integers  $a_e \leq a$  and  $b_e \geq b$ , as well as extensions of  $\sigma$  to  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutations  $\sigma_e$  of  $(a_e, b_e]$  with the property that  $i \notin \text{supp}(\sigma_e) \cup \{a_e - 1, a_e\}$  and  $j \notin \text{supp}(\sigma_e) \cup \{b_e + 1\}$  for all natural numbers  $e \leq 4$ . We begin by setting  $a_0 = a$ ,  $b_0 = b$ , and  $\sigma_0 = \sigma$ . Suppose now that e < 4 and we have already found  $a_e$ ,  $b_e$ , and  $\sigma_e$ . If there is an extension of  $\sigma_e$  to

a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau_e$  of  $[a_e, b_e + k_1(k_2 - 1))$  for which  $j \notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau_e) \cup \{b_e + k_1(k_2 - 1), b_e + k_1(k_2 - 1) + 1\}$ , then set  $m_{e+1} = 1$ . Otherwise, part (2) of Proposition 2.5 yields  $m_{e+1} \in \{2, 3, 4\}$  with the property that there is an extension of  $\sigma_e$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau_e$  of  $[a_e, b_e + m_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1))$  for which  $j \notin \operatorname{supp}(\tau_e) \cup \{b_e + m_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1), b_e + m_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1) + 1\}$ . If there is an extension of  $\tau_e$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\sigma_{e+1}$  of  $(a_e - k_1(k_2 - 1), b_e + m_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1)]$  for which  $i \notin \operatorname{supp}(\sigma_{e+1}) \cup \{a_e - k_1(k_2 - 1) - 1, a_e - k_1(k_2 - 1)\}$ , then set  $\ell_{e+1} = 1$ . Otherwise, part (2) of Proposition 2.7 yields  $\ell_{e+1} \in \{2, 3, 4\}$  with the property that there is an extension of  $\tau_e$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\sigma_{e+1}$  of  $(a_e - \ell_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1), b_e + m_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1)]$  for which  $i \notin \operatorname{supp}(\sigma_{e+1}) \cup \{a_e - \ell_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1) - 1, a_e - \ell_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1)\}$ . Setting  $a_{e+1} = a_e - \ell_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1)$  and  $b_{e+1} = b_e + m_{e+1}k_1(k_2 - 1)$ , this completes the recursive construction.

**Lemma 2.9.** There is at most one  $e \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  for which  $\ell_e \neq 1$ , as well as at most one  $e \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  for which  $m_e \neq 1$ .

Proof. If  $e \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  has the property that  $m_e \neq 1$ , then part (1) of Proposition 2.5 ensures that  $j \in (b_{e-1}+1, b_{e-1}+k_1(k_2-1)+1]$ , and since the intervals of this form are pairwise disjoint, there is at most one such e. Similarly, if  $e \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  has the property that  $\ell_e \neq 1$ , then part (1) of Proposition 2.7 ensures that  $i \in [a_{e-1} - k_1(k_2 - 1) - 1, a_{e-1} - 1)$ , and since the intervals of this form are also pairwise disjoint, there is again at most one such e.

Define  $\ell_{\max} = \max\{\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_4\}$  and  $m_{\max} = \max\{m_1, m_2, m_3, m_4\}$ . If  $\ell_{\max} = m_{\max}$ , then set  $\ell = 3 + \ell_{\max} = 3 + m_{\max}$  and observe that  $a_4 = a - \ell k_1(k_2 - 1)$  and  $b_4 = b + m k_1(k_2 - 1)$  by Lemma 2.9, so the permutation  $\tau = \sigma_4$  is as desired. Otherwise, set  $\ell = 3 + \ell_{\max} + m_{\max}$  and observe that  $a_4 - m_{\max} k_1(k_2 - 1) = a - \ell k_1(k_2 - 1)$  and  $b_4 + \ell_{\max} k_1(k_2 - 1) = b + \ell k_1(k_2 - 1)$  by Lemma 2.9, so an application of part (1) of Propositions 2.5 and 2.7 yields the desired extension of  $\sigma_4$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau$  of  $(a_4 - m_{\max} k_1(k_2 - 1), b_4 + \ell_{\max} k_1(k_2 - 1)]$ .

Given an aperiodic Borel automorphism  $T: X \to X$ , a T-gap in a set  $Y \subseteq X$  is an interval of the form  $(y, T_Y(y))_T$ , where  $y \in Y$  and  $1 < r_Y^T(y) < \infty$ .

**Proposition 2.10.** Suppose that a, b > a + 1,  $k_1 \ge 2$ , and  $k_2 \ge 3$  are integers,  $J \subseteq (a,b)$  is a set whose Succ-gaps have cardinality at least  $10k_1(k_2-1)-1$ , and  $\sigma$  is a permutation of J whose restriction to each Succ-gap in  $\sim J$  is  $(k_1,k_2)$ -dromedary. Then there exist  $c \in J$ 

 $[a-10k_1(k_2-1)-4,a]$ ,  $d \in [b,b+10k_1(k_2-1)+4]$ , and an extension of  $\sigma$  to  $a(k_1,k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of (c,d].

Proof. We first show that it is sufficient to establish the special case of the proposition where  $a=10k_1(k_2-1)-4$ . Let c', d', and  $\tau'$  be the result of applying this special case to  $a'=10k_1(k_2-1)-4$ , b'=b-(a-a'),  $J'=\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a}(J)$ , and  $\sigma'=\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a}\circ\sigma\circ\operatorname{Succ}^{a-a'}$ , and observe that the integers c=c'+(a-a') and d=d'+(a-a') and the permutation  $\tau=\operatorname{Succ}^{a-a'}\circ\tau'\circ\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a}$  are as desired.

We next show that it is sufficient to establish the further special case of the proposition where J is  $\operatorname{Succ}^{<10k_1(k_2-1)}$ -independent. Define  $\phi \colon \mathbb{N} \setminus (J \cap \operatorname{Succ}(J)) \to \mathbb{N}$  by  $\phi(j) = |j \setminus (J \cap \operatorname{Succ}(J))|$ . Then the set  $J' = \phi(J \setminus \operatorname{Succ}(J))$  is  $\operatorname{Succ}^{<10k_1(k_2-1)}$ -independent, so the further special case yields  $c' \in [0, 10k_1(k_2-1)-4], d' \in [\phi(b), \phi(b)+10k_1(k_2-1)+4],$  and an  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau'$  of (c', d'] whose support is disjoint from J'. Let  $(j_i)_{i<\ell}$  be the strictly increasing enumeration of  $J \setminus \operatorname{Succ}(J)$  and define  $c_0 = c', d_0 = d',$  and  $\tau_0 = \tau'$ . For all  $i < \ell$ , set  $C_i = \phi^{-1}(\{\phi(j_i)\}), c_{i+1} = c_i,$  and  $d_{i+1} = d_i + |C_i \setminus \{j_i\}|,$  and appeal to Proposition 2.4 to see that the function  $\tau_{i+1} = \tau_i *_{j_i} (\sigma \mid C_i)$  is a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation of  $(c_{i+1}, d_{i+1}]$ . Then the permutation  $\tau = \tau_\ell$  is the desired extension of  $\sigma$ .

Finally, we establish the special case of the proposition where J is  $\operatorname{Succ}^{<10k_1(k_2-1)}$ -independent (but a need not be  $10k_1(k_2-1)-4$ ). Set m = a + |(b-a)/2|. As J is  $T^{<8}$ -independent, by setting  $c_0 = m-2$  if J intersects [m+1, m+4] and  $c_0 = m+2$  otherwise, we can ensure that  $[c_0-1,c_0+2]$  is disjoint from J. As m-a and b-(m+1) are within 1 of one another, it follows that  $c_0 - a$  and  $b - (c_0 + 1)$  are within 5 of one another. Note that  $a < c_0$  or  $c_0 + 1 < b$ , since otherwise  $b - 1 \le c_0 \le a$ , contradicting the fact that b > a + 1. Set  $d_0 = c_0 + 1$ , let  $\tau_0$  be the unique permutation of  $(c_0, d_0]$ , and recursively apply Proposition 2.8 to  $c_i$ ,  $d_i$ , the maximum element of J below  $c_i$  (or any integer strictly below  $c_i - 1$  if there is no such element of J), the minimum element of J above  $d_i$  (or any integer strictly above  $d_i + 1$  if there is no such element of J),  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$ , and  $\tau_i$  to obtain  $n_i \in \{1, \ldots, 10\}$  and an extension of  $\tau_i$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau_{i+1}$  of  $(c_{i+1}, d_{i+1}]$  for which  $c_{i+1} = c_i - n_i k_1(k_2 - 1), d_{i+1} = d_i + n_i k_1(k_2 - 1), \text{ and } \operatorname{supp}(\tau_{i+1}) \cup \{c_{i+1} - c_i\}$  $1, c_{i+1}, d_{i+1}+1$  is disjoint from J (since J is  $T^{<10k_1(k_2-1)}$ -independent), noting that  $c_{i+1} - a$  and  $b - d_{i+1}$  are within 5 of one another. Let i be the maximal natural number for which  $a < c_i$  or  $d_i < b$ . If  $a < c_i$ , then

$$c_{i+1} \ge c_i - 10k_1(k_2 - 1) > a - 10k_1(k_2 - 1)$$
 and  

$$d_{i+1} \le d_i + 10k_1(k_2 - 1)$$

$$= b + 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + (d_i - b)$$

$$\le b + 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + (a - c_i) + 5$$

$$\le b + 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + 4.$$

If  $d_i < b$ , then

$$c_{i+1} \ge c_i - 10k_1(k_2 - 1)$$

$$= a - 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + (c_i - a)$$

$$\ge a - 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + (b - d_i) - 5$$

$$\ge a - 10k_1(k_2 - 1) - 4$$

and  $d_{i+1} \leq d_i + 10k_1(k_2 - 1) < b + 10k_1(k_2 - 1)$ . In both cases, it follows that the integers  $c = c_{i+1}$  and  $d = d_{i+1}$  and the permutation  $\tau = \tau_{i+1}$  are as desired.

Given  $n \geq 1$ ,  $k_1 \geq 2$ ,  $k_2 \geq 3$ , an aperiodic bijection  $T: X \to X$ , and  $x \in X$ , we say that a permutation  $\sigma$  of  $[x, T^n(x)]_T$  is  $T \cdot (k_1, k_2) \cdot dromedary$  if the corresponding permutation  $\theta^{-1} \circ \sigma \circ \theta$  of n is  $(k_1, k_2) \cdot dromedary$ , where  $\theta: n \to [x, T^n(x)]_T$  is given by  $\theta(i) = T^i(x)$  for all i < n. We can now give the following:

Proof of Theorem 3. We will find a T-covering T-non-crossing Borel automorphism  $S \in [T]$  such that the preimage of every singleton under  $c_S$  has cardinality 0 or  $k_1$  and the orbit of every point under S has cardinality 1 or  $k_2$ . To see that this is sufficient, set  $S_2 = S$ , appeal to Proposition 2.3 to see that any such automorphism is T-oriented, so Proposition 1.10 ensures that every orbit of the automorphism  $S_1 = S_2^{-1} \circ T$  has cardinality  $k_1$ , and the fact that  $S_2 \in [T]$  easily implies that  $S_1 \in [T]$ .

We will construct an exhaustive increasing sequence  $(X_i)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  of Borel subsets of X, whose complements are  $R_{T^{-1}}^X$ - and  $R_T^X$ -complete, as well as T-decomposable bijections  $S_i \colon X_i \to X_i$  such that:

- $(1) \ \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \ S_i = S_{i+1} \upharpoonright X_i.$
- (2)  $\forall i \in \mathbb{N} \forall T$ -gaps I in  $\sim X_i$   $S_i \upharpoonright I$  is T- $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary.

To see that this is sufficient, appeal to condition (1) to see that we obtain a function  $S: X \to X$  by setting  $S = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} S_i$ . To see that S is injective, note that if  $x, y \in X$  have the property that S(x) = S(y) and  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $x, y \in X_i$ , then  $S_i(x) = S_i(y)$ , so x = y. To see that S is surjective, note that if  $y \in X$  and  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $y \in X_i$ , then there exists  $x \in X_i$  for which

 $S_i(x) = y$ , so S(x) = y. To see that S is T-decomposable, fix Borel sets  $B_{i,n} \subseteq X_i$  with the property that  $S_i = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^n \upharpoonright B_{i,n}$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , set  $B_n = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} B_{i,n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and observe that  $S = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^n \upharpoonright B_n$ . To see that the preimage of every singleton under  $c_S$  has cardinality 0 or  $k_1$ , note that if  $x \in X$  and  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $[x, S(x)]_T \subseteq X_i$ , then  $c_S^{-1}(\{x\}) = c_{S_i}^{-1}(\{x\})$ , and condition (2) ensures that the latter set has cardinality 0 or  $k_1$ . To see that the orbit of every point under S has cardinality 1 or  $k_2$ , note that if  $x \in X$  and  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $x \in X_i$ , then condition (2) implies that the orbit of x under  $S_i$  has cardinality 1 or  $k_2$  and coincides with the orbit of x under S.

Appeal to Propositions 1.14 and 1.15 to obtain an  $R_{T^{-1}}^X$ - and  $R_T^X$ -complete  $T^{<30k_1(k_2-1)+7}$ -independent Borel set  $D \subseteq X$ . By Proposition 1.17, there is a balanced marker sequence  $(D_i)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  for  $T_D$ . For all a>0, b>a+1, and  $i\in\mathbb{N}$ , let  $D_{a,b,i+1}$  be the set of  $x\in D_{i+1}$  for which  $T_{D_i}(x), (T_{D_i})^2(x) \notin D_{i+1}, a=r_{D_i}^T(x)$ , and  $b=h_{T_{D_i}^{-1}(D_{i+1})}^T(x)$ . To guarantee that  $(X_i)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  is exhaustive, it is enough to ensure that

To guarantee that  $(X_i)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  is exhaustive, it is enough to ensure that  $(T^a(x), T^b(x))_T \subseteq X_{i+1}$  for all  $a>0, b>a+1, i\in\mathbb{N}$ , and  $x\in D_{a,b,i+1}$ , since the fact that  $(D_i)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a balanced marker sequence ensures that every point of X appears in an interval of this form. To guarantee that the sets  $X_i$  are Borel and the recursive construction goes through, we will construct Borel functions  $a_{i+1}, b_{i+1} : \bigcup_{a>0} \bigcup_{b>a+1} D_{a,b,i+1} \to \mathbb{N}$  such that:

- (3)  $\forall a > 0 \forall b > a + 1 \forall x \in D_{a,b,i+1} \ a_{i+1}(x) \in [a 10k_1(k_2 1) 4, a].$
- $(4) \ \forall a > 0 \forall b > a + 1 \forall x \in D_{a,b,i+1} \ b_{i+1}(x) \in [b,b+10k_1(k_2-1)+4].$
- (5)  $X_{i+1} \setminus X_i = \bigcup_{a>0} \bigcup_{b>a+1} \bigcup_{x \in D_{a,b,i+1}} (T^{a_{i+1}(x)}(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)}(x))]_T \setminus X_i$

We begin by setting  $S_0 = X_0 = \emptyset$ . Suppose now that  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and we have already found  $(a_j)_{1 \leq j \leq i}$ ,  $(b_j)_{1 \leq j \leq i}$ , and  $S_i$ .

**Lemma 2.11.** The size of each T-gap in  $X_i$  is at least  $10k_1(k_2-1)-1$ .

Proof. Suppose that n > 1,  $x \in X_i$ , and  $r_{X_i}^T(x) = n$ , so that  $(x, T^n(x))_T$  is a T-gap in  $X_i$ . Then x and  $T^n(x)$  are right and left endpoints of the sorts of intervals appearing in condition (5), so conditions (3)–(5) yield integers  $b \in [0, 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + 4]$  and  $a \in [-1, 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + 3]$  for which  $T^{-b}(x), T^{a+n}(x) \in D$ . As the fact that n > 1 ensures that  $-b \le 0 < a + n$ , the fact that D is  $T^{<30k_1(k_2-1)+7}$ -independent implies that  $30k_1(k_2 - 1) + 7 \le b + a + n \le n + 20k_1(k_2 - 1) + 7$ , thus  $n \ge 10k_1(k_2 - 1)$ .

Let  $Q_{i+1}$  be the set of quadruples  $q = (a^q, b^q, J^q, \sigma^q)$  with the property that  $a^q > 0$ ,  $b^q > a^q + 1$ ,  $J^q \subseteq (a^q, b^q)$  is a set whose Succ-gaps have cardinality at least  $10k_1(k_2 - 1) - 1$ , and  $\sigma^q$  is a permutation of  $J^q$  whose restriction to each Succ-gap in  $\sim J^q$  is  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary. For

all  $q \in Q_{i+1}$ , Proposition 2.10 yields  $c^q \in [a^q - 10k_1(k_2 - 1) - 4, a^q]$ ,  $d^q \in [b^q, b^q + 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + 4]$ , and an extension of  $\sigma^q$  to a  $(k_1, k_2)$ -dromedary permutation  $\tau^q$  of  $(c^q, d^q]$ . Let  $D_{i+1,q}$  be the set of all  $x \in D_{a^q,b^q,i+1}$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (a)  $\forall j \in (a^q, b^q) \ (j \in J^q \iff T^j(x) \in X_i).$
- (b)  $\forall j \in J^q (S_i \circ T^j)(x) = T^{\sigma^q(j)}(x).$

Clearly  $\bigcup_{q \in Q_{i+1}} D_{i+1,q} \subseteq \bigcup_{a>0} \bigcup_{b>a+1} D_{a,b,i+1}$  and Lemma 2.11 ensures that the reverse inclusion holds. Define  $a_{i+1}(x) = c^q$  and  $b_{i+1}(x) = d^q$  for all  $q \in Q_{i+1}$  and  $x \in D_{i+1,q}$ .

**Lemma 2.12.** Suppose that a > 0, b > a + 1, and  $x \in D_{a,b,i+1}$ . Then  $(T^{a_{i+1}(x)-1}(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)+1}(x)]_T \cap X_i = (T^a(x), T^b(x)]_T \cap X_i$ .

*Proof.* As condition (3) ensures that  $a_{i+1}(x) \leq a$  and condition (4) implies that  $b \leq b_{i+1}(x)$ , it is sufficient to show that

$$(T^{a_{i+1}(x)-1}(x), T^a(x)]_T \cap X_i = (T^b(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)+1}(x)]_T \cap X_i = \emptyset.$$

Suppose, towards a contradiction, that this is false. Then condition (5) yields a' > 0, b' > a' + 1, i' < i, and  $x' \in D_{a',b',i'+1}$  for which

$$(T^{a_{i+1}(x)-1}(x), T^a(x)]_T \cap (T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x'), T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x')]_T \neq \emptyset$$
 (†)

or

$$(T^{b}(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)+1}(x)]_{T} \cap (T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x'), T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x')]_{T} \neq \emptyset.$$
 (‡)

To handle the case that (†) holds, note first that  $T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T^a(x)$  and  $T^{a_{i+1}(x)-1}(x) <_T T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ . As  $x', T^{a'}(x') \in D_{i'}$  and  $D_{i'}$  is  $T^{\leq 10k_1(k_2-1)+4}$ -independent, condition (3) implies that  $x' <_T T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ , so  $x' <_T T^a(x)$ . As  $x', T^a(x) \in D_{i'+1}$ , it follows that  $T_{D_{i'+1}}(x') \leq_T T^a(x)$ . As  $T^{b'}(x'), T_{D_{i'+1}}(x') \in D_{i'}$  and  $D_{i'}$  is  $T^{\leq 10k_1(k_2-1)+4}$ -independent, condition (4) ensures that  $T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T_{D_{i'+1}}(x')$ , in which case  $T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T^a(x)$ , so  $T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x') \in [T^{a_{i+1}(x)}(x), T^a(x))_T$ . But  $T^a(x), T^{b'}(x') \in D_{i'}$ , condition (3) yields  $c \in (0, 10k_1(k_2-1)+4]$  for which  $T^a(x) = T^{b_{i'+1}(x')+c}(x')$ , and condition (4) ensures that  $b_{i'+1}(x') - b' \in [0, 10k_1(k_2-1)+4]$ , contradicting the  $T^{\leq 20k_1(k_2-1)+8}$ -independence of  $D_{i'}$ .

To handle the case that (‡) holds, note first that  $T^b(x) <_T T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$  and  $T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T^{b_{i+1}(x)+1}(x)$ . As  $T^{b'}(x'), T_{D_{i'+1}}(x') \in D_{i'}$  and  $D_{i'}$  is  $T^{\leq 10k_1(k_2-1)+4}$ -independent, condition (4) implies that  $T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T_{D_{i'+1}}(x')$ , so  $T^b(x) <_T T_{D_{i'+1}}(x')$ . As  $T^b(x), T_{D_{i'+1}}(x') \in D_{i'+1}$ , it follows that  $T^b(x) \leq_T x'$ . As  $x', T^{a'}(x') \in D_{i'}$  and  $D_{i'}$  is  $T^{\leq 10k_1(k_2-1)+4}$ -independent, condition (3) ensures that  $x' <_T T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ , in which case  $T^b(x) <_T T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ , so  $T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x') \in (T^b(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)}(x)]_T$ .

But  $T^b(x), T^{a'}(x') \in D_{i'}$ , condition (3) ensures that  $a' - a_{i'+1}(x') \in$  $[0, 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + 4]$ , and condition (4) yields  $c \in (0, 10k_1(k_2 - 1) + 4]$ for which  $T^{b+c}(x) = T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ , contradicting the  $T^{\leq 20k_1(k_2-1)+8}$ independence of  $D_{i'}$ .

As D is  $T^{\leq 10k_1(k_2-1)+4}$ -independent, conditions (3) and (4) imply that if  $x \in \bigcup_{a>0} \bigcup_{b>a+1} D_{a,b,i+1}$ , then  $(T^{a_{i+1}}(x), T^{b_{i+1}}(x)]_T \subseteq (x, T_{D_{i+1}}(x))_T$ . As the intervals of the latter form are pairwise disjoint, those of the former form are not only pairwise disjoint, but are not adjacent to one another. Lemma 2.12 therefore ensures that the function  $S_{i+1} = S_i \cup$  $\bigcup_{q\in Q_{i+1}} \bigcup_{j\in (c^q,d^q]} T^{\tau^q(j)-j} \upharpoonright T^j(D_{i+1,q})$  is well-defined and as desired.  $\boxtimes$ 

### 3. Commutators

An isomorphism of a permutation  $\sigma$  of a set X with a permutation  $\tau$  of a set Y is a bijection  $\pi\colon X\to Y$  such that  $\pi\circ\sigma=\tau\circ\pi$ . Given integers  $a \leq b$  and  $k \geq 2$ , a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [a,b] is a triple of the form  $u = (f^u, \sigma^u, \pi^u)$ , where  $f^u \in [a, b]$ ,  $\sigma^u$  is a covering non-crossing permutation of [a, b] whose orbits all have cardinality 1 or k and which fixes  $f^u$ , and  $\pi^u \colon [a,b] \setminus \{f^u\} \to [a,b)$  is an isomorphism of  $\sigma^u \upharpoonright ([a,b] \setminus \{f^u\})$  with  $(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^u) \upharpoonright [a,b)$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** Suppose that  $a \leq i \leq b$ ,  $c \leq d$ , and  $n \geq 2$  are integers, u is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [a, b] for which  $f^u \neq i$  but  $\sigma^u$  fixes i, and v is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [c,d]. Then:

- (1) The integer i is not in  $\{b, \pi^u(i), (\pi^u)^{-1}(i)\}$ . (2) The domain of  $\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^u \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1}$  is

$$([a,i) \cup (i+d-c,b+d-c]) \setminus \{\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}(f^u), (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i)\}.$$

- (3) The domain of  $\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^v \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1}$  is  $[i, i+d-c] \setminus \{\phi_{[c,d],i}(f^v)\}$ . (4) The triple  $w = (f^w, \sigma^w, \pi^w)$ , where  $f^w = \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}(f^u)$ ,  $\sigma^w =$
- $\sigma^u *_i \sigma^v$ , and  $\pi^w$  is the extension of

$$(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^u \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1}) \cup (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^v \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})$$

given by  $(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i) \mapsto i+d-c$  and  $\phi_{[c,d],i}(f^v) \mapsto (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^u)(i)$ , is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [a,b+d-c].

*Proof.* We begin with (1). To see that  $i \neq b$ , note that Proposition 2.2 would otherwise imply that  $a = \sigma^u(b) = b$ , contradicting the fact that  $f^u \neq i$ . To see that  $i \neq \pi^u(i)$ , note that i is a fixed point of  $\sigma^u$ , so  $\pi^u(i)$ is a fixed point of  $\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^u$ , thus it cannot be a fixed point of  $\sigma^u$ . To see that  $i \neq (\pi^u)^{-1}(i)$ , note that i is a fixed point of  $\sigma^u$ , so it cannot be a fixed point of Succ<sup>-1</sup>  $\circ \sigma^u$ , thus  $(\pi^u)^{-1}(i)$  is not a fixed point of  $\sigma^u$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** Suppose that f and g are functions. Then  $dom(f \circ g) = g^{-1}(dom(f))$ .

*Proof.* Simply observe that

$$x \in \text{dom}(f \circ g) \iff (x \in \text{dom}(g) \text{ and } g(x) \in \text{dom}(f))$$
  
 $\iff x \in \text{dom}(g) \cap g^{-1}(\text{dom}(f))$   
 $\iff x \in g^{-1}(\text{dom}(f)),$ 

since  $g^{-1}(\text{dom}(f)) \subseteq \text{dom}(g)$ .

To see (2), appeal to Lemma 3.2 to obtain that

$$dom(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1}) 
= (\pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})^{-1}(dom(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i})) 
= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})([a,b] \setminus \{i\}) 
= \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}([a,b] \setminus \{f^{u}, (\pi^{u})^{-1}(i)\}) 
= ([a,i) \cup (i+d-c,b+d-c]) \setminus \{\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)\}.$$

To see (3), appeal to Lemma 3.2 to obtain that

$$dom(\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1}) = (\pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})^{-1}(dom(\phi_{[c,d],i}))$$

$$= (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{v})^{-1})([c,d])$$

$$= \phi_{[c,d],i}([c,d] \setminus \{f^{v}\})$$

$$= [i, i+d-c] \setminus \{\phi_{[c,d],i}(f^{v})\}.$$

To see (4), first note that

$$\begin{split} \sigma^w(f^w) &= (\sigma^w \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i})(f^u) \\ &= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^u \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i})(f^u) \\ &= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^u)(f^u) \\ &= \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}(f^u) \\ &= f^w. \end{split}$$

By Proposition 2.4, it only remains to show that  $\pi^w$  is an isomorphism of  $\sigma^w \upharpoonright ([a,b+d-c] \setminus \{f^w\})$  with  $(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^w) \upharpoonright [a,b+d-c)$ .

As the sets  $[a, b+d-c] \setminus \{f^w\}$  and [a, b+d-c) are finite and have the same cardinality, to see that  $\pi^w$  is a bijection between them, it is sufficient to establish that  $dom(\pi^w) = [a, b+d-c] \setminus \{f^w\}$  and  $\pi^w([a, b+d-c] \setminus \{f^w\}) = [a, b+d-c)$ . But the domain of  $\pi^w$  is the union of  $([a, i) \cup (i+d-c, b+d-c]) \setminus \{f^w, (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i)\}$ ,

$$[i, i+d-c] \setminus \{\phi_{[c,d],i}(f^v)\}, \text{ and } \{(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i), \phi_{[c,d],i}(f^v)\} \text{ by } (2) \text{ and } (3), \text{ whereas}$$

$$\pi^{w}(([a,i) \cup (i+d-c,b+d-c]) \setminus \{f^{w}, (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)\})$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(([a,i) \cup (i+d-c,b+d-c]) \setminus \{f^{w}, (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)\})$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u})([a,b] \setminus \{f^{u},i,(\pi^{u})^{-1}(i)\})$$

$$= \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}([a,b) \setminus \{i,\pi^{u}(i)\})$$

$$= ([a,i) \cup (i+d-c,b+d-c)) \setminus \{(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u})(i)\}$$
and
$$\pi^{w}([i,i+d-c] \setminus \{\phi_{[c,d],i}(f^{v})\})$$

$$= (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})([i,i+d-c] \setminus \{\phi_{[c,d],i}(f^{v})\})$$

$$= (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{v})([c,d] \setminus \{f^{v}\})$$

$$= \phi_{[c,d],i}([c,d))$$

$$= [i,i+d-c),$$

and the image of  $[a,b+d-c]\setminus\{f^w\}$  under  $\pi^w$  is the union of these sets with  $\{i+d-c,(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}\circ\pi^u)(i)\}$ . It therefore only remains to show that  $(\pi^w\circ\sigma^w)(j)=(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1}\circ\sigma^w\circ\pi^w)(j)$  for all  $j\in[a,b+d-c]\setminus\{f^w\}$ .

We begin with the case that  $j \in \text{dom}(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^u \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})$ , which ensures that

$$(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \pi^{w})(j)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j).$$
If  $\sigma^{w}(j) \in \operatorname{dom}(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})$ , then
$$(\pi^{w} \circ \sigma^{w})(j)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w})(j)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j),$$

since (2) ensures that  $\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1}(j) \neq f^u$ , in which case the fact that  $\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}$  and  $\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-1}$  agree on the intersection of their domains yields the desired conclusion. Otherwise, (2) ensures

that  $\sigma^w(j)$  is  $f^w$  or  $(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i)$ . The former cannot happen, as it would imply that  $j = (\sigma^w)^{-1}(f^w) = f^w$ , and (2) ensures that  $f^w$  is not in  $\operatorname{dom}(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^u \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})$ . But the latter implies that  $(\pi^w \circ \sigma^w)(j) = (\pi^w \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i) = i + d - c$ , and since (1) ensures that  $i \neq b$ , it follows that

$$(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1})(j)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ (\sigma^{w})^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ (\sigma^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\sigma^{u})^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ (\pi^{u} \circ \sigma^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1} \circ (\sigma^{u})^{-1} \circ \operatorname{Succ})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ})(i)$$

which yields the desired conclusion.

We next consider the case that  $j \in \text{dom}(\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^v \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})$ , which ensures that

$$(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \pi^{w})(j)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})(j)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})(j)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{v} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})(j).$$

Note that  $\sigma^w(j) \in \text{dom}(\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^v \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})$ , since otherwise (3) implies that  $\sigma^w(j) = \phi_{[c,d],i}(f^v)$ , in which case  $j = ((\sigma^w)^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(f^v) = (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ (\sigma^v)^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(f^v) = (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ (\sigma^v)^{-1})(f^v) = \phi_{[c,d],i}(f^v)$ , and (3) ensures that  $\phi_{[c,d],i}(f^v)$  is not in  $\text{dom}(\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^v \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})$ . As

(3) also implies that  $\phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1}(j) \neq f^v$ , it follows that

$$\begin{split} &(\pi^{w} \circ \sigma^{w})(j) \\ &= (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w})(j) \\ &= (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})(j) \\ &= (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \sigma^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})(j) \\ &= (\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{v} \circ \pi^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1})(j), \end{split}$$

and since  $\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}$  and  $\phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-1}$  agree on the intersection of their domains, the desired conclusion follows.

To handle the case that  $j = (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i)$ , note first that  $(\pi^u)^{-1}(i) \neq f^u$ , since  $f^u \notin \text{dom}(\pi^u)$ . It follows that  $(\sigma^u \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i) \neq f^u$ , since otherwise  $(\pi^u)^{-1}(i) = (\sigma^u)^{-1}(f^u) = f^u$ . As we already showed that  $(\sigma^u \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i) \neq (\pi^u)^{-1}(i)$  at the end of the first paragraph of the proof, (2) ensures that  $(\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^u \circ (\pi^u)^{-1})(i)$  is in the domain of  $\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^u \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1}$ . As Proposition 2.2 implies that  $c = \sigma^v(d)$ , it follows that

$$(\pi^{w} \circ \sigma^{w})(j) = (\pi^{w} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{u})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1}(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(c)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{v})(d)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(d)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(d)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(d)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ (\pi^{u})^{-1})(i)$$

In order to handle the final case that  $j = \phi_{[c,d],i}(f^v)$ , note that

$$(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \pi^{w})(j)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(f^{v})$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u})(i)$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u})(i)$$
and
$$(\pi^{w} \circ \sigma^{w})(j) = (\pi^{w} \circ \sigma^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(f^{v})$$

$$= (\pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{v} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(f^{v})$$

$$= (\pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i} \circ \sigma^{v})(f^{v})$$

$$= (\pi^{w} \circ \phi_{[c,d],i})(f^{v})$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u})(i)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \pi^{u} \circ \sigma^{u})(i)$$

$$= (\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{u} \circ \pi^{u})(i),$$

so the fact that  $\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i}$  and  $\phi_{[a,b],[c,d],i} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-1}$  agree on the intersection of their domains yields the desired result.

Given integers and pointed k-dromedary dyads satisfying the hypotheses of Proposition 3.1, the *amalgamation* of u and v at i, denoted by  $u *_i v$ , is the pointed k-dromedary dyad w appearing in the conclusion of Proposition 3.1. We say that a pointed k-dromedary dyad u is extended by a pointed k-dromedary dyad v if  $f^u \neq f^v$ ,  $\sigma^u \sqsubseteq \sigma^v$ , and  $\pi^u \sqsubseteq \pi^v$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** Suppose that  $k \geq 3$ . Then there is a function  $g: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3\}$  such that the following hold for all integers a < b and pointed k-dromedary dyads u on (a, b]:

- (1) For all  $n \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , there is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [a, b + 2n(k-1)).
- (2) For all i > b+1, there is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on [a, b+2g(i-b)(k-1)) with  $i \notin \{f^v\} \cup \sup(\sigma^v) \cup \{b+2g(i-b)(k-1), b+2g(i-b)(k-1)+1\}$ .

*Proof.* We first show that it is sufficient to establish the special case of the proposition where a=0. To see (1), note that if  $n \in \{1,2,3\}$ , then the special case yields an extension v' of  $(f^u-a, \operatorname{Succ}^{-a} \circ \sigma^u \circ \operatorname{Succ}^a, \operatorname{Succ}^{-a} \circ \pi^u \circ \operatorname{Succ}^a)$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [0, b-a+2n(k-1)), in which case  $(f^{v'}+a, \operatorname{Succ}^a \circ \sigma^{v'} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-a}, \operatorname{Succ}^a \circ \pi^{v'} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-a})$ 

is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [a, b + 2n(k - 1)). To see (2), note that if i > b + 1, then i - a > b - a + 1 and g((i - a) - (b - a)) = g(i - b), so the special case yields an extension v' of  $(f^u - a, \operatorname{Succ}^{-a} \circ \sigma^u \circ \operatorname{Succ}^a, \operatorname{Succ}^{-a} \circ \pi^u \circ \operatorname{Succ}^a)$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [0, b - a + 2g(i - b)(k - 1)) for which  $i - a \notin \{f^{v'}\} \cup \sup(\sigma^{v'}) \cup \{b - a + 2g(i - b)(k - 1), b - a + 2g(i - b)(k - 1) + 1\}$ , thus  $(f^{v'} + a, \operatorname{Succ}^a \circ \sigma^{v'} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-a}, \operatorname{Succ}^a \circ \pi^{v'} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^{-a})$  is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on [a, b + 2g(i - b)(k - 1)) with the property that  $i \notin \{f^v\} \cup \sup(\sigma^v) \cup \{b + 2g(i - b)(k - 1), b + 2g(i - b)(k - 1) + 1\}$ .

We next show that it is sufficient to establish the further special case where b=1. To see (1), note that if  $n \in \{1,2,3\}$ , then the further special case gives rise to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v' on [0,1+2n(k-1)) for which  $f^{v'} \neq 1$  but  $\sigma^{v'}(1)=1$ , so Proposition 3.1 ensures that  $v'*_1u$  is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [0,b+2n(k-1)). To see (2), note that if i>b+1, then i-(b-1)>2 and g((i-(b-1))-1)=g(i-b), so the further special case yields a pointed k-dromedary dyad v' on [0,1+2g(i-b)(k-1)) with the property that  $f^{v'} \neq 1$ ,  $\sigma^{v'}(1)=1$ , and  $i-(b-1) \notin \{f^{v'}\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^{v'}) \cup \{1+2g(i-b)(k-1),1+2g(i-b)(k-1)+1\}$ , thus Proposition 3.1 ensures that  $v'*_1u$  is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on [a,b+2g(i-b)(k-1)) with the property that  $i \notin \{f^v\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^v) \cup \{b+2g(i-b)(k-1),b+2g(i-b)(k-1)+1\}$ . To establish the further special case, define  $g: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1,2,3\}$  by

$$g(i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \notin [k-1,2k), \\ 2 & \text{if } i \in [k-1,2k-2), \text{ and} \\ 3 & \text{if } i \in \{2k-2,2k-1\}. \end{cases}$$

Define  $\sigma_1$  on [0, 2k-2] by  $\sigma_1 = (0 \ k \ k+1 \cdots 2k-2)$ . Proposition 2.1 ensures that  $\sigma_1$  is covering, and the fact that  $\sigma_1 \upharpoonright (0, k)$  is the identity implies that  $\sigma_1$  is non-crossing. A straightforward calculation reveals that  $(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma_1) \upharpoonright [0, 2k-2) = (k-1 \ k-2 \cdots 0)$ .

**Lemma 3.4.** There is a pointed k-dromedary dyad  $u_1$  with the property that  $f^{u_1} = 2$  and  $\sigma^{u_1} = \sigma_1$ .

*Proof.* It is sufficient to observe that  $\sigma_1$  has one orbit of cardinality k that does not include 2 and fixes all other points of its domain, and  $(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma_1) \upharpoonright [0, 2k - 2)$  has one orbit of cardinality k and fixes all other points of its domain.

Proposition 2.4 ensures that the permutations

$$\sigma_2 = \sigma_1 *_{k-1} \sigma_1$$
=  $(0 \ 3k - 2 \ 3k - 1 \ \cdots \ 4k - 4)(k - 1 \ 2k - 1 \ 2k \ \cdots \ 3k - 3)$ 
and

$$\sigma_3 = \sigma_2 *_{2k-2} \sigma_1$$

$$= (0 \ 5k - 4 \ 5k - 3 \ \cdots \ 6k - 6)(k - 1 \ 4k - 3 \ 4k - 2 \ \cdots \ 5k - 5)$$

$$(2k - 2 \ 3k - 2 \ 3k - 1 \ \cdots \ 4k - 4)$$

are covering and non-crossing. Another straightforward calculation reveals that

$$(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma_2) \upharpoonright [0, 4k - 4) = (3k - 3 \ k - 2 \ k - 3 \ \cdots \ 0)$$
  
 $(2k - 2 \ 2k - 3 \ \cdots \ k - 1)$ 

and

$$(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma_3) \upharpoonright [0, 6k - 6) = (5k - 5 \ k - 2 \ k - 3 \ \cdots \ 0)$$
$$(4k - 4 \ 2k - 3 \ 2k - 4 \ \cdots \ k - 1)$$
$$(3k - 3 \ 3k - 4 \ \cdots \ 2k - 2).$$

**Lemma 3.5.** Suppose that  $n \in \{2,3\}$ . Then there are pointed k-dromedary dyads  $u_n$  and  $v_n$  for which 1,  $f^{u_n}$ , and  $f^{v_n}$  are pairwise distinct but  $\sigma^{u_n} = \sigma^{v_n} = \sigma_n$ .

*Proof.* It is enough to note that  $\sigma_n$  and  $(\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma_n) \upharpoonright [0, 2nk-2n)$  have n orbits of cardinality k and fix all other points of their domains, as this ensures that the former has at least  $1 + 2nk - 2n - nk = 1 + nk - 2n = 1 + n(k-2) \ge 3$  fixed points.

To see (1), observe that if  $w_n \in \{u_n, v_n\}$  for all  $n \in \{2, 3\}$ , then  $u_1, w_2$ , and  $w_3$  are as desired. To see (2), suppose that i > 2. If g(i-1) = 1, then  $i \notin [k, 2k+1)$ , so  $v = u_1$  is as desired. If g(i-1) = 2, then  $i \in [k, 2k-1)$ , so  $v = u_2$  or  $v = v_2$  is as desired. And if g(i-1) = 3, then  $i \in \{2k-1, 2k\}$ , so  $v = u_3$  or  $v = v_3$  is as desired.

Given integers  $a \leq b$  and a pointed n-dromedary dyad u on [a,b], let  $\overline{u}$  denote the triple  $(f^{\overline{u}}, \sigma^{\overline{u}}, \pi^{\overline{u}})$ , where  $f^{\overline{u}} = -f^u$ ,  $\sigma^{\overline{u}} = \overline{\sigma^u}$ , and  $\pi^{\overline{u}} \colon [-b, -a] \setminus \{f^{\overline{u}}\} \to [-b, -a)$  is given by  $\pi^{\overline{u}}(i) = -(\operatorname{Succ} \circ \pi^u)(-i)$ .

**Proposition 3.6.** Suppose that  $a \leq b$  and  $k \geq 2$  are integers and u is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [a,b]. Then  $\overline{u}$  is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on [-b,-a].

 $\boxtimes$ 

*Proof.* Proposition 2.6 ensures that  $\sigma^{\overline{u}}$  is a covering non-crossing permutation of [-b, -a] whose orbits all have cardinality 1 or k. To see that  $f^{\overline{u}}$  is a fixed point of  $\sigma^{\overline{u}}$ , note that

$$\sigma^{\overline{u}}(f^{\overline{u}}) = -(\sigma^u)^{-1}(-f^{\overline{u}})$$

$$= -(\sigma^u)^{-1}(f^u)$$

$$= -f^u$$

$$= f^{\overline{u}}.$$

Finally, note that  $\pi^u = \pi^u \circ \sigma^u \circ (\sigma^u)^{-1} = \operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^u \circ \pi^u \circ (\sigma^u)^{-1}$ , so  $(\sigma^u)^{-1} \circ \operatorname{Succ} \circ \pi^u = \pi^u \circ (\sigma^u)^{-1}$ , thus

$$(\pi^{\overline{u}} \circ \sigma^{\overline{u}})(i) = \pi^{\overline{u}}(-(\sigma^u)^{-1}(-i))$$

$$= -(\operatorname{Succ} \circ \pi^u \circ (\sigma^u)^{-1})(-i)$$

$$= -(\operatorname{Succ} \circ (\sigma^u)^{-1} \circ \operatorname{Succ} \circ \pi^u)(-i)$$

$$= \operatorname{Succ}^{-1}(-((\sigma^u)^{-1} \circ \operatorname{Succ} \circ \pi^u)(-i))$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{\overline{u}})(-(\operatorname{Succ} \circ \pi^u)(-i))$$

$$= (\operatorname{Succ}^{-1} \circ \sigma^{\overline{u}} \circ \pi^{\overline{u}})(i)$$

for all  $i \in [-b, -a] \setminus \{f^{\overline{u}}\}.$ 

**Proposition 3.7.** Suppose that  $k \geq 3$ . Then there is a function  $g: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3\}$  such that the following hold for all integers a < b and pointed k-dromedary dyads u on [a, b):

- (1) For all  $n \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , there is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad on (a 2n(k 1), b].
- (2) For all i < a-1, there is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on (a-2g(a-i)(k-1),b] with  $i \notin \{f^v\} \cup \sup(\sigma^v) \cup \{a-2g(a-i)(k-1)-1,a-2g(a-i)(k-1)\}.$

*Proof.* To see (1), suppose that  $n \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , appeal to Proposition 3.6 to see that  $\overline{u}$  is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on (-b, -a], appeal to Proposition 3.3 to obtain an extension of  $\overline{u}$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v' on [-b, -a + 2n(k-1)), and appeal once more to Proposition 3.6 to see that  $\overline{v'}$  is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad on (a-2n(k-1),b].

To see (2), fix  $g: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1,2,3\}$  as in Proposition 3.3, appeal to Proposition 3.6 to see that  $\overline{u}$  is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on (-b,a], and note that if i < a-1, then -i > -a+1 and g(a-i) = g((-i)-(-a)), so there is an extension of  $\overline{u}$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v' on [-b,-a+2g(a-i)(k-1)) for which  $-i \notin \{f^{v'}\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^{v'}) \cup \{-a+2g(a-i)(k-1),-a+2g(a-i)(k-1)+1\}$ , thus one more

application of Proposition 3.6 ensures that  $\overline{v'}$  is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on (a-2g(a-i)(k-1),b] for which  $i \notin \{f^v\} \cup \sup(\sigma^v) \cup \{a-2g(a-i)(k-1)-1,a-2g(a-i)(k-1)\}$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

**Proposition 3.8.** Suppose that a < b, i < a - 1, j > b + 1, and  $k \ge 3$  are integers and u is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on (a,b]. Then there exist  $n \in \{1,2,\ldots,7\}$  and an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on (a-2n(k-1),b+2n(k-1)] with the property that  $i \notin \{f^v\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^v) \cup \{a-2n(k-1)-1,a-2n(k-1)\}$  and  $j \notin \{f^v\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^v) \cup \{b+2n(k-1)+1\}$ .

Proof. If i < a - 6(k - 1) - 1 and  $g: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1, 2, 3\}$  is the function given by Proposition 3.3, then there is an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v' on [a, b + 2g(j - b)(k - 1)) for which  $j \notin \{f^{v'}\} \cup \sup(\sigma^{v'}) \cup \{b + 2g(j - b)(k - 1), b + 2g(j - b)(k - 1) + 1\}$ , so part (1) of Proposition 3.7 yields the desired extension of v' to a pointed k-dromedary dyad on (a - 2g(j - b)(k - 1), b + 2g(j - b)(k - 1)].

Similarly, if j > b + 6(k-1) + 1 and  $g: \mathbb{N} \setminus 2 \to \{1,2,3\}$  is the function given by Proposition 3.7, then part (1) of Proposition 3.3 yields an extension of u to a pointed k-dromedary permutation v' on [a, b + 2g(a-i)(k-1)), in which case the defining property of g yields the desired extension of v' to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on (a-2g(a-i)(k-1), b+2g(a-i)(k-1)] with the property that  $i \notin \{f^v\} \cup \sup(\sigma^v) \cup \{a-2g(a-i)(k-1)-1, a-2g(a-i)(k-1)\}$ .

It only remains to handle the case that  $a - 6(k - 1) - 1 \le i$  and  $j \leq b + 6(k-1) + 1$ . We will recursively construct integers  $a_e \leq a$  and  $b_e \geq b$ , as well as extensions of u to pointed k-dromedary dyads  $u_e$  on  $(a_e, b_e]$  with the property that  $i \notin \{f^{u_e}\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^{u_e}) \cup \{a_e - 1, a_e\}$  and  $j \notin \{f^{u_e}\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^{u_e}) \cup \{b_e + 1\}$  for all natural numbers  $e \leq 3$ . We begin by setting  $a_0 = a$ ,  $b_0 = b$ , and  $u_0 = u$ . Suppose now that e < 3and we have already found  $a_e$ ,  $b_e$ , and  $u_e$ . If there is an extension of  $u_e$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad  $v_e$  on  $[a_e, b_e + 2(k-1))$  for which  $j \notin \{f^{v_e}\} \cup \text{supp}(\sigma^{v_e}) \cup \{b_e + 2(k-1), b_e + 2(k-1) + 1\}, \text{ then set } m_{e+1} = 1.$ Otherwise, part (2) of Proposition 3.3 yields  $m_{e+1} \in \{2,3\}$  with the property that there is an extension of  $u_e$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad  $v_e$  on  $[a_e, b_e + 2m_{e+1}(k-1))$  for which  $j \notin \{f^{v_e}\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^{v_e}) \cup \{b_e + a_{e+1}(k-1)\}$  $2m_{e+1}(k-1), b_e + 2m_{e+1}(k-1) + 1$ . If there is an extension of  $v_e$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad  $u_{e+1}$  on  $(a_e-2(k-1),b_e+2m_{e+1}(k-1))$  for which  $i \notin \{f^{u_{e+1}}\} \cup \text{supp}(\sigma^{u_{e+1}}) \cup \{a_e - 2(k-1) - 1, a_e - 2(k-1)\}$ , then set  $\ell_{e+1} = 1$ . Otherwise, part (2) of Proposition 3.7 yields  $\ell_{e+1} \in \{2,3\}$ with the property that there is an extension of  $v_e$  to a pointed kdromedary dyad  $u_{e+1}$  on  $(a_e - 2\ell_{e+1}(k-1), b_e + 2m_{e+1}(k-1)]$  for which  $i \notin \{f^{u_{e+1}}\} \cup \text{supp}(\sigma^{u_{e+1}}) \cup \{a_e - 2\ell_{e+1}(k-1) - 1, a_e - 2\ell_{e+1}(k-1)\}.$ 

Setting  $a_{e+1} = a_e - 2\ell_{e+1}(k-1)$  and  $b_{e+1} = b_e + 2m_{e+1}(k-1)$ , this completes the recursive construction.

**Lemma 3.9.** There is at most one  $e \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  for which  $\ell_e \neq 1$ , as well as at most one  $e \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  for which  $m_e \neq 1$ .

Proof. If  $e \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  has the property that  $m_e \neq 1$ , then part (1) of Proposition 3.3 ensures that  $j \in (b_{e-1}+1, b_{e-1}+2(k-1)+1]$ , and since the intervals of this form are pairwise disjoint, there is at most one such e. Similarly, if  $e \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  has the property that  $\ell_e \neq 1$ , then part (1) of Proposition 3.7 ensures that  $i \in [a_{e-1} - 2(k-1) - 1, a_{e-1} - 1)$ , and since the intervals of this form are also pairwise disjoint, there is again at most one such e.

Define  $\ell_{\text{max}} = \max\{\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3\}$  and  $m_{\text{max}} = \max\{m_1, m_2, m_3\}$ . If  $\ell_{\text{max}} = m_{\text{max}}$ , then set  $n = 2 + \ell_{\text{max}} = 2 + m_{\text{max}}$  and note that  $a_3 = a - 2n(k-1)$  and  $b_3 = b + 2n(k-1)$  by Lemma 3.9, so the pointed k-dromedary dyad  $v = u_3$  is as desired. Otherwise, set  $n = 2 + \ell_{\text{max}} + m_{\text{max}}$  and note that  $a_3 - 2m_{\text{max}}(k-1) = a - 2n(k-1)$  and  $b_3 + 2\ell_{\text{max}}(k-1) = b + 2n(k-1)$  by Lemma 3.9, so an application of part (1) of Propositions 3.3 and 3.7 yields the desired extension of  $u_3$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on  $(a_3 - 2m_{\text{max}}(k-1), b_3 + 2\ell_{\text{max}}(k-1)]$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

**Proposition 3.10.** Suppose that a > 0, b > a + 1, and  $k \ge 3$  are integers,  $J \subseteq (a,b)$  is a set whose Succ-gaps have cardinality at least 14(k-1)-1,  $I \subseteq J$  intersects each T-gap in  $\sim J$  in a singleton,  $\sigma$  is a permutation of J,  $\pi \colon J \setminus I \to J \cap \operatorname{Succ}^{-1}(J)$ , and  $u^C = (f^C, \sigma^C, \pi^C)$  is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on C, where  $f^C$  is the unique element of  $C \cap I$ ,  $\sigma^C = \sigma \upharpoonright C$ , and  $\pi^C = \pi \upharpoonright (C \setminus I)$  for every Succ-gap C in  $\sim J$ . Then there exist  $c \in [a-14(k-1)-4,a]$ ,  $d \in [b,b+14(k-1)+4]$ , and a simultaneous extension of each  $u^C$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad v on (c,d].

Proof. We first show that it is sufficient to establish the special case of the proposition where a=14(k-1)-4. Let c',d', and v' be the result of applying this special case to a'=14(k-1)-4, b'=b-(a-a'),  $J'=\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a}(J)$ ,  $I'=\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a}(I)$ ,  $\sigma'=\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a}\circ\sigma\circ\operatorname{Succ}^{a-a'}$ , and  $\pi'=\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a}\circ\pi\circ\operatorname{Succ}^{a-a'}$ , and observe that the integers c=c'+(a-a') and d=d'+(a-a') and the triple  $v=(f^{v'}+(a-a'),\operatorname{Succ}^{a-a'}\circ\sigma^{v'}\circ\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a},\operatorname{Succ}^{a-a'}\circ\pi^{v'}\circ\operatorname{Succ}^{a'-a})$  are as desired.

We next show that it is sufficient to establish the further special case of the proposition where J is  $\operatorname{Succ}^{<14(k-1)}$ -independent. Define  $\phi\colon \mathbb{N}\setminus (J\cap\operatorname{Succ}(J))\to \mathbb{N}$  by  $\phi(j)=|j\setminus (J\cap\operatorname{Succ}(J))|$ . Then the set  $J'=\phi(J\setminus\operatorname{Succ}(J))$  is  $\operatorname{Succ}^{<14(k-1)}$ -independent, so the further special

case yields  $c' \in [0, 14(k-1) - 4]$ ,  $d' \in [\phi(b), \phi(b) + 14(k-1) + 4]$ , and a pointed k-dromedary dyad v' on (c', d'] for which  $\{f^{v'}\} \cup \operatorname{supp}(\sigma^{v'})$  is disjoint from J'. Let  $(j_i)_{i<\ell}$  be the strictly increasing enumeration of  $J \setminus \operatorname{Succ}(J)$  and define  $c_0 = c'$ ,  $d_0 = d'$ , and  $v_0 = v'$ . For all  $i < \ell$ , set  $C_i = \phi^{-1}(\{\phi(j_i)\})$ ,  $c_{i+1} = c_i$ , and  $d_{i+1} = d_i + |C_i \setminus \{j_i\}|$ , and appeal to Proposition 3.1 to see that the triple  $v_{i+1} = v_i *_{j_i} u^{C_i}$  is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on  $(c_{i+1}, d_{i+1}]$ . Then the triple  $v = v_\ell$  is the desired extension of u.

Finally, we establish the special case of the proposition where Jis  $\operatorname{Succ}^{<14(k-1)}$ -independent (but a need not be 14(k-1)-4). Set  $m=a+\lfloor (b-a)/2\rfloor$ . As J is  $T^{<8}$ -independent, by setting  $c_0=m-2$ if J intersects [m+1, m+4] and  $c_0 = m+2$  otherwise, we can ensure that  $[c_0-1,c_0+2]$  is disjoint from J. As m-a and b-(m+1) are within 1 of one another, it follows that  $c_0 - a$  and  $b - (c_0 + 1)$  are within 5 of one another. Note that  $a < c_0$  or  $c_0 + 1 < b$ , since otherwise  $b-1 \le c_0 \le a$ , contradicting the fact that b > a+1. Set  $d_0 = c_0+1$ , let  $v_0$  be the unique pointed k-dromedary dyad on  $(c_0, d_0]$ , and recursively apply Proposition 3.8 to  $c_i$ ,  $d_i$ , the maximum element of J below  $c_i$  (or any integer strictly below  $c_i - 1$  if there is no such element of J), the minimum element of J above  $d_i$  (or any integer strictly above  $d_i + 1$  if there is no such element of J), k, and  $v_i$  to obtain  $n_i \in \{1, \ldots, 7\}$  and an extension of  $v_i$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad  $v_{i+1}$  on  $(c_{i+1}, d_{i+1})$ with the property that  $c_{i+1} = c_i - 2n_i(k-1)$ ,  $d_{i+1} = d_i + 2n_i(k-1)$ , and  $\{f^{v_{i+1}}\} \cup \text{supp}(\sigma^{v_{i+1}}) \cup \{c_{i+1}-1, c_{i+1}, d_{i+1}+1\} \text{ is disjoint from } J \text{ (since } J$ is  $T^{<14(k-1)}$ -independent), noting that  $c_{i+1}-a$  and  $b-d_{i+1}$  are within 5 of one another. Let i be the maximal natural number for which  $a < c_i$ or  $d_i < b$ . If  $a < c_i$ , then  $c_{i+1} \ge c_i - 14(k-1) > a - 14(k-1)$  and

$$d_{i+1} \le d_i + 14(k-1)$$

$$= b + 14(k-1) + (d_i - b)$$

$$\le b + 14(k-1) + (a - c_i) + 5$$

$$\le b + 14(k-1) + 4.$$

If  $d_i < b$ , then

$$c_{i+1} \ge c_i - 14(k-1)$$

$$= a - 14(k-1) + (c_i - a)$$

$$\ge a - 14(k-1) + (b - d_i) - 5$$

$$\ge a - 14(k-1) - 4$$

and  $d_{i+1} \leq d_i + 14(k-1) < b + 14(k-1)$ . In both cases, it follows that the integers  $c = c_{i+1}$  and  $d = d_{i+1}$  and the pointed k-dromedary dyad  $v = v_{i+1}$  are as desired.

Given  $k \geq 3$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , an aperiodic bijection  $T: X \to X$ , and  $x \in X$ , we say that a triple  $(f, \sigma, \pi)$  is a pointed k-dromedary T-dyad on  $[x, T^n(x))_T$  if  $f \in [x, T^n(x))_T$ ,  $\sigma$  is a permutation of  $[x, T^n(x))_T$ ,  $\pi: [x, T^n(x))_T \setminus \{f\} \to [x, T^{n-1}(x))_T$ , and  $(\theta^{-1}(f), \theta^{-1} \circ \sigma \circ \theta, \theta^{-1} \circ \pi \circ \theta)$  is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on n, where  $\theta: n \to [x, T^n(x))_T$  is given by  $\theta(i) = T^i(x)$  for all i < n. We can now give the following:

Proof of Theorem 4. We will find  $S \in [T]$ , whose orbits all have cardinality 1 or k, that is conjugate to  $T^{-1} \circ S$  in [T]. To see that this is sufficient, set  $S_2 = S$  and observe that every orbit of the automorphism  $S_1 = S_2^{-1} \circ T$  has cardinality 1 or k and the fact that  $S_2 \in [T]$  easily implies that  $S_1 \in [T]$ ..

We will construct an exhaustive increasing sequence  $(X_i)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  of Borel subsets of X whose complements are  $R_{T^{-1}}^X$  and  $R_T^X$ -complete, Borel sets  $F_i \subseteq X_i$  intersecting every T-gap in  $\sim X_i$  in a singleton, T-decomposable injections  $P_i \colon X_i \setminus F_i \to X_i \cap T^{-1}(X_i)$ , and T-decomposable bijections  $S_i \colon X_i \to X_i$  such that:

- $(1) \ \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \ P_i = P_{i+1} \upharpoonright (X_i \setminus F_i).$
- $(2) \ \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \ S_i = S_{i+1} \upharpoonright X_i.$
- (3)  $\forall i \in \mathbb{N} \forall x \in X_{i+1} \setminus X_i \ C_{i+1}^x \cap F_{i+1} \cap X_i = \emptyset$ , where  $C_i^x$  is the unique T-gap in  $\sim X_i$  containing x for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in X_i$ , and
- (4)  $\forall i \in \mathbb{N} \forall x \in X_i \ (f_i^x, S_i^x, P_i^x)$  is a pointed k-dromedary T-dyad on  $C_i^x$ , where  $f_i^x \in C_i^x \cap F_i$ ,  $S_i^x = S_i \upharpoonright C_i^x$ , and  $P_i^x = P_i \upharpoonright (C_i^x \backslash F_i)$ .

To see that this is sufficient, note first that each  $x \in X$  appears in at most finitely many  $F_i$ , for if  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $x \in X_i$  and j > i is sufficiently large that  $C_i^x \neq C_j^x$ , then condition (3) ensures that  $x \notin F_j$ . Conditions (1) and (2) therefore ensure that we obtain functions  $P, S \colon X \to X$  by setting  $P = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} P_i$  and  $S = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} S_i$ . To see that P and S are injective, note that if  $x, y \in X$  have the property that P(x) = P(y) or P(x) = P(y) or P(x) = P(x) or P(x) = P(x) or P(x) = P(x) note that if P(x) = P(x) is sufficiently large that P(x) = P(x) note that if P(x) = P(x) is sufficiently large that P(x) = P(x) note that if P(x) = P(x) note that P(x) = P(x

that P is an isomorphism of S with  $T^{-1} \circ S$ , note that if  $x \in X$  and  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  has the property that  $x \in X_i \setminus F_i$ , then condition (4) ensures that  $(P_i \circ S_i)(x) = (T^{-1} \circ S_i \circ P_i)(x)$ , so  $(P \circ S)(x) = (T^{-1} \circ S \circ P)(x)$ . To see that the orbit of every point under S has cardinality 1 or k, note that if  $x \in X$  and  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $x \in X_i$ , then condition (4) implies that the orbit of x under  $S_i$  has cardinality 1 or k and coincides with the orbit of x under S.

Appeal to Propositions 1.14 and 1.15 to obtain an  $R_{T-1}^X$  and  $R_T^X$ complete  $T^{<42(k-1)+7}$ -independent Borel set  $D\subseteq X$ . By Proposition 1.17, there is a balanced marker sequence  $(D_i)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  for  $T_D$ . For all a>0, b > a + 1, and  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $D_{a,b,i+1}$  be the set of  $x \in D_{i+1}$  for which  $T_{D_i}(x), (T_{D_i})^2(x) \notin D_{i+1}, \ a = r_{D_i}^T(x), \ \text{and} \ b = h_{T_{D_i}^{-1}(D_{i+1})}^T(x).$  To guarantee that  $(X_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is exhaustive, it is enough to ensure that

 $(T^{a}(x), T^{b}(x))_{T} \subseteq X_{i+1} \text{ for all } a > 0, b > a+1, i \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ and } x \in D_{a,b,i+1},$ since the fact that  $(D_i)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a balanced marker sequence ensures that every point of X appears in an interval of this form. To guarantee that the sets  $X_i$  are Borel and the recursive construction goes through, we will construct Borel functions  $a_{i+1}, b_{i+1}: \bigcup_{a>0} \bigcup_{b>a+1} D_{a,b,i+1} \to \mathbb{N}$ such that:

- (5)  $\forall a > 0 \forall b > a + 1 \forall x \in D_{a,b,i+1} \ a_i(x) \in [a 14(k-1) 4, a].$
- (6)  $\forall a > 0 \forall b > a + 1 \forall x \in D_{a,b,i+1} \ b_i(x) \in [b, b + 14(k-1) + 4].$ (7)  $X_{i+1} \backslash X_i = \bigcup_{a>0} \bigcup_{b>a+1} \bigcup_{x \in D_{a,b,i+1}} (T^{a_{i+1}(x)}(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)}(x)]_T \backslash X_i.$

We begin by setting  $F_0 = P_0 = S_0 = X_0 = \emptyset$ . Suppose now that  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and we have already found  $(a_j)_{1 \le j \le i}$ ,  $(b_j)_{1 \le j \le i}$ ,  $F_i$ , and  $S_i$ .

**Lemma 3.11.** The size of each T-gap in  $X_i$  is at least 14(k-1)-1.

*Proof.* Suppose that n > 1,  $x \in X_i$ , and  $r_{X_i}^T(x) = n$ , so that  $(x, T^n(x))_T$ is a T-gap in  $X_i$ . Then x and  $T^n(x)$  are right and left endpoints of the sorts of intervals appearing in condition (7), so conditions (5)–(7)yield integers  $b \in [0, 14(k-1) + 4]$  and  $a \in [-1, 14(k-1) + 3]$  for which  $T^{-b}(x), T^{a+n}(x) \in D$ . As the fact that n > 1 ensures that  $-b \leq 0 < a+n$ , the fact that D is  $T^{<42(k-1)+7}$ -independent implies that  $42(k-1)+7 \le b+a+n \le n+28(k-1)+7$ , thus  $n \ge 14(k-1)$ .

Let  $Q_{i+1}$  be the set of quadruples  $q = (a^q, b^q, J^q, (I^q, \sigma^q, \pi^q))$  with the property that  $a^q > 0$ ,  $b^q > a^q + 1$ ,  $J^q \subseteq (a^q, b^q)$  is a set whose Succgaps have cardinality at least 14(k-1)-1,  $I^q \subset J^q$  intersects each Succ-gap in  $\sim J^q$  in a singleton,  $\sigma^q$  is a permutation of  $J^q$ ,  $\pi^q : J^q \setminus I^q \to I^q$  $J^q \cap \operatorname{Succ}^{-1}(J^q)$ , and  $u^C = (f^C, \sigma^C, \pi^C)$  is a pointed k-dromedary dyad on C, where  $f^C$  is the unique element of  $C \cap I^q$ ,  $\sigma^C = \sigma \upharpoonright C$ , and  $\pi^C =$  $\pi \upharpoonright (C \setminus I^q)$  for every Succ-gap C in  $\sim J^q$ . For all  $q \in Q_{i+1}$ , Proposition 3.10 yields  $c^q \in [a^q - 14(k-1) - 4, a^q], d^q \in [b^q, b^q + 14(k-1) + 4],$  and

a simultaneous extension of each  $u^C$  to a pointed k-dromedary dyad  $v^q$  on  $(c^q, d^q]$ . Let  $D_{i+1,q}$  be the set of all  $x \in D_{a^q,b^q,i+1}$  such that:

- (a)  $\forall j \in (a^q, b^q) \ (j \in J^q \iff T^j(x) \in X_i).$
- (b)  $\forall j \in J^q \ (j \in I^q \iff T^j(x) \in F_i).$
- (c)  $\forall j \in J^q \setminus I^q \ (P_i \circ T^j)(x) = T^{\pi^q(j)}(x).$
- (d)  $\forall j \in J^q (S_i \circ T^j)(x) = T^{\sigma^q(j)}(x).$

Clearly  $\bigcup_{q \in Q_{i+1}} D_{i+1,q} \subseteq \bigcup_{a>0} \bigcup_{b>a+1} D_{a,b,i+1}$  and Lemma 3.11 ensures that the reverse inclusion holds. Define  $a_{i+1}(x) = c^q$  and  $b_{i+1}(x) = d^q$  for all  $q \in Q_{i+1}$  and  $x \in D_{i+1,q}$ .

**Lemma 3.12.** Suppose that a > 0, b > a + 1, and  $x \in D_{a,b,i+1}$ . Then  $(T^{a_{i+1}(x)-1}(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)+1}(x)]_T \cap X_i = (T^a(x), T^b(x)]_T \cap X_i$ .

*Proof.* As condition (5) ensures that  $a_{i+1}(x) \leq a$  and condition (6) implies that  $b \leq b_{i+1}(x)$ , it is sufficient to show that

$$(T^{a_{i+1}(x)-1}(x), T^a(x)]_T \cap X_i = (T^b(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)+1}(x)]_T \cap X_i = \emptyset.$$

Suppose, towards a contradiction, that this is false. Then condition (7) yields a' > 0, b' > a' + 1, i' < i, and  $x' \in D_{a',b',i'+1}$  for which

$$(T^{a_{i+1}(x)-1}(x), T^a(x)]_T \cap (T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x'), T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x')]_T \neq \emptyset$$
 (†)

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$$(T^{b}(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)+1}(x)]_{T} \cap (T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x'), T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x')]_{T} \neq \emptyset.$$
 (‡)

To handle the case that (†) holds, note first that  $T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T^a(x)$  and  $T^{a_{i+1}(x)-1}(x) <_T T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ . As  $x', T^{a'}(x') \in D_{i'}$  and  $D_{i'}$  is  $T^{\leq 14(k-1)+4}$ -independent, condition (5) implies that  $x' <_T T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ , so  $x' <_T T^a(x)$ . As  $x', T^a(x) \in D_{i'+1}$ , it follows that  $T_{D_{i'+1}}(x') \leq_T T^a(x)$ . As  $T^{b'}(x'), T_{D_{i'+1}}(x') \in D_{i'}$  and  $D_{i'}$  is  $T^{\leq 14(k-1)+4}$ -independent, condition (6) ensures that  $T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T_{D_{i'+1}}(x')$ , in which case  $T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T^a(x)$ , so  $T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x') \in [T^{a_{i+1}(x)}(x), T^a(x))_T$ . But  $T^a(x), T^{b'}(x') \in D_{i'}$ , condition (5) yields  $c \in (0, 14(k-1)+4]$  for which  $T^a(x) = T^{b_{i'+1}(x')+c}(x')$ , and condition (6) ensures that  $b_{i'+1}(x') - b' \in [0, 14(k-1)+4]$ , contradicting the  $T^{\leq 28(k-1)+8}$ -independence of  $D_{i'}$ .

To handle the case that (‡) holds, note first that  $T^b(x) <_T T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$  and  $T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T^{b_{i+1}(x)+1}(x)$ . As  $T^{b'}(x'), T_{D_{i'+1}}(x') \in D_{i'}$  and  $D_{i'}$  is  $T^{\leq 14(k-1)+4}$ -independent, condition (6) implies that  $T^{b_{i'+1}(x')}(x') <_T T_{D_{i'+1}}(x')$ , so  $T^b(x) <_T T_{D_{i'+1}}(x')$ . As  $T^b(x), T_{D_{i'+1}}(x') \in D_{i'+1}$ , it follows that  $T^b(x) \leq_T x'$ . As  $x', T^{a'}(x') \in D_{i'}$  and  $D_{i'}$  is  $T^{\leq 14(k-1)+4}$ -independent, condition (5) ensures that  $x' <_T T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ , in which case  $T^b(x) <_T T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x')$ , so  $T^{a_{i'+1}(x')}(x') \in (T^b(x), T^{b_{i+1}(x)}(x)]_T$ .

But  $T^b(x), T^{a'}(x') \in D_{i'}$ , condition (5) ensures that  $a' - a_{i'+1}(x') \in [0, 14(k-1)+4]$ , and condition (6) yields  $c \in (0, 14(k-1)+4]$  for which  $T^b(x) = T^{a_{i'+1}(x')-c}(x')$ , contradicting the  $T^{\leq 28(k-1)+8}$ -independence of  $D_{i'}$ .

As D is  $T^{\leq 14(k-1)+4}$ -independent, conditions (5) and (6) imply that if  $x \in \bigcup_{a>0} \bigcup_{b>a+1} D_{a,b,i+1}$ , then  $(T^{a_{i+1}}(x), T^{b_{i+1}}(x)]_T \subseteq (x, T_{D_{i+1}}(x))_T$ . As the intervals of the latter form are pairwise disjoint, those of the former form are not only pairwise disjoint, but are not adjacent to one another. Lemma 3.12 therefore ensures that the functions

$$P_{i+1} = P_i \cup \bigcup_{q \in Q_{i+1}} \bigcup_{j \in (c^q, d^q] \setminus I^q} T^{\pi^{v^q}(j) - j} \upharpoonright T^j(D_{i+1, q})$$
and

$$S_{i+1} = S_i \cup \bigcup_{q \in Q_{i+1}} \bigcup_{j \in (c^q, d^q]} T^{\sigma^{v^q}(j) - j} \upharpoonright T^j(D_{i+1, q})$$

are well-defined and as desired.

To obtain further results of this form, we need several preliminaries.

 $\boxtimes$ 

**Proposition 3.13.** Suppose that  $\{1\} \subseteq K \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $K \nsubseteq \{1,2\}$ , X is a Borel space, and  $T: X \to X$  is an aperiodic smooth Borel automorphism. Then there exist  $R, S \in [T]$ , whose orbits all have cardinality in K and for which each possibility occurs infinitely often on every T-orbit, such that  $T = S \circ R$ .

*Proof.* To see that it is sufficient to establish the special case of the proposition where  $X=\mathbb{Z}$  and  $T=\operatorname{Succ}$ , suppose that  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  are permutations of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , whose orbits all have cardinality in K and for which each possibility occurs infinitely often, such that  $\operatorname{Succ}=\sigma\circ\rho$ . Fix a Borel transversal  $B\subseteq X$  of  $E_T^X$  and observe that the functions  $R=\bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}T^{\rho(n)-n}\upharpoonright T^n(B)$  and  $S=\bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}T^{\sigma(n)-n}\upharpoonright T^n(B)$  are as desired.

It remains to establish the special case. For all  $k \geq 2$ , let  $\tau_k$  be the permutation of [0, 2k-2] given by  $\tau_k = (0 \ k \ k+1 \ \cdots \ 2k-2)$ . Then

$$c_{\tau_k}(i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i < k \text{ and} \\ i & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all  $i \in [0, 2k-2)$ . It follows that every  $\tau_k$ -orbit and non-empty  $c_{\tau_k}$ -preimage of a singleton has cardinality 1 or k. Moreover, every possibility occurs with the sole exception that there is no singleton whose  $c_{\tau_k}$ -preimage has cardinality 1 when k=2. Fix an enumeration  $(k_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of  $K\setminus\{1\}$  in which every element of  $K\setminus\{1\}$  appears infinitely often, set  $i_0=1$ , and let  $\sigma_0$  be the trivial permutation of [1,1]. Given  $n\in\mathbb{N},\ i_n>0$ , and a permutation  $\sigma_n$  of  $[1-n,i_n]$ , define  $i_{n+1}=i_n+2k_n-3$  and appeal to Proposition 2.4 to see that the extension

of  $\sigma_n$  to  $[-n,i_{n+1}]$ , given by  $\sigma_{n+1} = (\operatorname{Succ}^{-n} \circ \tau_{k_n} \circ \operatorname{Succ}^n) *_{1-n} \sigma_n$ , is covering and non-crossing. It follows that the function  $\sigma = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \sigma_n$  is Succ-covering and Succ-non-crossing. As it is also periodic, Proposition 2.3 ensures that it is Succ-oriented. A straightforward induction reveals that the cardinality of every  $\sigma$ -orbit and non-empty  $c_{\sigma}$ -preimage of a singleton is in K. To see that every possibility in  $K \setminus \{1\}$  occurs infinitely often, note that  $\sigma_{n+1}$  and  $c_{\sigma_{n+1}}$  have one more such orbit and preimage than  $\sigma_n$  and  $c_{\sigma_n}$  whenever  $k_n = k$ . To see that 1 also occurs infinitely often, note that  $\sigma_{n+1}$  and  $c_{\sigma_{n+1}}$  have one more such orbit and preimage than  $\sigma_n$  and  $c_{\sigma_n}$  whenever  $k_n \geq 3$  (hence the requirement that  $\{1\} \subseteq K$  and  $K \not\subseteq \{1,2\}$ ). Proposition 1.10 therefore implies that  $\sigma$  and  $\rho = \sigma^{-1} \circ \operatorname{Succ}$  are as desired.

**Remark 3.14.** In the special case that K is finite, the proof of Theorem 3 can be modified to show that smoothness can be weakened to separability in the statement of Proposition 3.13.

A partial transversal of an equivalence relation E on a set X is a set  $Y \subseteq X$  that intersects each E-class in at most one point.

**Proposition 3.15.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X. Then there is a Borel transversal  $B \subseteq X$  of  $E_{\Gamma}^X$  if and only if there is a cover  $(B_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of X by Borel partial transversals of  $E_{\Gamma}^X$ .

Proof. If  $B \subseteq X$  is a Borel transversal of  $E_{\Gamma}^X$ , then  $(\gamma B)_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is a cover of X by Borel transversals of  $E_{\Gamma}^X$ . Conversely, if there is a cover of X by countably-many Borel partial transversals of  $E_{\Gamma}^X$ , then  $E_{\Gamma}^X$  is separable and the graph  $G = E_{\Gamma}^X \setminus \Delta(X)$  has a Borel  $\mathbb{N}$ -coloring. As  $G = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \upharpoonright \operatorname{supp}(\gamma))$ , Proposition 1.8 ensures that it is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable, so Proposition 1.15 yields a Borel transversal of  $E_{\Gamma}^X$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

A countable group  $\Gamma$  of Borel automorphisms of a Borel space X is smooth if  $E_{\Gamma}^{X}$  admits a Borel transversal.

**Proposition 3.16.** Suppose that  $k \leq \aleph_0$ , X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a smooth countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and  $B \subseteq X$  is a Borel set whose intersection with each  $\Gamma$ -orbit has cardinality k. Then there is a partition of B into k Borel transversals of  $E_{\Gamma}^X \upharpoonright B$ .

*Proof.* We first handle the case that k is finite. By the pigeonhole principle, it is sufficient to recursively construct a sequence  $(B_n)_{n < k}$  of pairwise disjoint Borel transversals of  $E_{\Gamma}^X \upharpoonright B$ . Suppose that n < k and we have already found  $(B_m)_{m < n}$ . Then Proposition 3.15 ensures that the graph  $G_n = (E_{\Gamma}^X \setminus \Delta(X)) \cap ((B \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} B_m) \times (B \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} B_m)$ 

has a Borel N-coloring. As

 $G_n = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \upharpoonright \operatorname{supp}(\gamma)) \cap ((B \setminus \bigcup_{m \le n} B_m) \times (B \setminus \bigcup_{m \le n} B_m)),$ 

Proposition 1.8 implies that it is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. Proposition 1.15 therefore yields a Borel maximal  $G_n$ -independent set  $B'_n \subseteq X$ , so the set  $B_n = B'_n \cap (B \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} B_m)$  is a Borel transversal of  $E_{\Gamma}^X \upharpoonright B$ , which completes the recursive construction.

In order to handle the case that k is infinite, extra care must be taken to ensure that the resulting transversals cover X, since the pigeonhole principle no longer suffices to yield this conclusion. We nevertheless proceed in essentially the same fashion, but first appeal to Proposition 3.15 to obtain a cover  $(A_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of B by Borel partial transversals of  $E_{\Gamma}^X \upharpoonright B$ , and require that  $A_n \subseteq B_n'$  when applying Proposition 1.15 in the recursive construction, which ensures that  $\bigcup_{m\leq n} A_m \subseteq \bigcup_{m\leq n} B_m$ . In particular, it follows that  $\bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} A_n \subseteq \bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} B_n$ , so the fact that  $B = \bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} A_n$  implies that  $B = \bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} B_n$ .

**Proposition 3.17.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a smooth countable group of Borel automorphisms of X,  $A, B \subseteq X$  are Borel, and  $|A \cap \Gamma x| = |B \cap \Gamma x|$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then there is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable bijection  $\pi \colon A \to B$ .

Proof. Proposition 1.9 ensures that, by partitioning X into countablymany Γ-invariant Borel sets, we can assume that there exists  $k \leq \aleph_0$ such that  $|A \cap \Gamma x| = |B \cap \Gamma x| = k$  for all  $x \in X$ . Proposition 3.16 then yields partitions  $(A_n)_{n < k}$  and  $(B_n)_{n < k}$  of A and B into Borel transversals of  $E_\Gamma^X$ , so the function  $\pi = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma \upharpoonright (\bigcup_{n < k} A_n \cap \gamma^{-1} B_n)$  is as desired.

For each  $k \leq \aleph_0$ , the *period* k *part* of a bijection  $T: X \to X$  is given by  $\operatorname{Per}_k(T) = \{x \in X \mid |[x]_T| = k\}.$ 

**Proposition 3.18.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a smooth countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and  $S, T \in [\Gamma]$  have the property that  $|(\operatorname{Per}_k(S) \cap \Gamma x)/E_S^X| = |(\operatorname{Per}_k(T) \cap \Gamma x)/E_T^X|$  for all  $1 \le k \le \aleph_0$  and  $x \in X$ . Then S is conjugate to T in  $[\Gamma]$ .

Proof. By Proposition 3.15, there are Borel transversals  $A \subseteq X$  and  $B \subseteq X$  of  $E_S^X$  and  $E_T^X$ . For all  $1 \le k \le \aleph_0$ , define  $A_k = A \cap \operatorname{Per}_k(S)$  and  $B_k = B \cap \operatorname{Per}_k(T)$ , appeal to Proposition 3.17 to obtain a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable bijection  $\pi_k \colon A_k \to B_k$ , and set  $\phi_k = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^n \circ \pi_k \circ S^{-n}$ . Then the function  $\phi = \bigcup_{1 \le k \le \aleph_0} \phi_k$  is as desired.

For each equivalence relation E on a set X and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $[X]_E^n$  denote the family of all sets  $S \in [X]^n$  such that  $S \times S \subseteq E$ , and define

 $[X]^{<\aleph_0} = \bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} [X]^n$  and  $[X]_E^{<\aleph_0} = \bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} [X]_E^n$ . Given a countable group  $\Gamma$  of permutations of a set X and a set  $Y\subseteq X$ , let  $[Y]_\Gamma^n$  and  $[Y]_\Gamma^{<\aleph_0}$  denote  $[Y]_{E_\Gamma^X|Y}^n$  and  $[Y]_{E_\Gamma^X|Y}^{<\aleph_0}$ . When X is a Borel space and  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, we say that a family  $S\subseteq [X]_\Gamma^{<\aleph_0}$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable if there is a sequence  $(B_\Delta)_{\Delta\in[\Gamma]^{<\aleph_0}}$  of Borel subsets of X with the property that  $S=\bigcup_{\Delta\in[\Gamma]^{<\aleph_0}} \{\Delta x\mid x\in B_\Delta\}$ .

**Proposition 3.19.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X,  $B \subseteq X$  is Borel, and F is a finite subequivalence relation of  $E_{\Gamma}^{X} \upharpoonright B$  for which B/F is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. Then F is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable.

*Proof.* Fix Borel sets  $B_{\Delta} \subseteq X$  with  $B/F = \bigcup_{\Delta \in [\Gamma]^{<\aleph_0}} \{\Delta x \mid x \in B_{\Delta}\}.$  Then  $F = \bigcup_{\Delta \in [\Gamma]^{<\aleph_0}} \bigcup_{\gamma,\delta \in \Delta} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \delta^{-1} \upharpoonright \delta B_{\Delta}).$ 

**Proposition 3.20.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of separable Borel automorphisms of X, and  $S \subseteq [X]_{\Gamma}^{<\aleph_0}$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. Then there is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable maximal family  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq S$  of pairwise disjoint sets.

Proof. Fix Borel sets  $B_{\Delta} \subseteq X$  for which  $S = \bigcup_{\Delta \in [\Gamma]^{<\aleph_0}} \{\Delta x \mid x \in B_{\Delta}\}$ . For all  $\Delta \in [\Gamma]^{<\aleph_0}$ , let  $G_{\Delta}$  be the graph on X with respect to which x and y are neighbors if and only if  $x \neq y$ ,  $x, y \in B_{\Delta}$ , and  $\Delta x \cap \Delta y \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $G_{\Delta} = \bigcup_{\gamma, \delta \in \Delta} \operatorname{graph}(\delta^{-1}\gamma) \upharpoonright (B_{\Delta} \cap \gamma^{-1}\delta B_{\Delta} \cap \operatorname{supp}(\delta^{-1}\gamma))$ , so Proposition 1.8 ensures that  $G_{\Delta}$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. As  $G_{\Delta}$  has finite vertical sections, Proposition 1.14 yields a Borel  $\mathbb{N}$ -coloring of  $G_{\Delta}$ . Fix an enumeration  $(\Delta_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $[\Gamma]^{<\aleph_0}$ .

We will recursively find Borel sets  $B_n \subseteq B_{\Delta_n}$  for which the sets in the family  $\mathcal{R}_n = \bigcup_{m < n} \{\Delta_m x \mid x \in B_m\}$  are pairwise disjoint. Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which we have already found  $(B_m)_{m < n}$ , define

$$C_n = \{ x \in B_{\Delta_n} \mid \Delta_n x \cap \bigcup \mathcal{R}_n = \emptyset \}$$
  
=  $B_{\Delta_n} \setminus \bigcup_{m \le n} \bigcup_{\delta_m \in \Delta_m} \bigcup_{\delta_n \in \Delta_n} \delta_n^{-1} \delta_m B_m.$ 

Then the graph  $G_n = G_{\Delta_n} \cap (C_n \times C_n)$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable, so Proposition 1.15 yields a Borel maximal  $G_n$ -independent set  $D_n \subseteq X$ . Define  $B_n = C_n \cap D_n$  and observe that the sets in the corresponding family  $\mathcal{R}_{n+1}$  are pairwise disjoint, which completes the recursive construction.

Note that the sets in the family  $\mathcal{R}_{\infty} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{R}_n$  are pairwise disjoint. To see that it is a maximal family of pairwise disjoint sets in  $\mathcal{S}$ , suppose that  $S \in \mathcal{S}$ , fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in B_{\Delta_n}$  for which  $S = \Delta_n x$ , and observe that if  $S \cap \bigcup \mathcal{R}_n = \emptyset$ , then  $x \in C_n$ , so there exists  $y \in C_n \cap D_n$  for which  $\Delta_n x \cap \Delta_n y \neq \emptyset$ , thus  $S \cap \bigcup \mathcal{R}_{n+1} \neq \emptyset$ .

**Proposition 3.21.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X whose supports are Borel, R is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable binary relation on X, and  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$ . Then the corresponding set  $B = \{x \in X \mid \gamma \cdot x \ R \ \delta \cdot x\}$  is Borel.

*Proof.* Fix Borel sets  $B_{\lambda} \subseteq X$  for which  $R = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\lambda \upharpoonright B_{\lambda})$  and observe that  $B = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Gamma} \{x \in X \mid \gamma \cdot x \in B_{\lambda} \text{ and } \lambda \gamma \cdot x = \delta \cdot x\} = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Gamma} \gamma^{-1} B_{\lambda} \setminus \text{supp}(\delta^{-1} \lambda \gamma).$ 

**Proposition 3.22.** Suppose that  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X whose supports are Borel,  $B \subseteq X$  is Borel, and G is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable graph on X. Then the set  $S = \{S \in [B]^k_{\Gamma} \mid S \text{ is } G\text{-independent}\}$  is  $\Gamma\text{-decomposable}$ .

*Proof.* For all  $\Delta \in [\Gamma]^k$ , define

 $B_{\Delta} = \{ x \in X \mid \forall \delta \in \Delta \ \delta \cdot x \in B \text{ and }$ 

$$\forall \delta \in \Delta \forall \gamma \in \Delta \setminus \{\delta\} \ (\gamma \cdot x \neq \delta \cdot x \text{ and } \neg \gamma \cdot x \ G \ \delta \cdot x)\}$$

$$= \bigcap_{\delta \in \Delta} \delta^{-1} B \cap \bigcap_{\delta \in \Delta} \bigcap_{\gamma \in \Delta \setminus \{\delta\}} \{ x \in \operatorname{supp}(\delta^{-1} \gamma) \mid \neg \gamma \cdot x \ G \ \delta \cdot x \}.$$

Then  $S = \bigcup_{\Delta \in [\Gamma]^k} \{ \Delta x \mid x \in B_{\Delta} \}$ , so Proposition 3.21 ensures that it is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable.

**Proposition 3.23.** Suppose that  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of separable Borel automorphisms of X,  $B \subseteq X$  is a Borel set whose intersection with each  $\Gamma$ -orbit is infinite, and G is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable graph on X whose vertical sections are finite. Then there is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable equivalence relation F on B whose classes are G-independent and have cardinality k.

*Proof.* We first establish the special case where  $\Gamma$  is smooth. Fix enumerations  $(\gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of  $\Gamma$  and  $(\Delta_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of  $[\Gamma]^k$ . For all  $s\in\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ , Propositions 1.8 and 3.21 ensure that the set  $A_s$  of  $x \in X$  such that

- $(1) \ \forall i < |s| \forall \delta \in \Delta_{s(i)} \ \delta \cdot x \in B,$
- (2)  $\forall i < |s| \forall \delta \in \Delta_{s(i)} \forall \gamma \in \Delta_{s(i)} \setminus \{\delta\} \ (\gamma \cdot x \neq \delta \cdot x \text{ and } \neg \gamma \cdot x \ G \ \delta \cdot x),$ (3)  $\forall i < |s| \ (\gamma_i \cdot x \in B \implies \exists j < |s| \ \gamma_i \cdot x \in \Delta_{s(j)} x), \text{ and}$
- (4)  $\forall i < j < |s| \Delta_{s(i)} x \cap \Delta_{s(j)} x = \emptyset$

is Borel. Fix a Borel transversal  $B_{\emptyset} \subseteq X$  of  $E_{\Gamma}^X$  and recursively define  $B_{s \cap (n)} = (A_{s \cap (n)} \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} A_{s \cap (m)}) \cap B_s$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $s \in \mathbb{N}^{< \mathbb{N}}$ . Then the family  $S = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{s \in \mathbb{N}^{n+1}} \{\Delta_{s(n)} x \mid x \in B_s\}$  partitions X and Proposition 3.19 ensures that the equivalence relation F on X, given by  $X/F = \mathcal{S}$ , is as desired.

To establish the general case, appeal to Propositions 3.20 and 3.22 to obtain a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable maximal family  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq [X]^k_{\Gamma}$  of pairwise disjoint

G-independent subsets of B of cardinality k. Then the Borel set  $B = \sim \bigcup S$  intersects every  $\Gamma$ -orbit in a finite set, so Proposition 1.16 ensures that  $E_{\Gamma}^{X} \upharpoonright \Gamma B$  is smooth. By the previous paragraph, we can therefore assume that  $X = \bigcup S$ , in which case Proposition 3.19 implies that the equivalence relation F on X, given by X/F = S, is as desired.

**Proposition 3.24.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $T: X \to X$  is a separable Borel automorphism of a Borel space whose orbits all have finite odd cardinality. Then there are involutions  $I_1, I_2 \in [T]$ , conjugate in [T], such that  $T = I_2 \circ I_1$ .

*Proof.* As Proposition 1.16 ensures that T is smooth, Remark 1.6 yields involutions  $I_1, I_2 \in [T]$ , each having exactly one fixed point on every T-orbit, such that  $T = I_2 \circ I_1$ . But Proposition 3.17 implies that  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are conjugate in [T].

For each set K of countable cardinals, the *period* K *part* of a bijection  $T: X \to X$  is given by  $\operatorname{Per}_K(T) = \bigcup_{k \in K} \operatorname{Per}_k(T)$ . We can now give the following:

Proof of Theorem 5. We first handle the special case of the proposition where  $\Gamma x \cap \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}}(T)$  is finite but non-empty for all  $x \in X$ , in which case Proposition 1.16 ensures that  $\Gamma$  is smooth. We will consider three subcases; the desired special case will then follow from Proposition 1.9, since it ensures that X can be partitioned into three  $\Gamma$ -invariant Borel sets, each falling into at least one of these cases.

Suppose first that  $\Gamma x \setminus \operatorname{supp}(T)$  is infinite for all  $x \in X$ , appeal to Proposition 3.16 to obtain a partition  $(B_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $\sim \operatorname{supp}(T)$  into Borel transversals of  $E_{\Gamma}^X \upharpoonright \sim \operatorname{supp}(T)$ , fix an involution  $\iota$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  whose support is infinite and co-infinite, and define  $I = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \gamma \upharpoonright (B_n \cap \gamma^{-1} B_{\iota(n)})$ . As Proposition 3.15 ensures that  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{supp}(T)$  is smooth, Proposition 1.1 yields involutions  $I_1, I_2 \in [T \upharpoonright \operatorname{supp}(T)]$  with the property that  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{supp}(T) = I_2 \circ I_1$ , in which case Proposition 3.18 implies that the involutions  $S_k = I \cup I_k$ , for  $1 \le k \le 2$ , are as desired.

Suppose next that  $\Gamma x \cap \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}+3}(T)$  is infinite for all  $x \in X$ . As Proposition 3.15 ensures that T is smooth, Remark 1.6 yields involutions  $I_1, I_2 \in [T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}+3}(T)]$ , each having exactly one fixed point on every  $(T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}+3}(T))$ -orbit, for which  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}+3}(T) = I_2 \circ I_1$ , and Proposition 1.1 yields involutions  $J_1, J_2 \in [T \upharpoonright \sim \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}+3}(T)]$  for which  $T \upharpoonright \sim \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}+3}(T) = J_2 \circ J_1$ , in which case Proposition 3.18 implies that the involutions  $S_k = I_k \cup J_k$ , for  $1 \le k \le 2$ , are as desired.

Suppose finally that the aperiodic part of T, given by  $Aper(T) = \sim Per(T)$ , is  $\Gamma$ -complete. As Proposition 3.15 ensures that  $T \upharpoonright Aper(T)$ 

is smooth, it follows from Proposition 3.13 that there are automorphisms  $R_1, R_2 \in [T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Aper}(T)]$ , whose orbits are all of cardinality 1, 2, or n and for which each possibility occurs infinitely often on every orbit of  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Aper}(T)$ , with the property that  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Aper}(T) = R_2 \circ R_1$ . As Proposition 3.15 also ensures that  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}(T)$  is smooth, Proposition 1.1 yields involutions  $I_1, I_2 \in [T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}(T)]$  for which  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}(T) = I_2 \circ I_1$ , in which case Proposition 3.18 implies that the automorphisms  $S_k = I_k \cup R_k$ , for  $1 \le k \le 2$ , are as desired.

We now consider the general case. As Proposition 1.9 ensures that  $\{x \in X \mid \Gamma x \cap \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}}(T) \text{ is finite but non-empty} \}$  is Borel, by throwing out this set, we can assume that  $\Gamma x \cap \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}}(T)$  is empty or infinite for all  $x \in X$ . As Theorem 4 yields the case that T is aperiodic and Proposition 3.24 yields the case that every T-orbit has finite odd cardinality even without the assumption that  $\Gamma$  is aperiodic, Proposition 1.9 allows us to assume that  $X = \operatorname{Per}_{2\mathbb{N}}(T)$ .

Appeal to Proposition 1.16 to obtain a Borel transversal  $B \subseteq X$  of T. By Proposition 3.23, there is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable equivalence relation F on B whose classes are all of cardinality 2. As the involution H generating F is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable and therefore Borel, another application of Proposition 1.16 yields a Borel transversal  $A \subseteq B$  of F. By Remark 1.6, there are involutions  $I_1, I_2 \in [T \upharpoonright [A]_T]$  with the property that  $I_2$  has exactly two fixed points on every orbit of  $T \upharpoonright [A]_T$ ,  $I_1$  has no fixed points, and  $T \upharpoonright [A]_T = I_2 \circ I_1$ , as well as involutions  $I_1, I_2 \in [T \upharpoonright [B \setminus A]_T]$  such that  $I_2$  has no fixed points,  $I_1$  has exactly two fixed points on every orbit of  $I \upharpoonright [A]_T$ , and  $I \upharpoonright [A]_T = I_2 \circ I_1$ . As the group  $I_1$  generated by  $I_2$  and  $I_3$  is smooth, Proposition 3.18 implies that the involutions  $I_1$  are  $I_2$  are as desired.  $I_2$ 

## 4. Normal closures

We begin this section with a variant of Proposition 3.18:

**Proposition 4.1.** Suppose that X and Y are standard Borel spaces and  $S: X \to X$  and  $T: Y \to Y$  are smooth Borel automorphisms with the property that  $|\operatorname{Per}_k(S)/E_S^X| = |\operatorname{Per}_k(T)/E_T^Y|$  for all  $1 \le k \le \aleph_0$ . Then S and T are Borel isomorphic.

Proof. Fix Borel transversals  $A \subseteq X$  and  $B \subseteq Y$  of S and T. For all  $1 \le k \le \aleph_0$ , appeal to Proposition 1.9 and the isomorphism theorem for Borel subsets of standard Borel spaces (see, for example, [Kec95, Corollary 13.4 and Theorem 15.6]) to obtain a Borel isomorphism  $\pi_k \colon A \cap \operatorname{Per}_k(S) \to B \cap \operatorname{Per}_k(T)$ , and define  $\phi_k = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^n \circ \pi_k \circ S^{-n}$ . Then the function  $\phi = \bigcup_{1 \le k < \aleph_0} \phi_k$  is as desired.

The *commutator* of g and h is given by  $[g, h] = ghg^{-1}h^{-1}$ .

**Proposition 4.2.** Suppose that X is a standard Borel space,  $\{1\} \subseteq K \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$ , and  $T: X \to X$  is a Borel automorphism whose support is uncountable. Then there is a Borel automorphism  $S: X \to X$  for which the cardinalities of the orbits of [S,T] are in K and each possibility occurs uncountably often.

Proof. By Proposition 1.15, there is a T-independent Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  that intersects every non-trivial T-orbit. As B is uncountable, the isomorphism theorem for Borel subsets of standard Borel spaces ensures that it is Borel isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R} \times K$ , so there is a partition  $(B_k)_{k \in K}$  of B into uncountable Borel sets. As the isomorphism theorem for Borel subsets of standard Borel spaces (or the fact that  $\mathbb{R}$  is Borel isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R} \times k$ ) also implies that each  $B_k$  is Borel isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R} \times k$ , there is a Borel automorphism  $S_k \colon B_k \to B_k$  whose orbits have cardinality k for all  $k \in K$ . Define  $S = (\bigcup_{k \in K} S_k) \cup (\mathrm{id}_{\sim B})$ . If  $k \in K$ , then

$$\begin{split} (S \circ T \circ S^{-1} \circ T^{-1}) \upharpoonright B_k &= S \circ T \circ (S^{-1} \upharpoonright T^{-1}(B_k)) \circ T^{-1} \\ &= S \circ T \circ (\operatorname{id}_{T^{-1}(B_k)}) \circ T^{-1} \\ &= (S \circ T \circ \operatorname{id} \circ T^{-1}) \upharpoonright B_k \\ &= S \upharpoonright B_k \\ &= S_k \end{split}$$

and

$$(S \circ T \circ S^{-1} \circ T^{-1}) \upharpoonright T(B_k) = S \circ T \circ (S^{-1} \upharpoonright B_k) \circ T^{-1}$$

$$= (S \upharpoonright T(B_k)) \circ T \circ S_k^{-1} \circ T^{-1}$$

$$= (\mathrm{id}_{T(B_k)}) \circ T \circ S_k^{-1} \circ T^{-1}$$

$$= T \circ S_k^{-1} \circ T^{-1},$$

so 
$$|[x]_{[S,T]}| = k$$
 for all  $x \in B_k \cup T(B_k)$ . But
$$(S \circ T \circ S^{-1} \circ T^{-1}) \upharpoonright \sim (B \cup T(B))$$

$$= S \circ T \circ (S^{-1} \upharpoonright \sim (T^{-1}(B) \cup B)) \circ T^{-1}$$

$$= S \circ T \circ (\operatorname{id}_{\sim (T^{-1}(B) \cup B)}) \circ T^{-1}$$

$$= (S \circ T \circ \operatorname{id} \circ T^{-1}) \upharpoonright \sim (B \cup T(B))$$

$$= S \upharpoonright \sim (B \cup T(B))$$

$$= \operatorname{id}_{\sim (B \cup T(B))},$$

so  $|[x]_{[S,T]}| = 1$  for all  $x \in \sim (B \cup T(B))$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** Suppose that X is an uncountable standard Borel space and  $T: X \to X$  is a smooth Borel automorphism. Then there are Borel involutions  $I, J: X \to X$ , with uncountable co-uncountable supports, for which  $T = I \circ J$ .

*Proof.* We first handle the special case that  $T=\mathrm{id}$ . As the isomorphism theorem for standard Borel spaces ensures that X is Borel isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}\times 2$ , there is an uncountable co-uncountable Borel set  $A\subseteq X$ . As the isomorphism theorem for Borel subsets of standard Borel spaces (or the fact that  $\mathbb{R}$  is Borel isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}\times 2$ ) also implies that A is Borel isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}\times 2$ , there is an uncountable Borel set  $B\subseteq A$  for which there is a Borel isomorphism  $\pi\colon B\to A\setminus B$ , in which case the functions  $I=J=\pi^{\pm 1}\cup\mathrm{id}_{\sim A}$  are as desired.

We next handle the special case that T has no fixed points. Fix a Borel transversal  $A \subseteq X$  of T. As A is uncountable, the isomorphism theorem for Borel subsets of standard Borel spaces ensures that A is Borel isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R} \times 2$ , so there is an uncountable Borel set  $B \subseteq A$  with the property that  $A \setminus B$  is also uncountable. Set  $C = [B]_T$  and appeal to Remark 1.6 to obtain Borel involutions  $I', J' \in [T \upharpoonright C]$  for which I' has a fixed point on every orbit of  $T \upharpoonright C$  and  $T \upharpoonright C = I' \circ J'$ , as well as Borel involutions  $I'', J'' \in [T \upharpoonright C]$  for which J'' has a fixed point on every orbit of  $T \upharpoonright C$  and  $T \upharpoonright C = I'' \circ J''$ . Then the functions  $I = I' \cup I''$  and  $J = J' \cup J''$  are as desired.

We now handle the general case. Fix  $1 \leq k \leq \aleph_0$  for which  $\operatorname{Per}_k(T)$  is uncountable. As Proposition 1.9 ensures that this set is Borel, and therefore standard Borel by  $[\operatorname{Kec95}, \operatorname{Corollary} 13.4]$ , the special cases yield Borel involutions  $I', J' \colon \operatorname{Per}_k(T) \to \operatorname{Per}_k(T)$ , with uncountable councountable supports, for which  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}_k(T) = I' \circ J'$ . By Proposition 1.1, there are Borel involutions  $I'', J'' \colon \operatorname{Per}_k(T) \to \operatorname{Per}_k(T)$  with the property that  $T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}_k(T) = I'' \circ J''$ . But then the functions  $I = I' \cup I''$  and  $J = J' \cup J''$  are as desired.

**Proposition 4.4.** Suppose that X is a standard Borel space,  $\{1,2\} \subsetneq K \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$ , and  $T: X \to X$  is a non-smooth Borel automorphism. Then there exist  $R, S \in [T]$ , whose orbits all have cardinality in K and for which each possibility occurs uncountably often, such that  $T = R \circ S$ .

*Proof.* As Proposition 1.9 ensures that Per(T) is Borel and Proposition 1.16 implies that  $T \upharpoonright Per(T)$  is smooth, Proposition 1.1 yields Borel involutions  $I', J' \in [T \upharpoonright Per(T)]$  for which  $T \upharpoonright Per(T) = I' \circ J'$ . By Silver's perfect set theorem (see, for example, [Sil80], although the special case we need is far simpler to prove), there is an uncountable T-invariant Borel set  $B \subseteq Aper(T)$  for which  $T \upharpoonright B$  is smooth. By Proposition 3.13, there exist  $R'', S'' \in [T \upharpoonright B]$ , whose orbits all have

cardinality in K and for which each possibility occurs on every orbit of  $T \upharpoonright B$ , such that  $T \upharpoonright B = R'' \circ S''$ . Fix  $k \in K \setminus \{1,2\}$ , and appeal to Theorem 3 to obtain  $R''', S''' \in [T \upharpoonright (\operatorname{Aper}(T) \setminus B)]$ , whose orbits all have cardinality 1 or k, such that  $T \upharpoonright (\operatorname{Aper}(T) \setminus B) = R''' \circ S'''$ . Then the functions  $R = I' \cup R'' \cup R'''$  and  $S = J' \cup S'' \cup S'''$  are as desired.  $\boxtimes$ 

**Remark 4.5.** In the special case that K is finite, the need for Silver's theorem can be eliminated by replacing the use of Proposition 3.13 with that of Remark 3.14.

We can now give the following:

Proof of Theorem 6. Note first that if  $I: X \to X$  is a Borel automorphism for which there is a Borel automorphism  $R: X \to X$  such that I is Borel isomorphic to [R, T] as witnessed by  $P: X \to X$ , then

$$\begin{split} I &= P^{-1} \circ [R,T] \circ P \\ &= P^{-1} \circ R \circ T \circ R^{-1} \circ T^{-1} \circ P \\ &= (P^{-1} \circ R \circ T \circ R^{-1} \circ P) \circ (P^{-1} \circ T^{-1} \circ P), \end{split}$$

so I is a composition of two conjugates of  $T^{\pm 1}$ . In particular, it is sufficient to show that S is a composition of two such automorphisms.

We first handle the case that S is smooth. By Proposition 4.2, there is a Borel automorphism  $R\colon X\to X$  for which [R,T] is an involution with uncountable co-uncountable support. By Proposition 4.3, there are Borel involutions  $I,J\colon X\to X$ , with uncountable co-uncountable supports, for which  $S=I\circ J$ . But Proposition 4.1 ensures that I,J, and [R,T] are Borel isomorphic.

We now consider the case that S is not smooth. By Proposition 4.2, there is a Borel automorphism  $R: X \to X$  for which every orbit of [R, T] has cardinality 1, 2, or 3, and each possibility occurs uncountably often. By Proposition 4.4, there are Borel automorphisms  $I, J: X \to X$ , whose orbits all have cardinality 1, 2, or 3 and for which each possibility occurs uncountably often, such that  $S = I \circ J$ . But Proposition 4.1 ensures that I, J, and [R, T] are Borel isomorphic.  $\boxtimes$ 

## 5. Bergman's property

The saturation of a set  $Y \subseteq X$  with respect to an equivalence relation E on X is given by  $[Y]_E = \{x \in X \mid \exists y \in Y \ x \ E \ y\}.$ 

**Proposition 5.1.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $T: X \to X$  is a Borel automorphism whose orbits all have the same cardinality, and E is a T-decomposable equivalence relation on X. Then there exists  $S \in [T]$  for which  $E = E_S^X$ .

Proof. Fix Borel sets  $B_n \subseteq X$  such that  $E = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \operatorname{graph}(T^n \upharpoonright B_n)$ . Suppose first that every T-orbit has cardinality  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . For all  $1 \leq j \leq k$ , define  $A_j = \bigcup_{i \in j+k\mathbb{Z}} B_i$ . Then the function  $S \colon X \to X$ , given by  $S = \bigcup_{1 \leq j \leq k} T^j \upharpoonright (A_j \setminus \bigcup_{1 \leq i < j} A_i)$ , is as desired. So we can assume that T is aperiodic.

For all  $N \in [\mathbb{N}]^{<\aleph_0}$ , fix a transitive permutation  $\sigma_N$  of N and define  $B_N = (\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n) \setminus (\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \mathbb{N}} B_n)$ . Then the map  $S_N \colon [B_N]_E \to [B_N]_E$ , given by  $S_N = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} T^{\sigma_N(n)-n} \upharpoonright T^n(B_N)$ , generates  $E \upharpoonright [B_N]_E$ , so the function  $S_{<\infty} = \bigcup_{N \in [\mathbb{N}]^{<\aleph_0}} S_N$  generates  $E \upharpoonright \bigcup_{N \in [\mathbb{N}]^{<\aleph_0}} [B_N]_E$ .

Fix a transitive permutation  $\sigma$  of  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ . For all  $N \in [\mathbb{N}]^{<\aleph_0}$ , define

$$B_N^- = \left(\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n \setminus \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \mathbb{N}} B_n\right) \cap \left(\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{m \ge n} B_{-m}\right)$$
and

$$B_N^+ = (\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_{-n} \setminus \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \mathbb{N}} B_{-n}) \cap (\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{m \geq n} B_m).$$

For all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $* \in \{-, +\}$ , set  $B_k^* = \bigcup_{N \in [\mathbb{N}]^k} B_N^*$  and define  $S_k^* \colon B_k^* \to B_{\sigma(k)}^*$  by  $S_k^* = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} T^n \upharpoonright (B_k^* \cap T^{-n}(B_{\sigma(k)}^*))$ . Then the function  $S^* = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^+} S_k^*$  generates  $E \upharpoonright \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^+} B_k^*$  for all  $* \in \{-, +\}$ .

Set  $B_{\mathbb{Z}} = (\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{m \geq n} B_{-m}) \cap (\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{m \geq n} B_{m})$  and note that the map  $S_{\mathbb{Z}} \colon B_{\mathbb{Z}} \to B_{\mathbb{Z}}$ , given by  $S_{\mathbb{Z}} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^{+}} T^{n} \upharpoonright (B_{\mathbb{Z}} \cap (B_{n} \setminus \bigcup_{1 \leq m < n} B_{m}))$ , generates  $E \upharpoonright B_{\mathbb{Z}}$ , so the map  $S = S_{<\infty} \cup S^{-} \cup S^{+} \cup S_{\mathbb{Z}}$  is as desired.  $\boxtimes$ 

In the special case where T is separable, the hypothesis on the cardinalities of the T-orbits is unnecessary:

**Proposition 5.2.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $T: X \to X$  is a Borel automorphism of X whose powers have Borel supports, and E is a T-decomposable equivalence relation on X. Then there exists  $S \in [T]$  for which  $E = E_S^X$ .

Proof. By Propositions 1.8 and 5.1, there exists  $S_k \in [T \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}_k(T)]$  such that  $E \upharpoonright \operatorname{Per}_k(T) = E_{S_k}^{\operatorname{Per}_k(T)}$  for all  $1 \leq k \leq \aleph_0$ . Then the function  $S = \bigcup_{1 \leq k \leq \aleph_0} S_k$  is as desired.

To extend this result further, we need one more basic observation:

**Proposition 5.3.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X whose supports are Borel,  $\Delta$  is a countable subgroup of  $\Gamma$ , and R is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable binary relation on X. Then  $E_{\Delta}^{X} \cap R$  is  $\Delta$ -decomposable.

*Proof.* By Proposition 3.21, the set  $B_{\delta} = \{x \in X \mid x \ R \ \delta \cdot x\}$  is Borel for all  $\delta \in \Delta$ . But  $E_{\Delta}^{X} \cap R = \bigcup_{\delta \in \Delta} \operatorname{graph}(\delta \upharpoonright B_{\delta})$ .

Finally, we have the following:

**Proposition 5.4.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X whose supports are Borel, and E is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable equivalence relation on X. Then there exists  $\Delta \leq [\Gamma]$  for which  $E = E_{\Delta}^{X}$ .

*Proof.* For all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , Proposition 5.3 ensures that  $E \cap E_{\gamma}^{X}$  is  $\gamma$ -decomposable, so Proposition 5.2 yields  $T_{\gamma} \in [\gamma]$  for which  $E \cap E_{\gamma}^{X} = E_{T_{\gamma}}^{X}$ . Then the group  $\Delta$  generated by  $\{T_{\gamma} \mid \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  is as desired.

**Proposition 5.5.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of separable Borel automorphisms of X,  $Y \subseteq X$  is  $\Gamma$ -invariant, and  $T \in [\Gamma \upharpoonright Y]$ . Then there exists  $S \in [\Gamma]$  such that  $S \upharpoonright Y = T$ .

*Proof.* Fix Borel sets  $B_{\gamma} \subseteq X$  such that  $T = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma \upharpoonright (B_{\gamma} \cap Y)$ . We can clearly assume that the sets  $B_{\gamma}$  are pairwise disjoint. Then the  $\Gamma$ -invariant set

$$B = \{x \in X \mid (B_{\gamma} \cap \Gamma x)_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \text{ and } (\gamma B_{\gamma} \cap \Gamma x)_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \text{ both partition } \Gamma x\}$$

$$= \{x \in X \mid \forall \gamma \in \Gamma \forall i < 2 \exists \delta \in \Delta \ \gamma \cdot x \in \delta^{i} B_{\delta} \setminus \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Gamma \setminus \{\delta\}} \lambda^{i} B_{\lambda}\}$$

$$= \bigcap_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bigcap_{i < 2} \bigcup_{\delta \in \Gamma} \gamma^{-1} (\delta^{i} B_{\delta} \setminus \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Gamma \setminus \{\delta\}} \lambda^{i} B_{\lambda})$$

is Borel and the function  $S = \mathrm{id}_{\sim B} \cup \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma \upharpoonright (B \cap B_{\gamma})$  is the desired extension of T to an element of  $[\Gamma]$ .

Given a countable group  $\Gamma$  of Borel automorphisms of a Borel space X, we say that a set  $Y \subseteq X$  is  $\Gamma$ -large if there is a finite set  $\Delta \subseteq [\Gamma]$  for which  $X = \Delta Y$ .

**Proposition 5.6.** Suppose that X is a Borel space and  $\Gamma$  is an aperiodic countable group of separable Borel automorphisms of X. Then there is a sequence  $(B_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of pairwise disjoint  $\Gamma$ -large Borel subsets of X.

Proof. It is sufficient to show that every Γ-large Borel set  $A \subseteq X$  can be partitioned into two Γ-large Borel subsets. Towards this end, note that  $|A \cap \Gamma x| = \aleph_0$  for all  $x \in X$ , so Proposition 3.23 yields a Γ-decomposable equivalence relation F on A whose classes have cardinality 2. As the involution I generating F is Γ-decomposable and therefore Borel, Proposition 1.16 yields a Borel transversal  $B \subseteq A$  of F. Set  $C = A \setminus B$ . As  $I \cup \mathrm{id}_{\sim A} \in [\Gamma]$ , the fact that  $A = B \cup C = B \cup I(B) = C \cup I(C)$  implies that B and C are Γ-large.

For all sets  $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$  and  $Y \subseteq X$ , define  $\Delta_{\{Y\}} = \{\delta \in \Delta \mid Y = \delta Y\}$  and  $\Delta \upharpoonright Y = \{\delta \upharpoonright Y \mid \delta \in \Delta\}$ .

**Proposition 5.7.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a group of separable Borel automorphisms of X that is closed under countable decomposition,  $\Delta$  is an aperiodic countable subgroup of  $\Gamma$ , and  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is an exhaustive increasing sequence of subsets of  $\Gamma$ . Then there exist a  $\Delta$ -large Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $\Gamma_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq \Gamma_n \upharpoonright B$  and  $[\Delta]_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq (\Gamma_n \cap [\Delta]) \upharpoonright B$ .

Proof. Appeal to Proposition 5.6 to obtain a sequence  $(B_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of pairwise disjoint  $\Delta$ -large Borel subsets of X. It is sufficient to show that if  $\Lambda$  is a subgroup of  $\Gamma$  containing  $\Delta$  that is closed under countable decomposition, then  $\Lambda_{\{B_n\}} \upharpoonright B_n \subseteq (\Gamma_n \cap \Lambda) \upharpoonright B_n$  for all but finitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Suppose, towards a contradiction, that there is an infinite set  $N \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  such that there exists  $\lambda_n \in (\Lambda_{\{B_n\}} \upharpoonright B_n) \setminus ((\Gamma_n \cap \Lambda) \upharpoonright B_n)$  for all  $n \in N$ . As  $\Lambda$  is closed under countable decomposition, it contains the automorphism  $\lambda = (\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \lambda_n) \cup (\mathrm{id} \upharpoonright \sim \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n)$ . As the latter is in  $\Gamma_n$  for all but finitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and therefore for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , this contradicts the fact that  $\lambda_n = \lambda \upharpoonright B_n$  is not in  $(\Gamma_n \cap \Lambda) \upharpoonright B_n$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

Define  $\Delta_Y = \{ \delta \in \Delta \mid \forall y \in Y \ y = \delta \cdot y \}.$ 

**Proposition 5.8.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a group of separable Borel automorphisms of X that is closed under countable decomposition,  $\Delta$  is an aperiodic countable subgroup of  $\Gamma$ , and  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is an exhaustive increasing sequence of subsets of  $\Gamma$ . Then there exist a  $\Delta$ -large Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $\Gamma_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq \Gamma_n \upharpoonright B$ ,  $[\Delta]_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq (\Gamma_n \cap [\Delta]) \upharpoonright B$ , and  $\Gamma_{\sim B} \subseteq (\Gamma_n)^4$ .

*Proof.* By replacing each  $\Gamma_n$  with  $\Gamma_n \cap \Gamma_n^{-1}$ , we can assume that each  $\Gamma_n$  is symmetric. By Proposition 5.7, there exist a  $\Delta$ -large Borel set  $X' \subseteq X$  and  $n' \in \mathbb{N}$  with the property that  $\Gamma_{\{X'\}} \upharpoonright X' \subseteq \Gamma_{n'} \upharpoonright X'$ and  $[\Delta]_{\{X'\}} \upharpoonright X' \subseteq (\Gamma_{n'} \cap [\Delta]) \upharpoonright X'$ , so  $\Gamma_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq \Gamma_{n'} \upharpoonright B$  and  $[\Delta]_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq (\Gamma_{n'} \cap [\Delta]) \upharpoonright B$  for all Borel sets  $B \subseteq X'$ . As the diagonal on X is the graph of the identity function on X and  $E^X_{\Delta} \upharpoonright X' =$  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \upharpoonright (\operatorname{supp}(\gamma) \cap X' \cap \gamma^{-1}X')), \text{ it follows from Proposition}$ 1.8 that the union of these two equivalence relations is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable, so Proposition 5.4 yields a countable subgroup  $\Delta'$  of  $[\Delta]$  for which  $E_{\Delta'}^X$ is the aforementioned union. Set  $\Gamma' = \Gamma_{\sim X'}$  and  $\Gamma'_n = (\Gamma_n)_{\sim X'}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . As  $\Delta$  is aperiodic and X' is  $\Delta$ -large, it follows that  $\Delta' \upharpoonright X'$  is aperiodic, so Proposition 5.7 yields a  $(\Delta' \upharpoonright X')$ -large Borel set  $B \subseteq X'$ and  $n \geq n'$  for which  $(\Gamma' \upharpoonright X')_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq (\Gamma'_n \upharpoonright X') \upharpoonright B$ . Then  $\Gamma'_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B = (\Gamma' \upharpoonright X')_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq (\Gamma'_n \upharpoonright X') \upharpoonright B = \Gamma'_n \upharpoonright B \text{ and } B \text{ is}$  $\Delta$ -large. As the diagonal on X is the graph of the identity function on X and  $E_{\Delta}^X \upharpoonright B = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \operatorname{graph}(\gamma \upharpoonright (\operatorname{supp}(\gamma) \cap B \cap \gamma^{-1}B)),$  it follows from Proposition 1.8 that the union of these two equivalence relations

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is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable, so Proposition 5.4 yields a countable subgroup  $\Delta''$  of  $[\Delta]$  for which  $E_{\Delta''}^X$  is the aforementioned union.

It remains to show that if  $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\sim B}$ , then  $\gamma \in (\Gamma_n)^4$ . By Theorem 5, there exist  $\delta, \lambda \in [\langle \{\gamma \upharpoonright B\} \cup (\Delta'' \upharpoonright B) \rangle]$  for which  $\gamma \upharpoonright B = [\delta, \lambda]$ . Then  $\delta \cup \mathrm{id}_{\sim B} \in \Gamma$  and  $\lambda \cup \mathrm{id}_{\sim B} \in \Gamma'$ , so there are extensions  $\delta' \in \Gamma_{n'}$  and  $\lambda' \in \Gamma'_n$  of  $\delta \cup \mathrm{id}_{\chi' \setminus B}$  and  $\lambda \cup \mathrm{id}_{\sim \chi'}$ . Then

$$[\delta', \lambda'] \upharpoonright B = \delta' \lambda' (\delta')^{-1} (\lambda')^{-1} \upharpoonright B$$

$$= \delta \lambda \delta^{-1} \lambda^{-1}$$

$$= [\delta, \lambda]$$

$$= \gamma \upharpoonright B,$$

$$[\delta', \lambda'] \upharpoonright (X' \setminus B) = \delta' \lambda' (\delta')^{-1} (\lambda')^{-1} \upharpoonright (X' \setminus B)$$

$$= \delta' \lambda' ((\delta')^{-1} \upharpoonright (X' \setminus B)) (\lambda')^{-1}$$

$$= \delta' (\lambda' \upharpoonright (X' \setminus B)) (\lambda')^{-1}$$

$$= \delta' \upharpoonright (X' \setminus B)$$

$$= \mathrm{id}_{X' \setminus B},$$

and

$$[\delta', \lambda'] \upharpoonright \sim X' = \delta' \lambda' (\delta')^{-1} (\lambda')^{-1} \upharpoonright \sim X'$$

$$= \delta' \lambda' (\delta')^{-1} \upharpoonright \sim X'$$

$$= \delta' (\lambda' \upharpoonright \sim X') (\delta')^{-1}$$

$$= (\delta' \upharpoonright \sim X') (\delta')^{-1}$$

$$= \mathrm{id}_{\sim X'},$$

so 
$$\gamma = [\delta', \lambda'] \in (\Gamma_n)^4$$
.

We can now give the following:

Proof of Theorem 7. By Proposition 5.8, there exist  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and a  $\Delta$ -large Borel set  $A \subseteq X$  for which  $\Gamma_{\sim_A} \subseteq (\Gamma_n)^4$ . As in the proof of Proposition 5.6, there exist a Borel set  $B \subseteq A$  and an involution  $\iota_A \in [\Delta]$  such that  $\iota_A B = A \setminus B$ . Fix  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\delta_i \in [\Delta]$  with the property that  $X = \bigcup_{i < k} \delta_i B$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $\delta_0 = \operatorname{id}$  and  $\delta_1 = \iota_A$ . Set  $B_j = \delta_j B \setminus \bigcup_{i < j} \delta_i B$  for all j < k.

**Lemma 5.9.** Suppose that  $i \leq j < k$ . Then there is an involution  $\iota_{i,j} \in [\Delta]$  for which  $\iota_{i,j}(B_i \cup B_j) \subseteq A$ .

*Proof.* We can assume that  $j \geq 2$ , since otherwise the identity function is as desired. If i = 0, then  $(\iota_A \delta_j^{-1} \upharpoonright B_j)^{\pm 1} \cup \mathrm{id}_{\sim (B_j \cup \iota_A \delta_j^{-1} B_j)}$  is as desired. If i = 1, then  $(\delta_j^{-1} \upharpoonright B_j)^{\pm 1} \cup \mathrm{id}_{\sim (B_j \cup \delta_j^{-1} B_j)}$  is as desired.

If i = j, then either of the last two functions is as desired. And  $(\delta_i^{-1} \upharpoonright B_i)^{\pm 1} \cup (\iota_A \delta_j^{-1} \upharpoonright B_j)^{\pm 1} \cup \operatorname{id}_{\sim (B_i \cup B_j \cup \delta_i^{-1} B_i \cup \iota_A \delta_j^{-1} B_j)}$  is as desired otherwise.

By increasing n, we can assume that  $\iota_{i,j} \in \Gamma_n$  for all  $i \leq j < k$ . We will show that  $\Gamma \subseteq (\Gamma_n)^{9k(k+1)}$ . By Theorem 1, it is sufficient to show that every involution  $\iota \in \Gamma$  is in  $(\Gamma_n)^{3k(k+1)}$ . Towards this end, set  $B_{i,j} = (B_i \cap \iota B_j) \cup (\iota B_i \cap B_j)$  and  $\iota'_{i,j} = \iota_{i,j}(\iota \upharpoonright B_{i,j})\iota_{i,j} \cup \mathrm{id}_{\sim \iota_{i,j}B_{i,j}}$  for all  $i \leq j < k$ . Then  $\iota = \prod_{i \leq j < k} \iota_{i,j}\iota'_{i,j}\iota_{i,j} \in (\Gamma_n\Gamma_{\sim A}\Gamma_n)^{k(k+1)/2} \subseteq (\Gamma_n)^{6k(k+1)/2} = (\Gamma_n)^{3k(k+1)}$ .

In order to establish a similar result concerning the k-Bergman property, we again need several preliminaries.

**Proposition 5.10.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and  $A, B \subseteq X$  are Borel. Then there is a  $\Gamma$ -invariant Borel set  $Y \subseteq X$  for which there are  $\Gamma$ -decomposable injections  $\phi \colon A \cap Y \to B \cap Y$  and  $\psi \colon B \setminus Y \to A \setminus Y$ .

*Proof.* Fix an enumeration  $(\gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of  $\Gamma$  and recursively define sets  $A_n = (A \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} A_m) \cap \gamma_n^{-1}(B \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} \gamma_m A_m)$ . Set  $A_\infty = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$  and  $B_\infty = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \gamma_n A_n$ , and observe that the function  $\pi = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \gamma_n \upharpoonright A_n$  is a bijection of  $A_\infty$  with  $B_\infty$ .

**Lemma 5.11.** If  $x \in X$ , then  $A \cap \Gamma x \subseteq A_{\infty}$  or  $B \cap \Gamma x \subseteq B_{\infty}$ .

Proof. Suppose that there exists  $y \in (A \cap \Gamma x) \setminus A_{\infty}$ . Given  $z \in B \cap \Gamma x$ , fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $\gamma_n \cdot y = z$ , and observe that the facts that  $y \notin A_n$  and  $y \in A \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} A_m$  ensure that  $y \notin \gamma_n^{-1}(B \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} \gamma_m A_m)$ , in which case  $z \notin B \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} \gamma_m A_m$ , so  $z \in B_{\infty}$ , thus  $B \cap \Gamma x \subseteq B_{\infty}$ .

It follows that the set  $Y = \{x \in X \mid A \cap \Gamma x \subseteq A_{\infty}\} = {\sim}\Gamma(A \setminus A_{\infty})$  and the maps  $\phi = \pi \upharpoonright (A \cap Y)$  and  $\psi = \pi^{-1} \upharpoonright (B \setminus Y)$  are as desired.  $\boxtimes$ 

A Borel embedding of a Borel space X into a Borel space Y is a Borel injection  $\phi \colon X \to Y$  sending Borel sets to Borel sets.

**Proposition 5.12** (Schröder-Bernstein). Suppose that X and Y are Borel spaces and  $\phi \colon X \to Y$  and  $\psi \colon Y \to X$  are Borel embeddings. Then there is a Borel set  $B \subseteq \psi(Y)$  for which  $(\phi \upharpoonright \sim B) \cup (\psi^{-1} \upharpoonright B)$  is a Borel isomorphism of X with Y.

*Proof.* Endow the set  $Z = X \coprod Y$  with the smallest Borel structure containing the Borel subsets of X and Y. Then the function  $T: Z \to Z$ , given by  $T = \phi \cup \psi$ , is a Borel embedding. Define  $C = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} T^n(Z)$ .

If  $z \in C$ , then the orbit of z under T is finite or of type  $\mathbb{Z}$ , so both  $\phi$  and  $\psi^{-1}$  induce bijections of  $[z]_T \cap X$  with  $[z]_T \cap Y$ . If  $z \in {\sim}C$ ,

then there is a unique point  $w \in [z]_T \setminus T(Z)$ , in which case  $\phi$  induces a bijection of  $[z]_T \cap X$  with  $[z]_T \cap Y$  if  $w \in X$ , and  $\psi^{-1}$  induces a bijection of  $[z]_T \cap X$  with  $[z]_T \cap Y$  if  $w \in Y$ . In particular, it follows that the set  $B = [Y \setminus \phi(X)]_T \cap X$  is as desired.

Given a countable group  $\Gamma$  of Borel automorphisms of a Borel space X, a  $\Gamma$ -compression of a Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable injection  $\phi \colon B \to B$  for which  $B \subseteq \Gamma(B \setminus \phi(B))$ . A set  $B \subseteq X$  is  $\Gamma$ -compressible if there is a  $\Gamma$ -compression of B.

**Proposition 5.13.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and  $B \subseteq X$  is a  $\Gamma$ -compressible Borel set. Then there is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable bijection  $\pi \colon \Gamma B \to B$ .

Proof. By Proposition 5.12, it is sufficient to produce a Γ-decomposable injection  $\pi \colon \Gamma B \to B$ . Towards this end, fix an enumeration  $(\gamma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of Γ, as well as a Γ-compression  $\phi \colon B \to B$  of B, and set  $A = B \setminus \phi(B)$ . For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $A_n = \gamma_n^{-1} A \setminus \bigcup_{m < n} \gamma_m^{-1} A$  and  $\pi = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (\phi^n \circ \gamma_n) \upharpoonright A_n$ . As the sets of the form  $\phi^n(A)$ , for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , are pairwise disjoint and contained in B, it follows that  $\pi$  is as desired.

**Proposition 5.14.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and  $B \subseteq X$  is a  $\Gamma$ -compressible Borel set. Then there is an involution  $I \in [\Gamma]$  for which  $\Gamma B = B \cup I(B)$ .

Proof. Fix a  $\Gamma$ -compression  $\phi \colon B \to B$  of B and set  $A = B \setminus \phi(B)$ . Then the sets  $C = (\Gamma B \setminus B) \cup \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \phi^{2n}(A)$  and  $D = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \phi^{2n+1}(A)$  are  $\Gamma$ -compressible and  $\Gamma B = \Gamma C = \Gamma D$ , so two applications of Proposition 5.13 yield a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable bijection  $\pi \colon C \to D$ , in which case the function  $I = \pi^{\pm 1} \cup \mathrm{id}_{\sim (C \cup D)}$  is an involution and the fact that  $\Gamma B \setminus B \subseteq C = \pi^{-1}(D) = I(D) \subseteq I(B)$  ensures that  $\Gamma B = B \cup I(B)$ .

**Proposition 5.15.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of Borel automorphisms of X,  $A \subseteq X$  is a Borel set,  $T \in [\Gamma]$ , and  $A \cup T(A)$  is  $\Gamma$ -compressible. Then A is  $\Gamma$ -compressible.

Proof. Note that if  $D \subseteq X$  is a Borel set and  $\phi: D \to D$  is a Γ-compression of D, then the definition of the induced transformation  $\phi_C$  from the proof of Proposition 1.1 makes sense for any Borel set  $C \subseteq D$  (even though  $\phi$  is not surjective). Setting  $C' = C \cap \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \phi^n(C \setminus \phi(C)) \cap \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{m \geq n} \phi^{-m}(C)$ , it follows that  $\phi_{C'}$  is a Γ-compression of C'.

Define B = T(A), fix a  $\Gamma$ -compression  $\phi$  of the set  $D = A \cup B$ , and observe that the functions  $\psi = \phi_{A'} \cup \operatorname{id}_{A \cap (\Gamma A' \setminus A')}$  and  $\psi' = (\phi_{B'} \upharpoonright (B' \setminus \Gamma A')) \cup \operatorname{id}_{B \cap (\Gamma B' \setminus (B' \cup \Gamma A'))}$  are  $\Gamma$ -compressions of  $A \cap \Gamma A'$  and  $B \cap (\Gamma B' \setminus \Gamma A')$ , so  $T^{-1} \circ \psi' \circ T$  is a  $\Gamma$ -compression of  $A \cap (\Gamma B' \setminus \Gamma A')$ , thus

 $\psi \cup (T^{-1} \circ \psi' \circ T)$  is a Γ-compression of  $A \cap (\Gamma A' \cup \Gamma B')$ . To see that A is Γ-compressible, it therefore only remains to show that  $A \subseteq \Gamma A' \cup \Gamma B'$ . Suppose that  $x \in A$ . Then there exists  $y \in (D \setminus \phi(D)) \cap \Gamma x$ . Fix  $C \in \{A, B\}$  for which  $y \in \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{m \geq n} \phi^{-m}(C)$ , let n be the least natural number such that the point  $z = \phi^n(y)$  is in C, and observe that  $z \in C \setminus \phi(C)$ , so  $z \in C'$ , thus  $x \in \Gamma z \subseteq \Gamma A' \cup \Gamma B'$ .

A countable group  $\Gamma$  of Borel automorphisms of a Borel space X is compressible if X is  $\Gamma$ -compressible.

**Proposition 5.16.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is a compressible countable group of Borel automorphisms of X, and  $A \subseteq X$  is a  $\Gamma$ -complete Borel set. Then the following are equivalent:

- (1) The set A is  $\Gamma$ -compressible.
- (2) There is an involution  $I \in [\Gamma]$  for which  $X = A \cup I(A)$ .
- (3) The set A is  $\Gamma$ -large.

Proof. As  $(1) \Longrightarrow (2)$  follows from Proposition 5.14 and  $(2) \Longrightarrow (3)$  is trivial, it is sufficient to show that  $(3) \Longrightarrow (1)$ . By the obvious induction, we need only show that if  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $(T_i)_{i \le n}$  is a sequence of elements of  $[\Gamma]$  for which  $A \cup \bigcup_{i \le n} T_i(A)$  is  $\Gamma$ -compressible, then  $A \cup \bigcup_{i \le n} T_i(A)$  is  $\Gamma$ -compressible. But if  $B = A \cup \bigcup_{i < n} T_i(A)$ , then  $A \cup \bigcup_{i \le n} T_n(A) \subseteq B \cup T_n(B)$ , so  $B \cup T_n(B)$  is  $\Gamma$ -compressible, thus Proposition 5.15 ensures that B is  $\Gamma$ -compressible.

We can now give the following:

Proof of Theorem 8. By Proposition 5.8, there exist a  $\Delta$ -large Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with the property that  $\Gamma_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq \Gamma_n \upharpoonright B$ ,  $[\Delta]_{\{B\}} \upharpoonright B \subseteq (\Gamma_n \cap [\Delta]) \upharpoonright B$ , and  $\Gamma_{\sim B} \subseteq (\Gamma_n)^4$ . As Proposition 5.6 ensures that B can be partitioned into two  $\Delta$ -large Borel sets, by replacing B with one of these sets we can assume that the set  $A = {\sim}B$  is also  $\Delta$ -large. Another application of Proposition 5.6 yields a partition of this set B into  $\Delta$ -large Borel sets  $C, D \subseteq X$ .

**Lemma 5.17.** There is an involution  $\iota \in [\Delta]$  for which  $\iota B = A \cup C$ .

*Proof.* By Propositions 5.13 and 5.16, there is a  $\Delta$ -decomposable bijection  $\pi: D \to A$ . Then the function  $\iota = \pi^{\pm 1} \cup \mathrm{id}_C$  is as desired.

By increasing n, we can assume that  $\iota \in \Gamma_n$ .

**Lemma 5.18.** The sets  $\Gamma_{\{A\cup C\}} \upharpoonright (A\cup C)$  and  $[\Delta]_{\{A\cup C\}} \upharpoonright (A\cup C)$  are contained in  $(\Gamma_n)^3 \upharpoonright (A\cup C)$  and  $(\Gamma_n\cap [\Delta])^3 \upharpoonright (A\cup C)$ .

*Proof.* If  $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\{A \cup C\}}$ , then  $\iota \gamma \iota \in \Gamma_{\{B\}}$ , so there exists  $\delta \in \Gamma_n$  for which  $\iota \gamma \iota \upharpoonright B = \delta \upharpoonright B$ , thus

$$\gamma \upharpoonright (A \cup C) = \iota \iota \gamma \iota \iota \upharpoonright (A \cup C)$$
$$= \iota (\iota \gamma \iota \upharpoonright B) \iota$$
$$= \iota (\delta \upharpoonright B) \iota$$
$$= \iota \delta \iota \upharpoonright (A \cup C),$$

hence  $\gamma \upharpoonright (A \cup C) \in (\Gamma_n)^3 \upharpoonright (A \cup C)$ . Moreover, if  $\gamma \in [\Delta]$ , then there is such a  $\delta$  in  $[\Delta]$ , so  $\gamma \upharpoonright (A \cup C) \in (\Gamma_n \cap [\Delta])^3 \upharpoonright (A \cup C)$ .

As  $\Gamma_{\{A\}} \upharpoonright A \subseteq \Gamma_{\{A \cup C\}} \upharpoonright A$  and  $[\Delta]_{\{A\}} \upharpoonright A \subseteq [\Delta]_{\{A \cup C\}} \upharpoonright A$ , Lemma 5.18 implies the analogous fact in which  $A \cup C$  is replaced with A. It remains to show that if  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , then  $\gamma \in (\Gamma_n)^{14}$ .

**Lemma 5.19.** There is a Borel automorphism  $T \in (\Gamma_n \cap [\Delta])^3$  for which  $B \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$  is  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle$ -large.

Proof. By Proposition 5.10, there is a partition of X into  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle$ -invariant Borel sets  $Y, Z \subseteq X$  for which there are  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle$ -decomposable injections  $\phi \colon (A \setminus \gamma A) \cap Y \to (B \setminus \gamma A) \cap Y$  and  $\psi \colon (B \setminus \gamma A) \cap Z \to (A \setminus \gamma A) \cap Z$ . Then the extension of  $\phi^{\pm 1}$  to X supported by the union of  $(A \setminus \gamma A) \cap Y$  and its image under  $\phi$  is in  $[\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle]$ , as is the extension of  $\psi^{\pm 1}$  to X supported by the union of  $(B \setminus \gamma A) \cap Z$  and its image under  $\psi$ . As B is  $\Delta$ -large, it follows that  $\gamma B = \sim \gamma A = (A \setminus \gamma A) \cup (B \setminus \gamma A)$  is  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle$ -large, thus  $(B \setminus \gamma A) \cap Y$  is  $(\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle \cap Y)$ -large and  $(A \setminus \gamma A) \cap Z$  is  $(\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle \cap Z)$ -large. As A and C are  $\Delta$ -large, Propositions 5.13 and 5.16 yield a  $\Delta$ -decomposable bijection  $\pi \colon A \cap Z \to C \cap Z$ . Then  $\pi^{\pm 1} \cup \mathrm{id}_{(D \cup Y)} \in [\Delta]$ , so Lemma 5.18 yields  $T \in (\Gamma_n \cap [\Delta])^3$  for which  $T \upharpoonright (A \cup C) = \pi^{\pm 1} \cup \mathrm{id}_{(A \cup C) \cap Y}$ . The fact that

$$T^{-1}((B \setminus \gamma A) \cap Y) = T^{-1}(B \cap Y) \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$$

$$= (Y \setminus T^{-1}(A \cap Y)) \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$$

$$= (Y \setminus (A \cap Y)) \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$$

$$= (B \cap Y) \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$$

$$= (B \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)) \cap Y$$
and
$$T^{-1}((A \setminus \gamma A) \cap Z) = T^{-1}(A \cap Z) \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$$

$$= (C \cap Z) \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$$

$$\subseteq (B \cap Z) \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$$

$$= (B \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)) \cap Z$$

ensures both that  $(B \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)) \cap Y$  is  $(\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle \upharpoonright Y)$ -large and  $(B \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)) \cap Z$  is  $(\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle \upharpoonright Z)$ -large, thus  $B \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$  is  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle$ -large.

**Lemma 5.20.** There is a Borel automorphism  $S \in \Gamma_n$  for which  $(S^{-1} \circ T^{-1})(\gamma A) \subseteq A \cup C$  and  $(A \cup C) \setminus (S^{-1} \circ T^{-1})(\gamma A)$  is  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma, S\} \rangle$ -large.

*Proof.* By Proposition 5.6, there is a partition of  $B \setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$  into  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle$ -large Borel sets  $C', D' \subseteq X$ . By Propositions 5.13 and 5.16, there are  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle$ -decomposable bijections  $\phi \colon C \to (B \cap T^{-1}(\gamma A)) \cup C'$  and  $\psi \colon D \to D'$ . Then  $\mathrm{id}_A \cup \phi \cup \psi \in [\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma\} \rangle] \leq \Gamma$ , so there exists  $S \in \Gamma_n$  for which  $S \upharpoonright B = \phi \cup \psi$ , in which case

 $(S^{-1}\circ T^{-1})(\gamma A)=S^{-1}(A\cap T^{-1}(\gamma A))\cup S^{-1}(B\cap T^{-1}(\gamma A))\subseteq A\cup C$  and  $C'\subseteq S(C)\setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A),$  so  $S(A\cup C)\setminus T^{-1}(\gamma A)$  is  $\langle\Delta\cup\{\gamma\}\rangle$ -large, thus  $(A\cup C)\setminus (S^{-1}\circ T^{-1})(\gamma A)$  is  $\langle\Delta\cup\{\gamma,S\}\rangle$ -large.

**Lemma 5.21.** There exists  $R \in (\Gamma_n)^3$  with  $(R^{-1} \circ S^{-1} \circ T^{-1})(\gamma A) = A$ .

Proof. By Propositions 5.13 and 5.16, there are  $\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma, S\} \rangle$ -decomposable bijections  $\phi \colon A \to (S^{-1} \circ T^{-1})(\gamma A)$  and  $\psi \colon C \to (A \cup C) \setminus (S^{-1} \circ T^{-1})(\gamma A)$ . Then  $\phi \cup \psi \cup \mathrm{id}_D \in [\langle \Delta \cup \{\gamma, S\} \rangle] \leq \Gamma$ , so Lemma 5.18 yields  $R \in (\Gamma_n)^3$  for which  $R \upharpoonright A = \phi$ , and clearly any such automorphism is as desired.

By the comment immediately following the proof of Lemma 5.18, there exists  $Q \in (\Gamma_n)^3$  for which  $Q \upharpoonright A = (R^{-1} \circ S^{-1} \circ T^{-1} \circ \gamma) \upharpoonright A$ . Then  $\operatorname{supp}(Q^{-1} \circ R^{-1} \circ S^{-1} \circ T^{-1} \circ \gamma) \subseteq B$ , so  $Q^{-1} \circ R^{-1} \circ S^{-1} \circ T^{-1} \circ \gamma \in (\Gamma_n)^4$ , thus  $\gamma \in (T \circ S \circ R \circ Q)(\Gamma_n)^4 \subseteq (\Gamma_n)^3 \Gamma_n(\Gamma_n)^3 (\Gamma_n)^3 (\Gamma_n)^4 = (\Gamma_n)^{14}$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

Given a set X, a partial function  $d: X \times X \to \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ , and a set  $Y \subseteq X$ , define  $\mathcal{B}_d(Y, \epsilon) = \{x \in X \mid \exists y \in Y \ d(x, y) < \epsilon\}$ . Given a binary relation R on X, define  $R^{-1} = \{(y, x) \in X \times X \mid x \ R \ y\}$  and  $R^{\pm 1} = R \cup R^{-1}$ . Given a Borel measure  $\mu$  on a Borel space X and Borel automorphisms  $S, T: X \to X$  for which supp $(S^{-1}T)$  is Borel, define

$$d_{\mu}(S,T) = \mu(\text{supp}(S^{-1}T)) = \mu(\{x \in X \mid S(x) \neq T(x)\}).$$

**Proposition 5.22.** Suppose that X is a Borel space,  $\Gamma$  is an aperiodic countable group of separable Borel automorphisms of X, there is a  $\Gamma$ -invariant Borel probability measure  $\mu$  on X,  $\epsilon < 1$ , and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Then there is an exhaustive increasing sequence  $(\Gamma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of subsets of  $[\Gamma]$  with the property that  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$   $[\Gamma] \neq \mathcal{B}_{d_{\mu}}((\Gamma_n)^k, \epsilon)$ .

*Proof.* As  $\Gamma$  is countable, there is an exhaustive increasing sequence  $(\Delta_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of finite subsets of  $\Gamma$ . For all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ , define

$$\Gamma_n = \{ \gamma \in [\Gamma] \mid \mu(\{x \in X \mid \gamma \cdot x \notin \Delta_n x\}) \le (1 - \epsilon)/k \}.$$

The fact that  $(\Delta_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is increasing ensures that so too is  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ . The fact that  $\mu(X) < \infty$  implies that  $[\Gamma] = \bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}} \Gamma_n$ .

**Lemma 5.23.** If  $\gamma \in (\Gamma_n)^k$ , then  $\mu(\{x \in X \mid \gamma \cdot x \notin (\Delta_n)^k x\}) \leq 1 - \epsilon$ .

Proof. Fix  $\gamma_i \in \Gamma_n$  with the property that  $\gamma = \prod_{i < k} \gamma_i$ . For all j < k, set  $B_j = \{x \in X \mid (\prod_{i \le j} \gamma_i) \cdot x \notin \Delta_n(\prod_{i < j} \gamma_i) \cdot x\}$  and note that  $\mu(B_j) = \mu((\prod_{i < j} \gamma_i)B_j) = \mu(\{x \in X \mid \gamma_j \cdot x \notin \Delta_n x\}) \le (1 - \epsilon)/k$  since  $\mu$  is Γ-invariant. As  $\{x \in X \mid \gamma \cdot x \notin (\Delta_n)^k x\} \subseteq \bigcup_{j < k} B_j$ , it follows that  $\mu(\{x \in X \mid \gamma \cdot x \notin (\Delta_n)^k x\}) \le \sum_{j < k} \mu(B_j) \le 1 - \epsilon$ .

Let G be the digraph on X with respect to which distinct points x and y are related if and only if  $y \in (\Delta_n)^k x$ . Then the vertical sections of  $G^{\pm 1}$  are finite, so Propositions 1.8, 3.22, and 3.23 yield a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable equivalence relation F on X whose classes are G-independent sets of cardinality two. Let  $\iota$  be the involution whose graph is  $F \setminus \Delta(X)$ , and appeal to Lemma 5.23 to see that if  $\gamma \in (\Gamma_n)^k$ , then  $d_{\mu}(\gamma, \iota) \geq \mu(\{x \in X \mid \gamma \cdot x \in (\Delta_n)^k\}) \geq \epsilon$ .

Finally, we can give the following:

Proof of Theorem 9. By Proposition 5.22, we need only show  $\neg(1) \Longrightarrow$  (2). As Becker–Kechris's generalization of Nadkarni's theorem (see [Nad90] and [BK96, Theorem 4.3.1]) ensures that  $\Gamma$  is compressible, this follows from Theorem 8.

Proof of Theorem 10. Again by Proposition 5.22, we need only show  $\neg(1) \Longrightarrow (2)$ . As the generalization of Hopf's theorem analogous to Becker–Kechris's generalization of Nadkarni's theorem (see [Hop32] and [Nad98, §10]) yields a  $\Gamma$ -invariant  $\mu$ -conull Borel set  $B \subseteq X$  for which the corresponding group  $\Gamma \upharpoonright B$  compressible, Theorem 8 ensures that  $[\Gamma \upharpoonright B]$  has the k-Bergman property, thus so too does  $[\Gamma]/\mu$ .

## 6. Boolean Algebras

For each Boolean algebra  $\mathfrak{B}$ , set  $\mathfrak{B}_+ = \mathfrak{B} \setminus \{0\}$ , let  $\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})$  denote the equivalence relation on  $\operatorname{Dec}(\mathfrak{B}_+^{\mathbb{N}}) = \{x \in \mathfrak{B}_+^{\mathbb{N}} \mid \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \ x(n+1) \leq x(n)\}$  given by  $x \mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B}) \ y \iff \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \forall m \geq n \ x(m) = y(m)$ , and define  $X_{\mathfrak{B}} = \operatorname{Dec}(\mathfrak{B}_+^{\mathbb{N}})/\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})$ . Note that if  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$ , then the set

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{N}}_b = \{ x \in \operatorname{Dec}(\mathfrak{B}_+^{\mathbb{N}}) \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ x(n) \leq b \}$$

$$= \{ x \in \operatorname{Dec}(\mathfrak{B}_+^{\mathbb{N}}) \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \forall m \geq n \ x(m) \leq b \}$$

is  $\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})$ -invariant. Define  $\mathcal{N}_b = \widetilde{\mathcal{N}}_b/\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})$  for all  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$ .

**Proposition 6.1.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra and  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$ . Then  $b = 0 \iff \mathcal{N}_b = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* Clearly  $\mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{O}} = \emptyset$ . But if  $b \neq \mathbb{O}$ , then the  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{O}}(\mathfrak{B})$ -class of the  $\mathbb{N}$ -sequence with constant value b is in  $\mathcal{N}_b$ , so  $\mathcal{N}_b \neq \emptyset$ .

**Proposition 6.2.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra and  $a, b \in \mathfrak{B}$ . Then  $\mathcal{N}_{a \cdot b} = \mathcal{N}_a \cap \mathcal{N}_b$ .

Proof. If  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_{a \cdot b}$ , then there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $x(n) \leq a \cdot b$ , so  $x(n) \leq a$  and  $x(n) \leq b$ , thus  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_a \cap \mathcal{N}_b$ . Conversely, if  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_a \cap \mathcal{N}_b$ , then there exist  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $x(m) \leq a$  and  $x(n) \leq b$ , so  $x(\max\{m, n\}) \leq a \cdot b$ , thus  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_{a \cdot b}$ .

Proposition 6.2 ensures that the sets of the form  $\mathcal{N}_b$  are closed under finite intersections. Endow  $X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  with the topology they generate.

**Proposition 6.3.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra and  $B \subseteq \mathfrak{B}$ . Then  $\Sigma B = \mathbb{1}$  if and only if  $\bigcup_{b \in B} \mathcal{N}_b$  is dense.

Proof. Note first that if  $a, b \in \mathfrak{B}$ , then Propositions 6.1 and 6.2 ensure that  $b \leq -a \iff a \cdot b = \emptyset \iff \mathcal{N}_{a \cdot b} = \emptyset \iff \mathcal{N}_a \cap \mathcal{N}_b = \emptyset$ . But  $\Sigma B \neq \mathbb{1}$  if and only if there is a non-zero element a of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\forall b \in B \ b \leq -a$ , whereas Propositions 6.1 and 6.2 imply that  $\bigcup_{b \in B} \mathcal{N}_b$  is not dense if and only if there is a non-zero element a of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\forall b \in B \ \mathcal{N}_a \cap \mathcal{N}_b = \emptyset$ .

We say that a topological space is a *Baire space* if countable intersections of dense open sets are dense.

**Proposition 6.4.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra. Then  $X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  is a Baire space.

Proof. By Propositions 6.1 and 6.2, it is sufficient to show that if b is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$  and  $(U_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of dense open subsets of  $X_{\mathfrak{B}}$ , then  $\mathcal{N}_b \cap \bigcap_{n\in\mathbb{N}} U_n \neq \emptyset$ . Towards this end, set  $b_0 = b$ . Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and a non-zero element  $b_n \leq b$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  for which  $\mathcal{N}_{b_n} \subseteq \bigcap_{m < n} U_m$ , note that  $\mathcal{N}_{b_n} \cap U_n$  is a non-empty open set by Proposition 6.1, so Propositions 6.1 and 6.2 yield a non-zero element  $b_{n+1}$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\mathcal{N}_{b_{n+1}} \subseteq \mathcal{N}_{b_n} \cap U_n$ , in which case  $\mathcal{N}_{b_{n+1}-b_n} \subseteq \mathcal{N}_{b_{n+1}} \setminus \mathcal{N}_{b_n} = \emptyset$ , thus Proposition 6.1 ensures that  $b_{n+1} - b_n = \mathbb{O}$ , hence  $b_{n+1} \leq b_n$ . It only remains to observe that  $[(b_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \bigcap_{n\in\mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_n} \subseteq \mathcal{N}_b \cap \bigcap_{n\in\mathbb{N}} U_n$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

So as to avoid confusion with the Borel structure generated by the underlying topology, we use the term  $\sigma$ -Borel to refer to the Borel structure on each set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  generated by the sets of the form  $\mathcal{N}_b \cap X$ .

 $\boxtimes$ 

**Proposition 6.5.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra and  $B \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  is  $\sigma$ -Borel. Then there exists  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $B \triangle \mathcal{N}_b$  is meager.

*Proof.* By induction on the construction of B. If there exists  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$  for which  $B = \mathcal{N}_b$ , then  $B \triangle \mathcal{N}_b = \emptyset$ . If there exists  $a \in \mathfrak{B}$  for which  $(\sim B) \triangle \mathcal{N}_a$  is meager, then set b = -a and note that  $\mathcal{N}_a \subseteq \sim \mathcal{N}_b$ , so

$$B \triangle \mathcal{N}_b = (\sim B) \triangle (\sim \mathcal{N}_b)$$

$$\subseteq ((\sim B) \triangle \mathcal{N}_a) \cup (\mathcal{N}_a \triangle (\sim \mathcal{N}_b))$$

$$= ((\sim B) \triangle \mathcal{N}_a) \cup ((\sim \mathcal{N}_b) \setminus \mathcal{N}_a)$$

$$= ((\sim B) \triangle \mathcal{N}_a) \cup ((\sim \mathcal{N}_b) \cap (\sim \mathcal{N}_a))$$

$$= ((\sim B) \triangle \mathcal{N}_a) \cup \sim (\mathcal{N}_b \cup \mathcal{N}_a),$$

which is meager by Proposition 6.3. If there exist  $\sigma$ -Borel sets  $B_n \subseteq X$  and  $b_n \in \mathfrak{B}$  such that  $B = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n$  and  $B_n \triangle \mathcal{N}_{b_n}$  is meager for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then set  $b = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} b_n$  and note that  $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_n} \subseteq \mathcal{N}_b \subseteq \sim \mathcal{N}_{-b}$ , so

$$B \triangle \mathcal{N}_{b} \subseteq (B \triangle (\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}})) \cup ((\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}}) \triangle \mathcal{N}_{b})$$

$$= ((\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_{n}) \triangle (\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}})) \cup (\mathcal{N}_{b} \setminus \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}})$$

$$\subseteq (\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_{n} \triangle \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}}) \cup (\mathcal{N}_{b} \cap (\sim \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}}))$$

$$\subseteq (\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_{n} \triangle \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}}) \cup ((\sim \mathcal{N}_{-b}) \cap (\sim \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}}))$$

$$= (\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_{n} \triangle \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}}) \cup \sim (\mathcal{N}_{-b} \cup \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}_{b_{n}}),$$

which is meager by Proposition 6.3.

Recall that a subset of a topological space is  $G_{\delta}$  if it is a countable intersection of open sets.

**Proposition 6.6.** Suppose that X is a Baire space,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of homeomorphisms of X, and  $Y \subseteq X$  is comeager. Then there is a  $\Gamma$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $Z \subseteq Y$ .

Proof. Fix dense open sets  $U_n \subseteq X$  for which  $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} U_n \subseteq Y$ . Then the fact that  $\gamma$  is a homeomorphism ensures that  $\gamma U_n$  is dense and open for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so the  $\Gamma$ -invariant set  $Z = \bigcap_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \gamma U_n$  is  $G_{\delta}$  and the fact that X is a Baire space implies that Z is dense.

For each order homomorphism  $\phi: \mathfrak{A} \to \mathfrak{B}$  between Boolean algebras, define  $\bar{\phi}: X_{\mathfrak{A}} \to X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  by  $\bar{\phi}([x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{A})}) = [\phi \circ x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})}$ . Given a set  $\Phi$  of such homomorphisms, define  $\bar{\Phi} = \{\bar{\phi} \mid \phi \in \Phi\}$ .

**Proposition 6.7.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{A}$  is a Boolean algebra. Then  $\overline{\mathrm{id}}_{\mathfrak{A}} = \mathrm{id}_{X_{\mathfrak{A}}}$ .

*Proof.* If 
$$x \in \text{Dec}(\mathfrak{A}^{\mathbb{N}}_{+})$$
, then  $\overline{\text{id}_{\mathfrak{A}}}([x]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{A})}) = [\text{id}_{\mathfrak{A}} \circ x]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{A})} = [x]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{A})}$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

**Proposition 6.8.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{A}$ ,  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\mathfrak{C}$  are Boolean algebras and  $\phi \colon \mathfrak{A} \to \mathfrak{B}$  and  $\psi \colon \mathfrak{B} \to \mathfrak{C}$  are order homomorphisms. Then  $\overline{\psi \circ \phi} = \overline{\psi} \circ \overline{\phi}$ .

*Proof.* If  $x \in \text{Dec}(\mathfrak{A}^{\mathbb{N}}_+)$ , then  $\overline{\psi \circ \phi}([x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{A})}) = [\psi \circ \phi \circ x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{C})}$  whereas  $(\overline{\psi} \circ \overline{\phi})([x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{A})}) = \overline{\psi}([\phi \circ x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})}) = [\psi \circ \phi \circ x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{C})}.$ 

**Proposition 6.9.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{A}$  and  $\mathfrak{B}$  are Boolean algebras and  $\pi: \mathfrak{A} \to \mathfrak{B}$  is an isomorphism. Then  $\bar{\pi}^{-1} = \overline{\pi^{-1}}$  and  $\bar{\pi}(\mathcal{N}_a) = \mathcal{N}_{\pi(a)}$  for all  $a \in \mathfrak{A}$ , so  $\bar{\pi}$  is both a homeomorphism and a  $\sigma$ -Borel isomorphism.

Proof. Note first that  $\bar{\pi}^{-1} = \overline{\pi^{-1}}$ , since  $\overline{\pi^{-1}} \circ \bar{\pi} = \overline{\pi^{-1}} \circ \bar{\pi} = id_{\mathfrak{A}} = id_{X_{\mathfrak{A}}}$  and  $\bar{\pi} \circ \overline{\pi^{-1}} = \overline{\pi} \circ \pi^{-1} = id_{\mathfrak{B}} = id_{X_{\mathfrak{B}}}$  by Propositions 6.7 and 6.8. It follows that if  $a \in \mathfrak{A}$  and  $y \in \text{Dec}(\mathfrak{B}_{+}^{\mathbb{N}})$ , then

$$[y]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{B})} \in \bar{\pi}(\mathcal{N}_{a}) \iff \overline{\pi^{-1}}([y]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{B})}) \in \mathcal{N}_{a}$$

$$\iff [\pi^{-1} \circ y]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{A})} \in \mathcal{N}_{a}$$

$$\iff \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ (\pi^{-1} \circ y)(n) \leq a$$

$$\iff \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ y(n) \leq \pi(a)$$

$$\iff [y]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_{\pi(a)},$$

so  $\bar{\pi}(\mathcal{N}_a) = \mathcal{N}_{\pi(a)}$  for all  $a \in \mathfrak{A}$ . This easily implies that  $\bar{\pi}$  sends open sets to open sets. As  $\bar{\pi}$  is bijective, it also ensures that  $\bar{\pi}$  sends  $\sigma$ -Borel sets to  $\sigma$ -Borel sets. But the analogous fact holds of  $\bar{\pi}^{-1}$  and therefore of  $\bar{\pi}^{-1}$ , so  $\bar{\pi}$  is a homeomorphism and a  $\sigma$ -Borel isomorphism.

Given a countable group  $\Gamma$  of automorphisms of a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra  $\mathfrak{B}$ , we say that a function  $\phi \colon \mathfrak{B} \to \mathfrak{B}$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable if there is a partition  $(b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  of  $\mathbb{1}$  such that  $\forall b \in \mathfrak{B}$   $\phi(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma(b \cdot b_{\gamma})$ . Clearly every such function is an order homomorphism. As Propositions 6.7–6.9 ensure that  $\bar{\Gamma}$  is a countable group of  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphisms of  $X_{\mathfrak{B}}$ , we can also consider our earlier notion of  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -decomposability for  $\sigma$ -Borel partial functions on  $X_{\mathfrak{B}}$ .

**Proposition 6.10.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\phi \colon \mathfrak{B} \to \mathfrak{B}$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. Then there is a dense open set  $U \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  with the property that  $\bar{\phi} \upharpoonright U$  is  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -decomposable.

Proof. Fix a partition  $(b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  of 1 with the property that  $\forall b \in \mathfrak{B} \ \phi(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma(b \cdot b_{\gamma})$ . By Proposition 6.3, the open set  $U = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$  is dense. To see that  $\bar{\phi} \upharpoonright U = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma} \upharpoonright \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$ , note that if  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$ , then  $(\phi \circ x)(n) = (\gamma \circ x)(n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  sufficiently large that  $x(n) \leq b_{\gamma}$ , so  $\phi \circ x \ \mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{B}) \ \gamma \circ x$ , thus  $\bar{\phi}([x]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{B})}) = \bar{\gamma} \cdot [x]_{\mathbb{E}_{0}(\mathfrak{B})}$ .

For all  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$ , endow the set  $\mathfrak{B}_b = \{a \in \mathfrak{B} \mid a \leq b\}$  with the Boolean algebra structure it inherits from  $\mathfrak{B}$ .

**Proposition 6.11.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ ,  $(b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{1}$ , and  $\phi \colon \mathfrak{B} \to \mathfrak{B}$  is given by  $\phi(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma(b \cdot b_{\gamma})$  for all  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (1) The function  $\phi$  is an isomorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with  $\mathfrak{B}_{\phi(1)}$ .
- (2) The function  $\phi$  is injective.
- (3) The sequence  $(\gamma b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is a partition of  $\phi(1)$ .

Proof. Clearly  $(1) \Longrightarrow (2)$ . To see  $\neg(3) \Longrightarrow \neg(2)$ , note that  $\phi(\mathbb{1}) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma b_{\gamma}$ , so if  $(\gamma b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is not a partition of  $\phi(\mathbb{1})$ , then there are distinct  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$  for which the element of  $\mathfrak{B}$  given by  $b = \prod_{\lambda \in \{\gamma, \delta\}} \lambda b_{\lambda}$  is not zero, and since  $\lambda^{-1}b \leq b_{\lambda}$  for all  $\lambda \in \{\gamma, \delta\}$ , it follows that  $\gamma^{-1}b$  and  $\delta^{-1}b$  are distinct non-zero elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$  but  $\phi(\lambda^{-1}b) = \lambda \lambda^{-1}b = b$  for all  $\lambda \in \{\gamma, \delta\}$ , so  $\phi$  is not injective. To see (3)  $\Longrightarrow$  (1), note that  $\phi \upharpoonright \mathfrak{B}_{b_{\gamma}} = \gamma \upharpoonright \mathfrak{B}_{b_{\gamma}}$  is an isomorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}_{b_{\gamma}}$  with  $\mathfrak{B}_{\gamma b_{\gamma}}$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , so if  $(b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  and  $(\gamma b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  are partitions of  $\mathfrak{1}$  and  $\phi(\mathfrak{1})$ , then  $\phi$  is an isomorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with  $\mathfrak{B}_{\phi(\mathfrak{1})}$ .

The following two observations ensure that if  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra  $\mathfrak{B}$ , then the set of  $\Gamma$ -decomposable automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$  is also a group.

**Proposition 6.12.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\pi$  is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then  $\pi^{-1}$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable.

Proof. Fix a partition  $(a_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  of  $\mathbb{1}$  with the property that  $\forall b \in \mathfrak{B} \pi(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma(b \cdot a_{\gamma})$  and define  $b_{\gamma} = \gamma^{-1} a_{\gamma^{-1}}$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . Proposition 6.11 ensures that  $(b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{1}$ . Moreover, if  $b \leq b_{\gamma}$ , then  $\gamma b \leq a_{\gamma^{-1}}$ , so  $\pi(\gamma b) = \gamma^{-1} \gamma b = b$ , thus  $\pi^{-1}(b) = \gamma b$ , hence if  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$ , then  $\pi^{-1}(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \pi^{-1}(b \cdot b_{\gamma}) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma(b \cdot b_{\gamma})$ .

**Proposition 6.13.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\phi, \psi \colon \mathfrak{B} \to \mathfrak{B}$  are  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. Then  $\phi \circ \psi$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable.

Proof. Fix partitions  $(c_{\gamma})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}$  and  $(d_{\delta})_{\delta\in\Gamma}$  of  $\mathbb{1}$  with the property that  $\forall b \in \mathfrak{B} \ \phi(b) = \sum_{\gamma\in\Gamma} \gamma(b \cdot c_{\gamma})$  and  $\forall b \in \mathfrak{B} \ \psi(b) = \sum_{\delta\in\Gamma} \delta(b \cdot d_{\delta})$  and define  $b_{\gamma,\delta} = (\delta^{-1}c_{\gamma}) \cdot d_{\delta}$  for all  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$  and  $b_{\lambda} = \sum_{\gamma\in\Gamma} b_{\gamma,\gamma^{-1}\lambda}$  for all  $\lambda \in \Gamma$ . As  $(c_{\gamma})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{1}$ , so too is  $(\delta^{-1}c_{\gamma})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}$  for all  $\delta \in \Gamma$ , thus  $(b_{\gamma,\delta})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}$  is a partition of  $d_{\delta}$  for all  $\delta \in \Gamma$ . As  $(d_{\delta})_{\delta\in\Gamma}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{1}$ , so too is  $(b_{\gamma,\delta})_{\gamma,\delta\in\Gamma}$ . As  $(\{(\gamma,\gamma^{-1}\lambda) \mid \gamma\in\Gamma\})_{\lambda\in\Gamma}$  is a partition of  $\Gamma\times\Gamma$ ,

it follows that  $(b_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Gamma}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{1}$ . Moreover, if  $b \leq b_{\gamma,\delta}$ , then  $\delta b \leq c_{\gamma}$  and  $b \leq d_{\delta}$ , hence  $(\phi \circ \psi)(b) = \phi(\delta b) = \gamma \delta b$ , thus if  $b \leq b_{\lambda}$ , then

$$(\phi \circ \psi)(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} (\phi \circ \psi)(b \cdot b_{\gamma, \gamma^{-1} \lambda})$$
$$= \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma \gamma^{-1} \lambda(b \cdot b_{\gamma, \gamma^{-1} \lambda})$$
$$= \lambda(b \cdot b_{\lambda}),$$

so if 
$$b \in \mathfrak{B}$$
, then  $(\phi \circ \psi)(b) = \sum_{\lambda \in \Gamma} (\phi \circ \psi)(b \cdot b_{\lambda}) = \sum_{\lambda \in \Gamma} \lambda(b \cdot b_{\lambda})$ .

The full group of a countable group  $\Gamma$  of automorphisms of a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra  $\mathfrak{B}$  is the group  $[\Gamma]$  of  $\Gamma$ -decomposable automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . In the special case that there is a single automorphism  $\pi$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  that generates  $\Gamma$ , we define the full group of  $\pi$  to be the full group of  $\Gamma$ . We also use  $[\pi]$  to denote  $[\Gamma]$ .

**Proposition 6.14.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\pi \in [\Gamma]$ . Then there is a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X \in [\bar{\Gamma} \upharpoonright X]$ .

*Proof.* By Proposition 6.10, there is a dense open set  $U \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright U$  is  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -decomposable. As Proposition 6.9 ensures that each element of  $\bar{\Gamma}$  is a homeomorphism, Proposition 6.6 yields a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq U$ . As X is  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant and Proposition 6.9 also implies that  $\bar{\pi}$  is a  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphism, it follows that  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X \in [\bar{\Gamma} \upharpoonright X]$ .  $\boxtimes$ 

In order to generalize the converse of Proposition 6.14, we will need:

**Proposition 6.15.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra, a and b are elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , A and B are subsets of  $X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $A \triangle \mathcal{N}_a$  and  $B \triangle \mathcal{N}_b$  are meager, and  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ .

- (1) If  $\phi(a) \cdot \psi(b) = 0$ , then  $\bar{\phi}(\mathcal{N}_a) \cap \bar{\psi}(\mathcal{N}_b) = \emptyset$ .
- (2) If  $\bar{\phi}(A) \cap \bar{\psi}(B) = \emptyset$ , then  $\phi(a) \cdot \psi(b) = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* To establish (1), appeal to Propositions 6.1, 6.2, and 6.9 to see that  $\bar{\phi}(\mathcal{N}_a) \cap \bar{\psi}(\mathcal{N}_b) = \mathcal{N}_{\phi(a)} \cap \mathcal{N}_{\psi(b)} = \mathcal{N}_{\phi(a) \cdot \psi(b)} = \mathcal{N}_{0} = \emptyset$ .

To establish (2), first apply Propositions 6.2 and 6.9 to see that

$$\mathcal{N}_{\phi(a)\cdot\psi(b)} = \mathcal{N}_{\phi(a)} \cap \mathcal{N}_{\psi(b)} 
= \bar{\phi}(\mathcal{N}_a) \cap \bar{\psi}(\mathcal{N}_b) 
\subseteq (\bar{\phi}(A) \triangle \bar{\phi}(\mathcal{N}_a)) \cup (\bar{\psi}(B) \triangle \bar{\psi}(\mathcal{N}_b)) 
= \bar{\phi}(A \triangle \mathcal{N}_a) \cup \bar{\psi}(B \triangle \mathcal{N}_b).$$

As Proposition 6.9 ensures that  $\bar{\phi}$  and  $\bar{\psi}$  are homeomorphisms, it follows that the last set is meager, so Proposition 6.4 implies that the first is empty, thus Proposition 6.1 ensures that  $\phi(a) \cdot \psi(b) = \mathbb{O}$ .

Given a property P of elements of a topological space X, we write  $\forall^* x \in X \ P(x)$  to indicate that  $\{x \in X \mid P(x)\}$  is comeager.

**Proposition 6.16.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ ,  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  is a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -invariant comeager set, and  $T \in [\bar{\Gamma} \upharpoonright X]$ . Then there exists  $\pi \in [\Gamma]$  such that  $\forall^* x \in X_{\mathfrak{B}} \bar{\pi}(x) = T(x)$ .

*Proof.* Fix a partition  $(B_{\gamma})_{{\gamma}\in\Gamma}$  of X into  $\sigma$ -Borel subsets of X for which  $T = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma} \upharpoonright B_{\gamma}$ . For each  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , Proposition 6.5 yields  $b_{\gamma} \in \mathfrak{B}$  such that  $B_{\gamma} \triangle \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$  is meager. As Proposition 6.7 ensures that  $\overline{\mathrm{id}_{\mathfrak{B}}} = \mathrm{id}_{X_{\mathfrak{B}}}$ , Proposition 6.15 implies that  $(b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  and  $(\gamma b_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  are sequences of pairwise disjoint elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . As  $X = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} B_{\gamma} = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma} B_{\gamma}$  and Proposition 6.9 ensures that each element of  $\Gamma$  is a homeomorphism, it follows that  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$  and  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma} \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$  are comeager, thus so too is  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mathcal{N}_{\gamma b_{\gamma}}$  by another application of Proposition 6.9. Proposition 6.4 therefore implies that  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$  and  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mathcal{N}_{\gamma b_{\gamma}}$  are dense, so Proposition 6.3 ensures that  $(b_{\gamma})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}$  and  $(\gamma b_{\gamma})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}$  are partitions of 1, thus Proposition 6.11 implies that we obtain an element of  $[\Gamma]$  by setting  $\pi(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma(b \cdot b_{\gamma})$  for all  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$ . But the set  $Y = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} B_{\gamma} \cap \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$ is comeager and if  $[y]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in Y$ , then there exists  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  for which  $[y]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in B_{\gamma} \cap \mathcal{N}_{b_{\gamma}}$ , and if  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $y(n) \leq b_{\gamma}$ , then  $(\pi \circ y)(n) = (\gamma \circ y)(n)$ , so  $\pi \circ y \mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})$   $\gamma \circ y$ , in which case  $\bar{\pi}([y]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})}) = \bar{\gamma} \cdot [y]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} = T([y]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})}), \text{ thus } \bar{\pi} \upharpoonright Y = T \upharpoonright Y.$ 

We next turn to a basic observation concerning Boolean algebras:

**Proposition 6.17.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra,  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$  for which  $\phi(b) \neq \psi(b)$ . Then there is a non-zero element  $a \leq b$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $\phi(a) \cdot \psi(a) = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* As at least one of  $\phi(b) - \psi(b)$  and  $\psi(b) - \phi(b)$  is not zero, the same holds of the elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$  given by

$$c = \phi^{-1}(\phi(b) - \psi(b)) = b - (\phi^{-1} \circ \psi)(b)$$

and

$$d = \psi^{-1}(\psi(b) - \phi(b)) = b - (\psi^{-1} \circ \phi)(b),$$

so it only remains to note that  $\phi(c) \cdot \psi(c) \leq (\phi(b) - \psi(b)) \cdot \psi(b) = \mathbb{O}$  and  $\phi(d) \cdot \psi(d) \leq \phi(b) \cdot (\psi(b) - \phi(b)) = \mathbb{O}$ , thus c or d is as desired.  $\boxtimes$ 

The following corollary ensures that the automorphism satisfying the conclusion of Proposition 6.16 is uniquely determined:

**Proposition 6.18.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra and  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $\forall^* x \in X_{\mathfrak{B}}$   $\bar{\phi}(x) = \bar{\psi}(x)$ . Then  $\phi = \psi$ .

Proof. If there exists  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$  for which  $\phi(b) \neq \psi(b)$ , then Proposition 6.17 yields a non-zero element  $a \leq b$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $\phi(a) \cdot \psi(a) = \mathbb{O}$ , so Proposition 6.15 ensures that  $\bar{\phi}(\mathcal{N}_a) \cap \bar{\psi}(\mathcal{N}_a) = \emptyset$ , thus  $\bar{\phi}(x) \neq \bar{\psi}(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{N}_a$ , contradicting Proposition 6.4.

Given an automorphism  $\pi$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , we say that an element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$  is  $\pi$ -independent if  $b \cdot \pi(b) = \mathbb{O}$ . We say that an automorphism  $\pi$  of a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra  $\mathfrak{B}$  is separable if there are countable sets  $B_k \subseteq \mathfrak{B}$  of  $\pi^k$ -independent elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \forall a \leq -\Sigma B_k \ a = \pi^k(a)$ .

**Proposition 6.19.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra and  $\pi$  is a separable automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then there is a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X$  is a separable  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphism.

Proof. Proposition 6.9 ensures that  $\bar{\pi}$  is a  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphism, thus so too is its restriction to any  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant set. For all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , fix a countable set  $B_k \subseteq \mathfrak{B}$  of  $\pi^k$ -independent elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $a = \pi^k(a)$  for all  $a \leq -\Sigma B_k$ . As Proposition 6.7 implies that  $\mathrm{id}_{\mathfrak{B}} = \mathrm{id}_{X_{\mathfrak{B}}}$ , Proposition 6.15 ensures that each set in the family  $\mathcal{B}_k = \{\mathcal{N}_b \mid b \in B_k\}$  is  $\bar{\pi}^k$ -independent. As Proposition 6.3 implies that the open set  $U_k = \mathcal{N}_{-\Sigma B_k} \cup \bigcup \mathcal{B}_k$  is dense, it follows that  $\bigcap_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^+} U_k$  is comeager. As Proposition 6.9 ensures that  $\bar{\pi}$  is a homeomorphism, Proposition 6.6 yields a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_\delta$  set  $X \subseteq \bigcap_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^+} U_k$ . But if  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in X \setminus \bigcup \mathcal{B}_k$ , then  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_{-\Sigma B_k}$ , and if  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $x(n) \leq -\Sigma B_k$ , then  $x(n) = (\pi^k \circ x)(n)$ , so  $x \in \mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})$   $\pi^k \circ x$ , thus  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} = \bar{\pi}^k([x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})})$ .

**Proposition 6.20.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\pi$  is an automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and there is a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant comeager set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X$  is a separable  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphism. Then  $\pi$  is separable.

Proof. For all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , Proposition 1.8 ensures that the support of  $\bar{\pi}^k \upharpoonright X$  is a  $\sigma$ -Borel subset of X, so Proposition 1.14 implies that it is the union of a countable set  $\mathcal{B}_k$  of  $\bar{\pi}^k$ -independent  $\sigma$ -Borel subsets of X. By Proposition 6.5, there is a function  $\phi_k \colon \mathcal{B}_k \to \mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $\underline{B} \bigtriangleup \mathcal{N}_{\phi_k(B)}$  is meager for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}_k$ . As Proposition 6.7 ensures that  $\mathrm{id}_{\mathfrak{B}} = \mathrm{id}_{X_{\mathfrak{B}}}$ , Proposition 6.15 implies that the elements of the set  $B_k = \phi_k(\mathcal{B}_k)$  are  $\pi^k$ -independent. Suppose, towards a contradiction, that there is a non-zero element  $c \leq -\Sigma B_k$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  for which  $c \neq \pi^k(c)$ . Proposition 6.17 then yields a non-zero  $\pi^k$ -independent element  $d \leq c$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . As  $\mathrm{id}_{\mathfrak{B}} = \mathrm{id}_{X_{\mathfrak{B}}}$ , Proposition 6.15 ensures that  $\mathcal{N}_d$ 

is  $\bar{\pi}^k$ -independent and therefore contained in the support of  $\bar{\pi}^k$ . As Proposition 6.4 implies that  $\mathcal{N}_d$  is not meager, there exists  $B \in \mathcal{B}_k$  for which  $B \cap \mathcal{N}_d$  is not meager. Setting  $b = \phi_k(B)$ , it follows that  $\mathcal{N}_b \cap \mathcal{N}_d$  is not meager, so Proposition 6.2 ensures that  $\mathcal{N}_{b \cdot d}$  is not meager, thus Proposition 6.1 implies that  $b \cdot d$  is not zero, contradicting the fact that  $d \leq -\Sigma B_k \leq -b$ .

Given a non-zero element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$  and a property P of elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , we write  $\forall^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq b \ P(a)$  to indicate that  $\forall 0 < a' \leq b \exists 0 < a \leq a' \ P(a)$ .

**Proposition 6.21.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra, b is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , and  $(\pi_i)_{i < k}$  is a sequence of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\forall i < j < k \forall^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq b \; \pi_i(a) \neq \pi_j(a)$ . Then there is a non-zero element  $a \leq b$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\forall i < j < k \; \pi_i(a) \cdot \pi_j(a) = \mathbb{O}$ .

Proof. Fix an enumeration  $(i_n, j_n)_{n < k(k-1)/2}$  of  $\{(i, j) \in k \times k \mid i < j\}$ , set  $a'_0 = b$ , and given n < k(k-1)/2 and a non-zero element  $a'_n \le b$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , fix a non-zero element  $a_n \le a'_n$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  for which  $\pi_{i_n}(a_n) \ne \pi_{j_n}(a_n)$  and appeal to Proposition 6.17 to obtain a non-zero element  $a'_{n+1} \le a_n$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\pi_{i_n}(a'_{n+1}) \cdot \pi_{j_n}(a'_{n+1}) = 0$ . Then  $a'_{k(k-1)/2}$  is as desired.  $\boxtimes$ 

We say that a countable group  $\Gamma$  of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$  is aperiodic on a non-zero element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$  if

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \forall^{\mathfrak{B}} c \leq b \exists (\gamma_i)_{i < k} \in \Gamma^k \forall i < j < k \forall^{\mathfrak{B}} d \leq c \ \gamma_i d \neq \gamma_j d.$$

When b = 1, we also say that  $\Gamma$  is aperiodic. For all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , the period  $\geq k$  part of a countable group  $\Gamma$  of permutations of a set X is given by  $\operatorname{Per}_{\geq k}(\Gamma) = \{x \in X \mid |\Gamma x| \geq k\}.$ 

**Proposition 6.22.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra, b is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$  that is aperiodic on b. Then the aperiodic part of  $\bar{\Gamma}$  is comeager in  $\mathcal{N}_b$ .

Proof. It is sufficient to show that if  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , then the period  $\geq k$  part of  $\bar{\Gamma}$  contains a dense open subset of  $\mathcal{N}_b$ . But if  $c' \leq b$  is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , then the aperiodicity of  $\Gamma$  on b yields a non-zero element  $c \leq c'$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  and  $(\gamma_i)_{i < k} \in \Gamma^k$  such that  $\forall i < j < k \forall^{\mathfrak{B}} d \leq c \ \gamma_i d \neq \gamma_j d$ , so Proposition 6.21 gives rise to a non-zero element  $d \leq c$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\forall i < j < k \ (\gamma_i d) \cdot (\gamma_j d) = \mathbb{O}$ , and if  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_d$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $x(n) \leq d$ , then  $(\gamma_i \circ x)(n) \cdot (\gamma_j \circ x)(n) = \mathbb{O}$  for all i < j < k, so  $\neg \gamma_i \circ x \ \mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B}) \ \gamma_j \circ x$  for all i < j < k, thus  $\overline{\gamma_i} \cdot [x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \neq \overline{\gamma_j} \cdot [x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})}$  for all i < j < k, hence  $\mathcal{N}_d \subseteq \operatorname{Per}_{\geq k}(\overline{\Gamma})$ .

We say that an automorphism  $\pi$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  is aperiodic on a non-zero element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$  if  $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \forall^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq b \ a \neq \pi^k(a)$ . When b = 1, we also say that  $\pi$  is aperiodic.

**Proposition 6.23.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra, b is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\pi$  is an automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then  $\pi$  is aperiodic on b if and only if  $\langle \pi \rangle$  is aperiodic on b.

Proof. Suppose first that  $\pi$  is aperiodic on b. To see that  $\langle \pi \rangle$  is aperiodic on b, suppose that  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $c' \leq b$  is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then the aperiodicity of  $\pi$  on b ensures that  $\forall^{\mathfrak{B}}c \leq c'$   $c \neq \pi^i(c)$  for all 0 < i < k, so  $\forall^{\mathfrak{B}}c \leq c'$   $\pi^i(c) \neq \pi^j(c)$  for all i < j < k, thus Proposition 6.21 yields a non-zero element  $c \leq c'$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\forall i < j < k$   $\pi^i(c) \cdot \pi^j(c) = \mathbb{O}$ . Setting  $\gamma_i = \pi^i$  for all i < k, it follows that  $\gamma_i d \neq \gamma_j d$  for all non-zero elements  $d \leq c$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  and i < j < k.

Suppose now that  $\langle \pi \rangle$  is aperiodic on b. To see that  $\pi$  is aperiodic on b, suppose that  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $a' \leq b$  is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , appeal to the aperiodicity of  $\langle \pi \rangle$  on b to obtain a non-zero element  $a'' \leq a'$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  and  $(n_i)_{i < k+1} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k+1}$  such that  $\forall i < j < k+1 \forall^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq a'' \pi^{n_i}(a) \neq \pi^{n_j}(a)$ , and fix i < j < k+1 for which  $n_j - n_i$  is divisible by n, as well as an element  $a \leq a''$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $\pi^{n_i}(a) \neq \pi^{n_j}(a)$ . Then  $a \neq \pi^{n_j - n_i}(a)$ , so  $a \neq \pi^n(a)$ .

Given a non-zero element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$  and a property P of elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , we write  $\exists^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq b \ P(a)$  to indicate that  $\exists \mathbb{O} < a' \leq b \forall \mathbb{O} < a \leq a' \ P(a)$ . We say that  $\pi$  is periodic if  $\forall b > \mathbb{O} \exists k \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \exists^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq b \ a = \pi^k(a)$ , or equivalently, if  $\pi$  is not aperiodic on any non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ .

**Proposition 6.24.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra and  $\pi$  is a periodic automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then the periodic part of  $\bar{\pi}$  contains a dense open set.

Proof. It is sufficient to note that if b is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , then the periodicity of  $\pi$  yields  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and a non-zero element  $a' \leq b$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $a = \pi^k(a)$  for all  $a \leq a'$ , and if  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_{a'}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $x(n) \leq a'$ , then  $x(n) = (\pi^k \circ x)(n)$ , so  $x \mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B}) \pi^k \circ x$ , thus  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} = \bar{\pi}^k([x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})})$ , hence  $\mathcal{N}_{a'} \subseteq \operatorname{Per}(\bar{\pi})$ .

Suppose now that  $K \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$ . We say that  $\pi$  has strict period K if  $\forall b > 0 \exists k \in K \exists^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq b \ k = \min\{i \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid a = \pi^i(a)\}.$ 

**Proposition 6.25.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra,  $K \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$  is finite, and  $\pi$  is an automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$  that has strict period K. Then  $\pi^{\text{lcm}(K)} = \text{id}_{\mathfrak{B}}$ .

Proof. If there exists  $b \in \mathfrak{B}$  for which  $b \neq \pi^{\operatorname{lcm}(K)}(b)$ , then Proposition 6.17 yields a non-zero  $\pi^{\operatorname{lcm}(K)}$ -independent element  $c \leq b$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , but the fact that  $\pi$  has strict period K yields a non-zero element  $d \leq c$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  for which  $d = \pi^{\operatorname{lcm}(K)}(d)$ , contradicting the fact that d is also  $\pi^{\operatorname{lcm}(K)}$ -independent.

**Proposition 6.26.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra and  $\pi$  is a periodic automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then  $\pi$  has strict period  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Proof. If b is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , then the periodicity of  $\pi$  yields  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for which there is a non-zero element  $a' \leq b$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $a = \pi^k(a)$  for all  $a \leq a'$ . Let k be the least such positive integer and fix such an a'. Then  $\forall^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq a'$   $a \neq \pi^i(a)$  for all 0 < i < k, so  $\forall^{\mathfrak{B}} a \leq a'$   $\pi^i(a) \neq \pi^j(a)$  for all i < j < k, thus Proposition 6.21 yields a non-zero element  $a'' \leq a'$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\forall i < j < k$   $\pi^i(a'') \cdot \pi^j(a'') = \mathbb{O}$ , in which case  $k = \min\{i \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid a = \pi^i(a)\}$  for all non-zero elements  $a \leq a''$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$ .

**Proposition 6.27.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Boolean algebra,  $K \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$ , and  $\pi$  is an automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$  for which the period K part of  $\bar{\pi}$  is comeager. Then  $\pi$  has strict period K.

Proof. Note first that  $\pi$  cannot be aperiodic on any non-zero element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , since otherwise Propositions 6.22 and 6.23 ensure that the aperiodic part of  $\bar{\pi}$  is comeager in  $\mathcal{N}_b$ , contradicting Proposition 6.4. Proposition 6.26 therefore implies that  $\pi$  has strict period  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ , so we need only show that if a' is a non-zero element of  $\mathfrak{B}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  has the property that  $\forall 0 < a \leq a' \ k = \min\{i \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid a = \pi^i(a)\}$ , then  $k \in K$ . But if  $[x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} \in \mathcal{N}_{a'}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is sufficiently large that  $x(n) \leq a'$ , then  $k = \min\{i \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid x(n) = (\pi^i \circ x)(n)\}$ , so

$$k = \min\{i \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid x \, \mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B}) \, \pi^i \circ x\}$$
$$= \min\{i \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid [x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})} = \bar{\pi}^i([x]_{\mathbb{E}_0(\mathfrak{B})})\},$$

thus  $\mathcal{N}_{a'} \subseteq \operatorname{Per}_k(\bar{\pi})$ , hence Proposition 6.4 ensures that  $k \in K$ .

Given a countable group  $\Gamma$  of automorphisms of a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra  $\mathfrak{B}$ , we say that an element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$  is  $\Gamma$ -complete if  $\mathbb{1} = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma b$ . A  $\Gamma$ -compression is a  $\Gamma$ -decomposable injection  $\phi \colon \mathfrak{B} \to \mathfrak{B}$  for which  $-\phi(\mathbb{1})$  is  $\Gamma$ -complete. We say that  $\Gamma$  is compressible if there is such a  $\Gamma$ -compression.

**Proposition 6.28.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\Gamma$  is a countable group of automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\phi$  is a  $\Gamma$ -compression. Then there is a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\phi} \upharpoonright X$  is a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -compression of X.

*Proof.* By Proposition 6.10, there is a dense open set  $U \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\phi} \upharpoonright U$  is  $\Gamma$ -decomposable. As  $\bar{\phi}(X_{\mathfrak{B}}) \subseteq \mathcal{N}_{\phi(\mathbb{1})} \subseteq \sim \mathcal{N}_{-\phi(\mathbb{1})}$ , Proposition 6.9 ensures that  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mathcal{N}_{\gamma(-\phi(\mathbb{1}))} = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma} \mathcal{N}_{-\phi(\mathbb{1})} \subseteq \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma} (\sim \bar{\phi}(X_{\mathfrak{B}}))$ . As Proposition 6.3 implies that the first of these sets is dense, the last is comeager. As Proposition 6.9 ensures that each element of  $\bar{\Gamma}$  is

a homeomorphism, Proposition 6.6 yields a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq U \cap \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma}(\sim \bar{\phi}(X_{\mathfrak{B}}))$ . As Proposition 6.11 implies that  $\phi$  is an isomorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with  $\mathfrak{B}_{\phi(\mathbb{1})}$ , Proposition 6.9 ensures that  $\bar{\phi}$  is injective, so to see that  $\bar{\phi} \upharpoonright X$  is a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -compression of X, it only remains to note that  $X \subseteq \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma}(\sim \bar{\phi}(X_{\mathfrak{B}})) \subseteq \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \bar{\gamma}(\sim \bar{\phi}(X))$ .

An involution of  $\mathfrak{B}$  is an automorphism  $\pi$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  for which  $\pi^2 = \mathrm{id}_{\mathfrak{B}}$ .

**Theorem 6.29.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra and  $\pi$  is a separable automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then there are involutions  $\iota_1, \iota_2, \iota_3 \in [\pi]$  for which  $\pi = \iota_3 \circ \iota_2 \circ \iota_1$ .

Proof. By Proposition 6.19, there is a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X$  is a separable  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphism. By Theorem 1, there are involutions  $I_1, I_2, I_3 \in [\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X]$  with the property that  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X = I_3 \circ I_2 \circ I_1$ . By Propositions 6.6, 6.9, and 6.16, there exist  $\iota_1, \iota_2, \iota_3 \in [\pi]$  and a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $Y \subseteq X$  with the property that  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq 3$   $\bar{\iota}_i \upharpoonright Y = I_i \upharpoonright Y$ . Then  $\bar{\iota}_i^2(y) = I_i^2(y) = y$  and  $\bar{\pi}(y) = (I_3 \circ I_2 \circ I_1)(y) = (\bar{\iota}_3 \circ \bar{\iota}_2 \circ \bar{\iota}_1)(y)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq 3$  and  $y \in Y$ , so  $\iota_i$  is an involution for all  $1 \leq i \leq 3$  and  $\pi = \iota_3 \circ \iota_2 \circ \iota_1$  by Propositions 6.8 and 6.18.

**Theorem 6.30.** Suppose that  $k \geq 2$ ,  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\pi$  is an aperiodic automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and there are periodic automorphisms  $\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_k \in [\pi]$  with the property that  $\pi = \phi_k \circ \cdots \circ \phi_1$ . Then  $\pi$  is separable.

*Proof.* By Propositions 6.6, 6.9, 6.14, 6.22, 6.23, and 6.24, there is a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  such that  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X$  is an aperiodic  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphism and  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq k \ \overline{\phi_i} \upharpoonright X$  is a periodic element of  $[\pi \upharpoonright X]$ . As Proposition 6.8 ensures that  $\bar{\pi} = \overline{\phi_k} \circ \cdots \circ \overline{\phi_1}$ , Theorem 2 implies that  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X$  is separable, thus so too is  $\pi$  by Proposition 6.20.

**Theorem 6.31.** Suppose that  $k_1 \geq 2$ ,  $k_2 \geq 3$ ,  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra, and  $\pi$  is an aperiodic separable automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then there exist  $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in [\pi]$  such that  $\phi_1$  has strict period  $\{k_1\}$ ,  $\phi_2$  has strict period  $\{1, k_2\}$ , and  $\pi = \phi_2 \circ \phi_1$ .

Proof. By Propositions 6.6, 6.9, 6.19, 6.22, and 6.23, there is a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  such that  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X$  is an aperiodic separable  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphism. By Theorem 3, there exist  $S_1, S_2 \in [\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X]$  for which every orbit of  $S_1$  has cardinality  $k_1$ , every orbit of  $S_2$  has cardinality 1 or  $k_2$ , and  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X = S_2 \circ S_1$ . By Propositions 6.6, 6.9, and 6.16, there exist  $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in [\pi]$  and a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $Y \subseteq X$  such that  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq 2$   $\phi_i \upharpoonright Y = S_i \upharpoonright Y$ . Then  $|[y]_{\overline{\phi_1}}| = |[y]_{S_1}| = k_1$ ,

 $|[y]_{\overline{\phi_2}}| = |[y]_{S_2}| \in \{1, k_2\}, \text{ and } \overline{\pi}(y) = (S_2 \circ S_1)(y) = (\overline{\phi_2} \circ \overline{\phi_1})(y) \text{ for all } y \in Y, \text{ so } \phi_1 \text{ and } \phi_2 \text{ have strict periods } \{k_1\} \text{ and } \{1, k_2\} \text{ by Proposition } 6.27 \text{ and } \pi = \phi_2 \circ \phi_1 \text{ by Propositions } 6.8 \text{ and } 6.18.$ 

**Theorem 6.32.** Suppose that  $k \geq 3$ ,  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra, and  $\pi$  is an aperiodic separable automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Then there exist  $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in [\pi]$  such that  $\phi_1^{-1}$  and  $\phi_2$  are conjugate in  $[\pi]$ ,  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  have strict period  $\{1, k\}$ , and  $\pi = \phi_2 \circ \phi_1$ .

Proof. By Propositions 6.6, 6.9, 6.19, 6.22, and 6.23, there is a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  with the property that  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X$  is an aperiodic separable  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphism. By Theorem 4, there exist  $S, S_1, S_2 \in [\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X]$  with the property that every orbit of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  has cardinality 1 or k,  $S_1^{-1} = S \circ S_2 \circ S^{-1}$ , and  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X = S_2 \circ S_1$ . By Propositions 6.6, 6.9, and 6.16, there exist  $\phi, \phi_1, \phi_2 \in [\pi]$  and a  $\bar{\pi}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $Y \subseteq X$  such that  $\bar{\phi} \upharpoonright Y = S \upharpoonright Y$  and  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq 2 \ \overline{\phi_i} \upharpoonright Y = S_i \upharpoonright Y$ . Then  $|[y]_{\overline{\phi_i}}| = |[y]_{S_i}| \in \{1, k\}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq 2, \ \overline{\phi_1}^{-1}(y) = S_1^{-1}(y) = (S \circ S_2 \circ S^{-1})(y) = (\bar{\phi} \circ \overline{\phi_2} \circ \bar{\phi}^{-1})(y)$ , and  $\bar{\pi}(y) = (S_2 \circ S_1)(y) = (\bar{\phi}_2 \circ \overline{\phi}_1)(y)$  for all  $y \in Y$ , so  $\phi_i$  has strict period  $\{1, k\}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq 2$  by Proposition 6.27 and  $\phi_1^{-1} = \phi \circ \phi_2 \circ \phi^{-1}$  and  $\pi = \phi_2 \circ \phi_1$  by Propositions 6.8 and 6.18.

**Theorem 6.33.** Suppose that  $k \geq 3$ ,  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra,  $\Gamma$  is an aperiodic countable group of separable automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and  $\pi \in [\Gamma]$ . Then there exist  $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in [\pi]$  such that  $\phi_1^{-1}$  and  $\phi_2$  are conjugate in  $[\Gamma]$ ,  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  have strict period  $\{1, 2, k\}$ , and  $\pi = \phi_2 \circ \phi_1$ .

Proof. By Propositions 6.6, 6.9, 6.14, 6.19, and 6.22, there is a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  such that  $\bar{\Gamma} \upharpoonright X$  is an aperiodic group of separable  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphisms and  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X \in [\bar{\Gamma} \upharpoonright X]$ . Theorem 4 yields  $S \in [\bar{\Gamma} \upharpoonright X]$  and  $S_1, S_2 \in [\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X]$  for which every orbit of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  has cardinality 1, 2, or k,  $S_1^{-1} = S \circ S_2 \circ S^{-1}$ , and  $\bar{\pi} \upharpoonright X = S_2 \circ S_1$ . By Propositions 6.6, 6.9, and 6.16, there exist  $\phi \in [\Gamma]$ ,  $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in [\pi]$ , and a  $\bar{\Gamma}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $Y \subseteq X$  with the property that  $\bar{\phi} \upharpoonright Y = S \upharpoonright Y$  and  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq 2$ ,  $\bar{\phi_i} \upharpoonright Y = S_i \upharpoonright Y$ . Then  $|[y]_{\bar{\phi_i}}| = |[y]_{S_i}| \in \{1, 2, k\}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq 2$ ,  $\bar{\phi_1}$   $(y) = (S_2 \circ S_1)(y) = (S_2 \circ$ 

We say that a group  $\Gamma$  of automorphisms of a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra is closed under countable decomposition if  $[\Delta] \subseteq \Gamma$  for every countable subgroup  $\Delta$  of  $\Gamma$ .

**Theorem 6.34.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra and  $\Gamma$  is a group of separable automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$  that is closed under countable decomposition and has an aperiodic countable subgroup  $\Delta$ . Then  $\Gamma$  has the Bergman property.

Proof. We first reduce the theorem to the special case where  $\Gamma = [\Delta]$ . Suppose, towards a contradiction, that  $\Gamma$  does not have the Bergman property. Then there is an exhaustive increasing sequence  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of subsets of  $\Gamma$  with the property that there exists  $\gamma_n \in \Gamma \setminus (\Gamma_n)^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\Delta'$  be the group generated by  $\{\gamma_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \Delta$  and define  $\Gamma' = [\Delta']$  and  $\Gamma'_n = \Gamma' \cap \Gamma_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\gamma_n \in \Gamma' \setminus (\Gamma'_n)^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $\Gamma'$  does not have the Bergman property, contradicting the aforementioned special case of the theorem.

To establish the special case, suppose that  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is an exhaustive increasing sequence of subsets of  $\Gamma$  and appeal to Propositions 6.6, 6.9, 6.19, and 6.22 to obtain a  $\Delta$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X \subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\Delta} \upharpoonright X$  is an aperiodic group of separable  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphisms. For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\Gamma'_n$  be the set of  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphisms of X that agree with an element of  $\overline{\Gamma_n}$  on a comeager set. Proposition 6.16 ensures that  $(\Gamma'_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is an exhaustive increasing sequence of subsets of  $[\bar{\Delta} \upharpoonright X]$ , so Theorem 7 yields  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $[\bar{\Delta} \upharpoonright X] = (\Gamma'_k)^k$ . To see that  $\Gamma = (\Gamma_k)^k$ , suppose that  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , apply Proposition 6.14 to obtain  $T \in [\bar{\Delta} \upharpoonright X]$  with the property that  $\forall^* x \in X_{\mathfrak{B}} \ \bar{\gamma} \cdot x = T(x)$ , and fix  $T_1, \ldots, T_k \in \Gamma'_k$  for which  $T = T_k \circ \cdots \circ T_1$ , as well as  $\gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_k \in \Gamma_k$ with the property that  $\forall^* x \in X_{\mathfrak{B}} \ \overline{\gamma_i} \cdot x = T_i(x)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . By Propositions 6.6 and 6.9, there is a  $\Delta$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $Y \subseteq X$ such that  $\bar{\gamma} \upharpoonright Y = T \upharpoonright Y$  and  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq k \ \overline{\gamma_i} \upharpoonright Y = T_i \upharpoonright Y$ , so  $\bar{\gamma} \upharpoonright Y = T_i \upharpoonright Y$  $T \upharpoonright Y = (T_k \circ \cdots \circ T_1) \upharpoonright Y = (\overline{\gamma_k} \cdots \overline{\gamma_1}) \upharpoonright Y$ , thus  $\gamma = \gamma_k \cdots \gamma_1 \in (\Gamma_k)^k$ by Propositions 6.8 and 6.18.

**Theorem 6.35.** Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra and  $\Gamma$  is a group of separable automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{B}$  that is closed under countable decomposition and has a compressible countable subgroup  $\Delta$ . Then  $\Gamma$  has the 14-Bergman property.

Proof. We first reduce the theorem to the special case where  $\Gamma = [\Delta]$ . Suppose, towards a contradiction, that  $\Gamma$  does not have the 14-Bergman property. Then there is an exhaustive increasing sequence  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of subsets of  $\Gamma$  with the property that there exists  $\gamma_n \in \Gamma \setminus (\Gamma_n)^{14}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\Delta'$  be the group generated by  $\{\gamma_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \Delta$  and define  $\Gamma' = [\Delta']$  and  $\Gamma'_n = \Gamma' \cap \Gamma_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\gamma_n \in \Gamma' \setminus (\Gamma'_n)^{14}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $\Gamma'$  does not have the 14-Bergman property, contradicting the aforementioned special case of the theorem.

To establish the special case, suppose that  $(\Gamma_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is an exhaustive increasing sequence of subsets of  $\Gamma$  and appeal to Propositions 6.6, 6.9, 6.19, and 6.28 to obtain a  $\bar{\Delta}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $X\subseteq X_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for which  $\bar{\Delta}\upharpoonright X$  is an aperiodic group of separable  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphisms. For all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ , let  $\Gamma'_n$  be the set of  $\sigma$ -Borel automorphisms of X that agree with an element of  $\overline{\Gamma_n}$  on a comeager set. Proposition 6.16 ensures that  $(\Gamma'_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is an exhaustive increasing sequence of subsets of  $[\bar{\Delta}\upharpoonright X]$ , so Theorem 8 yields  $n\in\mathbb{N}$  for which  $[\bar{\Delta}\upharpoonright X]=(\Gamma'_n)^{14}$ . To see that  $\Gamma=(\Gamma_n)^{14}$ , suppose that  $\gamma\in\Gamma$ , apply Proposition 6.14 to obtain  $T\in[\bar{\Delta}\upharpoonright X]$  with the property that  $\forall^*x\in X_{\mathfrak{B}}\ \bar{\gamma}\cdot x=T(x)$ , and fix  $T_1,\ldots,T_{14}\in\Gamma'_n$  for which  $T=T_{14}\circ\cdots\circ T_1$ , as well as  $\gamma_1,\ldots,\gamma_{14}\in\Gamma_n$  with the property that  $\forall^*x\in X_{\mathfrak{B}}\ \bar{\gamma}_i\cdot x=T_i(x)$  for all  $1\leq i\leq 14$ . By Propositions 6.6 and 6.9, there is a  $\bar{\Delta}$ -invariant dense  $G_{\delta}$  set  $Y\subseteq X$  such that  $\bar{\gamma}\upharpoonright Y=T\upharpoonright Y$  and  $\forall 1\leq i\leq 14\ \bar{\gamma}_i\upharpoonright Y=T_i\upharpoonright Y$ , thus  $\gamma=\gamma_{14}\cdots\gamma_1\in(\Gamma_n)^{14}$  by Propositions 6.8 and 6.18.

We close this section with the observation from [Fre04, §382M] that all automorphisms of complete Boolean algebras are separable in the presence of full choice, thereby eliminating the need for separability in the hypotheses of the special cases of Theorems 6.29 and 6.31–6.35 for complete Boolean algebras under AC. The first of these simplified special cases was originally established in [Ryz93].

**Proposition 6.36** (AC). Suppose that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a complete Boolean algebra. Then every automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$  is separable.

Proof. We will establish the ostensibly stronger fact that if  $\pi$  is an automorphism of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , then there is a  $\pi$ -independent element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$  with the property that  $a=\pi(a)$  for all elements  $a\leq -(\pi^{-1}(b)+b+\pi(b))$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . Towards this end, note that if  $(b_{\alpha})_{\alpha<\gamma}$  is a strictly increasing sequence of  $\pi$ -independent elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , then the element of  $\mathfrak{B}$  given by  $b=\sum_{\alpha<\gamma}b_{\alpha}$  is itself  $\pi$ -independent, for if  $b\cdot\pi(b)\neq 0$ , then there exist  $\alpha<\gamma$  such that  $b_{\alpha}\cdot\pi(b)\neq 0$  and  $\beta<\gamma$  such that  $b_{\alpha}\cdot\pi(b_{\beta})\neq 0$ , contradicting the fact that  $b_{\max\{\alpha,\beta\}}$  is  $\pi$ -independent. It follows that there is a maximal such sequence, in which case the corresponding ordinal  $\gamma$  is a successor, so the corresponding element b of  $\mathfrak{B}$  is  $b_{\gamma-1}$ . But if there is an element  $c\leq -(\pi^{-1}(b)+b+\pi(b))$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  for which  $c\neq\pi(c)$ , then Proposition 6.17 yields a non-zero  $\pi$ -independent element  $d\leq c$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and since  $b\cdot\pi(d)=\pi(\pi^{-1}(b)\cdot d)$ , it follows that  $(b+d)\cdot\pi(b+d)=(b\cdot\pi(b))+(b\cdot\pi(d))+(d\cdot\pi(b))+(d\cdot\pi(d))=0$ , so b+d is  $\pi$ -independent, contradicting the maximality of  $(b_{\alpha})_{\alpha<\gamma}$ .

Acknowledgements. I would like to thank David Fremlin for introducing me to the problem of writing automorphisms as compositions of three involutions (well before either of us were aware of [Ryz93]). As the work presented here originated in my dissertation, I would also like to thank my PhD advisors, Alexander Kechris and John Steel.

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