

The next lecture is entirely dedicated to exercises.

**EXERCISE 1.** Let  $\phi(x; y)$  and  $\psi(x, z)$  be stable  $\mathcal{L}$ -formulas. Show the following:

1.  $\phi^{\text{opp}}(y; x) := \phi(x; y)$  is stable;
2.  $\neg\phi(x; y)$  is stable;
3.  $\theta(x; yz) := \phi(x; y) \wedge \psi(x; z)$  is stable;
4.  $\theta(x; yz) := \phi(x; y) \vee \psi(x; z)$  is stable;
5. For  $y = uv$  and  $c \in \mathbb{M}^{|v|}$ ,  $\phi(x; u, c)$  is stable.

**EXERCISE 2.** Show that the following are equivalent:

1.  $T$  is stable (in the sense of being  $\kappa$ -stable for some infinite  $\kappa$ );
2. every  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula  $\phi(x; y)$  is stable for  $T$ ;
3.  $T$  is  $\kappa$ -stable for all  $\kappa$  such that  $\kappa^{|T|} = \kappa$ .

**Definition 1.** For  $\kappa$  an infinite cardinal, let

$$\text{ded}(\kappa) := \sup\{|I| : I \text{ is a linear ordering with a dense subset of size } \kappa\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $\kappa < \text{ded}(\kappa) \leq 2^\kappa$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $T$  be a countable theory. Write  $f_T : \text{Card} \rightarrow \text{Card}$  for the function on cardinals given by

$$f_T(\kappa) := \sup\{|S_n(M)| : \mathcal{M} \models T, |M| = \kappa, n \in \omega\}.$$

[It is easy to see that if we fixed  $n$  in the definition above, we would still get  $f_T$ .]

**EXERCISE 3.** Prove that if  $T$  is unstable, then  $f_T(\kappa) \geq \text{ded}(\kappa)$  for all cardinals  $\kappa \geq |T|$ .

Recall the following definitions and lemmas from the Model Theory course:

**Definition 3.** Let  $I$  be an infinite linear order and  $A$  a set of parameters. We say that  $(a_i | i \in I)$  is **indiscernible** over  $A$  if for every  $\mathcal{L}(A)$ -formula  $\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $i_1 < \dots < i_n, j_1 < \dots < j_n$  from  $I$ , we have that

$$\models \phi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}) \leftrightarrow \phi(a_{j_1}, \dots, a_{j_n}). \quad (1)$$

We say that the sequence is **totally indiscernible** over  $A$  if the condition 1 holds for any  $\{i_1, \dots, i_n\}, \{j_1, \dots, j_n\}$  from  $I$  of size  $n$ .

For a sequence  $(a_i | i \in I)$ , its **EM-type** (i.e. Ehrenfeucht-Motowski type) over  $A$  is given by

$$\text{EM}(a_i | i \in I) := \{\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathcal{L}(A) \mid \models \phi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}) \text{ for all } i_1 < \dots < i_n, n < \omega\}.$$

**Lemma 4** (Extracting indiscernible sequences). *Let  $A$  be a set of parameters and  $(b_i | i \in I)$  a infinite sequence. Let  $J$  be a linear order. Then, there is a sequence  $(a_j | j \in J)$  which is indiscernible over  $A$  and realising the same EM-type as  $(b_i | i \in I)$ .*

**EXERCISE 4.**

- Show that  $T$  is stable if and only if there is an infinite sequence  $(a_i | i < \omega)$  and a formula  $\phi(x, y)$  such that  $\models \phi(a_i, a_j)$  if and only if  $i < j$ ;
- Show that if  $T$  is unstable there is an indiscernible sequence which is not totally indiscernible;

- Show that if  $T$  is stable then every indiscernible sequence is totally indiscernible. [Hint: Say that we have an indiscernible sequence  $(a_i | i < \omega)$  which is not totally indiscernible. Show that there is a formula  $\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  such that for some transposition  $\tau$  switching only two consecutive variables

$$\vdash \phi(a_1, \dots, a_n) \wedge \neg \phi(a_{\tau(1)}, \dots, a_{\tau(n)}).$$

Use this formula to find an unstable formula in  $T$ .]

**Theorem 5** (Erdős-Makkai). *Let  $B$  be an infinite set and  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(B)$  with  $|B| < |\mathcal{F}|$ . Then, there are sequences  $(b_i | i < \omega)$  of elements of  $B$  and  $(S_i | i < \omega)$  of elements of  $\mathcal{F}$  such that for all  $i, j \in \omega$ , we have that*

- EITHER  $b_i \in S_j$  if and only if  $j < i$ ;
- OR  $b_i \in S_j$  if and only if  $i < j$ .

**EXERCISE 5** (Proof of Erdős-Makkai). Note that there is  $\mathcal{F}' \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  such that  $|\mathcal{F}'| = |B|$  and for all  $B_0, B_1 \subseteq B$  finite, if there is some  $S \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $B_0 \subseteq S, B_1 \subseteq B \setminus S$ , then there is some  $S' \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $B_0 \subseteq S', B_1 \subseteq B \setminus S'$ . Note that there is  $S^* \in \mathcal{F}$  which is not a Boolean combination of elements of  $\mathcal{F}'$ . Now, prove Erdős-Makkai. [Hint: you need to construct appropriate sequences in  $S^*, B \setminus S^*$  and  $\mathcal{F}'$ , and then use Ramsey's theorem.]