

A REGULAR SET THEOREM FOR INFINITE  
COMPUTATION THEORIES

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A subset  $B$  of the domain of a recursion theory is said to be regular if  $B \cap K$  is "finite" (in the theory) whenever the set  $K$  is "finite". Of course, in ordinary recursion theory every set is regular, so there the concept is not considered. However, when moving up to recursion theory on an admissible ordinal  $\alpha$ , non-regular  $\alpha$ -r.e. sets exist whenever  $\alpha^* < \alpha$ . In case  $\alpha$  is inadmissible then there are non-regular  $\alpha$ -recursive sets.

When studying  $\alpha$ -r.e. degrees for an admissible ordinal  $\alpha$  the obstacle of the existence of non-regular  $\alpha$ -r.e. sets is circumvented by the following theorem due to Sacks.

Theorem 1 ([3]). Suppose  $\alpha$  is an admissible ordinal. Then every  $\alpha$ -r.e. set is of the same  $\alpha$ -degree as a regular  $\alpha$ -r.e. set.

Maass [1] has recently obtained a uniform version of theorem 1.

Let  $\Theta$  be an infinite computation theory as defined in [6]. In this paper we prove the following analogue of theorem 1. (A weaker but for most degree theoretic purposes sufficient version

is proved in [7].)

Theorem 2. Suppose  $\Theta$  is an adequate infinite computation theory. Then every  $\Theta$ -s.c. set  $B$  is of the same degree as a regular  $\Theta$ -s.c. set  $D$ . Furthermore  $D$  may be chosen such that  $\forall x(\forall y \sim x) (x \in D \Rightarrow y \in D)$ .

Remark: Suppose  $\Theta$  is the infinite computation theory over an adequate resolvable admissible set  $\mathcal{A}$  with urelements. Then the theorem asserts that every  $\mathcal{A}$ -r.e. set is of the same  $\mathcal{A}$ -degree as a regular  $\mathcal{A}$ -r.e. subset of  $o(\mathcal{A})$ , the ordinal of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Thus we have that adequacy is a sufficient condition on  $\Theta$  for the regular set theorem to hold. However, it is shown in [2] that the condition is not necessary. On the other hand, assuming AD, Simpson [4] has shown there is a  $\Theta$  such that every regular  $\Theta$ -s.c. set is  $\Theta$ -computable.

The proof of theorem 1 was simplified by Simpson [5]. He utilized the wellordering of the domain in the form that every  $\alpha$ -r.e. non- $\alpha$ -finite set has a 1-1  $\alpha$ -recursive enumeration. The analogous property is false for arbitrary adequate computation theories. Thus our proof of theorem 2 is modelled after Sacks' original proof of theorem 1.

For definitions and notation the reader is referred to [6].

Proof of theorem 2: Let  $B$  be a  $\Theta$ -s.c. non- $\Theta$ -computable set. We are to find a regular  $\Theta$ -s.c. set  $D$  such that  $D \equiv B$ . Let  $B^* = \{\xi : K_\xi \cap B \neq \emptyset\}$  where  $\lambda \xi K_\xi$  is a fixed enumeration of  $\Theta$ -finite sets. We have  $K_\xi \cap B^* = \emptyset \iff \bigcup \{K_\eta : \eta \in K_\xi\} \cap B = \emptyset$  and  $K_\xi \cap B = \emptyset \iff \xi \notin B^*$ . Thus  $B^* \equiv B$ .

Let  $\pi : U \rightarrow L^{|\approx|*}$  be a projection such that  $\pi(x) \rightarrow y_1$  &  $\pi(x) \rightarrow y_2 \Rightarrow y_1 \sim y_2$ . Then

$$(1) \quad K_Y \cap B^* = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \bigcup \{K_\eta : \eta \in K_Y\} \cap B = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow H_Y \cap B^* = \emptyset$$

where  $\lambda_Y H_Y$  is a  $\Theta$ -computable mapping whose values are (canonical  $\Theta$ -indices for)  $\Theta$ -finite sets such that  $\forall Y (H_Y \neq \emptyset)$ ,

$$\xi \in H_Y \Rightarrow K_\xi = \bigcup \{K_\eta : \eta \in K_Y\} \quad \text{and}$$

$\xi_1, \xi_2 \in H_Y \Rightarrow \xi_1 \sim \xi_2$  &  $\pi(\xi_1) \sim \pi(\xi_2)$ . Because of (1) it is convenient to work with  $B^*$  instead of  $B$ .

Let  $\lambda \sigma B^\sigma$  be a disjoint ( $\approx$ )-enumeration of  $B^*$  such that  $\forall \sigma (B^\sigma \neq \emptyset)$  and  $\forall \sigma, x, y (x \in B^\sigma \ \& \ y \in B^\sigma \Rightarrow x \sim y \ \& \ \pi(x) \sim \pi(y))$ .

Define

$$D^2 = \{\sigma : (\exists \tau \succ \sigma)(B^\tau \prec B^\sigma \ \& \ \pi(B^\tau) \prec \pi(B^\sigma))\}.$$

Note that expressions like  $\pi(B^\tau) \prec \pi(B^\sigma)$  make sense and are  $\Theta$ -computable. Clearly  $D^2$  is  $\Theta$ -s.c. and  $U - D^2$  is unbounded.

Claim 1:  $D^2$  is regular.

Proof: Given  $\sigma_0$  we show  $D^2 \cap L^{\sigma_0}$  is  $\Theta$ -finite. Having defined  $\sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n$  we choose, if possible,  $\sigma_{n+1}$  such that  $\sigma_{n+1} \succ \sigma_n$  and  $(\forall j \leq n) (B^{\sigma_{n+1}} \prec B^{\sigma_j} \vee \pi(B^{\sigma_{n+1}}) \prec \pi(B^{\sigma_j}))$ . By the well-foundedness of  $\prec$  the defined sequence is finite. Let  $\sigma_n$  be the last. Then

$$D^2 \cap L^{\sigma_0} = \{\sigma \prec \sigma_0 : (\exists \tau \preceq \sigma_n)(B^\tau \prec B^\sigma \ \& \ \pi(B^\tau) \prec \pi(B^\sigma) \ \& \ \tau \succ \sigma)\}.$$

One inclusion is obvious. So suppose  $\sigma \in D^2 \cap L^{\sigma_0}$ . Choose  $\tau \succ \sigma$  such that  $B^\tau \prec B^\sigma \ \& \ \pi(B^\tau) \prec \pi(B^\sigma)$ . If  $\tau \preceq \sigma_n$  then all is well. If  $\tau \succ \sigma_n$  then by the choice of  $\sigma_n$  there is  $j \leq n$  such that  $B^{\sigma_j} \preceq B^\tau \ \& \ \pi(B^{\sigma_j}) \preceq \pi(B^\tau)$ . But then  $B^{\sigma_j} \prec B^\sigma \ \& \ \pi(B^{\sigma_j}) \prec \pi(B^\sigma)$  and  $\sigma \prec \sigma_0 \preceq \sigma_j$ . Thus the inclusion from left to right holds.  $\square$

Claim 2:  $D^2 \leq B^*$ .

Proof: First we show

$$(2) \quad \sigma \notin D^2 \iff \pi^{-1}[\pi(L^{B^\sigma}) \cap (L^{\pi(B^\sigma)} - \bigcup_{\tau < \sigma} \pi(B^\tau))] \cap B^* = \emptyset.$$

Suppose the right hand side is false for a given  $\sigma$ . Then there are  $x$  and  $\tau$  such that

$x \in \pi^{-1}[\pi(L^{B^\sigma}) \cap (L^{\pi(B^\sigma)} - \bigcup_{\sigma' < \sigma} \pi(B^{\sigma'}))] \cap B^\tau$ . In particular  $\pi(x) \cap \pi(L^{B^\sigma}) \neq \emptyset$  so  $x \in L^{B^\sigma}$  (since  $\pi$  is a projection) and hence  $B^\tau < B^\sigma$ . Furthermore  $\pi(x) \cap (L^{\pi(B^\sigma)} - \bigcup_{\sigma' < \sigma} \pi(B^{\sigma'})) \neq \emptyset$  so  $\pi(B^\tau) < \pi(B^\sigma)$  and  $\tau > \sigma$ . Thus  $\sigma \in D^2$ .

The converse of (2) follows by a similar argument. Using (2) we have

$$K \cap D^2 = \emptyset \iff \bigcup_{\sigma \in K} \pi^{-1}[\pi(L^{B^\sigma}) \cap (L^{\pi(B^\sigma)} - \bigcup_{\tau < \sigma} \pi(B^\tau))] \cap B^* = \emptyset,$$

so  $D^2 \leq B^*$ . □

We now make an assumption and show that if the assumption holds then  $B^* \leq D^2$ . On the other hand if the assumption is false, we find  $\sigma$  such that  $B^* \equiv B^* \cap L^\sigma$ . It is then easy to find a regular  $\Theta$ -s.c. set  $D$  such that  $B^* \cap L^\sigma \equiv D$ .

Define

$$k_1(\gamma) = \mu\sigma[H_\gamma < \sigma \ \& \ \pi(H_\gamma) < \min \pi(\{y : y \sim \sigma\})].$$

$k_1$  is  $\Theta$ -computable and total (by adequacy). Let

$$k(\gamma) = \mu\sigma[k_1(\gamma) \preceq B^\sigma \ \& \ \min \pi(\{y : y \sim k_1(\gamma)\}) \preceq \pi(B^\sigma) \ \& \ \sigma \notin D^2].$$

Note that  $k \leq_w D^2$ .

Claim 3: If  $k$  is total then  $B^* \leq D^2$ .

Proof: Note that  $H_\gamma \cap B^* \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow H_\gamma \subseteq B^*$ . We show  $H_\gamma \subseteq B^* \Leftrightarrow H_\gamma \subseteq \cup\{B^\tau : \tau < k(\gamma)\}$ . It then follows from (1) that  $B^* \leq D^2$ . So let  $\xi \in H_\gamma \subseteq B^*$ , say  $\xi \in B^\tau$ . We want to show  $\tau < k(\gamma)$ .  $B^\tau < k_1(\gamma) \lesssim B^{k(\gamma)}$  so  $\tau \neq k(\gamma)$ . Suppose  $\tau > k(\gamma)$ . Then since  $k(\gamma) \notin D^2$  it must be that  $\pi(B^{k(\gamma)}) \lesssim \pi(B^\tau)$ . But then  $\pi(B^\tau) \sim \pi(H_\gamma) < \min \pi(\{y : y \sim k_1(\gamma)\}) \lesssim \pi(B^{k(\gamma)}) \lesssim \pi(B^\tau)$ , a contradiction. Thus  $\tau < k(\gamma)$ .  $\square$

Now we assume  $k$  is not total. Choose  $\gamma$  such that  $\forall \sigma [B^\sigma < k_1(\gamma) \vee \pi(B^\sigma) < \min \pi(\{y : y \sim k_1(\gamma)\}) \vee \sigma \in D^2]$ .

Let  $B_\gamma^* = B^* \cap L^{k_1(\gamma)}$ . We will show  $B_\gamma^* \equiv B^*$ . Clearly  $B_\gamma^* \leq B^*$ .

By adequacy we can choose  $\sigma_0$  such that

$\tau > \sigma_0 \Rightarrow \pi(B^\tau) > \min \pi(\{y : y \sim k_1(\gamma)\})$ . Thus

$$(3) \quad \forall \tau > \sigma_0 (B^\tau < k_1(\gamma) \vee \tau \in D^2).$$

Let  $B' = B^* - (L^{k_1(\gamma)} \cup \cup\{B^\tau : \tau \lesssim \sigma_0\})$ . Since clearly  $B^* - B' \leq B_\gamma^*$ , it suffices to show  $B' \leq B_\gamma^*$  in order to show  $B^* \equiv B_\gamma^*$ .

Claim 4:  $B' \leq B_\gamma^*$ .

Proof: We first show

$$(4) \quad \xi \in B' \Leftrightarrow \exists \sigma, \tau [\sigma_0 < \sigma < \tau \ \& \ \xi \in B^\sigma \ \& \ B^\tau < k_1(\gamma) \lesssim B^\sigma \ \& \ \pi(B^\tau) < \pi(B^\sigma)].$$

The if direction is obvious. So suppose  $\xi \in B'$ . Then there is  $\sigma > \sigma_0$  such that  $\xi \in B^\sigma$  and, by (3) and the definition of  $B'$ ,  $\sigma \in D^2$ . Thus there is  $\tau_1 > \sigma$  such that  $B^{\tau_1} < B^\sigma$  and  $\pi(B^{\tau_1}) < \pi(B^\sigma)$ . If  $B^{\tau_1} < k_1(\gamma)$  then we are done. If not, then  $B^{\tau_1} \not\lesssim k_1(\gamma)$  so  $\tau_1 \in D^2$  by (3). Thus there is  $\tau_2 > \tau_1$  such that

$B^{\tau_2} \prec B^{\tau_1}$  &  $\pi(B^{\tau_2}) \prec \pi(B^{\tau_1})$ . The sequence  $\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots$  must be finite so eventually we obtain  $\tau_m$  such that  $B^{\tau_m} \prec k_1(\gamma)$ . This proves (4).

Now suppose we have chosen the enumeration of  $\Theta$ -finite sets  $\lambda \xi K_\xi$  to be repetitive in the following sense: Given any  $x$  then every  $\Theta$ -finite set has an index in  $U - L^X$ . Then we can find a  $\Theta$ -computable mapping  $\lambda \eta G_\eta$  whose values are  $\Theta$ -finite sets such that

$$(5) \quad K_\eta \cap B' = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow (K_\eta - (L^{k_1(\gamma)} \cup U\{B^\tau : \tau \preceq \sigma_0\})) \cap B^* = \emptyset \\ \Leftrightarrow G_\eta \cap B' = \emptyset.$$

Furthermore  $\lambda \eta G_\eta$  can be chosen to have the following properties:

$$\forall \eta (G_\eta \neq \emptyset), G_\eta \cap B' \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow G_\eta \subseteq B', G_\eta \subseteq B^* \Leftrightarrow G_\eta \subseteq B', \text{ and} \\ \xi_1, \xi_2 \in G_\eta \Rightarrow \xi_1 \sim \xi_2 \ \& \ \pi(\xi_1) \sim \pi(\xi_2).$$

Let  $F_\eta = \{x \in L^{k_1(\gamma)} : \pi(x) \prec \pi(G_\eta)\}$ , and let  $l(\eta) = \mu \tau [(F_\eta - U\{B^\sigma : \sigma \prec \tau\}) \cap B_Y^* = \emptyset]$ . Then  $l$  is total by adequacy and  $l \leq_w B_Y^*$ . Clearly  $l(\eta)$  is a strict least upper bound for  $\{\tau : B^\tau \subseteq F_\eta\}$ . We show  $G_\eta \cap B' = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow G_\eta \cap U\{B^\tau : \tau \prec l(\eta)\} = \emptyset$ . Combining this with (5) we then have  $B' \leq B_Y^*$ . So suppose  $\xi \in G_\eta \subseteq B'$ . By (4) there is  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  such that  $\sigma_0 \prec \sigma \prec \tau$ ,  $\xi \in B^\sigma$ ,  $B^\tau \prec k_1(\gamma)$  and  $\pi(B^\tau) \prec \pi(B^\sigma)$ . If  $\sigma \succeq l(\eta)$  then  $\tau \succ l(\eta)$  so  $\pi(G_\eta) \preceq \pi(B^\tau)$ . But  $\pi(B^\tau) \prec \pi(B^\sigma) \sim \pi(G_\eta)$  so we have a contradiction. This shows  $\sigma \prec l(\eta)$ , which was all that remained to prove the claim.  $\square$

Let  $C = U\{\pi(x) : x \in B_Y^*\}$ . It is easily seen that  $C \equiv B_Y^*$  since  $B_Y^*$  is bounded. Let  $\lambda \sigma C^\sigma$  be a disjoint  $(\preceq)$ -enumeration of  $C$  such that  $\forall \sigma (C^\sigma \neq \emptyset)$  and  $x, y \in C^\sigma \Rightarrow x \sim y$ . Let  $D = \{\sigma : (\exists \tau \succ \sigma)(C^\tau \prec C^\sigma)\}$ , the deficiency set of  $C$ .  $D$  is clearly

regular and  $U-D$  is unbounded. We show  $D \equiv B_Y^*$  thus completing the proof of the theorem.

We have  $\sigma \notin D \Leftrightarrow (L^{C^\sigma} - U\{C^\tau : \tau < \sigma\}) \cap C = \emptyset$  so  
 $K \cap D = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \bigcup_{\sigma \in K} (L^{C^\sigma} - U\{C^\tau : \tau < \sigma\}) \cap C = \emptyset$ . Thus  $D \leq C \equiv B_Y^*$ .

For the converse reducibility note that

$$(6) \quad K_\eta \cap B_Y^* = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \bigcup \{K_\xi : \xi \in K_\eta \cap L^{k_1(\gamma)}\} \cap B = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow N_\eta \cap B' = \emptyset$$

where  $\lambda\eta N_\eta$  is a  $\mathcal{O}$ -computable mapping having properties similar to those of  $\lambda\eta G_\eta$ . Let  $f(\eta) = \mu\tau[C^\tau \succeq \pi(N_\eta) \ \& \ \tau \notin D]$ .  $f$  is total by adequacy and  $f \leq_w D$ . Let

$g(\eta) = \mu\tau[\pi^{-1}(U\{C^\sigma : \sigma < f(\eta)\}) - U\{B^\sigma : \sigma < \tau\} = \emptyset]$ . Then  $g$  is total and  $g \leq_w D$ . We show  $N_\eta \subseteq B' \Leftrightarrow N_\eta \subseteq U\{B^\tau : \tau < g(\eta)\}$ . This together with (6) shows  $B_Y^* \leq D$ . So suppose  $\xi \in N_\eta \subseteq B'$ . By (4) there are  $\sigma, \tau$  such that  $\xi \in B^\sigma$ ,  $\sigma < \tau$ ,  $B^\tau < k_1(\gamma) \preceq B^\sigma$  and  $\pi(B^\tau) < \pi(B^\sigma) \sim \pi(N_\eta)$ . Thus  $B^\tau \subseteq B_Y^*$  since  $B^\tau < k_1(\gamma)$ . Furthermore  $B^\tau \subseteq \pi^{-1}(U\{C^{\tau'} : \tau' < f(\eta)\})$  since  $\pi(B^\tau) < \pi(N_\eta)$  and  $D$  is a deficiency set for  $C$ . But then  $\tau < g(\eta)$  so  $\sigma < g(\eta)$ .

As a final remark we note that the regular set produced is either  $D^2$  or  $D$ . Both of these satisfy the last statement of the theorem.

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