

Étale structures in countable model theory and descriptive set theory

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August 22, 2023

Background

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These are spaces of **codes** for \mathcal{L} -structures, not \mathcal{L} -structures themselves!

$X = \{\text{codes for } \mathcal{L}\text{-structures}\}$



$\{\text{all } \mathcal{L}\text{-structures}\}$

$X = \{\text{codes for } \mathcal{L}\text{-structures}\} : \text{a nice (e.g., Polish) topol. space}$



$\{\text{all } \mathcal{L}\text{-structures}\} : ???$

Étale structures

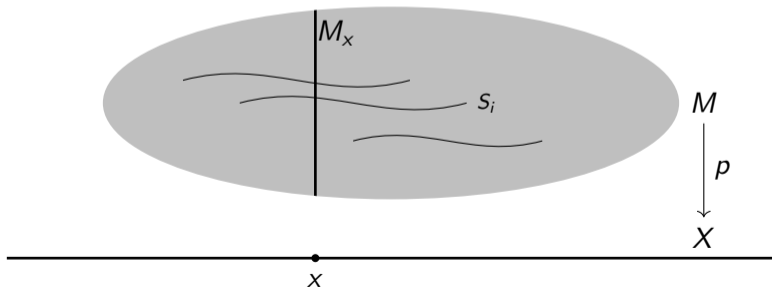
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Étale structures

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Definition An **étale space over X** is a topological space M equipped with a continuous map $p : M \rightarrow X$ (the “projection”) which is a **local homeomorphism**:

- ▶ $M = \bigcup_i S_i$ for **open sections** $S_i \subseteq M$ s.t. $p|_{S_i} : S_i \rightarrow X$ is an open embedding.
“The fibers $M_x := p^{-1}(x)$ are discrete, continuously in x .”

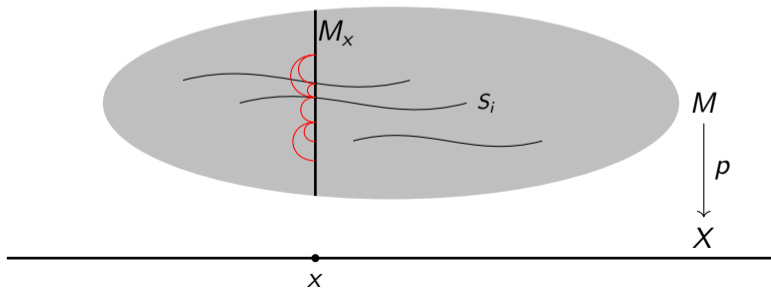


Étale structures

Let X be a topological space, \mathcal{L} be a first-order language.

Definition An **étale \mathcal{L} -structure \mathcal{M} over X** is:

- ▶ an underlying étale space $p : M \rightarrow X$;
- ▶ for each n -ary function symbol $f \in \mathcal{L}$, a continuous map $f^{\mathcal{M}} : M_X^n \rightarrow M$ over X ;
- ▶ for each n -ary relation symbol $R \in \mathcal{L}$, an open set $R^{\mathcal{M}} \subseteq M_X^n$.



Examples of étale structures



$$M = X \times \mathbb{N}$$

$$\downarrow \text{proj}_1$$

$$X = \prod_{n\text{-ary } R \in \mathcal{L}} 2^{\mathbb{N}^n} \times \prod_{n\text{-ary } f \in \mathcal{L}} \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}^n}$$

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▶ Assume \mathcal{L} is functional.

$$M = \{(\sim, a) \mid \sim \in X, a \in \langle \mathbb{N} \rangle / \sim\} \quad (\text{quotient of } X \times \langle \mathbb{N} \rangle)$$
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$$X = \{\sim \subseteq \langle \mathbb{N} \rangle^2 = \{\mathcal{L}\text{-terms over } \mathbb{N}\}^2 \mid \sim \text{ is a congruence}\}$$

(... , Artin–Grothendieck–Verdier '71, Makkai–Reyes '77, Joyal–Tierney '84, ...)

topology

étale model theory

cts map $f : X \rightarrow Y =$ “all \mathcal{L} -strs”

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$\ker(f) = \{(x_1, x_2) \in X^2 \mid f(x_1) = f(x_2)\}$

$\text{Iso}(\mathcal{M}) = \{(x_1, x_2, g) \mid g : \mathcal{M}_{x_1} \cong \mathcal{M}_{x_2}\}$
= **isomorphism groupoid** of \mathcal{M}

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cts open $f : X \rightarrow Y$ (onto image)

open $U \subseteq M_X^n$ has Σ_1 **saturation**
 $\text{Iso}(\mathcal{M}) \cdot U = \phi^{\mathcal{M}}$ (ϕ uses \wedge, \vee, \exists)

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$\text{Iso}(\mathcal{M}) \cdot \{(x, \vec{a}) \mid \phi^x(\vec{b})\}$ (ϕ uses \wedge, \neg)
 $= (\exists \vec{z} (\phi(\vec{z}) \wedge "(\vec{y}, \vec{z}) \cong (\vec{a}, \vec{b})"))^{\mathcal{M}}$
 $\rightsquigarrow \Sigma_2$ (Σ_1 after Morleyizing \neg -atomic)

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$\exists x_0 \cdots x_{n-1} \bigwedge_{i \neq j} (x_i \neq x_j)$
 $\rightsquigarrow \Sigma_4$ saturations

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2nd-ctbl étale \mathcal{M} w/ Σ_1 sat $\Rightarrow \Pi_2$ -ax'ble

Theorem (C. 2023) *For every second-countable étale structure \mathcal{M} with Σ_1 saturations over a (quasi-)Polish X , the collection of fibers \mathcal{M}_x is Π_2 -axiomatizable.*

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Proof is a combination of:

(Sierpinski, de Brecht) Open quotient of (q-)Polish is (q-)Polish.

(Alexandrov, de Brecht) (Q-)Polish subspace of second-countable is Π_2^0 .

(Ryll-Nardzewski, Suzuki) Atomic models are Π_2 -categorical.

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$A^\Delta = \{\vec{a} \in M_X^n \mid \exists^*(y, x, g) \in \text{Iso}(\mathcal{M}) (\vec{a} \in gA)\}$

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Theorem (C. 2023) *For every second-countable étale structure \mathcal{M} with Σ_1 saturations over a (quasi-)Polish X , every \cong -invariant $\Sigma_\alpha^0 A \subseteq M_X^n$ is definable by a $\Sigma_\alpha \phi$.*

This includes both the classical Lopez-Escobar theorem and a recent version for “positive” formulas due to (Bazhenov–Fokina–Rossegger–Soskova–Vatev '23).

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Y has quotient topology

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(Joyal–Tierney) \mathcal{T} determined up to bi-interp.

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We can extend large parts of the dictionary to metric-étale structures.

However, we are hampered by a lack of a pre-existing “continuous topos theory”; in particular, the Joyal–Tierney theorem seems tricky.