

Fundamentals of Stability Theory

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In this volume, the 12th publication in the Perspectives in Logic series, John Baldwin presents an introduction to first order stability theory, organized around the spectrum problem: calculate the number of models a first order theory T has in each uncountable cardinal. The author lays the groundwork and then moves on to three sections: independence, dependence and prime models, and local dimension theory. The final section returns to the spectrum problem, presenting complete proofs of the Vaught conjecture for ω -stable theories for the first time in book form. The book provides much-needed examples, and emphasizes the connections between abstract stability theory and module theory.

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PERSPECTIVES IN LOGIC

Fundamentals of Stability Theory

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*To Sharon, Katie,
and my parents*

History of the Ω -Group. During 1968 the idea of an integrated series of monographs on mathematical logic was first mooted. Various discussions led to a meeting at Oberwolfach in the spring of 1969. Here the founding members of the group (R.O. Gandy, A. Levy, G.H. Müller, G. Sacks, D.S. Scott)

will be theirs.

authors who do the work; if, as we hope, the series proves of value, the credit at length. Later, encouragement is given and revisions suggested. But it is the authors, not by the group. Plans for books are discussed and argued about and arrangement. However, the books in the series are written by individual view. We have tried to attain a reasonable degree of uniformity of notation deliberately seeking coverage of the same material from different points of encouraged authors to fit their book in with other planned volumes, sometimes self-contained. Although no book depends on another as prerequisite, we have others present a single line of thought. Each book is, at its own level, reasonably specialised. They also differ in scope: some offer a wide view of an area, The books in the series differ in level: some are introductory, some highly it will be of greater interest than a mere assemblage of results and techniques. represents a coherent line of thought; and that, by developing certain themes, Nevertheless we have tried by critical discussion to ensure that each book subject. We are not committed to any particular philosophical programme. we wish to prescribe, like Euclid, a definitive version of the elements of the to this complex terrain. We shall not aim at encyclopaedic coverage; nor do and varied. It is the aim of the series to provide, as it were, maps of guides with other branches of mathematics proliferated. The subject is now both rich last two decades, interconnections between different lines of research and links diverse and largely autonomous. As time passed, and more particularly in the systematise the modes of its expression. The pioneering investigations were and the limits of rational or mathematical thought, and from a desire to On Perspectives. Mathematical logic arose from a concern with the nature

(Edited by the Ω -group for 'Mathematische Logik' of the
Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften)

Preface to the Series
Perspectives in Mathematical Logic

viii

Preface to the Series

discussed the project in earnest and decided to go ahead with it. Professor F.K. Schmidt and Professor Hans Hermes gave us encouragement and support. Later Hans Hermes joined the group. To begin with all was fluid. How ambitious should we be? Should we write the books ourselves? How long would it take? Plans for authorless books were promoted, savaged and scrapped. Gradually there emerged a form and a method. At the end of an infinite discussion we found our name, and that of the series. We established our centre in Heidelberg. We agreed to meet twice a year together with authors, consultants and assistants, generally in Oberwolfach. We soon found the value of collaboration: on the one hand the permanence of the founding group gave coherence to the overall plans; on the other hand the stimulus of new contributors kept the project alive and flexible. Above all, we found how intensive discussion could modify the authors' ideas and our own. Often the battle ended with a detailed plan for a better book which the author was keen to write and which would indeed contribute a perspective.

Oberwolfach, September 1975

Acknowledgements. In starting our enterprise we essentially were relying on the personal confidence and understanding of Professor Martin Barner of the Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut Oberwolfach. Dr. Klaus Peters of Springer-Verlag and Dipl.-Ing. Penschuck of the Stiftung Volkswagenwerk. Through the Stiftung Volkswagenwerk we received a generous grant (1970–1973) as an initial help which made our existence as a working group possible.

Since 1974 the Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften (Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftliche Klasse) has incorporated our enterprise into its general scientific program. The initiative for this step was taken by the late Professor F.K. Schmidt, and the former President of the Academy, Professor W. Doerr. Through all the years, the Academy has supported our research project, especially our meetings and the continuous work on the Logic Bibliography, in an outstandingly generous way. We could always rely on their readiness to provide help wherever it was needed.

Assistance in many various respects was provided by Drs. U. Felgner and K. Gloede (till 1975) and Drs. D. Schmidt and H. Zeidler (till 1979). Last but not least, our indefatigable secretary Elfriede Ihrig was and is essential in running our enterprise.

We thank all those concerned.

Heidelberg, September 1982

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|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| R. O. Gandy | A. Levy | G. Sacks |
| H. Hermes | G. H. Müller | D. S. Scott |

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The subject of this book was created by Michael Morley and Saharon Shelah. As anyone familiar with the area could easily guess, results which are not explicitly credited elsewhere are due to Shelah. I thank, Alistair Lachlan not only for introducing me to the area but for his own seminal contributions. The development of this book has been mightily influenced by the French school, notably the work of Lascar and Poizat. The discussion of the spectrum problem depended not only on the original papers of Shelah but from the thorough reworking already accomplished by Harrington and Makkai.

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For four summers I lectured one week to the ten to twenty participants in the 'Forking Festival' on the material written the previous year. The details of this work have benefitted immensely from the supervision of these model theorists. I do not have a list of all the participants. But I must thank first Bruce Rose for his help in beginning the process and some of the most persistent critics. These include Gisela Ahlbrandt, Steve Buechler, Andrew Glass, Bradd Hart, Ward Henson, Matt Kaufmann, Julia Knight, David Kueker, Doug Miller, Anand Pillay, Mike Prest, Charles Steinhorn, Bill Tait, and Carol Wood.

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My wife and daughter have borne up well in my absence. It will be nice to see them again.

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-----|
| Acknowledgements | ix |
| <i>Chapter I. Groundwork</i> | 1 |
| 1. An Overview of Stability Theory | 1 |
| 2. Basic Notions And Fundamental Conventions | 9 |
| 3. Categoricity Of Countable Theories | 16 |
| 4. Introduction to the Model Theory of Modules | 25 |
| 5. Non-Structure Theory | 30 |
| Part A. Independence | |
| <i>Chapter II. The Abstract Notion of Independence</i> | 35 |
| 1. Axioms for Independence | 38 |
| 2. Further Properties of Independence | 46 |
| <i>Chapter III. Forking</i> | 53 |
| 1. Stable Theories: ϕ -Types, Rank, and Definability | 54 |
| 2. Types Over Models | 62 |
| 3. Nonforking Types Over Sets | 72 |
| 4. $\kappa(T)$ and the Spectrum of Stability | 80 |
| 5. Definable Chain Conditions in Algebra | 92 |
| <i>Chapter IV. Finite Equivalence Relations, Definability, and Strong Types</i> | 99 |
| 1. Finite Equivalence Relations | 99 |
| 2. Definability and the Stability Hierarchy | 107 |
| 3. Strong Types and Multiplicity | 112 |
| <i>Chapter V. Indiscernibles In Stable Theories</i> | 118 |
| 1. Sets Of Indiscernibles | 118 |
| 2. Comparing Sets of Indiscernibles | 127 |
| 3. Forking and Dividing | 132 |
| <i>Chapter VI. Orthogonality</i> | 138 |
| 1. Orthogonality Of Types | 138 |

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| 4. | Linear Decomposition of Finitely Generated AT -Models | 277 |
| 3. | Ubiquity of Regular Types | 272 |
| 2. | Weight | 265 |
| 1. | The Decomposition Theorem For S -Models | 262 |
| 262 | <i>Chapter XIII. Decomposition Theorems and Weight</i> | |
| 4. | Strongly Regular Types and Compulsion | 256 |
| 3. | Some Variants on Transitivity | 253 |
| 2. | Existence of Strongly Regular Types | 249 |
| 1. | Weak Isolation and Regular Types | 241 |
| 241 | <i>Chapter XII. Regular Types</i> | |
| 2. | S -Models | 238 |
| 1. | Basic Properties of an Acceptable Class K | 235 |
| 235 | <i>Chapter XI. Acceptable Classes</i> | |
| Part C. Local Dimension Theory | | |
| 4. | Indiscernible Sets in Prime Models | 230 |
| 3. | Uniqueness of Prime Models | 227 |
| 2. | Powerful Isolation Relations | 225 |
| 1. | Axioms Relating Freeness and Isolation | 217 |
| 217 | <i>Chapter X. Freeness and Isolation</i> | |
| 6. | The Number of Models of Strictly Stable Theories | 213 |
| 5. | Locally Atomic Models | 208 |
| 4. | Uniqueness Of Strictly Prime Models | 204 |
| 3. | Bookkeeping Axioms for Isolation Relations | 201 |
| 2. | The General Notion of Isolation | 192 |
| 1. | Elementarily Prime Models | 188 |
| 187 | <i>Chapter IX. Atomic and Prime Models</i> | |
| Part B. Dependence and Prime Models | | |
| 3. | 'Geometric' Stability Theory | 180 |
| 2. | Normalization | 176 |
| 1. | T^{eq} | 170 |
| 170 | <i>Chapter VIII. Normalization and T^{eq}</i> | |
| 3. | Ranks and Stable Groups | 163 |
| 2. | A Plethora of Ranks | 158 |
| 1. | Ranks and Forking | 156 |
| 156 | <i>Chapter VII. Rank</i> | |
| 3. | The Dominance Order | 153 |
| 2. | Orthogonality of a Type and a Set | 148 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Symbol Index | 443 |
| Subject Index | 437 |
| Bibliography | 399 |
| 1. Supportive Types | 366 |
| 2. Toward the Vaught and Morley Conjectures | 371 |
| 3. The Vaught Conjecture for ω -Stable Countable Theories | 377 |
| 4. The Existence of Abnormal Types | 383 |
| 5. The Morley Conjecture for ω -Stable Theories | 392 |
| Countable Theories | 365 |
| Chapter XVIII. Vaught and Morley Conjectures for ω -Stable | |
| 1. Normal Trees | 342 |
| 2. Decompositions of Models | 347 |
| 3. Trees, Labeled Trees and Upper Bounds | 350 |
| 4. Quasi-Isomorphisms and Lower Bounds | 356 |
| Property | 341 |
| Chapter XVII. NDOP: Theories Without the Dimensional Order | |
| 1. Avarars of the Dimensional Order Property | 316 |
| 2. Triviality of Forking | 325 |
| 3. DOP Implies Many Nonisomorphic Models | 331 |
| Chapter XVI. The Dimensional Order Property | 316 |
| 1. Classifying Theories By Width | 293 |
| 2. Unbounded Theories | 296 |
| 3. Bounded Theories | 302 |
| 4. Almost Homogeneous Models | 312 |
| Chapter XV. The Width of a Theory | 292 |
| 1. Many Nonisomorphic Graphs | 283 |
| 2. Models with Prescribed Dimensions | 285 |
| 3. Tractable Types | 290 |
| Chapter XIV. The Construction of Many Nonisomorphic Models | 283 |

Part D. The Number of Models