

# Stable theories with a new predicate <sup>\*</sup>

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# 1 Introduction

Let  $M$  be an  $L$ -structure and  $A$  be an infinite subset of  $M$ . Two structures can be defined from  $A$ :

- The *induced* structure on  $A$  has a name  $R_\varphi$  for every  $\emptyset$ -definable relation  $\varphi(M) \cap A^n$  on  $A$ . Its language is

$$L_{\text{ind}} = \{R_\varphi \mid \varphi = \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ an } L\text{-formula}\}.$$

$A$  with its  $L_{\text{ind}}$ -structure will be denoted by  $A_{\text{ind}}$ .

- The pair  $(M, A)$  is an  $L(P)$ -structure, where  $P$  is a unary predicate for  $A$  and  $L(P) = L \cup \{P\}$ .

We call  $A$  *small* if there is a pair  $(N, B)$  elementarily equivalent to  $(M, A)$  and such that for every finite subset  $b$  of  $N$  every  $L$ -type over  $Bb$  is realized in  $N$ .

A formula  $\varphi(x, y)$  has the *finite cover property* (f.c.p) in  $M$  if for all natural numbers  $k$  there is a set of  $\varphi$ -formulas

$$\{\varphi(x, m_i) \mid i \in I\}$$

which is  $k$ -consistent<sup>1</sup> but not consistent in  $M$ .  $M$  has the f.c.p if some formula has the f.c.p in  $M$ . It is well known that unstable structures have the f.c.p. (see [6].)

We will prove the following two theorems.

**Theorem A** *Let  $A$  be a small subset of  $M$ . If  $M$  does not have the finite cover property then, for every  $\lambda \geq |L|$ , if both  $M$  and  $A_{\text{ind}}$  are  $\lambda$ -stable then  $(M, A)$  is  $\lambda$ -stable.*

**Corollary 1.1 (Poizat [5])** *If  $M$  does not have the finite cover property and  $N \prec M$  is a small elementary substructure, then  $(M, N)$  is stable.*

**Corollary 1.2 (Zilber [7])** *If  $U$  is the group of roots of unity in the field  $\mathbb{C}$  of complex numbers the pair  $(\mathbb{C}, U)$  is  $\omega$ -stable.*

*Proof.* (See [4].) As a strongly minimal set  $\mathbb{C}$  is  $\omega$ -stable and does not have the f.c.p. By the subspace theorem of Schmidt [3] every algebraic set intersects  $U$  in a finite union of translates of subgroups definable in the group structure of  $U$  alone. Whence  $U_{\text{ind}}$  is nothing more than a (divisible) abelian group, which is  $\omega$ -stable.

In [4] Pillay proved for strongly minimal  $M$  that  $(M, A)$  is stable whenever  $A$  is stable. The smallness of  $A$  is not needed. We will give an account of Pillay theorem in the last section of the paper (5.4).

**Theorem B** *Let  $A$  be a small subset of  $M$ . If  $M$  is stable and  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the finite cover property then  $(M, A)$  is stable.*

<sup>1</sup>i.e. every  $k$ -element subset is consistent.

In both cases the theory of  $(M, A)$  depends only on the theory<sup>2</sup> of  $A_{\text{ind}}$ : If  $B$  is a small subset of  $N \equiv M$  and  $B_{\text{ind}} \equiv A_{\text{ind}}$  then  $(M, A) \equiv (N, B)$  (Corollary 2.2).

While theorem A may have been part of the folklore theorem B seems to be new. It provides a new proof of the following theorem of Baldwin and Benedikt:

**Corollary 1.3 (Baldwin–Benedikt [1])** *If  $M$  is stable and  $I \subset M$  is a small set of indiscernibles, then  $(M, I)$  is stable.*

This result has motivated our investigation. In section 2 our proof owes much to their paper.

Let  $A$  be a small subset of  $M$ . In section 2 we relativize the f.c.p to the (stronger) notion of the f.c.p *over*  $A$  and prove that every  $L(P)$ -formula is equivalent to a *bounded* formula if  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$ . In section 3 we conclude from this that  $(M, A)$  is  $\kappa$ -stable if  $M$  and  $A_{\text{ind}}$  are  $\kappa$ -stable. This implies theorem A.

For theorem B we show that  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$  if  $M$  is stable and  $A$  does not have the f.c.p (section 4). We do this using a simplified version of Shelah's proof of his f.c.p theorem (4.5 and 4.6).

We thank Jörg Flum for bringing the problem to our attention.

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<sup>2</sup>Note that the theory of  $M$  can be read off from the theory of  $A_{\text{ind}}$ .

## 2 Bounded formulas

$M$  has the f.c.p over  $A$  if there is a formula  $\varphi(x, \alpha, y)$  such that for all  $k$  there is a tuple  $m$  and a family  $(a_i)_{i \in I}$  of tuples from  $A$  such that the set

$$\{\varphi(x, a_i, m) \mid i \in I\}$$

is  $k$ -consistent but not consistent in  $M$ . Note that if  $M$  has the f.c.p over  $A$  and  $(N, B)$  is elementarily equivalent to  $(M, A)$ , then  $N$  has the f.c.p over  $B$ .

An  $L(P)$ -formula  $\Phi(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  is *bounded* if it has the form

$$Q_1 \alpha_1 \in P \dots Q_n \alpha_n \in P \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n),$$

where the  $Q_i$  are quantifiers and  $\varphi$  is an  $L$ -formula.

**Proposition 2.1** *Let  $A$  be a small subset of  $M$ . If  $M$  is stable and does not have the finite cover property over  $A$  then in  $(M, A)$  every  $L(P)$ -formula is equivalent to a bounded formula.*

*Proof.* We show by induction on the number of quantifiers in  $\varphi$  that every  $L(P)$ -formula  $\varphi$  is in  $(M, A)$  equivalent to a bounded one. The induction starts with the observation that  $P(x)$  is equivalent to  $\exists \alpha \in P \alpha = x$ , which is bounded. For the induction step we show that for all tuples  $x$  of variables and all bounded  $\Phi(x, y)$ , the formula  $\exists y \Phi(x, y)$  is equivalent to a bounded one.

Write

$$\Phi(x, y) = Q\alpha \in P \varphi(x, y, \alpha),$$

where  $Q\alpha \in P$  is a block

$$Q_1 \alpha_1 \in P Q_2 \alpha_2 \in P \dots$$

of bounded quantifiers and  $\varphi(x, y, \alpha)$  belongs to  $L$ . Since  $M$  is stable for all  $m, n$  from  $M$  there is an  $L$ -formula  $\theta(\alpha, \beta)$  and a parameter tuple  $b$  in  $A$  such that

$$(M, A) \models \forall \alpha \in P (\varphi(m, n, \alpha) \leftrightarrow \theta(\alpha, b)).$$

Since this is also true in all  $(M', A')$  which are elementarily equivalent to  $(M, A)$  a compactness argument shows that there is a finite number of formulas  $\theta$  which serve for all  $m, n$ . We may assume that  $A$  has at least two elements, which allows us to code everything in just one formula  $\theta$ . This gives

$$(M, A) \models \forall xy \exists \beta \in P \forall \alpha \in P (\varphi(x, y, \alpha) \leftrightarrow \theta(\alpha, \beta)).$$

It follows easily that  $\Phi(x, y)$  is equivalent in  $(M, A)$  to

$$\exists \beta \in P (\forall \alpha \in P (\varphi(x, y, \alpha) \leftrightarrow \theta(\alpha, \beta)) \wedge Q\alpha \in P \theta(\alpha, \beta)).$$

Set  $\psi(x, y, \alpha, \beta) := (\varphi(x, y, \alpha) \leftrightarrow \theta(\alpha, \beta))$ . Since  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$ , there is some  $k < \omega$  such that for all  $m, b$  from  $M$ , the set

$$\{\psi(m, y, a, b) \mid a \in A\}$$

is consistent if it is  $k$ -consistent. Now,  $A$  is small in  $M$  and this implies that the following sentence holds in  $(M, A)$ :

$$\forall x \beta \left( \left( \forall \alpha_0 \in P \dots \forall \alpha_{k-1} \in P \exists y \bigwedge_{i < k} \psi(x, y, \alpha_i, \beta) \right) \rightarrow \exists y \forall \alpha \in P \psi(x, y, \alpha, \beta) \right).$$

Hence  $\exists y \Phi(x, y)$  is equivalent to the bounded formula

$$\exists \beta \in P \left( \left( \forall \alpha_0 \in P \dots \forall \alpha_{k-1} \in P \exists y \bigwedge_{i < k} \psi(x, y, \alpha_i, \beta) \right) \wedge \exists \alpha \in P \theta(\alpha, \beta) \right).$$

This proves the proposition.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.2** *Let  $M$  and  $A$  be as in 2.1. If  $B$  is a small subset of  $N \equiv M$  and  $B_{\text{ind}} \equiv A_{\text{ind}}$  then  $(M, A) \equiv (N, B)$*

*Proof.* We know that both in  $(M, A)$  and in  $(N, B)$  every  $L(P)$ -sentence is equivalent to a bounded one. The obtainment of the bounded equivalent for a given  $L(P)$ -sentence depends on a finite number of choices, the choice of the formulas  $\theta(\alpha, \gamma)$  and the choice of the numbers  $k < \omega$  associated to the failure of the relativized f.c.p. These choices can be different in  $(M, A)$  and in  $(N, B)$ . But it is clear that in each case we can make a common choice for both structures: For  $\theta$  we take a formula which codes the two formulas  $\theta$ 's which serve for  $(M, A)$  and  $(N, B)$  respectively, and for  $k$  we take the maximum of both  $k$ 's. Therefore we have a uniform procedure in  $(M, A)$  and  $(M, B)$  to obtain a bounded equivalent of each  $L(P)$ -sentence. But bounded sentences speak only about the induced structure of  $A$  and  $B$  respectively.

The reader may note that the corollary implies that the bounded formulas of proposition 2.1 can be chosen to depend only on the theory of  $A_{\text{ind}}$ .  $\square$

### 3 The Stability of $(M, A)$

We fix an  $L$ -structure  $M$  and a subset  $A$ .

**Proposition 3.1** *If in  $(M, A)$  every  $L(P)$ -formula is equivalent to a bounded formula, then for every  $\lambda \geq |L|$ , if both  $M$  and  $A_{\text{ind}}$  are  $\lambda$ -stable then  $(M, A)$  is  $\lambda$ -stable.*

Before giving the proof of the proposition we need some lemmas. We say that a mapping  $f$  between two subset of  $M$  is *bounded* if it preserves all bounded formulas.

**Lemma 3.2** *If  $f$  is an  $L$ -elementary mapping and extends a permutation of  $A$ , then  $f$  is bounded.*

*Proof.* Left to the reader. □

**Lemma 3.3** *Assume  $M$  is stable and  $A_{\text{ind}}$  is saturated. Let  $B, C$  be subsets of  $M$  and let  $B_0 = B \cap A$  and  $C_0 = C \cap A$ . Assume  $|B_0|, |C_0| < |A|$ , and that  $\text{tp}(B/A)$  is the only non-forking extension of  $\text{tp}(B/B_0)$  to  $A$  and  $\text{tp}(C/A)$  is the only non-forking extension of  $\text{tp}(C/C_0)$  to  $A$ . If  $f : B \rightarrow C$  is an  $L$ -elementary mapping such that  $f(B_0) = C_0$ , and  $f \upharpoonright B_0$  is bounded, then  $f$  is bounded.*

*Proof.* Since  $f \upharpoonright B_0$  preserves bounded formulas, it is elementary in  $A$  and can be extended to an automorphism  $g$  of  $A_{\text{ind}}$ , i.e, to an  $L$ -elementary permutation of  $A$ . Since  $\text{tp}(B/A)^g$  is the only non-forking extension of  $\text{tp}(B/B_0)^g = \text{tp}(C/C_0)$  to  $g(A) = A$ , we see that  $\text{tp}(B/A)^g = \text{tp}(C/A)$ . This means that  $f \cup g$  is  $L$ -elementary. By Lemma 3.2  $f \cup g$  is bounded. □

We define the *bounded type* of a tuple  $m$  over  $B$  to be the set  $\text{tp}_b(m/B)$  of all bounded formulas over  $B$  which are satisfied by  $m$ .

*Proof of Proposition 3.1.*

Let  $B$  be a set of cardinality  $\lambda$ . We show that there are  $\leq \lambda$  bounded types over  $B$ . Since  $A_{\text{ind}}$  is stable we may assume that  $A_{\text{ind}}$  is saturated and  $|B| < |A|^3$ . Extending  $B$  if necessary we may assume that  $\text{tp}(B/A)$  is the only non-forking extension of  $\text{tp}(B/B_0)$  to  $A$ , where  $B_0 = A \cap B$ . Also, without loss of generality,  $(M, A)$  is  $\lambda^+$ -saturated.

Let  $T$  be the complete theory of  $M$ . For each  $b \in M$ , choose a sequence  $b_0$  of length  $< \kappa(T)$  <sup>(4)</sup> in  $A$  such that  $\text{tp}(b/BA)$  does not fork over  $Bb_0$ . It follows that  $\text{tp}(bB/A)$  does not fork over  $B_0b_0$ .

<sup>3</sup>Choose a suitable cardinal  $\kappa > \lambda$  such that  $\text{Th}(A_{\text{ind}})$  is  $\kappa$ -stable and  $(M, A)$  has a special extension  $(M', A')$  of cardinality  $\kappa$ . Since then  $\text{Th}(A_{\text{ind}})$  has a saturated model of cardinality  $\kappa$ ,  $A'_{\text{ind}}$  is must be saturated.

<sup>4</sup> $\kappa(T)$  is the smallest cardinal  $\kappa$  with the property that in models of  $T$  every type  $\text{tp}(b/B)$  does not fork over some  $B_0 \subset B$  with fewer than  $\kappa$  elements.  $\kappa(T)$  is bounded by  $|T|^+$ .

**Claim** For any sequence  $d$  of length  $< \kappa(T)$  in  $A$  there are at most  $\lambda$  many bounded types over  $B$  of tuples  $b$  such that  $\text{tp}_b(b_0/B_0) = \text{tp}_b(d/B_0)$  and  $\text{tp}(b_0/B) = \text{tp}(d/B)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\text{tp}(b_0/B) = \text{tp}(d/B)$  and  $\text{tp}_b(b_0/B_0) = \text{tp}_b(d/B_0)$ . This implies that the mapping  $f$  which is the identity on  $B$  and transforms  $b_0$  in  $d$  is  $L$ -elementary and, restricted to  $B_0b_0$ , is bounded.

Observe that  $\text{tp}(Bb_0/A)$  is the only non-forking extension of  $\text{tp}(Bb_0/B_0b_0)$  to  $A$  and that  $\text{tp}(Bd/A)$  is the only non-forking extension of  $\text{tp}(Bd/B_0d)$  to  $A$ . By Lemma 3.3  $f$  is bounded, and therefore  $\text{tp}_b(b_0/B) = \text{tp}_b(d/B)$ . Since in  $(M, A)$  every  $L(P)$ -formula is equivalent to a bounded one, these are complete  $L(P)$ -types over  $B$  and we can find  $b' \in M$  such that

$$\text{tp}_b(b'd/B) = \text{tp}_b(bb_0/B).$$

This implies that  $\text{tp}(b'/BA)$  does not fork over  $Bd$  since  $\text{tp}(b/BA)$  does not fork over  $Bb_0$ . By Lemma 3.2 the bounded type  $\text{tp}_b(b'/Bd)$  is determined by  $\text{tp}(b'/AB)$ . But each type  $\text{tp}(b'/Bd)$  has at most  $\lambda$  many non-forking extensions to  $AB$ . (Multiplicities are bounded by  $\lambda$  if  $T$  is stable in  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda \geq |L|$ .) And since there are at most  $\lambda$  many types  $\text{tp}(b'/Bd)$ , the claim is proved.

By the claim we have to show that  $\lambda$  is a bound for both

- the number of all types  $\text{tp}(d/B)$
- the number of all bounded types  $\text{tp}_b(d/B_0)$

where  $d$  ranges over all tuples of length  $< \kappa(T)$  from  $A$ . Since  $M$  is stable in  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda^{<\kappa(T)} = \lambda$ . This shows that it is enough to bound the number of types of single elements. But now  $\lambda$  bounds the number of the  $\text{tp}(d/B)$  since  $T$  is  $\lambda$ -stable and the number of the  $\text{tp}_b(d/B_0)$  ( $d \in A$ ) since  $A_{\text{ind}}$  is  $\lambda$ -stable.  $\square$

We conclude

**Theorem A**

Let  $A$  be a small subset of  $M$ . If  $M$  does not have the finite cover property and  $A$  is stable then  $(M, A)$  is stable.

## 4 Proof of Theorem B

Let again  $M$  be an  $L$ -structure with an infinite subset  $A$ .

By Shelah's f.c.p-theorem (Theorem II.4.3 in [6])  $M$  does not have the f.c.p iff  $M$  is stable and for every  $\phi(x, y, z)$  there is a bound  $l$  such that whenever  $\phi(x, y, m)$  defines an equivalence relation with more than  $l$  classes then there are infinitely many classes.

We call  $M$  to be *stable over  $A$*  if in every  $(N, B)$  elementarily equivalent to  $(M, A)$  every type over  $B$  is definable by a bounded formula with parameters from  $B$ . Clearly, if  $M$  is stable, it is stable over every subset  $A$ .

We show here that if  $M$  is stable over  $A$  and if  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the f.c.p, then  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$ . We will also see (in a remark after Corollary 4.4) that conversely  $M$  being unstable over  $A$  implies the f.c.p over  $A$ .

Let  $\varphi = \varphi(x, y)$  be in  $L$  and  $C$  a subset of  $M$ . A  $\varphi$ -formula over  $C$  is a formula of the form  $\varphi(x, c)$  where  $c$  is a tuple in  $C$ . A  $\varphi$ -type over  $C$  is a maximally consistent set of  $\varphi$ -formulas and negated  $\varphi$ -formulas over  $C$ . We denote by  $S_\varphi(C)$  the set of all  $\varphi$ -types over  $C$ .

**Lemma 4.1** *If  $M$  is stable over  $A$ , for every bounded formula  $\Phi(x, \alpha)$  there is a bounded  $\Theta(\alpha, \beta)$  such that*

$$(M, A) \models \forall x \exists \beta \in P \forall \alpha \in P (\Phi(x, \alpha) \leftrightarrow \Theta(\alpha, \beta)).$$

*Proof.* Let  $\Phi(x, \alpha) = Q_1 \gamma_1 \in P \dots Q_n \gamma_n \in P \varphi(x, \alpha, \gamma)$  where  $\gamma = \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$ , each  $Q_i$  is a quantifier and  $\varphi(x, \alpha, \gamma) \in L$ . By definability of types over  $A$ , for each tuple  $m \in M$  there exists a bounded formula  $\Psi(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  and some  $b \in A$  such that  $\Psi(\alpha, b, \gamma)$  defines the  $\varphi$ -type of  $m$  over  $A$ , that is, for all  $a, c \in A$ ,  $(M, A) \models \varphi(m, a, c) \leftrightarrow \Psi(a, b, c)$ . By compactness there is a finite set of bounded formulas such that for each  $m \in M$  the  $\varphi$ -type of  $m$  over  $A$  can be defined by a formula in this set using some parameter  $b \in A$ . This finite set can be reduced to a single formula by the usual trick (see [6], Lemma II.2.1). Hence there is a fixed bounded  $\Psi(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  such that for all  $m \in M$  there is some  $b \in A$  such that for all  $a, c \in A$ ,  $(M, A) \models \varphi(m, a, c) \leftrightarrow \Psi(a, b, c)$ . We put  $\Theta(\alpha, \beta) := Q_1 \gamma_1 \in P \dots Q_n \gamma_n \in P \Psi(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ .  $\square$

Before entering the proof of Proposition 4.6, we need a relativized version of Shelah's  $\varphi$ -rank. Assume  $(M, A)$  is  $\omega$ -saturated, let  $\varphi(x, \alpha, y) \in L$ , and  $m$  a tuple in  $M$ . Working in  $\text{Th}(M, m)$  we can consider  $\varphi(x, \alpha, m)$ -types over  $A$ , which are maximal consistent sets of formulas  $(\neg) \varphi(x, a, m)$  with parameters  $a \in A$ . Let  $S_{\varphi(x, \alpha, m)}(A)$  be the boolean space of all  $\varphi(x, \alpha, m)$ -types over  $A$ . The rank

$$R_{\varphi, m}^A(\psi(x))$$

is the Cantor-Bendixson rank of the closed subspace

$$\{q \in S_{\varphi(x, \alpha, m)}(A) \mid q \text{ is consistent with } \psi\}.$$

The multiplicity  $\text{Mlt}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi(x))$  is defined as the Cantor–Bendixson degree of this space. Note that  $\text{R}_{\varphi,m}^M$  is Shelah’s  $\varphi$ –rank.

If  $(M, A)$  is not  $\omega$ –saturated, we compute  $\text{R}_{\varphi,m}^A$  in an  $\omega$ –saturated elementary extension  $(M', A')$ . It is easy to see that this rank does not depend on the choice of  $(M', A')$ .

The next lemma is easy. But it is this lemma which allows us to give a short proof of Lemma 4.5.

**Lemma 4.2** *Assume  $(M, A)$  is  $\omega$ –saturated. Let  $m$  be a tuple of elements of  $M$ ,  $\psi(x)$  an  $L$ –formula with parameters from  $M$  and  $n$  a natural number. Then:*

1.  $\text{R}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi) \geq n + 1$  if and only if there is a family  $(a_i)_{i < \omega}$  in  $A$  such that for all  $i < j < \omega$

$$\text{R}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi(x) \wedge (\varphi(x, a_i, m) \Delta \varphi(x, a_j, m))) \geq n. \quad (5)$$

2. Let  $\text{R}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi) = n$  and let  $\text{Mlt}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi)$  be the biggest  $k < \omega$  for which there exist  $a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}$  in  $A$  such that for all  $i < j < k$

$$\text{R}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi(x) \wedge (\varphi(x, a_i, m) \Delta \varphi(x, a_j, m))) \geq n.$$

Then  $\text{Mlt}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi) \leq 2^{\text{Mlt}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi)}$  and  $\text{Mlt}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi) \leq 2^{\text{Mlt}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi)}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be the space of all  $\varphi(x, \alpha, m)$ –types over  $A$  which are consistent with  $\psi$  and  $X^{(n)}$  the set of all elements of  $X$  of Cantor–Bendixson at least  $n$ . Let  $\chi(x)$  be a boolean combination of  $\varphi(x, \alpha, m)$ –formulas over  $A$ . Then

$$X = \{p \in X \mid p \vdash \chi\} \cup \{p \in X \mid p \vdash \neg\chi\}$$

is a clopen partition of  $X$ . This implies

$$\text{R}_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi \wedge \chi) \geq n \quad \text{iff} \quad p \vdash \chi \quad \text{for some } p \in X^{(n)}.$$

Define on (a suitable power of)  $A$  the binary relation

$$a_1 \sim a_2 \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{R}_{\varphi,m}(\psi(x) \wedge (\varphi(x, a_1, m) \Delta \varphi(x, a_2, m))) < n.$$

From the last observation follows that

$$a_1 \sim a_2 \quad \text{iff} \quad \{p \in X^{(n)} \mid \varphi(x, a_1, m) \in p\} = \{p \in X^{(n)} \mid \varphi(x, a_2, m) \in p\},$$

which implies that

- $\sim$  is an equivalence relation in  $A$ ,
- $a/\sim$  is determined by the set of all  $p \in X^{(n)}$  which contain  $\varphi(x, a, m)$ ,
- $p \in X^{(n)}$  is determined by the set of all  $a/\sim$  where  $\varphi(x, a, m) \in p$ .

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<sup>5</sup>We write  $(\varphi \Delta \psi)$  for the formal symmetric difference  $\neg(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$ .

Whence  $X^{(n)}$  is infinite iff  $\sim$  has infinitely many classes, which is the content of 1.

If  $R_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi) = n$  we have  $\text{Mlt}'_{\varphi,m}(\psi) = |A/\sim|$  and  $\text{Mlt}_{\varphi,m}(\psi) = |X^{(n)}|$ , which implies 2.  $\square$

The following lemma can be proved like Theorem II.2.2 and Theorem II.2.13 in [6].

**Lemma 4.3** *The following are equivalent.*

1.  $M$  is stable over  $A$ .
2. For some cardinal number  $\lambda$  there are at most  $\lambda$  types over  $B$  for every  $B$  and  $N$  such that  $(N, B) \equiv (M, A)$  and  $|B| \leq \lambda$ .
3. The following does not exist: A model  $(N, B) \equiv (M, A)$ , an  $L$ -formula  $\varphi(x, \alpha)$ , a family  $(m_i)_{i < \omega}$  of elements of  $N$  and a family  $(a_i)_{i < \omega}$  of elements of  $B$  such that for all  $i, j$

$$N \models \varphi(m_i, a_j) \text{ iff } i < j.$$

4. For all  $\psi, \varphi, R_{\varphi}^A(\psi) < \omega$ .  $\square$

From condition 3. of this lemma it is clear that  $M$  is stable over  $A$  iff  $(M, m)$  is stable over  $A$ . Hence:

**Corollary 4.4**  *$M$  is stable over  $A$  if and only if  $R_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi) < \omega$  for all  $\psi, \varphi$  and  $m$ . Furthermore, if  $M$  is stable over  $A$ ,  $R_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi)$  can be bounded by a number which depends only on  $\varphi$ .*

*Proof.* Only the second part of the assertion deserves a demonstration. If a formula  $\varphi = \varphi(x, \alpha, y)$  is given, we denote by  $\varphi'$  the same formula, but considered as a formula in two sets of variables,  $xy$  and  $\alpha$ . It is easy to see that for all  $\phi = \psi(x, y)$  and all  $m$

$$R_{\varphi,m}^A(\psi(x, m)) \leq R_{\varphi'}^A(\psi(x, y)).$$

This shows that  $R_{\varphi'}^A(\text{true})$  is the desired bound.  $\square$

One can easily see that if  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$ ,  $M$  is stable over  $A$ : In the same way as the presence of a formula with the order property gives the finite cover property, a formula  $\varphi(x, \alpha)$  with the order property “over”  $A$  gives the finite cover property over  $A$ .

**Lemma 4.5** *Assume  $M$  is stable over  $A$  and  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the f.c.p. Then the relativized rank is definable: Let the  $L$ -formulas  $\varphi(x, \alpha, y)$  and  $\psi(x, \beta, z)$  be*

given and let  $k$  be a natural number. Then there is a bounded  $\Theta(\beta, \gamma)$  such that for all  $m, n \in M$  there is a  $c \in A$  such that for all  $b \in A$

$$R_{\varphi, m}^A(\psi(x, b, n)) = k \text{ iff } (M, A) \models \Theta(b, c).$$

Moreover there is a bound  $l < \omega$  for the multiplicity. That is, for all  $m, n \in M$  and all  $b \in A$

$$\text{Mlt}_{\varphi, m}^A(\psi(x, b, n)) < l.$$

*Proof.* We may assume that  $(M, A)$  is  $\omega$ -saturated. It is enough to show that we can find a bounded  $\Theta(\beta, \gamma)$  which defines “rank  $\geq k$ ”.

First consider the case  $k = 0$ . We have  $R_{\varphi, m}^A(\psi(x, b, n)) \geq 0$  if and only if  $M \models \exists x \psi(x, b, n)$ . Choose  $\Theta(\beta, \gamma)$  with Lemma 4.1 such that

$$(M, A) \models \forall z \exists \gamma \in P \forall \beta \in P (\exists x \psi(x, \beta, z) \leftrightarrow \Theta(\beta, \gamma)).$$

Assume now inductively that we can define “rank  $\geq k$ ” and let  $\psi(x, \beta, z) \in L$ . Given  $m, n \in M$  and  $b \in A$ , consider the following relation on tuples of  $A$ :

$$a_1 \equiv a_2 \pmod{m, n, b} \text{ iff } R_{\varphi, m}^A(\psi(x, b, n) \wedge (\varphi(x, a_1, m) \Delta \varphi(x, a_2, m))) < k.$$

It is an equivalence relation and by the inductive hypothesis there is a bounded formula  $\Phi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta, \gamma)$  such that for all  $m, n \in M$  there exists  $c \in A$  such that for all  $a_1, a_2, b \in A$ ,

$$a_1 \equiv a_2 \pmod{m, n, b} \text{ iff } (M, A) \models \Phi(a_1, a_2, b, c).$$

From this follows that, since  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the finite cover property, there is some  $l < \omega$  such that for all  $m, n \in M$  and all  $b \in A$ , if equivalence modulo  $(m, n, b)$  has more than  $l$  equivalence classes on  $A$ , it has infinitely many. In this case the condition  $R_{\varphi, m}^A(\psi(x, b, n)) \geq k + 1$  is equivalent to

$$\exists \alpha_0 \in P \dots \exists \alpha_l \in P \bigwedge_{i < j \leq l} \neg \alpha_i \equiv \alpha_j \pmod{m, n, b}.$$

Observe that the  $l$  above bounds the multiplicity in rank  $k$ . □

**Proposition 4.6** *If  $M$  is stable over  $A$  and if  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the f.c.p then  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi = \varphi(x, \alpha, y) \in L$  be given. By Corollary 4.4 there is a number  $k_0$  such that  $R_{\varphi, m}^A(x = x) < k_0$  for all  $m$ . By Lemma 4.5 this rank is definable and for every  $\psi(x, z)$  there is a bound for the  $\varphi$ -multiplicity of  $\psi$ -formulas.

We show by induction on  $k$  the following: For each  $k$  and each  $\psi(x, z)$  there is a bound  $N$  such that for all  $m$  and  $n$  in  $M$  the following is true: If  $R_{\varphi, m}^A(\psi(x, n)) = k$  and  $\Sigma(x)$  is a set of  $\varphi(x, \alpha, m)$ -formulas over  $A$  such that  $\{\psi(x, n)\} \cup \Sigma(x)$  is inconsistent then there is a subset  $\Sigma_0 \subset \Sigma$  of at most size  $N$  such that  $\{\psi(x, n)\} \cup \Sigma_0(x)$  is inconsistent. Applied to all  $k$  below  $k_0$  and  $x = x$  this implies the proposition.

The induction starts with the trivial case  $k = -1$ , where  $N = 0$  suffices. Now suppose the claim is true for all  $k' < k$ .

Let  $l$  be a bound for the  $\varphi$ -multiplicity of  $\psi$ -formulas. This means that for all  $m$  and  $n$   $\text{Mlt}_{\varphi, m}^A(\psi(x, n)) \leq l$ . Now, if  $\{\psi(x, n)\} \cup \Sigma(x)$  is inconsistent, there must be a formula  $\varphi(x, a_1, m) \in \Sigma(x)$  such that  $\psi(x, n) \wedge \varphi(x, a_1, m)$  has either a smaller rank than  $\psi(x, n)$  or a smaller multiplicity. If the rank remains the same we continue and find a  $\varphi(x, a_2, m) \in \Sigma(x)$  such that  $\psi(x, n) \wedge \varphi(x, a_1, m) \wedge \varphi(x, a_2, m)$  has smaller rank or smaller multiplicity.

This process must stop after at most  $l$  steps when we have found formulas  $\varphi(x, a_1, m), \dots, \varphi(x, a_l, m)$  in  $\Sigma(x)$  such that the conjunction

$$\psi'(x, m, n, a_1, \dots, a_l) = \psi(x, n) \wedge \varphi(x, a_1, m) \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi(x, a_l, m)$$

has a  $\varphi(x, \alpha, m)$ -rank  $k'$  which is smaller than  $k$ . By induction there is a bound  $N'$  attached to  $k'$  and  $\psi'(x, y, z, u_1, \dots, u_l)$ . Then  $N = l + N'$  is the desired bound for  $k$  and  $\psi(x, z)$ .  $\square$

### Theorem B

*Let  $A$  be a small subset of  $M$ . If  $M$  is stable and  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the finite cover property then  $(M, A)$  is stable.*

*Proof.* If  $M$  is stable it is also stable over  $A$ . By 4.6  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$ . By 2.1 every  $L(P)$ -formula is equivalent to a bounded formula.  $A_{\text{ind}}$ , not having the f.c.p, is stable. Thus  $(M, A)$  is stable by 3.1.  $\square$

## 5 Further results

A look at the proof of Proposition 4.6 shows that actually something stronger was proved.

**Lemma 5.1** *Assume  $M$  is stable over  $A \subset M$ . If  $M$  has the f.c.p over  $A$ , then there is some bounded  $\Psi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta)$  and a family of parameters  $(b_i)_{i < \omega}$  in  $A$  such that*

1. *For every  $b \in A$ ,  $\Psi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, b)$  defines an equivalence relation on tuples of  $A$ .*
2. *For each  $i < \omega$ ,  $\Psi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, b_i)$  has more than  $i$  but only finitely many equivalence classes.*

*Proof.* By the hypothesis and the proof of 4.6 the relativized rank is not definable. The proof of 4.5 shows that this implies that the conclusion holds. Actually the formula  $\Psi$  constructed in the proof of 4.5 contains a parameter  $c$  from  $A$ , but  $c$  can be incorporated in the parameters  $b$ .  $\square$

The converse of Lemma 5.1 is not true. Take a structure  $M$  with an equivalence relation which has infinitely many classes all of which are infinite. Let  $A$  be a subset of  $M$  which has finite intersection with each class, in such a way that for each  $n$  there is a class which intersects  $A$  in more than  $n$  elements.  $M$  does not have the f.c.p,  $A_{\text{ind}}$  is stable and has the f.c.p.

The next three propositions give an alternative proof of 2.1.

**Proposition 5.2** *Let  $A$  be a small subset of  $M$  and  $(M, A)$  be  $|L|^+$ -saturated. Then  $M$  not having the f.c.p over  $A$  implies that, for every finite tuple  $m$  from  $M$ , every type over  $Am$  is realized in  $M$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$  and let  $p(x)$  be a type over  $Am$ . We prove first that for all  $\varphi(x, \alpha, y)$  the  $\varphi(x, \alpha, m)$ -part

$$p_{\varphi(x, \alpha, m)} = \{(\neg)\varphi(x, a, m) \mid (\neg)\varphi(x, a, m) \in p\}$$

of  $p$  is realized in  $M$ . Let  $\theta(\alpha, b)$  (for some  $b \in A$ ) define the  $\varphi(x, \alpha, m)$ -part. This means that  $p_{\varphi(x, \alpha, m)}$  is equivalent to

$$\Phi_{m, b} = \{\varphi(x, a, m) \leftrightarrow \theta(a, b) \mid a \in A, (M, A) \models \theta(a, b)\}$$

Now argue as in the proof of 2.1. Since  $M$  does not have the f.c.p over  $A$  the fact that a consistent set of this form is always realized is expressible by an  $L(P)$ -sentence, which is true since  $A$  is small.

Choose a realization  $c_\varphi$  of  $p_{\varphi(x, \alpha, m)}$  for all  $\varphi$ . Then use the  $|L|^+$ -saturation of  $(M, A)$  and realize the set

$$\{\forall \alpha \in P (\varphi(x, \alpha, m) \leftrightarrow \varphi(c_\phi, \alpha, m)) \mid \varphi \text{ an } L\text{-formula}\}.$$

□

We do not know if the non-f.c.p over  $A$  can be characterized by this condition. But note that the conclusion of the proposition implies the equivalent conditions of 5.3.

**Proposition 5.3** *Let  $M$  be stable over  $A \subset M$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

1. *Every  $L(P)$ -formula is in  $(M, A)$  equivalent to a bounded formula.*
2. *If  $(N, B) \equiv (M, A)$ , every elementary mapping in  $N$  extending a permutation of  $B$  is elementary in  $(N, B)$ .*
3. *Let  $(N, B) \equiv (M, A)$  be  $|L|^+$ -saturated and let  $h$  be an elementary mapping in  $N$  which is a finite extension of a permutation of  $B$ . Then for every  $a \in N$  there is  $b \in N$  such that  $h \cup \{(a, b)\}$  is elementary in  $N$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.2 it is clear that 1. implies 2.

To show that 3. follows from 2. we write  $h = f \cup \{(m, n)\}$  where  $f$  is a permutation of  $B$  and  $m, n$  are tuples in  $N$ . Let  $a \in N$  be given.

We prove first that for each  $\varphi(x, y, \gamma) \in L$  there is a  $b_\varphi \in N$  such that for each  $c \in B$ ,

$$(N, B) \models \varphi(a, m, c) \text{ iff } (N, B) \models \varphi(b_\varphi, n, f(c)).$$

Let  $\Theta(\alpha, \gamma) \in L(P)$  and  $d \in B$  be such that  $\Theta(d, \gamma)$  is a definition of the  $\varphi$ -type of  $am$  over  $B$ , that is,

$$(N, B) \models \forall \gamma \in P (\varphi(a, m, \gamma) \leftrightarrow \Theta(d, \gamma)).$$

Hence

$$(N, B) \models \exists x \forall \gamma \in P (\varphi(x, m, \gamma) \leftrightarrow \Theta(d, \gamma)).$$

By 2.  $h$  is elementary in  $L(P)$  and therefore for some  $b_\varphi \in N$ ,

$$(N, B) \models \forall \gamma \in P (\varphi(b_\varphi, n, \gamma) \leftrightarrow \Theta(f(d), \gamma)).$$

Clearly  $b_\varphi$  is as required.

Since we can code a finite sequence of formulas  $\bar{\varphi} = \varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  in one, we find for each such sequence a  $b_{\bar{\varphi}}$  such that for each  $i$  and  $c \in B$ ,

$$(N, B) \models \varphi_i(a, m, c) \text{ iff } (N, B) \models \varphi_i(b_{\bar{\varphi}}, n, f(c)).$$

This shows that the set

$$\{\varphi(x, n, f(c)) \leftrightarrow \varphi(b_\varphi, n, f(c)) \mid \varphi(x, y, \gamma) \in L, c \in B\}$$

is finitely satisfiable. Since  $(N, B)$  is  $|L|^+$ -saturated the set is realized by some  $b \in B$ .

If 3. is true the system of elementary mappings which are finite extensions of permutations of  $B$  is a back and forth system, which shows that these mappings preserve  $L(P)$ -formulas. This proves that 3. implies 2.

We prove finally that 2. implies 1. Assume that  $(N, B) \equiv (M, A)$  and  $m, m'$  are tuples in  $N$  such that  $m$  satisfies the same bounded formulas as  $m'$ . We obtain an  $|L|^+$ -saturated elementary extension  $(N', B')$  of  $(N, B)$  and an elementary permutation  $h$  of  $B'$  such that  $h(m) = m'$ . By 2.  $h$  preserves  $L(P)$ -formulas. Whence  $m$  and  $m'$  satisfy the same  $L(P)$ -formulas.  $\square$

Since 3. is true for strongly minimal  $N$ , we conclude

**Corollary 5.4 (Pillay [4])** *Let  $M$  be strongly minimal and  $A$  an arbitrary subset of  $M$ . Then every  $L(P)$ -formula is in  $(M, A)$  equivalent to a bounded formula. If  $A_{\text{ind}}$  is stable then also  $(M, A)$  is stable.*

The corollary can also be proved in the style of 2.1. There are two cases: If  $A$  is small the result follows directly from 2.1. If  $A$  is not small then  $M$  is algebraic over  $A$  in a definable manner. In this case one uses a variant of the proof of 2.1.

For  $A$  an elementary substructure of  $M$  the next proposition follows from Théorème 4 in [5].

**Proposition 5.5** *For  $i = 1, 2$ , let  $M_i$  be stable and  $A_i$  a subset of  $M_i$  such that  $(A_i)_{\text{ind}}$  is  $|L|^+$ -saturated. Assume also that for every finite  $f \subset M_i$  every type over  $A_i f$  is realized in  $M_i$ . If  $(A_1)_{\text{ind}} \equiv (A_2)_{\text{ind}}$ , then  $(M_1, A_1) \equiv (M_2, A_2)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $I$  be the set of all partial isomorphisms of the form  $\{(a, b)\}$  where  $a, b$  are tuples in  $M_1, M_2$  respectively such that  $\text{tp}(aa_0) = \text{tp}(bb_0)$  and  $\text{tp}_b(a_0) = \text{tp}_b(b_0)$  for some sequence  $a_0$  of length  $\leq |L|$  in  $A_1$  such that  $\text{tp}(a/A_1)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(a/a_0)$  to  $A_1$  and some sequence  $b_0$  of length  $\leq |L|$  in  $A_2$  such that  $\text{tp}(b/A_2)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(b/b_0)$  to  $A_2$ .

We claim that  $I$  is a back and forth system between  $(M_1, A_1)$  and  $(M_2, A_2)$ . From this it will follow that these models are elementarily equivalent. We check first that every  $\{(a, b)\} \in I$  is a partial isomorphism between  $(M_1, A_1)$  and  $(M_2, A_2)$ . Let  $a = a_1, \dots, a_n$  and  $b = b_1, \dots, b_n$ . It suffices to show that for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $b_i \in A_2$  if  $a_i \in A_1$ . Choose sequences  $a_0, b_0$  for  $a, b$  as in the definition of  $I$ . Suppose  $a_i \in A_1$ . By  $|L|^+$ -saturation of  $(A_2)_{\text{ind}}$  there is an  $a'_i \in A_2$  such that  $\text{tp}_b(a_0 a_i) = \text{tp}_b(b_0 a'_i)$ . Let  $f$  be an elementary mapping taking  $a_0 a_i$  onto  $b_0 a'_i$ . Since  $\text{tp}(a/a_0 a_i)^f$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(a/a_0)^f = \text{tp}(b/b_0)$  to  $b_0 a'_i$ , it must coincide with  $\text{tp}(b/b_0 a'_i)$ . Hence  $b_i = a'_i \in A_2$ .

By symmetry it is now enough to show that if  $\{(a, b)\} \in I$  and  $c$  is an element of  $M_1$  we can find an element  $d$  of  $M_2$  such that  $\{(ac, bd)\} \in I$ . Choose  $a_0$  and  $b_0$  for  $a$  and  $b$  as in the definition of  $I$  and let  $c'$  be a sequence of length  $\leq |L|$  in  $A_1$  such that  $\text{tp}(c/A_1 a)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(c/c' a)$  to  $A_1 a$ . Hence  $\text{tp}(ac/A_1)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(ac/a_0 c')$  to  $A_1$ . Since  $\text{tp}_b(a_0) = \text{tp}_b(b_0)$ , by  $|L|^+$ -saturation of  $(A_2)_{\text{ind}}$  we can find a sequence  $d'$  in  $A_2$  such that  $\text{tp}_b(a_0 c') = \text{tp}_b(b_0 d')$ . As above,  $\text{tp}(aa_0 c') = \text{tp}(bb_0 d')$ . Let  $f$  be an elementary mapping taking  $aa_0 c'$  onto  $bb_0 d'$  and let  $p(x)$  be a nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(c/aa_0 c')^f$  to  $A_2 b$ . By assumption there is some realization  $d$  of  $p$  in  $M_2$ . It is clear that  $\text{tp}(ac) = \text{tp}(bd)$  and that  $\text{tp}(bd/A_2)$  is a nonforking

extension of  $\text{tp}(bd/b_0d')$ . Now we show that in fact it is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(bd/b_0d')$  to  $A_2$ . This will imply that  $\{(ac, bd)\} \in I$ . Since  $\text{tp}(b/A_2)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(b/b_0)$  to  $A_2$ , we only have to prove that  $\text{tp}(d/b_0d')$  has at most one nonforking extension to  $A_2b$ . Assume that, on the contrary, for some finite sequence  $e$  in  $A_2$ ,  $\text{tp}(d/b_0d')$  has two nonforking extensions to  $b_0d'eb$ . By  $|L|^+$ -saturation of  $(A_1)_{\text{ind}}$  there is some  $f$  in  $A_1$  such that  $\text{tp}(a_0c'f) = \text{tp}(b_0d'e)$ . Hence  $\text{tp}(aa_0c'f) = \text{tp}(bb_0d'e)$ , and this implies that  $\text{tp}(c/a_0c')$  has two nonforking extensions to  $a_0c'fa$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

For indiscernible  $A$  the next proposition is contained in [1].

**Proposition 5.6** *Assume that  $M$  is stable,  $A$  is small,  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the f.c.p and that  $(M, A)$  is saturated. Then every  $L$ -elementary permutation of  $A$  extends to an automorphism of  $M$ .*

*Proof.* If  $f : A \rightarrow A$  is an  $L$ -elementary permutation it preserves bounded formulas. By 2.1  $f$  preserves all  $L(P)$ -formulas. Since  $(M, A)$  is stable and saturated  $f$  extends to an automorphism.

For  $A \prec M$  the next proposition was proved in [5].

**Proposition 5.7** *If  $M$  does not have the f.c.p,  $A \subset M$  is small and if  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the f.c.p, then  $(M, A)$  does not have the f.c.p.*

*Proof.* Let  $T$  be the theory of  $M$ ,  $T'$  the theory of  $(M, A)$  and let  $T''$  be the theory of all *beautiful pairs* of  $T'$  in the sense of [5]. Hence  $T''$  is the theory of all models  $(M_2, A_2, M_1, A_1)$  where  $(M_2, A_2) \models T'$ ,  $(M_1, A_1)$  is a  $|L|^+$ -saturated elementary substructure of  $(M_2, A_2)$  and for each finite  $f \subset M_2$ , each  $L(P)$ -type over  $M_1f$  is realized in  $(M_2, A)$ . The predicate  $P$  is interpreted as the set  $A_2$  in the structure  $(M_2, A_2, M_1, A_1)$  and we have a new unary predicate  $Q$  to be interpreted as the set  $M_1$ . The set  $A_1$  is given only as the intersection of  $M_1$  with  $A_2$ . Since  $T'$  is stable, we can apply Theorem 6 of [5] to show that  $T'$  does not have the f.c.p. We have to prove that in every  $|L|^+$ -saturated model  $(M_2, A_2, M_1, A_1)$  of  $T''$  for every finite  $m \subset M_2$  every  $L(P)$ -type over  $M_1m$  is realized in  $(M_2, A_2)$ . Let  $p(x)$  be an  $L(P)$ -type over  $M_1m$ . Let  $a$  be a realization of  $p(x)$  in an elementary extension  $(M_3, A_3)$  of  $(M_2, A_2)$ . We will find some  $b \in M_2$  with the same  $L(P)$ -type over  $M_1m$  as  $a$ .

We can assume  $(M_3, A_3)$  is  $|L|^+$ -saturated. By Proposition 5.2 for every finite  $f \subset M_3$ , every  $L$ -type over  $A_3f$  is realized in  $M_3$  and for every finite  $f \subset M_2$ , every  $L$ -type over  $A_2f$  is realized in  $M_2$ . By this and by the stability of  $M_3$  and  $M_2$  we can use the back and forth system presented in the proof of Proposition 5.5 to determine equality of  $L(P)$ -types of tuples in  $(M_3, A_3)$  and in  $(M_2, A_2)$ : if we find  $Y \subset A_3$ ,  $Z \subset A_2$  and  $b \in M_2$  such that  $\text{tp}(M_1ma/A_3)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(M_1ma/Y)$  to  $A_3$ , that  $\text{tp}(M_1mb/A_2)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(M_1mb/Z)$  to  $A_2$ , that  $\text{tp}_b(Y) = \text{tp}_b(Z)$  and that  $\text{tp}(M_1maY) = \text{tp}(M_1mbZ)$ , then we can conclude that  $M_1ma$  and  $M_1mb$  have the same  $L(P)$ -type and hence that  $b$  realizes  $p(x)$ .

We start by choosing  $U \subset A_2 \setminus A_1$  of cardinality  $\leq |L|$  such that  $\text{tp}(m/M_1A_2)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(m/M_1U)$  to  $M_1A_2$ . Observe that the fact

that  $(M_1, A_1) \prec (M_2, A_2)$  implies that  $\text{tp}(M_1/A_2)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(M_1/A_1)$  to  $A_2$  and hence that  $\text{tp}(M_1m/A_2)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(M_1m/A_1U)$  to  $A_2$ . From this it follows also that  $\text{tp}(M_1m/A_3)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(M_1m/A_1U)$  to  $A_3$ . Let  $V \subset A_3$  be an extension of  $U$  of cardinality  $\leq |L|$  and such that  $\text{tp}(a/M_1mA_3)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(a/M_1mA_1V)$  to  $M_1mA_3$ . Then  $\text{tp}(M_1ma/A_3)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(M_1ma/A_1V)$  to  $A_3$ . We claim that we can find a realization  $V'$  of  $\text{tp}_b(V/A_1U)$  in  $(M_2, A_2)$ . Note that  $(A_2, A_1)$  is a model of the theory of all beautiful pairs of the theory of  $A_2$  and that it is  $|L|^+$ -saturated. Since  $(A_2)_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the f.c.p, by Theorem 6 of [5] for every finite  $f \subset A_2$  every type over  $A_1f$  is realized in  $A_2$ . By  $|L|^+$ -saturation of  $(A_2, A_1)$  this is also true for types in  $|L|$  variables over  $A_1W$  for any  $W \subset A_2$  of cardinality  $\leq |L|$ . Hence every bounded type over  $A_1U$  in  $|L|$  variables is realized in  $(M_2, A_2)$  and we can choose  $V' \subset A_2$  as claimed above.

The next step is to observe that for every finite  $f \subset M_2$ , every  $L$ -type over  $M_1A_2f$  is realized in  $M_2$ . Clearly it is enough to show that for each  $\varphi(x, y) \in L$  we can realize in  $M_2$  each  $\varphi$ -type  $q(x)$  over  $M_1A_2f$ . Let  $\theta(w, y) \in L$  and  $c \in M_2$  be such that  $\theta(c, y)$  is a definition of  $q(x)$ , let  $\kappa = |M_2| + |A_2|$  and let  $N$  be a  $\kappa^+$ -saturated elementary extension of  $M_2$ . By Proposition 5.5  $(N, A_2)$  is an elementary extension of  $(M_2, A_2)$ . By choice of  $N$ , for each finite  $g \subset N$  the  $\varphi$ -type over  $M_2A_2g$  defined by  $\theta(c, y)$  is realized in  $N$ . This fact can be expressed in the language  $L(P) \cup \{Q\}$  and hence the  $\varphi$ -type  $q(x)$  over  $M_1A_2f$  defined by  $\theta(c, y)$  is realized in  $M_2$ .

Since  $V$  and  $V'$  have the same type over  $A_1U$  and  $\text{tp}(M_1m/A_1U)$  has only one nonforking extension to  $A_3$  we can conclude that  $\text{tp}(M_1Vm) = \text{tp}(M_1V'm)$ . Thus we can choose  $b \in M_2$  such that  $\text{tp}(M_1V'mb) = \text{tp}(M_1Vma)$  and  $b$  is independent from  $M_1A_2m$  over  $M_1V'm$ . Also, since  $A_1V$  and  $A_1V'$  have the same bounded type,  $\text{tp}(M_1mb/A_2)$  is the only nonforking extension of  $\text{tp}(M_1mb/A_1V')$  to  $A_2$  and from this it follows that  $M_1mb$  and  $M_1ma$  have the same  $L(P)$ -type.  $\square$

If  $M$  is stable,  $A \subset M$  small and  $A_{\text{ind}}$  does not have the f.c.p, the next proposition implies that every  $L(P)$ -formula is equivalent to a bounded formula of the type indicated below. For elementary submodels this is due to Bouscaren and Poizat [2].

**Proposition 5.8** *If  $M$  is stable over  $A$  every bounded formula is equivalent to a boolean combination of bounded formulas of the form*

$$\exists \alpha_1 \in P \dots \exists \alpha_n \in P (\varphi(x, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \wedge \Phi(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)),$$

where  $\varphi$  is in  $L$  and  $\Phi$  is bounded.

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a (complete) type over  $A$  and  $\varphi(x, \alpha)$  be an  $L$ -formula. We define  $R_\varphi^A(p)$  as the minimal rank  $R_\varphi^A(\psi)$  of a formula  $\psi$  in  $p$ . Since every formula is equivalent to disjunction of formulas with relative  $\varphi$ -multiplicity 1 one can find a  $\psi_{p, \varphi} \in p$  such that

$$R_\varphi^A(p) = R_\varphi^A(\psi_{p, \varphi}) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Mlt}_\varphi^A(\psi_{p, \varphi}(x)) = 1.$$

If  $B$  is a subset of  $A$  and if  $\psi_{p,\varphi}$  is over  $B$  for all  $\varphi$  we call  $B$  a *base* of  $p$ . If  $B$  is a base of  $p$ ,  $p$  is the only extension of  $p \upharpoonright B$  to  $A$  with the same  $\varphi$ -ranks for all  $\varphi$  since

$$\theta(x, a) \in p \iff R_\theta^A(\theta(x, a) \wedge \psi_{p,\theta}(x)) = R_\theta^A(p).$$

Let  $(M, A)$  be  $|L|^+$ -saturated. We have to show that two finite tuples  $b$  and  $c$  from  $M$  satisfy the same bounded formulas whenever they satisfy the same formulas of the type described in the proposition. For this we choose a basis  $B$  of  $\text{tp}(b/A)$  of cardinality  $\leq |L|$ . The assumption implies that there is a subset  $C$  of  $A$  such that  $\text{tp}_b(B) = \text{tp}_b(C)$  and  $\text{tp}(bB) = \text{tp}(cC)$ .

Fix an  $L$ -formula  $\varphi(x, \alpha)$  and let  $p$  denote  $\text{tp}(b/A)$ . Write  $\psi_{p,\varphi}$  as  $\psi(x, b')$  for an  $L$ -formula  $\psi(x, \beta)$ . Let  $c'$  be the tuple in  $C$  which corresponds to  $b'$ . Then  $\psi(x, c')$  belongs to  $\text{tp}(c/A)$ , has the same relative  $\varphi$ -rank as  $p$  and multiplicity 1. It follows that  $R_\varphi^A(\text{tp}(c/A)) \leq R_\varphi^A(\text{tp}(b/A))$  and, by symmetry,

$$R_\varphi^A(\text{tp}(c/A)) = R_\varphi^A(\text{tp}(b/A)).$$

Whence  $\text{tp}(c/A)$  is the only extension of  $\text{tp}(c/C)$  to  $A$  with the same  $\varphi$ -ranks as  $\text{tp}(c/C)$ .

If  $A_{\text{ind}}$  were saturated we could use the reasoning of the proof of Lemma 3.3 to see that  $\text{tp}_b(bB) = \text{tp}_b(cC)$ . But  $|L|^+$ -saturation of  $A_{\text{ind}}$  suffices: If  $B' \subset A$  and  $C' \subset A$  are two extensions of  $B$  and  $C$  which have the same bounded type then  $\text{tp}(bB') = \text{tp}(cC')$ . Hence the system of all maps  $f : B' \cup \{b\} \rightarrow C' \cup \{c\}$  where

- $B'$  and  $C'$  are contained in  $A$  and at most of cardinality  $|L|$ ,
- $f$  maps  $B$  to  $C$  and preserves the respective enumerations,
- $f$  is bounded on  $B'$
- $f(b) = c$

is a back and forth system, which implies that all  $f$  are bounded. This implies  $\text{tp}_b(bB) = \text{tp}_b(cC)$ .  $\square$

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