

Logic and Mathematics. An interaction via Model Theory.

B.Zilber

University of Oxford

My points

- There are a number of striking applications of Model Theory in Algebraic and Complex Geometry, Number Theory, Analysis, ... (Hrushovski, Pila-Wilkie, Denef, Ax,...)

My points

- There are a number of striking applications of Model Theory in Algebraic and Complex Geometry, Number Theory, Analysis, ... (Hrushovski, Pila-Wilkie, Denef, Ax,...)
- Why is Model Theory so effective? What is its potential?
- Some parallels and lessons from Physics.

Why is Logic efficient in Maths?

Logic, with its focus on language, *definability*, *quantifier elimination*, *algorithmic solvability* and *categoricity*, does in a way study how the mathematician **observes** mathematical reality.

Why is Logic efficient in Maths?

Logic, with its focus on language, *definability*, *quantifier elimination*, *algorithmic solvability* and *categoricity*, does in a way study how the mathematician **observes** mathematical reality.

The paradigm of Mathematical Logic is based on the notion of **definable** in a way similar to how Modern Physics includes the observer into the model of physical reality.

Why is Logic efficient in Maths?

Logic, with its focus on language, *definability*, *quantifier elimination*, *algorithmic solvability* and *categoricity*, does in a way study how the mathematician **observes** mathematical reality.

The paradigm of Mathematical Logic is based on the notion of **definable** in a way similar to how Modern Physics includes the observer into the model of physical reality.

Heisenberg profoundly influenced Physics by proclaiming that only the notions which are observable can be accepted for foundations of physics.

Similarly, **definable notions and structures** are in the centre of Mathematics.

Categoricity

“Observations” of a mathematical structure \mathbf{M} give us the theory $\text{Th}(\mathbf{M})$,

$$\mathbf{M} \longrightarrow \text{Th}(\mathbf{M}).$$

Categoricity

“Observations” of a mathematical structure \mathbf{M} give us the theory $\text{Th}(\mathbf{M})$,

$$\mathbf{M} \longrightarrow \text{Th}(\mathbf{M}).$$

\mathbf{M} is well-defined?

$$\mathbf{M} \longleftrightarrow \text{Th}(\mathbf{M}) \quad ?$$

Categoricity in cardinality gives us:

$$\mathbf{M} \longleftrightarrow (\text{Th}(\mathbf{M}), \text{card } \mathbf{M}).$$

Morley – Shelah Theory

Theorem. For a countable language and uncountable \mathbf{M} , the actual card \mathbf{M} does not matter: *card \mathbf{M} does not need to be observable.*

Morley – Shelah Theory

Theorem. For a countable language and uncountable \mathbf{M} , the actual $\text{card } \mathbf{M}$ does not matter: *card \mathbf{M} does not need to be observable.*

Aside: the criteria

$$\mathbf{M} \longleftrightarrow (\text{Th}(\mathbf{M}), \text{card } \mathbf{M})$$

can be applied to **pseudo-finite** structures \mathbf{M} to speak about categoricity in an (unobservable) pseudo-finite cardinality.

Univocal theories and Physics

The philosophers and physicists of the beginning of the 20th century: Joseph Petzoldt, Albert Einstein, Paul Ehrenfest and others discussed a very similar notion of a **univocal theory**.

Univocal theories and Physics

The philosophers and physicists of the beginning of the 20th century: Joseph Petzoldt, Albert Einstein, Paul Ehrenfest and others discussed a very similar notion of a **univocal theory**.

Einstein, in particular, considered it to be an indispensable property of a scientific theory. (See D.Howard, I.Toader and other modern philosophers of physics on this.)

Fine classification theory

We will always assume $\text{card}(M) > \aleph_0$.

Fine classification theory

We will always assume $\text{card}(M) > \aleph_0$.

The Trichotomy Principle (Conjecture 1983) states that, for the first order languages, \mathbf{M} is one of the following:

- *a structure of algebraic geometry over algebraically closed field;*
- *a structure of linear algebra;*
- *a structure of “trivial”, combinatorial type.*

Fine classification theory

We will always assume $\text{card}(M) > \aleph_0$.

The Trichotomy Principle (Conjecture 1983) states that, for the first order languages, \mathbf{M} is one of the following:

- *a structure of algebraic geometry over algebraically closed field;*
- *a structure of linear algebra;*
- *a structure of “trivial”, combinatorial type.*

This is false in general (Hrushovski 1989) but true and useful under some reasonable extra assumptions (of Positive Logic).

Fine classification theory

We will always assume $\text{card}(M) > \aleph_0$.

The Trichotomy Principle (Conjecture 1983) states that, for the first order languages, \mathbf{M} is one of the following:

- *a structure of algebraic geometry over algebraically closed field;*
- *a structure of linear algebra;*
- *a structure of “trivial”, combinatorial type.*

This is false in general (Hrushovski 1989) but true and useful under some reasonable extra assumptions (of Positive Logic).

This **extends** (!?) in some useful form to Abstract Elementary Classes.

Fine classification theory

A Tentative Theorem. *Categorical theories are classifiable. Under mild extra assumptions any rich enough categorical theory is reducible to a fragment of complex geometry, possibly non-commutative.*

A great source of examples of such theories are:

- algebraic geometry (with its analytic machinery),

Fine classification theory

A Tentative Theorem. *Categorical theories are classifiable. Under mild extra assumptions any rich enough categorical theory is reducible to a fragment of complex geometry, possibly non-commutative.*

A great source of examples of such theories are:

- algebraic geometry (with its analytic machinery),
- quantum physics.

Fine classification theory

A Tentative Theorem. *Categorical theories are classifiable. Under mild extra assumptions any rich enough categorical theory is reducible to a fragment of complex geometry, possibly non-commutative.*

A great source of examples of such theories are:

- algebraic geometry (with its analytic machinery),
- quantum physics.

Remark. The theory of the field $\mathbb{R} = (\mathbb{R}; +, \cdot, 0, 1)$ can NOT be a fragment of a categorical theory. A challenge for applications in Physics.

Fine classification theory

A Tentative Theorem. *Categorical theories are classifiable. Under mild extra assumptions any rich enough categorical theory is reducible to a fragment of complex geometry, possibly non-commutative.*

A great source of examples of such theories are:

- algebraic geometry (with its analytic machinery),
- quantum physics.

Remark. The theory of the field $\mathbb{R} = (\mathbb{R}; +, \cdot, 0, 1)$ can NOT be a fragment of a categorical theory. A challenge for applications in Physics.

Remark. Interesting categorical theories of complex non-commutative geometry involve specific (potentially very large) finite structures.

“Huge finite” against infinite

The relevant formalism has been known in model theory since 1950's – **pseudo-finite** (or *hyperfinite*) structures.

“Huge finite” against infinite

The relevant formalism has been known in model theory since 1950's – **pseudo-finite** (or *hyperfinite*) structures.

\mathbf{N} is said to be pseudo-finite if for any first-order sentence Φ

$$\mathbf{N} \models \Phi \Rightarrow \text{exists finite } \mathbf{N}_\Phi \text{ such that } \mathbf{N}_\Phi \models \Phi.$$

“Huge finite” against infinite

The relevant formalism has been known in model theory since 1950's – **pseudo-finite** (or *hyperfinite*) structures.

\mathbf{N} is said to be pseudo-finite if for any first-order sentence Φ

$$\mathbf{N} \models \Phi \Rightarrow \text{exists finite } \mathbf{N}_\Phi \text{ such that } \mathbf{N}_\Phi \models \Phi.$$

An algebraic way to construct a pseudo-finite structure is by taking an **ultraproduct** of finite structures \mathbf{N}_i , $i \in I$ along an *ultrafilter* \mathcal{D} on I

$$*\mathbf{N} = \prod_{i \in I} \mathbf{N}_i / \mathcal{D}$$

“Huge finite” against infinite

The relevant formalism has been known in model theory since 1950's – **pseudo-finite** (or *hyperfinite*) structures.

\mathbf{N} is said to be pseudo-finite if for any first-order sentence Φ

$$\mathbf{N} \models \Phi \Rightarrow \text{exists finite } \mathbf{N}_\Phi \text{ such that } \mathbf{N}_\Phi \models \Phi.$$

An algebraic way to construct a pseudo-finite structure is by taking an **ultraproduct** of finite structures \mathbf{N}_i , $i \in I$ along an *ultrafilter* \mathcal{D} on I

$$*\mathbf{N} = \prod_{i \in I} \mathbf{N}_i / \mathcal{D}$$

Such an $*\mathbf{N}$ is pseudo-finite by Loś.

From finite to continuous. Continuous model theory.

Definition. An L -structure \mathbf{M} is a limit of a pseudo-finite L -structure ${}^*\mathbf{N}$ if there is a surjective L -homomorphism

$$\text{lim} : {}^*\mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}.$$

From finite to continuous. Continuous model theory.

Definition. An L -structure \mathbf{M} is a limit of a pseudo-finite L -structure ${}^*\mathbf{N}$ if there is a surjective L -homomorphism

$$\text{lim} : {}^*\mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}.$$

We can also write equivalently

$$\text{lim}_{\mathcal{D}} : \mathbf{N}_j \rightarrow \mathbf{M}.$$

Note. Homomorphisms preserve positively definable relations, “equations”.

Approximation of fields

Any locally compact field (such as \mathbb{C} , \mathbb{R} , \mathbb{Q}_p) can be *compactified* by adding ∞ .

$$\bar{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}, \bar{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}, \dots$$

Theorem.

1. The compactified field $\bar{\mathbb{C}}$ is approximable by finite fields.
2. The compactified field $\bar{\mathbb{R}}$ is **NOT approximable by finite fields or finite rings**. Neither are any other locally compact fields.

Can \mathbb{R} be finitely approximated?

Instead of finite (residue) ring $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}; +, \cdot, 0, 1)$ consider a fancier structure with two separate universes

$$(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{left}}; +, 0) \text{ and } (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{right}}; +, 0)$$

which weakens the multiplication to the bi-linear map from the left to the right:

$$e : (x, y) \mapsto x \cdot y, \quad \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{left}} \times \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{left}} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{right}}.$$

Can \mathbb{R} be finitely approximated?

Instead of finite (residue) ring $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}; +, \cdot, 0, 1)$ consider a fancier structure with two separate universes

$$(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{left}}; +, 0) \text{ and } (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{right}}; +, 0)$$

which weakens the multiplication to the bi-linear map from the left to the right:

$$e : (x, y) \mapsto x \cdot y, \quad \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{left}} \times \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{left}} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}_{\text{right}}.$$

(Thus, $x \cdot y \cdot z$ is not available.) The **weak ring structure** on $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$.

Weak ring from \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{C}

Let

$$\mathbb{S} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\} \subset \mathbb{C}.$$

Theorem. The limit of weak ring structures $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ is the structure \mathbb{R}_{weak} on two universes $(\bar{\mathbb{R}}, +, 0)$ and $(\mathbb{S}, \cdot, 1)$ with the “bi-linear” map between:

$$e : (x, y) \mapsto e^{2\pi ixy}.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}; +, 0)_{\text{left}} & & (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}; +, 0)_{\text{right}} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ (\bar{\mathbb{R}}, +, 0) & & (\mathbb{S}, \cdot, 1) \end{array}$$

Weak ring from \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{C}

Let

$$\mathbb{S} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\} \subset \mathbb{C}.$$

Theorem. The limit of weak ring structures $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ is the structure \mathbb{R}_{weak} on two universes $(\bar{\mathbb{R}}, +, 0)$ and $(\mathbb{S}, \cdot, 1)$ with the “bi-linear” map between:

$$e : (x, y) \mapsto e^{2\pi ixy}.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}; +, 0)_{\text{left}} & & (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}; +, 0)_{\text{right}} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ (\bar{\mathbb{R}}, +, 0) & & (\mathbb{S}, \cdot, 1) \end{array}$$

Moreover, this representation of the structure on \mathbb{R} fits into the usual setting of non-commutative (quantum) complex geometry.



Structures over \mathbb{R}_{weak}

Theorem. *The finite approximation of \mathbb{R}_{weak} can be extended to a finite approximation of the mathematical structure of quantum mechanics with quadratic potential.*

Structures over \mathbb{R}_{weak}

Theorem. *The finite approximation of \mathbb{R}_{weak} can be extended to a finite approximation of the mathematical structure of quantum mechanics with quadratic potential.*

Calculations over finite models can be passed via **lim** to the continuous model of quantum mechanics.

Structures over \mathbb{R}_{weak}

Theorem. *The finite approximation of \mathbb{R}_{weak} can be extended to a finite approximation of the mathematical structure of quantum mechanics with quadratic potential.*

Calculations over finite models can be passed via **lim** to the continuous model of quantum mechanics.

Important: This theorem assumes that the “unobservable” $M := m$ in $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ is “very divisible”, i.e. divisible by all standard k .

Example of Calculation. Time evolution operator for the quantum harmonic oscillator.

$$K^t := e^{-i\frac{P^2+Q^2}{\hbar}t}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

where P and Q are the momentum and position operators, t time.

Example of Calculation. Time evolution operator for the quantum harmonic oscillator.

$$K^t := e^{-i\frac{P^2+Q^2}{\hbar}t}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

where P and Q are the momentum and position operators, t time.

To calculate the Feynman propagator for K^t we *approximate* assuming $\sin t, \cos t \in \mathbb{Q}$. This allows to represent K^t as a linear transformation in (pseudo)finite-dimensional spaces.

Example of Calculation. Time evolution operator for the quantum harmonic oscillator.

$$K^t := e^{-i\frac{P^2+Q^2}{\hbar}t}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

where P and Q are the momentum and position operators, t time.

To calculate the Feynman propagator for K^t we *approximate* assuming $\sin t, \cos t \in \mathbb{Q}$. This allows to represent K^t as a linear transformation in (pseudo)finite-dimensional spaces.

And we get the matrix element

$$\langle x_1 | K^t x_2 \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi i \hbar \sin t}} \exp i \frac{(x_1^2 + x_2^2) \cos t - 2x_1 x_2}{2\hbar \sin t}.$$

Calculations via path integral

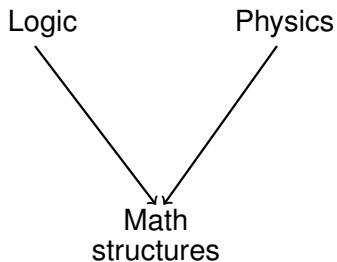
Need to evaluate $\lim \langle x_1 | I_\lambda x_2 \rangle$, where

$$I_\lambda x = \sum_{x_1 = -\frac{M^2}{2}}^{\frac{M^2}{2}} \dots \sum_{x_\lambda = -\frac{M^2}{2}}^{\frac{M^2}{2}} e^{i \sum a_{kj} x_k x_j} \Delta x_1 \dots \Delta x_\lambda, \quad K^t = \lim I_\lambda$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{1}{M}, \quad \Delta t = \frac{t}{\lambda}.$$

The control over the pseudo-finite parameters allows to evaluate K^t correctly, **no need of renormalisation**.

Conclusions



Conclusions

