

# Extending partial orders in tame ordered structures

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- J. Truss asked whether any definable partial order in an o-minimal structure could be definably extended to a linear order.
- We will positively answer a generalization of this question, by describing several classes of ordered structures that definably extend their definable partial orders.
- These structures can be thought of as possessing a “definable” order extension principle – in these structures, the “order extension principle” of ZFC holds definably. Formally:

## Definition

Let  $M$  be a structure. Say that  $M$  has the order extension principle (has OE) if, for any  $M$ -definable partial order  $(P, \prec)$ , there is an  $M$ -definable linear order  $\prec'$  that totally orders  $P$  and such that  $x \prec y \Rightarrow x \prec' y$ .

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# Examples of structures with OE

A structure  $M$  has OE if it definably extends any partial order to a total one.

In this talk, we will prove that the following structures have OE:

- 1 All well-ordered structures.
  - 2 All (weakly) o-minimal structures (every definable 1-dimensional set is a finite union of points and convex sets).
  - 3 All (weakly-)quasi-o-minimal structures.
- Prior to our work, the only results in this direction were when the partial order was 1-dimensional (just a subset of  $M$ ).
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# The key easy step

- Our work hinges on an easy observation: that any family of sets induces a partial order on its parameter set.
- Let  $\mathcal{V} = \{V(x) : x \in A\}$  be any family of sets, parameterized by  $A$ .

## Definition

Let  $\prec_{\mathcal{V}}$  be the partial order on  $A$  given by the relation  $x \prec_{\mathcal{V}} y$  if and only if  $V(x) \subsetneq V(y)$ .

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Let  $(P, \prec)$  be a partial order. Let  $L(x) = \{y \in P : y \prec x\}$  for  $x \in P$  – the “lower cone” of  $x$ .

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- If  $x \prec y$ , then by transitivity and  $x \in L(y) \setminus L(x)$ , we have  $x \prec_{\mathcal{V}} y$ , so  $\prec_{\mathcal{V}}$  is a partial order on  $P$  extending  $\prec$ .
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# Well-ordered structures

To show  $M$  has OE, we need to show that if  $A$  is the parameter set of a definable family of sets  $\mathcal{V}$ , then  $A$  can be linearly ordered, compatible with  $\prec_{\mathcal{V}}$ .

## Theorem

*Let  $M$  be a well-ordered structure. Then  $M$  has OE.*

- Let  $A$  be the parameter set for  $\mathcal{V} = \{V(x) : x \in A\}$ , a definable family of sets in  $M^n$  for some  $n \geq 0$ . We first consider the case  $n = 1$ .
- For  $x, y \in A$ , let  $B(x, y) = V(x) \triangle V(y)$ . Since  $M$  is well-ordered, there is a least element of  $B(x, y)$ . Then for  $x, y \in A$ , let  $x \prec y$  if  $t \in V(y)$  (so  $t \notin V(x)$ ).
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- This induces a partial order  $\prec_t$  on  $A$ .
- The collection  $\mathcal{V}_t$  is a family of  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional sets and so, by induction, we may extend each  $\prec_t$  to a linear order on  $A$ , uniformly in  $t$ .
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The previous proof gives the principle for subsequent proofs: if there is some consistent way to pick out a particular part of  $B(x, y)$ , for which each  $\prec_t$  gives the same answer about  $x$  and  $y$ , then we can use that answer to order  $x$  and  $y$ .

## Theorem (R., Steinhorn)

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Theorem: Any ordered structure with tame initial segment behavior of definable sets has OE.

## Proof.

- As before, we restrict to the 1-dimensional case for simplicity.
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*If  $M$  is an ordered structure such that for any definable  $A, C \subseteq M$ ,  $C$  contains or is disjoint from an initial segment of  $A$ , then  $M$  has OE.*

- The theorem immediately implies our results on well-ordered, o-minimal, and weakly o-minimal structures.
- Due to results of Onshuus, Steinhorn; R., any definable linear order in an o-minimal structure (with EI) embeds definably in a lexicographic order.
- Thus any definable partial order in an o-minimal structure (with EI) embeds in a reduct of a lexicographic order.
- Note that while the hypothesis on  $M$  in the theorem is first-order, the properties of being well-ordered or weakly o-minimal are not first-order.
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- As referred to before, if there is some consistent way to pick out a particular part of  $B(x, y)$ , for which each  $\prec_t$  gives the same answer about  $x$  and  $y$ , then we can use that answer to order  $x$  and  $y$ .
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## Definition

Say that an  $\omega$ -saturated ordered structure  $M$  has  $(\ddagger)$  if for any complete type  $p \in S_1(\emptyset)$  and any definable sets  $A, C \subseteq M$ , the set  $p(M) \cap A$  has an initial segment either disjoint from or contained in  $C$ .

- This is a natural generalization of the previous property we looked at.
- Instead of looking at the whole structure when we intersect sets, we restrict to a  $\emptyset$ -definable type.
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$(\ddagger)$ : inside a type over the empty set, initial segments of definable sets are tame

## Lemma

*If  $M$  has  $(\ddagger)$ , then, given  $A$  and  $C$ , we may actually replace the type  $p$  in the statement of  $(\ddagger)$  by some formula  $\varphi \in p$ . Thus some initial segment of  $\varphi(M) \cap A$  is contained in or disjoint from  $C$ . Moreover,  $\varphi$  is independent of the parameters used to define  $A, C$ .*

The lemma comes from a straightforward use of compactness, and allows us to replace types by formulas.

## Theorem (R., Steinhorn)

*Let  $M$  be an  $\omega$ -saturated ordered structure with  $(\ddagger)$ . Then  $M$  has OE.*

The proof proceeds as before, but the definition of the order in terms of  $B(x, y)$  is considerably more complicated, due to multiple applications of compactness.

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- This theorem most directly deals with quasi-o-minimal structures: ordered structures in which every definable set is (uniformly) a finite Boolean combination of points, intervals, and  $\emptyset$ -definable sets.
- We can also weaken “interval” to “convex set,” obtaining weakly-quasi-o-minimal structures.
- One might hope that  $(\dagger)$  held for all “reasonable” “tame” ordered structures. However . . .
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# A dp-minimal ordered structure without $(\ddagger)$

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- Let  $M = \langle \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}, <, E, R \rangle$ , where
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  - ③  $E$  is an equivalence relation refining each  $R$ -equivalence class into two dense equivalence classes.
- It is not hard to see that this structure has quantifier elimination and is therefore dp-minimal (and even VC-minimal), and has only one type over  $\emptyset$ .
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## Another kind of counterexample

- While a wide variety of ordered structures have OE, there are ordered structures without OE.
- For instance, the Fraïssé limit of finite structures with an unrelated partial order  $\prec$  and linear order  $<$  is an ordered structure with a definable partial order which cannot be definably extended to a linear order.
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