

Partitions properties of separable metric spaces

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Theorem (Milman, 71)

Let $n > 0$, $\varepsilon > 0$.

Then there is $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that whenever $\mathbb{S}^N = R \cup B$, we have $\mathbb{S}^n \hookrightarrow (R)_\varepsilon$ or $\mathbb{S}^n \hookrightarrow (B)_\varepsilon$. In symbols:

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \mathbb{S}^N \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} (\mathbb{S}^n)_2.$$

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Remark: This is implied by:

Theorem (Matoušek-Rödl, 95)

Let $X \subset \mathbb{S}^\infty$ finite, affinely independent, with circumradius < 1 .

Then there is a finite $Y \subset \mathbb{S}^\infty$, affinely independent, with circumradius < 1 such that

$$Y \longrightarrow (X)_2.$$

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Is there a direct, geometric or combinatorial, argument?

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*The space above is the **Urysohn space**, denoted \mathbb{U} .*

*Up to isometry, there is a unique sphere of diameter 1 in \mathbb{U} . The corresponding metric space is the **Urysohn sphere**, denoted \mathbb{S} .*

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Remark

- ▶ *For some finite approximate Ramsey type properties, \mathbb{U} and ℓ_2 behave similarly. So do \mathbb{S} and \mathbb{S}^∞ (Gromov-Milman, 84 ; Pestov, 02).*
- ▶ *For exact finite Ramsey properties, the analogy is not clear yet (Kechris-Pestov-Todorćević, Nešetřil, 05).*

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Corollary

Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Then:

$$\mathbb{S}_{\mathcal{C}([0,1])} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} (\mathbb{S}_{\mathcal{C}([0,1])})_2.$$

Note: in general, cannot require the copy to be linear.

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Proposition

- ▶ \mathbb{S} is the unique complete separable metric space with distances in $[0, 1]$ into which any separable metric space with distances in $[0, 1]$ embeds.
- ▶ \mathbb{S} has a countable rational analogue: the space $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}}$, unique countable ultrahomogeneous with distances in $[0, 1] \cap \mathbb{Q}$ into which any countable metric space with distances in $[0, 1] \cap \mathbb{Q}$ embeds.
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- ▶ *Up to isometry, there is a unique countable ultrahomogeneous metric space with distances in $\{1, \dots, m\}$ into which every countable metric space with distances in $\{1, \dots, m\}$ embeds. (\mathbb{U}_m , the **Urysohn space with distances in $\{1, \dots, m\}$**)*
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 - ▶ S closed under addition, or initial segment of such a set.
 - ▶ S well founded with $s^+ > 2s$ for every $s \in S$.

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Let $S \subset]0, +\infty[$ be bounded so that \mathbb{U}_S exists. Is \mathbb{U}_S indivisible?

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Eg: $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, $\{1, 4, 6, 7\}$, $\{1, 3, 7, 10\}$, \dots
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Theorem (Sauer, 10)

\mathbb{U}_S is indivisible for every finite S .

Weak indivisibility

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- ▶ Some spaces are not indivisible (resp. approximately indivisible). Still, some weaker partition relations can hold.
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Can we strengthen that to

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- ▶ Idem for $\mathbb{U}_\mathbb{Q}$, $\mathbb{U}_\mathbb{N}$.

Answers [NVT-Sauer, 10]

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1. $\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{N}} \longrightarrow (X, \mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{N}})$ for every finite $X \subset \mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{N}}$.
In fact $\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{N}} \longrightarrow (\mathbb{U}_m, \mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{N}})$ for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$.
2. $\mathbb{U} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} (X, \mathbb{U})$ for every finite $X \subset \mathbb{U}$ (even compact) and $\varepsilon > 0$.

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Let X be a unit distance pair of points. Does $\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}} \longrightarrow (X, \mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}})$?
Idem for $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ with distance $\delta < 1/2$.

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$\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} (X, \mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}})$ for every finite $X \subset \mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$.

(for $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}}$, already know from LA-NVT-S that $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} (\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}})_2$ for every $\varepsilon > 0$)

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*Is there a general finite Ramsey theorem for finite, affinely independent, metric subspaces of ℓ_2 ? (For points: cf Frankl-Rödl, 90)
Same question for \mathbb{S}^∞ , with same spaces, plus requirement that circumradius < 1 . (For points, cf Matoušek-Rödl, 95)*