ISOLATION AND LATTICE EMBEDDINGS

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Abstract. Say that (a, d) is an isolation pair if a is a c.e. degree, d is a d.c.e. degree, a < d and a bounds all c.e. degrees below d. We prove that there are an isolation pair (a, d) and a c.e. degree c such that c is incomparable with a, d, and c cups d to o', caps a to o. Thus, $\{o, c, d, o'\}$ is a diamond embedding, which was first proved by Downey in [9]. Furthermore, combined with Harrington-Soare continuity of capping degrees, our result gives an alternative proof of N_5 embedding.

§1. Introduction. A set $A \subseteq \omega$ is computably enumerable (c.e. for short), if A can be listed effectively. Say that $D \subseteq \omega$ is d.c.e. if D is the difference of two c.e. sets. A Turing degree is c.e. (d.c.e.) if it contains a c.e. (d.c.e.) set. Let R be the set of all c.e. degrees and D_2 be the set of all d.c.e. degrees. Since any c.e. set is d.c.e., $R \subseteq D_2$. Say that a degree d is properly d.c.e. if d contains a d.c.e. set, but contains no c.e. sets. Cooper [3] proved the existence of properly d.c.e. degrees. Thus,

THEOREM 1 (Cooper [3]). $\mathbf{R} \subset \mathbf{D}_2$.

In [5], Cooper, Lempp and Watson proved that the properly d.c.e. degrees are dense in the c.e. degrees. The early investigation of the structure D_2 shows that D_2 shares many properties with R. For example, Lachlan noticed that any nonzero d.c.e. degree bounds a nonzero c.e. degree, and so the downwards density holds in D_2 . Based on this observation, Jockusch pointed out that D_2 is not complemented. The first two structural differences between D_2 and R are obtained by Arslanov and Downey:

THEOREM 2 (Arslanov's Cupping Theorem [1]). Every nonzero d.c.e. degree cups to \mathbf{o}' with an incomplete d.c.e. degree.

THEOREM 3 (Downey's Diamond Embedding Theorem [9]). There are two d.c.e. degrees d_1 , d_2 such that d_1 cups d_2 to o' and caps d_2 to o.

In [8], Ding and Qian proved that one of d_1 , d_2 in Downey's diamond can be c.e.. Indeed, they proved the following lattice embedding:

THEOREM 4 (Ding and Qian [8]). There are two c.e. degrees a < b and a d.c.e. degree d such that d cups a to o' and caps b to o. Thus, $\{o, a, b, d, o'\}$ is an N_5 embedding.

Obviously, $\{\mathbf{o}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{o}'\}$ in Theorem 4 is a diamond embedding.

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Received April 24, 2001; revised August 28, 2001.

This project is supported by the New Zealand Marsden Fund. The author would like to thank his supervisor, Prof. Rod Downey, for his insightful suggestions.