

GLOBAL DEFINABILITY THEORY IN $L_{\omega_1\omega}$ ¹

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Introduction. Results in definability theory which are about a fixed structure are called “local” by Reyes [R]. An example is Scott’s definability theorem [Sc]. In contrast, “global” results are about the class of models of a sentence (theory); an example is Svenonius’ theorem [Sv]. Note that the straight analogue for $L_{\omega_1\omega}$ of Svenonius’ theorem, if true, would be a global generalization of Scott’s theorem, i.e., the latter would be obtained by applying the former to the Scott sentence of the given structure. Although this generalization is false, Motohashi [Mo] has found a totally satisfactory global generalization of Scott’s theorem (his result is explained below).

We give two distinct global generalizations of a local weak-definability theorem by Kueker [Ku 1] and Reyes [R] (Theorems 1 and 2 and Corollary (A)) and one for Kueker’s local theorem in [Ku 1] on structures with only countably many automorphisms (Theorem 3 and Corollary (E)). In Theorems 2 and 3, we utilize Motohashi’s work. Theorem 4 is related to [Ku 2].

1. **Results.** L denotes a fixed countable language, $L_{\omega_1\omega}$ the finite-quantifier logic with countable conjunctions and disjunctions based on L . P is an additional predicate symbol, $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P)$ is the corresponding extension of $L_{\omega_1\omega}$. \mathfrak{A} and (\mathfrak{A}, P) denote structures for $L_{\omega_1\omega}$ and $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P)$, resp. Following [Ku 1], we write $M_\sigma(\mathfrak{A})$ for $\{P: (\mathfrak{A}, P) \models \sigma\}$ and $M(\mathfrak{A}, P)$ for $\{Q: (\mathfrak{A}, Q) \text{ is isomorphic to } (\mathfrak{A}, P)\}$. $|X|$ is the cardinality of X .

THEOREM 1. For any sentence σ in $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P)$, (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii).

(i) For every countable \mathfrak{A} , $|M_\sigma(\mathfrak{A})| \leq \aleph_0$ (or, equivalently, $< 2^{\aleph_0}$).

(ii) For some formulas $\varphi_n(\vec{x}, \vec{u}^n)$ ($n < \omega$) of $L_{\omega_1\omega}$,

$$\sigma \models \bigvee_{n < \omega} \exists \vec{u}^n \forall \vec{x} [P\vec{x} \leftrightarrow \varphi_n(\vec{x}, \vec{u}^n)].$$

Theorem 1 is a direct analogue of the weak-definability theorem for finitary logic of Chang [C] and the author [Ma 1], as improved by Reyes [R] for countable structures. In fact, our proof gives the result for all admissible fragments of $L_{\omega_1\omega}$ (with the whole formula after “ \models ” in (ii) being in the fragment). A similar remark applies for our subsequent

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results. Taking σ to be the Scott sentence of (\mathfrak{A}, P) , we obtain

COROLLARY (A) (KUEKER [Ku 1], REYES [R]). $|M(\mathfrak{A}, P)| \leq \aleph_0$ iff $|M(\mathfrak{A}, P)| < 2^{\aleph_0}$ iff for some finitely many elements \vec{a} of A , P is definable in (\mathfrak{A}, \vec{a}) by an $L_{\omega_1\omega}$ -formula with the parameters \vec{a} .

Our next two theorems utilize work of Motohashi [Mo].

Let X, Y be disjoint infinite sets of variables. x, x_i, \dots denote variables from X ; y, y_i, \dots from Y ; $\vec{x}, \vec{x}^i, \dots$ vectors of x 's, similarly for \vec{y}, \vec{y}^i .

DEFINITION (MOTOHASHI [Mo]). A formula θ in $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P)$ is called a Motohashi formula (M -formula) if every atomic subformula of θ is of the form either $\pi(\vec{x})$ or $\pi(\vec{y})$ with $\pi(\cdot)$ in $L_{\omega\omega}$ or else $P\vec{y}$.

The following are easily seen.

PROPOSITION (B) ([Mo]). A finitary M -formula $\theta(\vec{x})$ is logically equivalent to a finitary formula of the form $\bigwedge_{i < n} [\sigma_i \rightarrow \varphi_i(\vec{x})]$, σ_i sentences in $L_{\omega\omega}(P)$, $\varphi_i(\vec{x})$ in $L_{\omega\omega}$.

(C) For given countable (\mathfrak{A}, P) , $\theta(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$ an M -formula, \vec{a}^0 elements of A , $\theta(\vec{x}, \vec{a}^0)$ is equivalent in $(\mathfrak{A}, P, \vec{a}^0)$ to an $L_{\omega\omega}$ -formula $\varphi(\vec{x})$ without parameters.

To obtain φ in (C), convert in θ each y -quantifier, $\forall y \cdots y \cdots$ into $\bigwedge_{a \in A} \cdots a \cdots$, with a a new constant for $a \in A$, and similarly for $\exists y$. Then replace each resulting atomic formula $\pi(\vec{a})$, $P\vec{a}$ by its actual truth-value in (\mathfrak{A}, P) .

THEOREM (D) (MOTOHASHI [Mo]). For any σ in $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P)$, (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii).

- (i) For all (or, for all countable) $(\mathfrak{A}, P) \models \sigma$, $|M(\mathfrak{A}, P)| = 1$.
- (ii) $\sigma \models \forall \vec{x} [P\vec{x} \leftrightarrow \theta(\vec{x})]$ for some M -formula $\theta(\vec{x})$.

By (C), (ii) obviously implies (i). (D) can be proved by an application of Feferman's many-sorted interpolation theorem [F]. This proof as well as Motohashi's proof in [Mo] gives the result for all admissible fragments of $L_{\omega_1\omega}$. Hence by (B), (D) implies Svenonius' theorem [Sv]. Also by (C), (D) implies Scott's definability theorem [Sc] (apply (D) for the Scott sentence σ of (\mathfrak{A}, P)).

THEOREM 2. For any sentence σ in $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P)$, (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii).

- (i) For all countable $(\mathfrak{A}, P) \models \sigma$, we have $|M(\mathfrak{A}, P)| \leq \aleph_0$ (or, $< 2^{\aleph_0}$).
- (ii) $\sigma \models \bigvee_{i < \omega} \exists \vec{x}^i \vec{y}^i \forall \vec{x} [P\vec{x} \leftrightarrow \theta_i(\vec{x}, \vec{x}^i, \vec{y}^i)]$ for some M -formulas θ_i ($i < \omega$).

By (C), (ii) obviously implies (i). For the same reason, Theorem 2 specializes to (A) if σ is the Scott sentence of (\mathfrak{A}, P) . By (B), Theorem 2 for finitary logic is a form of the weak-definability theorem [C], [Ma 1], [R]. As Motohashi [Mo] shows, conditions (i) in Theorems 1 and 2 are

not equivalent for $L_{\omega_1\omega}(\mathbf{P})$, unlike in the finitary case. In fact, even (i) in (D) does not imply (i) in Theorem 1.

THEOREM 3. *For any sentence σ in $L_{\omega_1\omega}$, (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii).*

(i) *For all countable $\mathfrak{A} \models \sigma$, \mathfrak{A} has at most countably many (or equivalently, less than 2^{\aleph_0}) automorphisms.*

(ii) $\sigma \models \bigvee_{i < \omega} \exists \bar{x}^i \bar{y}^i \forall y \forall x [x = y \leftrightarrow \theta_i(x, y, \bar{x}^i, \bar{y}^i)]$ *for some M -formulas θ_i ($i < \omega$) without \mathbf{P} .*

By Proposition (C), in any given \mathfrak{A} , the part after “ $\forall y$ ” of the formula in (ii) implies that y is definable in \mathfrak{A} with the parameters \bar{x}^i . Hence Theorem 3 has the following

COROLLARY (E) (KUEKER [Ku 1]). *For any countable \mathfrak{A} , \mathfrak{A} has at most countably many (less than 2^{\aleph_0}) automorphisms iff there are some finitely many elements \bar{a} of A such that every element of A is definable in (\mathfrak{A}, \bar{a}) by an $L_{\omega_1\omega}$ -formula.*

The finitary version of Theorem 3 is, via (B), the well-known result that every finitary sentence with infinite models has a countable model with 2^{\aleph_0} automorphisms.

Our last result utilizes, and adds to, Kueker’s work on “finite generalizations” of Beth’s theorem [Ku 2].

THEOREM 4. *For any σ in $L_{\omega_1\omega}(\mathbf{P})$, (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii).*

(i) *For all (or, for all countable) \mathfrak{A} , $|M_\sigma(\mathfrak{A})| < \aleph_0$.*

(ii) $\sigma \models \bigvee_{n < \omega} [\exists \bar{v}^n \varphi_n(\bar{v}^n) \wedge \forall \bar{v}^n [\varphi(\bar{v}^n) \rightarrow \bigvee_{i < n} \forall \bar{x} [P\bar{x} \leftrightarrow \varphi_{n,i}(\bar{x}, \bar{v}^n)]]]$ *for some $\varphi_{n,i}(\bar{x}, \bar{v}^n)$ in $L_{\omega_1\omega}$.*

2. Proofs. The proofs use abstract consistency properties (see [Ke], [Ma 2], [Ma 3]) and in case of Theorems 2 and 3, approximation of automorphisms by finite pieces similarly as in the proofs in [Ma 3]. We will show the proof of Theorem 2 in some detail.

Proof of Theorem 2. Let C be a countably infinite set of new individual constants. Define Γ_2 to be the collection of objects $\gamma = \langle s, f_i \rangle_{i \in I}$ such that s is a finite set of sentences of $L_{\omega_1\omega}(\mathbf{P})(C)$ in negation normal form (n.n.f.) with only finitely many constants from C , I is a finite set, each f_i is a finite subset of $C \times C$, and such that (the main condition) *there is no formula μ with (i)₂(γ, μ) where:*

(i)₂(γ, μ) μ is of the form of the formula after “ \models ” in Theorem 2(ii) and *whenever $(\mathfrak{A}, P, \bar{c})_{\bar{c} \in C}$ is a model of s and, for $i \in I$, g_i is an automorphism of \mathfrak{A} such that $\langle c, d \rangle \in f_i \Rightarrow \langle \bar{c}, \bar{d} \rangle \in g_i$, then $\mathfrak{A} \models \mu$.*

Suppose σ is in n.n.f. and it does not satisfy (ii) in Theorem 2. Then clearly $\gamma_0 =_{\text{df}} \langle \{\sigma\}, \emptyset \rangle$ belongs to Γ_2 . We successively extend this element

of Γ_2 , always remaining in Γ_2 , such that the limit of the procedure yields, in a natural way, a model (\mathfrak{A}, P) with $|M(\mathfrak{A}, P)| = 2^{\aleph_0}$.

LEMMA (ii). For fixed I and f_i ($i \in I$), $\{s: \langle s, f_i \rangle_{i \in I} \in \Gamma_2\}$ is an abstract consistency property.

(iii) For any $\gamma = \langle s, f_i \rangle_{i \in I} \in \Gamma_2$, $j \in I$, $c \in C$, let $d \neq c$ and let d not occur in γ . Then

$$\langle s, f_i, f_j \cup \{\langle c, d \rangle\} \rangle_{i \in I - \{j\}} \quad \text{and} \quad \langle s, f_i, f_j \cup \{\langle d, c \rangle\} \rangle_{i \in I - \{j\}}$$

belong to Γ_2 .

Comment. (iii) will be used to make sure that the domains and ranges of purported automorphisms will indeed be the whole domain (in this case, essentially C) of the structure.

(iv) Let γ and i be as in (iii). Let c, d_1, d_2 be distinct constants in C but not in γ . Put $f'_j = f_j \cup \{\langle d_1, c \rangle\}$, $f''_j = f_j \cup \{\langle d_2, c \rangle\}$ and $s' = s \cup \{Pd_1, \neg Pd_2\}$. Then $\gamma' = \langle s', f_i, f'_j, f''_j \rangle_{i \in I - \{j\}} \in \Gamma_2$.

Comment. (iv) is used to “split” a finite approximation f_j into two. Eventually the infinite paths of the tree of such approximations will be the automorphisms and they will give us 2^{\aleph_0} images of P . Note that for “extensions” g'_i, g''_i of f'_i, f''_i , resp., “ $g'_i P \neq g''_i P$ ”.

PROOF OF (iv). Introduce new operation symbols g_i ($i \in I$). The assumption that $\gamma' \notin \Gamma_2$ leads to the existence of μ' with $(i)_2(\gamma', \mu')$. Let ξ be the formula $\neg \mu' \wedge \bigwedge s \wedge \bigwedge_{i \in I} “g_i$ is an L -automorphism extending $f_i”$.
By $(i)_2(\gamma', \mu')$,

(v) $(\mathfrak{A}, P, \bar{c}, g_i)_{c \in \text{dom } f_j, i \in I} \models \xi$ implies that every automorphism of $(\mathfrak{A}, \bar{c})_{c \in \text{dom } f_j}$ leaves P fixed.

Hence by (an inessential strengthening of) (D),

(vi) $\xi \models \forall \bar{x}[P\bar{x} \leftrightarrow \theta(\bar{x}, \bar{c})]$ for $\bar{c} = \text{dom } f_j$ and for some Motohashi formula $\theta(\bar{x}, \bar{x}', \bar{y}')$. Hence $\xi \models \mu''$ where $\mu'' = \exists \bar{x}' \bar{y}' \forall \bar{x}[P\bar{x} \leftrightarrow \theta(\bar{x}, \bar{x}', \bar{y}')]$. It follows that

$(i)_2(\gamma, \mu' \vee \mu'')$ holds, contrary to $\gamma \in \Gamma_2$.

Now, let I_n be the set of finite 0-1 sequences of length n . Let $C = \{c_n: n < \omega\}$. We construct a sequence γ_n ($n < \omega$) of elements of Γ_2 starting with $\gamma_0 = \langle \{\sigma\}, \emptyset \rangle$ such that $\gamma_n = \langle s_n, f_i^n \rangle_{i \in I_n}$, $s_n \subset s_{n+1}$, $f_i^n \subset f_j^{n+1}$ for $j = i \cap \langle 0 \rangle, i \cap \langle 1 \rangle$ and

(vii) $s_\omega = \bigcup_{n < \omega} s_n$ is pseudocomplete (see 1.3 Definition in [Ma 2]) or, what is the same, the s_n satisfy (1)–(5) on p. 13 in [Ke] (here we use (ii)),

(viii) $c_n \in \text{dom } f_i^{n+1} \cap \text{rn } f_i^{n+1}$ ($i \in I_n$) (here we use (iii)), and

(ix) for each n and $i \in I_n$, there are $d_0 \in \text{dom } f_{j_0}^{n+1}$, $d_1 \in \text{dom } f_{j_1}^{n+1}$ and $c \in \text{rn } f_{j_0}^{n+1} \cap \text{rn } f_{j_1}^{n+1}$ (here $j_0 = i \cap \langle 0 \rangle, j_1 = i \cap \langle 1 \rangle$) such that $\{Pd_0, \neg Pd_1\} \subset s_{n+1}$ (here we use (iv)).

For the canonical model $(\mathfrak{A}, P, \bar{c})_{c \in C}$ of s_ω (see the proof of the model existence theorem in [Ke], or 1.4 in [Ma 3]) we have

- (x) $\mathfrak{A} \models \sigma$,
- (xi) the maps $f_\alpha = \{\langle \bar{c}, \bar{d} \rangle : \langle c, d \rangle \in \bigcup_{n < \omega} f_{\alpha|n}^n\}$ for $\alpha \in {}^\omega 2$ are automorphisms of \mathfrak{A} (mainly by (viii)) and
- (xii) $f_\alpha P \neq f_{\alpha'} P$ for $\alpha \neq \alpha'$ by (ix). Q.E.D.

ON THE PROOF OF THEOREM 1. The collection playing the role of Γ_2 above, Γ_1 , is defined as follows. Let P_i denote distinct predicate symbols of the same arity as P , and let us write $s(P_i)$ for a set of sentences in $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P_i)(C)$. Let Δ_I be the set of sentences of the form

$$\bigvee_{i \in I} \bigvee_{n < \omega} \exists \bar{u}^n \forall \bar{x} [P_i \bar{x} \leftrightarrow \varphi_n^i(\bar{x}, \bar{u}^n)]$$

where the φ_n^i are in $L_{\omega_1\omega}$. We define Γ_1 to be the collection of objects $\gamma = \langle s_i(P_i) \rangle_{i \in I}$ with similar finiteness conditions as for Γ_2 and such that there is no μ with (i)₁(γ, μ) where:

- (i)₁(γ, μ) $\mu \in \Delta_I$ and $\bigcup_{i \in I} s_i(P_i) \models \mu$.

The crucial fact analogous to (iv) above is that for γ as above, and a fixed $j \in I$, if we put $s'_j(P'_j) =_{\text{df}} s_j(P_j) \cup \{P'_j c\}$, $s''_j(P''_j) =_{\text{df}} s_j(P_j) \cup \{\neg P''_j c\}$ with $c \in C$ a constant not in γ , then $\langle s_i(P_i), s'_j(P'_j), s''_j(P''_j) \rangle_{i \in I - \{j\}}$ again belongs to Γ_1 . The proof of this applies the Beth-Lopez-Escobar theorem.

ON THE PROOF OF THEOREM 3. It is very similar to that of Theorem 2 and applies a corollary to (D): if every model of σ has no nontrivial automorphisms, then $\sigma \models \forall y \forall x [x = y \leftrightarrow \theta(x, y)]$ for some M -formula θ without P .

ON THE PROOF OF THEOREM 4. Let us call a formula of the form after “ \models ” in Theorem 4 (ii) a K -formula. Consider $\sigma = \sigma(P)$ not satisfying (ii). Define $\Gamma_4 = S_4$ to be the set of sets $s(P_0, \dots, P_{n-1})$ of sentences of $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P_0, \dots, P_{n-1})(C)$ with the usual finiteness conditions such that for any K -formula $\kappa(P)$, $s \not\models \sigma(P) \rightarrow \kappa(P)$. The crucial property of S_4 is that if $s \in S_4$ is as above then $s \cup \{\sigma(P_n), “P_n \neq P_1”, “P_n \neq P_2”, \dots, “P_n \neq P_{n-1}”\}$ belongs to S_4 . Also, S_4 is an abstract consistency property.

ADDED IN PROOF (May 2, 1973). Jon Barwise noticed that Theorem 1 remains true if we replace σ by a Σ_1^1 -over- $L_{\omega_1\omega}(P)$ sentence $\exists \bar{S} \sigma(P, \bar{S})$. A similar remark holds for the rest of the theorems too. In fact, no essential change is required in the proofs. Barwise also noticed that from the Σ_1^1 generalization of Theorem 1 in the “admissible version,” the following strengthening of a theorem due to J. Harrison results immediately: If a Σ_1^1 set of reals does not contain a perfect subset, it is a subset of a set constructible below ω_1^K (Kleene’s ω_1) (notice that our proof gives in fact a perfect subset of $M_\alpha(\mathfrak{A})$). Subsequently, the author noticed that the Σ_1^1 generalization of Theorem 1 (formulated with “perfect subset”) combined

with an approximation theorem of Vaught (any constructible Π_1^1 -over- $L_{\omega_1, \omega}$ sentence is equivalent for countable structures to $\bigvee_{\alpha < \omega_1} \delta_\alpha$ with some constructible sequence $\langle \delta_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ of $L_{\omega_1, \omega}$ -sentences) directly (and without the use of forcing) gives Mansfield's theorem: any Σ_2^1 set of reals not containing a perfect subset is constructible.

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