# Classifying Pairs of Equivalence Relations

### CARLO TOFFALORI

**Abstract** Let  $E_0$ ,  $E_1$  be equivalence relations such that the number of  $E_0$ -classes or  $E_1$ -classes in any class of the join of  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  is bounded. We study classification theory (according to Shelah) for these pairs of equivalence relations.

Roughly speaking, Shelah's classification problem is to find under which conditions, given a (countable) complete first-order theory T, the isomorphism types of models of T can be characterized by invariants such as cardinal numbers or something similar. It is simple to see that if, for all sufficiently large cardinals  $\lambda$ , T has too many (namely  $2^{\lambda}$ ) nonisomorphic models of power  $\lambda$ , then this assignment of invariants cannot be done. Shelah shows that, in some sense, the converse is also true: if T has fewer than  $2^{\lambda}$  nonisomorphic models in some uncountable  $\lambda$ , then a classification of isomorphism types of models of T is possible (see Baldwin [1] for a more complete and precise exposition of the whole matter).

Here we are interested in the classification problem for complete theories of two equivalence relations  $E_0$ ,  $E_1$ . The general analysis of this case is complicated owing to the Rogers theorem that the theory of two equivalence relations is undecidable (Rogers [7]). Hence we limit ourselves to the theories T satisfying the condition (+): if E denotes the equivalence relation generated by  $E_0$  and  $E_1$ , then there exists  $h \in \omega$  such that any E-class contains at most either h  $E_0$ -classes or h  $E_1$ -classes.

The first part of the paper (Sections 1-3) is devoted to characterizing in this context the basic tools of Shelah's classification theory: regular types, SR types, orthogonal types, and so on. In particular, we will see that any theory T satisfying (+) is superstable and monadically stable. Section 4 shows that T is presentable and shallow and satisfies the existence property, and hence is classifiable in the Shelah sense.

We already studied theories of pairs of equivalence relations in Toffalori [9], where we dealt with the problem of determining the theories that are categori-

cal in some infinite power. We assume that the reader is familiar with [9], mainly with Sections 1 and 2. References for basic stability theories include especially [1], but also Makkai [6] and Harrington and Makkai [4]. The existence property is explained, for instance, in Hart [5], while monadically stable (or tree decomposable) theories are treated in Baldwin and Shelah [3]. As usual, we will assume that all models of a theory T as above are elementarily embedded in a very saturated model U.

Finally, let me thank the referee for suggesting several improvements.

1 M and  $M^*$  Let  $(M, E_0, E_1)$  be a structure with two equivalence relations  $E_0, E_1$ . Let E denote the equivalence relation generated by  $E_0$  and  $E_1$ . We assume

(+) there is  $h \in \omega$  such that, for all  $a \in U$ , the *E*-class of *a* contains at most *h* classes of either  $E_0$  or  $E_1$ .

Notice that (+) implies that E is  $\emptyset$ -definable. Moreover, if (+) holds, then we can decompose M as  $\bigcup_{i < h} (M_i^0 \cup M_i^1)$  where, for all i < h,  $M_i^0 = \{a \in M: E(M, a) \text{ contains exactly } i+1 \text{ classes of } E_0\}$  and  $M_i^1 = \{a \in M - \bigcup_{j < h} M_j^0: E(M, a) \text{ contains exactly } i+1 \text{ classes of } E_1\}$ . Notice that the models of the theory of M are just the structures N of the form

$$N = \bigcup_{i < h} \; (N_i^0 \cup N_i^1)$$

where, for all i < h and e = 0 or 1,  $N_i^e$  is elementarily equivalent to  $M_i^e$ ; hence, they decompose in a uniform way as finite disjoint unions of structures whose E-classes contain the same (finite) number of classes of either  $E_0$  or  $E_1$ . Then it is straightforward to see that we can assume without loss of generality that any E-class of M contains exactly h classes of  $E_0$ .

Let us build now a new structure  $(M^*, E_0, E_1, P)$  (where P is a 1-ary relation symbol).

- (i)  $M^*$  includes M, and  $M^* M$  consists of a new element x(X) for any class X of  $E_0 \cap E_1$  in M, and of a new element  $x(X_0, X_1)$  for any pair of classes  $X_0, X_1$  of  $E_0, E_1$  respectively in M such that  $X_0 \cap X_1 = \emptyset$  but, for all  $a_0 \in X_0$  and  $a_1 \in X_1$ ,  $M \models E(a_0, a_1)$ .
- (ii)  $P(M^*) = M^* M$ .
- (iii) For any  $a \in M^*$  and e = 0, 1, put  $a_e = a$  if  $a \in M$ ,  $a_e =$  an element of X if a = x(X) for some X, and  $a_e =$  an element of  $X_e$  if  $a = x(X_0, X_1)$  for some  $X_0, X_1$ . Then, for all  $a, b \in M^*$ , define  $M^* \models E_e(a, b)$  if and only if  $M \models E_e(a_e, b_e)$  (notice that this definition does not depend on the choice of  $a_e$  and  $a_e$ ).

It is easy to see that the following properties hold in  $M^*$ .

- 1. For any e = 0, 1,  $E_e(M^{*2})$  is an equivalence relation and  $E_e(M^{*2}) \cap M^2 = E_e(M^2)$ .
- 2.  $E(M^{*2}) \cap M^2 = E(M^2)$ .
- 3.  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  permute in  $M^*$  (hence  $E = R_2^0 = R_2^1 = R_2$ , according to the notation of [9]).

- 4. For all  $a \in M^*$ , there is  $a' \in M$  such that  $M^* \models E(a, a')$ , and, for all  $a \in M$ ,  $E(M^*, a) = (E(M, a))^*$ .
- 5. For any class X of  $E_0 \cap E_1$  in M,  $(E_0 \cap E_1)(x(X), M^*) = X \cup \{x(X)\}$ ; for any pair of classes  $X_0, X_1$  of  $E_0, E_1$  respectively in M such that  $X_0 \cap X_1 = \emptyset$  but, for all  $a_0 \in X_0$  and  $a_1 \in X_1, M \models E(a_0, a_1), (E_0 \cap E_1)(x(X_0, X_1), M) = \{x(X_0, X_1)\}.$
- 6.  $M^*$  satisfies (+); furthermore, if every *E*-class in *M* contains exactly  $h E_0$ -classes, then the same is true in  $M^*$ .

We also point out that

- (a) for all  $a \in M^*$ , there is a unique  $x \in (E_0 \cap E_1)(M^*, a)$  satisfying P(v);
- (b) for all  $a_0, a_1 \in M$  such that  $E(a_0, a_1)$  holds in M (or, equivalently, in  $M^*$ ) and  $E_0(M, a_0) \cap E_1(M, a_1) = \emptyset$ , there is a unique  $x \in M^*$  such that  $\models E_0(x, a_0) \land E_1(x, a_1)$ ;
- (c) for all  $a \in M^*$  with  $|(E_0 \cap E_1)(M^*, x)| = 1$ , there exist  $a_0, a_1 \in M$  such that  $M \models E(a_0, a_1)$  and  $M^* \models E_0(a, a_0) \land E_1(a, a_1)$ .

Now let  $M = (M, E_0, E_1)$ ,  $M' = (M', E_0, E_1)$  be structures satisfying (+). By proceeding as in [9], one can easily show that the following propositions hold.

- **P1**  $M \simeq M'$  iff  $M^* \simeq M'^*$ .
- **P2** Let  $(\overline{M}, E_0, E_1, P)$  satisfy (+); put  $M = (\neg P(\overline{M}), E_0 \cap M^2, E_1 \cap M^2)$ , and assume that (a), (b), and (c) hold; then  $\overline{M} \simeq M^*$ .
- **P3**  $M \equiv M' \text{ iff } M^* \equiv M'^*.$

Therefore, if T = Th(M) and  $T^* = Th(M^*)$ , then the models of  $T^*$  are exactly the structures  $M'^*$  with  $M' \models T$ . Furthermore,

- $M' \mid \simeq \to M'^* \mid \simeq$  defines a bijection between the sets of isomorphism types of models of T and  $T^*$ ;
- let  $\overline{M} = (\overline{M}, E_0, E_1, P)$  satisfy (+) and (a), (b), and (c),  $\overline{T} = Th(\overline{M})$ ; if  $M = \neg P(\overline{M})$  and T = Th(M), then  $\overline{T} = T^*$ .

Therefore there is no loss of generality for our purposes in restricting ourselves to consider the classification problem for theories of structures  $(M, E_0, E_1, P)$  where  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  are permuting equivalence relations satisfying (+) (and even admitting exactly h  $E_0$ -classes in any E-class), and P is a 1-ary relation choosing an element in every  $E_0 \cap E_1$ -class of M. In fact, if M satisfies the further conditions (a), (b), and (c), then  $M \simeq (\neg P(M))^*$ .

Hence in the following sections T will always denote the theory of such a structure, and L its first-order language.

### 2 1-types and h-types We already saw in [9] that

## **Theorem 1** *T is superstable.*

The proof relies on a simple counting types argument and, more generally, on the analysis of the nonalgebraic 1-types over a model M of T we shall sketch below. We also recall that we gave in [9] an example of a non- $\omega$ -stable theory T of the type we are studying. Then let  $M \models T$ ,  $p \in S_1(M)$ , p be nonalgebraic.

(A) There is  $a \in M$  such that  $E_1(v, a) \in p$ ; with no loss of generality, we

can suppose  $E_0(v, a) \in p$ . Then, these conditions fully determine p; in particular  $\neg P(v) \in p$ .

(B) For all  $m \in M$ ,  $\neg E_1(v, m) \in p$ ; there exist  $a_0, \ldots, a_{h-1} \in M$  pairwise equivalent in  $E_1$  and inequivalent in  $E_0$ , and  $\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1} \in \omega^* \cup \{|U|\}$  ( $\omega^* = \omega - \{0\}$  from now on) such that

$$E_0(v,a_0)\in p$$

"
$$|E_0(U, a_j) \cap E_1(U, v)| = \alpha_j$$
" is in p for all  $j < h$ .

(Notice that this condition can be expressed by a single formula when  $\alpha_j \in \omega$ , and by a denumberable set of formulas otherwise.) Then p is fully determined by these formulas (and hence by the sequences  $a_0, \ldots, a_{h-1}$  and  $\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1}$ ) together with  $\neg E_1(v, m)$  for all  $m \in M$  and either P(v) or  $\neg P(v)$ .

(C) For all  $m \in M$ ,  $\neg E_0(v, m) \in p$ . Then p is fully determined by this condition and by  $p \upharpoonright \emptyset$ .

Hence we have to study  $S_1(\emptyset)$ . It is more convenient for our purposes to examine the h-types over  $\emptyset$  of sequences  $\bar{x} = (x_0, \dots, x_{h-1}) \in U^h$  satisfying

$$\bigwedge_{i < j < h} (E_1(v_i, v_j) \wedge \neg E_0(v_i, v_j)).$$

Let  $r \in S_h(\emptyset)$  contain this formula. Assign r the following invariants (1)-(3):

(1) The sequence  $\tau(r) \in 2^h$  such that, for all j < h,

$$\tau(r)(j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P(v_j) \in r, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(2) The sequence  $\alpha(r) \in (\omega^* \cup \{|U|\})^h$  such that, for all j < h,

$$\alpha(r)(j) = |(E_0 \cap E_1)(U, v_i)|$$

(r can express  $\alpha(r)(j)$  for all j < h; in fact, if there is  $n \in \omega^*$  such that  $\exists ! nw(E_0(v_j, w) \land E_1(v_j, w)) \in r$ , then  $\alpha(r)(j) = n$ , while, if  $\exists > nw(E_0(v_j, w)) \land E_1(v_j, w) \in r$  for all  $n \in \omega$ , then  $\alpha(r)(j) = |U|$ .

Let us introduce now the invariant (3) in a more informal way. Consider a realization  $\bar{x}$  of r; let  $(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1})$  be any sequence of cardinal numbers, all greater than 0, and either finite or equalling |U|. We wish to estimate how many  $E_1$ -classes X in the E-class of  $\bar{x}$  in U satisfy

$$|X \cap E_0(U, x_j)| = \alpha_j$$
 for every  $j < h$ .

Clearly, if all the  $a_j$ 's are finite, then r can express the power of the set of these classes. Assume now that there is some j < h with  $\alpha_j$  infinite. Then we can distinguish two cases: If there is  $k \in \omega$  such that no  $E_1$ -class X in the E-class of  $\bar{x}$  satisfies

$$|X \cap E_0(U, x_j)| = \alpha_j$$
 if  $\alpha_j$  is finite,  
 $|X \cap E_0(U, x_i)|$  is finite and  $>k$  otherwise,

then r can express how many  $E_1$ -classes X in the E-class of  $\bar{x}$  satisfy

$$|X \cap E_0(U, x_j)| = \alpha_j$$
 for every  $j < h$ 

(just because "= |U|" is equivalent to ">k"). Otherwise, r can only witness that a k playing the above role does not exist (and a compactness argument gives |U|-many  $E_1$ -classes X as required).

- (3) The function f(r) of  $(\omega^* \cup \{|U|\})^h$  into  $\omega \cup \{-1, |U|\}$  defined in the following way. Let  $(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1})$  be any sequence in  $(\omega^* \cup \{|U|\})^h$ ;
  - (3.1) if  $\alpha_j$  is finite for all j < h, then  $f(r)(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1})$  is the power of the set of  $E_1$ -classes X in the E-class of any realization  $\bar{x}$  of r such that

$$|X \cap E_0(U, x_i)| = \alpha_i$$
 for every  $j < h$ ;

- (3.2) if  $\alpha_j$  is infinite for some j < h, but there is  $k \in \omega$  such that, for all  $\beta_0, \ldots, \beta_{h-1} \in \omega^*$  with  $\beta_j = \alpha_j$  if  $\alpha_j$  is finite,  $\beta_j > k$  otherwise,  $f(r)(\beta_0, \ldots, \beta_{h-1}) = 0$ , then  $f(r)(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1})$  is defined as in (3.1);
- (3.3) otherwise,  $f(r)(\alpha_0, ..., \alpha_{h-1}) = -1$ .

**Lemma 1** Let  $r, r' \in S_h(\emptyset)$  contain  $\bigwedge_{i < j < h} (E_1(v_i, v_j) \land \neg E_0(v_i, v_j))$ . Then r = r' if and only if  $(\tau(r), \alpha(r), f(r)) = (\tau(r'), \alpha(r'), f(r'))$ .

*Proof*:  $(\Rightarrow)$  is trivial.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $(\tau(r), \alpha(r), f(r)) = (\tau(r'), \alpha(r'), f(r'))$ . Let  $\bar{x} \models r, \bar{x}' \models r'$ , we claim that there exists an isomorphism from  $E(U, x_0)$  onto  $E(U, x_0')$  sending  $\bar{x}$  into  $\bar{x}'$ . As this isomorphism can be easily extended to an automorphism of U, it follows that  $\bar{x} \equiv \bar{x}'$  and hence r = r'.

Let  $\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1} \in \omega^* \cup \{|U|\}$ . If  $(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1})$  satisfies the conditions of (3.1) or (3.2), then both  $E(U, x_0)$  and  $E(U, x_0')$  contain exactly  $f(r)(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1}) = f(r')(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1}) E_1$ -classes X satisfying, for all j < h,

$$|X \cap E_0(U,x_j)| = \alpha_j, \quad |X \cap E_0(U,x_j')| = \alpha_j$$

respectively.

Otherwise (3.3) holds, and  $f(r)(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1}) = f(r')(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1}) = -1$ . Also, for any  $k \in \omega$ , there exist  $\lambda_0, \ldots, \lambda_{h-1} \in \omega^*$  such that  $\lambda_j = \alpha_j$  when  $\alpha_j$  is finite,  $\lambda_i > k$  otherwise, and

$$f(r)(\lambda_0,\ldots,\lambda_{h-1})=f(r')(\lambda_0,\ldots,\lambda_{h-1})\neq 0$$

(and both r and r' can recognize that this is the case). Consider the following formulas over  $\bar{x}$ 

$$\bigwedge_{j < h} E_0(v_j, x_j) \wedge \bigwedge_{i < j < h} E_1(v_i, v_j),$$

$$\bigwedge_{\alpha_j \text{ finite}} \exists ! \alpha_j z (E_0(v_j, z) \wedge E_1(v_j, z)),$$

$$\bigwedge_{\alpha_j \text{ infinite}} \exists > nz (E_0(v_j, z) \wedge E_1(v_j, z)) \text{ for all } n \in \omega,$$

$$\bigwedge_{i < h} P(v_j) \text{ (for instance)}.$$

An easy compactness argument shows that the set of these formulas is consistent; furthermore it can be enlarged in a unique way to a type over  $\bar{x}$ ; this type admits |U|-many pairwise  $E_1$ -inequivalent realizations in U. Hence there are

|U|  $E_1$ -classes X in  $E(U, x_0)$  such that, for all j < h,  $|X \cap E_0(U, x_j)|$  equals  $\alpha_j$  if  $\alpha_j$  is finite, and |U| otherwise.

The same holds for  $\bar{x}'$ . Since  $\tau(r) = \tau(r')$  and  $\alpha(r) = \alpha(r')$ , it is easy at this point to build the required isomorphism between  $E(U, x_0)$  and  $E(U, x_0')$ .

Now let M be a model of T, and consider nonalgebraic types  $r \in S_h(M)$  containing  $\bigwedge_{i < j < h} (E_1(v_i, v_j) \land \neg E_0(v_i, v_j))$ . One could classify them in a way similar to the one we followed before for 1-types. We omit here the details, and we only emphasize the particular case when, for all  $m \in M$ ,  $E_0(v_0, m) \notin r$ . Notice that these formulas and  $r \upharpoonright \emptyset$  isolate r.

Let us discuss now the connection between 1-types and h-types of the above kind. First consider types over  $\varnothing$  and notice that every 1-type p over  $\varnothing$  can be enlarged to a type  $r \in S_h(\varnothing)$  with  $\bigwedge_{i < j < h}(E_1(v_i, v_j) \wedge \neg E_0(v_i, v_j)) \in r$  just taking a sequence x in U such that  $x_0 \models p$  and  $\models \bigwedge_{i < j < h}(E_1(x_i, x_j) \wedge \neg E_0(x_i, x_j))$ , and putting  $r = tp(\bar{x}/\varnothing)$ . Of course this extension r is not uniquely determined. However, if  $r, r' \in S_h(\varnothing)$  contain  $\bigwedge_{i < j < h}(E_1(v_i, v_j) \wedge \neg E_0(v_i, v_j))$  and  $\bigwedge_{0 < j < h}P(v_j)$ , and  $P(v_0) \in r$  if and only if  $P(v_0) \in r'$ , and p, p' denote  $tp(x_0/\varnothing)$ ,  $tp(x_0'/\varnothing)$  respectively for  $\bar{x} \models r$  and  $\bar{x}' \models r'$ , then

$$p = p'$$

if and only if there is  $s \in S_h$  such that s(0) = 0 and  $r'(v_0, \ldots, v_{h-1}) = r(v_{s(0)}, \ldots, v_{s(h-1)})$ .

- (⇐) is trivial.
- ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $x_0 \models p$ , enlarge  $x_0$  to a sequence  $\bar{x}$  realizing r, and to a sequence  $\bar{x}'$  realizing r'. Define  $s \in S_h$  by putting, for all i, j < h,

$$s(i) = j \text{ iff } \models E_0(x_i', x_i) \land E_1(x_i', x_i).$$

Then s is as claimed.

Now let us look at nonalgebraic types over a model M of T. Here we only notice that, if  $p \in S_1(M)$  contains  $\neg E_0(v_0, m)$  for all  $m \in M$ , then, just proceeding as above, one can enlarge p to a type  $r \in S_h(M)$ . This extension is not unique, but, if r, r' are such extensions, then  $r \not\perp r'$ ; furthermore, both r and r' are not orthogonal to p (this fact will be shown in the next section—Lemma 5).

**Corollary** The following propositions are equivalent:

- (i) T is  $\omega$ -stable;
- (ii)  $S_1(\emptyset)$  is countable;
- (iii)  $\{r \in S_h(\emptyset) : \bigwedge_{i < j < h} (E_1(v_i, v_j) \land \neg E_0(v_i, v_j)) \in r\}$  is countable.

*Proof:* (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) is trivial.

- (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Every type  $p \in S_1(\emptyset)$  can be extended in at most finitely many ways to a type r as in (iii).
- (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) follows from the analysis we gave of the 1-types over an arbitrary model of T.

**Corollary** T satisfies Vaught's Conjecture (namely T has either  $2^{\aleph_0}$  or at most  $\aleph_0$  nonisomorphic countable models).

*Proof:* If T is  $\omega$ -stable, then it suffices to refer to the Shelah theorem stating that all  $\omega$ -stable theories satisfy Vaught's conjecture (Shelah, Harrington, Makkai [8]).

If T is not  $\omega$ -stable, then  $|S_1(\emptyset)| = 2^{\aleph_0}$ , hence T needs  $2^{\aleph_0}$  nonisomorphic countable models to realize all the 1-types over  $\emptyset$ .

Notice that, consequently, Vaught's Conjecture holds even for an arbitrary theory of two equivalence relations satisfying (+). In order to simplify the exposition in the forthcoming sections, let me introduce the following conventions:

- From now on, h-type will always mean h-type containing the formula  $\bigwedge_{i < j < h} (E_1(v_i, v_i) \land \neg E_0(v_i, v_i))$ .
- For every h-type r (over  $\emptyset$ , or over a model M of T), we will denote by p(r) the 1-type of  $x_0$  where  $\bar{x}$  is any realization of r.
- For every h-type r, we will put  $f(r) = f(r \upharpoonright \emptyset)$ .

# 3 The Shelah first level

**Lemma 2** Let  $M \models T$ ,  $A \supseteq M$ ,  $p' \in S_1(A)$ ,  $p = p' \upharpoonright M$ . Then p' forks over M if and only if one of the following conditions holds:

- (i) p satisfies (A) and there is  $x \in A$  such that  $v = x \in p'$ ;
- (ii) p satisfies (B) and there is  $x \in A$  such that  $E_1(v, x)$  is in p';
- (iii) p satisfies (C) and there is  $x \in A$  such that E(v, x) is in p'.

The proof is just the same as Lemma 5 in [9]. Notice also that the forking extensions of h-types over M can be characterized in a similar way. In particular, if  $M \models T$ ,  $A \supseteq M$ ,  $r' \in S_h(A)$ ,  $r = r' \upharpoonright M$ , and r contains  $\neg E_0(v_0, m)$  for all  $m \in M$ , then r' forks over M if and only if there is  $x \in A$  such that  $E(v_0, x) \in r'$ .

**Lemma 3** Let M be a model of T, p be a nonalgebraic 1-type over M. Then  $RU(p) \le 3$ , p is regular and p is trivial.

**Proof:** Let p satisfy (A). For every M' > M,  $p \mid M'$  is the only extension of p over M' that does not represent v = w. This implies that every forking extension p' of p over M' is algebraic, hence RU(p) = 1 and p is regular. Furthermore,  $\psi$  equals  $= \operatorname{in} p(U)$ , so that, for every  $I \subseteq p(U)$ , independence is equivalent to pairwise independence in I. It follows that p is trivial.

Assume now that (B) holds. For every M' > M,  $p \mid M'$  is the only extension of p over M' that does not represent  $E_1(v, w)$ . This implies that any forking extension has  $RU \le 1$ ; hence  $RU(p) \le 2$ . Also, if x realizes any forking extension p' of p over M' and  $y \models p \mid M'$ , then  $tp(y/M' \cup x)$  does not represent  $E_1(v, w)$  (otherwise  $p \mid M'$  represents this formula, too), hence  $y \downarrow x$  and  $p' \downarrow x p \mid M'$ . Thus p is regular. Finally, M equals  $E_1$  in p(U), and again, for all  $I \subseteq p(U)$ , independence and pairwise independence are equivalent in I. Therefore, p is trivial.

Suppose now that p satisfies (C). If M' > M, then  $p \mid M'$  is the only extension of p over M' that does not contain E(v, m) for any  $m \in M'$ . If p' is any forking extension of p over M', then for some  $m \in M'$  E(v, m) and hence  $E_0(v, m)$  is in p. Hence  $RU(p') \le 2$  and  $RU(p) \le 3$ . Also, if  $x \models p'$  and  $y \models p \mid M'$ , then  $y \downarrow x$ , hence  $p' \perp p \mid M'$ . Then p is regular. Finally,  $\psi$  equals E in p(U), so for sets of realizations of p, independence is equivalent to pairwise independence, and again p is trivial.

We have implicitly shown that, for every p as above, the pregeometry (p(U), cl) associated to p (where, for all  $S \subseteq p(U)$ ,  $cl(S) = \{y \in p(U): y \not\downarrow S\}$ ) is degenerate.

Motice also that an argument similar to the previous one proves that every nonalgebraic h-type r over M is regular and trivial.

The regularity of types over a model of T and even over any subset of U could be proved also as a consequence of the following result.

**Lemma 4** T is monadically stable (tree decomposable in the sense of Baldwin and Shelah [3]).

*Proof:* We will show that T is 3-tree decomposable. Let M be any model of T,  $\lambda = |M|$ . Define a tree  $I \subseteq \lambda^{\leq 3}$  and a set  $\{(M(\eta), N(\eta)) : \eta \in I\}$  of pairs of models of T in the following way:

- (0)  $M_{\langle \rangle} = M$ ,  $N_{\langle \rangle} = N$  is any countable elementary submodel of M.
- (1) Let  $\{X(\eta):\eta<\mu\}$  be a list of E-classes in M (for a suitable  $\mu\leq\lambda$ ). Then  $\mu$  is just the set of elements of I of length 1. Moreover, for every  $\eta<\mu$ , put  $M(\eta)=N\cup X(\eta)$ . We claim that  $M(\eta)$  is an elementary submodel of M (and hence a model of T). It suffices to show that  $M(\eta)$  satisfies the Tarski-Vaught criterion. Suppose  $\bar{a}\in M(\eta)$  and  $M\models\exists v\varphi(v,\bar{a})$ . Let  $b\in M$  satisfy  $\varphi(v,\bar{a})$ . If  $b\in M(\eta)$ , then we are done. If there is  $x\in N$  such that  $\models E_1(b,x)$  (without loss of generality  $\models E_0(b,x)$ ), then the  $E_0\cap E_1$ -class of x in N is infinite, and we can build an automorphism of M fixing  $\bar{a}$  and sending b in N; so, again, we are done. Suppose now that, for all  $x\in N$ ,  $\models \neg E_1(b,x)$  but, for some  $x\in N$ ,  $\models E_0(b,x)$ ; let  $x_0=x,x_1,\ldots,x_{h-1}$  be pairwise  $E_1$ -equivalent and  $E_0$ -inequivalent elements of N,  $b_0=b,\ldots,b_{h-1}$  satisfy  $E_0(v_j,x_j)$  for all j< h and  $E_1(v_i,v_j)$  for all i< j< h. Then  $tp(\bar{b}/N)$  is defined by the previous formulas and  $|(E_0\cap E_1)(U,b_j)|$  for j< h. Hence there is  $k\in\omega$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \{E_0(v_j, x_j) : j < h\} & \cup \{E_1(v_i, v_j) : i < j < h\} \\ & \cup \{\exists > kw(E_0(v_i, w) \land E_1(v_i, w))\} \vdash \varphi(v, \bar{a}), \end{aligned}$$

hence there exists  $b' \in N$  satisfying  $\varphi(v, \bar{a})$ . Finally, assume that  $\vdash \neg E(b, x)$  for all  $x \in M(\eta)$ . Then  $tp(x/M(\eta))$  is fully determined by  $tp(b/\emptyset) \cup \{\neg E(v, x) : x \in M(\eta)\}$ ; hence there are  $\vartheta(v) \in tp(b/\emptyset)$  and a finite  $A \subseteq M(\eta)$  such that

$$\{\vartheta(v)\} \cup \{\neg E(v,x) : x \in A\} \vdash \varphi(v,\bar{a}).$$

Hence there does exist some  $b' \in N$  such that  $\models \varphi(b', \bar{a})$ . This concludes the proof of the claim. Hence we can put, for all  $\eta < \mu$ ,  $N(\eta) =$  some countable elementary submodel of  $M(\eta)$  such that  $N < N(\eta)$  and  $N(\eta) \cap X(\eta) \neq \emptyset$ .

- (2) For every  $\eta < \mu$  let  $\{Y(\nu) : \nu < \nu(\eta)\}$  be a list of  $E_1$ -classes in  $X(\eta)$  (for a suitable  $\nu(\eta) \le \mu$ ). Then the elements of I of length 2 are just the  $\eta \cap \nu$  for  $\eta < \mu$ ,  $\nu < \nu(\eta)$ . Put  $\tau = \eta \cap \nu$ , and define  $M(\tau) = N(\eta) \cup Y(\nu)$  (as before one can see that this is an elementary submodel of  $M(\eta)$ ),  $N(\tau) = a$  countable elementary substructure of  $M(\tau)$  satisfying  $N(\eta) < N(\tau)$  and  $N(\tau) \cap Y(\nu) \ne \emptyset$ .
- (3) Finally, for every  $\tau = \eta \cap \nu$  as above, let  $\{c(\rho) : \rho < \rho(\mu, \nu)\}$  be a list of elements of  $Y(\nu) N(\tau)$ ; let  $\delta = \tau \cap \rho$ , and put  $M(\delta) = N(\delta) = N(\tau) \cup \{c(\rho)\}$  (this is easily seen to be a submodel of  $M(\tau)$ ); the  $\delta$ 's are the elements of I of length 3.

Clearly  $M = \bigcup_{\eta \in I} N(\eta)$ , and, for  $\eta, \rho \in I$  with  $\eta \subseteq \rho$ ,  $N(\eta) < N(\rho) < M(\rho) < M(\eta)$ . Moreover it is straightforward to define, for every  $\eta \in I$  with length  $\leq 2$ , a set C of conditions (in the sense of [3]), and a map  $\sigma = \sigma(\eta)$  from  $\{E_0, E_1, P\}$  to C such that  $M(\eta)$  is the free union with respect to  $\sigma$  over  $N(\eta)$  of the  $M(\eta \cap \rho)$ 's for  $\eta \cap \rho \in I$ , and M is the free union with respect to  $\sigma$  over  $N(\eta)$  of the  $M(\eta \cap \rho)$ 's  $(\eta \cap \rho)$  as above) together with the  $M(\tau) \cup N(\eta)$ 's where  $\tau \in I$ ,  $\tau$  is not an initial segment of  $\eta$  but every proper initial segment of  $\tau$  is a proper initial segment of  $\eta$ .

It follows that M is decomposed by  $\{(M(\eta), N(\eta)) : \eta \in I\}$ . Hence T is 3-tree decomposable.

We want to characterize now the orthogonality relation among types. Recall that for trivial stationary types non-orthogonality is equivalent to not almost orthogonality (see [2], for instance).

**Lemma 5** Let  $M \models T$ ,  $p \in S_1(M)$  be nonalgebraic,  $r \in S_h(M)$  satisfy p(r) = p. Then  $p \not\perp r$ .

*Proof:* As p and r are trivial, it suffices to show  $p \not\perp r$ . And this is trivial, too.

In particular, if  $r, r' \in S_h(M)$ , and p(r) = p(r') = p, then  $r \not\perp r'$  (as r, r', p are regular, and  $\not\perp$  is an equivalence relation among regular types).

**Lemma 6** Let  $M \models T$ ,  $r, r' \in S_h(M)$  contain  $\neg E(v, m)$  for all  $m \in M$ . Then the following propositions are equivalent:

- (i)  $r \not\perp r'$ ;
- (ii)  $r \stackrel{a}{\not\perp} r'$ ;
- (iii) there is  $s \in S_h$  such that f(r) = f(s(r')) (where s(r') denotes  $tp(x_{s(0)}, \ldots, x_{s(h-1)}/M)$  where  $(x_0, \ldots, x_{h-1})$  is any realization of r').

*Proof:* Clearly it suffices to show the equivalence between (ii) and (iii).

- (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). Let  $\bar{x} \models r$ ,  $\bar{x}' \models r'$  satisfy  $\bar{x} \not \downarrow \bar{x}'$ . Hence, for any i < h, there is a unique j < h such that  $\models E_0(x_i, x_j')$ . Define s(i) = j. Then  $s \in S_h$  and f(r) = f(s(r')).
- (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Let  $\bar{x} \models r$ ; s(r') is fully determined by the formulas  $\neg E(v_0, m)$  for  $m \in M$ , and by  $(\tau(s(r')), \alpha(s(r')), f(s(r')))$ . Furthermore,  $f(r)(\alpha(s(r'))) = f(s(r'))(\alpha(s(r'))) \neq 0$ , hence s(r') in realized in  $E(U, x_0)$ , and  $r \not\perp r'$ .

**Lemma 7** Let M 
varphi T,  $p, p' \in S_1(M)$  be nonalgebraic. Then the following propositions are equivalent:

- (i)  $p \not\perp p'$ ;
- (ii)  $p \not\perp p'$ ;
- (iii) p and p' satisfy one of the conditions (1)-(3) below.
  - (1) There is an M such that  $E_0(v, a) \wedge E_1(v, a) \in p \cap p'$  (so p = p').
  - (2) There are  $a_0, \ldots, a_{h-1} \in M$  pairwise equivalent in  $E_1$  and inequivalent in  $E_0$ , and  $\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{h-1} \in \omega^* \cup \{|U|\}$  such that

$$\neg E_1(v, m) \in p \cap p' \text{ for all } m \in M,$$

$$E_0(v, a_i) \in p$$
,  $E_0(v, a_j) \in p'$  for some  $i, j < h$ ,

" $|E_1(U, v) \cap E_0(U, a_j)| = \alpha_j$ " is in  $p \cap p'$  for all j < h.

(3) For all  $m \in M$ ,  $\neg E(v, m) \in p \cap p'$ ; if  $r, r' \in S_h(M)$  and p(r) = p, p(r') = p', then  $r \not\perp r'$ .

Notice that, owing to Lemmas 5 and 6, the choice of r, r' is inessential;  $r \not\perp r'$  is characterized in Lemma 6.

**Proof:** The equivalence of (i) and (ii) follows from the triviality of p and p', while the equivalence of (ii) and (iii) is a straightforward consequence of Lemma 2.

Let us concentrate our attention now on the case T  $\omega$ -stable. SR-types (where SR = strongly regular) play a basic role under this hypothesis. Hence let us see which 1-types over a model M of an  $\omega$ -stable T are SR.

**Lemma 8** Let T be  $\omega$ -stable,  $M \models T$ , p be a nonalgebraic 1-type over M satisfying (A) or (B). Then p is SR.

*Proof:* First suppose that p satisfies (A). Let  $x \models p$ ,  $y \in M(x) - M$ ; then  $y \not\downarrow x$  and y = x. Hence, p is SR via the formula v = v. Assume now (B). Again, if  $x \models p$  and  $y \in M(x) - M$ , then  $y \not\downarrow x$ , and so  $\models E_1(y,x)$ . Hence  $y \models p$ , provided y satisfies the conjunction of  $E_0(v,a_0)$  and P(v) if  $\models P(x)$ ,  $\neg P(v)$  otherwise. Then p is SR.

It remains to examine the case (C).

**Example** Let T be the theory of two equivalence relations  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  such that

- (i)  $E_1 \subseteq E_0$ ;
- (ii)  $E_0$  has infinitely many classes;
- (iii) for all  $n \in \omega^*$ , every  $E_0$ -class contains exactly one  $E_1$ -class of power n.

Then, for all  $x, y \in U$ ,  $x \equiv y$  iff  $|E_1(U,x)| = |E_1(U,y)|$  and  $\models P(x) \leftrightarrow P(y)$ . In particular,  $|S_1(\emptyset)| = \aleph_0$ , and T is  $\omega$ -stable. Let  $M \models T$ , p be the 1-type over M defined by  $\neg E_0(v, m)$  for all  $m \in M$  and  $\exists^\infty w E_1(v, w)$  (besides P(v), for instance). Then p satisfies (C), and p is regular. However p is not SR; in fact, consider the 1-type q over M defined by  $\neg E_0(v, m)$  for all  $m \in M$ ,  $\exists! nw E_1(v, w)$  for some  $n \in \omega^*$ , and P(v). First of all, q is SR; for, if  $x \models q$  and  $y \in M(x) - M$ , then  $y \not\downarrow x$ , so  $\models E_0(x, y)$  and consequently  $y \models q$  provided  $\models \exists! nw E_1(y, w) \land P(y)$ . Furthermore  $q \leq_{RK} p$ , but  $q \not\vdash_{RK} p$ , then p is not RK-minimal, and hence p cannot be SR. Notice that  $p \not\downarrow q$ .

Then, let T be  $\omega$ -stable,  $M \models T$ ,  $p \in S_1(M)$  satisfy (C). We wish to find under which conditions p is SR.

Let  $r \in S_h(M)$  be such that p(r) = p. Assume for simplicity  $\bigwedge_{0 < i < h} P(v_i) \in r$ , and put  $S(r) = \{j < h : \alpha(r)(j) \text{ is finite}\}$ . Notice that, for every  $x_0 \models p$ , one can build a sequence  $\bar{x} = (x_0, \dots, x_{h-1}) \in M(x_0)$  realizing r; moreover, for any  $y_0 \in M(x_0) - M$ ,  $y_0 \notin x_0$ , hence  $\models E(x_0, y_0)$ .

Case 1. There is a  $k \in \omega$  such that, for all  $\beta_0, \ldots, \beta_{h-1} \in \omega^*$  satisfying  $\beta_j = \alpha(r)(j)$  when  $j \in S(r)$  and  $\beta_j > k$  when  $j \in h - S(r), f(r)(\beta_0, \ldots, \beta_{h-1}) = 0$ .

Notice that this is the case when S(r) = h. Then p is SR. In fact, for any  $s \in S_h$ , define a formula  $\varphi(s)(\overline{w})$  in the following way:

- (a) If f(s(r)) = f(r), then put  $\varphi(s)(\overline{w}) : w_0 = w_0$ .
- (b) If  $f(s(r)) \neq f(r)$  and there is  $\bar{\lambda} = (\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_{h-1}) \in (\omega^*)^h$  such that  $f(s(r))(\bar{\lambda}) \neq f(r)(\bar{\lambda})$ , then fix such a sequence  $\bar{\lambda}$ ; if  $f(r)(\bar{\lambda})$  is finite, then put

$$\varphi(s)(\overline{w}): f(tp(\overline{w}/\emptyset))(\overline{\lambda}) = f(r)(\overline{\lambda})$$

(this can be written by a suitable first-order formula); otherwise  $f(r)(\bar{\lambda}) = |U|$ , but then  $f(s(r))(\bar{\lambda})$  is finite, and we set

$$\varphi(s)(\overline{w}): f(tp(\overline{w}/\emptyset))(\overline{\lambda}) \neq f(s(r))(\overline{\lambda}).$$

(c) If  $f(s(r)) \neq f(r)$  but (b) does not hold, then there is  $\bar{\lambda} = (\lambda_0, \ldots, \lambda_{h-1}) \in (\omega^* \cup \{|U|\})^h$  such that  $\lambda_j = |U|$  for some j < h and  $f(r)(\bar{\lambda}) \neq f(s(r))(\bar{\lambda})$ ; choose such a sequence  $\bar{\lambda}$  and notice that, as f(r) and f(s(r)) are identically equal on  $(\omega^*)^h$ , for all  $\mu_0, \ldots, \mu_{h-1} \in \omega^* \cup \{|U|\}$ ,

$$f(r)(\bar{\mu}) = -1$$
 iff  $f(s(r))(\bar{\mu}) = -1$ .

In particular both  $f(r)(\bar{\lambda})$  and  $f(s(r))(\bar{\lambda})$  are different from -1, and hence either  $f(r)(\bar{\lambda})$  or  $f(s(r))(\bar{\lambda})$  is in  $\omega$ ; then we can define  $\varphi(s)(\bar{w})$  in a way similar to (b).

Finally, let  $\varphi_0(\overline{w})$  be the formula

$$\bigwedge_{i < j < h} \left( E_1(w_i, w_j) \land \neg E_0(w_i, w_j) \right) \land \bigwedge_{0 < j < h} P(w_j) \land \bigwedge_{j \in S(r)}$$

$$\exists \,!\, \alpha(r)(j)z(E_0(w_j,z) \land E_1(w_j,z)) \land \bigwedge_{j\in h-S(r)} \exists > kz$$

$$(E_0(w_j,z)\wedge E_1(w_j,z))\wedge \bigwedge_{s\in S_h}\varphi(s)(\overline{w})$$

and let  $\varphi(\overline{w})$  be the conjunction of  $\varphi_0(\overline{w})$  with  $P(w_0)$  or  $\neg P(w_0)$  provided that  $P(v) \in p$  or  $\neg P(v) \in p$ . Then the formula

$$\vartheta(v):\exists\overline{w}(v=w_0\land\varphi(\overline{w}))$$

makes p SR. In fact  $\vartheta(v) \in p$ ; moreover let  $x_0 \models p$ ,  $\bar{x} = (x_0, \dots, x_{h-1})$  be a realization of r in  $M(x_0)$ ; then, for every  $y_0 \in M(x_0) - M$  satisfying  $\vartheta(v)$ , there exists  $\bar{y} = (y_0, \dots, y_{h-1}) \in M(x_0)$  such that  $\models \bigwedge_{i < j < h} (E_1(y_i, y_j) \land \neg E_0(y_i, y_j))$  and

$$\tau(tp(\bar{y}/\varnothing)) = \tau(r), \alpha(tp(\bar{y}/\varnothing)) = \alpha(r).$$

Furthermore there is  $s \in S_h$  such that, for all j < h,  $\models E_0(y_j, x_{s(j)})$ . It follows  $f(tp(\bar{y}/\emptyset)) = f(s(r))$ . As  $\models \varphi(s)(\bar{y})$ , it must be f(s(r)) = f(r). Then  $\bar{y} \models r \upharpoonright \emptyset$ , so that  $\bar{y} \models r$  and  $y_0 \models p$ .

Case 2. For all  $k \in \omega$ , there are  $\alpha_0(k), \ldots, \alpha_{h-1}(k) \in \omega^*$  such that  $\alpha_j(k) = \alpha(r)(j)$  for any  $j \in S(r)$ ,  $\alpha_j(k) > k$  for any  $j \in h - S(r)$ , and  $f(r)(\alpha_0(k), \ldots, \alpha_{h-1}(k)) \neq 0$ .

The following conditions fully determine a type  $r(k) \in S_h(M)$ :

- (i) for all  $m \in M$ ,  $\neg E(v_0, m)$ ;
- (ii) for all j < h,  $\alpha(r(k))(j) = \alpha_i(k)$ ;
- (iii) f(r(k)) = f(r);
- (iv) finally,  $\tau(r(k))$  is defined in some arbitrary way, for instance by setting  $\tau(r(k)) = \tau(r)$ , as is possible if we assume  $k \ge 2$ .

Let p(k) = p(r(k)). Then S(r(k) = h), so that p(k) is SR. However  $p(k) \leq_{RK} p$  and  $p(k) \neq_{RK} p$ , and consequently p is not RK-minimal, and hence p cannot be SR. In fact it suffices to prove  $r(k) \leq_{RK} r$ ,  $r \not\leq_{RK} r(k)$  (since  $p(k) \sim_{RK} r(k)$  and  $p \sim_{RK} r$ ).

- $r(k) \leq_{RK} r$ : for every  $\bar{x} \models r$ , there is  $\bar{y} \in M(\bar{x})$  such that  $\bar{y} \models r(k)$  and even  $\models \bigwedge_{j < h} E_0(y_j, x_j)$ .
- $r \not \leq_{RK} r(k)$ : let  $\bar{y} \models r(k)$ , suppose towards a contradiction that  $M(\bar{y})$  contains a sequence  $\bar{x}$  realizing r. Then  $\bar{x} \not \downarrow \bar{y}$ , and hence  $\models E(x_0, y_0)$ ; moreover there is  $s \in S_h$  such that, for any j < h,  $\models E_0(x_j, y_{s(j)})$ ; in particular f(r) = f(s(r(k))) = f(s(r)).

Then  $tp(\bar{x}/M \cup \bar{y})$  is fully determined by these formulas:

- 1.  $\bigwedge_{i < j < h} E_1(v_i, v_j) \wedge \bigwedge_{j < h} E_0(v_j, y_{s(j)}),$
- 2. the formula expressing  $\tau(r)$ ,
- 3. the formulas expressing  $\alpha(r)$ , namely:

$$\exists ! \alpha(r)(j)z(E_0(v_i,z) \land E_1(v_i,z))$$
 for all  $j \in S(r)$ ,

$$\exists > nz(E_0(v_i, z) \land E_1(v_i, z))$$
 for all  $j \in h - S(r)$  and  $n \in \omega$ .

Moreover  $tp(\bar{x}/M \cup \bar{y})$  is isolated, and hence is determined by a finite set  $\Delta(\bar{v})$  of the previous formulas. Let  $t \in \omega$   $(t \ge 2)$  be such that, for any formula

$$\exists > nz(E_0(v_i, z) \land E_1(v_i, z)) \quad (j \in h - S(r), n \in \omega)$$

occurring in  $\Delta(\bar{v})$ , t > n. We know that  $M(\bar{v})$  contains a sequence  $\bar{x}'$  realizing r(t) (and even  $\models \bigwedge_{j < h} E_0(x_j', x_j)$ ). In particular  $\models \Delta(\bar{x}')$ ; however  $\bar{x}'$  does not realize r, a contradiction. Therefore  $r \nleq_{RK} r(k)$ .

We can summarize the previous results by means of the following:

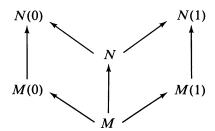
**Proposition** Let T be  $\omega$ -stable,  $M \models T$ ,  $p \in S_1(M)$  satisfy (C),  $r \in S_h(M)$  be such that p(r) = p, and  $S(r) = \{j < h : \alpha(r)(j) \in \omega\}$ . Then p is SR if and only if there is  $k \in \omega$  such that, for all  $\beta_0, \ldots, \beta_{h-1} \in \omega^*$  with  $\beta_j = \alpha(r)(j)$  when  $j \in S(r)$  and  $\beta_j > k$  when  $j \in h - S(r)$ ,  $f(r)(\bar{\beta}) = 0$ .

4 The Shelah second level This section is devoted to proving that every theory T satisfying the assumptions of Section 1 is classifiable according to Shelah. We already noticed that T is superstable, so we have to show that T is presentable (has NDOP), shallow, and satisfies the existence property (has NOTOP). On the other hand, T is also monadically stable, and every monadically stable theory satisfies both NDOP and NOTOP: this fact seems to be folklore, but, as far as I known, unpublished. So let met include here a proof for the sake of completeness.

**Theorem 2** Let T be any monadically stable theory. Then T is presentable and has the existence property.

Proof: First let me show that, if M, M(0), M(1) are models of T such that M is an elementary submodel of both M(0) and M(1) and  $M(0) \downarrow M(1)$ , then  $M(0) \cup M(1)$  is a model of T. First assume that M, M(0), M(1) are a-models of T. Let M' be the a-model of T a-prime over  $M(0) \cup M(1)$ , we claim that  $M' = M(0) \cup M(1)$ . Suppose toward a contradiction that there exists  $x \in M' - (M(0) \cup M(1))$ ; then, for every e = 0 or  $1, x \not\downarrow M(1 - e)$ , so there is a sequence  $\bar{y}(1 - e)$  in M(1 - e) - M so that  $x \not\downarrow \bar{y}(1 - e)$ . As T is monadically stable, there is  $y(1 - e) \in M(1 - e) - M$  so that  $x \not\downarrow y(1 - e)$  (see [3], 4.2.6). Again using monadic stability, we obtain  $x \not\downarrow y(1 - e)$  for any e = 0, 1 (as  $y \subseteq y$ , see [3], 4.2.12) and finally, owing to the transitivity of y for monadically stable theories,  $y(0) \not\downarrow y(1)$ , a contradiction.

Assume now that M, M(0), and M(1) are arbitrary models of T. Build an independent diagram



where N, N(0), N(1) are a-models of T, and the arrows denote elementary embeddings (see [6] and [4]). Then  $N(0) \underset{N}{\downarrow} N(1)$ , and hence  $N(0) \cup N(1)$  is an a-model of T. Furthermore, for every formula  $\varphi(\bar{v}, \bar{w})$  and for every  $\bar{a} \in M(0) \cup M(1)$ , if there is  $\bar{b} \in N(0) \cup N(1)$  satisfying  $\models \varphi(\bar{b}, \bar{a})$ , then there is  $\bar{a}' \in M(0) \cup M(1)$  such that  $\models \varphi(\bar{a}', \bar{a})$ ; then  $M(0) \cup M(1)$  is an elementary submodel of  $N(0) \cup N(1)$ , in particular  $M(0) \cup M(1)$  is a model of T.

At this point the existence property is trivial; in fact, for all models M, M(0), M(1) of T satisfying M < M(0), M < M(1), and  $M(0) \downarrow M(1)$ ,  $M(0) \cup M(1)$  is a model of T, clearly prime and atomic over itself.

So we have only to show that T is presentable; hence consider a-models M, M(0), M(1) of T satisfying the previous assumptions; let p be any nonalgebraic 1-type over  $M(0) \cup M(1)$  (= the a-model a-prime over itself), then we need to prove that either  $p \not\perp M(0)$  or  $p \not\perp M(1)$ . If there is e = 0, 1 such that p does not fork over M(e), then we are done. Otherwise, let x realize p, then both  $x \not\downarrow M(1)$  and  $x \not\downarrow M(0)$ , and we get a contradiction by proceeding just as above.

**Theorem 3** Let T be a theory satisfying the assumptions of Section 1. Then T is presentable, shallow with depth  $\leq 3$ , and satisfies the existence property. In particular, T is classifiable in the Shelah sense.

*Proof:* Owing to the previous remarks, we have only to show  $Dp(t) \le 3$ . Let M be an a-model of T, and  $p \in S_1(M)$  be nonalgebraic, hence regular.

First assume that p satisfies (A). Let  $x \models p$ , M' = M[x] = the a-model of T a-prime over  $M \cup \{x\}$ ,  $y \in M' - M$ . Then  $y \not\downarrow x$  and hence y = x. It follows  $M' = M \cup \{x\}$ , and hence every nonalgebraic 1-type over M' does not fork over M. Hence Dp(p) = 0.

Suppose now that (B) holds. Let x, M', y be as above. This time  $y \not\downarrow x$  implies  $\models E_1(x, y)$ , so that  $M' = M \cup E_1(M', x)$ . Then let q' be a nonalgebraic 1-type over M'. If there is  $a' \in M' - M$  such that  $E_0(v, a') \land E_1(v, a') \in q'$ , then  $q' \perp M$  and Dp(q') = 0. In the other cases,  $q' \not\perp M$ . Hence  $Dp(p) \leq 1$ .

Finally, assume (C). Now  $M' = M \cup E(M', x)$ . Let q' be a nonalgebraic 1-type over M'. If q' satisfies (A) for some  $a' \in M' - M$ , then  $q' \perp M$  and Dp(q') = 0. If q' satisfies (B) for some sequence  $a'_0, \ldots, a'_{h-1}$  of elements in M' - M, then  $q' \perp M$  and  $Dp(q') \leq 1$ . In the other cases  $q \not\perp M$ . Consequently  $Dp(p) \leq 2$ .

In conclusion, T is shallow and  $Dp(T) \le 3$  (we already gave implicit examples of theories T of depth 1, 2, and 3 in [9]).

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Baldwin, J. T., Fundamentals of Stability Theory, Springer, Berlin, 1988.
- [2] Baldwin, J. T. and L. Harrington, "Trivial pursuit: Remarks on the main gap," Annals of Pure and Applied Logic, vol. 34 (1987), pp. 209-230.
- [3] Baldwin, J. T. and S. Shelah, "Second order quantifiers and the complexity of theories," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, vol. 26 (1985), pp. 229-302.
- [4] Harrington, L. and M. Makkai, "An exposition of Shelah's main gap: Counting uncountable models of  $\omega$ -stable and superstable theories," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, vol. 26 (1985), pp. 139-177.
- [5] Hart, B., "An exposition of OTOP," pp. 107-126 in Classification Theory: Chicago, 1985 Proceedings of the U.S.-Israel Binational Workshop on Model Theory in Mathematical Logic edited by J. T. Baldwin, Springer, Berlin, 1987, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, 1292, pp. 107-126.
- [6] Makkai, M., "An introduction to stability theory, with particular emphasis on orthogonality and regular types," *Israel Journal of Mathematics*, vol. 49 (1984), pp. 181-238.
- [7] Rogers, H., "Certain logical reduction and decision problems," *Annals of Mathematics*, vol. 64 (1956), pp. 264–284.
- [8] Shelah, S., L. Harrington and M. Makkai, "A proof of Vaught's Conjecture for ω-stable theories," *Israel Journal of Mathematics*, vol. 49 (1984), pp. 259-278.
- [9] Toffalori, C., "Stability for pairs of equivalence relations," Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic, vol. 32 (1991), pp. 112-128.

Dipartimento di Matematica e Fisica Università di Camerino Via Madonna delle Carceri 62032 Camerino (Italy)