

The Computability of the Tree Antichain Theorem

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Definition

A *computable ring* is a computable subset $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ equipped with two computable binary operations $+$ and \cdot on A , together with elements $0, 1 \in A$ such that $R = (A, 0, 1, +, \cdot)$ is a ring.

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All rings will be *countable*, *commutative*, with an *identity element*.

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P is a *minimal prime ideal* if it does not properly contain a prime ideal.

Noether's Primary Decomposition Lemma

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Primary Decomposition Lemma

If R contains infinitely many minimal prime ideals, then R is not Noetherian, i.e. R contains an infinite strictly ascending chain of ideals

$$I_0 \subset I_1 \subset I_2 \subset \cdots \subset I_n \subset \cdots \subset R, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

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Let $I_0 = \langle 0 \rangle_R \subset R$.

Since R contains infinitely many minimal primes, $\langle 0 \rangle_R \subset R$ is not a prime ideal. Therefore there exist $a_1, b_1 \in R$ such that $a_1, b_1 \notin I_0$ but $a_1 b_1 = 0 \in I_0$. Now, either a_1 or b_1 is contained in infinitely many minimal primes; add it to I_0 to get $I_1 \supset I_0$.

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Repeat with the invariant that

$$I_k = \langle c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k \rangle_R \subset R, \quad k \in \mathbb{N},$$

is contained in infinitely many minimal primes, and therefore is not prime itself. Uses \emptyset'' .

The “Big Five:”

- RCA_0 : Recursive Comprehension Axiom
- WKL_0 : Weak König’s Lemma
- ACA_0 : Arithmetic Comprehension Axiom
- ATR_0 : Arithmetic Transfinite Recursion
- $\Pi_1^1\text{-CA}_0$: Π_1^1 -Comprehension Axiom

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 - AMT : Atomic Model Theorem

The Tree Antichain Theorem

Definition

Let $T \subseteq 2^{<\mathbb{N}}$ be a tree. We say that T is completely branching if for all $\sigma \in T$, $\sigma^+ = \{\sigma 0, \sigma 1\} \subset 2^{<\mathbb{N}}$, either

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TAC (Tree Antichain Theorem–Equivalent Version)

Every infinite tree $T \subseteq 2^{<\mathbb{N}}$ with no terminal nodes and infinitely many splittings has an infinite antichain.

Two Paths to TAC

Fact (RCA_0)

TAC follows from each of 2-MLR and ADS (individually).

Fact (RCA_0)

TAC is restricted Π_2^1 .

Fact (RCA_0)

TAC does not follow from WKL

Corollary

TAC is not equivalent to any other “known” subsystem of Second-Order Arithmetic.

Primary Decomposition for Restricted Classes of Rings

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- We say that ideals $I, J \subseteq R$ are uniformly coprime if for all $x \in I \cap J$ there exist $y \in I$, $z \in J$, and $a, b \in R$ such that
$$x = yz \quad \text{and} \quad ay + bz = 1_R.$$

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Theorem A

If R has infinitely many coprime minimal primes, then R is not Noetherian.

Theorem B

If R has infinitely many uniformly coprime minimal primes, then R is not Noetherian.

Theorem ($\text{RCA}_0 + \text{B}\Sigma_2$)

Theorem B is equivalent to TAC.

Algebraic Characterizations of TAC

Theorem ($\text{RCA}_0 + \text{B}\Sigma_2$)

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Conjecture ($\text{RCA}_0 + \text{B}\Sigma_2$)

Theorem A is equivalent to TAC.

TAC implies Theorem B

Given R with infinitely many minimal primes, construct

$T = T_R \subseteq 2^{<\mathbb{N}}$ such that:

- every $\sigma \in T$ corresponds to some (zero-divisor) $x_\sigma \in R$;

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If $\{\alpha_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is an infinite T -antichain, and

$$I_N = \text{Ann}\left(\prod_{i=1}^N x_{\alpha_i}\right),$$

then

$$I_0 \subset I_1 \subset I_2 \cdots \subset I_N \subset \cdots .$$

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- R is a PIR; every ideal $I \subset R$ is generated by a monomial.
- Given an infinite strictly ascending R -chain, one can effectively find a principle generator for each ideal in the chain and use $B\Sigma_2$ along with the sequence of exponents of these generators to build an infinite antichain of T in the context.

First-Order Considerations

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Definition (RCA_0)

For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $n\text{-TAC}$ be the principle that says “for every infinite tree $T \subseteq 2^{<\mathbb{N}}$ with infinitely many splittings, there is a (path-)nonincreasing $f_T : T \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that:

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$\text{TAC} \rightarrow \text{Theorem B} \rightarrow \text{WTAC}$, over RCA_0 .

$\text{TAC} \leftrightarrow \text{Theorem A/B} \leftrightarrow \text{WTAC}$, over $\text{RCA}_0 + \text{B}\Sigma_2$.

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Question (RCA_0)

- *Does PDL follow from some measure-theoretic principle (randomness)?*
- *Π_1^1 -conservativity for $(n-)$ TAC, PDL?*

Thank You!