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Recap: cost of measured equivalence relations (via graphing)
+ some basic estimates (section, cost only attained by treeings)

Proposition (cost of smooth measured eq rels) — admits a measurable fundamental domain
let (R, μ) be a smooth measured eq rel on a standard Borel space X with $\mu(X) < \infty$ and let $A \subset X$ be a measurable fundamental domain for R .
Then

$$\text{cost}_\mu R = \mu(X \setminus A).$$

- (ii) More precisely:
1. R admits a treeing
 2. If $\bar{\Gamma}$ is a reduced treeing of R , then

$$\text{cost}_\mu R = \text{cost}_\mu \bar{\Gamma}.$$

Proof. We have $\text{cost}_\mu R = \underbrace{\text{cost}_{\mu|_A} R|_A}_{=0} + \mu(X \setminus A)$
← A section of R
← Δ_A (A fix. point)
 $= \mu(X \setminus A). \quad \square$

Examples: • If $\Gamma \curvearrowright (X, \mu)$ is a free standard prob. action of a finite group Γ , then $R_{\Gamma \curvearrowright X}$ is smooth and thus

$$\text{cost}_\mu R_{\Gamma \curvearrowright X} = 1 - \frac{1}{|\Gamma|}.$$

measure of a fund. domain

each orbit of R is finite ← If (R, μ) is a finite measured eq rel with $\mu(X) < \infty$, then R is smooth.

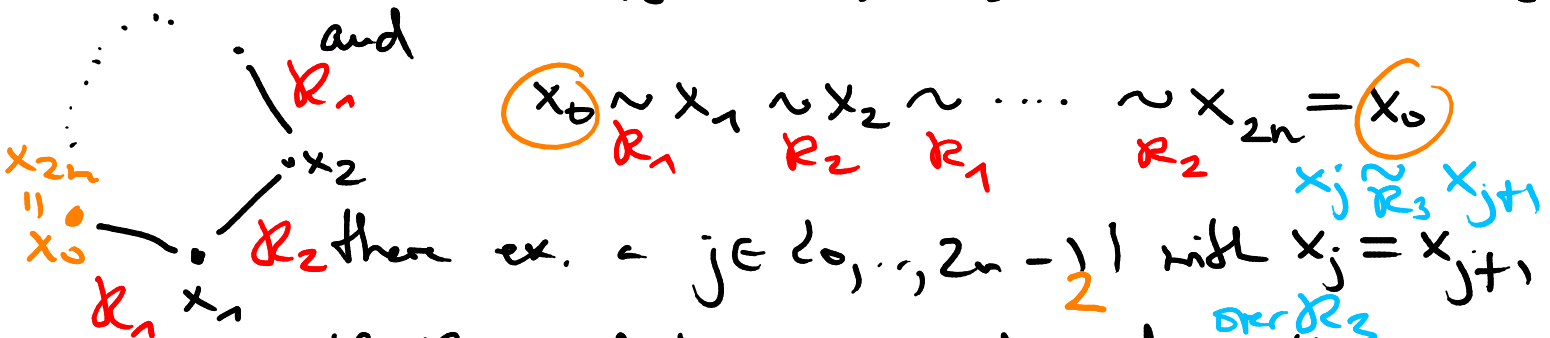
If $R' \subset R$, then $\text{cost}_\mu R' \leq \text{cost}_\mu R.$
(ii)

3.2.4 Cost of FREE PRODUCTS

$R_1 \cap R_2$
over R_3

Definition. (free products of standard eq rel's). Let X be standard Borel space, let R_1, R_2 be standard eq. rels on X !

- R_1 and R_2 are independent if:
For all $n \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ all $x_0, \dots, x_{2n} \in X$ with $x_{2n} = x_0$ and



- If R_1 and R_2 are independent, then we write $R_1 \perp_{R_3} R_2$ and $R_1 *_{R_3} R_2 := R_1 \vee R_2$.
eq. rel on X given by $R_1 \cup R_2$

Example. let $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 * \Gamma_2$, where Γ_1, Γ_2 are countable groups and let $\Gamma \curvearrowright (X, \mu)$ be a free standard prob. action. Then

$$\mathcal{R}_{\Gamma \curvearrowright X} = \mathcal{R}_{\Gamma_1 \curvearrowright X} * \mathcal{R}_{\Gamma_2 \curvearrowright X}$$

restricted actions of $\Gamma \curvearrowright X$ via the canonical maps $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \hookrightarrow \Gamma$.

Important case: free groups of finite rank

Theorem. (cost of free products). Let (R, μ) be a measured eq. rel on a standard Borel space with $\mu(X) < \infty$ that splits as a free product $R_1 * R_2$ of std eq. rels on X of finite cost. Then

$$\text{cost}_\mu R = \text{cost}_\mu R_1 + \text{cost}_\mu R_2.$$

easy!
↓

Proof. (\leq) let Φ_1, Φ_2 be graphings of R_1, R_2 , resp.

Then $\Phi_1 \sqcup \Phi_2$ is a graphing of $R_1 \vee R_2$
and $\underbrace{}_{= R}$

$$\text{cost}_\mu R \leq \text{cost}_\mu (\Phi_1 \sqcup \Phi_2)$$

$$= \text{cost}_\mu \Phi_1 + \text{cost}_\mu \Phi_2.$$

Taking the inf. over all graphings Φ_1, Φ_2 of R_1, R_2 shows that

$$\text{cost}_\mu R \leq \text{cost}_\mu R_1 + \text{cost}_\mu R_2.$$

not so easy...
↓

(\geq) Problem: If Φ is a graphing of R , then it is not so clear how we can decompose Φ into graphings of R_1 and R_2 without increasing the cost too much.

Idea: first consider the decomposable case (but in a slightly more gen. situation)

will later be rec!

Proposition. (lower bound for decomposable graphings).
 Let X be a standard Borel space, let $\mathcal{R}_1, \mathcal{R}_2$
 be standard eq. rel's on X , let $\mathcal{R} := \mathcal{R}_1 \vee \mathcal{R}_2$,
 $\mathcal{R}_3 := \mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$.

Let's suppose that $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_1 * \mathcal{R}_2$ and that
 \mathcal{R}_3 \mathcal{R}_3 is finite.

Let μ be a finite \mathcal{R} -inv. measure on X .
 and let Φ be a decomposable graphing
 of \mathcal{R} . Then

"Mayer-Vietoris"

$$\text{cost}_\mu \Phi \geq \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_1 + \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_2 - \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_3.$$

Proof. We write $\Phi = \Phi_1 \sqcup \Phi_2$ with $\langle \Phi_1 \rangle \subset \mathcal{R}_1$
 $\langle \Phi_2 \rangle \subset \mathcal{R}_2$.

proof:
 to be proved

Idea: \rightarrow decomposition lemma: there ex. $\bar{\Phi}_1, \bar{\Phi}_2$
 such that:

- $\langle \bar{\Phi}_1 \sqcup \bar{\Phi}_1 \rangle = \mathcal{R}_1$

- $\langle \bar{\Phi}_2 \sqcup \bar{\Phi}_2 \rangle = \mathcal{R}_2$

efficiency condition!

$\bar{\Phi}_1 \sqcup \bar{\Phi}_2$ is a reduced treeing of a subset of \mathcal{R}_3

frick!

Then: $\text{cost}_\mu \Phi = \text{cost}_\mu \Phi_1 + \text{cost}_\mu \Phi_2$
 $= \text{cost}_\mu (\bar{\Phi}_1 \sqcup \bar{\Phi}_1) + \text{cost}_\mu (\bar{\Phi}_2 \sqcup \bar{\Phi}_2) - \text{cost}_\mu (\bar{\Phi}_1 \sqcup \bar{\Phi}_2)$
 $\geq \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_1 + \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_2 - \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_3. \square \leq \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_3$

Back to the main proof: By (\Leftarrow) : $\text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R} < \infty$.

let $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ and let Φ be a graphing of \mathcal{R} with $\text{cost}_\mu \Phi \leq \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R} + \varepsilon$. $\mathcal{R}_1 * \mathcal{R}_2$

Problem: Need to decompose Φ !

let $\Omega = (\omega_i)_{i \in I}$ be a decomposable graphing of $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_1 * \mathcal{R}_2$. with $\text{cost}_\mu \Omega < \infty$ Idea: Use Ω to decompose Φ .

(...)

$$\Theta := \Theta_0 \sqcup \underbrace{(\omega_i |_{\omega_i^{-1}(x)})_{i \in J}}_{\substack{\text{finite} \\ \mu(\cdot) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{|J|}}} \sqcup \underbrace{(\omega_i)_{i \in I \setminus J}}_{\text{cost}_\mu \dots \leq \varepsilon}$$

graphing of \mathcal{R} .

Θ_1 decomposable (Ω is decomposable!)

It remains to take care of Θ_0 :

let $v \in \Theta_0$. Then there ex. a $k(v) \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\varphi_{v,1}, \dots, \varphi_{v,k(v)}$ s.t. by decomposing domains, we may assume

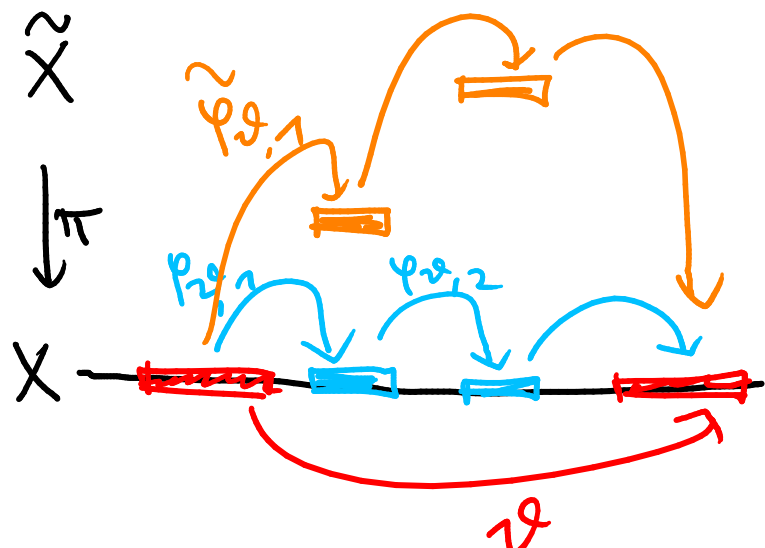
$$v = \varphi_{v,1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_{v,k(v)}$$

increases the cost!

restrictions of elements of $\Theta_0 \cap \Theta_1$ that lie in \mathcal{R}_1 or \mathcal{R}_2 ~~$\Theta_0 \cap \Theta_1$~~

$\leadsto (\varphi_{v,j})_{\substack{v \in \Theta_0 \\ j \in \{1, \dots, k(v)\}}} \sqcup \Theta_1$ is a decomposable graphing of \mathcal{R} .

Unfolding trick:



$\rightarrow \tilde{\Theta} = \tilde{\Theta}_0 \sqcup \tilde{\Theta}_1$
decomposable graph of $\tilde{\mathcal{R}}$

not Δ_X^{\sim} , but
a finite equiv. rel

let $\tilde{\mathcal{R}}, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_1, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_3$ be the π -pullbacks
of $\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{R}_1, \mathcal{R}_2, \mathcal{R}_3 = \Delta_X$

Then: $\tilde{\mathcal{R}} = \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_1 *_{\tilde{\mathcal{R}}_3} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2$

- X is a section of $\tilde{\mathcal{R}}, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_1, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_3$.

- $\tilde{\mathcal{R}}|_X = \mathcal{R}, \dots$

$\rightarrow \text{cost}_{\mu} \mathcal{R} - \mu(X) = \dots = \text{cost}_{\mu} \tilde{\mathcal{R}} - \tilde{\mu}(\tilde{X})$

(also for $\mathcal{R}_1, \mathcal{R}_2, \mathcal{R}_3$)

- $\text{cost}_{\mu} \tilde{\Theta} - \tilde{\mu}(\tilde{X}) = \text{cost}_{\mu} \Theta - \mu(X)$.

Now: apply: lower bound for decomposable
graphings to $\tilde{\Theta}$!

Final computation:

$$\boxed{\text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}} - \mu(X) + 3\varepsilon \geq \text{cost}_\mu \mathbb{I} - \mu(X) + 2\varepsilon$$

$$\geq \text{cost}_\mu \ominus - \mu(X)$$

$$= \text{cost}_{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{\ominus} - \tilde{\mu}(\bar{X})$$

$\tilde{\ominus}$
decomposable

$$\geq \text{cost}_{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_1 + \text{cost}_{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2 - \text{cost}_{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_3 - \tilde{\mu}(\bar{X})$$

$$= (\text{cost}_{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_1 - \tilde{\mu}(\bar{X})) + (\text{cost}_{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2 - \tilde{\mu}(\bar{X})) - (\text{cost}_{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_3 - \tilde{\mu}(\bar{X}))$$

$$= \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_1 - \mu(X) + \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_2 - \mu(X) - (\text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_3 - \mu(X))$$

$$= \boxed{\text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_1 + \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_2} - \text{cost}_\mu \mathcal{R}_3 - \mu(X)$$

$$\underbrace{\quad}_{= \Delta X} = 0$$

(take $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$).

□