

**Math 595: Topics on CBERs**      **HOMEWORK 2**      **Due: Mar 28, 5–6:15pm, in 443AH**

- 1. The  $\{1, 2, 3, \infty\}$  Theorem.** Let  $X$  be a standard Borel space and let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a Borel function. Let  $G_f := \text{Graph}(f)$ , so  $G_f$  is a Borel directed graph, possibly with loops (indeed, it could be that  $f(x) = x$  for some  $x \in X$ ). A *vertex coloring* for such a graph is defined by demanding that any two distinct vertices with a directed edge between them get distinct colors. Prove that  $\chi_B(G_f) \in \{1, 2, 3, \aleph_0\}$ , following the steps below.

Let  $E_f$  denote the connectedness relation of  $G_f$ . A set  $A \subseteq X$  is called  *$f$ -forward recurrent* for  $x \in X$  if for infinitely-many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $f^n(x) \in A$ . Say that  $f$  is *periodic at*  $x \in X$  if there are distinct  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $f^m(x) = f^n(x)$ . Call  $f$  *aperiodic* if it is not periodic at any  $x \in X$ .

- (i) Firstly, re-realize that  $\chi_B(G_f) \leq \aleph_0$ , so assume that  $G_f$  has a finite Borel (vertex) coloring.
- (ii) Prove that the points at which  $f$  is periodic form an  $E_f$ -invariant Borel set on which  $E_f$  admits a transversal. Thus, this part can be easily colored with 3 colors in a Borel fashion, so we may assume that  $f$  is aperiodic.
- (iii) Fix a finite Borel coloring of  $G_f$  and observe that for each  $x \in X$ , one of the colors forms an  $f$ -forward recurrent set. Construct a  $G_f$ -independent Borel set  $A \subseteq X$  that is  $f$ -forward recurrent for every  $x \in X$ .
- (iv) Given such a set  $A$ , color  $G_f$  with 3 colors in a Borel fashion.

HINT:  $A$  is one of the colors.

- 2.** Maybe something fun, like Stravinsky, say “[Infernal Dance of Kashchei and His Subjects](#)” from Firebird conducted by Pierre Boulez (or [Esa-Pekka Salonen’s version](#)).
- 3.** Let  $E$  be a CBER on a standard measure space  $(X, \mu)$ . Recall that  $[[E]]$  denotes the set of all Borel partial injections  $\pi : X \rightarrow X$  such that  $\pi(x) E x$  for all  $x \in \text{dom}(\pi)$ . We denote by  $[E]$  the subset of  $[[E]]$  of all entire functions, i.e., those whose domain is  $X$ .

Prove that the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $E$  is measure preserving, i.e., for every  $\pi \in [[E]]$ ,  $\mu(\text{dom}(\pi)) = \mu(\text{im}(\pi))$ .
  - (2) Every  $\gamma \in [E]$  is measure preserving.
  - (3) Every Borel action  $\Gamma \curvearrowright^a X$  of a countable group  $\Gamma$  with  $E_a \subseteq E$  is measure preserving.
  - (4) There is a Borel measure preserving action  $\Gamma \curvearrowright^a X$  of a countable group  $\Gamma$  with  $E_a = E$ .
- 4.** Let  $X$  be Polish and let  $E$  be an analytic equivalence relation on  $X$ .
- (a) Show that for an analytic set  $A$ , its saturation  $[A]_E := \{x \in X : \exists y \in A(x E y)\}$  is also analytic.

- (b) (Burgess) Let  $A, B \subseteq X$  be disjoint  $E$ -invariant analytic sets (i.e.,  $[A]_E = A$ ,  $[B]_E = B$ ). Prove that there is an  $E$ -invariant Borel set  $D$  separating  $A$  and  $B$ , i.e.,  $D \supseteq A$  and  $D \cap B = \emptyset$ .

## 5. Prisoners and hats

- (a) **Nonsmoothness of  $\mathbb{E}_0$ .** This question illustrates the nonsmoothness of  $\mathbb{E}_0$ , more particularly, how having a selector for  $\mathbb{E}_0$  (provided by AC) causes unintuitive things.  
*Problem.*  $\omega$ -many prisoners are sentenced to death, but they can get out under the following condition. On the day of the execution they will be lined up, i.e., enumerated  $(p_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , so that everybody can see everybody else but themselves. Each of the prisoners will have a red or blue hat put on them, but he/she won't be told which color it is (although they can see the other prisoners' hats). On command, all the prisoners at once make a guess as to what color they think their hat is. If all but finitely many prisoners guess correctly, they all go home free; otherwise all of them are executed. The good news is that the prisoners think of a plan the day before the execution, and indeed, all but finitely many prisoners guess correctly the next day, so everyone is saved. How do they do it?
- (b) **Non-2-colorability of the Hamming graph.** This question illustrates that the *Hamming graph*  $H$  on  $2^{\mathbb{N}}$  does not admit a reasonable 2-coloring. The Hamming graph  $H$  is defined by putting an edge between two binary sequences if they differ by exactly one bit. Thus,  $H$  is a cousin of  $G_0$  and  $E_H = \mathbb{E}_0$ .

*Problem.*  $\omega$ -many prisoners are sentenced to death, but they can get out under the following condition. On the day of the execution they will be lined up, i.e., enumerated  $(p_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , so that everybody can see everybody else but themselves. Each of the prisoners will have a red or blue hat put on them, but he/she won't be told which color it is (although they can see the other prisoners' hats). On command, each prisoner, one-by-one (starting from  $p_0$ , then  $p_1$ , then  $p_2$ , etc.), makes a guess as to what color they think their hat is. Whoever guesses right, goes home free. The good news is that the prisoners think of a plan the day before the execution, so that at most one prisoner is executed. How do they do it?

6. **Odometer.** Let  $X_0 = \{x \in 2^{\mathbb{N}} : \forall^\infty n \ x(n) = 0\}$ ,  $X_1 = \{x \in 2^{\mathbb{N}} : \forall^\infty n \ x(n) = 1\}$ , and put  $X = 2^{\mathbb{N}} \setminus (X_0 \cup X_1)$ . Note that  $X_0$  and  $X_1$  are  $\mathbb{E}_0$ -classes, so all we did is throwing away from  $2^{\mathbb{N}}$  two  $\mathbb{E}_0$ -classes. Define a continuous action of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on  $X$  so that the induced orbit equivalence relation  $E_{\mathbb{Z}}$  is exactly  $\mathbb{E}_0|_X$ .
7. Something new I learnt last week: Terry Riley's "[The Wheel and Mythic Birds Waltz](#)<sup>1</sup>". (There has to be a Kronos Quartet recording, but I can't find it, please let me know if you can.)
8. **Universality of the shift action.** Let  $\Gamma \curvearrowright X$  be a Borel action of a countable group  $\Gamma$  on a Polish space  $X$ . Show that there is a Borel equivariant<sup>2</sup> embedding  $f : X \hookrightarrow (2^{\mathbb{N}})^\Gamma$ ,

<sup>1</sup>Greg, I like this waltz!

<sup>2</sup>A map is called *equivariant* if it commutes with the action, i.e.,  $\gamma \cdot f(x) = f(\gamma \cdot x)$ , for  $x \in X$ .

where  $\Gamma \curvearrowright (2^{\mathbb{N}})^{\Gamma}$  by shift as follows:  $\gamma \cdot y(\delta) = y(\delta\gamma)$ , for  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$ ,  $y \in (2^{\mathbb{N}})^{\Gamma}$ . In particular,  $f$  is a Borel reduction of the induced orbit equivalence relations.

- 9.** For any Polish space  $X$ , let  $\mathbb{E}_0(X)$  denote the equivalence relation of eventual equality on  $X^{\mathbb{N}}$ , i.e., for  $x, y \in X^{\mathbb{N}}$ ,  $x \mathbb{E}_0(X) y$  if and only if for all large enough  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x(n) = y(n)$ .
- (a) For  $\ell : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\mathbb{E}_0(\ell)$  be the restriction of  $\mathbb{E}_0(\mathbb{N})$  to  $\mathcal{N}_{\leq \ell} := \{x \in \mathcal{N} : x(n) \leq \ell(n)\}$ . Show that  $\mathbb{E}_0(\ell) \sqsubseteq_c \mathbb{E}_0$
- (b) More generally, prove that  $\mathbb{E}_0(\mathbb{N}) \sqsubseteq_c \mathbb{E}_0$ .