

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

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Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases  
Regular Trees  
Diameter 2  
Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try  
Second Try  
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# Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin



March 10, 2012, NYC MAMLS

## Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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## Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

## Automorphism Groups

## Variations

## The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

# 1 Metric Homogeneity

- Special Cases
- Regular Trees
- Diameter 2
- Urysohn Graphs

# 2 Automorphism Groups

# 3 Variations

# 4 The Catalog

- First Try
- Second Try
- Enter Presburger

# Homogeneity

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Definition

1. A metric space is **homogeneous** iff every isometry between finite parts is induced by a self-isometry of the whole.
2. A graph is **metrically homogeneous** iff it is homogeneous under the graph metric.

## Problem (Cameron)

*Classify the metrically homogeneous graphs.*

*A census of infinite distance-transitive graphs*

<http://www.maths.qmul.ac.uk/~pjc/preprints>

# Special Cases

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

- Regular trees
- Diameter 2
- Urysohn graphs

# Regular trees $T(r)$

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Special Cases

**Regular Trees**

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

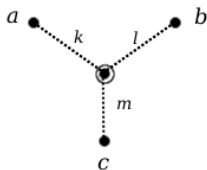
The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

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Reconstruction of the convex closure from the metric.



$$P = |(a, b, c)| = 2(k + l + m); m = P/2 - d(a, b)$$

# Semiregular trees and the Macpherson graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

**Regular Trees**

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

$T(r, s)$ : alternately  $r, s$ -branching  
Metrically homogeneous, modulo a bipartition.

# Semiregular trees and the Macpherson graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

$T(r, s)$ : alternately  $r, s$ -branching  
Metrically homogeneous, modulo a bipartition.

Obtain a metrically homogeneous graph on each half by rescaling—  
 $T_{r,s}$  and  $T_{s,r}$  Macpherson graph: an  $r$ -tree of  $s$ -cliques, or vice versa.

# Homogeneous Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Orysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Theorem (Lachlan/Woodrow)

- $C_5, K_3 \otimes K_3$
- $m \cdot K_n$  and its complement ( $m$ -partite).
- The Henson graphs  $\Gamma_n$  and their complements.
- The random graph



# Amalgamation Classes

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Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

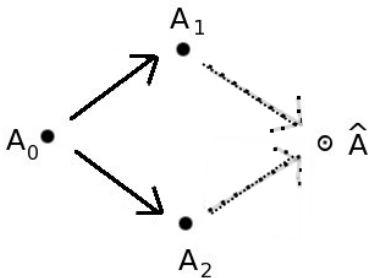
Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger



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Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Remark (Fraïssé)

*If  $\Gamma$  is a homogeneous structure then the category  $\text{Sub}(\Gamma)$  of f.g. substructures has the amalgamation property and joint embedding.*

# Amalgamation Classes

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

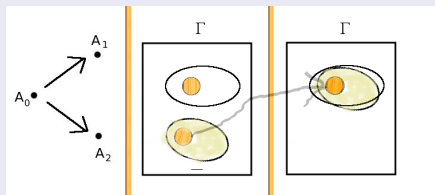
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Enter Presburger

## Remark (Fraïssé)

*If  $\Gamma$  is a homogeneous structure then the category  $\text{Sub}(\Gamma)$  of f.g. substructures has the amalgamation property and joint embedding.*

## Proof.



There is a converse ...

# The Fraïssé limit

## Definition (Amalgamation Class)

A set  $\mathcal{A}$  of f.g. structures is an **amalgamation class** if

- It is closed under isomorphism and substructure;
- It has the joint embedding and amalgamation properties

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

# The Fraïssé limit

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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## Theorem (Fraïssé)

*If  $\mathcal{A}$  is an amalgamation class with countably many isomorphism types then there is a unique countable homogeneous structure  $\Gamma$  with  $\text{Sub}(\Gamma) = \mathcal{A}$*

# The Fraïssé limit

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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## Example

$(\mathbb{Q}, <)$  is the Fraïssé limit of the class  $\mathcal{L}$  of finite linear orders.

# The Fraïssé limit

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Definition (Amalgamation Class)

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*If  $\mathcal{A}$  is an amalgamation class with countably many isomorphism types then there is a unique countable homogeneous structure  $\Gamma$  with  $\text{Sub}(\Gamma) = \mathcal{A}$*

## Example

The random graph  $\Gamma$  is the Fraïssé limit of the class  $\mathcal{G}$  of all finite graphs.

# The Henson Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

$\mathcal{A}_n$ : Graphs omitting  $K_n$ .  
Fraïssé limit  $\Gamma_n$ .  
Free amalgamation.



# The Henson Graphs

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

$\mathcal{A}_n$ : Graphs omitting  $K_n$ .

Fraïssé limit  $\Gamma_n$ .

Free amalgamation.

## Remark

*The complement of a homogeneous graph is homogeneous*

## Theorem

*An amalgamation class of graphs which contains arbitrarily large independent sets, a path of length 2, and its complement, as well as  $K_{n-1}$ , contains every finite graph not containing  $K_n$ .*

# Urysohn space

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

Fréchet's problem: is there a universal separable complete metric space?

# Urysohn space

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

Fréchet's problem: is there a universal separable complete metric space?

Urysohn, 1924:  $\mathbb{U}$  is the completion of the universal homogeneous rational metric space  $\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

# Urysohn space

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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Urysohn, 1924:  $\mathbb{U}$  is the completion of the universal homogeneous rational metric space  $\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

*... in addition [it] satisfies a quite powerful condition of homogeneity: the latter being, that it is possible to map the whole space onto itself (isometrically) so as to carry an arbitrary finite set  $M$  into an equally arbitrary set  $M_1$ , congruent to the set  $M$ .*

# Urysohn space

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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$\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  is the Fraïssé limit of the class of finite rational metric spaces.

# Amalgamation of Metric Spaces

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

$$\begin{aligned}d^+(a, b) &= \inf_x (d_1(a, x) + d_2(x, b)) \\d^-(a, b) &= \sup_x |d_1(a, x) - d_2(x, b)| \\d^-(a, b) &\leq r \leq d^+(a, b)\end{aligned}$$

## Example

The set of all finite rational metric spaces of diameter at most 1 is an amalgamation class.

The Urysohn “sphere”  $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

# Urysohn Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

$U_{\mathbb{Z}}$

$\mathbb{Z}$ -valued and 1-connected, hence metrically transitive.

Sphere variations  $U_{\mathbb{Z}}^{\delta}$ : diameter  $\delta$ .



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## Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases  
Regular Trees  
Diameter 2  
Urysohn Graphs

## Automorphism Groups

## Variations

## The Catalog

First Try  
Second Try  
Enter Presburger

### 1 Metric Homogeneity

- Special Cases
- Regular Trees
- Diameter 2
- Urysohn Graphs

### 2 Automorphism Groups

### 3 Variations

### 4 The Catalog

- First Try
- Second Try
- Enter Presburger

# Topology

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases  
Regular Trees  
Diameter 2  
Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try  
Second Try  
Enter Presburger

$G = \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$  closed subgroup of  $\text{Sym}(\mathbb{N})$  (Polish group)

# Topology

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases  
Regular Trees  
Diameter 2  
Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try  
Second Try  
Enter Presburger

$G = \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$  closed subgroup of  $\text{Sym}(\mathbb{N})$  (Polish group)

Topological dynamics: compact flows, minimal compact flows, universal minimal compact flows.

# Topology

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases  
Regular Trees  
Diameter 2  
Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try  
Second Try  
Enter Presburger

$G = \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$  closed subgroup of  $\text{Sym}(\mathbb{N})$  (Polish group)

Topological dynamics: compact flows, minimal compact flows, universal minimal compact flows.

Fixed-point property (extreme amenability): Every compact flow has a fixed point.

## Theorem (Pestov)

$\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Q}, <) is extremely amenable.$

## Proof.

Ramsey's theorem.

## Theorem (Pestov)

$\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Q}, <) is extremely amenable.$

## Proof.

Ramsey's theorem.

## Theorem (KPT)

*The universal **ordered** rational Urysohn space is extremely amenable.*

## Proof.

Structural Ramsey theory for finite rational valued metric spaces.  
(Nešetřil, on demand.)

# Removing order

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Theorem

*The universal compact flow for  $\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  is the space of orders.*

*General Theory: Kechris/Pestov/Todorćević*

# Removing order

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Theorem

*The universal compact flow for  $\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  is the space of orders.*

*General Theory:* Kechris/Pestov/Todorćević

*Project.* For natural homogeneous structures, find orders for which there is a Ramsey theorem.



## Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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## Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases  
Regular Trees  
Diameter 2  
Urysohn Graphs

## Automorphism Groups

## Variations

## The Catalog

First Try  
Second Try  
Enter Presburger

- 1 Metric Homogeneity
  - Special Cases
  - Regular Trees
  - Diameter 2
  - Urysohn Graphs
- 2 Automorphism Groups
- 3 Variations
- 4 The Catalog
  - First Try
  - Second Try
  - Enter Presburger

# Variations

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

- Henson Variations
- KMP Variations

# Henson Variations

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

Diameter  $\delta$ .  $1 < d^+$  and  $d^- < \delta$ .

$(1, \delta)$ -spaces

$S$ : a set of  $(1, \delta)$ -spaces.

## Remark

*Let  $S$  be a set of  $(1, \delta)$  spaces, and  $\mathcal{A}_S$  the class of  $S$ -free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -valued metric spaces of diameter at most  $\delta$ . If  $\delta > 2$ , then  $\mathcal{A}_S$  is an amalgamation class.*

# KMP Variations

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Theorem

*Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be any of the following:*

- *The set  $\mathcal{C}_K$  of odd cycles of length bounded by  $2K + 1$ .*
- *The set  $\mathcal{C}_C$  of cycles of perimeter at least  $C$ .*

*Then there is a universal  $\mathcal{C}$ -free graph.*

# KMP Variations

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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*Then there is a universal  $\mathcal{C}$ -free graph.*

## Proof.

Amalgamation in an augmented language, resembling a metric structure. □

# KMP Variations

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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- The set  $\mathcal{C}_C$  of cycles of perimeter at least  $C$ .

Then there is a universal  $\mathcal{C}$ -free graph.

## Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$  be the class of finite metric spaces of diameter at most  $\delta$  such that

- There is no triangle of odd perimeter less than  $2K + 1$
- There is no triangle of perimeter greater than or equal to  $C$ .

Then for  $\delta \geq 3$  and subject to minor constraints,  $\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$  is an amalgamation class.

AMALGAMATION PROCEDURE ( $\mathcal{A}_K$ )

- $d^-$  if  $d^- > K$ ;
- $d^+$  if  $d^+ \leq K$ ;
- Else  $K$ .

## Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

## Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

## Automorphism Groups

## Variations

## The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

- 1 Metric Homogeneity
  - Special Cases
  - Regular Trees
  - Diameter 2
  - Urysohn Graphs
- 2 Automorphism Groups
- 3 Variations
- 4 **The Catalog**
  - **First Try**
  - **Second Try**
  - **Enter Presburger**



# First Try

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

- $\delta \leq 2$ ; or
- Finite; or
- $T_{r,s}$ ; or
- $\Gamma_{\Delta;S}^\delta$

Here  $\Delta$  stands for a set of constraints on triangles.

Conjecture (Leibniz/Candide)

$\Delta$  means  $(K, C)$

# First Correction

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Antipodal Graphs

$C = 2\delta + 1$ , i.e.:

- For each vertex  $v$  there is a unique paired vertex  $v'$  at distance  $\delta$ .
- $d(u, v') = \delta - d(u, v)$

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Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Antipodal Graphs

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- For each vertex  $v$  there is a unique paired vertex  $v'$  at distance  $\delta$ .
- $d(u, v') = \delta - d(u, v)$

There is a Henson variation involving cliques  $K_n$

But then one must exclude pairs  $K_k, K_l$  at distance  $\delta - 1$ .

Strange ...

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Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

Wrong about  $\Delta$ .

# Second Correction

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

Wrong about  $\Delta$ .

In fact, I published 10 counterexamples in 1998 ...

# Second Correction

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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# Second Correction

Metrically Ho-  
mogeneous  
Graphs

Gregory  
Cherlin

Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

Wrong about  $\Delta$ .

In fact, I published 10 counterexamples in 1998 ...

But I didn't know it.

(27 amalgamation classes with 4 2-types, 18 can be interpreted as metric spaces, leading to 20 examples, 10 of them not of the above form.)

# The right $\Delta$

$C = (C_0, C_1)$ :  $C_0$  controls even perimeter;  $C_1$  controls odd perimeter; and in the most common case they do indeed differ by 1, and we take  $C = \min(C_0, C_1)$

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger



# The right $\Delta$

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

$C = (C_0, C_1)$ :  $C_0$  controls even perimeter;  $C_1$  controls odd perimeter.

$K = (K_1, K_2)$

$K_1$  controls small odd perimeter.

$K_2$  forbids odd perimeters  $P$  satisfying

$$P > 2K_2 + d(a, b)$$

# The right $\Delta$

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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$K_1$  controls small odd perimeter.

$K_2$  forbids odd perimeters  $P$  satisfying

$$P > 2K_2 + d(a, b)$$

## Theorem

*If a metrically homogeneous graph of bounded diameter is determined by constraints of order 3, the associated amalgamation class is of the form*

$$\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$$

*with  $K = (K_1, K_2)$ ,  $C = (C_0, C_1)$  as above.*

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Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

- $\delta \leq 2$ ; or
- Finite; or
- $T_{r,s}$ ; or
- $\Gamma_{\Delta;S}^\delta$ ; or even
- The antipodal variations  $\mathcal{A}_{a;n}^\delta = \mathcal{A}_{1,2\delta+1;S'_n}^\delta$

Here  $\Delta$  stands for a set of constraints on triangles such that  $\mathcal{A}_\Delta^\delta$  is an amalgamation class.

I.e.:  $\Delta = (K, C)$  with  $K = (K_1, K_2)$  and  $C = (C_0, C_1)$  as described.

# Second Try

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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- Finite; or
- $T_{r,s}$ ; or
- $\Gamma_{\Delta;S}^\delta$ ; or even
- The antipodal variations  $\mathcal{A}_{a;n}^\delta = \mathcal{A}_{1,2\delta+1;S'_n}^\delta$

Here  $\Delta$  stands for a set of constraints on triangles such that  $\mathcal{A}_\Delta^\delta$  is an amalgamation class.

I.e.:  $\Delta = (K, C)$  with  $K = (K_1, K_2)$  and  $C = (C_0, C_1)$  as described.

# Second Try

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

- $\delta \leq 2$ ; or
- Finite; or
- $T_{r,s}$ ; or
- $\Gamma_{\Delta;S}^{\delta}$ ; or even
- The antipodal variations  $\mathcal{A}_{a;n}^{\delta} = \mathcal{A}_{1,2\delta+1;S'_n}^{\delta}$

Here  $\Delta$  stands for a set of constraints on triangles such that  $\mathcal{A}_{\Delta}^{\delta}$  is an amalgamation class.

I.e.:  $\Delta = (K, C)$  with  $K = (K_1, K_2)$  and  $C = (C_0, C_1)$  as described.

## Problem

*But which of these classes actually is an amalgamation class?*

# Enter Presburger Arithmetic

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Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

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$\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$  is given by a set of triples  $T_{\delta,K,C} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^3$  with  $\delta, K, C$  standing for 5 positive integer parameters.

This is a uniformly definable family in the language of Presburger Arithmetic.

# Enter Presburger Arithmetic

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Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

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This is a uniformly definable family in the language of Presburger Arithmetic.

For fixed  $n$ , the  $n$ -amalgamation condition (amalgamation up to order  $n$ ) is a definable property in the same language. Therefore the sets  $A(n)$  of parameters  $(\delta, K, C)$  for which  $\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$  has the  $n$ -amalgamation property form a decreasing sequence of Presburger-definable sets; and we want the intersection.

# Admissible Choices of Parameters

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

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Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Theorem

*The following are equivalent.*

- $\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$  has amalgamation.
- $\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$  has 5-amalgamation.



# Admissible Choices of Parameters

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mogeneous  
Graphs

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Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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## Proof.

We write down the exact conditions for 5-amalgamation  
... and then give an amalgamation procedure that  
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Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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## Corollary

*The necessary conditions on  $\delta, K, C$  involve congruences and inequalities, with terms linear in the data.*

# The Conditions

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Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

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Let  $C = \min(C_0, C_1)$

If  $C \leq 2\delta + K_1$ :

- $C = 2K_1 + 2K_2 + 1$ ;  $K_1 + K_2 \geq \delta$ ;  $K_1 + 2K_2 \leq 2\delta - 1$ .
- If  $C' > C + 1$  then  $K_1 = K_2$  and  $3K_2 = 2\delta - 1$

If  $C > 2\delta + K_1$ :

- $K_1 + 2K_2 \geq 2\delta - 1$ ,  $3K_2 \geq 2\delta$ ;
- If  $K_1 + 2K_2 = 2\delta - 1$  then  $C \geq 2\delta + K_1 + 2$ .
- If  $C' > C + 1$  then  $C \geq 2\delta + K_2$ .

# Is that all?

So, is the catalog complete?

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Graphs

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Metric  
Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism  
Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

# Is that all?

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

So, is the catalog complete?

Theorem (Amato/Cherlin/Macpherson, in progress)

*The catalog is complete for diameter 3.*

# Is that all?

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

So, is the catalog complete?

**Theorem (Amato/Cherlin/Macpherson, in progress)**

*The catalog is complete for diameter 3.*

Method:

- 1 Right about the triangles
- 2 With the triangles settled, we think we know the amalgamation strategy. Reduce to  $(1, \delta)$ -spaces.

# Is that all?

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

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Method:

- 1 Right about the triangles
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**Remark**

$\Gamma_1$  is a homogeneous graph; exceptional cases lead to  $T_{r,s}$ .

# A Problem in Topological Dynamics

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Problem

*When do we get structural Ramsey theory, if we extend  $\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$  to include a suitable ordering?*



# A Problem in Topological Dynamics

Metrically Homogeneous Graphs

Gregory Cherlin

Metric Homogeneity

Special Cases

Regular Trees

Diameter 2

Urysohn Graphs

Automorphism Groups

Variations

The Catalog

First Try

Second Try

Enter Presburger

## Problem

*When do we get structural Ramsey theory, if we extend  $\mathcal{A}_{K,C}^\delta$  to include a suitable ordering?*

Strong conjecture: exactly when we get amalgamation.

Weak conjecture: some Presburger condition.

?