

# When invariance implies exchangeability

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Joint work with

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# Exchangeable graphs

$\text{Graph}(\mathbb{N}) :=$  set of graphs with domain  $\mathbb{N}$ ;

## Definition (Exchangeable graph)

An **exchangeable graph** is a Borel probability measure on  $\text{Graph}(\mathbb{N})$  invariant under all permutations of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

**Example:** The standard construction of the random graph yields an exchangeable graph.

# Exchangeable structures

Natural to generalise from graphs to arbitrary relational structures!

$\mathcal{C}' :=$  a **hereditary class**<sup>1</sup> of finite relational structures;

$\text{Struc}(\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{C}')$  := set of structures with

- domain  $\mathbb{N}$ ;
- **age** (i.e., class of finite substructures) contained in  $\mathcal{C}'$ .

## Definition (Exchangeable structure)

An **exchangeable structure** is a Borel probability measure on  $\text{Struc}(\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{C}')$  invariant under all permutations of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

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<sup>1</sup>closed under isomorphisms and substructures,  
e.g. graphs,  $\triangle$ -free graphs, linear orders, partitions in  $\leq k$  many classes ...

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An **exchangeable structure** is a Borel probability measure on  $\text{Struc}(\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{C}')$  invariant under all permutations of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

Exchangeable structures are (relatively) well-understood:

- De Finetti 1929 characterises exchangeable colourings;
- Aldous 1981 and Hoover 1979 give a “representation theorem” for exchangeable graphs and hypergraphs;
- This generalises to exchangeable structures.

(cf. Ackerman, Freer, Kruckman, and Patel 2017; Crane and Towsner 2018)

# Invariant random expansions

We understand invariance with respect to ALL symmetries.  
What about invariance with respect to SOME symmetries?

$\mathcal{M}$  := a relational structure with domain  $\mathbb{N}$ ;

Definition (Invariant random expansion<sup>1</sup>  $\text{IRE}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{C}')$ )

An **invariant random expansion** of  $\mathcal{M}$  to  $\mathcal{C}'$ ,  $\text{IRE}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{C}')$ , is a Borel probability measure on  $\text{Struc}(\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{C}')$  invariant under  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{M}) \curvearrowright \mathbb{N}$ .

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<sup>1</sup>Related notions are defined in Aldous 1985; Angel, Kechris, and Lyons 2014; Crane and Towsner 2018.

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The ages of homogeneous structures correspond to well-behaved hereditary classes known as **Fraïssé classes**.

Homogeneous structure	Fraïssé class
$(\mathbb{N}, =)$	finite sets with $=$
$(\mathbb{Q}, <)$	finite linear orders
Random graph	finite graphs
Generic tetrahedron-free 3-hypergraph	finite tetrahedron-free 3-hypergraphs

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IREs of homogeneous structures occur naturally in statistical networks,<sup>1</sup> spin glass models,<sup>2</sup> probabilistic programming<sup>3</sup>...

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<sup>1</sup> Holland, Laskey, and Leinhardt 1983; Crane 2018.

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IREs of homogeneous structures occur naturally in statistical networks,<sup>1</sup> spin glass models,<sup>2</sup> probabilistic programming<sup>3</sup>...

Our main interest comes from **model theory**:

We show: invariant Keisler measures are a special case of IREs;<sup>4</sup>

We describe the former in previously not understood contexts.

(cf. Albert 1994; Ensley 2001; Chernikov, Hrushovski, Kruckman, Krupiński, Moconja, Pillay, and Ramsey 2023)

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<sup>2</sup> Austin and Panchenko 2014

<sup>3</sup> Jung, Lee, Staton, and Yang 2021.

<sup>4</sup> In their generalisation to arbitrary domains. (Braunfeld, Jahel, and Marimon 2024).

# The main question

## Problem (Aldous 1985)

What conditions *prima facie* weaker than exchangeability imply exchangeability?

I.e., when can we say that all IREs of  $\mathcal{M}$  by  $\mathcal{C}'$  are exchangeable?

Note: if all IREs of  $\mathcal{M}$  by  $\mathcal{C}'$  are exchangeable, we have a description of them from Aldous 1981 and Hoover 1979.

Previous results had strong restrictions on either  $\mathcal{C}'$  or  $\mathcal{M}$ !

- $\mathcal{C}' = \{\text{linear orders}\}$ ; (Angel, Kechris, and Lyons 2014; Jahel and Tsankov 2022)
- $\mathcal{C}'$  is unary; (Jahel and Tsankov 2022)
- $\mathcal{M}$  is the random  $k$ -hypergraph. (Crane and Towsner 2018)

We are especially interested in IREs of homogeneous hypergraphs with interesting omitted configurations by graphs.

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# When invariance implies exchangeability

## Main Theorem (Braunfeld, Jahel, and Marimon 2024)

*Let  $k \geq 1$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  be homogeneous with  **$k$ -overlap closed** age. Let  $\mathcal{C}'$  have labelled growth rate  $O(e^{n^{k+\delta}})$  for every  $\delta > 0$ . Then every IRE of  $\mathcal{M}$  by  $\mathcal{C}'$  is exchangeable.*

**$k$ -overlap closed:** the age of  $\mathcal{M}$  is closed under a “random placement” construction that works for  $(k + 1)$ -hypergraphs and allows for interesting omitted configurations. [▶ See precise definition](#)

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## Examples of $k$ -overlap closed Fraïssé classes

- **1-overlap closed**: free amalgamation classes in arity  $> 1$  (e.g. graphs,  $\triangle$ -free graphs), tournaments;
- **2-overlap closed**: 3-hypergraphs, tetrahedron-free 3-hypergraphs;
- **$k$ -overlap closed**:  $\text{Forb}(\mathcal{F})$  of arity  $> k$  and all  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  are
  - $(k+1)$ -irreducible;<sup>5</sup>
  - of bounded size and  $k$ -irreducible (for  $k \geq 2$ ).

**Non-example:** linear orders are **not** 1-overlap closed.

<sup>5</sup> **$k$ -irreducible**: every  $k$ -many elements are related.

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**Examples of  $\mathcal{C}'$  with labelled growth rate  $O(e^{n^{k+\delta}})$  for all  $\delta > 0$**

- $O(e^{n^{1+\delta}})$ : unary structures, linear orders, the age of any NIP homogeneous structure;
- $O(e^{n^{2+\delta}})$ : graphs;
- $O(e^{n^{k+\delta}})$ : structures with finitely many  $k$ -ary relations.



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## Corollary (Braunfeld, Jahel, and Marimon 2024)

*IREs of the generic tetrahedron-free 3-hypergraph by graphs are exchangeable.*

**Moral of the story:** If  $\mathcal{M}$  is  $k$ -transitive and "looks random enough", IREs by "essentially  $k$ -ary" classes are exchangeable.

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## Corollary (Braunfeld, Jahel, and Marimon 2024)

*IREs of the generic tetrahedron-free 3-hypergraph by graphs are exchangeable.*

We also recover previous results:

- IREs of  $\mathcal{M}$  transitive homogeneous with free amalgamation by linear orders or colourings are exchangeable;  
(Angel, Kechris, and Lyons 2014; Jahel and Tsankov 2022)
- IREs of the random  $k$ -hypergraph by  $l$ -hypergraphs are exchangeable for  $k > l \geq 1$ . (Crane and Towsner 2018)

# Thank you!





A brief recap:

- We study **invariant random expansions**: probability measures on spaces of countable structures (with  $\text{age} \subseteq \mathcal{C}'$ ) invariant under automorphisms of a fixed structure  $\mathcal{M}$ ;
- We show:  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{M})$ -invariance implies exchangeability when:
  - $\mathcal{M}$  looks “random enough for arity  $k + 1$ ”;
  - $\mathcal{C}'$  has “essentially arity  $k$ ”.

QR code to preprint:









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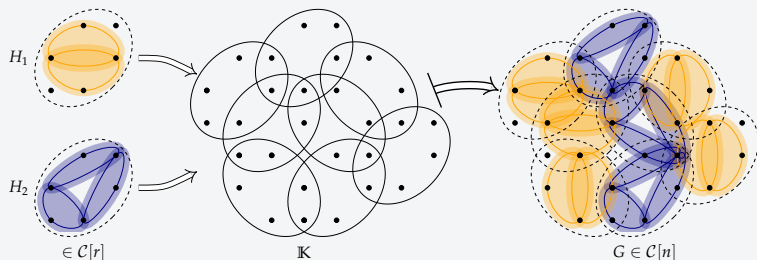


# $k$ -overlap closed classes

## Definition ( $k$ -overlap closedness [▶ Back to main presentation](#))

$\mathcal{L}$  of arity  $> k$ .  $\mathcal{C}$  is  **$k$ -overlap closed** if for every  $r > k$  and arbitrarily large  $n$ , there exists an  $r$ -uniform hypergraph  $\mathbb{K}$  on  $n$  vertices s.t.

- 1  $\mathbb{K}$  has at least  $C(r)n^{k+\alpha(r)}$  many hyperedges for some  $\alpha(r) > 0$ ;
- 2 No two  $\mathbb{K}$ -hyperedges intersect in more than  $k$  points;
- 3 For every  $H_1, H_2 \in \mathcal{C}[r]$ , pasting them into the  $\mathbb{K}$ -hyperedges yields  $G \in \mathcal{C}[n]$  (possibly after adding extra relations).



# The key lemma for exchangeability

$\mathcal{C} :=$  age of  $\mathcal{M}$ ;

$\mathcal{C}[k] :=$  structures in  $\mathcal{C}$  of size  $k$ .

Lemma (Braunfeld, Jahel, and Marimon 2024)

*Suppose that for all  $\mathbf{H}_1, \mathbf{H}_2 \in \mathcal{C}[k]$ , and  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $n$ ,  $\mathbf{G} \in \mathcal{C}[n]$  and non-empty families  $\Theta_i$  of embeddings of  $\mathbf{H}_i$  in  $\mathbf{G}$  such that for all  $\mathbf{H}' \in \mathcal{C}'[k]$  and  $\mathbf{G}' \in \mathcal{C}'[n]$  we have*

$$\left| \frac{N_{\Theta_1}(\mathbf{H}_1^*, \mathbf{G}^*)}{|\Theta_1|} - \frac{N_{\Theta_2}(\mathbf{H}_2^*, \mathbf{G}^*)}{|\Theta_2|} \right| < \epsilon,$$

*where  $\mathbf{G}^* := \mathbf{G} \star \mathbf{G}'$ ,  $\mathbf{H}_i^* := \mathbf{H}_i \star \mathbf{H}'$  and  $N_{\Theta_i}(\mathbf{H}_i^*, \mathbf{G}^*)$  is the number of embeddings in  $\Theta_i$  that are also embeddings of  $\mathbf{H}_i^*$  in  $\mathbf{G}^*$ .*

*Then every IRE of  $\mathcal{M}$  by  $\mathcal{C}'$  is exchangeable.*

# Applications to invariant Keisler measures

## Definition (Invariant Keisler measure)

An **invariant Keisler measure** is a finitely additive probability measure on  $\text{Def}_x(M)$ , invariant under  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{M}) \curvearrowright \text{Def}_x(M)$ .<sup>5</sup>

We show: invariant Keisler measures are a special case of IREs.

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<sup>5</sup>Outside the homogeneous context:  $\mathcal{M}$  is sufficiently saturated and symmetric (i.e., strongly  $\omega$ -homogeneous).

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We describe the spaces of invariant Keisler measures of several homogeneous hypergraphs.

This answers questions of Albert 1994 and Ensley 2001.

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## Two notions of smallness in simple theories

We are interested in invariant Keisler measures in simple theories.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Theories endowed with a good notion of independence:  
vector spaces with forms over finite fields, pseudofinite fields, random graph, etc.

## Two notions of smallness in simple theories

We are interested in invariant Keisler measures in simple theories.

Recent work<sup>6</sup> shows the following notions of smallness for a definable set  $X$  disagree for some simple theories:

- $X$  **forks**: there are  $(\sigma_i)_{i \in \omega} \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{M})$  such that  $\{\sigma_i X \mid i \in \omega\}$  is  $k$ -inconsistent;
- $X$  is **universally measure zero**: for any invariant Keisler measure  $\mu(X) = 0$ .

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- $X$  is **universally measure zero**: for any invariant Keisler measure  $\mu(X) = 0$ .

Previous examples are somewhat ad-hoc! We show:

- There are  $2^{\aleph_0}$  simple ternary homogeneous structures with non-forking sets which are universally measure zero; (cf. Koponen 2018)
- More generally, the above is ubiquitous amongst simple homogeneous structures; [▶ More on this](#)

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# Non-forking universally measure zero formulas everywhere

$\mathcal{C}$  has  **$n$ -DAP** for all  $n$ : given  $A_I \in \mathcal{C}[I]$  for each  $I \in [n]^{n-1}$ , such that for all  $I, J \in [n]^{n-1}$   $A_I \upharpoonright_{I \cap J} = A_J \upharpoonright_{I \cap J}$ , there is  $A \in \mathcal{C}[n]$  such that for all  $I \in [n]^{n-1}$ ,  $A \upharpoonright_I = A_I$ .

## Corollary (Braunfeld, Jahel, and Marimon 2024)

*Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be simple,  $k$ -transitive, homogeneous in a finite  $(k+1)$ -ary language,  $k$ -overlap closed and with free amalgamation. Then, any IKM of  $\mathcal{M}$  in the variable  $x$  is exchangeable. Moreover,*

- ① *EITHER:  $\text{Age}(\mathcal{M})$  has  $n$ -DAP for all  $n$ . In this case there is an IKM assigning positive measure to every non-forking formula;*
- ② *OR:  $\text{Age}(\mathcal{M})$  fails  $n$ -DAP for some  $n$ . In this case  $\mathcal{M}$  has non-forking formulas which are universally measure zero.*

For  $k > 1$ , there are  $2^{\aleph_0}$ -many structures in ② (Koponen 2018). Meanwhile, only countably many structures in ①. [▶ Back](#)

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- ② *OR:  $\text{Age}(\mathcal{M})$  fails  $n$ -DAP for some  $n$ . In this case  $\mathcal{M}$  has non-forking formulas which are universally measure zero.*

For  $k > 1$ , there are  $2^{\aleph_0}$ -many structures in ② (Koponen 2018). Meanwhile, only countably many structures in ①. [▶ Back](#)

# The Aldous-Hoover theorem

## Theorem (Aldous 1981 and Hoover 1979)

*Let  $\mu$  be an exchangeable graph.*

*Then, there is a Borel function<sup>7</sup>  $f : [0, 1]^4 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  and Uniform $[0, 1]$  independent identically distributed random variables*

$$U_\emptyset, (U_a | a \in \mathbb{N}), (U_{\{a,b\}} | \{a, b\} \in [\mathbb{N}]^2)$$

*such that the random graph built by setting*

$$E(a, b) \text{ if and only if } f(U_\emptyset, U_a, U_b, U_{\{a,b\}}) = 1 \quad (\diamond)$$

*has the same distribution as  $\mu$ .*

EASY TO SEE:  $(\diamond)$  gives an exchangeable graph.

HARD TO PROVE: any exchangeable graph is of the form  $(\diamond)$ .

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<sup>7</sup>symmetric in the second and third argument.