

NSOP₁-LIKE INDEPENDENCE IN AECATS

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Abstract. The classes stable, simple, and NSOP₁ in the stability hierarchy for first-order theories can be characterised by the existence of a certain independence relation. For each of them there is a canonicity theorem: there can be at most one nice independence relation. Independence in stable and simple first-order theories must come from forking and dividing (which then coincide), and for NSOP₁ theories it must come from Kim-dividing. We generalise this work to the framework of Abstract Elementary Categories (AECats) with the amalgamation property. These are a certain kind of accessible category generalising the category of (subsets of) models of some theory. We prove canonicity theorems for stable, simple, and NSOP₁-like independence relations. The stable and simple cases have been done before in slightly different setups, but we provide them here as well so that we can recover part of the original stability hierarchy. We also provide abstract definitions for each of these independence relations as what we call *isi-dividing*, *isi-forking*, and *long Kim-dividing*.

§1. Introduction. Independence relations are a central notion in model theory. Work on independence in first-order theories was started by Shelah [30] through the notions of forking and dividing. This was later generalised to simple theories in work by Kim and Pillay [23, 26]. In NSOP₁ theories dividing is no longer so well-behaved in general. Inspired by ideas from Kim [24], Kaplan and Ramsey developed the notion of Kim-dividing [20], which does yield a nice independence relation in NSOP₁ theories. Each of these classes admits a so-called *Kim–Pillay style theorem*, after a result by Kim and Pillay [26, Theorem 4.2]. Roughly the statement is as follows:

A theory is simple if and only if it admits an independence relation satisfying a certain list of properties. Furthermore, in this case that relation is given by forking independence.

In particular such a theorem gives us *canonicity*: there can be at most one nice enough independence relation, which must be forking independence.

All of the above takes place in the classical framework of first-order logic. However, there are many interesting classes of structures that do not fit in this framework. Similar work has been done in different and more general logical frameworks. For example, the stable and simple settings have been studied in positive logic [4, 28, 29], continuous logic [6] and AECs [8, 13, 15, 31, 32]. More recently the NSOP₁ setting has been studied in positive logic [11, 14]. It also makes an

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appearance in continuous logic in [7], where a non-simple NSOP₁ continuous theory is studied. Even then there is a more general category-theoretic approach, unifying all the previously mentioned frameworks. Lieberman, Rosický, and Vasey proved a category-theoretic canonicity theorem for stable independence relations [27]. In [18] a category-theoretic canonicity theorem for simple independence relations was proved. In this paper we continue this work and prove a canonicity theorem for NSOP₁-like independence relations.

We work in the same framework as in [18], namely the framework of Abstract Elementary Categories (AECats) with the amalgamation property. This generalises both the category of models of some first-order theory T and the category of subsets of models of T . The framework can also be applied to positive logic, continuous logic, and AECs (Example 2.3).

An independence relation will be defined as in [18] and will be a relation on triples of subobjects, where we use the notation $A \downarrow_C^M B$ to say that subobjects A, B, C of M are independent. However, it will be useful to restrict the objects that can appear in the base of the independence relation (i.e., the C in $A \downarrow_C^M B$). For example, we might only want to consider independence over models while allowing arbitrary sets on the sides. We add this flexibility in this paper through the notion of a *base class*, which will be the class of objects that is allowed in the base.

An independence relation will be called stable, simple, or NSOP₁-like based on the properties that it satisfies (Definition 4.10). These are the appropriate category-theoretic versions of the properties that we know independence to have in the corresponding classes in the classical first-order setting. In particular this means that any stable independence relation is simple, and any simple independence relation is NSOP₁-like, reflecting (that part of) the original stability hierarchy.

In [18] the notion of *isi-dividing* was introduced, and the main result stated that any simple independence relation comes from *isi-dividing* (i.e., any simple independence relation is non-*isi-dividing*). As discussed before, in first-order NSOP₁ theories the notion of *dividing* is no longer so well-behaved, and we should study *Kim-dividing* instead. So if we think of *isi-dividing* as the analogue of *dividing* in AECats, then we will need the right analogue of *Kim-dividing* to study NSOP₁-like independence relations in AECats. To this end we define *long Kim-dividing* (Definition 6.13). In this definition we need a *forking* notion based on *isi-dividing*, which we will then call *isi-forking* (Definition 6.7).

Before we move on to the main results we make a quick comment about some terminology. Classically being stable or simple is defined as not having the order property (NOP) or not having the tree property (NTP) respectively. In line with this, NSOP₁ means that we do not have SOP₁, but there is no separate name for NSOP₁. We do not consider the combinatorial properties OP, TP, and SOP₁ in this paper. It is not even directly clear what these should look like in settings without compactness. A link between stable independence relations and a form of the order property is established in [27] in a category-theoretic setting. There is also [13], which studies the connection between various tree properties and simple independence relations in AECs. For NSOP₁ there is the work [11, 14] that does consider the combinatorial property SOP₁ in positive logic. However, this is not nearly as general as the category-theoretic setting that we aim for here. This is why we use the term “NSOP₁-like independence relation”, because it is an independence

relation that is classically found in NSOP₁ theories, even though we do not consider the relevant combinatorial property.

Main results. Our main result is canonicity of NSOP₁-like independence relations. In the statement below \downarrow^{IK} denotes the independence relation obtained from long Kim-dividing.

THEOREM 1.1 (Canonicity of NSOP₁-like independence). *Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with the amalgamation property and let \mathcal{B} be some base class. Suppose that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ satisfies the \mathcal{B} -existence axiom and suppose that there is an NSOP₁-like independence relation \downarrow over \mathcal{B} . Then $\downarrow = \downarrow^{\text{IK}}$ over \mathcal{B} .*

For a discussion about the assumption of the \mathcal{B} -existence axiom we refer to Example 6.16. All we say now is that it is a reasonable, and necessary, assumption, already in the very concrete setting of first-order logic.

We also slightly improve the main result from [18] on canonicity of simple independence relations. In the statement below $\downarrow^{\text{isi-d}}$ and $\downarrow^{\text{isi-f}}$ denote the independence relations obtained from isi-dividing and isi-forking respectively and $\text{base}(\downarrow)$ denotes the class of objects that are allowed in the base of \downarrow . The slight improvement over [18] is the fact that we can restrict the base of our independence relation and the fact that we also get that $\downarrow = \downarrow^{\text{isi-f}}$.

THEOREM 1.2 (Canonicity of simple independence). *Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with the amalgamation property, and suppose that \downarrow is a simple independence relation. Then $\downarrow = \downarrow^{\text{isi-d}} = \downarrow^{\text{isi-f}}$ over $\text{base}(\downarrow)$.*

Combining the two main theorems we can compare stable, simple, and NSOP₁-like independence relations, even without assuming the \mathcal{B} -existence axiom. This allows us to recover part of the original stability hierarchy based on independence relations, see also Remark 7.5.

THEOREM 1.3. *Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with the amalgamation property and suppose that \downarrow is a stable or a simple independence relation in $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$. Suppose furthermore that \downarrow^* is an NSOP₁-like independence relation in $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ with $\text{base}(\downarrow) = \text{base}(\downarrow^*)$. Then*

$$\downarrow = \downarrow^* = \downarrow^{\text{isi-d}} = \downarrow^{\text{isi-f}} = \downarrow^{\text{IK}}.$$

Overview. We start by recalling the framework of AECats in Section 2. To make sense of types in this framework we also recall the notion of Galois types.

In Section 3 we will define what we call *Lascar strong Galois types*, based on the notion of Lascar strong types in first-order logic. These are necessary for a property called INDEPENDENCE THEOREM for independence relations later.

We recall the notion of an independence relation in an AECat in Section 4. We also recall the notion of an *independent sequence* in this section, and prove that these exist assuming only very few basic properties for an independence relation.

In Section 5 we investigate the well-known equivalence between the properties INDEPENDENCE THEOREM and 3-AMALGAMATION and we prove this fact for AECats. We also recall that STATIONARITY implies both of them. All of this is over models.

In Section 6 we recall the notion of *isi-dividing* and introduce the notions of *long dividing*, *isi-forking*, and *long Kim-dividing*. We also discuss connections to the classical analogues: *dividing*, *forking*, and *Kim-dividing*.

Section 7 contains the main results, the *canonicity theorems*. After those theorems we discuss how this work extends and brings together previously known results in different (less general) frameworks.

Finally, Section 8 explores the notion of *Lascar strong Galois type* further. *Lascar strong types* are known to heavily interact with independence relations in first-order logic and we prove that this is also the case for *Lascar strong Galois types*.

§2. AECats. In this section we recall definitions and basic results for AECats from [18]. We assume that the reader is familiar with the framework of accessible categories. A great reference for this is [1].

CONVENTION 2.1. *Throughout this paper we are only interested in regular cardinals, which we usually denote by κ , λ , and μ .*

DEFINITION 2.2 [18, Definition 2.5]. An *AECat*, short for *abstract elementary category*, consists of a pair $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ where \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{M} are accessible categories and \mathcal{M} is a full subcategory of \mathcal{C} such that:

- (i) \mathcal{M} has directed colimits, which the inclusion functor into \mathcal{C} preserves.
- (ii) All arrows in \mathcal{C} (and thus in \mathcal{M}) are monomorphisms.

The objects in \mathcal{M} are called *models*. We say that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ has the *amalgamation property* (or *AP*) if \mathcal{M} has the amalgamation property.

We refer to [18] for the motivation of this definition and elaborate examples. Below we just summarise some examples of AECats.

EXAMPLE 2.3. The following are examples of AECats:

- (i) For a first-order theory T we write $\mathbf{Mod}(T)$ for the category of models with elementary embeddings. Then $(\mathbf{Mod}(T), \mathbf{Mod}(T))$ is an AECat with AP.
- (ii) Fix some first-order theory T . Write $\mathbf{SubMod}(T)$ for the category of subsets of models of T . That is, objects are pairs (A, M) where $A \subseteq M$ and $M \models T$. An arrow $f : (A, M) \rightarrow (B, N)$ is an elementary map $f : A \rightarrow B$. The inclusion $\mathbf{Mod}(T) \hookrightarrow \mathbf{SubMod}(T)$ sending M to (M, M) is full and faithful. Thus $(\mathbf{SubMod}(T), \mathbf{Mod}(T))$ is an AECat with AP.
- (iii) Examples (i) and (ii) generalise to positive logic, because any first-order theory can be seen as a positive theory through Morleyisation. So we use the same notation. That is, for a positive theory T we have the category $\mathbf{Mod}(T)$ of existentially closed models and immersions and the category $\mathbf{SubMod}(T)$ of subsets of existentially closed models with immersions between those subsets. Then we have the following AECats with AP: $(\mathbf{Mod}(T), \mathbf{Mod}(T))$ and $(\mathbf{SubMod}(T), \mathbf{Mod}(T))$.
- (iv) A similar construction to examples (i) and (ii) is possible for continuous logic. For a continuous theory T we can form categories $\mathbf{MetMod}(T)$ of models of T and $\mathbf{SubMetMod}(T)$ of closed subsets of models of T , see [18, Example 2.10] for more details. Then $(\mathbf{MetMod}(T), \mathbf{MetMod}(T))$ and $(\mathbf{SubMetMod}(T), \mathbf{MetMod}(T))$ are AECats with AP.

- (v) Let \mathcal{K} be an AEC. We view \mathcal{K} as a category by taking as arrows \mathcal{K} -embeddings. Then $(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{K})$ is an AECat and has AP iff \mathcal{K} has AP.

In [18, Example 2.11] there is also a construction to consider subsets of the structures in an AEC, similar to the construction of $\mathbf{SubMod}(T)$. There is a simpler construction that does not need the assumptions on \mathcal{K} in that example.

EXAMPLE 2.4. Let \mathcal{K} be an AEC. We define the category of subsets of \mathcal{K} , written as $\mathbf{SubSet}(\mathcal{K})$, as follows. Objects are pairs (A, M) where $A \subseteq M$ and $M \in \mathcal{K}$. An arrow $f : (A, M) \rightarrow (B, N)$ is then a \mathcal{K} -embedding $f : M \rightarrow N$ such that $f(A) \subseteq B$. One easily verifies that $(\mathbf{SubSet}(\mathcal{K}), \mathcal{K})$ is an AECat, and it has AP exactly when \mathcal{K} has AP.

DEFINITION 2.5. We call an AECat $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ a κ -AECat if \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{M} are both κ -accessible and the inclusion functor preserves κ -presentable objects.

FACT 2.6 [18, Remark 2.8]. For any AECat $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ there are arbitrarily large κ such that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ is a κ -AECat.

PROPOSITION 2.7. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be a κ -AECat and let $\lambda \geq \kappa$. Then \mathcal{M} is λ -accessible and the inclusion functor preserves and reflects λ -presentable objects.

PROOF. The claim about λ -accessibility is exactly [2, Proposition 4.1]. Preservation and reflection of λ -presentable objects follows using the same proofs as [2, Proposition 4.3] and [2, Lemma 3.6] respectively, where in the latter we use the former and the fact that all arrows in \mathcal{C} are monomorphisms, so the inclusion functor reflects split epimorphisms (which are isomorphisms). \dashv

DEFINITION 2.8. Let M be a model in an AECat. An *extension* of M is an arrow $M \rightarrow N$, where N is some model.

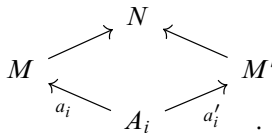
CONVENTION 2.9. Usually, there will be only one relevant extension of models. So to prevent cluttering of notation we will not give such an extension a name. Given such an extension $M \rightarrow N$ and some arrow $a : A \rightarrow M$ we will then denote the arrow $A \xrightarrow{a} M \rightarrow N$ by a as well.

DEFINITION 2.10. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with AP. We will use the notation $((a_i)_{i \in I}; M)$ to mean that the a_i are arrows into M and that M is a model.

We say that two tuples $((a_i)_{i \in I}; M)$ and $((a'_i)_{i \in I}; M')$ have the same *Galois type*, and write

$$\text{gtp}((a_i)_{i \in I}; M) = \text{gtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I}; M'),$$

if $\text{dom}(a_i) = \text{dom}(a'_i)$ for all $i \in I$, and there is a common extension $M \rightarrow N \leftarrow M'$ such that the following commutes for all $i \in I$:



Note that AP ensures that having the same Galois type is an equivalence relation. For this reason, we are only interested in AECats with AP in the rest of this paper.

FACT 2.11 [18, Proposition 3.8]. *If $\text{gtp}((a_i)_{i \in I}; M) = \text{gtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I}; M')$ then:*

- (i) *(restriction) we have $\text{gtp}((a_i)_{i \in I_0}; M) = \text{gtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I_0}; M')$ for any $I_0 \subseteq I$;*
- (ii) *(monotonicity) given an arrow $b_i : B_i \rightarrow \text{dom}(a_i)$ for each $i \in I$, then*

$$\text{gtp}((a_i)_{i \in I}, (a_i b_i)_{i \in I}; M) = \text{gtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I}, (a'_i b_i)_{i \in I}; M')$$

and thus $\text{gtp}((a_i b_i)_{i \in I}; M) = \text{gtp}((a'_i b_i)_{i \in I}; M')$;

- (iii) *(extension) for any $(b; M)$ there is an extension $M' \rightarrow N$ and some $(b'; N)$ such that $\text{gtp}(b, (a_i)_{i \in I}; M) = \text{gtp}(b', (a'_i)_{i \in I}; N)$.*

FACT 2.12 [18, Proposition 3.9]. *If $\text{gtp}(a, b; M) = \text{gtp}(a', b'; M')$ and a factors through b , say as $a = b_i$, then a' factors through b' in the same way, so as $a' = b'_i$.*

DEFINITION 2.13. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with AP. For a tuple $(A_i)_{i \in I}$ of objects in \mathcal{C} , let $S((A_i)_{i \in I})$ be the collection of all tuples $((a_i)_{i \in I}; M)$ such that $\text{dom}(a_i) = A_i$. We define the Galois type set $S_{\text{gtp}}((A_i)_{i \in I})$ as

$$S_{\text{gtp}}((A_i)_{i \in I}) = S((A_i)_{i \in I}) / \sim_{\text{gtp}},$$

where \sim_{gtp} is the equivalence relation of having the same Galois type.

FACT 2.14 [18, Proposition 4.6]. $S_{\text{gtp}}((A_i)_{i \in I})$ is really just a set.

DEFINITION 2.15. Fix some AECat $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ with AP.

- (i) A *sequence* is a tuple $((a_i)_{i \in I}; M)$ where every a_i has the same domain and I is a linear order.
- (ii) A *chain* is a diagram of ordinal shape. We call a chain $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ *continuous* if $M_\ell = \text{colim}_{i < \ell} M_i$ for all limit $\ell < \kappa$. Given a chain $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ we say that M is a *chain bound* for $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ if there are arrows $m_i : M_i \rightarrow M$ forming a cocone for $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$.
- (iii) A *chain of initial segments* for some sequence $((a_i)_{i < \kappa}; M)$ is a continuous chain $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ of models with chain bound M such that a_i factors through M_{i+1} for all $i < \kappa$.
- (iv) Let $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ be a chain with chain bound M and let $c : C \rightarrow M$ be some arrow. We say that c *embeds in* $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ if c factors as $C \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow M$.
- (v) We call a sequence $((a_i)_{i < \kappa}; M)$ together with a chain of initial segments $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ an *isi-sequence* (short for *initial segment invariant*) if for all $i \leq j < \kappa$ we have

$$\text{gtp}(a_i, m_i; M) = \text{gtp}(a_j, m_i; M).$$

For $c : C \rightarrow M$ we say this is an *isi-sequence over* c if c embeds in $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$.

CONVENTION 2.16. For a chain of initial segments $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ for some sequence $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ in M we will abuse notation and view a_i as an arrow into M_j for $i < j$. Similarly, if c embeds in $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$, we view c as an arrow into M_i for all $i < \kappa$.

LEMMA 2.17. Suppose that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ is a μ -AECat and let $\kappa \geq \mu$. Suppose furthermore that we are given a sequence $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ in some M with a chain of initial segments $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ and some c that embeds in this chain, such that $\text{dom}(a_i)$ (which is the same for all i) and $\text{dom}(c)$ are κ -presentable. Then there is a chain of initial segments $(M'_i)_{i < \kappa}$ in which c embeds, such that for all $i < \kappa$ the inclusion of M'_i into M factors through M_i (so $M'_i \leq M_i$) and M'_i is κ -presentable.

PROOF. We build the chain of initial segments $(M'_i)_{i < \kappa}$ by induction. For the base case we note that we can write M_0 as a κ -directed colimit of κ -presentable models (using Proposition 2.7). As $\text{dom}(c)$ is κ -presentable, c factors through some M'_0 in this diagram. The successor step is similar, using that M'_i and $\text{dom}(a_i)$ are both κ -presentable and must thus factor through some κ -presentable $M'_{i+1} \leq M_{i+1}$. In the limit step we just take the colimit $M'_\ell = \text{colim}_{i < \ell} M'_i$ and the universal property then yields an arrow $M'_\ell \rightarrow M_\ell$. \dashv

§3. Lascar strong Galois types. In this section we will give a definition of Lascar strong Galois type. In the first-order setting this will coincide with Lascar strong types, see Remark 3.2. This notion will be useful later in the property INDEPENDENCE THEOREM for independence relations, see Definition 4.9.

To place our definition in context, we recall a possible definition for Lascar strong types in first-order logic. Working in a monster model, tuples a and a' have the same Lascar strong type over B if there are $a = a_0, \dots, a_n = a'$ and models M_1, \dots, M_n , each containing B , such that $\text{tp}(a_i/M_{i+1}) = \text{tp}(a_{i+1}/M_{i+1})$ for all $0 \leq i < n$.

DEFINITION 3.1. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with AP and fix some $((b_j)_{j \in J}; M)$. We write $((a_i)_{i \in I}/(b_j)_{j \in J}; M) \sim_{\text{Lgtp}} ((a'_i)_{i \in I}/(b_j)_{j \in J}; M)$ if there is some extension $M \rightarrow N$ and some $m_0 : M_0 \rightarrow N$, where M_0 is a model, such that b_j factors through m_0 for all $j \in J$ and $\text{gtp}((a_i)_{i \in I}, m_0; N) = \text{gtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I}, m_0; N)$.

We write

$$\text{Lgtp}((a_i)_{i \in I}/(b_j)_{j \in J}; M) = \text{Lgtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I}/(b_j)_{j \in J}; M)$$

for the transitive closure of \sim_{Lgtp} and we say that $((a_i)_{i \in I}; M)$ and $((a'_i)_{i \in I}; M)$ have the same *Lascar strong Galois type* over $(b_j)_{j \in J}$.

REMARK 3.2. By definition having the same Lascar strong Galois type is the same as having the same Lascar strong type in an AECat based on a first-order theory. That is, they coincide in any AECat of the form $(\mathbf{SubMod}(T), \mathbf{Mod}(T))$ or $(\mathbf{Mod}(T), \mathbf{Mod}(T))$ for some first-order theory T . We get a similar statement for continuous logic, because the same standard proofs and definitions go through.

In positive logic the situation is more subtle, but in a broad class of reasonable positive theories Lascar strong types and Lascar strong Galois types coincide. See Fact 7.8 and the surrounding discussion for more details.

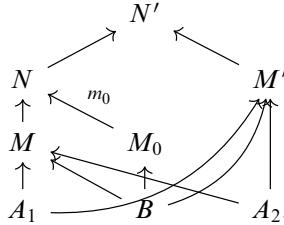
Classically multiple equivalent definitions are possible for Lascar strong types. We recall these and prove similar conditions for Lascar strong Galois types in Section 8. Usually these proofs require compactness, but interestingly this can be replaced by the use of a nice enough independence relation.

For ease of notation the following proposition is formulated for single arrows, but everything goes through word for word if we replace those by tuples of arrows.

PROPOSITION 3.3. *Suppose that $\text{gtp}(a_1, a_2, b; M) = \text{gtp}(a'_1, a'_2, b'; M')$. Then we have $\text{Lgtp}(a_1/b; M) = \text{Lgtp}(a_2/b; M)$ iff $\text{Lgtp}(a'_1/b'; M') = \text{Lgtp}(a'_2/b'; M')$.*

PROOF. It suffices to prove that $(a_1/b; M) \sim_{\text{Lgtp}} (a_2/b; M)$ implies $(a'_1/b'; M') \sim_{\text{Lgtp}} (a'_2/b'; M')$. Let $M \rightarrow N$ with $m_0 : M_0 \rightarrow N$ witness $(a_1/b; M) \sim_{\text{Lgtp}} (a_2/b; M)$. So we have that $b = m_0 b^*$ for some $b^* : B \rightarrow M_0$, and $\text{gtp}(a_1, m_0; N) =$

$\text{gtp}(a_2, m_0; N)$. Let $N \rightarrow N' \leftarrow M'$ witness $\text{gtp}(a_1, a_2, b; N) = \text{gtp}(a_1, a_2, b; M) = \text{gtp}(a'_1, a'_2, b'; M')$. Then we get the following commuting diagram:



So we have $m_0 : M_0 \rightarrow N'$ and b' factors through m_0 . This follows from the fact that the above diagram commutes, so $b' : B \rightarrow M' \rightarrow N'$ and $B \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow N'$ are the same arrow. Furthermore, we have that $\text{gtp}(a_1, m_0; N') = \text{gtp}(a_2, m_0; N')$ and because a_1 and a_2 are the same arrows into N' as a'_1 and a'_2 respectively, we get $\text{gtp}(a'_1, m_0; N') = \text{gtp}(a'_2, m_0; N')$. So we conclude $(a'_1/b'; M') \sim_{\text{Lgtp}} (a'_2/b'; M')$, as required. \dashv

Lascar strong Galois types induce a bounded equivalence relation on arrows. We again give a proof for single arrows, which also works for tuples of arrows.

PROPOSITION 3.4. *Given objects A and B there is λ such that for any $b : B \rightarrow M$ the relation of having the same Lascar strong Galois type over b partitions $\text{Hom}(A, M)$ into at most λ many equivalence classes.*

PROOF. We will first prove the following claim: for any $b : B \rightarrow M$ there is λ_b such that for any $b' : B \rightarrow M'$ with $\text{gtp}(b'; M') = \text{gtp}(b; M)$ there are at most λ_b many equivalence classes of Lascar strong Galois types over b' in $\text{Hom}(A, M')$. By Fact 2.14 the collection $S_{\text{gtp}}(A, M)$ is a set. We pick $\lambda_b = |S_{\text{gtp}}(A, M)|$. Now let $M \rightarrow N \leftarrow M'$ witness $\text{gtp}(b'; M') = \text{gtp}(b; M)$. For any two arrows $a, a' : A \rightarrow M'$ we have that $\text{gtp}(a, m; N) = \text{gtp}(a', m; N)$ implies that $\text{Lgtp}(a/b'; M') = \text{Lgtp}(a'/b'; M')$, by definition of Lgtp . The claim then follows by choice of λ_b .

By the claim we can take λ to be the supremum of λ_b , where b ranges over the representatives of the Galois types in $S_{\text{gtp}}(B)$. \dashv

PROPOSITION 3.5. *If $\text{Lgtp}((a_i)_{i \in I}/b; M) = \text{Lgtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I}/b; M)$ then:*

- (i) (restriction) we have $\text{Lgtp}((a_i)_{i \in I_0}/b; M) = \text{Lgtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I_0}/b; M)$ for any $I_0 \subseteq I$;
- (ii) (monotonicity) given an arrow $c_i : C_i \rightarrow \text{dom}(a_i)$ for each $i \in I$, then

$$\text{Lgtp}((a_i)_{i \in I}, (a_i c_i)_{i \in I}/b; M) = \text{Lgtp}((a'_i)_{i \in I}, (a'_i c_i)_{i \in I}/b; M)$$

and thus $\text{Lgtp}((a_i c_i)_{i \in I}/b; M) = \text{Lgtp}((a'_i c_i)_{i \in I}/b; M)$;

- (iii) (extension) for any $(c; M)$ there is an extension $M \rightarrow N$ and some $(c'; N)$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(c, (a_i)_{i \in I}/b; N) = \text{Lgtp}(c', (a'_i)_{i \in I}/b; N)$.

PROOF. This is essentially the same Fact 2.11, but then for Lascar strong Galois types. To prove it, apply the definition of Lascar strong Galois types to reduce to some equality of Galois types and then apply Fact 2.11. \dashv

§4. Independence relations. Similar to [18, Section 6] we define an independence relation in an AECat as a ternary relation on subobjects of models. However, there will be some slight differences in our terminology, see after Definition 4.10.

We write $\text{Sub}(X)$ for the poset of subobjects of object X . If $A \leq B$ for $A, B \in \text{Sub}(X)$ we may also consider A to be a subobject of B , that is $A \in \text{Sub}(B)$. On the other hand, we always have $X \in \text{Sub}(X)$ as the maximal element. So we will use the notation $A \leq X$ to mean that A is a subobject of X .

CONVENTION 4.1. We extend Convention 2.9 to subobjects: given an extension $M \rightarrow N$ and a subobject $A \leq M$, we will view A as a subobject of N .

DEFINITION 4.2. In an AECat with AP, an independence relation is a relation on triples of subobjects of models. If such a triple (A, B, C) of subobjects of a model M is in the relation, we call it independent and write:

$$A \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M B.$$

This notation should be read as “ A is independent from B over C (in M)”.

We also allow each of the subobjects in the notation to be replaced by an arrow representing them. For example, if a is an arrow representing the subobject A then $a \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M B$ means $A \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M B$.

We may want to restrict the objects that can appear in the base of the independence relation.

DEFINITION 4.3. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with AP and let \mathcal{B} be a collection of objects in \mathcal{C} , closed under isomorphic objects, with $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$. Then we call \mathcal{B} a base class. An independence relation \downarrow is called an independence relation over \mathcal{B} if it only allows subobjects with their domain in \mathcal{B} in the base. That is, $A \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M B$ implies that the domain of C is in \mathcal{B} . We will also say that \mathcal{B} is the base class of \downarrow , written as $\mathcal{B} = \text{base}(\downarrow)$.

CONVENTION 4.4. For a base class \mathcal{B} and some subobject $C \leq M$ we will also write $C \in \mathcal{B}$ to mean that the domain of C is in \mathcal{B} , and similarly for $C \notin \mathcal{B}$.

DEFINITION 4.5. We call an independence relation \downarrow a basic independence relation if it satisfies the following properties.

INVARIANCE $a \underset{c}{\downarrow}^M b$ and $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M) = \text{gtp}(a', b', c'; M')$ implies $a' \underset{c'}{\downarrow}^{M'} b'$.

MONOTONICITY $A \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M B$ and $A' \leq A$ implies $A' \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M B$.

TRANSITIVITY $A \underset{B}{\downarrow}^M C$ and $A \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M D$ with $B \leq C$ implies $A \underset{B}{\downarrow}^M D$.

SYMMETRY $A \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M B$ implies $B \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M A$.

EXISTENCE $A \underset{C}{\downarrow}^M C$ for all $C \in \text{base}(\downarrow)$.

EXTENSION If $a \underset{c}{\downarrow}^M b$ and $(b'; M)$ is such that b factors through b' then there is an extension $M \rightarrow N$ with some $(a'; N)$ such that $\text{gtp}(a', b, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ and $a' \underset{c}{\downarrow}^N b'$.

UNION Let $(B_i)_{i \in I}$ be a directed system with a cocone into some model M , and suppose $B = \text{colim}_{i \in I} B_i$ exists. Then if $A \downarrow_C^M B_i$ for all $i \in I$, we have $A \downarrow_C^M B$.

Before we define some additional properties for independence relations, we first need to translate the notion of a club set to categorical language.

DEFINITION 4.6. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat. For a model M and a regular cardinal κ we write $\text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$ for the poset of κ -presentable subobjects of M in \mathcal{M} .

Note that if we are given a chain $(M_i)_{i < \theta}$ in $\text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$ with $\theta < \kappa$ then its join in $\text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$ exists and is given by $\text{colim}_{i < \theta} M_i$. This is the reason why we restrict ourselves to \mathcal{M} , because there we have directed colimits. If \mathcal{C} has directed colimits as well then all these definitions would make sense for \mathcal{C} as well.

DEFINITION 4.7. Let $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$ be a nonempty set.

- (i) We call \mathcal{F} *unbounded* if for every $M_0 \in \text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$ there is $M_1 \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $M_0 \leq M_1$.
- (ii) We call \mathcal{F} *closed* if for any chain $(M_i)_{i < \theta}$ in \mathcal{F} with $\theta < \kappa$ its join $\text{colim}_{i < \theta} M_i$ is again in \mathcal{F} .
- (iii) We call \mathcal{F} a *club set* if it is closed and unbounded.

FACT 4.8. *The following two facts are standard.*

- (i) *The intersection of two club sets on $\text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$ is again a club set.*
- (ii) *If $M = \text{colim}_{i < \kappa} M_i$, where $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ is a continuous chain of κ -presentable models, then $\{M_i : i < \kappa\}$ is a club set on $\text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$.*

PROOF. Fact (i) is standard, see for example [17, Theorem 8.2]. We just apply the argument to the poset $\text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$ instead of to a cardinal considered as a poset. Fact (ii) is just unfolding definitions. The chain $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ is unbounded because it is κ -directed, so any κ -presentable $M' \leq M$ will factor through the chain, and continuity is precisely saying that the chain is a closed set. \dashv

DEFINITION 4.9. We also define the following properties for an independence relation.

BASE-MONOTONICITY: $A \downarrow_C^M B$ and $C \leq C' \leq B$ with $C' \in \text{base}(\downarrow)$ implies $A \downarrow_{C'}^M B$.

CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER: For every regular cardinal λ there is a regular cardinal $\Upsilon(\lambda)$ such that the following holds for all regular $\kappa \geq \Upsilon(\lambda)$. Let $A, M \leq N$, with A λ -presentable and M a model. Then there is a club set $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M)$ such that for all $M_0 \in \mathcal{F}$ we have $A \downarrow_{M_0}^N M$.

STATIONARITY: If $\text{gtp}(a, m; N) = \text{gtp}(a', m; N)$, where the domain of m is a model, then $a \downarrow_m^N b$ and $a' \downarrow_m^N b$ implies $\text{gtp}(a, m, b; N) = \text{gtp}(a', m, b; N)$.

INDEPENDENCE THEOREM: Suppose we have $a \downarrow_c^M b$, $a' \downarrow_c^M b'$, $b \downarrow_c^M b'$ and also $\text{Lgtp}(a/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(a'/c; M)$. Then there is an extension $M \rightarrow N$ with $(a^*; N)$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(a^*, b/c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(a, b/c; N)$, $\text{Lgtp}(a^*, b'/c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(a', b'/c; N)$ and $a^* \downarrow_c^N M$.

DEFINITION 4.10. Let \downarrow be a basic independence relation. We call $\downarrow \dots$

- ... a *stable independence relation* if it also satisfies BASE-MONOTONICITY, CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER, STATIONARITY and INDEPENDENCE THEOREM.
- ... a *simple independence relation* if it also satisfies BASE-MONOTONICITY, CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER and INDEPENDENCE THEOREM.
- ... an *NSOP₁-like independence relation* if it also satisfies CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER and INDEPENDENCE THEOREM;

We briefly compare the terminology we use here to the terminology in [18]. The notion of a base class is entirely new, so properties concerning the subobject in the base have been adjusted accordingly.

The EXISTENCE and TRANSITIVITY properties are different now, and we have added EXTENSION. However, the formulation of existence and transitivity (together with invariance and monotonicity) in [18] implies our new formulation, see [18, Proposition 6.11]. The converse is also true: our new formulation of EXISTENCE, TRANSITIVITY and EXTENSION (together with invariance) implies existence and transitivity there. So ultimately the two approaches are equivalent.

REMARK 4.11. In a more traditional definition of local character, such as in simple theories, one would just require that for $A, M \leq N$ as above there is some $\Upsilon(\lambda)$ -presentable $M_0 \leq M$ such that $A \downarrow_{M_0}^N M$. This is (almost) the definition that was used in [18], where we also have access to BASE-MONOTONICITY. We then get CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER by considering the club set $\mathcal{F} = \{M_0 \in \text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\kappa}(M) : M_0 \leq M\}$. In NSOP₁-like settings we do generally not have BASE-MONOTONICITY. So CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER then still gives us a good amount of BASE-MONOTONICITY, namely on a club set. These ideas are due to [22].

PROPOSITION 4.12 (Strong extension). *Let \downarrow be a basic independence relation and suppose that $a \downarrow_c^M b$. Then for any $(d; M)$ there is an extension $M \rightarrow N$ and $(d'; N)$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(d'/b, c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(d/b, c; N)$ and $a \downarrow_c^N d'$.*

PROOF. We first apply EXTENSION to find $M \rightarrow N_1$ with $m' : M \rightarrow N_1$ such that $a \downarrow_c^{N_1} m'$ and $\text{gtp}(m', b, c; N_1) = \text{gtp}(m, b, c; N_1)$. In particular this means that b and c factor through m' by Fact 2.12. We apply EXTENSION again to find an extension $n_1 : N_1 \rightarrow N$ and $n'_1 : N_1 \rightarrow N$ with $a \downarrow_c^N n'_1$ and $\text{gtp}(n'_1, m'; N) = \text{gtp}(n_1, m'; N)$.

We define d' to be the composition $D \xrightarrow{d} M \rightarrow N_1 \xrightarrow{n'_1} N$. By MONOTONICITY we then have $a \downarrow_c^N d'$. We also have $\text{gtp}(d', m'; N) = \text{gtp}(d, m'; N)$, so since b and c factor through m' , and m' has a model as domain, we indeed get $\text{Lgtp}(d'/b, c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(d/b, c; N)$. ⊣

COROLLARY 4.13. *Let \downarrow be a basic independence relation and suppose that $a \downarrow_c^M b$. Then for any $(d; M)$ there is $M \rightarrow N$ and $(a'; N)$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(a'/b, c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(a/b, c; N)$ and $a' \downarrow_c^N d$.*

PROOF. Apply Proposition 4.12 to find $M \rightarrow N'$ with $(d'; N')$ such that $a \downarrow_c^{N'} d'$ and $\text{Lgtp}(d'/b, c; N') = \text{Lgtp}(d/b, c; N')$. Then just pick $(a'; N)$ in an extension $N' \rightarrow N$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(a', d'/b, c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(a, d'/b, c; N)$. ⊣

CONVENTION 4.14. We call the class function Υ for CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER a local character function. For an object A we write $\Upsilon(A)$ for $\Upsilon(\lambda)$ where λ is the least regular cardinal such that A is λ -presentable.

LEMMA 4.15 (Chain local character). Let \perp be an independence relation satisfying CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER. Let $A \leq N$ and $\kappa \geq \Upsilon(A)$. Suppose that we are given a continuous chain $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ of κ -presentable models with $M = \text{colim}_{i < \kappa} M_i \leq N$. Then there is $i_0 < \kappa$ such that $A \perp_{M_{i_0}}^N M$.

PROOF. Let $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^\kappa(M)$ be the club set from CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER. By Fact 4.8(ii) the chain $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ forms a club set on $\text{Sub}_{\mathcal{M}}^\kappa(M)$. So by Fact 4.8(i) $\{M_i : i < \kappa\} \cap \mathcal{F}$ is nonempty. \dashv

REMARK 4.16. For all our results we only need chain local character. That is, the conclusion of Lemma 4.15. In particular the canonicity theorems in Section 7 go through even if we would just assume chain local character.

Given that we actually only need chain local character, as per Remark 4.16, it is natural to ask whether the converse of Lemma 4.15 holds. That is, if chain local character implies CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER. This is not so clear, so we leave it at this.

We recall the following from [18, Definition 6.13].¹

DEFINITION 4.17. Suppose we have an independence relation \perp . Let $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ be a sequence in some M and let $c : C \rightarrow M$ be an arrow. Suppose that $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ is a chain of initial segments for $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ and that c embeds in the chain. Then we call $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ witnesses of \perp_c -independence for $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ if

$$a_i \perp_c^M M_i$$

for all $i < \kappa$. We say that a sequence is \perp_c -independent if it admits a chain of witnesses of \perp_c -independence.

The following proposition is the standard argument showing that we can find arbitrarily long independent sequences, assuming very few properties for our independence relation (see, e.g., [25, Proposition 2.2.4]). The proposition after that shows that if we additionally assume UNION we can actually get arbitrarily long independent isi-sequences.

PROPOSITION 4.18. Let \perp be an independence relation satisfying INVARIANCE, EXISTENCE and EXTENSION. Then for any $(a, c; M)$ with $\text{dom}(c) \in \text{base}(\perp)$ and any κ there is some extension $M \rightarrow N$ containing a \perp_c -independent sequence $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ with $\text{gtp}(a_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a, c; M)$ for all $i < \kappa$.

PROOF. We construct the witnesses of independence $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ and sequence $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ by induction. At stage i we will construct a_i and M_{i+1} . By EXISTENCE we have

¹There is a slight improvement here. We additionally require here that c embeds in the chain. In [18] this is the case for every such sequence that is considered. There are only two uses of such sequences. One in Lemma 6.14 where they are constructed, and we indeed get that c embeds in the chain of witnesses of independence. The other one is in the main proof, where such a sequence is found from an application of Lemma 6.14.

$a \downarrow_c^M c$, and so we will have $a \downarrow_c^{M_i} c$ for all $i < \kappa$. At every stage we will apply EXTENSION to the latter.

For the base case we set $M_0 = M$ and use EXTENSION to find a_0 and $M \rightarrow M_1$ with $\text{gtp}(a_0, c; M_1) = \text{gtp}(a, c; M)$ and $a_0 \downarrow_c^{M_1} M_0$. In the successor step we use EXTENSION to find $M_{i+1} \rightarrow M_{i+2}$ and a_{i+1} such that $a_{i+1} \downarrow_c^{M_{i+2}} M_{i+1}$ and $\text{gtp}(a_{i+1}, c; M_{i+2}) = \text{gtp}(a, c; M)$. Finally, for limit $\ell < \kappa$ let $M_\ell = \text{colim}_{i < \ell} M_i$. We use EXTENSION to find $M_\ell \rightarrow M_{\ell+1}$ and a_ℓ with $\text{gtp}(a_\ell, c; M_{\ell+1}) = \text{gtp}(a, c; M)$ and $a_\ell \downarrow_c^{M_{\ell+1}} M_\ell$. We finish the construction by taking $N = \text{colim}_{i < \kappa} M_i$. \dashv

PROPOSITION 4.19. *Suppose that \downarrow is an independence relation satisfying INVARIANCE, EXISTENCE, EXTENSION and UNION. Then given $(a, c; M)$ with $\text{dom}(c) \in \text{base}(\downarrow)$ and any κ , there is a \downarrow_c -independent isi-sequence $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ over c in some extension $M \rightarrow N$ such that $\text{gtp}(a_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a, c; M)$ for all $i < \kappa$.*

PROOF. This is just [18, Lemma 6.14]. The differences in terminology are discussed after Definition 4.10. In particular, the monotonicity assumption there is only necessary to get what we call EXTENSION. Finally, there is no notion of base class there, but this is only relevant in the application of EXISTENCE, which is only applied with c in the base. Hence the assumption $\text{dom}(c) \in \text{base}(\downarrow)$. \dashv

§5. Independence theorem, 3-amalgamation, and stationarity. It is well known that the property INDEPENDENCE THEOREM can also be formulated as an amalgamation property of some independent system. This allows for a more categorical statement without any mention of Lascar strong Galois types. However, we need to restrict ourselves to work only over models. We will give this property its own name and prove its equivalence to INDEPENDENCE THEOREM, modulo some basic properties, in Theorem 5.2.

The contents of this section are not necessary for the results in the rest of this paper, but we do refer to them a few times in remarks and discussions.

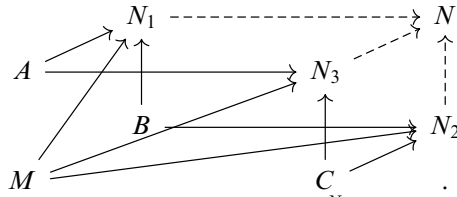
DEFINITION 5.1 [18, Definition 6.7]. An independence relation \downarrow has 3-AMALGAMATION if the following holds. Suppose that we have

$$A \downarrow_M^{N_1} B, \quad B \downarrow_M^{N_2} C, \quad C \downarrow_M^{N_3} A,$$

overloading notation for subobjects of different models. Suppose furthermore that M is a model and that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{gtp}(a, m; N_1) &= \text{gtp}(a, m; N_3), \\ \text{gtp}(b, m; N_1) &= \text{gtp}(b, m; N_2), \\ \text{gtp}(c, m; N_2) &= \text{gtp}(c, m; N_3), \end{aligned}$$

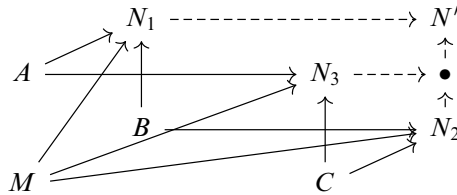
where a, b, c , and m are representatives for the subobjects A, B, C , and M respectively (again, overloading notation for different models). Then we can find extensions from N_1, N_2 , and N_3 to some N such that the diagram we obtain in that way commutes:



Furthermore, these extensions are such that $A \downarrow_M^N N_2$.

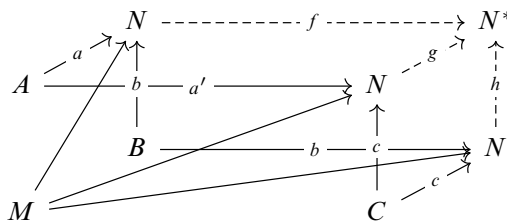
THEOREM 5.2. *Let \downarrow be a basic independence relation. If \downarrow satisfies INDEPENDENCE THEOREM then it also satisfies 3-AMALGAMATION. Conversely, if \downarrow satisfies 3-AMALGAMATION then it satisfies INDEPENDENCE THEOREM over models (i.e., we require the base C to be a model).*

PROOF. We first prove that INDEPENDENCE THEOREM implies 3-AMALGAMATION. Let the set up be as in Definition 5.1. In the diagram below we find the dashed arrows by using $\text{gtp}(c, m; N_2) = \text{gtp}(c, m; N_3)$ and $\text{gtp}(b, m; N_1) = \text{gtp}(b, m; N_2)$.



We write a_1 for the arrow $A \rightarrow N_1 \rightarrow N'$ and a_3 for the arrow $A \rightarrow N_3 \rightarrow N'$. Then we have $\text{Lgtp}(a_1/m; N') = \text{Lgtp}(a_3/m; N')$. We can thus apply INDEPENDENCE THEOREM to find some extension $N' \rightarrow N^*$ with some $a^* : A \rightarrow N^*$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(a^*, b/m; N^*) = \text{Lgtp}(a_1, b/m; N^*)$, $\text{Lgtp}(a^*, c/m; N^*) = \text{Lgtp}(a_3, c/m; N^*)$ and $a^* \downarrow_M^{N^*} N'$. So in particular we have $a^* \downarrow_M^{N^*} N_2$ by MONOTONICITY. Using $\text{gtp}(a, b, m; N_1) = \text{gtp}(a_1, b, m; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a^*, b, m; N^*)$ and $\text{gtp}(a, c, m; N_3) = \text{gtp}(a_3, c, m; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a^*, c, m; N^*)$ after each other we find an extension $N^* \rightarrow N$ together with extensions from N_1 and N_3 to N and we just forget about the previous extensions from N_1 and N_3 to N^* . These two new extensions, together with $N_2 \rightarrow N^* \rightarrow N$, then form the solution to our 3-AMALGAMATION problem.

Now we prove the converse. So we assume 3-AMALGAMATION and we prove INDEPENDENCE THEOREM over models. So suppose that $a \downarrow_m^N b$, $a' \downarrow_m^N c$ and $b \downarrow_m^N c$ and $\text{Lgtp}(a/m; N) = \text{Lgtp}(a'/m; N)$. Then we can form the commuting diagram as below, where we find the dashed arrows by 3-AMALGAMATION.



We take the extension $N \rightarrow N^*$ to be h and write a^* for $fa = ga'$. The application of 3-AMALGAMATION yields $a^* \downarrow_m^{N^*} N$. Furthermore, $\text{gtp}(a^*, b, m; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a, b, m; N) = \text{gtp}(a, b, m; N^*)$, so $\text{Lgtp}(a^*, b/m; N^*) = \text{Lgtp}(a, b/m; N^*)$ because the domain of m is a model. Similarly, we also find $\text{Lgtp}(a^*, c/m; N^*) = \text{Lgtp}(a', c/m; N^*)$, which concludes the proof. \dashv

We recall that 3-AMALGAMATION follows from STATIONARITY. This might for example be useful in the case where $\text{base}(\downarrow) = \mathcal{M}$, so one does not need to verify the INDEPENDENCE THEOREM property for a stable independence relation, as it follows automatically. In particular this means that a stable independence relation in the sense of [27] also yields a stable independence relation in our setting and vice versa, see also [18, Remark 6.7] for further comparison.

FACT 5.3 [18, Proposition 6.16]. *Let \downarrow be a basic independence relation satisfying STATIONARITY then it also satisfies 3-AMALGAMATION.*

§6. Long dividing, isi-dividing, and long Kim-dividing. In this section we introduce various notions of dividing, each yielding its own independence relation. These notions are based on the classical notion of dividing, as we know it from first-order logic. For the convenience of the reader, and to compare it to the new definitions, we recall the definition of dividing.

DEFINITION 6.1. In the classical setting of first-order logic, we say that a type $p(x, b) = \text{tp}(a/Cb)$ divides over C if there is a C -indiscernible sequence $(b_i)_{i < \omega}$ such that $\text{tp}(b_i/C) = \text{tp}(b/C)$ for all $i < \omega$ and $\bigcup_{i < \omega} p(x, b_i)$ is inconsistent.

In many proofs, to use this definition, one has to apply compactness in one way or another. For example to elongate the sequence $(b_i)_{i < \omega}$, or to find a finite subsequence along which p is inconsistent. This is generally an issue in AECats, because we do not have compactness there. To solve this we introduce the notion of long dividing. The name is due to the fact that we consider arbitrarily long sequences in the definition, something that we would normally have to use compactness for. This is very close to the notion of isi-dividing from [18, Definition 5.7]. In fact, isi-dividing is just long dividing but then restricted to isi-sequences, so that we have some homogeneity in the sequences involved. Of course, indiscernible sequences would be even more homogeneous, but the little bit that isi-sequences offer us turns out to be enough.

We remind the reader of Fact 2.1, namely that all cardinals considered are regular. So in the following definition we only quantify over regular cardinals.

DEFINITION 6.2. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with AP and fix some $(a, b, c; M)$.

- (i) Suppose that we have some sequence $((b_i)_{i \in I}; M)$ such that $\text{gtp}(b_i, c; M) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$ for all $i \in I$. We say that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is consistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$ if there is an extension $M \rightarrow N$ and an arrow $(a'; N)$ such that

$$\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M) = \text{gtp}(a', b_i, c; N)$$

for all $i \in I$. We call a' a realisation of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$.

Being inconsistent is the negation of the above. So $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is inconsistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$ if there is no extension of M with a realisation a' of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$.

- (ii) We say that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ *long divides* over c if there is μ such that for every $\lambda \geq \mu$ there is a sequence $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ in some extension $M \rightarrow N$ with $\text{gtp}(b_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$ for all $i < \lambda$, such that for some $\kappa < \lambda$ and every $I \subseteq \lambda$ with $|I| = \kappa$ we have that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is inconsistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$.
- (iii) We say that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ *isi-divides* if it long divides with respect to isi-sequences over c . That is, we require the sequence $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ to be an isi-sequence over c .

REMARK 6.3. We discussed how long dividing and isi-dividing are inspired by dividing. A natural question would be whether or not they are actually the same. This was discussed in [18] from Remark 5.8 and onwards. The discussion there is just about isi-dividing but applies to long dividing as well. The summary is as follows, restricting ourselves to AECats obtained from a first-order theory.

- (i) Dividing implies isi-dividing implies long dividing.
- (ii) Long dividing (and thus isi-dividing) implies dividing if we assume the existence of a proper class of Ramsey cardinals.
- (iii) Using the canonicity theorem, Theorem 1.2, we can actually drop the large cardinal assumption and conclude that isi-dividing implies dividing in simple theories.
- (iv) The question remains: does long dividing (and thus isi-dividing) generally imply dividing, without the large cardinal assumption?

In fact, dividing makes sense in positive logic as well (see [4, 28]), and the above discussion applies to AECats obtained from a positive theory as well. There is an even more general setting, namely that of finitely short AECats, where this discussion applies. These are AECats where a Galois type of an infinite tuple of arrows is determined by the Galois types of the finite subtuples, see [19, Section 4]. This is more or less the same framework as that of homogeneous model theory in the sense of [9] (see [18, Example 4.4]).

The point of these dividing notions is that they yield independence relations. We can already prove some basic properties about these independence relations in arbitrary AECats, similar to the basic properties that dividing always has.

PROPOSITION 6.4. *Let $A, B, C \leq M$ be subobjects. Let $(a, b, c; M)$ and $(a', b', c'; M)$ be two sets of representatives. Then $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ long divides over c if and only if $\text{gtp}(a', b', c'; M)$ long divides over c' . The same statement holds for isi-dividing.*

PROOF. This comes down to checking all the definitions, which is lengthy to do in detail. However, there is only one trick that we repeatedly use, and that is Fact 2.11(ii). To apply this trick we let f, g, h be isomorphisms such that $a' = af$, $b' = bg$ and $c' = ch$. Then, using the above trick, we easily see that for any sequence $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ witnessing long dividing of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ we have that $(b_i g)_{i < \lambda}$ witnesses long dividing for $\text{gtp}(a, bg, c; M) = \text{gtp}(a, b', c; M)$. Similarly we can replace c by $ch = c'$ and a by $af = a'$. The same holds for isi-dividing, noting that any isi-sequence over c is also an isi-sequence over $ch = c'$. ⊢

DEFINITION 6.5. For subobjects $A, B, C \leq M$ we write $A \downarrow_C^{\text{Id}, M} B$ if $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ does not long divide for all (equivalently: some) representatives

a, b, c of A, B, C . Similarly, we write $A \downarrow_C^{\text{isi-d}, M} B$ if $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ does not isi-divide.

As \downarrow^{ld} and $\downarrow^{\text{isi-d}}$ do not generally satisfy SYMMETRY we have to distinguish between “left” and “right” versions of certain properties, as we do below.

PROPOSITION 6.6. *Long dividing and isi-dividing always satisfy the following: INVARIANCE, LEFT-MONOTONICITY, EXISTENCE, and BASE-MONOTONICITY. In addition, long dividing also satisfies RIGHT-MONOTONICITY.*

PROOF. Everything is direct from the definition, except for RIGHT-MONOTONICITY for long dividing and BASE-MONOTONICITY. For both we will prove the contraposition.

For BASE-MONOTONICITY let $(a, b, c, c'; M)$ be such that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c'; M)$ long divides over c' and $C \leq C' \leq B$, where C, C', B are the subobjects represented by c, c', b respectively. Let μ be as in the definition of long dividing and let $\lambda \geq \mu$. Then there is $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ in some N that witnesses long dividing of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c'; M)$ over c' . We will prove that it also witnesses long dividing of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$. Indeed we have for all $i < \lambda$ that $\text{gtp}(b_i, c'; N) = \text{gtp}(b, c'; M)$ and thus $\text{gtp}(b_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$, because $C \leq C'$. Let $\kappa < \lambda$ be such that for $I \subseteq \lambda$ with $|I| = \kappa$ we have that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c'; M)$ is inconsistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$. We claim that for such I we also have that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is inconsistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$. Suppose that there would be a realisation $(a'; N')$ for some extension $N \rightarrow N'$, then $\text{gtp}(a', b_i, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ for all $i \in I$. Since c' factors through b and b_i in the same way for all $i < \lambda$, see Fact 2.12, we then have $\text{gtp}(a', b_i, c'; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c'; M)$ for all $i \in I$, contradicting that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c'; M)$ is inconsistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$. This proves BASE-MONOTONICITY for long dividing. We have shown that the same sequences that witness long dividing of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c'; M)$ also witness long dividing of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$. As any isi-sequence over c' is an isi-sequence over c , the same proof shows that isi-dividing has BASE-MONOTONICITY.

Now we prove RIGHT-MONOTONICITY for long dividing. Let $(a, b, b', c; M)$ be such that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ long divides over c and b factors through b' . For any sequence $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ in some N witnessing long dividing we can form $(b'_i)_{i < \lambda}$ by letting b'_i be such that $\text{gtp}(b'_i, b_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(b', b, c; M)$ for all $i < \lambda$ (possibly replacing N by an extension in the process). Then for $I \subseteq \lambda$ a realisation of $\text{gtp}(a, b', c; M)$ for $(b'_i)_{i \in I}$ would also be a realisation of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$. So if we let $\kappa < \lambda$ be such that for every $I \subseteq \lambda$ with $|I| = \kappa$ we have that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is inconsistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$, we also get that $\text{gtp}(a, b', c; M)$ is inconsistent for $(b'_i)_{i \in I}$ for any such I . We conclude that $\text{gtp}(a, b', c; M)$ long divides over c . \dashv

We note that in the above proof we did not have to change the sequence involved for BASE-MONOTONICITY, which was why the same proof also works for isi-dividing. In the proof of RIGHT-MONOTONICITY we had to build a new sequence, which might not be an isi-sequence again. This is why that proof only works for long dividing.

An important property that misses in Proposition 6.6 is EXTENSION. Classically (working in a monster model) this is fixed by considering forking instead of dividing. This forces the EXTENSION property as follows. Suppose that EXTENSION fails for some type $p = \text{tp}(a/Cb)$. Then there is some parameter set, say D , such that every extension of p to D divides over C . In other words, p implies a disjunction of types

over D such that every type in that disjunction divides over C . Classically we could even further reformulate this by using compactness and having p actually imply a finite disjunction of dividing formulas, but that is not necessary and we want to avoid compactness in our definitions. So our definition of *isi-forking* will be the semantical way of saying “implies a (possibly infinite) disjunction of types that each *isi-divide*”.

DEFINITION 6.7. We say that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ *isi-forks* over c if there is some extension $M \rightarrow N$ with $((a_j)_{j \in J}, (d_j)_{j \in J}; N)$ such that:

- (i) $\text{gtp}(a_j, d_j, c; N)$ *isi-divides* over c for each $j \in J$;
- (ii) given an extension $N \rightarrow N'$ with some $(a'; N')$ such that $\text{gtp}(a', b, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; N)$ there is $j \in J$ such that $\text{gtp}(a', d_j, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a_j, d_j, c; N)$.

Note that we do not require that b actually factors through the d_j . This is because we also want to force in **RIGHT-MONOTONICITY**.

Of course, one could also define a notion of *long forking* by replacing *isi-dividing* by long dividing in the above. However, we will have no use for this.

REMARK 6.8. The definition of *isi-forking* is just the semantical way of saying “ $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ implies a (possibly infinite) disjunction of Galois types that each *isi-divide* over c ”. In the first-order setting and in the positive setting (see [28]) forking has been defined and can be formulated as follows: a type forks over C if it implies a (possibly infinite) disjunction of types that each divide over C . It should then be clear that forking implies *isi-forking*. This uses the fact that dividing implies *isi-dividing*, see Remark 6.3(i). If *isi-dividing* and dividing coincide then the converse is true, so *isi-forking* would then imply forking.

As before, we will prove various basic properties of *isi-forking*.

PROPOSITION 6.9. Let $A, B, C \leq M$ be subobjects. Let $(a, b, c; M)$ and $(a', b', c'; M)$ be two sets of representatives. Then $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ *isi-forks* over c if and only if $\text{gtp}(a', b', c'; M)$ *isi-forks* over c' .

PROOF. We use the same trick as we did in Proposition 6.4. Let f be the isomorphism such that $a' = af$. Let $M \rightarrow N$ be an extension with $((a_j)_{j \in J}, (d_j)_{j \in J}; N)$ witnessing *isi-forking* of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$. Then using Proposition 6.4 we have that $\text{gtp}(a_j f, d_j, c'; N)$ *isi-divides* over c' for all $j \in J$. We claim that *isi-forking* of $\text{gtp}(a', b', c'; M)$ is witnessed by $((a_j f)_{j \in J}, (d_j)_{j \in J}; N)$, for which we are now left to check (ii) from Definition 6.7.

Let g and h be isomorphisms such that $b' = bg$ and $c' = ch$. Let $N \rightarrow N^*$ be an extension with some $(a^*; N^*)$ such that $\text{gtp}(a^*, b', c'; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a', b', c'; N)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{gtp}(a^* f^{-1}, b, c; N^*) &= \text{gtp}(a^* f^{-1}, b' g^{-1}, c' h^{-1}; N^*) \\ &= \text{gtp}(a' f^{-1}, b' g^{-1}, c' h^{-1}; N) \\ &= \text{gtp}(a, b, c; N), \end{aligned}$$

so there is $j \in J$ with $\text{gtp}(a^* f^{-1}, d_j, c; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a_j, d_j, c; N)$. We conclude that $\text{gtp}(a^*, d_j, c'; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a^* f^{-1} f, d_j, ch; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a_j f, d_j, c'; N)$. ⊣

DEFINITION 6.10. For $A, B, C \leq M$ we write $A \downarrow_C^{\text{isi-f}, M} B$ if $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ does not *isi-fork* for all (equivalently: some) representatives a, b, c of A, B, C .

PROPOSITION 6.11. *Isi-forking satisfies the following: INVARIANCE, MONOTONICITY on both sides, EXTENSION and BASE-MONOTONICITY.*

PROOF. The properties INVARIANCE and RIGHT-MONOTONICITY are direct from the definition. We prove the contraposition of the remaining three.

For LEFT-MONOTONICITY suppose that $\text{gtp}(a', b, c; M)$ isi-forks over c and let $(a; M)$ be such that a' factors through a . Let $((a'_j)_{j \in J}, (d_j)_{j \in J}; N)$ in some extension $M \rightarrow N$ witness the isi-forking. Let f be such that $af = a'$. The following is a set by Fact 2.14:

$$F = \{ \text{gtp}(a^*, d_j, c; N^*) : N^* \text{ is an extension of } N \text{ and } j \in J \text{ and} \\ \text{gtp}(a^*, b, c; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M) \text{ and} \\ \text{gtp}(a^* f, d_j, c; N^*) = \text{gtp}(a'_j, d_j, c; N) \}.$$

By LEFT-MONOTONICITY of isi-dividing, every Galois type in F isi-divides over c . By inductively amalgamating things we find one extension $N \rightarrow N^*$ with $((a_k)_{k \in K}, (d_k)_{k \in K}; N^*)$ such that every Galois type in F is realised by $(a_k, d_k, c; N^*)$ for some $k \in K$. This then witnesses isi-forking of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ over c .

For EXTENSION let $(a, b, b', c; M)$ be such that b factors through b' and for every $(a'; N)$ in some extension $M \rightarrow N$ with $\text{gtp}(a', b, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ we have that $\text{gtp}(a', b', c; N)$ isi-forks over c . So the conclusion of the EXTENSION property for $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ fails. We have to prove that then $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ isi-forks over c .

For each Galois type in $\text{S}_{\text{gtp}}(\text{dom}(a), \text{dom}(b'), \text{dom}(c))$ we fix some witnesses of isi-forking. By Fact 2.14 and the definition of isi-forking, the following is a set:

$$F = \{ \text{gtp}(a', d, c; N) : N \text{ is an extension of } M \text{ and} \\ \text{gtp}(a', b, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M) \text{ and} \\ \text{gtp}(a', d, c; N) \text{ is a fixed witness of isi-forking of } \text{gtp}(a', b', c; N) \}.$$

By inductively amalgamating things we find one extension $N \rightarrow N^*$ together with $((a_j)_{j \in J}, (d_j)_{j \in J}; N^*)$ such that every Galois type in F is realised by $(a_j, d_j, c; N^*)$ for some $j \in J$. This then witnesses isi-forking of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ over c .

Finally, for BASE-MONOTONICITY let $(a, b, c, c'; M)$ be such that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c'; M)$ isi-forks over c' and $C \leq C' \leq B$, where C, C', B are the subobjects represented by c, c', b respectively. Let $((a_j)_{j \in J}, (d_j)_{j \in J}; N)$ witness this in some extension $M \rightarrow N$. We claim that this also witnesses isi-forking of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ over c . Indeed, let $a' : A \rightarrow N'$ for some extension $N \rightarrow N'$ be such that $\text{gtp}(a', b, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; N)$. We have $C' \leq B$, so $\text{gtp}(a', b, c'; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c'; N)$. So there must be some $j \in J$ such that $\text{gtp}(a', d_j, c'; N') = \text{gtp}(a_j, d_j, c'; N)$. As $C \leq C'$ this restricts to $\text{gtp}(a', d_j, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a_j, d_j, c; N)$, which concludes the proof. \dashv

PROPOSITION 6.12. *For any $A, B, C \leq M$ we always have*

$$A \begin{array}{c} \text{isi-f. } M \\ \downarrow \\ C \end{array} B \implies A \begin{array}{c} \text{isi-d. } M \\ \downarrow \\ C \end{array} B.$$

The converse holds if and only if isi-dividing satisfies RIGHT-MONOTONICITY and EXTENSION.

PROOF. The first implication is just the contrapositive of the trivial statement that *isi-dividing* implies *isi-forking*. If the converse of this implication holds, then *isi-dividing* and *isi-forking* coincide and so *isi-dividing* satisfies **RIGHT-MONOTONICITY** and **EXTENSION** by Proposition 6.11.

We are left to prove that if *isi-dividing* satisfies **RIGHT-MONOTONICITY** and **EXTENSION** then *isi-forking* implies *isi-dividing*. Suppose for a contradiction that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ *isi-forks* over c but does not *isi-divide* over c . Let $((a_j)_{j \in J}, (d_j)_{j \in J}; N)$ for some extension $M \rightarrow N$ witness the *isi-forking* of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$. By **EXTENSION** for *isi-dividing* we find an extension $N \rightarrow N'$ with $(a'; N')$ such that $\text{gtp}(a', b, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; N)$ and $\text{gtp}(a', N, c; N')$ does not *isi-divide*. By *isi-forking*, there must be $j \in J$ such that $\text{gtp}(a', d_j, c; N')$ *isi-divides* over c contradicting **RIGHT-MONOTONICITY** of *isi-dividing*. \dashv

When considering NSOP₁-theories in first-order logic the useful notion of independence is given by *Kim-dividing*, see for example [12, 20]. The idea is to only consider dividing with respect to Morley sequences, that is, with respect to indiscernible nonforking sequences. We adapt that definition to our earlier ideas.

DEFINITION 6.13. We say that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ *long Kim-divides* over c if it long divides over c with respect to $\downarrow_c^{\text{isi-f}}$ -independent sequences. That is, the definition is exactly as long dividing, but we require the sequence $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ to be $\downarrow_c^{\text{isi-f}}$ -independent. We write $A \downarrow_C^{\text{IK}, M} B$ if $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ does not long Kim-divide over c for all (equivalently: some) representatives a, b, c of the subobjects A, B, C .

We implicitly used a combination of Proposition 6.4 and Proposition 6.9 to conclude that long Kim-dividing is invariant under taking different representatives of subobjects.

We have defined \downarrow_C^{IK} -independence using $\downarrow_c^{\text{isi-f}}$ -independent sequences, but these may not exist. For this we define the following axiom, from which the existence of such sequences follows.

DEFINITION 6.14. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat and let \mathcal{B} be a base class. We say that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ satisfies the \mathcal{B} -existence axiom if $\downarrow_c^{\text{isi-f}}$ with its base restricted to \mathcal{B} satisfies **EXISTENCE**. That is, for all $A, C \leq M$ with $C \in \mathcal{B}$ we have $A \downarrow_C^{\text{isi-f}, M} C$.

COROLLARY 6.15. If $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ satisfies the \mathcal{B} -existence axiom then for any $(a, c; M)$ with $\text{dom}(c) \in \mathcal{B}$ and any κ there is some extension $M \rightarrow N$ containing a $\downarrow_c^{\text{isi-f}}$ -independent sequence $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ with $\text{gtp}(a_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a, c; M)$ for all $i < \kappa$.

PROOF. Combine Proposition 4.18 and Proposition 6.11. \dashv

EXAMPLE 6.16. We discuss some examples of the \mathcal{B} -existence axiom. These are either settings where we have the axiom, or where it is natural to assume the axiom.

- (i) For any first-order theory T we have the **Mod**(T)-existence axiom. This is because any type over a model can be extended to a global invariant type, which can then be used in a standard argument to show that such a type does not *isi-fork* over M as follows.

Let $q(x) \supseteq \text{tp}(a/M)$ be a global M -invariant extension. Let $\alpha \models q$, which then lives in some bigger monster model. Suppose that $\text{tp}(a/M)$ *isi-forks*.

Then there is d such that $r(x, d) = \text{tp}(\alpha/Md)$ *isi-divides* over M . However, we will show that $r(x, d)$ cannot even long divide. So let $(d_i)_{i < \lambda}$ be any infinite sequence in $\text{tp}(d/M)$. Then by M -invariance $\text{tp}(\alpha d_i/M) = \text{tp}(\alpha d/M)$ for all $i < \lambda$. So $\bigcup_{i < \lambda} r(x, d_i)$ is consistent, and so we conclude that $r(x, d)$ does not long divide.

- (ii) Analogous to the previous point, for a continuous theory T we have the **MetMod**(T)-existence axiom.
- (iii) For positive logic something similar to (i) is true, but we need an extra assumption on T . We recall these assumptions in more detail in Definition 7.6. For now we just summarise what we get from them in terms of the existence axiom. In a semi-Hausdorff positive theory T any type over an e.c. model can be extended to a global invariant type (see [5, Lemma 3.11]), so the proof in (i) goes through and we have the **Mod**(T)-existence axiom. In the more general class of thick theories we still have the **Mod**(T)-existence axiom, but we have to use global Lascar-invariant types instead, see [11, Lemmas 3.11 and 9.11].
- (iv) For an NSOP₁ theory T in first-order logic it is common to assume the existence axiom for forking. It is still an open problem whether or not the existence axiom for forking holds in every NSOP₁ theory T , but it has been proved in many specific instances, see [12, Fact 2.14].

If for such T we take $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M}) = (\mathbf{SubMod}(T), \mathbf{Mod}(T))$ then we are very close to having the \mathcal{C} -existence axiom. The only difference is that we work with *isi-forking*, see Remark 6.8 for a comparison. In particular, the \mathcal{C} -existence axiom implies the existence axiom for forking. Furthermore, if there is a proper class of Ramsey cardinals then *isi-forking* and forking coincide and so the converse would hold as well. Additionally, it is quite likely that techniques to prove existence for forking also work for *isi-forking*. For example, in [12, Remark 2.15] it is shown that in the theory of parametrised equivalence relations any type over any set A can be extended to a global A -invariant type. Following point (i) we then see that such a type does not *isi-fork* over A .

- (v) If $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ is an AECat with a simple independence relation \perp then it will satisfy the $\text{base}(\perp)$ -existence axiom. This follows from canonicity, Theorem 1.2, because then $\perp = \perp^{\text{isi-f}}$ over $\text{base}(\perp)$. This mirrors the fact that simple theories in first-order logic (and even simple thick positive theories, see [5]) have the existence axiom for forking, see also the previous point.

REMARK 6.17. The usual definition of Kim-dividing states that a type Kim-divides if it divides with respect to nonforking Morley sequences, see, e.g., [12, 20]. To compare this to long Kim-dividing we first note that by Remark 6.8 any $\perp^{\text{isi-f}}$ -independent sequence is also a forking-independent sequence, and the converse is true if *isi-dividing* coincides with dividing. As before, if we assume that there is a proper class of Ramsey cardinals then long Kim-dividing and Kim-dividing coincide, using the same arguments as for long dividing and *isi-dividing* versus dividing.

If we do not want to assume large cardinals then we can again use canonicity, this time Theorem 1.1, to see that long Kim-dividing and Kim-dividing coincide in NSOP₁-theories where it has been developed.

§7. Canonicity. In this section we prove the main results, namely the canonicity theorems for simple (Theorem 1.2) and NSOP₁-like (Theorem 1.1) independence relations. The former is just a slightly improved version of [18, Theorem 1.1]. The results in this section up to and including Theorem 1.2 are then essentially just the proof of [18, Theorem 1.1] cut up in smaller parts. However, we cannot really just refer to that proof again. First of all because we work with slightly different definitions. More importantly, the results here are actually improved versions. Most notably Lemma 7.2 gives a lot more information, where the proof of [18, Theorem 1.1] only used the last sentence of that lemma.

THEOREM 7.1. *Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with AP and let \downarrow be a basic independence relation that also satisfies CLUB LOCAL CHARACTER. Then $A \downarrow_C^{\text{isi-d}, M} B$ implies $A \downarrow_C^M B$ for any $C \in \text{base}(\downarrow)$.*

If \downarrow satisfies the same assumptions, except possibly UNION, then we still have that $A \downarrow_C^{\text{id}, M} B$ implies $A \downarrow_C^M B$ for any $C \in \text{base}(\downarrow)$.

PROOF. Suppose that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ does not isi-divide over c . Let $\kappa \geq \Upsilon(A)$ such that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ is a κ -AECat and $\text{dom}(a)$ and $\text{dom}(c)$ are κ -presentable. By Proposition 4.19 we find a long enough \downarrow_c -independent isi-sequence $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ over c in some $M \rightarrow N$ with $\lambda > \kappa$ and $\text{gtp}(b_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$ for all $i < \lambda$. Let $(M_i)_{i < \lambda}$ be witnesses of independence. Since $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ does not isi-divide over c there is $I \subseteq \lambda$ with $|I| = \kappa$ such that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is consistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$. Let a' be a realisation for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$, which for convenience we may assume to be in N . By possibly deleting an end segment from I we may assume that I has the order type of κ . Using Lemma 2.17 we may assume that each object in the chain $(M_i)_{i \in I}$ is κ -presentable, where MONOTONICITY implies that these are still witnesses of independence. Then by chain local character, Lemma 4.15, we find $i_0 \in I$ such that $a' \downarrow_{M_{i_0}}^N M_I$ where $M_I = \text{colim}_{i \in I} M_i$. By MONOTONICITY and SYMMETRY we then have

$$b_{i_0} \downarrow_{M_{i_0}}^N a'.$$

We also have

$$b_{i_0} \downarrow_c^N M_{i_0}.$$

So by TRANSITIVITY we have $b_{i_0} \downarrow_c^N a'$ and the result follows by SYMMETRY and because $\text{gtp}(a', b_{i_0}, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$.

For the final claim we just note that if we do not have UNION we can still apply Proposition 4.18 instead of Proposition 4.19 to get an arbitrarily long \downarrow_c -independent sequence. It might just not be an isi-sequence. Then the rest of the proof goes through as written. ⊣

The following lemma generalises the INDEPENDENCE THEOREM property to independent sequences of any length. The original INDEPENDENCE THEOREM can roughly be viewed as just considering an independent sequence of length two.

LEMMA 7.2 (Generalised independence theorem). *Suppose that \downarrow is a basic independence relation satisfying INDEPENDENCE THEOREM. Let δ be any (possibly finite) ordinal. Suppose we have $(a, b, c; N)$ such that $a \downarrow_c^N b$ and $a \downarrow_c$ -independent sequence $(b_i)_{i < \delta}$ in N with $\text{Lgtp}(b_i/c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(b/c; N)$ for all $i < \delta$. Then there is an extension $N \rightarrow N'$ with $(a'; N')$ such that $a' \downarrow_c^{N'} N$ and $\text{Lgtp}(a', b_i/c; N') = \text{Lgtp}(a, b/c; N')$ for all $i < \delta$.*

In particular, $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; N)$ is consistent for $(b_i)_{i < \delta}$.

PROOF. Let $(M_i)_{i < \delta}$ be witnesses of independence for $(b_i)_{i < \delta}$, which we may assume to be subobjects of N . We will add one more link M_δ to the chain. If δ is a limit ordinal we set $M_\delta = \text{colim}_{i < \delta} M_i$. If δ is a successor ordinal we set $M_\delta = N$.

We will by induction construct a chain $(N_i)_{i \leq \delta}$ with N_0 extending N , together with extensions $\{m'_i : M_i \rightarrow N_i\}_{i \leq \delta}$ and an arrow $(a''; N_0)$ such that $m'_0 = m_0$ and $\text{Lgtp}(a''/c; N_0) = \text{Lgtp}(a/c; N_0)$ while at stage i we have:

- (i) the extensions $\{m'_j : M_j \rightarrow N_j\}_{j \leq i}$ are natural in the sense that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} N_j & \longrightarrow & N_i \\ m'_j \uparrow & & \uparrow m'_i \\ M_j & \longrightarrow & M_i \end{array}$$

commutes for all $j \leq i$;

- (ii) if i is a successor, say $i = j + 1$, then $\text{Lgtp}(a'', b'_j/c; N_i) = \text{Lgtp}(a, b/c; N_i)$,

where b'_j is the composition $B \xrightarrow{b_j} M_i \xrightarrow{m'_i} N_i$;

- (iii) $a'' \downarrow_c^{N_i} m'_i$.

Base case. By EXISTENCE we have $a \downarrow_c^N c$, so we can apply strong extension (Corollary 4.13) to find $N \rightarrow N_0$ and $(a''; N_0)$ with $a'' \downarrow_c^{N_0} M_0$ and $\text{Lgtp}(a''/c; N_0) = \text{Lgtp}(a/c; N_0)$.

Successor step. Suppose we have constructed N_i and m'_i . As M_i is an amalgamation base we have $\text{gtp}(m_i; N_i) = \text{gtp}(m'_i; N_i)$. By (i) we have that m'_0 factors through m'_i in the same way that m_0 factors through m_i , so $\text{gtp}(m'_i, m'_0; N_i) = \text{gtp}(m_i, m_0; N_i)$. Since $m'_0 = m_0$ have $\text{gtp}(m'_i, m_0; N_i) = \text{gtp}(m_i, m_0; N_i)$, so $\text{Lgtp}(m'_i/c; N_i) = \text{Lgtp}(m_i/c; N_i)$. We thus find $(a^*, m_{i+1}^*; N^*)$ for some $N_i \rightarrow N^*$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(m_{i+1}^*, m'_i/c; N^*) = \text{Lgtp}(m_{i+1}, m_i/c; N^*)$ and $\text{Lgtp}(a^*, b_i^*/c; N^*) = \text{Lgtp}(a, b/c; N^*)$, where b_i^* is given by $B \xrightarrow{b_i} M_{i+1} \xrightarrow{m_{i+1}^*} N^*$. For this last construction we used that $\text{Lgtp}(b_i/c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(b/c; N)$ and that b_i factors through m_{i+1} . Then $a'' \downarrow_c^{N^*} m'_i$, $a^* \downarrow_c^{N^*} b_i^*$ and $b_i^* \downarrow_c^{N^*} m'_i$. So by INDEPENDENCE THEOREM we find $N^* \rightarrow N_{i+1}$ and $(a^{**}; N_{i+1})$ with $\text{Lgtp}(a^{**}, b_i^*/c; N_{i+1}) = \text{Lgtp}(a^*, b_i^*/c; N_{i+1})$, $\text{Lgtp}(a^{**}, m'_i/c; N_{i+1}) = \text{Lgtp}(a'', m'_i/c; N_{i+1})$ and $a^{**} \downarrow_c^{N_{i+1}} N^*$. By MONOTONICITY we get $a^{**} \downarrow_c^{N_{i+1}} m_{i+1}^*$. Using $\text{Lgtp}(a^{**}, m'_i/c; N_{i+1}) = \text{Lgtp}(a'', m'_i/c; N_{i+1})$ we find $m'_{i+1} : M_{i+1} \rightarrow N_{i+1}$ (after replacing N_{i+1} by an extension) such that $\text{Lgtp}(a^{**}, m_{i+1}^*, m'_i/c; N_{i+1}) = \text{Lgtp}(a'', m_{i+1}^*, m'_i/c; N_{i+1})$. We verify the induction hypothesis:

- (i) we have by construction that $\text{gtp}(m'_{i+1}, m'_i; N_{i+1}) = \text{gtp}(m^*_{i+1}, m'_i; N_{i+1}) = \text{gtp}(m_{i+1}, m_i; N_{i+1})$, so m'_i factors through m'_{i+1} in the same way that m_i factors through m_{i+1} by Fact 2.12, and naturality follows;
- (ii) using $\text{Lgtp}(a^{**}, m^*_{i+1}/c; N_{i+1}) = \text{Lgtp}(a'', m'_{i+1}/c; N_{i+1})$ and that b_i^* and b'_i are $B \xrightarrow{b_i} M_{i+1} \xrightarrow{m^*_{i+1}} N_{i+1}$ and $B \xrightarrow{b_i} M_{i+1} \xrightarrow{m'_{i+1}} N_{i+1}$ respectively by definition, we have $\text{Lgtp}(a'', b'_i/c; N_{i+1}) = \text{Lgtp}(a^{**}, b_i^*/c; N_{i+1}) = \text{Lgtp}(a^*, b_i^*/c; N_{i+1}) = \text{Lgtp}(a, b/c; N_{i+1})$;
- (iii) by $a^{**} \downarrow_c^{N_{i+1}} m^*_{i+1}$ and INVARIANCE.

Limit step. For limit ℓ let $N_\ell = \text{colim}_{i < \ell} N_i$. By (i) from the induction hypothesis the arrows m'_i composed with the coprojections $N_i \rightarrow N_\ell$ form a cocone on $(M_i)_{i < \ell}$. By continuity $M_\ell = \text{colim}_{i < \ell} M_i$, so there is a universal arrow $m'_\ell : M_\ell \rightarrow N_\ell$. This directly establishes (i). Property (ii) is vacuous. Property (iii) follows from the induction hypothesis and UNION.

Having finished the inductive construction, we have two arrows $M_\delta \rightarrow N_\delta$, namely $m_\delta : M_\delta \rightarrow N \rightarrow N_\delta$ and the m'_δ we just constructed. By (i) from the induction hypothesis we have $\text{gtp}(m_\delta, m_0; N_\delta) = \text{gtp}(m'_\delta, m_0; N_\delta)$. So we find an extension $N_\delta \rightarrow N'$ and some $(a'; N')$ such that $\text{gtp}(a', m_\delta, m_0; N') = \text{gtp}(a'', m'_\delta, m_0; N_\delta)$. Using that c factors through m_0 and (ii) from the induction hypothesis, we find that for any $i < \delta$ we have $\text{Lgtp}(a', b_i/c; N') = \text{Lgtp}(a'', b'_i/c; N') = \text{Lgtp}(a, b/c; N')$. By (iii) from the induction hypothesis we also have $a' \downarrow_c^{N'} M_\delta$. So if δ was a successor ordinal we had $M_\delta = N$ and we are done. Otherwise we can just apply EXTENSION and relabel things to get $a' \downarrow_c^{N'} N$.

The final claim follows because a' is a realisation of $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; N)$ for $(b_i)_{i < \delta}$. \dashv

REMARK 7.3. In the context of Lemma 7.2 if C is a model then there is no need to concern ourselves with Lascar strong Galois types. That is, the proof as written then goes through if we replace “Lascar strong Galois type” by just “Galois type” everywhere. We also only apply INDEPENDENCE THEOREM with C in the base. So if C is a model then it would be enough to just have INDEPENDENCE THEOREM over models. Or equivalently, to have 3-AMALGAMATION, see Theorem 5.2.

The following is a slightly improved version of [18, Theorem 1.1]. The improvement is in the fact that we can restrict our independence relation to a base class and the fact that we also get $\downarrow = \downarrow^{\text{isi-f}}$.

THEOREM 1.2, REPEATED. *Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with the amalgamation property, and suppose that \downarrow is a simple independence relation. Then $\downarrow = \downarrow^{\text{isi-d}} = \downarrow^{\text{isi-f}}$ over $\text{base}(\downarrow)$.*

PROOF. The implication $\downarrow^{\text{isi-d}} \implies \downarrow$ is already given by Theorem 7.1. For the converse we will assume that $A \downarrow_C^M B$ and we will prove that $A \downarrow_C^{\text{isi-d}, M} B$. Pick some representatives a, b, c of A, B, C . Let μ be such that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ is a μ -AECat and let $\lambda > \Upsilon(B) + \mu$. Let $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ be an isi-sequence over c in some $M \rightarrow N$, with chain of initial segments $(M_i)_{i < \lambda}$ and $\text{gtp}(b_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$ for all $i < \lambda$. Let $\Upsilon(B) + \mu \leq \kappa < \lambda$. By Lemma 2.17 we may assume that M_i is κ -presentable for all $i < \kappa$. We can thus apply chain local character, Lemma 4.15, to find $i_0 < \kappa$

such that $b_\kappa \downarrow_{M_{i_0}}^N M_\kappa$. We will aim to show that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is consistent for $(b_i)_{i_0 \leq i < \kappa}$. We use $\text{gtp}(b_{i_0}, c; N) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$ to find a common extension $M \rightarrow N' \leftarrow N$ where $b = b_{i_0}$ as arrows into N' . By applying EXTENSION to the assumption $a \downarrow_c^M b$ we then find $(a'; N')$ (possibly after replacing N' by an extension) such that $a' \downarrow_c^{N'} N$ and $\text{gtp}(a', b, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$. Then by BASE-MONOTONICITY and MONOTONICITY we find $a' \downarrow_{M_{i_0}}^{N'} b$. For any $i_0 \leq i < \kappa$ we have $\text{gtp}(b_i, m_i, m_{i_0}; N') = \text{gtp}(b_\kappa, m_i, m_{i_0}; N')$ because $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ is an isi-sequence. So by MONOTONICITY and INVARIANCE and the earlier fact that $b_\kappa \downarrow_{M_{i_0}}^N M_\kappa$, we find

$$b_i \downarrow_{M_{i_0}}^{N'} M_i$$

for all $i_0 \leq i < \kappa$. So $(b_i)_{i_0 \leq i < \kappa}$ is a $\downarrow_{M_{i_0}}$ -independent sequence. We can thus apply the generalised independence theorem, Lemma 7.2, to conclude that $\text{gtp}(a', b, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is indeed consistent for $(b_i)_{i_0 \leq i < \kappa}$. As κ was arbitrarily large below λ , λ itself was arbitrarily large and $(b_i)_{i_0 \leq i < \kappa}$ is a subsequence of an arbitrary isi-sequence of length λ we conclude that indeed $A \downarrow_C^{\text{isi-d}, M} B$.

Finally, the claim $\downarrow^{\text{isi-d}} = \downarrow^{\text{isi-f}}$ follows from Proposition 6.12 because $\downarrow^{\text{isi-d}} = \downarrow$ has EXTENSION and RIGHT-MONOTONICITY. ⊣

REMARK 7.4. For the canonicity theorem for simple independence relations, Theorem 1.2, we only need 3-AMALGAMATION. Or equivalently, by Theorem 5.2, INDEPENDENCE THEOREM over models. Even if $\text{base}(\downarrow)$ is more than just \mathcal{M} , e.g., $\text{base}(\downarrow) = \mathcal{C}$. In the proof of Theorem 1.2 we only applied the INDEPENDENCE THEOREM indirectly through Lemma 7.2. The base, i.e., C in that lemma, is by construction always a model. So by Remark 7.3 it would be enough to only assume 3-AMALGAMATION instead of INDEPENDENCE THEOREM.

THEOREM 1.1, REPEATED. *Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with the amalgamation property and let \mathcal{B} be some base class. Suppose that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ satisfies the \mathcal{B} -existence axiom and suppose that there is an NSOP₁-like independence relation \downarrow over \mathcal{B} . Then $\downarrow = \downarrow^{\text{IK}}$ over \mathcal{B} .*

PROOF. Suppose that $A \downarrow_C^M B$ with $C \in \mathcal{B}$ and pick some representatives a, b, c of A, B, C . There is a bound μ on the cardinality of the set of Lascar strong Galois types compatible with $(b, c; M)$, see Proposition 3.4. Let $\lambda > \mu$ and let $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ be a $\downarrow_c^{\text{isi-f}}$ -independent sequence in some $M \rightarrow N$ with $\text{gtp}(b_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$ for all $i < \lambda$. Then $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ is also \downarrow_c -independent, by Theorem 7.1 and Proposition 6.12. We have to show that for every $\kappa < \lambda$ there is $I \subseteq \lambda$ with $|I| = \kappa$ such that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is consistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$. So let $\kappa < \lambda$. Then by the choice of μ and λ there must be some $I \subseteq \lambda$ with $|I| = \kappa$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(b_i/c; N) = \text{Lgtp}(b_j/c; N)$ for all $i, j \in I$. Let i_0 be the least element of I . Let $(a'; N')$ for some extension $N \rightarrow N'$ be such that $\text{gtp}(a', b_{i_0}, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$. Then we can apply the generalised

independence theorem, Lemma 7.2, to see that $\text{gtp}(a', b_{i_0}, c; N') = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$ is consistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$. We conclude that indeed $A \downarrow_C^{\text{IK}, M} B$.

For the other direction, suppose that $A \downarrow_C^{\text{IK}, M} B$ with $C \in \mathcal{B}$. Let $\kappa \geq \Upsilon(A)$ be such that $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ is a κ -AECat and A and C are κ -presentable. Let $(b_i)_{i < \lambda}$ be a long enough $\downarrow_c^{\text{isi-f}}$ -independent sequence in some extension $M \rightarrow N$, with $\lambda > \kappa$, witnesses of independence $(M_i)_{i < \lambda}$ and $\text{gtp}(b_i, c; N) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$ for all $i < \lambda$. Such a sequence exists by Corollary 6.15, because we assumed the \mathcal{B} -existence axiom. By Theorem 7.1 and Proposition 6.12 this is also a \downarrow_c -independent sequence. By definition of long Kim-dividing there is $I \subseteq \lambda$ with $|I| = \kappa$ such that $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; N)$ is consistent for $(b_i)_{i \in I}$. Let a' be a realisation for this (we may assume a' is an arrow into N). By possibly deleting an end segment from I we may assume that I has the order type of κ . Using Lemma 2.17 we may assume that each object in the chain $(M_i)_{i \in I}$ is κ -presentable, where MONOTONICITY guarantees that these are still witnesses of independence. Then by chain local character, Lemma 4.15, we find $i_0 \in I$ such that $a' \downarrow_{M_{i_0}}^N M_I$ where $M_I = \text{colim}_{i \in I} M_i$. So by MONOTONICITY and SYMMETRY we have

$$b_{i_0} \downarrow_{M_{i_0}}^N a'.$$

Furthermore, we have

$$b_{i_0} \downarrow_C^N M_{i_0}.$$

So by TRANSITIVITY we have $b_{i_0} \downarrow_C^N a'$. The result then follows by SYMMETRY and the fact that $\text{gtp}(a', b_{i_0}, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a, b, c; M)$. \dashv

By definition any stable independence relation is also simple, and any simple independence relation is also NSOP₁-like. The canonicity theorems then tell us that these are indeed unique in a given AECat with AP and with what notion of dividing they coincide. We make this precise in the following theorem.

THEOREM 1.3, REPEATED. *Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with the amalgamation property and suppose that \downarrow is a stable or a simple independence relation in $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$. Suppose furthermore that \downarrow^* is an NSOP₁-like independence relation in $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ with $\text{base}(\downarrow) = \text{base}(\downarrow^*)$. Then*

$$\downarrow = \downarrow^* = \downarrow^{\text{isi-d}} = \downarrow^{\text{isi-f}} = \downarrow^{\text{IK}}.$$

PROOF. This follows directly from Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.1. To apply the latter we need the $\text{base}(\downarrow)$ -existence axiom. This is automatic, as $\downarrow = \downarrow^{\text{isi-f}}$ over $\text{base}(\downarrow)$ by Theorem 1.2 and we have EXISTENCE by assumption. \dashv

REMARK 7.5. We can classify AECats based on the existence of certain independence relations, just as we can classify theories in first-order logic in that way. For example, suppose that we have an AECat $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ with AP and an NSOP₁-like independence relation \downarrow where BASE-MONOTONICITY fails. Then we can never find

a simple independence relation in $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ (with the same base class). Because if we would have such a simple independence relation \perp' then by Theorem 1.3 we would have $\perp = \perp'$, but that is impossible because a simple independence relation must satisfy **BASE-MONOTONICITY**. So we can classify $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ as NSOP_1 , but non-simple.

We close out this section by discussing how this work extends and brings together previously known results in the settings of first-order, positive and continuous logic. We also describe precisely how to apply the canonicity theorems in these more concrete settings.

We first recall some useful terminology for positive logic from [3, 5].

DEFINITION 7.6. Let T be a positive theory. We call T :

- *semi-Hausdorff* if equality of types is type-definable;
- *thick* if being an indiscernible sequence is type-definable.

It quickly follows that any first-order theory is semi-Hausdorff as a positive theory and that any semi-Hausdorff theory is thick. So whenever we mention semi-Hausdorff or thick theories in the examples below this automatically includes the first-order setting.

In a semi-Hausdorff theory T we have that having the same type over an e.c. model implies having the same Lascar strong type (see [5, Proposition 3.13]), just as we have for first-order theories. If T is thick this is no longer generally true, see [11, Section 10.1]. In [11, Lemma 2.20] this is solved by considering λ_T -saturated models, where $\lambda_T = \beth_{(2|T|)^+}$. The problem for AECats is then that the full subcategory of λ_T -saturated models in $\mathbf{Mod}(T)$ is not closed under directed colimits. We solve this with the following notion.

DEFINITION 7.7. We call an e.c. model M of some positive theory T *finitely λ -saturated* if for every finite tuple $a \in M$ there is a λ -saturated e.c. model $M_0 \subseteq M$ with $a \in M_0$.

Clearly any λ -saturated model is also finitely λ -saturated. The point is that the full subcategory of finitely λ -saturated models in $\mathbf{Mod}(T)$ is then closed under directed colimits for any λ . At the same time this notion is strong enough to give us the following fact.

FACT 7.8 [19, Proposition 2.39]. *In a thick positive theory T having the same Lascar strong type over some parameter set C is the transitive closure of having the same type over finitely λ_T -saturated models containing C .*

EXAMPLE 7.9. Let T be a thick theory. Let \mathcal{C} be either $\mathbf{SubMod}(T)$ or $\mathbf{Mod}(T)$. Following Fact 7.8 we take \mathcal{M} to be the category of finitely λ_T -saturated models, so that Lascar strong types and Lascar strong Galois types coincide. If T is semi-Hausdorff, we can instead just take $\mathcal{M} = \mathbf{Mod}(T)$.

If T is stable or simple then there is respectively a stable or simple independence relation \perp in $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ with $\text{base}(\perp) = \mathcal{C}$. This follows from a combination of [4, 5]. So Theorem 1.2 applies.

The **STATIONARITY** property in a stable theory follows from [4, Theorem 2.8]. In their statement the base model M is assumed to be $|T|^+$ -saturated, which they need for only two reasons. The first reason is that types over M should coincide with

Lascar strong types over M , but by our choice of \mathcal{M} and the thickness assumption this happens for all $M \in \mathcal{M}$. The second reason is that types over M should be what they call extendible, but in a simple thick theory every type is extendible, see [5, Theorem 1.15].

EXAMPLE 7.10. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat based on some semi-Hausdorff or thick theory T as in Example 7.9. By Example 6.16(iii) we have the $\mathbf{Mod}(T)$ -existence axiom. If T is NSOP₁ then it has an NSOP₁-like independence relation \perp with $\text{base}(\perp) = \mathbf{Mod}(T)$. For first-order logic this was proved in [20–22], which was extended to thick positive theories in [11]. So Theorem 1.1 applies.

Here we had to restrict the base class to e.c. models, simply because Kim-independence in positive logic has only been developed over e.c. models. For theories in first-order logic Kim-independence has been extended to arbitrary base sets, see [10, 12]. To make this work we need to assume the existence axiom, see also Example 6.16(iv). So let T be an NSOP₁ theory in first-order logic and set $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M}) = (\mathbf{SubMod}(T), \mathbf{Mod}(T))$, which we assume to satisfy the \mathcal{C} -existence axiom. Then the aforementioned sources show that there is an NSOP₁-like independence relation \perp with $\text{base}(\perp) = \mathcal{C}$ and so Theorem 1.1 applies.

Finally we note that there is a Kim–Pillay style theorem in [10, Theorem 5.1] for Kim-independence over arbitrary sets. They still rely on a syntactical property “strong finite character”, which could be replaced by just “finite character”. Theorem 1.1 gives us just the canonicity part. To conclude that a theory with such an independence relation is NSOP₁, without using strong finite character, we can restrict ourselves to work over models and use the proof from [11, Theorem 9.1].

EXAMPLE 7.11. Let T be a continuous theory, in the sense of [6]. Let \mathcal{C} be either $\mathbf{SubMetMod}(T)$ or $\mathbf{MetMod}(T)$, and let \mathcal{M} be $\mathbf{MetMod}(T)$. If T is stable or simple then there is respectively a stable or simple independence relation \perp in $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ with $\text{base}(\perp) = \mathcal{C}$. Every continuous theory is in particular a Hausdorff compact abstract theory, and so the machinery of [4, 5] applies. This shows we can indeed find an appropriate independence relation in any simple or stable continuous theory. There is also [6, Section 14] for a further discussion about stability specifically in continuous theories. So Theorem 1.2 applies.

In [6] some examples of stable continuous theories and their corresponding independence relations are given, including Hilbert spaces and atomless probability spaces.

EXAMPLE 7.12. In this example we consider the continuous theory T_N of Hilbert spaces with a distance function to a random subset, as studied in [7]. They prove that this theory has TP₂ and thus cannot be simple. They also define an independence relation \perp^* over arbitrary sets that has all the properties of an NSOP₁-like independence relation. Except that they do not prove the full INDEPENDENCE THEOREM, but enough for 3-AMALGAMATION (i.e., over models, see Theorem 5.2). So setting $\mathcal{C} = \mathbf{SubMetMod}(T_N)$ and $\mathcal{M} = \mathbf{MetMod}(T_N)$, and taking $\text{base}(\perp^*) = \mathbf{MetMod}(T)$, we have that \perp^* is an NSOP₁-like independence relation in $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$. By Example 6.16(ii) we also have the $\mathbf{MetMod}(T)$ -existence axiom. So Theorem 1.1 applies.

§8. More on Lascar strong Galois types. In this section we will show that in the presence of a nice enough independence relation there are some equivalent definitions of Lascar strong Galois types, matching those we classically have for Lascar strong types. To place this all in context we recall the relevant equivalent definitions of Lascar strong types in first-order logic (see, e.g., [25, Proposition 3.1.5]).

DEFINITION 8.1. Let a and b be tuples in some monster model of a first-order theory and let C be some parameter set. We say that a and b have the same *Lascar strong type over C* if the following equivalent conditions hold.

- (i) There are $a = a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n = b$ and models M_1, \dots, M_n , each containing C , such that $\text{tp}(a_i/M_{i+1}) = \text{tp}(a_{i+1}/M_{i+1})$ for all $0 \leq i < n$.
- (ii) We have $a \sim b$ for any bounded C -invariant equivalence relation \sim .
- (iii) There are $a = a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n = b$ such that a_i and a_{i+1} are on a C -indiscernible sequence for all $0 \leq i < n$. In this case we say that a and b have *Lascar distance at most n (over C)*.

It is well known that Lascar strong types heavily interact with independence relations in first-order logic. For example, independence relations can be used to show that having the same Lascar strong type is type-definable in any simple theory by showing that the Lascar distance within a Lascar strong type is at most 2, see [25, Proposition 5.1.11]. The same technique applies to any NSOP₁ theory in first-order logic that satisfies the existence axiom [12, Corollary 5.9]. We essentially adapt this technique in this section, while at the same time using independence relations to build what we call “strongly 2-indiscernible” sequences (Definition 8.5), which take the role of the usual indiscernible sequences.

Throughout this section we will work with single arrows a, b, c and objects A and C , where $\text{dom}(a) = \text{dom}(b) = A$ and $\text{dom}(c) = C$. This leads to cleaner notation and when working with independence relations we can only work with single arrows anyway (i.e., the sides and base of an independence relation do not allow tuples of arrows in our definition). However, it is not too difficult to extend the main result of this section (Theorem 8.7) to arbitrary tuples, see Remark 8.13.

DEFINITION 8.2. Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M})$ be an AECat with AP and fix some objects A and C . Suppose that for each M and each $c : C \rightarrow M$ we are given an equivalence relation $\equiv_{c,M}$ on $\text{Hom}(A, M)$. Then we say that the family \equiv is an *equivalence relation over C* .

We call \equiv a *bounded equivalence relation* if there is λ such that $\equiv_{c,M}$ has at most λ many equivalence classes for any M and $c : C \rightarrow M$.

We call \equiv an *invariant equivalence relation* if it is invariant under equality of Galois types over C . That is, if $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; M) = \text{gtp}(a', b', c'; M')$ then we have that $a \equiv_{c,M} b$ if and only if $a' \equiv_{c',M'} b'$.

CONVENTION 8.3. *We will only deal with invariant equivalence relations. To further simplify the notation we will drop the M from the notation. So we write $a \equiv_c b$ instead of $a \equiv_{c,M} b$. Because of invariance it does not matter if we consider a and b as arrows into M or as arrows into an extension of M .*

EXAMPLE 8.4. We give some familiar examples.

- (i) Taking just equality as equivalence relation is an equivalence relation over any C . This relation is invariant, but generally not bounded because $\text{Hom}(A, M)$ may become arbitrarily large.
- (ii) The trivial equivalence where everything is equivalent is a bounded invariant equivalence relation over any C .
- (iii) Having the same Galois type is a bounded invariant equivalence relation over any C . That is, we define \equiv as $a \equiv_c b$ if and only if $\text{gtp}(a, c; M) = \text{gtp}(b, c; M)$. Clearly \equiv is invariant, and by Fact 2.14 it is bounded.
- (iv) Having the same Lascar strong Galois type is a bounded invariant equivalence relation. Similar to the previous point we define \equiv as $a \equiv_c b$ if and only if $\text{Lgtp}(a/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(a'/c; M)$. This is invariant by Proposition 3.3 and bounded by Proposition 3.4.
- (v) In any (positive or first-order) theory T , any hyperimaginary yields an invariant equivalence relation. That is, if $E(x, y)$ is a set of formulas that defines an equivalence relation modulo T then we can define an invariant equivalence relation \equiv^E over \emptyset as follows: for tuples $a, b \in M$ we set $a \equiv^E b$ iff $M \models E(a, b)$.

Usually bounded invariant equivalence relations are linked to Lascar strong types using indiscernible sequences. This requires some compactness, which we generally do not have. To solve this we will adapt the idea of strongly indiscernible sequences from [16].

DEFINITION 8.5. We call sequence $(a_i)_{i < \kappa}$ in some M 2- c -indiscernible if for any $i_1 < i_2 < \kappa$ and any $j_1 < j_2 < \kappa$ we have $\text{gtp}(a_{i_1}, c; M) = \text{gtp}(a_{i_2}, c; M)$ and $\text{gtp}(a_{i_1}, a_{i_2}, c; M) = \text{gtp}(a_{j_1}, a_{j_2}, c; M)$. We call such a sequence *strongly 2- c -indiscernible* if it can be extended to a 2- c -indiscernible sequence (possibly in some extension model) of arbitrary length.

Given an independence relation \downarrow we define a 2- \downarrow_c -Morley sequence to be a 2- c -indiscernible sequence that is also \downarrow_c -independent. Such a sequence is called a *strong 2- \downarrow_c -Morley sequence* if it can be extended to a 2- \downarrow_c -Morley sequence (possibly in some extension model) of arbitrary length.

DEFINITION 8.6. For $(a, b, c; M)$ we write $a \sim_c^2 b$ if a and b are on some strongly 2- c -indiscernible sequence. We write \equiv_c^2 for the transitive closure of \sim_c^2 . Similarly, given an independence relation \downarrow , we write $a \sim_c^\downarrow b$ if a and b are on some strong 2- \downarrow_c -Morley sequence and \equiv_c^\downarrow for its transitive closure. Finally, we write $a \equiv_c^B b$ if a and b are equivalent for every bounded invariant relation over c .

One easily verifies that \equiv^2 and \equiv^B are equivalence relations over any C . For \equiv^\downarrow we may generally not have reflexivity, but we will have that in the situations we are interested in. In particular, Lemma 8.11 shows that \equiv^\downarrow has reflexivity over models.

THEOREM 8.7. Let (C, \mathcal{M}) be an AECat with AP, and suppose that \downarrow is a basic independence relation that also satisfies 3-AMALGAMATION. Then the following are equivalent for any $(a, b, c; M)$:

- (i) $\text{Lgtp}(a/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(b/c; M)$;

- (ii) $a \equiv_c^B b$, so a and b are equivalent under every bounded invariant equivalence relation over C ;
- (iii) $a \equiv_c^2 b$, so a and b can be connected by strongly 2- c -indiscernible sequences.

Comparing the above statement to Definition 8.1 we see great similarity, but to prove the equivalence in Definition 8.1 no independence relation was needed. In this very general setting we use the independence relation as a replacement for the uses compactness. Proving the equivalence of the above conditions without a nice independence relation seems a lot harder, if not impossible in this generality.

REMARK 8.8. In Theorem 8.7 we only required \downarrow to have 3-AMALGAMATION. So the assumptions of the theorem do not mention anything about Lascar strong Galois types. That means that, in the presence of such an independence relation, we can take any of the equivalent conditions in Theorem 8.7 as the definition for Lascar strong Galois types, without any circularity in the definitions.

The remainder of this section is devoted to proving Theorem 8.7.

LEMMA 8.9. For any $(a, b, c; M)$ and any independence relation \downarrow we always have

$$a \equiv_c^\downarrow b \implies a \equiv_c^2 b \implies a \equiv_c^B b \implies \text{Lgtp}(a/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(b/c; M).$$

PROOF. The first implication follows because any strong 2- \downarrow_c -Morley sequence is in particular strongly 2- c -indiscernible. The final implication follows because having the same Lascar strong Galois type is a bounded invariant equivalence relation, see Example 8.4(iv). We prove the middle implication. So let \equiv be a bounded invariant equivalence relation over C . It is enough to prove that $a \sim_c^2 b$ implies $a \equiv_c b$. Let κ be the bound of \equiv . Since $a \sim_c^2 b$ we find a 2- c -indiscernible sequence $(a_i)_{i < \kappa^+}$ in some extension N of M with a and b on it. Without loss of generality we may assume $a_0 = a$ and $a_1 = b$. By boundedness we find $i < j < \kappa^+$ such that $a_i \equiv_c a_j$. By 2- c -indiscernibility we have $\text{gtp}(a, b, c; N) = \text{gtp}(a_i, a_j, c; N)$. So $a \equiv_c b$ follows from invariance. \dashv

LEMMA 8.10. Suppose that \downarrow is a basic independence relation that also satisfies 3-AMALGAMATION. Let m be an arrow with a model as domain and let $\delta \geq 2$ be any ordinal (possibly finite). Then any 2- \downarrow_m -Morley sequence $(a_i)_{i < \delta}$ is a strong 2- \downarrow_m -Morley sequence. In particular $a \downarrow_m^N b$ and $\text{gtp}(a, m; N) = \text{gtp}(b, m; N)$ implies $a \sim_m^\downarrow b$.

PROOF. By Remark 7.3 we can apply Lemma 7.2, the generalised independence theorem, while avoiding referring to Lascar strong Galois types. We can thus inductively apply Lemma 7.2 to elongate $(a_i)_{i < \delta}$ to any length we want. We do this by letting a_0, a_1 and m play the roles of b, a and c respectively. The final claim follows because in that case (a, b) is a 2- \downarrow_m -Morley sequence of length two. \dashv

LEMMA 8.11. Suppose that \downarrow is a basic independence relation that also satisfies 3-AMALGAMATION. If $\text{gtp}(a, m; N) = \text{gtp}(b, m; N)$, where $\text{dom}(m)$ is a model, then $a \equiv_m^\downarrow b$.

PROOF. By EXISTENCE we have $a \downarrow_m^N m$, so we can apply EXTENSION to find $N \rightarrow N'$ and some $(a'; N')$ such that $a' \downarrow_m^{N'} N$ while $\text{gtp}(a', m; N') = \text{gtp}(a, m; N')$. By

MONOTONICITY we then have $a' \downarrow_m^{N'} a$ and $a' \downarrow_m^{N'} b$. So by Lemma 8.10 we have $a \sim_m^\downarrow a' \sim_m^\downarrow b$, and we are done. \dashv

PROOF OF THEOREM 8.7. By Lemma 8.9 we only need to prove that $\text{Lgtp}(a/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(b/c; M)$ implies $a \equiv_c^2 b$. It is enough to prove that $(a/c; M) \sim_{\text{Lgtp}} (b/c; M)$ implies $a \equiv_c^2 b$. So let $M \rightarrow N$ be an extension and let $m_0 : M_0 \rightarrow N$ be such that c factors through m_0 , M_0 is a model and $\text{gtp}(a, m_0; N) = \text{gtp}(b, m_0; N)$. Then by Lemma 8.11 we get $a \equiv_{m_0}^\downarrow b$. So by Lemma 8.9 we have $a \equiv_{m_0}^2 b$. Any strongly 2- m_0 -indiscernible sequence is also strongly 2- c -indiscernible, because c factors through m_0 . So we conclude that indeed $a \equiv_c^2 b$. \dashv

REMARK 8.12. The proof of Theorem 8.7 also shows that if $\text{dom}(c)$ is a model then $\text{Lgtp}(a/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(b/c; M)$ is further equivalent to $a \equiv_c^\downarrow b$.

REMARK 8.13. We have stated Theorem 8.7 for single arrows, rather than for tuples of arrows. We briefly sketch how we can get the result for tuples of arrows as well. That is, if we replace a, b and c by $(a_i)_{i \in I}, (b_i)_{i \in I}$ and $(c_j)_{j \in J}$ respectively.

First we extend the definitions of (strongly) 2-indiscernible, \equiv^2 and \equiv^B to tuples of arrows in a straightforward way. Then following the same proof as in Lemma 8.9 we get:

$$\begin{aligned} (a_i)_{i \in I} \equiv_{(c_j)_{j \in J}}^2 (b_i)_{i \in I} & \implies \\ (a_i)_{i \in I} \equiv_{(c_j)_{j \in J}}^B (b_i)_{i \in I} & \implies \\ \text{Lgtp}((a_i)_{i \in I} / (c_j)_{j \in J}; M) = \text{Lgtp}((b_i)_{i \in I} / (c_j)_{j \in J}; M). \end{aligned}$$

So we are left to prove that $\text{Lgtp}((a_i)_{i \in I} / (c_j)_{j \in J}; M) = \text{Lgtp}((b_i)_{i \in I} / (c_j)_{j \in J}; M)$ implies $(a_i)_{i \in I} \equiv_{(c_j)_{j \in J}}^2 (b_i)_{i \in I}$. It is enough to prove that $((a_i)_{i \in I} / (c_j)_{j \in J}; M) \sim_{\text{Lgtp}} ((b_i)_{i \in I} / (c_j)_{j \in J}; M)$ implies $(a_i)_{i \in I} \equiv_{(c_j)_{j \in J}}^2 (b_i)_{i \in I}$. So let $M \rightarrow N$ be an extension and let $m_0 : M_0 \rightarrow N$ be such that all arrows in $(c_j)_{j \in J}$ factor through m_0 , M_0 is a model and $\text{gtp}((a_i)_{i \in I}, m_0; N) = \text{gtp}((b_i)_{i \in I}, m_0; N)$. Pick some $d : D \rightarrow N$ such that every arrow in $(a_i)_{i \in I}$ factors through d . We then find an extension $N \rightarrow N'$ and $d' : D \rightarrow N'$ such that every arrow in $(b_i)_{i \in I}$ factors through d' and $\text{gtp}(d, m_0; N) = \text{gtp}(d', m_0; N')$. Now we can apply the original result Theorem 8.7 to obtain $d \equiv_{m_0}^2 d'$ and hence $(a_i)_{i \in I} \equiv_{(c_j)_{j \in J}}^2 (b_i)_{i \in I}$, as required.

REMARK 8.14. We only assumed 3-AMALGAMATION. If we also assume INDEPENDENCE THEOREM together with $\text{base}(\downarrow) = \mathcal{C}$ we get a little bit more, namely that $\text{Lgtp}(a/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(b/c; M)$ is further equivalent to $a \equiv_c^\downarrow b$. This happens for example in any simple thick positive theory where \downarrow is the usual dividing independence (see Example 7.9).

The proof of this is largely the same as the proof in this section. We sketch where some changes would need to be made. We adjust Lemma 8.10 as follows: any 2- \downarrow_c -Morley sequence $(a_i)_{i < \delta}$ such that $\text{Lgtp}(a_i/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(a_j/c; M)$ for all $i < j < \delta$ is a strong 2- \downarrow_c -Morley sequence. Here the extra assumption “ $\text{Lgtp}(a_i/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(a_j/c; M)$ ” is necessary to still apply Lemma 7.2, and so the proof goes through.

Then Lemma 8.11 can be restated as $\text{Lgtp}(a/c; M) = \text{Lgtp}(b/c; M)$ implies $a \equiv_c^\perp b$. The only change in the proof is that we need to apply strong extension, Corollary 4.13. This then already concludes the proof.

This also tells us that in this case we will need at most two strong $2\text{-}\perp_c$ -Morley sequences to connect a and b , whenever they have the same Lascar strong Galois type. That is, there is some a' in an extension of M such that $a \sim_c^\perp a' \sim_c^\perp b$. In particular this also means that we need at most two strongly $2\text{-}c$ -indiscernible sequences to connect a and b , because strong $2\text{-}\perp_c$ -Morley sequences are in particular strongly $2\text{-}c$ -indiscernible.

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