

## On categoricity of atomic AEC

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### Abstract

In recent years, the results about atomic abstract elementary class were summarized by J.T.Baldin [1]. In that book, categoricity problem of atomic AEC is discussed mainly under the assumption of atomic  $\omega$ -stability (or  $*$ -excellence). I tried the argument around the problem under some weaker conditions.

### 1. Atomic AEC and splitting

We recall some definitions.

**Definition 1** A class of structures  $(\mathbf{K}, \prec_{\mathbf{K}})$  (of a language  $L$ ) is an *abstract elementary class (AEC)* if the class  $\mathbf{K}$  and class of pairs satisfying the binary relation  $\prec_{\mathbf{K}}$  are each closed under isomorphism and satisfy the following conditions ;

A1. If  $M \prec_{\mathbf{K}} N$ , then  $M \subseteq N$ .

A2.  $\prec_{\mathbf{K}}$  is a partial order on  $\mathbf{K}$ .

A3. If  $\{A_i : i < \delta\}$  is a  $\prec_{\mathbf{K}}$ -increasing chain :

(1)  $\bigcup_{i < \delta} A_i \in \mathbf{K}$

(2) for each  $j < \delta$ ,  $A_j \prec_{\mathbf{K}} \bigcup_{i < \delta} A_i$

(3) if each  $A_i \prec_{\mathbf{K}} M \in \mathbf{K}$ , then  $\bigcup_{i < \delta} A_i \prec_{\mathbf{K}} M$ .

A4. If  $A, B, C \in \mathbf{K}$ ,  $A \prec_{\mathbf{K}} C$ ,  $B \prec_{\mathbf{K}} C$  and  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $A \prec_{\mathbf{K}} B$ .

A5. There is a Löwenheim-Skolem number  $LS(\mathbf{K})$  such that if  $A \subseteq B \in \mathbf{K}$ , there is an  $A' \in \mathbf{K}$  with  $A \subseteq A' \prec_{\mathbf{K}} B$  and  $|A'| \leq |A| + LS(\mathbf{K})$ .

**Definition 2** We say an AEC  $(\mathbf{K}, \prec_{\mathbf{K}})$  is *atomic* if  $\mathbf{K}$  is the class of atomic models of a countable complete first order theory and  $\prec_{\mathbf{K}}$  is first order elementary submodel.

In the following,  $\mathbf{K}$  denotes an atomic AEC.

**Definition 3** Let  $T$  be a countable first order theory.

A set  $A$  contained in a model  $M$  of  $T$  is *atomic* if every finite sequence in

$A$  realizes a principal type over the empty set.

Let  $A$  be an atomic set.

$S_{at}(A)$  is the collection of  $p \in S(A)$  such that if  $a \in \mathcal{M}$  realizes  $p$ ,  $Aa$  is atomic ( where  $\mathcal{M}$  is the big model ).

We refer to a  $p \in S_{at}(A)$  as an *atomic type*.

We consider the notion of stability for atomic types.

**Definition 4** The atomic class  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $\lambda$  – stable if for every  $M \in \mathbf{K}$  of cardinality  $\lambda$ ,  $|S_{at}(M)| = \lambda$ .

**Example 5** ([1]) 1. Let  $\mathbf{K}_1$  be the class of atomic models of the theory of dense linear order without endpoints. Then  $\mathbf{K}_1$  is not  $\omega$ –stable.

2. Let  $\mathbf{K}_2$  be the class of atomic models of the theory of the ordered Abelian group of rationals. Then  $\mathbf{K}_2$  is  $\omega$ –stable.

The notion of independence by splitting is available in this context.

**Definition 6** A complete type  $p$  over  $B$  splits over  $A \subset B$  if there are  $b, c \in B$  which realize the same type over  $A$  and a formula  $\phi(x, y)$  such that  $\phi(x, b) \in p$  and  $\neg\phi(x, c) \in p$ .

Let  $A, B, C$  be atomic.

We write  $A \perp_C B$  and say  $A$  is independent from  $B$  over  $C$  if for any finite sequence  $a \in A$ ,  $\text{tp}_{at}(a/B)$  does not split over some finite subset of  $C$ .

**Fact 7** ([1]) Under the atomic  $\omega$ –stable assumption of  $(\mathbf{K}, \prec_{\mathbf{K}})$  (and some assumption of parameters), the independence relation by splitting (over models) satisfies almost all forking axioms.

**Theorem 8** ([1]) If  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $\omega$ –stable and has a model of power  $\aleph_1$ , then it has a model of power  $\aleph_2$ .

## 2. Atomic AEC without infinite splitting chain

In Baldwin’s book [1] they argue the categoricity of atomic AEC under  $\omega$ –stability assumption of atomic types. I considered the same problem under some weaker conditions.

**Definition 9** Let  $\mathbf{K}$  be an atomic AEC and  $M \in \mathbf{K}$ .

$M$  has no infinite splitting chain if for any nonalgebraic  $p \in S_{at}(M)$ , there is no increasing sequence  $\{A_i\}_{i < \omega} (\subset M)$  such that  $p \upharpoonright A_{i+1}$  splits over  $A_i$  for all  $i < \omega$ .

We can prove the next facts.

**Fact 10** *If  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $\omega$ -stable, then no model of  $\mathbf{K}$  has infinite splitting chain.*

**Fact 11** *Under the assumption that  $(\mathbf{K}, \prec_{\mathbf{K}})$  has no infinite splitting chain, the independence relation by splitting (over models) satisfies almost all forking axioms.*

### 3. Existence of pregeometry

In [1], categoricity of atomic AEC are proved by means of the fact that every model is prime and minimal over a basis of some pregeometry given by a quasi-minimal set. So I tried to define pregeometry in the present context.

At first we prove the next proposition which is some modification of Theorem 8 above.

**Proposition 12** *If there are  $N \in \mathbf{K}$  with  $|N| > \aleph_0$  and a nonalgebraic type  $p(x) \in S_{at}^1(N)$  such that  $N$  has no infinite splitting chain.*

*Then there are  $M \in \mathbf{K}$  with  $|M| = \aleph_2$  and a nonalgebraic type  $q(x) \in S_{at}^1(M)$  such that  $M$  has no infinite splitting chain and  $q$  does not split over some  $b \in M$ , and  $q \upharpoonright b$  has a Morley sequence  $I$  in  $M$  with  $|I| = \aleph_2$ .*

*Moreover if  $|N| = \aleph_1$ , then we can take  $M$  such that  $N \prec M$ .*

In this note, Morley sequence means the sequence constructed by non-splitting extensions. Thus Morley sequences are indiscernible.

**Lemma 13** *Let  $M \in \mathbf{K}$  and  $p(x) \in S_{at}(M)$ .*

*Suppose that  $M$  has no infinite splitting chain and  $p$  does not split over some  $b \in M$ .*

*And let  $I = \{a_i : i < \alpha\}$  be a Morley sequence of  $p \upharpoonright b$  in  $M$ .*

*Then  $I$  is totally indiscernible.*

In [8], they characterized generically stable types. We try to modify the notion in this context.

**Definition 14** *Let  $M \in \mathbf{K}$ .*

*A nonalgebraic type  $p(x) \in S_{at}(M)$  is generically stable in  $M$  if for some  $A \subset M$ ,  $p$  does not split over  $A$  and if  $I = \{a_i : i < \alpha\}$  is a Morley sequence of  $p \upharpoonright A$  in  $M$ , then for any  $\phi(x) \in L(M)$ -formula,  $\{i : M \models \phi(a_i)\}$  is either finite or co-finite.*

We can prove the next lemma.

**Lemma 15** *Let  $M \in \mathbf{K}$  and  $q(x) \in S_{at}^1(M)$  be in Proposition 12.*

*Then  $q$  is generically stable in  $M$ .*

*Moreover if  $q$  does not split over  $b$ , then  $q$  is definable over  $b$  and  $q \upharpoonright b$  is stationary w.r.t. nonsplitting extension.*

We recall the definition of pregeometry.

**Definition 16** Let  $X$  be an infinite set and  $\text{cl}$  a function from  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  to  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  where  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  denotes the set of all subsets of  $X$ . If the function  $\text{cl}$  satisfies the following properties, we say  $(X, \text{cl})$  is *pregeometry*.

- (I)  $A \subset B \implies A \subset \text{cl}(A) \subset \text{cl}(B)$ ,
- (II)  $\text{cl}(\text{cl}(A)) = \text{cl}(A)$ ,
- (III) (Finite character)  $b \in \text{cl}(A) \implies b \in \text{cl}(A_0)$  for some finite  $A_0 \subset A$ ,
- (IV) (Exchange axiom)  
 $b \in \text{cl}(A \cup \{c\}) - \text{cl}(A) \implies c \in \text{cl}(A \cup \{b\})$ .

We define big type which is a modified notion in [1].

**Definition 17** Let  $a \in M$  and  $A \subset M \in \mathbf{K}$ .

A nonalgebraic atomic type  $\text{tp}_{\text{at}}(a/A)$  is *big* if there is an atomic model  $N \in \mathbf{K}$  such that  $A \subset N$  and  $\text{tp}_{\text{at}}(a/A)$  has a nonalgebraic atomic extension over  $N$ .

In the following we argue under the existence of uncountable model  $M \in \mathbf{K}$  and a nonalgebraic type  $p(x) \in S_{\text{at}}^1(M)$ . We may assume that  $p$  has what is called a minimal U-rank, or U-rank = 1.

**Lemma 18** Let  $\mathbf{K}$  has no infinite splitting chain and  $M \in \mathbf{K}$ . And let  $p(x) \in S_{\text{at}}^1(M)$  be nonalgebraic and  $p$  does not split over  $b$  for some  $b \in M$ .

Then  $p \upharpoonright b$  has an extension  $q(x) \in S_{\text{at}}^1(c)$  such that

$b \in c \in M$  and  $q$  is big, but any splitting extension of  $q$  is not big.

We may assume that the type  $q$  in Proposition 12 above has such property.

We define some closure operator.

**Definition 19** Let  $M \in \mathbf{K}$  and  $p(x) \in S_{\text{at}}^1(M)$ . And let  $p$  does not split over  $\emptyset$  (or some finite parameter) and  $p \upharpoonright \emptyset$  is stationary.

The operator  $cl_p$  is defined by ;

$cl_p^0(X) = X$  and  $cl_p^{n+1}(X) = \{a \in (p \upharpoonright \emptyset)(M) \mid a \notin (p \upharpoonright cl_p^n(X))(M)\}$ ,  
and  $cl_p(X) = \bigcup_{n < \omega} cl_p^n(X)$  for any  $X \subset (p \upharpoonright \emptyset)(M)$ .

We can prove the next fact.

**Theorem 20** Let  $\mathbf{K}$  has no infinite splitting chain and  $M \in \mathbf{K}$  (with  $|M| > \aleph_0$ ).

And let  $p(x) \in S_{\text{at}}^1(M)$  be a nonalgebraic type such that  $p$  does not split over  $\emptyset$  and  $p \upharpoonright \emptyset$  has no big splitting extension (or  $p$  has a minimal U-rank among such types).

Then  $((p \upharpoonright \emptyset)(M), cl_p)$  is pregeometry.

#### 4. Constructible sequence of atomic types

In the argument of categoricity for  $*$ -excellent AEC, prime models play a crucial role. Now we do not assume the existence of prime models. We try the analogous argument of  $F_{\kappa(T)}^a$ -prime models in some large atomic model.

First we check the next lemma.

**Lemma 21** ( *$\mathbf{K}$  has no infinite splitting chain.*)

Let  $M \in \mathbf{K}$ . And let  $A \subset B \subset M$  and  $a$  be such that  $\text{tp}_{at}(a/A)$  has a nonsplitting extension over  $B$  (or  $A \leq_{TV} B$ ) and  $\text{tp}_{at}(a/A)$  is stationary.

Then the following are equivalent ;

- (i)  $\text{tp}_{at}(a/A) \vdash \text{tp}_{at}(a/B)$
- (ii) For any  $a'$  such that  $\text{tp}_{at}(a'/A) = \text{tp}_{at}(a/A)$ ,  $\text{tp}_{at}(a'/B)$  does not split over  $A$ .

I define some isolation of atomic types.

**Definition 22** Let  $a \in M \in \mathbf{K}$  and  $A \subset M$ .

A type  $\text{tp}_{at}(a/A)$  is *quasi-isolated* if there is  $b \in M$  such that  $\text{tp}_{at}(a/b) \vdash \text{tp}_{at}(a/A)$ .

A sequence  $\{c_i : i < \alpha\} \subset M$  is *quasi-constructible over  $A$*  if, for any  $\beta < \alpha$ ,  $\text{tp}_{at}(c_\beta/A \cup \{c_i : i < \beta\})$  is quasi-isolated.

$M$  is *quasi-constructible over  $A$*  if  $M \setminus A$  can be written as a quasi-constructible sequence.

We can prove the next proposition by using Lemma 21 above.

**Proposition 23** Let  $\mathbf{K}$  has no infinite splitting chain and  $N \in \mathbf{K}$  (with  $|N| > \aleph_0$ ).

And let a nonalgebraic  $p(x) \in S_{at}^1(N)$  be such that  $p$  does not split over  $\emptyset$  and  $p$  has no big splitting extension (or  $p$  has a minimal  $U$ -rank among such types).

(Suppose that  $p \upharpoonright \emptyset$  has a Morley sequence  $I$  with  $|I| > \aleph_0$  in  $N$ .)

Then for any basis  $J$  of  $((p \upharpoonright \emptyset)(N), cl_p)$ , there is a quasi-constructible model over  $J$  in  $N$ .

#### 5. Categoricity in some large atomic model

At first we recall the definition of Vaughtian triple from [1]. Note that the notion *big* is modified here.

**Definition 24** A triple  $(M, N, \phi)$  is called a *Vaughtian triple* if  $\phi(M) = \phi(N)$  where  $M \prec N \in \mathbf{K}$  with  $M \neq N$  and  $L(M)$ -formula  $\phi$  is big.

In this chapter, we assume that  $\mathbf{K}$  has no infinite splitting chain where  $\mathbf{K}$  is an atomic AEC. Under this condition we can prove some results about the two cardinal problem.

I tried the argument of categoricity in this context by means of quasi-constructible model. But I do not have the settled result yet. At present I can prove the next theorem by the properties of generically stable types.

If we try to extend the categoricity result to the whole  $\mathbf{K}$ , we need some additional conditions, such as amalgamation property of models, and any atomic set is included in an atomic model, and so on.

In the next Theorem 25,  $p \upharpoonright \emptyset$  has a Morley sequence  $I$  in  $N$  with  $|I| = |N|$ .

**Theorem 25** *Let  $\mathbf{K}$  has no infinite splitting chain and  $N \in \mathbf{K}$  such that ( $|N| > \aleph_0$  and ) there is no Vaughtian triple in  $N$ .*

*And let  $p(x) \in S_{at}^1(N)$  be nonalgebraic such that  $p$  does not split over  $\emptyset$  and  $p \upharpoonright \emptyset$  has no big spitting extension ( or  $p$  has a minimal  $U$ -rank among such types ).*

*Then for  $M_i \prec N$  ( $i < 2$ ) with  $|M_0| = |M_1|$ ,  $M_0 \cong M_1$ .*

## 6. Example of Shelah et al.

Shelah's original work ([4],[5]) showed that categoricity up to  $\aleph_\omega$  of a sentence in  $L_{\omega_1, \omega}$  implies categoricity in all uncountable cardinalities. Shelah and Hart showed the necessity of the assumption by constructing some example ([6]). This example is adapted by Baldwin and Kolesnikov ([1],[2]).

We can not recall the definition of it and details here.

**Theorem 26** ([1],[2]) *For each  $k < \omega$ , there is a  $L_{\omega_1, \omega}$ -sentence  $\phi_{k+2}$  such that :*

*$\phi_{k+2}$  is categorical in  $\mu$  if  $\mu \leq \aleph_k$ , and  
 $\phi_{k+2}$  is not categorical in any  $\mu$  with  $\mu > \aleph_k$ .*

And they proved the next proposition in [2].

**Proposition 27** ([2]) *Let  $M$  be the standard model of  $\phi_{k+2}$  of size  $\aleph_k$ . Then there are  $2^{\aleph_k}$  Galois types over  $M$ .*

This structure is expanded to be an atomic model. And we can check the next fact.

**Fact 28** *Let  $M$  and  $\phi_{k+2}$  be the  $L_{\omega_1, \omega}$ -sentence in the Proposition 27 above. Then  $M$  has an infinite splitting chain ( in the expanded language ).*

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