

# Uniformly locally o-minimal structures of the second kind and their tame topology

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## 概要

This paper is a brief survey on a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind for non-specialists of model theory. An o-minimal structure enjoys tame topological properties such as monotonicity theorem and definable cell decomposition theorem. A uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind is a new variant of o-minimal structure. A uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind enjoys the local versions of tame topological properties possessed by an o-minimal structure. It enables to develop a tame dimension theory for definable sets.

## 1 Introduction

This paper is a survey on a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind for non-specialists of model theory. The definition of a structure given here is slightly different from the original definition in model theory. A reader who has interest in model theory should consult textbooks such as [1, 17, 19].

The notation  $\mathbb{N}$  denotes the set of positive integers. In this paper, a *structure* is a pair  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S} = \{\mathfrak{S}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$  of a set  $M$  and the collection  $\mathfrak{S}$  of families  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  of subsets of  $M^n$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (i) The empty set and  $M^n$  are members of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The set  $\{(x, y) \in$

- $M^2 \mid x = y\}$  is also a member of  $\mathfrak{S}_2$ .
- (ii) The families  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  are closed under the boolean algebra for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
  - (iii) The Cartesian product  $S_1 \times S_2$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{S}_{m+n}$  if  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are members of  $\mathfrak{S}_m$  and  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ , respectively.
  - (iv) Let  $\pi : M^n \rightarrow M^m$  be a coordinate projection and let  $X$  be a member of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ . Then, the projection image  $\pi(X)$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{S}_m$ .
  - (v) Let  $\sigma$  be a permutation of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . We define the map  $\bar{\sigma} : M^n \rightarrow M^n$  by  $\bar{\sigma}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)})$ . We have  $\bar{\sigma}(X) \in \mathfrak{S}_n$  if  $X \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ .

When a structure  $\mathcal{M}$  is given, the set  $M$  is called the *universe* or the *underlying set* of the structure  $\mathcal{M}$ . Members in  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  are called *definable sets*. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be definable sets. A map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called *definable* if its graph is a definable set.

We sometimes need to consider the family of structures such that some sets other than those given in (i) are definable. When  $M$  is a densely linearly ordered set with the order  $<$ , a structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S})$  is called an *expansion* of a dense linear order if the set  $\{(x, y) \mid x < y\}$  is definable. When  $(M, \cdot)$  is a group, a structure  $\mathcal{M}$  with the universe  $M$  is called an *expansion* of a group if the set  $\{(x, y, z) \in M^3 \mid x \cdot y = z\}$  is definable. We define an expansion of an ordered group, an expansion of an ordered field and so on in the same manner.

An *o-minimal* structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S})$  is an expansion of a dense linear order without endpoints such that

- (vi) any definable subset of  $M$  is a finite union of points and open intervals.

An open interval is a subset of  $M$  of the form  $\{x \in M \mid a < x < b\}$ , where  $a \in M \cup \{-\infty\}$  and  $b \in M \cup \{+\infty\}$ . Definable sets and definable maps in an o-minimal structures are well-behaved. For instance, for a unary definable function  $f : M \rightarrow M$ , the domain of definition  $M$  is decomposed into finite points and open intervals such that the restriction of  $f$  to the open intervals are monotone and continuous. It is called the monotonicity theorem. The definable cell decomposition theorem for o-minimal structures guarantees that any definable set is a finite union of good-shaped definable sets called ‘cells.’ Readers who are interested in o-minimal structures should consult van den Dries’s book [4] and Coste’s book [2]. The paper [5] is also recommended.

Many structures relaxing the condition (vi) are proposed and investigated such

as weakly o-minimal structures [16], locally o-minimal structures [21] and structures having (locally) o-minimal open cores [3, 6]. A locally o-minimal structure is defined by localizing the condition (vi). A *locally o-minimal structure* is an expansion of a dense linear order without endpoints satisfying the following condition:

- (vi)' Let  $X$  be a definable subset of  $M$ . For any  $x \in M$ , there exists an open interval  $I$  containing the point  $x$  such that  $X \cap I$  is a finite union of points and open intervals.

Unfortunately, even a localized version of monotonicity theorem is unavailable in a general local o-minimal structure [21, Proposition 2.11]. This is the reason why the author proposed a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind in [8]. A local monotonicity theorem holds true in a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind [8, Corollary 3.1]. A definably complete locally o-minimal structure admits local definable cell decomposition if and only if it is a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind [8, Corollary 4.1]. This paper summarizes the results on uniformly locally o-minimal structures of the second kind including the above theorems. It is a survey paper, and does not give a new insight on uniformly locally o-minimal structures of the second kind.

This paper is organized as follows. We first define a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind and related structures in Section 2. Topology of definable sets in a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind is discussed in Section 3. We develop a dimension theory for definable sets in a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind in Section 4 using the results of Section 3. We conclude this paper with remarks in Section 5.

## 2 Basic Definitions

We first review the definitions given in [18, 21, 15, 8].

**Definition 2.1.** We consider an expansion  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S})$  of a dense linear order without endpoints. It is *definably complete* if every definable subset of  $M$  has both a supremum and an infimum in  $M \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  [18]. A definably complete expansion of an ordered group is divisible and abelian [18, Proposition 2.2].

We review the definition of locally o-minimal structures. The structure  $\mathcal{M}$  is *locally o-minimal* if, for every definable subset  $X$  of  $M$  and for every point  $a \in M$ , there exists an open interval  $I$  containing the point  $a$  such that  $X \cap I$  is a finite union of points and open intervals. A locally o-minimal structure  $\mathcal{M}$  is *strongly locally o-minimal* if, for every point  $a \in M$ , there exists an open interval  $I$  containing the point  $a$  such that  $X \cap I$  is a finite union of points and open intervals for every definable subset  $X$  of  $M$ .

A locally o-minimal structure  $\mathcal{M}$  is a *uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the first kind* if, for any positive integer  $n$ , any definable set  $X \subset M^{n+1}$  and  $a \in M$ , there exists an open interval  $I$  containing the point  $a$  such that the definable sets  $X_y \cap I$  are finite unions of points and open intervals for all  $y \in M^n$ . Here,  $X_y$  denotes the fiber  $\{x \in M \mid (x, y) \in X\}$ . A uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the first kind is called a uniformly locally o-minimal structure in [15].

A locally o-minimal structure  $\mathcal{M}$  is a *uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind* if, for any positive integer  $n$ , any definable set  $X \subset M^{n+1}$ ,  $a \in M$  and  $b \in M^n$ , there exist an open interval  $I$  containing the point  $a$  and an open box  $B$  containing  $b$  such that the definable sets  $X_y \cap I$  are finite unions of points and open intervals for all  $y \in B$ .

We frequently consider a definably complete uniformly locally o-minimal expansion of the second kind of an ordered group. We simply call it a *DCULOAS structure* in this paper.

A locally o-minimal structure whose universe is the set of reals  $\mathbb{R}$  is strongly locally o-minimal [21, Corollary 3.4]. A strongly locally o-minimal structure is always a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the first kind. But the converse is not true in general. A definably complete uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the first kind which is not strongly o-minimal is found in [8, Example 2.4]. A uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the first kind is a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind. The converse is not true, neither. A counterexample is [8, Example 2.3]. A locally o-minimal structure is not necessarily a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind. Its counterexample is [8, Example 2.2].

The following proposition indicates that it is futile to consider a uniformly locally o-minimal expansion of the second kind of an ordered field.

**Proposition 2.2** ([8, Proposition 2.1]). *A uniformly locally o-minimal expansion of the second kind of an ordered field is o-minimal.*

### 3 Tame topology

The following is the local monotonicity theorem for uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind.

**Theorem 3.1** (Local monotonicity theorem). *Consider a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S})$ . Let  $I$  be an interval and  $f : I \rightarrow M$  be a definable function. For any  $(a, b) \in M^2$ , there exist an open interval  $J_1$  containing the point  $a$ , an open interval  $J_2$  containing the point  $b$  and a mutually disjoint definable partition*

$$f^{-1}(J_2) \cap J_1 = X_d \cup X_c \cup X_+ \cup X_-$$

*satisfying the following conditions:*

- (1) *the definable set  $X_d$  is discrete and closed;*
- (2) *the definable set  $X_c$  is open and  $f$  is locally constant on  $X_c$ ;*
- (3) *the definable set  $X_+$  is open and  $f$  is locally strictly increasing and continuous on  $X_+$ ;*
- (4) *the definable set  $X_-$  is open and  $f$  is locally strictly decreasing and continuous on  $X_-$ .*

*Furthermore, if the structure  $\mathcal{M}$  is a DCULOAS structure, we can choose  $J_1 = I$  and  $J_2 = M$ .*

This theorem is first proved in [15, Proposition 11] only for strongly locally o-minimal structures. For any point  $a \in M^n$ , there exists an open box  $B$  such that the intersection of  $B$  with a definable subset of  $M^n$  in the given strongly locally o-minimal structure is a definable subset in an o-minimal structure having the same universe [15, Theorem 9]. The above theorem for strongly locally o-minimal structures is a direct corollary of it and the monotonicity theorem for o-minimal structures. Theorem 3.1 is found in [8, Corollary 3.1] and its proof is not so easy. The ‘furthermore’ part follows from [10, Theorem 2.11, Proposition 2.13].

We review the definitions of cells and definable cell decomposition.

**Definition 3.2** (Definable cell decomposition). Consider an expansion of dense linear order  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S})$ . Let  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$  be a sequence of zeros and ones of length  $n$ .  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ -cells are definable subsets of  $M^n$  defined inductively as follows:

- A (0)-cell is a point in  $M$  and a (1)-cell is an open interval in  $M$ .
- An  $(i_1, \dots, i_n, 0)$ -cell is the graph of a continuous definable function defined on an  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ -cell. An  $(i_1, \dots, i_n, 1)$ -cell is a definable set of the form  $\{(x, y) \in C \times M \mid f(x) < y < g(x)\}$ , where  $C$  is an  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ -cell and  $f$  and  $g$  are definable continuous functions defined on  $C$  with  $f < g$ .

A cell is an  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ -cell for some sequence  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$  of zeros and ones. An open cell is a  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)$ -cell.

We inductively define a *definable cell decomposition* of an open box  $B \subset M^n$ . For  $n = 1$ , a definable cell decomposition of  $B$  is a partition  $B = \bigcup_{i=1}^m C_i$  into finite cells. For  $n > 1$ , a definable cell decomposition of  $B$  is a partition  $B = \bigcup_{i=1}^m C_i$  into finite cells such that  $\pi(B) = \bigcup_{i=1}^m \pi(C_i)$  is also a definable cell decomposition of  $\pi(B)$ , where  $\pi : M^n \rightarrow M^{n-1}$  is the projection forgetting the last coordinate. Given a finite family  $\{A_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  of definable subsets of  $B$ , a *definable cell decomposition of  $B$  partitioning  $\{A_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$*  is a definable cell decomposition of  $B$  such that the definable sets  $A_\lambda$  are unions of cells for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ .

In an o-minimal structure, global definable cell decomposition is available. It means that, for any finite family of definable subsets of  $M^n$ , there exists a definable cell decomposition of  $M^n$  partitioning the given family [4, Chapter 3, Cell decomposition theorem 2.11]. In a general local o-minimal structure, even local definable cell decomposition is unavailable. The following theorem says that it is available when the structure is a definably complete uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind.

**Theorem 3.3** (Local definable cell decomposition theorem). *Consider a strongly locally o-minimal structure or a definably complete uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S})$ .*

*Let  $\{A_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  be a finite family of definable subsets of  $M^n$ . For any point  $a \in M^n$ ,*

there exist an open box  $B$  containing the point  $a$  and a definable cell decomposition of  $B$  partitioning the finite family  $\{B \cap A_\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda \text{ and } B \cap A_\lambda \neq \emptyset\}$ .

This theorem is first proved in [15, Proposition 13] only for strongly locally o-minimal structures. It is also a direct corollary of [15, Theorem 9] and the definable cell decomposition theorem for o-minimal structures. The case in which the structure is a definably complete uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind is [8, Theorem 4.2].

**Definition 3.4.** A locally o-minimal structure *admits local definable cell decomposition* if the assertion in Theorem 3.3 hold true for all positive integers  $n$ .

When the structure is definably complete, we can get the following important corollary:

**Corollary 3.5** ([8, Corollary 4.1]). *A definably complete locally o-minimal structure admits local definable cell decomposition if and only if it is a uniformly locally o-minimal structure of the second kind.*

The local definable cell decomposition theorem (Theorem 3.3) cannot be extended to the global one. We want to decompose a definable set into finite good-shaped definable sets, which may not be as good-shaped as cells. One candidate is a quasi-special submanifold defined as follows:

**Definition 3.6** (Quasi-special submanifolds). Consider an expansion of a densely linearly order without endpoints  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S} = \{\mathfrak{S}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$ . Let  $X$  be a definable subset of  $M^n$  and  $\pi : M^n \rightarrow M^d$  be a coordinate projection. The definable set  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -*quasi-special submanifold* or simply a *quasi-special submanifold* if,  $\pi(X)$  is a definable open set and, for every point  $x \in \pi(X)$ , there exists an open box  $U$  in  $M^d$  containing the point  $x$  satisfying the following condition: For any  $y \in X \cap \pi^{-1}(x)$ , there exist an open box  $V$  in  $M^n$  and a definable continuous map  $\tau : U \rightarrow M^n$  such that  $\pi(V) = U$ ,  $\tau(U) = X \cap V$  and the composition  $\pi \circ \tau$  is the identity map on  $U$ .

Let  $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^m$  be a finite family of definable subsets of  $M^n$ . A *decomposition of  $M^n$  into quasi-special submanifolds partitioning  $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^m$*  is a finite family of quasi-special submanifolds  $\{C_i\}_{i=1}^N$  such that

- $\bigcup_{i=1}^N C_i = M^n$ ,
- $C_i \cap C_j = \emptyset$  when  $i \neq j$  and
- either  $C_i$  has an empty intersection with  $X_j$  or is contained in  $X_j$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $1 \leq j \leq N$ .

A decomposition  $\{C_i\}_{i=1}^N$  of  $M^n$  into quasi-special submanifolds *satisfies the frontier condition* if the closure of any quasi-special submanifold  $\overline{C_i}$  is the union of a subfamily of the decomposition.

The following theorem says that any definable set is a disjoint union of finite quasi-special submanifolds.

**Theorem 3.7** ([10, Theorem 4.5]). *Consider a DCULOAS structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S})$ . Let  $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^m$  be a finite family of definable subsets of  $M^n$ . There exists a decomposition  $\{C_i\}_{i=1}^N$  of  $M^n$  into quasi-special submanifolds partitioning  $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^m$  and satisfying the frontier condition. Furthermore, the number  $N$  of quasi-special submanifolds in the decomposition is not greater than the number uniquely determined only by  $m$  and  $n$ .*

## 4 Dimension theory

Assuming that the considered structure admits local definable cell decomposition, we can develop a good dimension theory. We first define the dimension of a definable set as follows.

**Definition 4.1** (Dimension of a definable set). Consider an expansion of dense linear order  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S} = \{\mathfrak{S}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$ . A definable set  $X \subset M^n$  is of  $\dim(X) \geq m$  if there exists an open box  $B \subset M^m$  and a definable continuous injective map  $f : B \rightarrow X$  which is homeomorphic onto its image. A definable set  $X \subset M^n$  is of  $\dim(X) = m$  if it is of  $\dim(X) \geq m$  and it is not of  $\dim(X) \geq m + 1$ . The empty set is defined to be of dimension  $-\infty$ .

The following corollary gives equivalent definitions of dimension.

**Corollary 4.2** ([8, Corollary 5.3]). *Consider a locally o-minimal structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S} = \{\mathfrak{S}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$  which admits local definable cell decomposition. The following*



conditions are equivalent for any definable subset  $X \subset M^n$ :

- $\dim(X) \geq m$ ;
- the definable set  $X$  contains an  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ -cell with  $\sum_{j=1}^n i_j \geq m$ , and
- there exist a coordinate projection  $\pi : M^n \rightarrow M^m$  and a point  $a \in M^n$  such that the definable set  $\pi(B \cap X)$  has a nonempty interior for any open box  $B$  containing the point  $a$ .

The dimension defined above possesses the good features which we naturally expect as in Theorem 4.3 and Theorem 4.5.

**Theorem 4.3** ([8, Lemma 5.1, Corollary 5.4, Theorem 5.6]). *Consider a locally o-minimal structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S} = \{\mathfrak{S}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$  which admits local definable cell decomposition. The following assertions hold true:*

- (1) *Let  $X \subset Y$  be definable sets. Then, the inequality  $\dim(X) \leq \dim(Y)$  holds true.*
- (2) *Let  $\sigma$  be a permutation of the set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . The definable map  $\bar{\sigma} : M^n \rightarrow M^n$  is defined by  $\bar{\sigma}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)})$ . Then, we have  $\dim(X) = \dim(\bar{\sigma}(X))$  for any definable subset  $X$  of  $M^n$ .*
- (3) *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be definable sets. We have  $\dim(X \times Y) = \dim(X) + \dim(Y)$ .*
- (4) *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be definable subsets of  $M^n$ . We have*

$$\dim(X \cup Y) = \max\{\dim(X), \dim(Y)\}.$$

- (5) *Let  $X$  be a definable set. The notation  $\partial X$  denotes the frontier of  $X$  defined by  $\partial X = \overline{X} \setminus X$ . We have  $\dim(\partial X) < \dim X$ .*

In the course of the proof of Theorem 4.5, we demonstrate the following strong definable Baire property, which is a definable variant of the famous Baire property.

**Proposition 4.4** (Strong definable Baire property, [9, Theorem 4.3]). *Consider a DCULOAS structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S} = \{\mathfrak{S}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$ . Take  $c \in M$ . Let  $\{X\langle r \rangle\}_{r > c}$  be a parameterized increasing family of definable sets of  $M^n$ ; that is, there exists a definable subset  $\mathcal{X}$  of  $M^{n+1}$  such that  $X\langle r \rangle$  coincides with the fiber  $\mathcal{X}_r$  for any  $r > c$  and we have  $X\langle r \rangle \subset X\langle s \rangle$  if  $r < s$ . Set  $X = \bigcup_{r > c} X\langle r \rangle$ . The definable set  $X\langle r \rangle$  has a nonempty interior for some  $r > c$  if  $X$  has a nonempty interior.*

Structures satisfying a weaker definable Baire property are discussed in [7, 14]

**Theorem 4.5** ([9, Theorem 1.1, Corollary 1.2], [10, Theorem 3.14]). *Consider a DCULOAS structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S} = \{\mathfrak{S}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$ . The following assertions hold true:*

- (1) *Let  $f : X \rightarrow M^n$  be a definable map. We have  $\dim(f(X)) \leq \dim X$ .*
- (2) *Let  $f : X \rightarrow M^n$  be a definable map. The notation  $\mathcal{D}(f)$  denotes the set of points at which the map  $f$  is discontinuous. We have  $\dim \mathcal{D}(f) < \dim X$ .*
- (3) *(Addition Property) Let  $\varphi : X \rightarrow Y$  be a definable surjective map whose fibers are equi-dimensional; that is, the dimensions of the fibers  $\varphi^{-1}(y)$  are constant. We have  $\dim X = \dim Y + \dim \varphi^{-1}(y)$  for all  $y \in Y$ .*

## 5 Remarks

We conclude this paper with several remarks. The most restrictive structure considered in this paper is a DCULOAS structure. However, by [10], all the assertions except the local definable cell decomposition theorem (Theorem 3.3) are satisfied in any definably complete locally o-minimal structure such that

- (\*) the image of a discrete definable set under a coordinate projection is again discrete.

A DCULOAS structure satisfies the condition (\*). Shoutens proposed a locally o-minimal structure called a *model of DCTC* [20]. A model of DCTC is a definably complete locally o-minimal structure with the property (\*). A locally o-minimal expansion of an ordered field falls into a model of DCTC.

A natural unsolved question is as follows:

*Conjecture.* Does any definably complete locally o-minimal structure satisfy the property (\*)?

The strongly locally o-minimal structure in [15, Example 12] is definably complete nor satisfies the property (\*), neither.

Since a DCULOAS structure has tame topological properties, definable functions are also expected to have tame properties. Definable equi-continuity is defined and investigated in [11]. A variant of the Arzela-Ascoli theorem is demonstrated in the

same paper.

Consider two structures  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \mathfrak{S} = \{\mathfrak{S}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$  and  $\mathcal{M}' = (M, \mathfrak{S}' = \{\mathfrak{S}'_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$  having the same universe  $M$ . When  $\mathfrak{S}$  is a subset of  $\mathfrak{S}'$ ,  $\mathcal{M}$  is called a *reduct* of  $\mathcal{M}'$ , and  $\mathcal{M}'$  is called an *expansion* of  $\mathcal{M}$ . For a given structure  $\mathcal{M}$ , the reduct generated by the open sets definable in  $\mathcal{M}$  is called the *open core* of  $\mathcal{M}$ . A sufficient condition for a structure having an o-minimal open core is discussed in [3]. Definably complete expansions of ordered fields having locally o-minimal open cores are treated in [6]. The author gave a sufficient condition for a structure having uniformly locally o-minimal open core of the first/second kind in [12].

A locally o-minimal structure whose universe is the set of reals  $\mathbb{R}$  is strongly o-minimal. It enjoys more tame condition called almost o-minimality.

**Definition 5.1.** An expansion of densely linearly ordered set without endpoints is *almost o-minimal* if any bounded definable set in  $M$  is a finite union of points and open intervals. Here,  $M$  is the universe of the expansion.

The notion of almost o-minimality was formulated in [13].

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