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Partition relations for cardinal numbers (In English)

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Small Greek letters denote ordinal numbers, small Roman letters denote cardinal numbers (i.e. initial ordinal), always $p, r, s < \omega_0$, $|X|$ is the cardinality of X , $[X]^r$ denotes the set of all r element subsets of X . The partition relations I, II, III are defined as follows. The relation I: $a \rightarrow (b_\nu)_{\nu < \lambda}^r$ holds true if and only if for every partition $[X]^r = \bigcup_{\nu < \lambda} J_\nu$, $|X| = a$, there is a $\nu_0 < \lambda$ and a subset $Y \subseteq X$ such that $|Y| = b$ and $[Y]^r \subseteq J_{\nu_0}$. The relation II: $a \rightarrow (b_\nu)_{\nu < \lambda}^{< \aleph_0}$ means that for every partition $[X]^{< \aleph_0} = \bigcup_{\nu < \lambda} J_\nu$, where $[X]^{< \aleph_0} = \bigcup_{r < \omega_0} [X]^r$, there exists a $\nu_0 < \lambda$ and a subset $Y \subseteq X$, $|Y| = b_{\nu_0}$ and $[Y]^{< \aleph_0} \subseteq J_{\nu_0}$. The relation III:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ \vdots \\ a_s \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} b_{0\nu} \\ \vdots \\ b_{s\nu} \end{pmatrix}_{\nu < \lambda}^{r_0, \dots, r_s}$$

is equivalent to the following condition. Let $|X_p| = a_p$ for $p \leq s$, X_p are disjoint, $[X_0, \dots, X_s]^{r_0, \dots, r_s} = \{X : X \subseteq X_0 \cup \dots \cup X_s, |X \cap X_p| = r_p \text{ for } p \leq s\} = \bigcup_{\nu < \lambda} J_\nu$. Then there exist sets $Y_r \subseteq X_r$, for $r \leq s$ and a $\nu_0 < \lambda$ such that $|Y_r| = b_{r\nu_0}$ for $r \leq s$ and

$$[Y_0, \dots, Y_s]^{r_0, \dots, r_s} \subseteq J_{\nu_0}.$$

"In this paper our first major aim is to discuss as completely as possible the relation I. Our most general results in this direction are stated in Theorems I and II, If we disregard cases when among the given cardinals there occur inaccessible numbers greater than \aleph_0 , and if we assume the General Continuum Hypothesis, then our results are complete for $r = 2, \dots$. It seems that there are only two essentially different methods for obtaining positive partition formulae: those given in Lemma 1 and those given in Lemma 3 ... In Lemma 5 we state powerful new methods for constructing examples of particular partitions which yield negative I-relation. ... Our second major aim is an investigation of the polarized partition relation III."

The exact formulation of the Lemma 1 is complicated; its contents may be shortly formulated as follows: in every sufficiently great tree, in which from every edge goes out a small number of branches, there is a large branche.

The simplest canonization lemma (the Lemma 3 proved using the Generalized Continuum Hypothesis) may be stated as follows: Let $|S| = a > a'$ (a' is the smallest cardinal with which a is cofinal); $r \geq 1$, $a = \sup\{a_\xi < a'\}$, $a_{\xi_1} < a_{\xi_2}$ for $\xi_1 < \xi_2 < a'$, $[S]^r = \bigcup_{\nu < \lambda} J_\nu$, $\lambda < a$. Then there are disjoint sets S_σ , $\sigma < a'$, $|S_\sigma| = a_\sigma$, $S_\sigma \subseteq S$ and for $X, Y \in [\bigcup_{\sigma < a'} S_\sigma]^r$, the relations $|X \cap S_\sigma| = |Y \cap S_\sigma|$ for $\sigma < a'$ are equivalent to the condition: there is a $\nu_0 < \lambda$ such that $X, Y \in J_{\nu_0}$.

Define $\alpha \dot{-} 1 = \alpha$ for α limit $\alpha \dot{-} 1 = \beta$ if and only if $\alpha = \beta + 1$, $\text{cr}(\alpha) = \text{cf}(\text{cf}(\alpha \dot{-} 1))$. Let us denote:

(R) $\aleph_{\beta+(r-2)} \rightarrow (b_\xi)_\xi^r < \lambda$,

(IA) $b_0 = \aleph_\beta$,

(IB) $b_\xi < \aleph_\beta$ for $\xi < \lambda$,

(CA) $\prod_{1 \leq \xi < \lambda} b_\xi \leq \aleph_{cr(\beta)}$,

(CB) $\prod_{\xi < \lambda} b_\xi < \aleph_\beta$,

(D) $r \geq 3$, $\beta > \text{cf}(\beta) > \text{cf}(\beta) - 1 > \text{cr}\beta$, $b_\xi < \aleph_0$ for $1 \leq \xi < \lambda$.

The first main theorem may be stated as follows. Let $\lambda \geq 2$, $2 \leq r < b_\xi \leq \aleph_\beta$ for $\xi < \lambda$. Assuming the Generalized Continuum Hypothesis we have:

- (i) If (IA) holds, (D) does not hold, then (R) implies (CA).
- (ii) If (IA) holds and $b_1 \geq \aleph_0$, then (R) implies (CA).
- (iii) If (IA) holds and \aleph'_β is not inaccessible, then (CA) implies (R).
- (iv) If (IA) holds and $b_\xi < \aleph'_\beta$ for $0 < \xi < \lambda$ then (CA) implies (R).
- (v) If (IB) holds, then (CB) is equivalent to (R).

Let us denote:

(IIA) $b_0 > \aleph_{\alpha \dot{-} (r-2)}$.

(IIB) $b_\xi \leq \aleph_\gamma$, $\xi < \lambda$, $\alpha = \gamma + s$, γ limit and $s < r - 2$.

(IIC1) $b_0 = \aleph_{\alpha \dot{-} (r-2)}$,

(IIC2) $b_\xi < \aleph_{\alpha \dot{-} (r-2)}$ for $\xi < \lambda$.

(R0) $\aleph_\alpha \rightarrow (b_\xi)_{\xi < \lambda}^r$.

The second main theorem: Let $\lambda \geq 2$, $2 \leq r < b_\xi \leq \aleph_\alpha$ for $\xi < \lambda$.

Assuming the Generalized Continuum Hypothesis we have:

- (i) If (IIA) holds, then (R0) is false.
- (ii) If (IIB) and (IIC1) hold, (R0) implies that $\aleph_{\alpha \dot{-} (r-2)}$ is inaccessible.
- (iii) If (IIB) and (IIC2) hold, then (R0) is equivalent to the condition $\prod_{\xi < \lambda} b_\xi < \aleph_{\alpha \dot{-} (r-2)}$.

The proofs are based on Lemmas 1, 2, 3 and 5. The Lemma 2 and 5 are the stepping-up and stepping-down Lemmas respectively, i.e. they are of the form "if $a \rightarrow (b_\xi)_{\xi < \lambda}^r$, then $a^+ \rightarrow (b_\xi + 1)_{\xi < \lambda}^{r+1}$ " and "if $a \not\rightarrow (b_\xi)_{\xi < \lambda}^r$, then $2^a \not\rightarrow (b_\xi + 1)_{\xi < \lambda}^{r+1}$ ", respectively (of course, under some assumptions).

A great part of the paper is devoted to the study of relations IV and V. The relation IV: $a \rightarrow [b_\xi]_{\xi < c}^r$ (relation V: $a \rightarrow [b]_{c,d}^r$) is equivalent to the condition: whenever $|S| = a$, $[S]^r = \bigcup_{\xi < c} J_\xi$, where the J_ξ are disjoint, then there are a set $X \subseteq S$ and a number $\xi_0 < c$ (a set $D \subseteq c$) such that $|X| = b_{\xi_0}$ and $[X]^r \cap J_{\xi_0} = \emptyset$ ($|X| = b$, $|D| \leq a$ and $[X]^r \subseteq \bigcup_{\xi \in D} J_\xi$). Some results (assuming the Generalized Continuum Hypothesis):

(i) $\aleph_{\alpha+1} \not\rightarrow [\aleph_{\alpha+1}]_{\aleph_{\alpha+1}}^2$ for any α .

(ii) Let $r \geq 2$ and $\alpha > \text{cf}(\alpha)$. Then $\aleph_\alpha \not\rightarrow [\aleph_\alpha]_{2^{r-1}}^r$.

(iii) If \aleph'_α is \aleph_0 or a measurable cardinal, then $\aleph_\alpha \rightarrow [\aleph_\alpha]_c^r$ for $c > 2^{r-1}$ and $\aleph_\alpha \rightarrow [\aleph_\alpha]_{c2^{r-1}}^r$ for $c < \aleph_\alpha$.

(iv) $\aleph_2 \rightarrow [\aleph_0, \aleph_1, \aleph_1]^3$.

On the other hand, there are many open problems, e.g. $\aleph_2 \rightarrow [\aleph_1]_4^3?$, $\aleph_3 \rightarrow [\aleph_1]_{\aleph_2, \aleph_0}^2?$

In the second part, the authors investigate the polarized partition relation

$\binom{a}{b} \rightarrow \binom{a_0, a_1}{b_0, b_1}$, i. e. a special case of the relation III. A complete discussion

is given, however, the results are not complete. Many other relations and problems are studied, but it is impossible to give a full list of them here.

Articles of (and about) **Paul Erdős** in Zentralblatt MATH

The paper is rather difficult to read and gives the impression of a condensed version of a monography.

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Classification:

05D10 Ramsey theory

03E05 Combinatorial set theory (logic)

04A20 Combinatorial set theory

03-02 Research monographs (mathematical logic)

05E10 Tableaux, etc.

04A10 Ordinal and cardinal numbers; generalizations