# A model-theoretic Baire category theorem for simple theories and its applications

## by

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**Abstract.** We prove a model-theoretic Baire category theorem for  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^{f}$ -sets in a countable simple theory in which the extension property is first-order and show some of its applications. We also prove a trichotomy for minimal types in countable nfcp theories: either every type that is internal in a minimal type is essentially 1-based by means of the forking topologies, or T interprets an infinite definable 1-based group of finite D-rank or T interprets a strongly minimal formula.

1. Introduction. The goal of this paper is to generalize a result from [S1] and to give some applications. In [S1] the first step for proving supersimplicity of countable unidimensional simple theories eliminating hyperimaginaries is to show the existence of an unbounded type-definable forking-open set (a set defined in terms of forking by formulas, see Definition 2.1) of bounded finite  $SU_{se}$ -rank (for definition see Section 4).

In this paper we develop a general framework for this kind of result. It is a new idea of a model-theoretic Baire category theorem, namely, one deals with certain "uniformly definable" family of generalized closed sets (in complicated "logic"); roughly speaking, given a partition of a complicated open set into countably many sets, each of which is the intersection of a "uniformly definable" family of generalized closed sets, one can find a forking-open set that is contained in some generalized closed set in one of these families. So, the main point is that we obtain a very nice set (forking-open), but we can only require that it be a subset of some generalized closed set in one of these families and not in its intersection. In particular, it is not just the usual Baire category theorem for a complicated topological space. The proof is quite similar to the proof in [S1] and has some important consequences, e.g. in a countable wnfcp theory if for every non-algebraic element a (even in some fixed non-empty  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -set) there is  $a' \in \operatorname{acl}(a) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)$  of finite SU-rank,

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then there exists a weakly minimal formula. We also prove a trichotomy for countable nfcp theories as indicated in the abstract.

We assume basic knowledge of simple theories. A good textbook on simple theories is [W]. The notations follow usual conventions. T will denote a complete first-order theory with no finite models in some language L. We will work in some large saturated model C of T (not necessarily with elimination of imaginaries, unless stated otherwise). Ordinals will be denoted by  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \ldots$  Sets  $A, B, C, \ldots$  will be small subsets of C, i.e. of cardinality strictly less than the cardinality of C. The letters  $a, b, c, \ldots$  denote finite tuples from C, and  $x, y, z, \ldots$  denote finite tuples of variables, unless stated otherwise. We use  $p, q, r, \ldots$  to denote types (possibly partial) over some set. For an invariant set V (over some small set) and n, we denote by  $V^n$  the set of n-tuples of realizations of V.

2. Preliminaries. The forking topology is introduced in [S0] and is a variant of Hrushovski's and Pillay's topologies from [H0] and [P0], respectively. In this section T is assumed to be simple and we work in a large saturated model C of T.

DEFINITION 2.1. Let  $A \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  and let x be a finite tuple of variables.

(1) An invariant set  $\mathcal{U}$  over A is said to be a basic  $\tau^f$ -open set over A if there is  $\phi(x, y) \in L(A)$  such that

 $\mathcal{U} = \{ a \mid \phi(a, y) \text{ forks over } A \}.$ 

Note that the family of basic  $\tau^{f}$ -open sets over A is closed under finite intersections, thus forms a basis for a unique topology on  $S_{x}(A)$ . An open set in this topology is called a  $\tau^{f}$ -open set over A or a forking-open set over A.

(2) An invariant set  $\mathcal{U}$  over A is said to be a basic  $\tau_{\infty}^{f}$ -open set over A if  $\mathcal{U}$  is a type-definable  $\tau^{f}$ -open set over A. The family of basic  $\tau_{\infty}^{f}$ -open sets over A is a basis for a unique topology on  $S_{x}(A)$ . An open set in this topology is called a  $\tau_{\infty}^{f}$ -open set over A.

Recall that a formula  $\phi(x, y) \in L$  is low in x if there exists  $k < \omega$  such that for every  $\emptyset$ -indiscernible sequence  $(b_i \mid i < \omega)$ , the set  $\{\phi(x, b_i) \mid i < \omega\}$  is inconsistent iff every subset of it of size k is inconsistent. T is low if every  $\phi(x, y)$  is low in x.

REMARK 2.2. Assume  $\phi(x,t) \in L$  is low in t and  $\psi(y,v) \in L$  is low in v  $(x \cap y, t \cap v \text{ may not be } \emptyset)$ . Then  $\theta(xy,tv) \equiv \phi(x,t) \lor \psi(y,v)$  is low in tv.

*Proof.* Let  $k_1 < \omega$  be a witness that  $\phi(x, t)$  is low in t and let  $k_2 < \omega$  be a witness that  $\psi(y, v)$  is low in v. Let  $k = k_1 + k_2 - 1$ . By adding dummy variables we may assume x = y and t = v (as tuples of variables).

Let  $(a_i | i < \omega)$  be indiscernible such that  $\{\phi(a_i, t) \lor \psi(a_i, t) | i < \omega\}$  is inconsistent. Thus, every subset of  $\{\phi(a_i, t) | i < \omega\}$  of size  $k_1$  is inconsistent, and every subset of  $\{\psi(a_i, t) | i < \omega\}$  of size  $k_2$  is inconsistent. Thus every subset of size k of  $\{\phi(a_i, t) \lor \psi(a_i, t) | i < \omega\}$  is inconsistent.

Here we state some basic facts about the  $\tau^{f}$ -topology.

REMARK 2.3. (1) The  $\tau^{f}$ -topology on  $S_{x}(A)$  refines the Stone topology of  $S_{x}(A)$  for all x, A.

(2) A basic  $\tau^f$ -open set in a low theory is type-definable and every Stoneclosed subset of  $(S_x(A), \tau^f)$  is a Baire topological space (i.e. the intersection of countably many dense open sets in it is dense) [S1, Remark 7.6].

(3) Let A be a small set. Let F(x, y) be a type-definable relation over A and let f(x) be an A-definable function. Let  $\Gamma_{F,f}(x) = \exists y \ (F(x, y) \land y \downarrow f(x))$ . Then  $\Gamma_{F,f}(x)$  is  $\tau^f$ -closed over A ([S0, Claim 2.5] is slightly dif-

ferent, but the proof is the same).

Recall the following definition from [S0] whose roots are in [H0].

DEFINITION 2.4. We say that the  $\tau^f$ -topologies over A are closed under projections (or T is PCFT over A) if for every  $\tau^f$ -open set  $\mathcal{U}(x, y)$  over Athe set  $\exists y \ \mathcal{U}(x, y)$  is  $\tau^f$ -open over A. We say that the  $\tau^f$ -topologies are closed under projections (or T is PCFT) if they are such over every set A.

In [BPV, Proposition 4.5] the authors proved the following equivalence which, for convenience, we will use as a definition (their definition involves extension with respect to pairs of models of T).

DEFINITION 2.5. We say that the extension property is first-order in T iff for any formulas  $\phi(x, y), \psi(y, z) \in L$  the relation  $Q_{\phi, \psi}$  defined by

 $Q_{\phi,\psi}(a)$  iff  $\phi(x,b)$  does not fork over a for every  $b \models \psi(y,a)$ 

is type-definable (here a can be an infinite tuple from C whose sorts are fixed). We say that T has wnfcp if T is low and the extension property is first-order in T.

REMARK 2.6. Recall that T has nfcp (non-finite cover property) iff for every formula  $\phi(x, y) \in L$  there exists  $k < \omega$  such that every set  $\{\phi(x, a_i) \mid i \in I\}$  of instances of  $\phi(x, y)$  is consistent iff every subset of it of size kis consistent. By a theorem of Shelah, T has nfcp iff T is stable and  $T^{\text{eq}}$ eliminates the quantifier  $\exists^{\infty}$  [Sh, Chapter 2, Theorems 4.2, 4.4]. Moreover, if T is stable then T has nfcp iff T has wnfcp [BPV].

FACT 2.7 ([S1, Corollary 3.13]). Suppose the extension property is first-order in T. Then T is PCFT.

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We say that an A-invariant set  $\mathcal{U}$  has finite SU-rank if  $SU(a/A) < \omega$ for all  $a \in \mathcal{U}$ , and has bounded finite SU-rank if there exists  $n < \omega$  such that  $SU(a/A) \leq n$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{U}$ . The existence of a  $\tau^f$ -open set of bounded finite SU-rank implies the existence of an SU-rank 1 formula (i.e. a weakly minimal formula):

FACT 2.8 ([S0, Proposition 2.13]). Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be an unbounded  $\tau^f$ -open set over some set A. Assume  $\mathcal{U}$  has bounded finite SU-rank. Then there exist a set  $B \supseteq A$  with  $|B \setminus A| < \omega$  and  $\theta(x) \in L(B)$  of SU-rank 1 such that  $\theta^{\mathcal{C}} \subseteq \mathcal{U} \cup \operatorname{acl}(B)$ .

In [S1] the class of  $\tilde{\tau}^f$ -sets and its subclass of  $\tilde{\tau}^f_{st}$ -sets were introduced. The class of  $\tilde{\tau}^f$ -sets is much wider than the class of basic  $\tau^f$ -open sets. Here we look at the intermediate class of  $\tilde{\tau}^f_{low}$ -sets.

DEFINITION 2.9. A relation  $V(x, z_1, \ldots, z_l)$  is said to be a  $pre-\tilde{\tau}^f$ -set relation over  $\emptyset$  if there are  $\theta(\tilde{x}, x, z_1, \ldots, z_l) \in L$  and  $\phi_i(\tilde{x}, y_i) \in L$  for  $0 \leq i \leq l$  such that for all  $a, d_1, \ldots, d_l$  from  $\mathcal{C}$  we have

$$V(a, d_1, \dots, d_l) \text{ iff } \exists \tilde{a} \left[ \theta(\tilde{a}, a, d_1, \dots, d_l) \land \bigwedge_{i=0}^{l} (\phi_i(\tilde{a}, y_i) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_i) \right]$$

(for i = 0 the sequence  $d_1 \dots d_i$  is interpreted as  $\emptyset$ ). If each  $\phi_i(\tilde{x}, y_i)$  is assumed to be low in  $y_i$ ,  $V(x, z_1, \dots, z_l)$  is said to be a *pre*- $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -set relation.

DEFINITION 2.10. (1) A  $\tilde{\tau}^{f}$ -set over  $\emptyset$  is a set of the form

 $\mathcal{U} = \{a \mid \exists d_1, \dots, d_l \ V(a, d_1, \dots, d_l)\}$ 

for some pre- $\tilde{\tau}^f$ -set relation  $V(x, z_1, \ldots, z_l)$ .

(2) A  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^{f}$ -set over  $\emptyset$  is a set of the form

 $\mathcal{U} = \{a \mid \exists d_1, \dots, d_l \ V(a, d_1, \dots, d_l)\}$ 

for some pre- $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -set relation  $V(x, z_1, \ldots, z_l)$ .

REMARK 2.11. Every  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^{f}$ -set is type-definable.

*Proof.* Let  $\phi(x, y) \in L$  be low in x. Let  $\Gamma_{\phi}(y, z)$  be the invariant relation defined by  $\Gamma_{\phi}(a, c)$  iff  $\phi(x, a)$  divides over c. Then  $\Gamma_{\phi}(y, z)$  is type-definable, so the claim follows by compactness.

**3. The Theorem.** In this section T is assumed to be a simple theory and we work in C (so, T not necessarily eliminates imaginaries).

DEFINITION 3.1. Let  $\Theta = \{\theta_i(x_i, x)\}_{i \in I}$  be a set of *L*-formulas such that  $\forall x \exists^{<\infty} x_i \ \theta_i(x_i, x)$  for all  $i \in I$ . Let *s* be the sort of *x*. For  $A \subseteq \mathcal{C}^s$ , let  $\operatorname{acl}_{\Theta}(A) = \{b \mid \theta_i(b, a) \text{ for some } \theta_i \in \Theta \text{ and } a \in A\}.$ 

DEFINITION 3.2. An invariant set  $\mathcal{U}(x, y_1, \ldots, y_r)$  is said to be a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -sets if there is a formula  $\rho(\tilde{x}, x, y_1, \ldots, y_r, z_1, \ldots, z_k) \in L$  and there are formulas  $\psi_i(\tilde{x}, v_i), \mu_j(\tilde{x}, w_j) \in L$  for  $0 \leq i \leq r$ and  $1 \leq j \leq k$  that are low in  $v_i$  and low in  $w_j$ , respectively, such that for all  $a, d_1, \ldots, d_r$  we have  $\mathcal{U}(a, d_1, \ldots, d_r)$  iff  $\exists \tilde{a} \exists e_1, \ldots, e_k$ 

$$\rho(\tilde{a}, a, d_1, \dots, d_r, e_1, \dots, e_k) \wedge \Big[\bigwedge_{i=0}^r (\psi_i(\tilde{a}, v_i) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_i)\Big]$$
$$\wedge \Big[\bigwedge_{j=1}^k (\mu_j(\tilde{a}, w_j) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_r e_1 \dots e_j)\Big].$$

DEFINITION 3.3. An invariant set  $\mathcal{F}(x, y_1, \ldots, y_r)$  is said to be a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -closed sets if

$$\mathcal{F}(x, y_1, \dots, y_r) = \bigcap_i \neg \mathcal{U}_i(x, y_1, \dots, y_r),$$

where each  $\mathcal{U}_i(x, y_1, \ldots, y_r)$  is a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -sets.

The following fact [S1, Theorem 8.7] is the key ingredient of our main theorem.

FACT 3.4. Assume the extension property is first-order in T. Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be an unbounded  $\tilde{\tau}^f$ -set over  $\emptyset$ . Then there exists an unbounded  $\tau^f$ -open set  $\mathcal{U}^*$  over some finite set  $A^*$  such that  $\mathcal{U}^* \subseteq \mathcal{U}$ . In fact, if  $V(x, z_1, \ldots, z_l)$  is a pre- $\tilde{\tau}^f$ -set relation such that  $\mathcal{U} = \{a \mid \exists d_1, \ldots, d_l \; V(a, d_1, \ldots, d_l)\}$ , and  $\bar{d}^* = (d_1^*, \ldots, d_m^*)$  is any maximal sequence (with respect to extension) such that  $\mathcal{U}_{\bar{d}^*}^* = \exists d_{m+1}, \ldots, d_l \; V(\mathcal{C}, d_1^*, \ldots, d_m^*, d_{m+1}, \ldots, d_l)$  is unbounded, then  $\mathcal{U}_{\bar{d}^*}^*$  is a  $\tau^f$ -open set over  $\bar{d}^*$ .

THEOREM 3.5. Let T be a countable simple theory in which the extension property is first-order. Assume:

- (1)  $\Theta = \{\theta_i(x'_i, x)\}_{i < \omega}$  is a set of L-formulas such that  $\forall x \exists^{<\infty} x'_i \theta_i(x'_i, x)$ for all  $i < \omega$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{U}_0(x)$  is a non-empty  $\tilde{\tau}^f_{low}$ -set over  $\emptyset$ .
- (3)  $\{F_n(x_n)\}_{n < \omega}$  is a family of  $\emptyset$ -invariant sets such that  $F_n(\mathcal{C}) \cap \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$  for all  $n < \omega$ .
- (4) For every  $n < \omega$  and any variables  $\bar{y} = y_1, \ldots, y_r$ , let  $\mathcal{F}_n^{\bar{y}}(x_n, \bar{y})$  be a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -closed sets such that  $F_n(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_n^{\bar{y}}(\mathcal{C}, \bar{d})$  for all  $\bar{d}$ .

Now, assume that for all  $a \in \mathcal{U}_0$  there exist  $b \in \operatorname{acl}_{\Theta}(a)$  and  $n < \omega$  such that  $b \in F_n(\mathcal{C})$ . Then there is an unbounded  $\tau_{\infty}^f$ -open set  $\mathcal{U}^*$  over a finite tuple

$$\overline{d}^*$$
 and variables  $\overline{y}^*$  of the sort of  $\overline{d}^*$ , and  $n^* < \omega$  such that  
 $\mathcal{U}^* \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{n^*}^{\overline{y}^*}(\mathcal{C}, \overline{d}^*) \cap \operatorname{acl}_{\Theta}(\mathcal{U}_0).$ 

*Proof.* First, we may assume  $\Theta$  is downwards closed (i.e. if  $\theta \in \Theta$  and  $\theta' \vdash \theta$  then  $\theta' \in \Theta$ ; note that since L is countable the closure of  $\Theta$  in this sense remains countable). Assume the conclusion of the theorem is false. To get a contradiction, it will be sufficient to show the following.

SUBCLAIM 3.6. For every non-empty  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -set  $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_0$  over  $\emptyset$ , every  $\theta \in \Theta$ , and every  $n < \omega$  there exists a non-empty  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -set  $\mathcal{U}^* \subseteq \mathcal{U}$  over  $\emptyset$  such that either  $\neg \exists x' \ \theta(x', a)$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{U}^*$ , or for all  $a \in \mathcal{U}^*$  there exists  $b \models \theta(x', a)$  with  $b \notin F_n(\mathcal{C})$ .

First, we show this is sufficient. Construct a decreasing sequence  $(\mathcal{U}_m \mid m < \omega)$  of non-empty  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -sets that begins at  $\mathcal{U}_0$ , and for every  $m < \omega$  the set  $\mathcal{U}_{m+1}$  is obtained from  $\mathcal{U}_m$  by applying Subclaim 3.6 for an appropriate pair  $(\theta, n)$  (that corresponds to m by a fixed bijection of  $\Theta \times \omega$  with  $\omega$ ). By Remark 2.11 and compactness,  $\bigcap \mathcal{U}_m \neq \emptyset$ , so there exists  $a^* \in \mathcal{U}_0$  such that for all  $\theta \in \Theta$  either  $\neg \exists x' \ \theta(x', a^*)$ , or for every  $n < \omega$  there exists  $b_{n,\theta} \models \theta(x', a^*)$  such that  $b_{n,\theta} \notin F_n(\mathcal{C})$ . Now, by the assumption of the theorem there exist  $\theta(x', x) \in \Theta$ ,  $b^*$  and  $n^* < \omega$  such that  $\theta(b^*, a^*)$  and  $b^* \in F_{n^*}(\mathcal{C})$ . As  $\Theta$  is downwards closed, there exists  $\theta^*(x', x) \in \Theta$  such that  $\theta^*(x', x) \vdash \theta(x', x)$  and  $\theta^*(x', a^*)$  isolates  $\operatorname{tp}(b^*/a^*)$  (as it is algebraic). By the above property of  $a^*$ , there exists  $b^{**} \models \theta^*(x', a^*)$  with  $b^{**} \notin F_{n^*}(\mathcal{C})$ , contradicting the fact that  $\theta^*(x', a^*)$  isolates  $\operatorname{tp}(b^*/a^*)$  and the assumption that  $F_{n^*}(\mathcal{C})$  is  $\emptyset$ -invariant.

Proof of Subclaim 3.6. Let  $\mathcal{U}, \theta$  and  $n < \omega$  be given. Let  $V(x, z_1, \ldots, z_l)$  be a pre- $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -set relation such that

$$\mathcal{U} = \{a \mid \exists d_1, \ldots, d_l \ V(a, d_1, \ldots, d_l)\},\$$

where V is defined by:

$$V(a, d_1, \dots, d_l) \text{ iff } \exists \tilde{a} \left[ \sigma(\tilde{a}, a, d_1, \dots, d_l) \land \bigwedge_{i=0}^{l} (\phi_i(\tilde{a}, t_i) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_i) \right]$$

for some  $\sigma(\tilde{x}, x, z_1, \ldots, z_l) \in L$  and  $\phi_i(\tilde{x}, t_i) \in L$  which are low in  $t_i$  for  $0 \leq i \leq l$ . Let  $V_{\theta}$  be defined by: for all  $b, d_1, \ldots, d_l \in C$ ,

$$V_{\theta}(b, d_1, \dots, d_l)$$
 iff  $\exists a \ (\theta(b, a) \land V(a, d_1, \dots, d_l)),$ 

and let

 $\mathcal{U}_{\theta} = \{ b \mid \exists d_1, \dots, d_l \ V_{\theta}(b, d_1, \dots, d_l) \}.$ 

Since by the assumption  $F_n(\mathcal{C}) \cap \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ , we may assume  $\mathcal{U}_{\theta} \cap \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ and  $\mathcal{U}_{\theta}$  is non-empty. Now, let  $\bar{d}^* = (d_1^*, \ldots, d_m^*)$  be a maximal sequence, with respect to extension  $(0 \le m \le l)$ , such that

$$\tilde{V}_{\theta}(x') \equiv \exists d_{m+1}, \dots, d_l \ V_{\theta}(x', d_1^*, \dots, d_m^*, d_{m+1}, \dots, d_l)$$

is non-algebraic. We may assume m < l (by choosing V appropriately). By Fact 3.4,  $\tilde{V}_{\theta}(\mathcal{C})$  is an unbounded basic  $\tau_{\infty}^{f}$ -open set over  $\bar{d}^{*}$ . Since we assume the conclusion of the theorem is false,  $\tilde{V}_{\theta}(\mathcal{C}) \not\subseteq \mathcal{F}_{n}^{\bar{y}^{*}}(\mathcal{C}, \bar{d}^{*})$  where  $\bar{y}^{*} = y_{1}^{*}, \ldots, y_{m}^{*}$  has the same sort as  $\bar{d}^{*}$ . Now, let each  $\mathcal{U}_{s,n}(x_{n}, \bar{y}^{*})$  for  $s < \alpha$  be a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^{f}$ -sets such that  $\mathcal{F}_{n}(x_{n}, \bar{y}^{*}) = \bigcap_{s < \alpha} \neg \mathcal{U}_{s,n}(x_{n}, \bar{y}^{*})$ . Let  $b^{*} \in \tilde{V}_{\theta}(\mathcal{C}) \setminus \mathcal{F}_{n}^{\bar{y}^{*}}(\mathcal{C}, \bar{d}^{*})$ . So, there exists  $s^{*} < \alpha$  such that  $b^{*} \in \mathcal{U}_{s^{*},n}(\mathcal{C}, \bar{d}^{*})$ . Let  $\rho(\tilde{x}', x_{n}, y_{1}^{*}, \ldots, y_{m}^{*}, z_{1}', \ldots, z_{k}') \in L$  and let  $\psi_{i}(\tilde{x}', v_{i}), \mu_{j}(\tilde{x}', w_{j}) \in L$  for  $0 \leq i \leq m$  and  $1 \leq j \leq k$  be low in  $v_{i}$  and low in  $w_{j}$  respectively, such that for all  $b, d_{1}, \ldots, d_{m}$  we have  $\mathcal{U}_{s^{*},n}(b, d_{1}, \ldots, d_{m})$  iff  $\exists \tilde{b} \exists e_{1}, \ldots, e_{k}$ 

$$\rho(\tilde{b}, b, d_1, \dots, d_m, e_1, \dots, e_k) \wedge \Big[\bigwedge_{i=0}^m (\psi_i(\tilde{b}, v_i) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_i)\Big]$$
$$\wedge \Big[\bigwedge_{j=1}^k (\mu_j(\tilde{b}, w_j) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_m e_1 \dots e_j)\Big].$$

Now, let  $d_{m+1}^*, \ldots, d_l^*$  and  $a^*, \tilde{a}^*$  and  $E^* = (e_1^*, \ldots, e_k^*)$  and  $\tilde{b}^*$  be such that

$$(*1) \quad \theta(b^*, a^*) \wedge \sigma(\tilde{a}^*, a^*, d_1^*, \dots, d_l^*) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{\circ} (\phi_i(\tilde{a}^*, y_i) \text{ forks over } d_1^* \dots d_i^*),$$

$$\begin{aligned} (*2) \quad \rho(\tilde{b}^*, b^*, d_1^*, \dots, d_m^*, e_1^*, \dots, e_k^*), \\ (*3) \quad \left[\bigwedge_{i=0}^m (\psi_i(\tilde{b}^*, v_i) \text{ forks over } d_1^* \dots d_i^*)\right] \\ & \wedge \left[\bigwedge_{j=1}^k (\mu_j(\tilde{b}^*, w_j) \text{ forks over } d_1^* \dots d_m^* e_1^* \dots e_j^*)\right]. \end{aligned}$$

By maximality of  $\bar{d}^*$ , we know  $b^* \in \operatorname{acl}(\bar{d}^*d_{m+1}^*)$ . Thus, by taking a nonforking extension of  $\operatorname{tp}(\tilde{b}^*E^*/\operatorname{acl}(\bar{d}^*d_{m+1}^*))$  over  $\operatorname{acl}(d_1^*\ldots d_l^*a^*\tilde{a}^*)$  we may assume  $E^*$  is independent of  $d_1^*\ldots d_l^*a^*\tilde{a}^*$  over  $\bar{d}^*d_{m+1}^*$  and (\*1)–(\*3) still hold. We conclude that

$$\bigwedge_{i=m+1}^{l} (\phi_i(\tilde{a}^*, t_i) \text{ forks over } d_1^* \dots d_i^* E^*).$$

Now, we define the  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -set  $\mathcal{U}^*$ . First, define a relation  $V^*$  by:  $V^*(a, d_1, \ldots, d_m, e_1, \ldots, e_k, d_{m+1}, \ldots, d_l)$  iff  $\exists \tilde{a}, b, \tilde{b} \ (\theta^* \wedge V_0^* \wedge V_1^* \wedge V_2^*),$  where  $\theta^*$  is defined by:  $\theta^*(\tilde{a}, b, \tilde{b}, a, d_1, \dots, d_m, e_1, \dots, e_k, d_{m+1}, \dots, d_l)$  iff  $\theta(b, a) \wedge \sigma(\tilde{a}, a, d_1, \dots, d_l) \wedge \rho(\tilde{b}, b, d_1, \dots, d_m, e_1, \dots, e_k),$ 

 $V_0^*$  is defined by:  $V_0^*(\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, d_1, \dots, d_m)$  iff

$$\bigwedge_{i=0}^{m} (\phi_i(\tilde{a}, t_i) \lor \psi_i(\tilde{b}, v_i) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_i),$$

 $V_1^*$  is defined by:  $V_1(\tilde{b}, d_1, \dots, d_m, e_1, \dots, e_k)$  iff

$$\bigwedge_{j=1}^{\kappa} (\mu_j(\tilde{b}, w_j) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_m e_1 \dots e_j),$$

and  $V_2^*$  is defined by:  $V_2(\tilde{a}, d_1, \dots, d_m, e_1, \dots, e_k, d_{m+1}, \dots, d_l)$  iff

$$\bigwedge_{i=m+1} (\phi_i(\tilde{a}, t_i) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_i e_1 \dots e_k).$$

Note that  $V^*$  is a pre- $\tilde{\tau}^f_{low}$ -set. Let

$$\mathcal{U}^* = \{ a \mid \exists d_1, \dots, d_m, e_1, \dots, e_k, d_{m+1}, \dots, d_l \\ V^*(a, d_1, \dots, d_m, e_1, \dots, e_k, d_{m+1}, \dots, d_l) \}.$$

By the definition of  $\mathcal{U}^*$ , we have  $\mathcal{U}^* \subseteq \mathcal{U}$ . Moreover  $\mathcal{U}^*$  is a  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -set by Remark 2.2. By construction,  $\mathcal{U}^* \neq \emptyset$ . Now, let  $a \in \mathcal{U}^*$ . By the definition of  $\mathcal{U}^*$ , there are  $\tilde{b}, b, d_1, \ldots, d_m, e_1, \ldots, e_k$  such that  $\theta(b, a), \rho(\tilde{b}, b, d_1, \ldots, d_m, e_1, \ldots, e_k)$ , and

$$\bigwedge_{i=0}^{m} (\psi_i(\tilde{b}, v_i) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_i),$$
$$\bigwedge_{j=1}^{k} (\mu_j(\tilde{b}, w_j) \text{ forks over } d_1 \dots d_m e_1 \dots e_j)$$

Thus  $\mathcal{U}_{s^*,n}(b, d_1 \dots d_m)$  and therefore  $\neg \mathcal{F}_n^{\bar{y}^*}(b, d_1 \dots d_m)$ . Hence  $b \notin F_n$  as required.

4. Applications. In this section we give some applications of Theorem 3.5. In fact, we will show several instances of this theorem that are apparently new even for stable theories. In this section T is assumed to be a simple theory and we work in C.

We start by pointing out that Theorem 3.5 generalizes [S1, Theorem 9.4] that is one of the essential steps towards the proof of supersimplicity of countable simple unidimensional theories with elimination of hyperimaginaries. First recall the following definitions from [S1] of stable independence and  $SU_{se}$ -rank.

DEFINITION 4.1. For  $a \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $A, B \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ ,  $a \underset{A}{\downarrow^s} B$  if for some stable  $\phi(x, y) \in L$ , there are  $b \subseteq A \cup B$  and  $a' \in \phi(\mathcal{C}, b) \cap \operatorname{dcl}(Aa)$  such that  $\phi(x, b)$  forks over A.

DEFINITION 4.2. The  $SU_{se}$ -rank of tp(a/A) is defined by induction on  $\alpha$ : if  $\alpha = \beta + 1$ , then  $SU_{se}(a/A) \ge \alpha$  if there exist  $B_1 \supseteq B_0 \supseteq A$  such that  $a \underset{B_0}{\downarrow^s} B_1$  and  $SU_{se}(a/B_1) \ge \beta$ . For limit  $\alpha$ ,  $SU_{se}(a/A) \ge \alpha$  if  $SU_{se}(a/A) \ge \beta$  for all  $\beta < \alpha$ .

REMARK 4.3. In [S1, Lemma 6.8] it is proved that in a simple theory, in which Lstp = stp over sets,  $\perp^s$  is symmetric. In fact,  $\perp^s$  is symmetric in any simple theory. Thus for any simple theory, if  $s_0$  and  $s_1$  are finite tuples of sorts and  $n < \omega$  then the set  $\mathcal{F}_n^{s_0,s_1}$  defined by

$$\mathcal{F}_n^{s_0,s_1} = \{(a,A) \in \mathcal{C}^{s_0} \times \mathcal{C}^{s_1} \mid SU_{se}(a/A) < n\}$$

is a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^{f}$ -closed sets.

*Proof.* To prove that  $\bigcup^{s}$  is symmetric, first recall [S1, Claim 6.5]:

FACT 4.4. Let T be simple. Let  $\phi(x, y) \in L$  be stable. Assume  $a \underset{A}{\downarrow} b$  and  $a' \underset{A}{\downarrow} b$  and Lstp(a/A) = Lstp(a'/A). Then  $\phi(a, b)$  iff  $\phi(a', b)$ .

By the proof of symmetry of stable independence [S3, Lemma 6.8] it will be sufficient to prove Fact 4.4 with the weaker assumption stp(a) = stp(a') instead of the assumption Lstp(a) = Lstp(a') (we may clearly assume  $A = \emptyset$ ). Indeed, assume stp(a) = stp(a'). Now, for every complete type  $q \in S(\emptyset)$  let  $E_q$  be the equivalence relation defined by:  $E_q(a, a')$  iff "for every  $b \models q$  that is independent of aa' we have  $[\phi(a, b) \text{ iff } \phi(a', b)]$ ". Then  $E_q$  is Stone-open. By Fact 4.4, equality of the Lascar strong type refines  $E_q$ . Thus  $E_q$  is a  $\emptyset$ -definable finite equivalence relation (as a bounded Stone-open equivalence relation is definable [S3, Lemma 7]). Now, by the assumption that stp(a) = stp(a'),  $E_q(a, a')$  for all complete q. Thus, by extension we infer that for every b, if each of a and a' is independent of b, then  $\phi(a, b)$  iff  $\phi(a', b)$ .

We now explain the last phrase. We need to show that  $\neg \mathcal{F}_n^{s_0,s_1}$  is a disjunction of invariant sets, each of which is a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -sets for all  $s_0, s_1$  and n as above. Indeed, by symmetry of  $\downarrow^s$ ,  $\neg \mathcal{F}_n^{s_0,s_1}(a, A)$  iff there are  $b_1, c_1, \ldots, b_n, c_n$  such that  $c_i \qquad \downarrow^s \qquad a$  for all  $Ab_1c_1...b_{i-1}c_{i-1}b_i$ 

 $1 \leq i \leq n$ . By the definition of  $\downarrow^s$ , this can be easily seen to be equivalent to a disjunction of the required form (since any stable  $\phi(x, y) \in L$  is low in both x and y).

For an A-invariant set V, we set  $\operatorname{acl}_1(V) = \{a' \mid a' \in \operatorname{acl}(a) \text{ for some } a \in V^1\}$ . The following corollary generalizes [S1, Theorem 9.4].

COROLLARY 4.5. Let T be a countable simple theory in which the extension property is first-order. Let  $\mathcal{U}_0$  be a non-empty  $\tilde{\tau}^f_{low}$ -set. Assume for every  $a \in \mathcal{U}_0$  there exists  $a' \in \operatorname{acl}(a) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)$  such that  $SU_{se}(a') < \omega$ . Then there exists an unbounded  $\tau^f_{\infty}$ -open set  $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \operatorname{acl}_1(\mathcal{U}_0)$  over a finite set such that  $\mathcal{U}$  has bounded finite  $SU_{se}$ -rank.

*Proof.* Let x be the variable of  $\mathcal{U}_0$ , so  $\mathcal{U}_0 = \mathcal{U}_0(x)$ . Let

 $\Theta = \{ \theta(x', x) \mid \exists^{<\infty} x' \ \theta(x', x), x' \text{ any variable} \}.$ 

Let S be the set of sorts. Let  $I: \omega \to S \times \omega$  be a bijection, and  $I_1, I_2$  the projections of I to the first and second coordinate, respectively. Now, for each  $n < \omega$  let  $F_n = \{a \in C^{I_1(n)} \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset) \mid SU_{se}(a) < I_2(n)\}$ . Now, for every finite tuple of variables Y and  $n < \omega$  let s(Y) be the finite sequence of sorts of Y and let

$$\mathcal{F}_n^Y = \{(a, A) \in \mathcal{C}^{I_1(n)} \times \mathcal{C}^{s(Y)} \mid SU_{se}(a/A) < I_2(n)\}.$$

By the definition of the  $SU_{se}$ -rank,  $F_n(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_n^Y(\mathcal{C}, A)$  for every  $n < \omega$  and all Y, A. By Remark 4.3,  $\mathcal{F}_n^Y$  is a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -closed sets for all Y, n. By our assumptions, we see that the assumptions of Theorem 3.5 hold for  $\mathcal{U}_0(x)$ ,  $\Theta$ ,  $\{F_n\}_n$  and  $\{\mathcal{F}_n^Y\}_{Y,n}$ , and thus by its conclusion we are done.

COROLLARY 4.6. Let T be a countable theory with wnfcp. Let  $\mathcal{U}_0$  be an unbounded  $\tilde{\tau}^f$ -set over  $\emptyset$  of finite SU-rank. Then there exists a finite set A and an SU-rank 1 formula  $\theta \in L(A)$  such that  $\theta^{\mathcal{C}} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_0 \cup \operatorname{acl}(A)$ .

*Proof.* First, by modifying  $\mathcal{U}_0$ , we may assume  $\mathcal{U}_0 \cap \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ . Let  $\Theta = \{x' = x\}, \mathcal{U}_0(x) = \mathcal{U}_0$ . Let s(x) be the sort of x. Now, for each  $n < \omega$  let

$$F_n = \{ a \in \mathcal{C}^{s(x)} \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset) \mid SU(a) < n \}.$$

For every finite tuple of variables Y and  $n < \omega$  let s(Y) be the finite sequence of sorts of Y and let

$$\mathcal{F}_n^Y = \{ (a, A) \in \mathcal{C}^{s(x)} \times \mathcal{C}^{s(Y)} \mid SU(a/A) < n \}.$$

By symmetry of forking and the assumption that T is low, each  $\mathcal{F}_n^Y$  is a generalized uniform family of  $\tilde{\tau}_{low}^f$ -closed sets. Clearly,  $F_n(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_n^Y(\mathcal{C}, A)$  for all  $n < \omega$  and Y, A. By our assumption, the assumptions of Theorem 3.5 are satisfied for  $\mathcal{U}_0, \Theta, \{F_n\}_n$  and  $\{\mathcal{F}_n^Y\}_{Y,n}$  and thus by its conclusion there exists an unbounded  $\tau_\infty^f$ -open set  $\mathcal{U}^* \subseteq \mathcal{U}_0$  over a finite set  $A_0$  and  $\mathcal{U}^*$  has bounded finite SU-rank. By Fact 2.8, there exists a finite set  $A \supseteq A_0$  and there exists an SU-rank 1 formula  $\theta \in L(A)$  such that  $\theta^{\mathcal{C}} \subseteq \mathcal{U}^* \cup \operatorname{acl}(A)$ .

COROLLARY 4.7. Let T be a countable theory with wnfcp. Let  $\mathcal{U}_0$  be a non-empty  $\tilde{\tau}^f$ -set over  $\emptyset$ . Assume that for every  $a \in \mathcal{U}_0$  there exists a' in  $\operatorname{acl}(a) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)$  such that  $SU(a') < \omega$ . Then there exists a finite set A and an SU-rank 1 formula  $\theta \in L(A)$  such that  $\theta^{\mathcal{C}} \subseteq \operatorname{acl}_1(\mathcal{U}_0) \cup \operatorname{acl}(A)$ .

*Proof.* Just like the proof of Corollary 4.6.

5. Dichotomies for countable theories with wnfcp. In this section we show that the dichotomy [S1, Theorem 5.5] implies a strong dichotomy between essential 1-basedness and supersimplicity in the case T is a countable wnfcp theory that eliminates hyperimaginaries. Before we state the above dichotomy for the special case of the  $\tau^{f}$ -topologies (simplified version), let us recall the basic definitions. In this section T is assumed to be simple and we work in  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{eq}$ .

First, let us fix some notations and terminology. Let V, W be invariant sets. We say that V is generated over W by a small set B if  $V \subseteq dcl(W \cup B)$ . We say that V is generated over W if it is generated over W by some small set. If V is A-invariant, we say that V is (almost) W-internal over A if for every  $a \in V$  there exists  $B \supseteq A$ , over which W is invariant, that is independent of a over A and there exists a tuple  $\bar{c}$  of realizations of W such that  $a \in dcl(B, \bar{c})$  ( $a \in acl(B, \bar{c})$ , respectively). If we say that V is W-internal (without specifying over what set) then we mean that V is W-internal over the set that V comes with (e.g. in case it is a partial type, we consider it with its specified parameters). Note that if both V and W are A-invariant then for all  $B, C \supseteq A, V$  is (almost) W-internal over B iff V is (respectively, almost) W-internal over C.

DEFINITION 5.1. A type  $p \in S(A)$  is said to be essentially 1-based by means of the  $\tau^f$ -topologies if for every finite tuple  $\bar{c}$  from p and for every type-definable  $\tau^f$ -open set  $\mathcal{U}$  over  $A\bar{c}$ , the set  $\{a \in \mathcal{U} \mid \operatorname{Cb}(a/A\bar{c}) \notin \operatorname{bdd}(aA)\}$ is nowhere dense in the Stone topology of  $\mathcal{U}$ .

We now state [S1, Theorem 5.5] for the  $\tau^f$ -topologies (in fact, it is a special case of it when working over constants). Also, as indicated at the end of the proof of this fact, the finite *SU*-rank  $\tau^f$ -open set we obtained is almost  $p_0$ -internal.

FACT 5.2. Let T be a countable simple theory with PCFT that eliminates hyperimaginaries. Let  $p_0$  be a partial type over  $\emptyset$  of SU-rank 1. Then either there exists an unbounded  $\tau^f$ -open set over some countable set that is almost internal to  $p_0$  (in particular, has finite SU-rank) or every type  $p \in S(A)$ , with A countable, that is internal in  $p_0$  is essentially 1-based by means of the  $\tau^f$ -topologies.

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THEOREM 5.3. Let T be a countable theory with wnfcp that eliminates hyperimaginaries. Let p be a partial type over  $\emptyset$  of SU-rank 1. Then either

- (1) every type  $q \in S(A)$ , with A countable, that is internal in p is essentially 1-based by means of the  $\tau^{f}$ -topologies, or
- (2) there exists a weakly minimal definable set (in L(C)) that is generated over p(C).

*Proof.* Assume (1) is false. By Fact 5.2, there exists an unbounded typedefinable  $\tau^f$ -open set  $\mathcal{U}$  over some countable set A such that  $\operatorname{tp}(a/A)$  is almost p-internal for every  $a \in \mathcal{U}$ .

SUBCLAIM 5.4. There exists an unbounded type-definable  $\tau^{f}$ -open set  $\mathcal{U}^{*}$  over A that is generated over  $p(\mathcal{C})$ .

*Proof.* By [BW] or [S2, Corollary 4.9], for every  $a \in \mathcal{U} \setminus \operatorname{acl}(A)$  there exists  $a' \in \operatorname{dcl}(aA) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(A)$  such that  $\operatorname{tp}(a'/A)$  has a fundamental system of solutions over  $p(\mathcal{C})$  (i.e.  $\operatorname{tp}(a'/A)$  is generated over  $p(\mathcal{C})$  by a set of realizations of  $\operatorname{tp}(a'/A)$  together with A). In particular, there exists a (finite) set A' of realizations of  $\operatorname{tp}(a'/A)$  that is independent of a' over A and a tuple  $\overline{c}$  of realizations of p such that  $a' \in \operatorname{dcl}(A'A\overline{c})$ . For any A-definable functions f, g let

$$F_{f,g} = \{a \in \mathcal{U} \mid f(a) = g(\bar{b}, \bar{c}) \notin \operatorname{acl}(A) \text{ for some } \bar{b}, \bar{c} \text{ with } f(a) \underset{A}{\bigcup} \bar{b},$$
  
where  $\bar{c}$  is a tuple of realizations of  $p$ ,

and  $\bar{b}$  is a tuple of realizations of tp(f(a)/A).

By Remark 2.3(3), each  $F_{f,g}$  is  $\tau^f$ -closed over A. Thus, by the Baire category theorem for the  $\tau^f$ -topology (by Remark 2.3(2),  $\mathcal{U} \setminus acl(A), \tau^f$ ) is a Baire space) there are A-definable functions  $f^*, g^*$  such that  $F_{f^*,g^*}$  has non-empty interior in the  $\tau^f$ -topology over A. By Fact 2.7 there exists an unbounded type-definable  $\tau^f$ -open set  $\mathcal{U}^*$  over A such that for every  $a \in \mathcal{U}^*$ there exists a tuple  $\bar{b}$  of realizations of tp(a/A) that is independent of a over A such that  $a = g^*(\bar{b}, \bar{c})$  for some tuple  $\bar{c}$  of realizations of p. The subclaim follows now directly from [S2, Theorem 3.7]:

FACT 5.5. Let  $p \in S(\emptyset)$  and let  $\mathcal{R}$  be  $\emptyset$ -invariant. Suppose the internality of p in  $\mathcal{R}$  is witnessed by a generic parameter whose type q is almost- $\mathcal{R}$ internal. Then p is generated over  $\mathcal{R}$  by a set of realizations of q.

Now, as  $\mathcal{U}^*$  has bounded finite SU-rank (the bound is determined by  $g^*$ ), by Fact 2.8, there exists an SU-rank 1 formula  $\theta(x, b)$  such that  $\theta(\mathcal{C}, b) \subseteq \mathcal{U}^* \cup \operatorname{acl}(Ab)$ . Thus (2) follows.

5.1. A trichotomy for countable theories with nfcp. Here we prove a trichotomy for countable theories with nfcp. In this subsection we

work in a large saturated model  $C = C^{eq}$  of a simple theory T with elimination of hyperimaginaries unless stated otherwise.

We begin with some standard terminology and remarks. For a definable set D over A we denote by  $D^*$  the induced structure on D over A, namely,  $D^*$ is the set D equipped with all A-definable relations in C that are subsets of  $D^n$  for some n. Then clearly  $D^*$  has elimination of quantifiers and therefore saturated.

DEFINITION 5.6. Let D be a type-definable set over a set A. We say that D is 1-based if for every finite tuple  $\bar{a}$  of realizations of D and set  $B \supseteq A$ , we have  $\operatorname{Cb}(\bar{a}/B) \in \operatorname{acl}(\bar{a}A)$ . A type-definable group G over A is said to be 1-based if its underlying set is.

REMARK 5.7. (1) A type-definable set D over A is 1-based iff  $\bar{a}$  is independent of  $\bar{a}'$  over  $\operatorname{acl}(A\bar{a}) \cap \operatorname{acl}(A\bar{a}')$  for any finite tuples  $\bar{a}$  and  $\bar{a}'$  from D. (2) Let D be a definable set over A. Then

- (i) if T is stable (simple), so is  $Th(D^*)$ ,
- (ii) if  $D^*$  is 1-based then D is 1-based (as a type-definable set),
- (iii) if D is stably embedded (e.g. T is stable), and p is a partial type of  $D^*$ , then  $\operatorname{RM}_{D^*}(p) = \operatorname{RM}(p_D)$  (where  $p_D$  is just the conjunction of p with appropriate power of D, RM is the usual Morley rank in  $\mathcal{C}$ , and  $\operatorname{RM}_{D^*}$  is the Morley rank in  $D^*$ ).

LEMMA 5.8. Assume L is countable and  $\theta(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \operatorname{acl}(p(\mathcal{C}))$ , where p is any partial type over  $\emptyset$  and  $\theta(x) \in L$  is non-algebraic. Then

- (1) there exists a  $\emptyset$ -definable  $\theta^*(x) \vdash \theta(x)$  and  $\emptyset$ -definable functions f, gand  $n < \omega$  such that  $f[\theta^*(\mathcal{C}) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)] \subseteq g[p^n(\mathcal{C})]$  and  $f[\theta^*(\mathcal{C})]$  is non-algebraic, and
- (2) if p is minimal then  $f[\theta^*(\mathcal{C})]$  has ordinal Morley rank and thus contains a strongly minimal formula.

Proof. For every  $a \in \theta(\mathcal{C}) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)$  there exist  $n < \omega$  and  $\bar{c} \in p^n(\mathcal{C})$  such that  $a \in \operatorname{acl}(\bar{c})$ . Let  $e = \operatorname{Cb}(\bar{c}/a)$ . Now, by elimination of hyperimaginaries there exists  $e^* \in \operatorname{acl}(a) \cap \operatorname{dcl}(p(\mathcal{C})) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)$ . Let  $e^{**} = \{e' \mid \operatorname{tp}(e'/a) = \operatorname{tp}(e^*/a)\}$  ( $e^{**}$  is an imaginary element). Then clearly  $e^{**}$  is in  $\operatorname{dcl}(a) \cap \operatorname{dcl}(p(\mathcal{C})) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)$ . For any appropriate  $\emptyset$ -definable functions f, g let

$$F_{f,g} = \{ a \in \theta(\mathcal{C}) \mid \exists \bar{c} \subseteq p(\mathcal{C}) \ [f(a) = g(\bar{c}) \notin \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)] \}.$$

Consequently,  $\{F_{f,g}\}_{f,g}$  is a countable family of Stone-closed sets that covers  $\theta(\mathcal{C}) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)$  and thus by the Baire category theorem for the Stone topology of  $\theta(\mathcal{C}) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(\emptyset)$  we get the required formula  $\theta^* \in L$  and  $\emptyset$ -definable functions f, g as in (1).

To prove (2), assume that p is minimal. Then, by induction on n, we easily find that for every countable set A the number of (complete) types

of realizations of  $p^n$  over A is countable. Thus by (1), for every countable set A the number of complete types over A extending  $f[\theta^*(\mathcal{C})]$  is countable. Therefore  $f[\theta^*(\mathcal{C})]$  has ordinal Morley rank.

We will be using the following two important facts. The first one is Buechler's dichotomy for minimal types (see [P1, Corollary 3.3]).

FACT 5.9. Let T be superstable and let  $p \in S(A)$  be a minimal type. Then either p is 1-based or RM(p) = 1.

The second fact is Wagner's result [W] on analysis in 1-based types in simple theories (it generalizes previous results of Hrushovski and Chazidakis).

FACT 5.10. Let T be any simple theory and work with hyperimaginaries. Assume  $p \in S(A)$  is analyzable in an A-invariant family of 1-based types. Then p is 1-based.

THEOREM 5.11. Let T be a countable theory with nfcp. Let  $p \in S(\emptyset)$  be minimal. Then either

- (1) every type  $q \in S(A)$ , with A countable, that is internal in p is essentially 1-based by means of the  $\tau^{f}$ -topologies, or
- (2) there is an infinite definable 1-based group of finite D-rank that is p-internal, or
- (3) there exists a strongly minimal definable set that is p-internal.

Proof. Assume (1) is false. By Theorem 5.3, there exists a weakly minimal formula  $\theta(x, b)$  that is *p*-generated and in particular *p*-internal (in the stable case an invariant set is *p*-internal iff it is *p*-generated). First, assume  $\theta(\mathcal{C}, b) \subseteq \operatorname{acl}(p(\mathcal{C}) \cup b)$ . Then by Lemma 5.8, there exists a strongly minimal formula  $\phi \in L(\mathcal{C})$  that is *p*-internal (even generated over  $p^{\mathcal{C}}$ ). Thus, we may assume  $\theta(\mathcal{C}, b) \not\subseteq \operatorname{acl}(p^{\mathcal{C}} \cup b)$ . Let  $a \in \theta(\mathcal{C}, b) \setminus \operatorname{acl}(p^{\mathcal{C}} \cup b)$ . Let  $q = \operatorname{tp}(a/\operatorname{acl}(b))$  and let  $\Gamma = \operatorname{Aut}(q^{\mathcal{C}}/p^{\mathcal{C}} \cup \operatorname{acl}(b))$ . We will be using the following fact [S2, Theorem 2.9], with its proof, which for simplicity we state for a special case. In the following, for a set *S*, possibly large, we let  $\operatorname{DCL}(S)$  be the set of all elements in  $\mathcal{C}$  that are fixed by any automorphism that fixes *S* pointwise; we say that a set *V* is *controlled by B over S*, if  $V \subseteq \operatorname{DCL}(B \cup S)$ .

FACT 5.12. Let T be any simple theory. Let Q be a stably embedded type-definable set over  $\emptyset$  and let  $q \in S(\emptyset)$ . Suppose there exists a subset B of  $DCL(q^{\mathcal{C}} \cup Q)$  with  $tp(B) \vdash Lstp(B)$  such that  $q^{\mathcal{C}}$  is controlled by B over Q. Then  $\Gamma = Aut(q^{\mathcal{C}}/Q)$  is type-definable with its action on  $q^{\mathcal{C}}$ over  $\emptyset$ .

REMARK 5.13. It is well known that in a stable theory if q is Q-internal then there is always a set B of realizations of q such that  $q(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \operatorname{dcl}(Q, B)$ , in particular, q is controlled by B over Q; if q is stationary then B can be taken to be a finite initial segment of a Morley sequence of q and clearly  $tp(B) \vdash Lstp(B)$ .

Now,  $\Gamma$  in Fact 5.12 can be interpreted in the following way. As Q is a type-definable stably embedded set, there exists a partial type  $\Sigma_Q(Y,Y')$  expressing that Y, Y' are Q-conjugate, for  $Y, Y' \models \operatorname{tp}(B)$ . Now, let  $\Gamma_{B^2/Q}(Y,Y')$  be the type expressing that  $\operatorname{tp}(Y) = \operatorname{tp}(Y') = \operatorname{tp}(B)$  and  $\Sigma_Q(Y,Y')$ . Now, by definition,  $\sigma \in \Gamma = \operatorname{Aut}(q^{\mathcal{C}}/Q)$  iff  $\sigma$  is the restriction to  $q^{\mathcal{C}}$  of some automorphism of  $\mathcal{C}$  that fixes Q pointwise. As q is controlled by  $B \subseteq \operatorname{DCL}(q^{\mathcal{C}} \cup Q)$  over Q, it is not hard to show (see proof of [S2, Theorem 2.9]) that  $\Gamma$  can be interpreted as  $\Gamma_{B^2/Q}/E$  for a certain  $\emptyset$ -definable equivalence relation E.

By Remark 5.13 and the fact that  $q(x) \vdash \theta(x, b)$ , there is an infinite type-definable group G over  $\operatorname{acl}(b)$  that is isomorphic to  $\Gamma$  such that for some  $\operatorname{acl}(b)$ -definable equivalence relation E and some  $n < \omega$ , we have  $G \subseteq \theta(\mathcal{C}, b)^n / E$ . Now, by stability of T, G is an intersection of definable groups over  $\operatorname{acl}(b)$  [H1, Theorem 2]. By compactness, there is an infinite  $\operatorname{acl}(b)$ -definable group  $G_0$  that is p-internal and has finite D-rank. By Fact 5.9 and Remark 5.7(2)(i) applied to the induced structure  $G_0^*$  on  $G_0$  over  $\operatorname{acl}(b)$ , every minimal type r in  $G_0^*$  is either 1-based or of Morley rank 1. Thus if (3) fails, then any such r is 1-based in  $G_0^*$  by Remark 5.7(2)(iii) and stability of T. As  $G_0^*$  has finite SU-rank, we conclude, when working in  $G_0^*$ , that every non-algebraic type is non-orthogonal to a minimal type, and therefore any type in  $G_0^*$  is analyzable in 1-based. By Remark 5.7(2)(ii),  $G_0$  is 1-based.

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