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# ON BOOLEAN ALGEBRAS WITH DISTINGUISHED SUBALGEBRAS \*

by Sabine KOPPELBERG

In this paper, let  $\mathcal{L} = \{+, \cdot, -, 0, 1, U\}$  be the language of Boolean algebras ( $BA$ 's) with an additional unary predicate  $\mathcal{U}$ . Rubin has proved in [6] that the theory in  $\mathcal{L}$  of Boolean algebras with a distinguished subalgebra (given by the interpretation of  $U$ ) is undecidable. The main result of this paper is the solution of a problem stated in [6]: let  $\mathbf{K}$  be the class of  $\mathcal{L}$ -structures  $\mathcal{M} = (B, +, \cdot, -, 0, 1, A)$  where  $(B, \dots)$  is a complete  $BA$  ( $cBA$ ),  $A$  is a complete subalgebra and the inclusion map from  $A$  to  $B$  is complete; we show that  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$ , the set of first-order  $\mathcal{L}$ -sentences which are true in every structure in  $\mathbf{K}$ , is decidable. We shall abbreviate  $BA$ 's  $(B, \dots)$  by their underlying set  $B$ .

The first idea to do this is to describe explicitly all completions of  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$ . One could then try to prove the decidability of  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$  by Theorem 2 in [5]. A well-known example for a decidability proof in this style is given by the theory of  $BA$ 's; the main task, to list all completions of this theory, was achieved by Tarski, see Theorem 5.5.10 in [1]. Before describing the complete first-order theory of a structure  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$  in  $\mathbf{K}$ , one has to get some idea how  $B$  "lies above  $A$ " and which details of the structure of an extension  $(B, A)$  of  $BA$ 's can be expressed in first-order logic. Now  $B$  can be represented by the set of global sections of a sheaf of  $BA$ 's over the Stone space  $X$  of  $A$ . Although the possibility of this representation is probably well-known to experts and although it is very easily established, it seems to give just the right intuition as to what are the relevant facts about the extension  $(B, A)$ . We thus get an idea how to obtain a recursive set  $T$  of  $\mathcal{L}$ -sentences which looks rather natural and holds in every structure  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\mathbf{K}$ .

It turns out that Comer's Feferman-Vaught-theorem on sheaves over Boolean spaces applies to the models of  $T$ . This establishes rather easily that a first-order sentence is in  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$  if and only if it is provable from  $T$

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and that  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$  is decidable. It is then possible to describe the completions of  $T$  (which, however, was not necessary in the decidability proof).

As another example for the usefulness of sheaf representations of  $BA$  extensions  $(B, A)$ , we consider the special case where  $B$  is finitely generated over  $A$  and we describe the action of a single automorphism of  $B$  leaving  $A$  pointwise fixed. This was motivated by Monk's paper [4] where the Galois group  $\text{Aut}_A B$  is studied in detail for a simple extension  $B$  of  $A$  and attempts are made towards finite extensions. The possibility of describing by a sheaf representation those extensions  $(S, R)$  of commutative rings for which the usual Galois correspondence can be established is, however, not new- see [8].

In section 1 of this paper, we give a sketch of the sheaf representation of a  $BA$  extension  $(B, A)$ . We prove that the sheaf is Hausdorff iff  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$ , which means that for  $b \in B$ , there is a largest  $a \in A$  such that  $a \leq b$ .

In section 2, we provide a method to construct all automorphisms of  $B$  over  $A$  if  $B$  is a finite extension of  $A$  (2.4). We illustrate this method by computing the Galois group of  $B$  over  $A$  if  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$  (2.6) and by proving in 2.7 that  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$  iff there is a single automorphism of  $B$  over  $A$  moving every element of  $B \setminus A$ . This means that the finite extensions  $(B, A)$  where  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$  are just the extensions called weakly Galois in [8].

Section 3 contains part of the machinery needed for the main result of the paper: if  $(B, A) \in \mathbf{K}$ ,  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_n)$  is an  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula and  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$ , we prove that  $\|\varphi[b_1 \dots b_n]\|$ , the set of points  $p$  in the Stone space  $X$  of  $A$  such that  $\varphi$  is satisfied by  $b_1(p), \dots, b_n(p)$  in the stalk  $B_p$  over  $p$ , is a clopen subset of  $X$ . This enables us to apply the Feferman-Vaught theorem in Comer's version to our sheaf. More precisely, we show that there is an effective procedure assigning a formula  $s_\varphi(yx_1 \dots x_n)$  to  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_n)$  such that the element  $a$  of  $A$  corresponding to  $\|\varphi[b_1 \dots b_n]\|$  is the only element of  $A$  satisfying  $s_\varphi(ab_1 \dots b_n)$  in  $(B, A)$ . We then define the theory  $T$  in  $\mathcal{L}$  and show that each  $\mathcal{M}$  in  $\mathbf{K}$  is a model of  $T$ .

Finally in section 4, we prove that the theorems of  $T$  are just the sentences in  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$  and that  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$  is decidable. We characterize elementary equivalence of  $T$ -models, give a list of all completions of  $T$  and prove that each of these completions has a model in  $\mathbf{K}$ .

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## 1. THE SHEAF REPRESENTATION OF BOOLEAN ALGEBRA EXTENSIONS

Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be any language for first-order predicate logic. Suppose  $X$  is a non-empty set and for every  $p \in X$  we have an  $\mathcal{L}$ -structure  $\mathcal{B}_p = (B_p, \dots)$ ; put  $S = \bigcup_{p \in X} B_p$ . Suppose  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_n)$  is an  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula,  $u \subseteq X$  and  $f_1, \dots, f_n : u \rightarrow S$  are such that  $f_i(p) \in B_p$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $p \in u$ . Then let

$$\|\varphi[f_1 \dots f_n]\| = \{p \in u \mid \mathcal{B}_p \models \varphi[f_1(p) \dots f_n(p)]\}.$$

We may think of  $\|\varphi[f_1 \dots f_n]\| \subseteq X$  as being a (Boolean) truth value of  $\varphi[f_1 \dots f_n]$  in the power set of  $X$ .

A sheaf of  $\mathcal{L}$ -structures is a sequence

$$\mathcal{S} = (S, \pi, X, \mu)$$

such that a)  $S$  and  $X$  are topological spaces and  $\pi : S \rightarrow X$  is a continuous open local homeomorphism from  $S$  onto  $X$ , b)  $\mu$  is a function assigning to each  $p \in X$  an  $\mathcal{L}$ -structure  $\mathcal{B}_p = (B_p, \dots)$  such that the  $B_p$  are pairwise disjoint,  $S = \bigcup_{p \in X} B_p$  and  $\pi(s) = p$  iff  $s \in B_p$ , c) for every open subset  $u$  of  $X$  and continuous  $f_1, \dots, f_n : u \rightarrow S$  satisfying  $f_i(p) \in B_p$  for  $p \in u$  and every atomic  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_n)$ ,  $\|\varphi[f_1 \dots f_n]\|$  is an open subset of  $u$ .

The  $\mathcal{L}$ -structure  $\mathcal{B}_p$  is called the stalk of  $\mathcal{S}$  over  $p$ . — Let, if  $\mathcal{S}$  is a sheaf of  $\mathcal{L}$ -structures,  $\Gamma(\mathcal{S})$  be the set of all continuous functions  $f : X \rightarrow S$  satisfying  $f(p) \in B_p$  for  $p \in X$  (the set of “global sections” of  $\mathcal{S}$ ). So  $\Gamma(\mathcal{S})$  is, if non-empty, (the underlying set of) a substructure of the product structure  $\prod_{p \in X} \mathcal{B}_p$ , hence an  $\mathcal{L}$ -structure.

For the rest of the paper, let  $\mathcal{L} = \{+, \cdot, -, 0, 1, U\}$  where  $U$  is a unary predicate. We indicate how, for a given  $BA$  extension  $(B, A)$ ,  $B$  may be represented by  $\Gamma(\mathcal{S})$  where  $\mathcal{S}$  is a sheaf of  $\mathcal{L}$ -structures over a Boolean space. We omit most of the proofs which are easy and entirely analogous to well-known representation theorems for lattices over Boolean spaces. Let  $X$  be the Stone space of  $A$ , i.e. the set of all ultrafilters of  $A$  with the usual topology. For  $p \in X$ , let  $\langle p \rangle$  be the filter of  $B$  generated by  $p$ . Let  $\pi_p : B \rightarrow B/\langle p \rangle = B_p$  be the canonical epimorphism. So  $B_p$  is a  $BA$  with at least two elements. For  $p, q \in X$  and  $p \neq q$ ,  $B_p$  and  $B_q$  are disjoint. Let  $S = \bigcup_{p \in X} B_p$  and  $\pi : S \rightarrow X$  be defined as stated in b) above. Let, for  $p \in X$ ,  $\mu(p)$  be the  $\mathcal{L}$ -structure  $(B_p, \dots, \{0, 1\})$ . For  $u \subseteq X$  open and  $b \in B$ , let  $M_{ub} = \{\pi_p(b) \mid p \in u\}$ . The set of these  $M_{ub}$  constitutes a base



for a topology of  $S$ , and this makes  $\mathcal{S} = (S, \pi, X, \mu)$  a sheaf of  $\mathcal{L}$ -structures. Furthermore, for  $b \in B$ ,  $\sigma_b : X \rightarrow S$  defined by  $\sigma_b(p) = \pi_p(b)$  is a global section of  $\mathcal{S}$  and

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \sigma : B \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathcal{S}) \\ b \mapsto \sigma_b \end{array} \right\}$$

is an isomorphism from  $B$  onto  $\Gamma(\mathcal{S})$ . We shall now identify  $B$  with  $\Gamma(\mathcal{S})$ ; so every  $b \in B$  is a function from  $X$  to  $S$ . This identifies  $A$  with those  $b \in B$  such that for every  $p \in X$   $b(p) = 0$  or  $b(p) = 1$ , i.e. with those  $b \in B$  satisfying  $\|U(b)\| = X$ . Let  $C$  be the  $BA$  of clopen subsets of  $X$  and  $e(c)$  the characteristic function of  $c$  for  $c \in C$ . Thus  $e$  is an isomorphism from  $C$  onto  $A \subseteq B$ .

In the rest of this section, we show that the property of being a Hausdorff sheaf for  $\mathcal{S}$  is equivalent to a property of the extension  $(B, A)$  which reflects, in a way which is first-order expressible in  $\mathcal{L}$ , completeness of the embedding of  $A$  into  $B$ . Recall that, for a sheaf  $\mathcal{S}$  over a Boolean space  $X$ ,  $S$  is a  $T_2$ -space iff, for any  $f, g \in \Gamma(\mathcal{S})$ ,  $\|f = g\|$  is a clopen subset of  $X$ ;  $\mathcal{S}$  is then said to be a Hausdorff sheaf. Call  $A$  relatively complete in  $B$  if, for every  $b \in B$ , there is a largest element  $a \in A$  such that  $a \leq b$ , equivalently: for  $b \in B$ , there is a largest  $a \in A$  such that  $a \cdot b = 0$  or: for  $b \in B$ , there is a smallest  $a \in A$  such that  $b \leq a$ .

1.1. PROPOSITION.  $\mathcal{S}$  is a Hausdorff sheaf iff  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathcal{S}$  is Hausdorff and  $b \in B$ . Let  $d \in B$  such that  $d(p) = 0$  for every  $p \in X$ , let  $c = \|b = d\|$  and  $a = e(c)$ . Then  $a$  is the largest element of  $A$  satisfying  $a \cdot b = 0$ .

Conversely, let  $A$  be relatively complete in  $B$  and suppose  $f, g \in B$ . Let  $a$  be the largest element of  $A$  such that  $a \leq f \cdot g + -f \cdot -g$ . Let  $c \in C$  such that  $a = e(c)$ . Then  $\|f = g\| = c$  is a clopen subset of  $X$ .

1.2. REMARK. Let  $A$  be relatively complete in  $B$ . Then the inclusion map from  $A$  to  $B$  is a complete homomorphism.

*Proof.* Suppose  $M$  is a subset of  $A$  having a supremum  $a$  in  $A$ . We show that  $a$  is the supremum of  $M$  in  $B$ . Clearly,  $a$  is an upper bound for  $M$  in  $B$ . Suppose that  $b$  is another upper bound for  $M$  in  $B$ . Let  $\alpha \in A$  be the largest element of  $A$  such that  $\alpha \leq b$ . For every  $m \in M \subseteq A$ , we have  $m \leq b$ , hence  $m \leq \alpha$  and  $a \leq \alpha \leq b$ .

The following facts are trivial:

1.3. REMARK. *a)* Let  $A$  and the inclusion map from  $A$  to  $B$  be complete. Then  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$ .

*b)* Suppose  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$  and  $B$  is complete. Then  $A$  is complete.

## 2. RELATIVE AUTOMORPHISMS OF FINITE EXTENSIONS

We first give an internal description of a finite extension  $(B, A)$  where  $B = A(u_1 \dots u_n)$  and  $n \in \omega$ . We shall always assume that  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  are the atoms of the subalgebra of  $B$  generated by  $u_1, \dots, u_n$ ; i.e. that they are non-zero, pairwise disjoint and  $u_1 + \dots + u_n = 1$ . Let  $I_r = \{a \in A \mid a \cdot u_r = 0\}$  for  $1 \leq r \leq n$ . Clearly, each  $I_r$  is a proper ideal of  $A$  and  $I_1 \cap \dots \cap I_n = \{0\}$ . The family  $(I_r \mid 1 \leq r \leq n)$  completely characterizes the extension  $(B, A)$ :

2.1. REMARK. Suppose  $C = A(v_1 \dots v_n)$  is a finite extension of  $A$  where  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  are pairwise disjoint and  $1 = v_1 + \dots + v_n$ . Let  $B = A(u_1 \dots u_n)$  be as above. There is an isomorphism  $g$  from  $B$  onto  $C$  satisfying  $g(a) = a$  for  $a \in A$  and  $g(u_r) = v_r$  iff, for each  $r$ ,  $\{a \in A \mid a \cdot v_r = 0\} = I_r$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 12.4 in [7].

2.2. REMARK.  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B = A(u_1 \dots u_n)$  iff, for each  $r$ ,  $I_r$  is a principal ideal.

*Proof.* The only-if part follows by the definition of relative completeness. Now suppose  $\alpha_r \in A$  generates  $I_r$ ; let  $b \in B$  and  $I = \{a \in A \mid a \cdot b = 0\}$ . There are  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$  such that  $b = a_1 \cdot u_1 + \dots + a_n \cdot u_n$ . It follows that  $I$  is the principal ideal generated by  $\alpha = (-a_1 + \alpha_1) \cdot \dots \cdot (-a_n + \alpha_n)$ .

Conversely, given any family  $(I_r \mid 1 \leq r \leq n)$  of proper ideals in  $A$  satisfying  $I_1 \cap \dots \cap I_n = \{0\}$ , there is an extension  $A(u_1 \dots u_n)$  of  $A$  such that  $I_r = \{a \in A \mid a \cdot u_r = 0\}$ : let  $D = A(x_1 \dots x_n)$  be the free product of  $A$  and a finite BA with atoms  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Let

$$K = \{i_1 \cdot x_1 + \dots + i_n \cdot x_n \mid i_1 \in I_1, \dots, i_n \in I_n\}.$$

$K$  is an ideal of  $D$ ; the canonical epimorphism  $\pi$  from  $D$  onto  $B = D/K$  is one-one on  $A$ , and for  $a \in A$ ,  $\pi(a) \cdot u_r = 0$  iff  $a \in I_r$  where  $u_r = \pi(x_r)$ . Now identify  $A$  with the subalgebra  $\pi(A)$  of  $B$ .

For the rest of this section we think, as in section 1, of  $B$  as being the set of global sections of a sheaf  $\mathcal{S} = (S, \pi, X, \mu)$  of Boolean algebras over a

Boolean space  $X$ ; we use the abbreviations of section 1. For  $p \in X$ ,  $B_p = \{b(p) \mid b \in B\}$ . Since  $b(p) \in \{0, 1\}$  for  $b \in A$  and  $B = A(u_1 \dots u_n)$ ,  $B_p$  is a finite BA with atoms  $\{u_r(p) \mid 1 \leq r \leq n\} \setminus \{0\}$ .

Let  $G = \text{Aut}_A B$  be the group of those automorphisms of  $B$  leaving  $A$  pointwise fixed, i.e.  $G$  is the Galois group of  $B$  over  $A$ . Suppose  $g \in G$  and  $p \in X$ . Since  $g(a) = a$  for  $a \in A$ ,  $g$  induces an automorphism of  $B_p$  which, in turn, is induced by a permutation of the (at most  $n$ ) atoms of  $B_p$ . This gives rise to the following definitions ( $S_n$  is the group of permutations of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ ).

Let  $p \in X$ . For  $1 \leq r, l \leq n$ , say  $u_r \sim u_l$  at  $p$  if there is a neighbourhood  $u$  of  $p$  such that, for  $q \in u$ ,  $u_r(q) = 0$  iff  $u_l(q) = 0$ .  $\pi \in S_n$  is said to be compatible with  $p$  if  $u_r \sim u_{\pi(r)}$  at  $p$  for  $1 \leq r \leq n$ .  $g \in G$  is said to be induced by  $\pi$  at  $p$  if  $g(u_r)(p) = u_{\pi(r)}(p)$  for  $1 \leq r \leq n$ . Note that, if one of these definitions holds (for fixed  $u_r, u_l, \pi \in S_n, g \in G$ ) for some  $p \in X$ , then it holds (for the same  $u_r, u_l, \pi \in S_n, g \in G$ ) for every  $q$  in some neighbourhood of  $p$ . And  $u_r \sim u_l$  at  $p$  means that there is a clopen subset  $c$  of  $X$  such that  $p \in c$  and, for  $a \in A$  satisfying  $a \leq e(c)$ ,  $a \in I_r$  iff  $a \in I_l$ .

2.3. LEMMA. Suppose  $p \in X$  and  $\pi \in S_n$ . Then  $\pi$  is compatible with  $p$  iff there is some  $g \in G$  which is induced by  $\pi$  at  $p$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\pi$  induces  $g$  at  $p$  and  $1 \leq r \leq n$ . Let  $u$  be a neighbourhood of  $p$  such that  $g(u_r)(q) = u_{\pi(r)}(q)$  for  $q \in u$ . Thus, for  $q \in u$ ,  $u_{\pi(r)}(q) = 0$  iff  $g(u_r)(q) = 0$  iff  $u_r(q) = 0$  since  $g$  induces an automorphism of  $B_q$ .

Conversely, suppose  $\pi$  is compatible with  $p$ . Choose a clopen neighbourhood  $c$  of  $p$  such that  $u_r(q) = 0$  iff  $u_{\pi(r)}(q) = 0$  for  $1 \leq r \leq n$  and  $q \in c$ . Let  $a = e(c)$ . By 2.1 and the remark preceding this lemma, there is some  $g \in G$  such that  $g(u_r) = -a \cdot u_r + a \cdot u_{\pi(r)}$  for every  $r$ . This  $g$  is induced by  $\pi$  at  $p$ , since  $a(p) = 1$  and hence  $g(u_r)(p) = u_{\pi(r)}(p)$ .

2.4. THEOREM. a) Let  $X = \cup \{c_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n\}$  be a partition of  $X$  into pairwise disjoint clopen subsets such that, for every  $p \in c_\pi$ ,  $\pi$  is compatible with  $p$ . Put  $a_\pi = e(c_\pi)$  for  $\pi \in S_n$ . Then there is  $g \in G$  such that, for  $1 \leq r \leq n$ ,

$$g(u_r) = \sum \{a_\pi \cdot u_{\pi(r)} \mid \pi \in S_n\}.$$

b) Conversely, let  $g \in G$ . Then there is a partition  $X = \cup \{c_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n\}$  of  $X$  into pairwise disjoint clopen subsets such that, for  $p \in c_\pi$ ,  $\pi$  is compatible with  $p$ , and  $g(u_r) = \sum \{a_\pi \cdot u_{\pi(r)} \mid \pi \in S_n\}$ , where  $a_\pi = e(c_\pi)$ .

*Proof.* First note that  $g \in G$ ,  $a_\pi = e(c_\pi)$  where  $(c_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n)$  is a partition of  $X$  and  $g(u_r) = \sum \{a_\pi \cdot u_{\pi(r)} \mid \pi \in S_n\}$  imply that  $\pi$  is compatible with  $p$  for  $p \in c_\pi$ : by  $p \in c_\pi$ , we get  $a_\pi(p) = 1$  and  $a_\rho(p) = 0$  for  $\rho \in S_n$ ,  $\rho \neq \pi$ . So  $g(u_r)(p) = u_{\pi(r)}(p)$ ,  $g$  is induced by  $\pi$  at  $p$ , and  $\pi$  is compatible with  $p$ .

To prove a), note that  $\{a_\pi \cdot u_r \mid \pi \in S_n, 1 \leq r \leq n\}$  is a set of pairwise disjoint elements of  $B$  with supremum 1 and generating  $B$  over  $A$ . The existence of  $g$  follows by 2.1 and the remark preceding 2.3.

To prove b), let  $g \in G$ . For  $\pi \in S_n$ , put

$$v_\pi = \{p \in X \mid \pi \text{ induces } g \text{ at } p\}.$$

Each  $v_\pi$  is an open subset of  $X$ , and  $X = \cup \{v_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n\}$ : suppose  $p \in X$ . Define  $\pi \in S_n$  as follows: let  $1 \leq r \leq n$ . If  $u_r(p) = 0$ , then  $g(u_r)(p) = 0$ ; put  $\pi(r) = r$ . If  $u_r(p) \neq 0$ ,  $u_r(p)$  and hence  $g(u_r)(p)$  is an atom of  $B_p$ ; let  $\pi(r) = l$  where  $g(u_r)(p) = u_l(p)$ . Clearly,  $p \in v_\pi$ .

Since  $X$  is a Boolean space, there is a family  $(c_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n)$  such that  $c_\pi$  is a clopen subset of  $v_\pi$ ,  $X = \cup \{c_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n\}$  and the  $c_\pi$  are pairwise disjoint. Put  $a_\pi = e(c_\pi)$ . Suppose  $1 \leq r \leq n$  and  $p \in X$ , e.g.  $p \in c_\pi$ . Then  $p \in v_\pi$  and

$$(\sum \{a_\pi \cdot u_{\pi(r)} \mid \pi \in S_n\})(p) = g(u_r)(p).$$

Theorem 2.4 says that the automorphisms of  $B$  over  $A$  are completely determined by certain partitions  $(a_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n)$  of  $A$  resp.  $(c_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n)$  of  $C$ . Unfortunately, for a given  $g \in G$ , a partition  $(c_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n)$  defining  $g$  is not uniquely determined, since there may be different possibilities of choosing a clopen disjoint refinement of  $(v_\pi \mid \pi \in S_n)$ . We conclude this section by illustrating 2.4 by several examples.

If  $H$  is any group and  $A$  a BA, let  $X$  be the Stone space of  $A$  and

$$H[A] = \{f: X \rightarrow H \mid f \text{ is continuous}\}$$

where  $H$  is given the discrete topology.  $H[A]$  is a subgroup of  $H^X$  and is usually called the bounded Boolean power of  $H$  by  $A$ . Recall that, for  $B = A(u_1 \dots u_n)$ ,  $A$  and the subalgebra of  $B$  generated by  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  are independent iff  $a \cdot u_r \neq 0$  for  $a \in A \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq n$ .  $A$  is then relatively complete in  $B$ . Conversely, suppose  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$ . Then there is a partition  $(a_k \mid 1 \leq k \leq n)$  of  $A$  (some of the  $a_k$  may equal zero) such that, for each  $k$ , the relative algebra  $B \upharpoonright a_k = \{x \in B \mid x \leq a_k\}$  is generated over  $A \upharpoonright a_k$  by  $k$  disjoint elements  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  which are independent from  $A \upharpoonright a_k$ : for  $1 \leq r, l \leq n$ , the set of those  $p \in X$  such that  $u_r(p) = u_l(p)$  is clopen. Hence, for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,  $c_k = \{p \in X \mid B_p \text{ has exactly } k \text{ atoms}\}$  is

clopen; put  $a_k = e(c_k)$ . By a compactness argument, construct  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in B \restriction a_k$  by patching together some of the  $u_r$  such that for  $p \in c_k$ , the atoms of  $B_p$  are  $v_1(p), \dots, v_k(p)$ .

2.5. EXAMPLE. Suppose  $a \cdot u_r \neq 0$  for  $1 \leq r \leq n$  and  $a \in A \setminus \{0\}$ . Then  $\text{Aut}_A B \cong S_n[A]$ .

*Proof.* Our assumption says that  $u_r(p) \neq 0$  for each  $r$  and each  $p \in X$ . Hence each  $\pi \in S_n$  is compatible with each  $p \in X$  and, for fixed  $g \in G$ , the open sets  $v_\pi$  in the proof of 2.4 are disjoint, hence  $c_\pi = v_\pi$ . An isomorphism  $\varphi : G \rightarrow S_n[A]$  is established by defining  $\varphi(g)(p) = \pi$  iff  $p \in v_\pi$ .

2.6. EXAMPLE. Suppose  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$ . Then there is a partition  $(a_k \mid 1 \leq k \leq n)$  of  $A$  such that

$$\text{Aut}_A B \cong S_1[A \restriction a_1] \times \dots \times S_n[A \restriction a_n].$$

*Proof.* Choose, for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,  $a_k \in A$  as indicated above and let  $G_k$  be the Galois group of  $B \restriction a_k$  over  $A \restriction a_k$ . Clearly,

$$\text{Aut}_A B \cong G_1 \times \dots \times G_n,$$

since  $a_k \in A$ . By 2.5,  $G_k \cong S_k[A \restriction a_k]$ .

2.7. PROPOSITION. The following conditions on  $(B, A)$  are equivalent:

- a)  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$ ;
- b) there is some  $g \in G$  such that  $g(b) \neq b$  for  $b \in B \setminus A$ ;
- c) there is some finite subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  such that, for every  $b \in B \setminus A$ , there is some  $g \in H$  satisfying  $g(b) \neq b$ .

*Proof.* Assume a). There is a finite partition  $T$  of  $C$  such that, for  $1 \leq r \leq n$ ,  $t \in T$  and  $p, q \in t$ ,  $u_r(p) = 0$  iff  $u_r(q) = 0$ . For  $t \in T$ , let  $\pi_t \in S_n$  such that, for  $p \in t$ ,  $\pi_t(r) = r$  if  $u_r(p) = 0$  and  $u_r(p) \mapsto u_{\pi_t(r)}(p)$  is a cyclic permutation of the atoms of  $B_p$  which moves all these atoms.  $\pi_t$  is compatible with each  $p \in t$ ; hence there is some  $g \in G$  such that  $g$  is induced by  $\pi_t$  for  $p \in t$ ,  $t \in T$ . Now let  $b \in B \setminus A$ . Choose  $p \in X$ , e.g.  $p \in t$  where  $t \in T$ , such that  $b(p) \notin \{0, 1\}$ ; put  $b' = g(b)$ . Let  $At(B_p)$  be the set of atoms of  $B_p$ ,  $M = \{\alpha \in At(B_p) \mid \alpha \leq b(p)\}$ ,  $g_p$  the automorphism of  $B_p$  induced by  $g$ ,  $M' = \{g_p(\alpha) \mid \alpha \in M\}$ . By the choice of  $\pi_t$  and  $g$ ,

$$b'(p) = g_p(b(p)) = \sum M' \neq \sum M = b(p)$$

which proves  $b' \neq b$  — since, if  $\pi$  is a cyclic permutation of a finite set  $Y$  moving every element of  $Y$  and  $M \subseteq Y$  satisfies  $M = \{\pi(m) \mid m \in M\}$ , then  $M = \emptyset$  or  $M = Y$ .

To prove that b) implies c) it is sufficient to know that every finitely generated subgroup of  $G$  is finite. We indicate a construction for finite subgroups of  $G$ . Let  $T \subseteq C$  be a finite partition of  $C$ . A function  $\varphi : T \rightarrow S_n$  is said to be compatible if, for every  $t \in T$  and  $p \in t$ ,  $\varphi(t)$  is compatible with  $p$ . For each compatible  $\varphi : T \rightarrow S_n$  let  $g_\varphi$  be the element of  $G$  mapping  $u_r$  to  $\sum \{e(t) \cdot u_{\varphi(t)(r)} \mid t \in T\}$ . It is easily seen that

$$G_T = \{g_\varphi \mid \varphi : T \rightarrow S_n \text{ compatible}\}$$

is a finite subgroup of  $G$  and that every finite subset of  $G$  is contained in some  $G_T$ .

Now suppose c), i.e. there is some finite subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  moving every  $b \in B \setminus A$ . We may assume that  $H = G_T$  for some finite partition  $T$  of  $C$ . Assume that  $A$  is not relatively complete in  $B$ . By 2.2 there is some  $r$  such that  $I_r$  is not a principal ideal; w.l.o.g.,  $r = 1$ . Let  $\sigma = \{p \in X \mid u_1(p) = 0\}$ .  $\sigma$  is a subset of  $X$  which is open but not closed; choose  $p \in X$  which lies in the closure of  $\sigma$  but not in  $\sigma$ . W.l.o.g., for some  $k$  satisfying  $1 \leq k < n$ ,

$$\{r \mid 1 \leq r \leq n \text{ and } u_r \sim u_1 \text{ at } p\} = \{1, \dots, k\}.$$

Let  $c$  be a clopen neighbourhood of  $p$  such that, for  $1 \leq r \leq k$  and  $q \in c$ ,  $u_r(q) = 0$  iff  $u_1(q) = 0$ . W.l.o.g.,  $c \in T$ . There is some  $l$  such that  $k < l \leq n$  and  $u_l(p) \neq 0$ ; otherwise, let  $c' \subseteq c$  a neighbourhood of  $p$  such that  $u_l(q) = 0$  for  $q \in c'$  and  $k < l \leq n$ . Choose  $q \in c' \cap \sigma$  (since  $p$  lies in the closure of  $\sigma$ ). In  $B_q$ , which has at least two elements,  $1 = u_1(q) + \dots + u_n(q) = 0 + \dots + 0 = 0$ , a contradiction. — Put  $a = e(c)$  and  $b = a \cdot u_1 + \dots + a \cdot u_k$ .  $b \in B \setminus A$ , since  $0 < b(p) = u_1(p) + \dots + u_k(p) < 1$  by our preceding claim. We prove that, for  $g \in H = G_T$ ,  $g(b) = b$ , thus arriving at a final contradiction: there is some compatible  $\varphi : T \rightarrow S_n$  such that  $g = g_\varphi$ . Consider  $k \leq n$ ,  $c \in T$  and  $p \in c$  as constructed above. Since  $\varphi$  is compatible,  $\pi = \varphi(c)$  is compatible with  $p$ ; hence  $\pi$  maps the set  $\{1, \dots, k\}$  into itself,  $g_\varphi(a \cdot u_r) = a \cdot u_{\pi(r)}$  for  $1 \leq r \leq k$  (where  $a = e(c)$ ) and  $g(b) = b$ .



### 3. TRUTH VALUES IN $A$ FOR STATEMENTS ABOUT $(B, A)$

For the rest of this paper, let  $\mathcal{L}_{BA} = \{+, \cdot, -, 0, 1\}$  the language of  $BAs$  and  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{BA} \cup \{U\}$ . Let  $T_{BAU}$  be the theory in  $\mathcal{L}$  such that the models of  $T_{BAU}$  have the form  $(B, +, \cdot, -, 0, 1, A)$  where  $(B, \dots)$  is a  $BA$  and  $A$  is a subalgebra of  $B$ . We abbreviate a model  $(B, \dots, A)$  of  $T_{BAU}$  by  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$ . We assume the construction and notations of section 1. For each  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_n)$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$ , we defined

$$\|\varphi[b_1 \dots b_n]\| = \{p \in X \mid B_p \models \varphi[b_1(p) \dots b_n(p)]\}$$

where  $B_p$  abbreviates  $(B_p, 2)$  and  $2$  is the two-element  $BA$ . Our first claim is that if  $c = \|\varphi[b_1 \dots b_n]\|$  is a clopen subset of  $X$  for every  $\varphi$ , then  $e(c) \in A$  is first-order definable in  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$  from the parameters  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$ :

**3.1. LEMMA.** There is an effective procedure assigning to each formula  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_n)$  of  $\mathcal{L}$  a formula  $s_\varphi(yx_1 \dots x_n)$  of  $\mathcal{L}$  (where  $y$  is a variable not occurring in  $\varphi$ ) such that for  $\mathcal{M} \models T_{BAU}$ , properties (i) and (ii) are equivalent and (ii) implies (iii):

- (i)  $\|\varphi[b_1 \dots b_n]\|$  is clopen for every  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_n)$  in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$ ;
- (ii)  $\mathcal{M} \models \forall x_1 \dots \forall x_n \exists y s_\varphi(yx_1 \dots x_n)$  for every  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_n)$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ ;
- (iii) if  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$ , then  $a = e(c)$  where  $c = \|\varphi[b_1 \dots b_n]\|$  is the unique element  $b$  of  $B$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \models s_\varphi[bb_1 \dots b_n]$ .

*Proof.* The inductive definition of  $s_\varphi$  will show that (i) is equivalent to (ii) and (i) implies (iii), the interesting cases being  $\varphi$  atomic or  $\varphi$  existential. In both cases the fact that  $\|\varphi[\dots]\|$  is clopen will be expressed by stating " $a (= e(\|\varphi[\dots]\|))$  is the largest element of  $A$  such that  $e^{-1}(a) \subseteq \|\varphi[\dots]\|$ ". This includes, if  $\varphi$  has the form  $\exists x\psi$ , the maximum principle for the Boolean valuation

$$\psi, b_1 \dots b_n \rightarrow \|\psi[b_1 \dots b_n]\|$$

of  $\mathcal{M}$  in  $C$ : there is some  $b \in B$  such that

$$\|\psi[b'b_1 \dots b_n]\| \leq \|\psi[bb_1 \dots b_n]\|$$

for every  $b' \in B$ , and hence  $\|\psi[bb_1 \dots b_n]\| = \|\exists x\psi[xb_1 \dots b_n]\|$ . We now proceed to define the formulas  $s_\varphi$ .



- a) Suppose  $\varphi$  is an atomic formula of  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ , i.e.  $\varphi$  has the form  $t_1(x_1 \dots x_n) = t_2(x_1 \dots x_n)$  where  $t_1, t_2$  are terms in  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ . Let  $s_\varphi(yx_1 \dots x_n)$  be the formula

$$U(y) \wedge y \cdot t_1 = y \cdot t_2 \wedge \forall y' (U(y') \wedge y' \cdot t_1 = y' \cdot t_2 \rightarrow y' \leq y).$$

- b) Suppose  $\varphi$  has the form  $U(t(x_1 \dots x_n))$  where  $t$  is a term in  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ . Let  $\psi, \chi$  be the atomic  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -formulas " $t = 1$ " resp. " $t = 0$ ". Let  $s_\varphi$  be the formula

$$\exists y_1 \exists y_2 [y = y_1 + y_2 \wedge s_\psi(y_1 x_1 \dots x_n) \wedge s_\chi(y_2 x_1 \dots x_n)].$$

- c) Suppose  $\varphi$  has the form  $\neg \psi(x_1 \dots x_n)$ . Let  $s_\varphi$  be the formula

$$\exists y_1 [y = -y_1 \wedge s_\psi(y_1 x_1 \dots x_n)].$$

- d) Suppose  $\varphi$  has the form  $\psi(x_1 \dots x_n) \vee \chi(x_1 \dots x_n)$ . Let  $s_\varphi$  be the formula

$$\exists y_1 \exists y_2 [y = y_1 + y_2 \wedge s_\psi(y_1 x_1 \dots x_n) \wedge s_\chi(y_2 x_1 \dots x_n)].$$

- e) Suppose  $\varphi$  has the form  $\exists x \psi(xx_1 \dots x_n)$ . Let  $s_\varphi$  be the formula

$$\exists x s_\psi(yxx_1 \dots x_n) \wedge \forall x' \forall y' [s_\psi(y'x'x_1 \dots x_n) \rightarrow y' \leq y].$$

Let  $\sigma$  be the  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -formula stating that the supremum of the atoms of a  $BA$  exists;  $\sigma^U$  is the relativization of  $\sigma$  to the one-place predicate  $U$  of  $\mathcal{L}$ . The models of  $T_{BA} \cup \{\sigma\}$  are called separated  $BA$ s in [3]. Let  $T$  be the  $\mathcal{L}$ -theory

$$T = T_{BAU} \cup \{ \forall x_1 \dots \forall x_n \exists y s_\varphi(yx_1 \dots x_n) \mid \varphi(x_1 \dots x_n) \text{ in } \mathcal{L} \} \\ \cup \{ \sigma^U, s_\sigma(1) \}.$$

The last two axioms of  $T$  express, for a model  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$  of  $T_{BAU}$ , that  $A$  and each stalk  $B_p$  are separated  $BA$ s. Let  $\mathbf{K}$  be the class of  $\mathcal{L}$ -structures  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$  where  $B$  is a  $cBA$  and  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$ . We shall prove in section 4 that  $T$  is an axiomatization of the first-order theory of  $\mathbf{K}$ . The easy part of this is:

**3.2. THEOREM.** *Each structure  $\mathcal{M}$  in  $\mathbf{K}$  is a model of  $T$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A) \in \mathbf{K}$ , i.e.  $B$  is complete and  $A$  is relatively complete in  $B$ . Hence  $\mathcal{M} \models T_{BAU}$  and  $A$  is a separated  $BA$ . By 1.1,  $\| \varphi[b_1 \dots b_n] \|$  is clopen for every atomic formula  $\varphi$  of  $\mathcal{L}$  and arbitrary  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$ . If  $\| \varphi[b_1 \dots b_n] \|$  and  $\| [\psi[b_1 \dots b_n]] \|$  are clopen subsets of  $X$ , so are  $\| \neg \varphi[b_1 \dots b_n] \|$  and  $\| (\varphi \vee \psi)[b_1 \dots b_n] \|$ . Hence we assume that  $\varphi$

has the form  $\exists x \psi (xx_1 \dots x_n)$  and that  $\| \psi [bb_1 \dots b_n] \|$  is clopen for fixed  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$  and arbitrary  $b \in B$ . For the rest of the proof, we omit the parameters  $b_1, \dots, b_n$ . Let

$$u = \cup \{ \| \psi [\beta] \| \mid \beta \in B \}.$$

By our inductive assumption,  $u$  is an open subset of  $X$ . Choose, by Zorn's lemma, a maximal family  $F = \{ (b_i, c_i) \mid i \in I \}$  such that  $b_i \in B$ ,  $c_i$  is a clopen subset of  $u$ ,  $c_i \subseteq \| \psi [b_i] \|$ ,  $i \neq j$  implies  $c_i \cap c_j = \phi$ . It follows that  $c$ , the closure of  $\bigcup_{i \in I} c_i$ , includes  $u$  (by maximality of  $F$ ).  $A$  is a  $cBA$ ,

hence  $X$  is extremally disconnected and  $c$  is clopen. By completeness of  $B$ , there is some  $b \in B$  such that  $b \cdot e(c_i) = b_i$  for  $i \in I$ . Thus, for  $i \in I$ ,  $c_i \subseteq \| \psi [b] \|$ . So, for  $\beta \in B$ ,  $\| \psi [\beta] \| \subseteq u \subseteq c \subseteq \| \psi [b] \| = \| \exists x \psi (x) \|$ .

Finally we show that  $B_p$  is separated for each  $p \in X$ . Let  $\alpha(x)$  be the  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -formula stating that  $x$  is an atom and let  $\beta(x)$ ,  $\gamma(x)$  be the  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -formulas  $\alpha(x) \vee x = 0$  resp.  $\forall y (\alpha(y) \rightarrow y \leq x)$ . Put  $M = \{ f \in B \mid \| \beta [f] \| = 1 \|$  and let  $b$  be the supremum of  $M$  in  $B$ . We show that  $b(p)$  is, for each  $p \in X$ , the supremum of the atoms of  $B_p$ .

First suppose  $s \in B_p$  is an atom of  $B_p$ . There is some  $f \in M$  such that  $f(p) = s$  (note that  $\| \alpha [f] \|$  is clopen for each  $f \in B$ ). So  $f \leq b$  and  $s = f(p) \leq b(p)$ . — On the other hand, suppose  $t \in B_p$  and  $s \leq t$  for every atom  $s$  of  $B_p$ . Choose  $g \in B$  such that  $g(p) = t$ . Then  $p \in c = \| \gamma [g] \|$ . For  $f \in M$ ,  $e(c) \cdot f \leq g$ , since  $q \in c$  implies that  $f(q)$  is zero or an atom of  $B_q$  and thus  $f(q) \leq g(q)$ . By the definition of  $b$ ,  $e(c) \cdot b \leq g$ . This implies (by  $p \in c$ )  $b(p) \leq g(p) = t$ .

#### 4. DECIDABILITY AND COMPLETIONS OF $Th(\mathbf{K})$

Call  $T_{sBA} = T_{BA} \cup \{ \sigma \}$  the theory of separated  $BA$ s, where  $T_{BA}$  is the theory of  $BA$ s and  $\sigma$  was defined in section 3. We give a short review of the completions of  $T_{sBA}$ . Let, for  $n \in \omega$ ,  $\varphi_n$  be the  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -sentence stating that there are exactly  $n$  atoms and  $\psi$  the  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -sentence stating that there is a non-zero atomless element. Let  $\chi_n = \neg (\varphi_0 \vee \dots \vee \varphi_{n-1})$ ; so  $\chi_n$  says that there are at least  $n$  atoms. Define, for  $n \in \omega + 1$  and  $i \in 2 = \{0, 1\}$ , an  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -theory  $T_{ni}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} T_{n0} &= T_{sBA} \cup \{ \varphi_n, \neg \psi \} \\ T_{n1} &= T_{sBA} \cup \{ \varphi_n, \psi \} \end{aligned}$$

for  $n \in \omega$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\omega 0} &= T_{sBA} \cup \{\chi_n \mid n \in \omega\} \cup \{\neg \psi\} \\ T_{\omega 1} &= T_{sBA} \cup \{\chi_n \mid n \in \omega\} \cup \{\psi\}. \end{aligned}$$

Put  $\tau = \{T_{ni} \mid n \in \omega + 1, i \in 2\}$ . It is then clear that each separated  $BA$  satisfies exactly one of the theories in  $\tau$ , and for each  $t \in \tau$  there is a  $cBA$  satisfying  $t$ . Moreover, any two models of any  $t \in \tau$  are elementarily equivalent by 5.5.10 in [1]. Thus the theories  $t \in \tau$  are just the completions of  $T_{sBA}$  and can be thought of as being the elementary equivalence types of separated  $BAs$  or  $cBAs$ . Moreover, an  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -sentence holds in every separated  $BA$  iff it holds in every  $cBA$ . The following proposition is essential for the main theorems of this section:

4.1. PROPOSITION. *Let  $s, t \in \tau$ . Then there is a structure  $(B, A)$  in  $\mathbf{K}$  such that  $A$  is a model of  $s$  and each stalk  $B_p$  is a model of  $t$ .*

*Proof.* By the above remarks, choose  $cBAs$   $A$  and  $F$  which are models of  $s$  resp.  $t$ . Let  $A * F$  be the free product of  $A$  and  $F$ . Thus  $A$  is relatively complete in  $A * F$  and each stalk  $(A * F)_p$ , where  $p$  is an ultrafilter of  $A$ , is easily seen to be isomorphic to  $F$ , hence a model of  $t$ . Unfortunately,  $A * F$  is incomplete unless  $A$  or  $F$  is finite. So let  $B = (A * F)^*$  be the completion of  $A * F$ ; note that  $A * F$  is a dense subalgebra of  $B$ .  $(B, A) \in \mathbf{K}$ , since the inclusion maps from  $A$  to  $A * F$  and from  $A * F$  to  $B$  are complete. For  $p \in X$  (the Stone space of  $A$ ),  $B_p$  is a separated  $BA$  by 3.2 but in general a proper extension of  $(A * F)_p$ . We show, with the notations of section 1, that  $B_p$  is elementarily equivalent to  $F$ . For the following proof of this, recall that, for  $f \in F \setminus \{0\}$  and  $p \in X$ ,  $\pi_p(f) = f(p) \neq 0$  since  $F$  is independent from  $A$  in  $A * F \subseteq B$ . Thus, the restriction of  $\pi_p : B \rightarrow B_p$  to  $F$  is a monomorphism. The elementary equivalence of  $B_p$  and  $F$  is established by the following four claims.

*Claim 1.* For each atom  $f$  of  $F$ ,  $f(p)$  is an atom of  $B_p$  (hence, if  $F$  has at least  $n$  atoms, where  $n \in \omega$ , then  $B_p$  has at least  $n$  atoms): clearly,  $f(p) > 0$  for  $p \in X$ . Assume that

$$u = \{p \in X \mid f(p) \text{ is not an atom of } B_p\}$$

is non-empty. By 3.2,  $u$  is a clopen subset of  $X$ . Choose, by the maximum principle stated in section 3,  $b \in B$  such that  $b(p) = 0$  for  $p \notin u$  and  $0 < b(p) < f(p)$  for  $p \in u$ . Since  $b > 0$ , choose  $a \in A$  and  $g \in F$  such that  $0 < a \cdot g \leq b$ ; let  $p \in X$  such that  $a(p) \cdot g(p) \neq 0$ . Thus  $p \in u$ ,  $a(p) = 1$ , and

$0 < g(p) \leq b(p) < f(p)$ . It follows that  $0 < g < f$ , contradicting the fact that  $f$  was an atom of  $F$ .

*Claim 2.* If  $B_p$  has at least  $n$  atoms, where  $1 \leq n < \omega$ , then  $F$  has at least  $n$  atoms: assume that  $M$  is a subset of  $At(B_p)$ , the set of atoms of  $B_p$ , such that  $M$  has exactly  $n$  elements but  $At(F)$  has at most  $n - 1$  elements. We prove:

(a) Let  $x \in M$ . Then there is  $f_x \in At(F)$  such that  $f_x(p) = x$ .

Claim 2 follows from (a), since the assignment of  $f_x$  to  $x$  is injective. And (a) will follow from

(b) Let  $x \in M$ ,  $u$  a clopen neighbourhood of  $p$  such that, w.l.o.g., for  $q \in u$ ,  $B_q$  has at least one atom. Let  $b \in B$  such that, for  $q \notin u$ ,  $b(q) = 0$  and for  $q \in u$ ,  $b(q)$  is an atom of  $B_q$ , and  $b(p) = x$ . Then there are  $q \in u$  and  $f \in At(F)$  such that  $f(q) = b(q)$ . (Hence  $At(F)$  is non-empty).

Proof of (b). By  $b > 0$ , choose  $a \in A$ ,  $f \in F$  such that  $0 < a \cdot f \leq b$ . Since  $b(q) = 0$  for  $q \notin u$ , there is some  $q \in u$  such that  $a(q) \cdot f(q) \neq 0$ , which implies  $0 < f(q) \leq b(q)$ .  $f(q) = b(q)$ , since  $b(q)$  is an atom of  $B_q$ . Finally  $f \in At(F)$ , since a splitting of  $f$  in  $F$  into two non-zero disjoint elements would give rise to a splitting of  $b(q)$  in  $B_q$ .

Proof of (a). Let  $x \in M$  and choose  $u$  and  $b$  as in (b). Assume (a) is false. Then, for each  $f \in At(F)$ ,  $f(p) \neq x = b(p)$ ; by finiteness of  $At(F)$ , there is a clopen neighbourhood  $v$  of  $p$  such that, for  $q \in v$  and  $f \in At(F)$ ,  $b(q) \neq f(q)$ . Let  $c \in B$  such that  $c(q) = 0$  for  $q \notin v$  and  $c(q) = b(q)$  for  $q \in v$ . This contradicts (b), applied to  $v$  and  $c$  instead of  $u$  and  $b$ .

*Claim 3.* If  $F$  has a non-zero atomless element  $f$  (which means that  $F \restriction f$  is atomless), then each  $B_p$  has a non-zero atomless element  $x$ : let  $x = \pi_p(f)$ .  $x > 0$ , since  $\pi_p$  is one-one on  $F$ .  $F \restriction f$  and hence, by Claim 2,  $(B \restriction f)_p$  is atomless. So  $B_p \restriction x = \pi_p(B \restriction f) = (B \restriction f)_p$  is atomless.

*Claim 4.* If  $B_p$  has a non-zero atomless element  $x$ , then  $F$  has a non-zero atomless element  $f$ : assume that  $F$  is atomic. Let

$$u = \{q \in X \mid B_q \text{ is not atomic}\}.$$

$u$  is a clopen neighbourhood of  $p$ . By the maximum principle, choose  $b \in B$  such that  $b(q) = 0$  for  $q \notin u$ ,  $b(q)$  is a non-zero atomless element of

$B_q$  for  $q \in u$ ,  $b(p) = x$ . Choose  $a \in A$ ,  $g \in F$  such that  $0 < a \cdot g \leq b$ ; w.l.o.g.,  $g$  is an atom of  $F$ . Choose  $q \in X$  such that  $a(q) \cdot g(q) \neq 0$ . Thus  $q \in u$  and  $g(q) \leq b(q)$ . By Claim 1,  $g(q)$  is an atom of  $B_q$ , contradicting the choice of  $b(q)$ .

4.2. REMARK. Suppose that, for every  $i$  in an index set  $I$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_i = (B_i, A_i)$  is an element of  $\mathbf{K}$ . Then  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$ , where  $B = \prod_{i \in I} B_i$  and  $A = \prod_{i \in I} A_i$ , is in  $\mathbf{K}$ . Let  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_k)$  be an  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula and  $b_1, \dots, b_k \in B$ ,  $b_j = (b_{ij})_{i \in I}$ . Put  $a_i = e(\|\varphi[b_{i1} \dots b_{ik}]\|_{\mathcal{M}_i})$ . Then

$$e(\|\varphi[b_1 \dots b_k]\|_{\mathcal{M}}) = (a_i)_{i \in I}.$$

*Proof.* By induction on the complexity of  $\varphi$ .

We shall need the following Feferman-Vaught theorem about sheaves over Boolean spaces from [2]:

4.3. THEOREM (Comer). *Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be an arbitrary language. There is an effective assignment*

$$\varphi(x_1 \dots x_k) \mapsto (\Phi; \vartheta_1, \dots, \vartheta_m)$$

*for  $\mathcal{L}$ -formulas  $\varphi(x_1 \dots x_k)$  such that*

- a)  $\vartheta_1, \dots, \vartheta_m$  are  $\mathcal{L}$ -formulas having at most the free variables  $x_1 \dots x_k$ , and

$$\models (\bigvee_{1 \leq i \leq m} \vartheta_i) \wedge \bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} \neg(\vartheta_i \wedge \vartheta_j)$$

- b)  $\Phi$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -formula having at most the free variables  $y_1 \dots y_m$ ;

- c) for each sheaf  $\mathcal{S} = (S, \pi, X, \mu)$  of  $\mathcal{L}$ -structures such that  $X$  is a Boolean space and  $\|\psi[f_1 \dots f_n]\|$  is a clopen subset of  $X$  for every  $\psi(x_1 \dots x_n)$  in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in \Gamma(\mathcal{S})$ : if  $b_1, \dots, b_k \in \Gamma(\mathcal{S})$ , then

$$\Gamma(\mathcal{S}) \models \varphi[b_1 \dots b_k] \text{ iff } C \models \Phi[c_1 \dots c_m],$$

where  $C$  is the BA of clopen subsets of  $X$  and  $c_i = \|\vartheta_i[b_1 \dots b_k]\|$ .

For two separated BAs  $A$  and  $A'$ , let  $I$  be the set of partial functions  $f$  from  $A$  to  $A'$  such that  $\text{dom}(f) = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is a finite partition of  $A$  (where some of the  $a_i$  may be zero),  $\text{rge}(f) = \{a'_1, \dots, a'_n\}$  where  $a'_i = f(a_i)$  is a partition of  $A'$ , and every  $A \restriction a_i$  is elementarily equivalent

to  $A' \models a_i'$ . If  $A, A'$  are  $\aleph_1$ -saturated or  $\sigma$ -complete, the following conditions are equivalent:

- a)  $A \equiv A'$ ;
- b)  $I$  is non-empty;
- c)  $I$  has the back-and-forth property.

Moreover, if  $f \in I$  is as above and  $A, A'$  are arbitrary separated  $BA$ s, then  $(A, a_1, \dots, a_n) \equiv (A', a_1', \dots, a_n')$ .

Let  $T_{sBA2}$  be the  $\mathcal{L}$ -theory

$$T_{sBA2} = T_{sBA} \cup \{ \forall x (U(x) \leftrightarrow x = 0 \vee x = 1) \}.$$

Since  $T_{BA}$  is decidable,  $T_{sBA}$  and  $T_{sBA2}$  are decidable.

**4.4. THEOREM.** *There is an effective procedure deciding for every  $\mathcal{L}$ -sentence  $\varphi$  whether  $T \vdash \varphi$ . Moreover,  $T \vdash \varphi$  if and only if  $\varphi$  holds in every model  $\mathcal{M}$  in  $\mathbf{K}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi$  be given. Construct  $(\Phi(y_1 \dots y_m); \mathfrak{g}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{g}_m)$  by 4.3. For every  $i$  such that  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , decide whether  $T_{sBA2} \vdash \neg \mathfrak{g}_i$ . W.l.o.g., assume that  $T_{sBA2} \cup \{ \mathfrak{g}_i \}$  is consistent for  $1 \leq i \leq r$  and inconsistent for  $r+1 \leq i \leq m$ . By  $\vdash \mathfrak{g}_1 \vee \dots \vee \mathfrak{g}_m$ , we have  $1 \leq r$  (it is possible that  $r = m$ ). Next, construct the formula

$$\Phi'(y_1 \dots y_m) = \left( \bigwedge_{r+1 \leq i \leq m} (y_i = 0) \rightarrow \Phi(y_1 \dots y_m) \right).$$

We show the equivalence of

- a)  $T \vdash \varphi$ ;
- b)  $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi$  for every  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbf{K}$ ;
- c)  $T_{sBA} \vdash \forall y_1 \dots \forall y_m \Phi'(y_1 \dots y_m)$ .

Then, by decidability of  $T_{sBA}$ ,  $T$  is decidable and 4.4 is proved. *a) implies b)* by 3.2. To prove that *c) implies a)*, assume there is  $\mathcal{M} \models T$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \not\models \varphi$ , e.g.  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$ . Put  $a_i = e(\| \mathfrak{g}_i \|^\mathcal{M})$ . By 4.3 and  $\mathcal{M} \not\models \varphi$ , we see  $A \not\models \Phi[a_1 \dots a_m]$ . By our choice of  $r \leq m$ , we get  $a_{r+1} = \dots = a_m = 0$ . Thus  $A \not\models \Phi'[a_1 \dots a_m]$  and c) is false. Now assume c) does not hold; we show that b) is false. Let  $A'$  be a separated  $BA$  and  $a_1', \dots, a_m' \in A'$  such that  $a_{r+1}' = \dots = a_m' = 0$  and  $A' \not\models \Phi[a_1' \dots a_m']$ . W.l.o.g.,  $a_i' \neq 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ . By choice of  $r$ , there are  $t_1, \dots, t_r \in \tau$  such that  $t_i \models \mathfrak{g}_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ .

Let, for these  $i, s_i$  be the element of  $\tau$  such that  $A' \restriction a_i' \models s_i$ . By 4.1, there are  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A) \in \mathbf{K}$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_r \in A$  such that  $1 = a_1 + \dots + a_r$ ,  $a_i \cdot a_j = 0$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq r$ ,  $A \restriction a_i \models s_i$  and  $(B \restriction a_i)_p \models t_i$  for those  $p \in X$  satisfying  $a_i(p) = 1$ . So  $e(\| \mathfrak{g}_i \|^\mathcal{M}) = a_i$  by 4.2. Put  $a_{r+1} = \dots = a_m = 0$ . It follows that  $(A, a_1, \dots, a_m) \equiv (A', a_1', \dots, a_m')$ ,  $A \not\models \Phi[a_1 \dots a_m]$  and  $\mathcal{M} \not\models \varphi$  by 4.3.

In the next theorem, we characterize elementary equivalence of models of  $T$ . Call the following sentences in  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$  basic sentences:  $\varphi_n \wedge \psi$ ,  $\varphi_n \wedge \neg \psi$ ,  $\chi_n \wedge \psi$ ,  $\chi_n \wedge \neg \psi$  (where  $n \in \omega$ ). It follows by the analysis of the completions of  $T_{sBA}$  given in the beginning of this section that for each  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -sentence  $\mathfrak{g}$  there are basic sentences  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  such that

$$T_{sBA} \vdash (\mathfrak{g} \leftrightarrow \bigvee_{i=1}^n \beta_i) \wedge \bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \neg (\beta_i \wedge \beta_j).$$

This fact is easily extended to  $T_{sBA2}$ : by replacing each atomic formula  $U(t)$  where  $t$  is a term in  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$  by " $t = 0 \vee t = 1$ ", we see that for each  $\mathcal{L}$ -sentence  $\mathfrak{g}$  there are basic sentences  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  satisfying

$$T_{sBA2} \vdash (\mathfrak{g} \leftrightarrow \bigvee_{i=1}^n \beta_i) \wedge \bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \neg (\beta_i \wedge \beta_j).$$

Now, if  $\beta, \gamma$  are basic sentences, let  $\sigma_{\beta\gamma}$  be the following  $\mathcal{L}$ -sentence:

$$\sigma_{\beta\gamma} = \exists y (\gamma^y \wedge s_\beta(y)),$$

where  $s_\beta(y)$  is the  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula assigned to  $\beta$  in 3.1 and  $\gamma^y$  is the result of relativizing the quantifiers  $\exists x \varphi \dots$  in  $\gamma$  to  $\exists x (U(x) \wedge x \leq y \wedge \varphi^y \dots)$ . A model  $(B, A)$  of  $T$  satisfies  $\sigma_{\beta\gamma}$  iff  $A \restriction a \models \gamma$ , where  $a = e(c)$  and  $c = \| \beta \|$ .

4.5. THEOREM. Let  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$ ,  $\mathcal{M}' = (B', A')$  be models of  $T$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is elementarily equivalent to  $\mathcal{M}'$  if and only if, for any basic sentences  $\beta, \gamma$ ,

$$\mathcal{M} \models \sigma_{\beta\gamma} \text{ iff } \mathcal{M}' \models \sigma_{\beta\gamma}.$$

*Proof.* The only-if-part is clear. Suppose that  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$  satisfy the same sentences of the form  $\sigma_{\beta\gamma}$ . Let  $\varphi$  be an  $\mathcal{L}$ -sentence and  $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi$ ; we want to show that  $\mathcal{M}' \models \varphi$ . Let  $(\Phi(y_1 \dots y_m); \mathfrak{g}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{g}_m)$  be the sequence assigned to  $\varphi$  by 4.3; every  $\mathfrak{g}_i$  is an  $\mathcal{L}$ -sentence. Put  $a_i = e(\| \mathfrak{g}_i \|^\mathcal{M})$ ; by 4.3 and  $e: C \rightarrow A$  being an isomorphism, we have that  $\{a_1, \dots, a_m\}$



is a partition of  $A$  and  $A \models \Phi [a_1 \dots a_m]$ . In the same way, put  $a'_i = e'(\|\mathcal{G}_i\|^{\mathcal{M}'})$ ;  $\{a'_1, \dots, a'_m\}$  is a partition of  $A'$ . It is sufficient to show that  $(A, a_1, \dots, a_m) \equiv (A', a'_1, \dots, a'_m)$ , for this implies  $A' \models \Phi [a'_1 \dots a'_m]$  and finally  $\mathcal{M}' \models \varphi$  by 4.3.

For every  $\mathcal{G}_i$ , choose basic sentences  $\beta_{i1}, \dots, \beta_{in_i}$  such that

$$T_{sBA2} \vdash (\mathcal{G}_i \leftrightarrow \bigvee_j \beta_{ij} \wedge \bigwedge_{j < l} \neg (\beta_{ij} \wedge \beta_{il}).$$

Put  $\alpha_{ij} = e(\|\beta_{ij}\|^{\mathcal{M}})$ ,  $\alpha_{ij}' = e'(\|\beta_{ij}\|^{\mathcal{M}'})$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n_i$ . Then  $a_i$  is the disjoint sum of the  $\alpha_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n_i$ ),  $a'_i$  is the disjoint sum of the  $\alpha'_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n_i$ ). For every  $i, j$ ,

$$A \restriction \alpha_{ij} \equiv A' \restriction \alpha'_{ij} :$$

let  $\gamma$  be any basic sentence of  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$  and assume  $A \restriction \alpha_{ij} \models \gamma$ ; we want to show that  $A' \restriction \alpha'_{ij} \models \gamma$ . But  $A \restriction \alpha_{ij} \models \gamma$  means that  $\mathcal{M} \models \sigma_{\beta_{ij}\gamma}$ . By our main assumption,  $\mathcal{M}' \models \sigma_{\beta_{ij}\gamma}$  and  $A' \restriction \alpha'_{ij} \models \gamma$ .

We have shown that the partial function  $f$  mapping  $\alpha_{ij}$  to  $\alpha'_{ij}$  is an element of the set of back-and-forth-isomorphisms defined after 4.3. Hence,

$$(A, \alpha_{11}, \dots, \alpha_{mn_m}) \equiv (A', \alpha'_{11}, \dots, \alpha'_{mn_m})$$

and

$$(A, a_1, \dots, a_m) \equiv (A', a'_1, \dots, a'_m).$$

We shall finally describe the completions of  $T$  by giving a one-one correspondance between a set  $P$  (consisting of pairs of mappings from  $\omega \times 2$  to  $(\omega+1) \times 2$ ) and these completions. For  $m, m' \in \omega+1$  and  $j, j' \in 2$ , define

$$(m, j) + (m', j') = (m'', j'')$$

where  $m''$  is the cardinal sum of  $m$  and  $m'$  and  $j''$  is the maximum of  $j$  and  $j'$ . Let

$$P = \{(\alpha, \rho) \mid \alpha, \rho : \omega \times 2 \rightarrow (\omega+1) \times 2 \text{ and, for } (n, i) \in \omega \times 2, \rho(n, i) = \rho(n+1, i) + \alpha(n, i)\}.$$

In the following definition, we refer to the  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ -theories  $T_{ni}$  defined in the beginning of this section. For  $(\alpha, \rho) \in P$ , let  $T_{\alpha\rho}$  the  $\mathcal{L}$ -theory

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\alpha\rho} = T \cup & \{ \exists x (\sigma_{(\varphi_n \wedge \neg \psi)}(x) \wedge \gamma^x) \mid n \in \omega, \gamma \in T_{\alpha(n,0)} \} \\ & \cup \{ \exists x (\sigma_{(\chi_n \wedge \neg \psi)}(x) \wedge \gamma^x) \mid n \in \omega, \gamma \in T_{\rho(n,0)} \} \\ & \cup \{ \exists x (\sigma_{(\varphi_n \wedge \psi)}(x) \wedge \gamma^x) \mid n \in \omega, \gamma \in T_{\alpha(n,1)} \} \\ & \cup \{ \exists x (\sigma_{(\chi_n \wedge \psi)}(x) \wedge \gamma^x) \mid n \in \omega, \gamma \in T_{\rho(n,1)} \}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$  is a model of  $T$ , then  $\mathcal{M} \models T_{\alpha\rho}$  iff, for  $a_1 = e(\|\varphi_n \wedge \neg \psi\|^{\mathcal{M}})$   $A \restriction a_1 \models T_{\alpha(n,0)}$ , ..., for  $a_4 = e(\|\chi_n \wedge \psi\|^{\mathcal{M}})$ ,  $A \restriction a_4 \models T_{\rho(n,1)}$ .

4.6. THEOREM.  $\{T_{\alpha\rho} \mid (\alpha, \rho) \in P\}$  is the set of completions of  $T$ . Moreover, each  $T_{\alpha\rho}$  has a model in  $\mathbf{K}$ .

*Proof.* If  $(\alpha, \rho)$  and  $(\alpha', \rho')$  are different elements of  $P$ , then  $T_{\alpha\rho} \cup T_{\alpha'\rho'}$  is inconsistent (recall that every  $T_{mj}$ , where  $m \in \omega + 1$ ,  $j \in 2$ , is complete in  $\mathcal{L}_{BA}$ ). If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a model of  $T$ , there is some  $(\alpha, \rho) \in P$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \models T_{\alpha\rho}$  (e.g., put  $a_1 = e(\|\varphi_n \wedge \neg \psi\|^{\mathcal{M}})$  and let  $\alpha(n, 0)$  be the pair  $(k, j) \in (\omega + 1) \times 2$  such that  $A \restriction a_1 \models T_{kj}$ , etc.). If  $(\alpha, \rho) \in P$  and  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}'$  are models of  $T_{\alpha\rho}$ , then  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$  are elementarily equivalent by 4.5, since  $T_{\alpha\rho}$  says which sentences of the form  $\sigma_{\beta\gamma}$  are satisfied in  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$ . So it is sufficient to prove that each  $T_{\alpha\rho}$  has a model which lies even in  $\mathbf{K}$ .

For simplicity, we construct  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbf{K}$  satisfying the part of  $T_{\alpha\rho}$  which refers to  $T_{\alpha(n,0)}$  and  $T_{\rho(n,0)}$  — for, if  $\mathcal{N} \in \mathbf{K}$  satisfies the part of  $T_{\alpha\rho}$  which refers to  $T_{\alpha(n,1)}$  and  $T_{\rho(n,1)}$ , then  $\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{N} \in \mathbf{K}$  is a model of  $T_{\alpha\rho}$ . Abbreviate  $\alpha(n, 0)$  by  $t_n$ ,  $\rho(n, 0)$  by  $s_n$ . We first construct a complete  $BA$   $A$  and a sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \omega}$  in  $A$  such that the  $a_n$  are pairwise disjoint and

$$(*) \quad A \restriction a_n \models t_n, \quad A \restriction r_n \models s_n$$

where  $r_n = -(a_0 + \dots + a_{n-1})$ . Let  $A$  be a complete  $BA$  which is a model of  $s_0$ . Suppose  $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in A$  are pairwise disjoint and  $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}, r_n$  satisfy (\*). Since  $s_n = s_{n+1} + t_n$ ,  $A \restriction r_n \models s_n$  and  $A$  is complete, there are  $a_n$  and  $r_{n+1} \in A$  such that  $r_n = a_n + r_{n+1}$ ,  $a_n \cdot r_{n+1} = 0$ ,  $A \restriction a_n \models t_n$  and  $A \restriction r_{n+1} \models s_{n+1}$ . — Finally, let  $a_\omega = -\sum_{n \in \omega} a_n$ . By the proof of 4.1,

there is, for  $n \in \omega$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_n = (B_n, A_n) \in \mathbf{K}$  such that  $A_n = A \restriction a_n$  and each stalk  $(B_n)_p$  of the sheaf representation of  $\mathcal{M}_n$  is a model of  $\varphi_n \wedge \neg \psi$ . Moreover there is  $\mathcal{M}_\omega = (B_\omega, A_\omega) \in \mathbf{K}$  such that  $A_\omega = A \restriction a_\omega$  and each stalk  $(B_\omega)_p$  of the sheaf representation of  $\mathcal{M}_\omega$  is a model of  $T_{\omega 0}$ . Put  $\mathcal{M} = (B, A)$  where  $B$  is a complete  $BA$  which lies over  $A$  as  $\prod_{n \in \omega} B_n$  lies over  $\prod_{n \in \omega} A_n$ . By 4.2,  $e(\|\varphi_n \wedge \neg \psi\|^{\mathcal{M}}) = a_n$  and  $e(\|\chi_n \wedge \neg \psi\|^{\mathcal{M}}) = r_n$ ; so  $\mathcal{M}$  is a model of the part of  $T_{\alpha\rho}$  referring to  $T_{\alpha(n,0)}$  and  $T_{\rho(n,0)}$ .

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