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## SUBSETS OF SUPERSTABLE STRUCTURES ARE WEAKLY BENIGN

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Baizhanov and Baldwin [1] introduce the notions of benign and weakly benign sets to investigate the preservation of stability by naming arbitrary subsets of a stable structure. They connect the notion with work of Baldwin, Benedikt, Bouscaren, Casanovas, Poizat, and Ziegler. Stimulated by [1], we investigate here the existence of benign or weakly benign sets.

- DEFINITION 0.1. (1) The set A is benign in M if for every  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta \in M$  if  $p = \operatorname{tp}(\alpha/A) = \operatorname{tp}(\beta/A)$  then  $\operatorname{tp}_*(\alpha/A) = \operatorname{tp}_*(\beta/A)$  where the \*-type is the type in the language L\* with a new predicate P denoting A.
- (2) The set A is weakly benign in M if for every  $\alpha, \beta \in M$  if  $p = \operatorname{stp}(\alpha/A) = \operatorname{stp}(\beta/A)$  then  $\operatorname{tp}_*(\alpha/A) = \operatorname{tp}_*(\beta/A)$  where the \*-type is the type in language with a new predicate P denoting A.

CONJECTURE 0.2 (too optimistic). If *M* is a model of stable theory *T* and  $A \subseteq M$  then *A* is benign.

Shelah observed, after learning of the Baizhanov-Baldwin reductions of the problem to equivalence relations, the following counterexample.

LEMMA 0.3. There is an  $\omega$ -stable rank 2 theory T with ndop which has a model M and set A such that A is not benign in M.

PROOF. The universe of M is partitioned into two sets denoted by Q and R. Let Q denote  $\omega \times \omega$  and R denote  $\{0,1\}$ . Define E(x, y, 0) to hold if the first coordinates of x and y are the same and E(x, y, 1) to hold if the second coordinates of x and y are the same. Let A consist of one element from each E(x, y, 0)-class and one element of all but one E(x, y, 1)-class such that no two members of A are equivalent for either equivalence relation. It is easy to check that letting  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ denote the two elements of R, we have a counterexample. In this case, the type p is algebraic. Algebraicity is a completely artificial restriction. Replace each  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ by an infinite set of points which behave exactly as  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  respectively. We still have a counterexample. In either case,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  have different strong types. This leads to the following weakening of the conjecture.  $\dashv$ 

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CONJECTURE 0.4 (Revised). If M is a model of stable theory T and A is an arbitrary subset of M then A is weakly benign.

We give here a proof of Conjecture 0.4 in the superstable case. There are two steps. In the first we show that if (M, A) is not (weakly) benign then there is a certain configuration within M. (This uses only T stable.) The second shows that this configuration is contradicted for superstable T. Note that if (M, A) is not weakly benign, neither is any  $L^*$ -elementary extension of (M, A) so we may assume any counterexample is sufficiently saturated.

**§1.** Refining a counterexample. In this section we choose a specific way in which a sufficiently saturated pair (M, A) where Th(M) is stable, fails to be weakly benign. Fix M, a  $\kappa^+$ -saturated model of a stable theory T where  $\kappa = \kappa^{|T|}$  is regular.

We introduce some notation. Recall that A is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in M if every type over (a subset of A) whose domain has cardinality less than  $\kappa$  and which is realized in M, is also realized in A. First note that for any  $c \in M - A$ , there is a pair  $(M_1, A_1)$  such that  $A_1$  is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in A;  $A_1 \cup c \subseteq M_1$  and  $M_1$  is independent from A over  $A_1$ ;  $A_1$  and  $M_1$  have cardinality  $\kappa$  and  $M_1$  is  $\kappa$ -saturated. For this, choose  $A_0 \subset A$  with c independent from A over  $A_0$  and  $|A_0| < \kappa$  (which follows since  $\kappa \ge |T|^+ \ge \kappa(T)$ . Then extend  $A_0$  to a subset  $A_1$  of A with cardinality at most  $\kappa$  which is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in A. Finally, let  $M_1 \prec M$  be  $\kappa$ -prime over  $A_1 \cup c$ . We have shown the following class  $K_c$  is not empty.

- NOTATION 1.1. (1) For any  $c \in M$ , let  $K_c$  be the class of pairs  $(M_1, A_1)$  with  $c \in M_1 \prec M$  such that  $A_1$  is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in A;  $A_1 \cup c \subseteq M_1$  and  $M_1$  is independent from A over  $A_1$ ;  $A_1$  and  $M_1$  have cardinality  $\kappa$  and  $M_1$  is  $\kappa$ -saturated with  $|M_1| \leq \kappa$ .
- (2) For any a, b in M which realize the same type over A, let  $\mathbf{K}_{a,b}^1$  be the set of tuples  $\langle A_1, M_a, M_b, N_a, g \rangle$  such that  $(M_a, A_1)$  and  $(M_b, A_1)$  are in  $\mathbf{K}_a, \mathbf{K}_b$  respectively, g is an isomorphism between  $M_a$  and  $M_b$  (subsets of M) over  $A_1$  (taking a to b),  $N_a$  contains  $M_a$  and is saturated with cardinality  $\kappa$ , and  $N_a$  is independent from A over  $A_1$ .
- (3) Let  $K_{a,b}^2$  be the set of tuples  $\langle A_1, M_a, M_b, N_a, g \rangle \in K_{a,b}^1$  such that g is an (c) Let \$\mathcal{P}\_{a,b}\$ be the every input (eq. (a, b, a, b), a, a, b), and b isomorphism between \$M\_a^{eq}\$ and \$M\_b^{eq}\$ over \$A\_1^{eq}\$ (taking a to b). a and b realize the same type over \$A\_1^{eq}\$, so they realize the same strong type over \$A\_1\$.
  (4) We will write \$K^i\$ to denote either \$K^1\$ or \$K^2\$. Note the only difference between
- them is that  $K^2$  has a more restrictive requirement on the isomorphism g.

Note that the last clause of item 2 implies that  $N_a$  is independent from A over  $N_a \cap A$  and that  $N_a \cap A = A_1 = M_a \cap A$ . Moreover, if  $\langle A_1, M_a, M_b, N_a, g \rangle \in \mathbf{K}_{a,b}$ and  $B \subseteq A$  with  $|B| \leq \kappa$  then there is an  $\langle A'_1, M'_a, M'_b, N'_a, g' \rangle \in \mathbf{K}_{a,b}$  with  $A_1 \cup B \subseteq \mathbf{K}_{a,b}$  $A'_{1}$ . (Just include B when making the construction from the first paragraph of this section to show  $K_{a,b}$  is nonempty). We need a couple of other properties of  $K_{a,b}$ . Note that  $K_{a,b}$  is naturally partially ordered by coordinate by coordinate inclusion.

LEMMA 1.2. Every increasing chain from  $\mathbf{K}_{ab}^{i}$  of length  $\delta$  a limit ordinal less than  $\kappa^+$  has an upper bound in  $K_{a,b}^i$ .

**PROOF.** If the cofinality of the chain is at least  $\kappa$ , just take the union (in each coordinate). We check that  $N_a^{\delta}$ , A are independent over  $A^{\delta}$ : By induction, for every

 $\alpha < \beta < \delta$ ,  $tp(N_a^{\alpha}/A)$  does not fork over  $A_1^{\beta}$  (by monotonicity of nonforking). Hence if  $\delta$  is a limit ordinal,  $tp(N_a^{\delta}/A)$  does not fork over  $A_1^{\delta}$ .

But if the cofinality is smaller the union may not preserve  $\kappa$ -saturation. In this case, let  $\langle A'_1, M'_a, M'_b, N'_a, g' \rangle$  denote the union of the respective chains; each has cardinality  $\kappa$ . Choose  $A_1 \subseteq A$  with  $|A_1| = \kappa$  and such that  $A_1$  is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in A and  $A_1$  contains  $A'_1$ . Then let the bound be  $\langle A_1, M_a, M_b, N_a, g \rangle$  where  $M_a$  is  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M'_a \cup A_1$ ,  $M_b$  is  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M'_b \cup A_1$ , g is the induced isomorphism extending g' and  $N_a$  is any  $\kappa$ -saturated elementary extension of  $M_a \cup N'_a$  in M with  $N_a$  independent from A over  $A_1$ .

LEMMA 1.3. If  $t = \langle A_1, M_a, M_b, N_a, g \rangle \in \mathbf{K}_{a,b}^i$  and  $p \in S(M_a)$  is non-algebraic, orthogonal to A and  $p \not\perp \operatorname{tp}(N_a/M_a)$ , then there is  $t' = \langle A'_1, M'_a, M'_b, N'_a, g' \rangle \in \mathbf{K}_{a,b}^i$  with t' extending t and  $\operatorname{tp}(N_a/M'_a)$  forking over  $M_a$ .

PROOF. Since M is  $\kappa^+$ -saturated, we can find  $d \in M$  realizing p such that  $\operatorname{tp}(d/N_a)$  forks over  $M_a$  and  $d' \in M$  realizing g(p). Now, construct t' by letting  $A'_1 = A_1$ ,  $M'_a$  be  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M_a \cup \{d\}$ ,  $M'_b$  be  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M_b \cup \{d'\}$ , g' be an extension of g taking d to d', and  $N'_a \prec M$  any  $\kappa$ -saturated extension of  $M'_a \cup N_a$ . We need to show that  $M'_a$  and  $M'_b$  are independent from A over  $A'_1$ . For this, note that since  $p \in S(M_a)$  is orthogonal to A (a fortiori to  $A_1$ ) and A is independent from  $M_a \cup \{d\}$ , it follows that  $M'_a$  is independent from A over  $M'_a$ . Since  $M'_a$  is  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M_a \cup \{d\}$ , it follows that  $M'_a$  is independent from A over  $A'_1$ . An analogous argument shows  $M'_b$  is independent from A over  $A'_1$ . Since  $d \in M'_a$ , we have fulfilled the lemma.  $\dashv$ 

For any ordinal  $\mu$  and any sequence  $\langle \mathbf{a}_i : i < \mu \rangle$  and any finite  $w \subseteq \mu$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_w$  denotes  $\langle \mathbf{a}_i : i \in w \rangle$ . We require one further technical notion.

DEFINITION 1.4. We say  $M_a$  is A-full in M if for any  $N \ltimes$ -prime over  $M_aA$  and for any  $C_0 \subseteq M_a$ ,  $|C_0| \leq |T|$ ,  $C_1 \subseteq A$  with  $|C_1| \leq |T|$ , and  $C_2$  with  $C_0 \subseteq C_2$ ,  $C_1 \subseteq C_2 \subseteq N$ , and  $|C_2| \leq |T|$ , there is an elementary map f taking  $C_1C_2$  into  $M_a$  over  $C_0$  with  $f(C_1) \subseteq A$  and if  $C_2$  is independent from A over  $C_1$  then  $f(C_2)$  is independent from A over  $f(C_1)$ .

We prove a characterization of a weakly benign pair; a similar result for benign (using  $K^1$  instead of  $K^2$ ) also holds. In view of the counterexample in given in the introduction, weakly benign is the interesting case.

LEMMA 1.5. Use the notation of 1.1. Suppose (M, A) is  $\kappa^+$ -saturated where  $\kappa = \kappa^{|T|}$  is regular and T = Th(M) is stable. The following are equivalent.

- (1) (M, A) is not weakly benign.
- (2) There exist  $A_*, M_a, N_a, M_b, g$  contained in M with  $a \in M_a, b \in M_b$  such that: (a)  $\langle A_*, M_a, M_b, N_a, g \rangle \in \mathbf{K}^2_{a,b}$  and  $M_a \neq N_a$ .
  - (b)  $M_a$  is A-full in M.
  - (c)  $tp(N_a/M_a)$  is orthogonal to every nonalgebraic type in  $S(M_a)$  which is orthogonal to A.
  - (d) If  $\mathbf{d} \in N_a M_a$ , there is no  $\mathbf{d}' \in M$  which realizes  $g(\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{d}/M_a))$  and such that  $\mathbf{d}'$  is independent from A over  $M_b$ .

We can easily deduce from condition a) that  $N_a$  is independent from A over  $A_*$ and also that  $M_a$  and  $M_b$  are isomorphic over  $A_*$  by a map g taking a to b and preserving strong types over A, i.e.,  $g \upharpoonright (A^*)^{eq}$  is the identity. By general properties of orthogonality, we could rephrase item c) as:  $tp(N_a/M_a)$  is orthogonal to every nonalgebraic type in  $S(M_a)$  which is orthogonal to  $A_*$ .

**PROOF OF LEMMA 1.5.** First we show that condition (2) implies condition (1). By condition (2a), there is an a' in  $N_a - M_a$ . Note that since  $A^*$  is relatively  $\kappa^+$ -saturated in A and  $M_a(M_b)$  is independent from A over  $A^*$ ,  $M_a \cap A = M_b \cap A = A^*$ . It follows that  $g \cup (id \upharpoonright acl(A^{eq}))$  is an elementary map in  $L^{eq}$ . Let  $\mathbf{a} = \langle a_i : i < \kappa \rangle$  enumerate  $M_a - A$  with  $a_0 = a$ ; denote  $g(a_i)$  by  $b_i$  so  $\mathbf{b} = \langle b_i : i < \kappa \rangle$  enumerates  $M_b$ . For any finite set of L-formulas  $\Delta$  and finite subset w of  $\kappa$ , let  $\phi_{\Delta,w}(\mathbf{x}; a', \mathbf{a}_w, \mathbf{b}_w)$  be the  $L^*$ -formula which asserts that  $x\mathbf{b}_w$  and  $a'\mathbf{a}_w$  realize the same  $\Delta$ -type over A. For any finite w,  $\mathbf{a}_w$  and  $\mathbf{b}_w$  realize the same L-type over A.

Now, let  $q = \{ \phi_{\Delta,w}(\mathbf{x}; a', \mathbf{a}_w, \mathbf{b}_w) : 0 \in w \subset_{\omega} \kappa, \Delta \subset_{\omega} L \}$ . Putting  $0 \in w$  guarantees a, b are in any relevant  $\mathbf{a}_w, \mathbf{b}_w$ . So q is a set of  $\kappa$   $L^*$ -formulas with free variable x and parameters from  $M_a \cup M_b \cup \{a'\}$ . If q is finitely satisfied in (M, A), then q is realized in M by some b', since M is  $\kappa^+$ -saturated as an  $L^*$ -structure. But since a' is independent from A over  $M_a, b'$  realizes the unique nonforking extension of  $g(\operatorname{tp}(a'/M_a))$  to  $M_b \cup A$  contradicting condition d). If q is not finitely satisfiable, there is a formula  $\phi_{\Delta,w}$  which demonstrates the  $L^*$  type of  $\mathbf{a}_w$  and  $\mathbf{b}_w$  over A are different.

We will use the following basic fact (compare Lemma I.1.12 of [2]):

- FACT 1.6. (1) If  $A_1$  is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in A and C is independent from A over  $A_1$ , then  $CA_1$  is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in CA.
- (2) If  $A_1$  is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in A and D is  $\kappa$ -atomic over  $A_1$ , D is independent from A over  $A_1$ .

To show (1) implies (2) of Lemma 1.5, we suppose that **a** and **b** realize the same (strong)-type over A but that there is an a' such that there is no  $b' \in M$  with  $\mathbf{a}a' \equiv_{A,L} \mathbf{b}b'$ . We fix  $\langle a, b \rangle$  as the **a**, **b** and analyze  $K_{a,b}^2$  below.

LEMMA 1.7. There is a  $t = \langle A_*, M_a, M_b, N_a, g \rangle \in \mathbf{K}^2_{a,b}$  such that

- (A)  $N_a \neq M_a$ ,
- (B)  $\operatorname{tp}(N_a/M_a)$  is orthogonal to every nonalgebraic type in  $S(M_a)$ , which is orthogonal to A.
- (C) If  $\mathbf{d} \in N_a M_a$ , there is no  $\mathbf{d}' \in M$  which realizes  $g(\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{d}/M_a))$  and such that  $\mathbf{d}'$  is independent from A over  $M_b$ .
- (D)  $M_a$  is A-full.

**PROOF.** Try to construct by induction a sequence  $\langle t_{\alpha} : \alpha < \kappa^+ \rangle$  where  $t_{\alpha} = \langle A^{\alpha}_*, M^{\alpha}_a, M^{\alpha}_b, N^{\alpha}_a, g^{\alpha} \rangle$  of elements of  $K^2_{a,b}$  which are increasing in the natural partial order, continuous at limit ordinals of cofinality greater than  $\kappa_r(T)$ ;  $t_0$  is any element of  $K^2_{a,b}$  with  $a' \in N^{\alpha}_a$ .

- (1) If  $\alpha$  is an even ordinal there are several cases.
  - (a) Suppose condition (B) fails, i.e. for some  $d \in N_a$ ,  $p = \operatorname{tp}(d/M_a)$  is nonorthogonal to some stationary type  $q \in S(M_a)$  which is orthogonal to A. Then by Lemma 1.3, there is  $t' = \langle A'_*, M'_a, M'_b, N'_a, g' \rangle \in \mathbf{K}^2_{a,b}$  with t' extending t and  $\operatorname{tp}(N_a/M'_a)$  forks over  $M_a$ .
  - (b) Suppose condition (B) holds.
    - (i) If  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal of cofinality  $\kappa$ , stop.

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- (ii) If  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal of cofinality  $< \kappa$  or  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal, let  $t_{\alpha+1} = t_{\alpha}$ .
- (2)  $\alpha$  is an odd successor ordinal. Choose an auxiliary  $\hat{M}_a^{\alpha} \kappa$ -prime over  $M_a^{\alpha} A$ . Choose  $A_*^{\alpha+1}, M_a^{\alpha+1}, M_b^{\alpha+1}$  such that  $A_*^{\alpha} \subseteq A_*^{\alpha+1} \subseteq A, |A_*^{\alpha+1}| = \kappa$  and so that

$$(M_a^{\alpha+1}, A_*^{\alpha+1}) \prec_{L_{(|T|^+ |T|^+)}} (\hat{M}_a^{\alpha}, A)$$

and  $M_a^{\alpha+1}$  is  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M_a^{\alpha} A_*^{\alpha+1}$ . This is possible since  $\kappa = \kappa^{|T|}$ . In particular,  $M_a^{\alpha+1}$  is independent from A over  $A_*^{\alpha+1}$ . The  $\kappa$ -primeness allows us to easily construct  $M_b^{\alpha+1}$  and  $g_{\alpha+1}$ . Now choose  $N_a^{\alpha+1}$  to be a  $\kappa$ -saturated extension of  $M_a^{\alpha+1}$  that is independent from A over  $A_*^{\alpha+1}$ 

(3) If  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal choose  $t_{\alpha}$  by Lemma 1.2.

We cannot carry out this construction for  $\kappa^+$  steps. If we did, by clause (1) of the construction at each limit  $\alpha$  with  $cf(\alpha) = \kappa$ , clause (B) fails. Thus,  $M_a^{\alpha+1}$  depends on  $N_a^{\alpha}$  over  $M_a^{\alpha}$  for all such  $\alpha$ , which contradicts stability. (If we were dealing with finite sequences, the bound would be  $\kappa(T)$ ; since we deal with sets of cardinality  $\kappa$ , the bound is  $\kappa^+$ .)

Fix  $\alpha$  where the construction stops. We have constructed  $t_{\alpha} = \langle A_{\alpha}^{\alpha}, M_{\alpha}^{\alpha}, M_{\alpha}^{\beta}, N_{\alpha}^{\alpha}, g^{\alpha} \rangle$  but for any choice of  $t_{\alpha+1} \in \mathbf{K}_{a,b}^2$ ,  $M_a^{\alpha+1}$  is independent from  $N_a^{\alpha}$  over  $M_a^{\alpha}$ . Note that each member of  $t_{\alpha} = \langle A_{\alpha}^{\alpha}, M_{\alpha}^{\alpha}, M_{b}^{\alpha}, N_{\alpha}^{\alpha}, g^{\alpha} \rangle$  is the union of the respective member of  $t_{\beta}$  over  $\beta < \alpha$ . We claim this  $t_{\alpha}$  is a *t* satisfying the conditions of the lemma.

For clause (A) note  $N_a^{\alpha} \neq M_a^{\alpha}$  since  $a' \in N_a^{\alpha}$  and a' cannot be in the domain of  $g^{\alpha}$  by the original choice of a'. Since the construction stopped clause (B), holds.

For clause (C), we must show that if  $\mathbf{d} \in N_a - M_a$ , there is no  $\mathbf{d}' \in M$  which realizes  $g(\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{d}/M_a))$  and such that  $\mathbf{d}'$  is independent from A over  $M_b$ . Fix  $\mathbf{d} \in N_a - M_a$ ; if such a  $\mathbf{d}'$  exists, choose  $M_a^{\alpha+1}, M_b^{\alpha+1}$  contained in M prime over  $M_a^{\alpha}\mathbf{d}$ and  $M_b^{\alpha}\mathbf{d}'$  respectively. We easily extend  $g^{\alpha}$  to  $g^{\alpha+1}$  mapping  $M_a^{\alpha+1}$  to  $M_b^{\alpha+1}$ . By the construction,  $A_*^{\alpha}$  is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated in A. So,  $M_a^{\alpha} \cup \{\mathbf{d}\}$  and A are independent over  $A_*^{\alpha}$  by monotonicity, as  $N_a^{\alpha}$  is independent from A over  $A_*^{\alpha}$ . Now by Fact 1.6 (1),  $M_a^{\alpha} \cup \{\mathbf{d}\}$  is relatively  $\kappa$ -saturated inside  $M_a^{\alpha} \cup \{\mathbf{d}\} \cup A$ . Whence, by Fact 1.6 (2)  $M_a^{\alpha+1}$  and A are independent over  $M_a^{\alpha}$ . Similarly, since  $\mathbf{d}'$  is independent from A over  $M_b, M_b^{\alpha+1}$  is independent from A over  $A_*^{\alpha}$ . But now,  $N_a^{\alpha}$  depends on  $M_a^{\alpha+1}$  over  $M_a^{\alpha}$  because  $d \in (M_a^{\alpha+1} \cap N_a^{\alpha}) - M_a^{\alpha}$  and we have violated the choice of  $\alpha$ .

Finally we verify clause (D):  $M_a$  is A-full. Choose N, which is  $\kappa$ -prime over  $AM_a$ . Then N can be embedded over  $AM_a$  into  $\hat{M}_a^{\alpha} = \bigcup_{i < \alpha} \hat{M}_a^i$ . By the Tarski union of chains theorem (using clause (2) of the construction),  $(M_a^{\alpha}, A \cap M_a^{\alpha}) \prec_{L_{|T|^+, |T|^+}} (\hat{M}_a^{\alpha}, A)$ . Let  $C_0$ ,  $C_1$ ,  $C_2 \subseteq N$  satisfy the hypotheses of the definition of A-full. The elementary submodel condition easily allows us to define the required function f.

And thus, we have proved Lemma 1.5.

 $\dashv$ 

§2. The superstable case. The aim of this section is to prove that if M is a model of a superstable theory and  $A \subset M$ , then (M, A) is weakly benign. This is a

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generalization of a result of Bouscaren [3], who showed, in our terminology that every *submodel* of a superstable structure is benign.

THEOREM 2.1. If M is a model of a superstable theory and  $A \subset M$ , then (M, A) is weakly benign.

PROOF. We work in  $\mathscr{M}^{eq}$ . Without loss of generality, assume (M, A) is  $\kappa^+$ -saturated for a regular  $\kappa$  satisfying  $\kappa^{|T|} = \kappa$ . By Lemma 1.5 if (M, A) is not weakly benign, there exist  $A_*$ ,  $M_a$ ,  $N_a$ ,  $M_b$ , g contained in M satisfying the conditions of Lemma 1.5 and with  $\langle A_*, M_a, M_b, N_a, g \rangle \in \mathbf{K}^2_{a,b}$ .

Since  $M_a$  is properly contained in  $N_a$ , we can choose  $\mathbf{c} \in M_a$  and  $\phi(x, \mathbf{c})$  to have minimal *D*-rank among all formulas with  $\phi(N_a, \mathbf{c}) \neq \phi(M_a, \mathbf{c})$ . Then for any  $d^* \in \phi(N_a, \mathbf{c}) \setminus \phi(M_a, \mathbf{c})$ ,  $p^* = \operatorname{tp}(d^*/M_a)$  is regular. Without loss of generality again, we can fix  $d^*$ , which does not fork over  $\mathbf{c}$  and so that  $p^*$  has the same *D*-rank as  $\phi(x, \mathbf{c})$ and  $\operatorname{tp}(d^*/\mathbf{c})$  is stationary. By clause (c) of Lemma 1.5,  $p^*$  is not orthogonal to  $A_*$ . So, there is a  $q' \in S(M_a)$  which does not fork over  $A_*$  and is nonorthogonal and so non-weakly orthogonal to  $p^*$ . Fix  $C \subseteq A_*$  with  $|C| \leq |T|$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  is independent from  $A_*$  over *C*. Without loss of generality  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{d}^*/A_*\mathbf{c}) \not\perp^w q \upharpoonright (A_*\mathbf{c})$  and  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{d}^*/C\mathbf{c}) \not\perp^w$  $q \upharpoonright (C\mathbf{c})$ . Let  $\mathscr{P} = \{p : p \text{ is regular, stationary, and nonorthogonal to } p^*\}$ .  $\mathscr{P}$  is based on  $B = \operatorname{acl}^{\operatorname{eq}}(C)$ , i.e. every automorphism of  $\mathscr{M}$  fixing B maps  $\mathscr{P}$  to itself.

If  $\mathbf{c}'' \in M$  realizes  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{c}/A^{\operatorname{eq}})$  and  $d''\mathbf{c}''$  realizes  $r = \operatorname{tp}(d^*\mathbf{c}/B)$ , then  $\operatorname{tp}(d''/\mathbf{c}'')$ is regular and nonorthogonal to  $p^*$ . We can find  $\langle \mathbf{c}_i : i < \omega \rangle$  in  $M_a$  with  $\mathbf{c}_0 = \mathbf{c}$ which are indiscernible over B and which are based on B. The  $r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c}_i)$  are regular, pairwise nonorthogonal, and all nonorthogonal to  $\mathcal{P}$  and each  $r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c}_i)$  is not weakly orthogonal to  $q' | (B\mathbf{c}_i)$ . Note  $r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c}_i) \subset p^*$ . Let  $r_i \in S(M)$  denote the nonforking extension of  $r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c}_i)$  to S(M). By Section V.4 of [4], there is a  $q \in S(B)$ , which is  $\mathcal{P}$ -simple and  $k < \omega$  such that  $w_{\mathcal{P}}(q) > 0$  and  $q(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq \operatorname{acl}(B \cup \bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i \cup$  $\bigcup_{i < k} r(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{c}_i)$ . (This q is actually q'/E for an appropriate definable (over B) equivalence relation; compare V.4.17 (8) of [4].)

Let  $q^+$  denote the unique nonforking extension of q to S(M),  $p_a^+$  denote the unique nonforking extension of  $p^*$  to S(M), and  $p_b^+$  denote the unique nonforking extension of  $g(p^*)$  to S(M). Clearly,  $p_a^+ \upharpoonright (M_a \cup A)$  is a nonforking extension of the stationary type  $p^*$  and is realized by  $\mathbf{d}^*$ ; so it is equivalent to  $p_a^+ \upharpoonright \operatorname{acl}(M_a \cup A)$ .

REMARK 2.2. Note  $(g \cup \mathrm{id}_A)(p_a^+ \upharpoonright (M_a \cup A) = p_b^+ \upharpoonright (M_b \cup A) \sim p_b^+ \upharpoonright \mathrm{acl}(M_b \cup A)$  is omitted in M.

We use the next lemma several times.

LEMMA 2.3. If  $A^{eq} \subseteq N_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq M$  and  $N_1, N_2$  are  $|T|^+$ -saturated then

$$w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(N_2), N_1) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(N_2), q(N_1)A^{\mathrm{eq}}).$$

PROOF. Fix  $\mathbf{b} \in N_1$  and choose  $D \subseteq q(N_1)A^{\text{eq}}$  with  $|D| \leq |T|$  such that  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{b}/q(N_1)A^{\text{eq}})$  does not fork over D. If  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{b}/q(N_2)A^{\text{eq}})$  forks over D, there are finite  $\mathbf{d}_1 \subseteq q(N_2)$  and  $\mathbf{d}_2 \subseteq A^{\text{eq}}$  such that  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{b}/BD\mathbf{d}_1\mathbf{d}_2)$  forks over D. But there is a  $\mathbf{d}' \in q(N_1)$  realizing  $\operatorname{stp}(\mathbf{d}_1/D\mathbf{b}\mathbf{d}_2)$ , which contradicts  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{b}/q(N_1)A^{\text{eq}})$  does not fork over D.

So  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{b}/q(N_2)A^{\operatorname{eq}})$  does not fork over  $q(N_1)A^{\operatorname{eq}}$ . Since **b** was arbitrary in  $N_1$ ,  $\operatorname{tp}(N_1/q(N_2)A^{\operatorname{eq}})$  does not fork over  $q(N_1)A^{\operatorname{eq}}$ . By symmetry of forking,  $\operatorname{tp}(q(N_2)/N_1A^{\operatorname{eq}})$  does not fork over  $q(N_1)A^{\operatorname{eq}}$ . Since  $A^{\operatorname{eq}} \subseteq N_1$  we finish.  $\dashv$ 

The proof now proceeds by a series of claims. The key idea is that  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), A^{eq})$  can be calculated either as  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(M_b) \cup A^{eq}) + w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_b), A^{eq})$  or  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(M_a) \cup A^{eq}) + w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A^{eq})$ . We will calculate both ways to obtain a contradiction. We begin with the  $M_a$  side.

CLAIM 2.4. If dim $(r_0 \upharpoonright A_* \mathbf{c}_0, M_a)$  is finite, then  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_* \cup \bigcup_{i \le k} \mathbf{c}_i)$  is finite.

**PROOF.** If *u* is a finite subset of  $\omega$ , since the  $r_i$  are regular, it is easy to show that for each *i*, dim $(r_i \upharpoonright (A_* \mathbf{c}_i), M_a)$  is finite iff dim $(r_i \upharpoonright (A_* \cup \mathbf{c}_i \cup_{j \in u} \mathbf{c}_j), M_a)$  is finite. Since the  $r_i \upharpoonright (A_* \mathbf{c}_i \mathbf{c}_j)$  are regular and pairwise not weakly orthogonal

 $\dim(r_i \upharpoonright A_* \mathbf{c}_i \mathbf{c}_j, M_a) = \dim(r_j \upharpoonright A_* \mathbf{c}_i \mathbf{c}_j, M_a).$ 

The previous two sentences imply:  $\dim(r_i \upharpoonright A_* \mathbf{c}_i, M_a)$  is finite iff  $\dim(r_j \upharpoonright A_* \mathbf{c}_j, M_a)$  is finite. So if  $\dim(r_0 \upharpoonright A_* \mathbf{c}_0, M_a)$  is finite then  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(\bigcup_{i < k} r_i(M_a, \mathbf{c}_i), A_* \cup \bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i)$  is finite; whence  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_* \cup \bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i)$  is finite.  $\dashv$ 

Now we drop the  $\bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i$  in the conclusion.

CLAIM 2.5. dim $(r_0 \upharpoonright A_* \mathbf{c}_0, M_a)$  is finite implies  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*)$  is finite.

PROOF. Find  $\mathbf{d} \subseteq q(M)$  such that  $\bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i$  is independent from  $A_* \cup q(M)$  over  $A_* \cup \mathbf{d}$ . Now, as  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{d}/A_*)$  is  $\mathscr{P}$ -simple,  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*\mathbf{d}) + w_{\mathscr{P}}(\mathbf{d}, A_*)$ . The second term is finite and  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*\mathbf{d}) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*\mathbf{d} \cup \bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i)$  by the independence. But,  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*\mathbf{d} \cup \bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_* \cup \bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i) - w_{\mathscr{P}}(\mathbf{d}, A_* \cup \bigcup_{i < k} \mathbf{c}_i)$ . Now the first of the last two terms is finite by Claim 2.4 (since  $\dim(r_0 \upharpoonright A_* \mathbf{c}_0, M_a)$  is finite) and the second by the finiteness of  $\mathbf{d}$  so  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*)$  is finite.

CLAIM 2.6.  $\dim(r_0, M_a)$  is finite.

PROOF. Note that  $p_a^+ \upharpoonright (B\mathbf{c}_0) = r_0 \upharpoonright (B\mathbf{c}_0)$ . Choose by induction  $\mathbf{a}_\alpha \in M_a$  so that  $\mathbf{a}_\alpha$  realizes  $p_a^+ \upharpoonright A_*^{eq} \cup g(\mathbf{c}_0) \cup \{\mathbf{a}_\beta : \beta < \alpha\}$  for as long as possible to construct:  $\mathbf{I} = \langle \mathbf{a}_\alpha : \alpha < \alpha^* \rangle$ . Clearly  $\alpha^* < |M_a|^+$ , but in fact  $\alpha^*$  is finite. As, since  $M_a$  is independent from A over  $A_*$ ,  $\mathbf{I}$  is a set of indiscernibles over A. Since M is  $\kappa^+$ -saturated, if  $\mathbf{I}$  is infinite  $\langle g(\mathbf{a}_\alpha) : \alpha < \alpha^* \rangle$  can be extended to a set  $\mathbf{J}$  of indiscernibles over A contained in  $M_b$  with cardinality  $\kappa^+$ . Then all but at most  $\kappa$  members of  $\mathbf{J}$  realize  $p_b^+ \upharpoonright (M_b \cup A)$  contradicting Remark 2.2 that  $p_b^+ \upharpoonright (M_b \cup A)$  is omitted in M.

Now, easily we have

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CLAIM 2.7.  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A^{eq})$  is finite.

**PROOF.** The equality holds by the independence of  $M_a$  and A over  $A_*$ . The finiteness follows from Claim 2.6 and Claim 2.5.

The next claim involves both  $M_a$  and  $M_b$ .

CLAIM 2.8. Suppose  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*)$  is finite and  $N \prec M$  is  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M_bA$ . Then  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(N), q(M_b)A) = 0$ .

**PROOF.** Since  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*)$  is finite, and  $A, M_a$  are independent over  $A_*$ , we can choose finite  $D \subseteq q(M_a)$  with  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A_*) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(D, A_*) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(D, A)$ .

Now assume for contradiction that  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(N), q(M_b)A) > 0$ . Let  $N' \prec M$  be  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M_a \cup A$ , so there is  $g^+ \supseteq g \cup \mathrm{id}_A$  which is an isomorphism from N' onto N. Then there is a finite  $D_2 \subseteq q(N')$  with  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(D_2, M_aA) > 0$ . Choose  $C_0 \subseteq M_a, |C_0| \leq |T|$  with  $DB \subseteq C_0$  and  $C_1 \subseteq A$  with  $|C_1| \leq |T|$  so that  $D_2$ 

is independent from  $M_a A$  over  $C_0 C_1$  and is the unique nonforking extension of  $\operatorname{tp}(D_2/C_0 C_1)$  to  $S(M_a A)$  which is realized in M. Recall that  $M_a$  is A-full and apply the Definition 1.4 of A-full with  $C_0 C_1 D_2$  playing the role of  $C_2$  to obtain an embedding f. Then,  $f(D_2) \subseteq q(M_a)$  and  $f(D_2)$  is independent from  $C_0 A$  over  $C_0 f(C_1)$ . Thus,

$$w_{\mathscr{P}}(f(D_2), AD) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(D_2, AD) \ge w_{\mathscr{P}}(D_2, q(M_a)A) > 0.$$

This implies  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A) \ge w_{\mathscr{P}}(Df(D_2), A) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(D, A) + w_{\mathscr{P}}(f(D_2), AD) > w_{\mathscr{P}}(D, A)$ , which contradicts our original choice of D.  $\dashv$ 

Claim 2.9.  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(M_b)A) = 0.$ 

PROOF. Let  $N \prec M$  be  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M_b \cup A$ , so  $p_b^+ \upharpoonright (M_b \cup A)$  has a unique extension in S(N). If  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), N) > 0$  then for some  $\mathbf{b} \in q(M)$ ,  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(\mathbf{b}, N) > 0$  so  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{b}/N) \not\perp p_b^+$ ; recall  $p_b^+$  is parallel to  $p_b^+ \upharpoonright N$ . So  $p_b^+ \upharpoonright N$  is realized in  $M_b$  contradicting Remark 2.2. Now  $0 = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), N)$  which equals  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(N)A^{eq})$  by Lemma 2.3. Since  $A^{eq} \subseteq N_b \subseteq N \subseteq M$ ,

$$w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(M_b)A^{\mathrm{eq}}) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(N)A^{\mathrm{eq}}) + w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(N), q(M_b)A^{\mathrm{eq}})$$
$$= 0 + 0 = 0.$$

The first 0 was noted in the previous sentence and the second is Claim 2.8.  $\dashv$ 

Now calculating with respect to  $M_b$ , we have:

CLAIM 2.10.  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), A^{eq}) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_b), A^{eq})$  is finite. Proof.

$$\begin{split} w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), A^{\mathrm{eq}}) &= w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(M_b)A^{\mathrm{eq}}) + w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_b), A^{\mathrm{eq}}) \\ &= 0 + w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_b), A^{\mathrm{eq}}) < \omega. \end{split}$$

The first equality holds by additivity [4] and Lemma 2.3, the second by Claim 2.9, and the third by the last observation.  $\dashv$ 

Now we analyze using  $M_a$ .

Claim 2.11.  $w_{\mathscr{P}}((q(M), q(M_a) \cup A) \ge 1.$ 

PROOF.  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(\mathbf{d}^*, M_a \cup A) \geq 1$  since  $\mathbf{d}^*$  is independent from A over  $M_a$ . Let N be  $\kappa$ -prime over  $M_a A^{\text{eq}}$ . As  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{d}^*/M_a A^{\text{eq}})$  has all its restrictions to set of size less than  $\kappa$  realized in  $M_a A^{\text{eq}}$ ,  $\operatorname{tp}(\mathbf{d}^*/N)$  does not fork over  $M_a A^{\text{eq}}$ . Thus,  $\mathbf{d}^*$  realizes  $p_a^+ \upharpoonright N$ . Since  $p_a^+ \upharpoonright N$  is not orthogonal to  $q^+ \upharpoonright N$ , there is  $\mathbf{b} \in q^+(M)$  which depends on  $\mathbf{b}$  over N. So  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(\mathbf{b}, N) > 0$  whence  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), N) > 0$ . By monotonicity,  $w_{\mathscr{P}}((q(M), q(M_a) \cup A_*) \geq w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(N)A^{\text{eq}})$ . But, by Lemma 2.3,  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(N)A^{\text{eq}}) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), N) > 0$ .

Now we have

1) 
$$w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), A^{\mathrm{eq}}) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), q(M_a)A^{\mathrm{eq}}) + w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A^{\mathrm{eq}})$$

$$\geq 1 + w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A^{\mathrm{eq}}) < \alpha$$

Here, the first equality is by [4] and Lemma 2.3 and the second by Claim 2.11. The finiteness comes from Claim 2.7. Since  $g \cup id_{A^{eq}}$  is an elementary map,  $w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A^{eq}) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_b), A_*)$ . We substitute in Equation 1, using Claim 2.10:

$$w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A^{\mathrm{eq}}) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M), A^{\mathrm{eq}}) = w_{\mathscr{P}}(q(M_a), A^{\mathrm{eq}}) + 1,$$

or subtracting, 0 = 1 so we finish.

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