# A definable Borsuk-Ulam type theorem

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#### Abstract

Let  $\mathcal{N} = (R, +, \cdot, <, \ldots)$  be an o-minimal expansion of the standard structure of a real closed field R. A definably compact definable group G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group if there exists an isovariant definable map  $f: V \to W$  between representations of G, then  $\dim V - \dim V^G \leq \dim W - \dim W^G$ . We prove that if a finite group G satisfies the prime condition, then G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

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## 1. Introduction.

Let G be a topological group. A continuous map  $f: X \to Y$  is a G map if f(gx) = gf(x) for all  $x \in X, g \in G$ . A G map  $f: X \to Y$  is isovariant if for any  $x \in X$ ,  $G_{f(x)} = G_x$ .

Let  $C_k$  be the cyclic group of order k and  $\mathbb{S}^n$  the n-dimensional unit sphere of the (n+1)-dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  with the antipodal  $C_2$  action. If a real closed field R is the field  $\mathbb{R}$  of real numbers, then the Borsuk-Ulam theorem states that if there exists a continuous  $C_2$  map from  $\mathbb{S}^n$  to  $\mathbb{S}^m$ , then  $n \leq m$ . There are several equivalent statements of it and many related generalizations (e.g. [1], [8] [10], [11], [12], [13], [14], [15], [19]). The above theorem is generalized the case where spheres with free  $C_k$  actions and a definable version in an o-minimal expansion of a real closed field of it is known in

[13].

Let  $\mathcal{N} = (R, +, \cdot, <, \dots)$  be an o-minimal expansion of the standard structure of a real closed field R. Let G be a definably compact definable group. A group homomorphism from G to some  $O_n(R)$  is a representation if it is definable, where  $O_n(R)$  means the nth orthogonal group of R. A representation space of G is  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the orthogonal action induced from a representation of G. In this paper, we consider isovariant definable maps between representation spaces of definably compact definable groups as a definable generalization of related results of the Borsuk-Ulam theorem. Everything is considered in  $\mathcal{N}$  and a definable map is assumed to be continuous unless otherwise stated.

A positive integer n satisfies the prime condition if n is expressed as  $p_1^{r_1} \dots p_s^{r_s}$ , each  $p_i$  is a prime and  $r_i \geq 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^{s} \frac{1}{p_i} \leq 1$ . A finite simple group

G satisfies the prime condition if for any  $g \in G$ , the order |g| of g satisfies the prime condition. A finite group G satisfies the prime condition if each composition factor of G satisfies the prime condition.

A definably compact definable group G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group if there exists an isovariant definable map  $f: V \to W$  between representations of G, then  $\dim V - \dim V^G < \dim W - \dim W^G$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** If a finite group G satisfies the prime condition, then G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

Theorem 1.1 is a definable generalization of [20].

#### 2. Preliminaries.

General references on o-minimal structures are [2], [4]. See also [18], [3], [5], [9] for examples and constructions of them.

Let  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  be definable sets. A continuous map  $f: X \to Y$ is definable if the graph of  $f \subset X \times Y \subset$  $R^n \times R^m$ ) is a definable set. A group G is a definable group if G is a definable set and the group operations  $G \times G \to G$  and  $G \to G$ are definable. A definable subset X of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ is definably compact if for every definable map  $f:(a,b)_R\to X$ , there exist the limits  $\lim_{x\to a+0} f(x)$ ,  $\lim_{x\to b-0} f(x)$  in X, where  $(a,b)_R = \{x \in R | a \le x < b\}, -\infty \le a < b\}$  $b \leq \infty$ . A definable subset X of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is definably compact if and only if X is closed and bounded ([17]). Note that if X is a definably compact definable set and  $f: X \to Y$ is a definable map, then f(X) is definably compact.

If  $R = \mathbb{R}$ , then for any definable subset X of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , X is compact if and only if it is definably compact. In general, a definably compact set is not necessarily compact. For example, if  $R = \mathbb{R}_{alg}$ , then  $[0,1]_{\mathbb{R}_{alg}} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_{alg} | 0 \le x \le 1\}$  is definably compact but not compact.

Note that every definable subgroup of a definable group is closed ([16]) and a closed subgroup of a definable group is not necessarily definable. For example  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a closed

subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}$  but not a definable subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Recall existence of definable quotient. **Theorem 2.1.** (Existence of definable quotient (e.g. 10. 2.18 [2])). Let G be a definably compact definable group and X a definable G set. Then the orbit space X/G exists as a definable set and the orbit map  $\pi: X \to X/G$  is surjective, definable and definably proper.

Let G, G' be definable groups. A group homomorphism  $f: G \to G'$  is a definable group homomorphism if f is definable. A definable group homomorphism  $h: G \to$ G' is a definable group isomomorphism if there exists a definable group homomorphism  $k: G' \to G$  such that  $h \circ k = id_{G'}, k \circ h = id_{G}$ .

Let G be a finite group and X a representation space of G. The character  $\chi_X:G\to R$  is defined by  $\chi_X(g)=$  the trace of the orthogonal transformation of g. Note that  $\chi_X(e)=\dim X$  and  $\dim X^G=\frac{\sum_{g\in G}\chi_X(g)}{|G|},$  where e denotes the unit element of G and |G| stands for the order of G. Thus  $\dim X-\dim X^G=\chi_X(e)-\frac{\sum_{g\in G}\chi_X(g)}{|G|}=\frac{1}{|G|}(\sum_{g\in G}(\chi_X(e)-\chi_X(g))).$ 

There exist some examples which are continuous actions but not definable actions.

**Example 2.2.** (1) Let g denote the generator of  $C_2$ . Corresponding g to the map  $f_g: \mathbb{R}_{alg} \to \mathbb{R}_{alg}$ ,

$$f_g(x) = \begin{cases} x, & x < -\pi \\ -x, & -\pi < x < \pi \\ x, & x > \pi \end{cases}, \text{ we have a}$$

non-trivial continuous  $C_2$  action of  $\mathbb{R}_{alg}$ . But this action is not a definable  $C_2$  action.

(2) Let g denote a generator of  $C_p$  with  $p \geq 2$  and  $D = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2_{alg} | x^2 + y^2 < \pi^2\}$ . Suppose that  $F_p : \mathbb{R}^2_{alg} \to \mathbb{R}^2_{alg}$  denotes the  $\frac{2\pi}{p}$  rotation centered the origin. Corresponding g to the map  $f_g : \mathbb{R}^2_{alg} \to \mathbb{R}^2_{alg}$ ,  $f_g(x) = \begin{cases} x, & x \in \mathbb{R}^2_{alg} - D \\ F_p(x), & x \in D \end{cases}$ , we have a non-trivial continuous  $C_p$  action of  $\mathbb{R}_{alg}$ . But this action is not a definable  $C_p$  action.

### 3. Proof of Theorem 1.1

**Proposition 3.1.** Let G be a definably compact definable group and H a definable normal subgroup of G. If G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group, then G/H is a definably compact definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

*Proof.* Since H is normal and by Theorem 2.1, G/H is a definable group. Since G is definably compact, so is G/H. Any representation of G/H can be pulled back to the group G via the projection  $\pi: G \to G/H$  and every G/H isovariant definable map is seen to be G isovariant.

**Proposition 3.2.** If  $1 \to H \to G \to K \to 1$  is an exact sequence of definably compact definable groups and H, K are definable Borsuk-Ulam groups, then G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

*Proof.* Let V, W be representation spaces of G and  $f: V \to W$  a G isovariant definable map. Since f is H isovariant and H is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group,  $\dim V - \dim V^H \leq \dim W - \dim W^H$ . Moreover  $V^H, W^H$  are representation spaces of G/H because H is normal in G, and  $f|V^H$ :  $V^H \to W^H$  is a G/H isovariant definable map. Since G/H is definably group isomorphic to K and K is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group,  $\dim V^H - \dim(V^H)^K \leq \dim W^H \dim(W^H)^K$ . On the other hand,  $(V^H)^K$ resp.  $(W^H)^K$ ) is definably isomorphic to  $V^{G}$  (resp.  $W^{G}$ ). Thus  $\dim V^{H} - \dim V^{G} \leq$  $\dim W^H$  –  $\dim W^G$ . Hence  $\dim V$  –  $\dim V^G \leq$  $\dim W - \dim W^G$ . Therefore G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

The proof also proves the following inequality.

If H is a normal definable subgroup of G, then  $\dim W - \dim W^G - (\dim V - \dim V^G) \ge \dim W - \dim W^H - (\dim V - \dim V^H)$ . Moreover,

$$\frac{1}{|G|} (\sum_{g \in G} (\chi_W(e) - \chi_W(g) - \chi_V(e) + \chi_V(g))) \ge \frac{1}{|H|} (\sum_{g \in H} (\chi_W(e) - \chi_W(g) - \chi_V(e) + \chi_V(g))).$$

Corollary 3.3. If G is a definably compact definable group and the identity definable component  $G_0$  and  $G/G_0$  are definable

Borsuk-Ulam groups, then G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

A composition series of a finite group G is a collection of subgroups  $G_j$ ,  $0 \le j \le r-1$  such that  $G_0 = \{e\}, G_r = G$  and  $G_j$  is a maximal normal subgroup of  $G_{j+1}$  for  $0 \le j \le r-1$ . Each quotient group  $G_{j+1}/G_j$  is a finite simple group and is called a composition factor of G. They are independent of the choice of the composition series.

**Proposition 3.4.** (1) If any composition factor of a finite group G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group, then G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

- (2) If p is a prime, then  $C_p$  is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.
- (3) Any finite abelian group is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

Proof. (1) If  $G = G_1$ , then  $G_1/G_0 \simeq G$  and G is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group. Assume that it is true for groups with n factors. Let  $G = G_{n+1}$ . Considering the sequence  $1 \to G_n \to G_{n+1} \to G_{n+1}/G_n \to 1$ , since  $G_n$  is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group and  $G_{n+1}/G_n$  is a composition factor and by Proposition 3.2,  $G = G_{n+1}$  is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

- (2) follows from [13].
- (3) follows from (2) and Proposition 3.2.

Let G be a definably compact definable group. We recall orbit types ([7]). We say that two homogeneous definable G sets are equivalent if they are definably G homeomorphic. Let (G/H) denote the equivalence class of G/H. The set of all equivalence classes of homogeneous definable G sets has a natural order defined as  $(X) \geq (Y)$  if there exists a definable G map  $X \rightarrow Y$ . If (X) = (G/H) and (Y) = (G/K), then  $(X) \geq (Y)$  if and only if H is conjugate to a definable subgroup of K. The reflexivity and the transitivity clearly hold and the anti-symmetry is true by the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.5** ([7]). Let G be a definably compact definable group, H a definable subgroup of G and  $g \in G$ . If  $gHg^{-1} \subset H$ , then  $gHg^{-1} = H$ .

**Theorem 3.6** (2.2 [6]). Let G be a definably compact definable group. Then every definable G set has only finitely many orbit types.

The unit circle  $S^1$  of  $R^2$  is defined as  $S^1 = \{(x,y) \in R^2 | x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$ . For a general real closed field R,  $S^1$  is definably compact and definably connected but netiher compact nor connected. We say that  $T^n = S^1 \times \cdots \times S^1$  (n-times) is the n-dimensional torus.

**Proposition 3.7.** The n-dimensional torus  $T^n$  is a definable Borsuk-Ulam group.

*Proof.* Using the exact sequence  $1 \rightarrow T^{n-1} \rightarrow T^n \rightarrow S^1 \rightarrow 1$  and Proposition 3.2, it is enough to prove the case where  $G = S^1$ .

Let V, W be representations of  $S^1$  and  $f: V \to W$  an isovariant definable  $S^1$  map. By Theorem 3.6, there exist only finitely many definable subgroups of  $S^1$  that occur as isotropy subgroups in V or W, say  $C_{n_1}$ , ...,  $C_{n_r}, S^1$  with  $n_i < n_{i+1}$  for all i. Take a prime p such that  $p > n_r$ . Then considering f as a  $C_p$  isovariant definable map, dim  $V - \dim V^{C_p} \leq \dim W - \dim W^{C_p}$ . Moreover  $V^{C_p} = V^{S^1}, V^{C_p} = W^{S^1}$  and hence dim  $V - \dim V^{S^1} \leq \dim W - \dim W^{S^1}$ .

By a way similar to the proof of Lemma 13 [20].

**Lemma 3.8.** Let C be a finite cyclic group and |C| satisfies the prime condition and f:  $V \to W$  an isovariant definable C map. Then  $\sum_{gen\ C} (\chi_W(e) - \chi_W(g) - \chi_V(e) + \chi_V(g)) \ge 0$ , where g ranges all of generators of C.

Proof of Theorem 1.1. Using Propositionn 3.2, Lemma 3.8, by a way similar to the proof of Theorem 12 [20], we have theorem 1.1.  $\square$ 

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