

objects: M cld manifolds, aspherical, i.e.
 \tilde{M} is contractible (\tilde{M} - universal covering)
 e.g. $\tilde{\mathbb{T}}^n = \mathbb{R}^n$, so \mathbb{T}^n aspherical

Def: M is called rigid if for every N
 cld mfld, $M \cong N$ (htop equiv), then
 $M \cong N$ (homeo).

Borel conjecture: Every cld aspherical
 mfld is rigid

Ex of mflds which are rigid

= dim = 2 (uniformization)

= dim = 3 (geometrization)

- dim ≥ 5 : M has $\kappa \leq 0$ (non-positively
 curved), or if $\pi_1 M$ is a discrete
 subgroup of $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ (Farrell-Jones)

Lück-Bartels: if $\pi_1 M$ is hyperbolic

Def: M is called stably rigid if $\forall N$,
 $N \cong \pi$, there ex homeo $N \times \mathbb{R}^n \cong M \times \mathbb{R}^n$
 (for some n)

Thm (Guenther, Tessera, Yu)

M is stably rigid if $\pi_1 M$ belongs to
 a class \mathcal{F} of ctbl gps,

\mathcal{F} stable under subgps, extensions, analg. prod,

increasing unions, and F contains all elementary amenable gps, and all subgps of $GL_n(K)$

pt (idea):

apply "Meyer-Vietoris argument at large scale of \tilde{M} ", $\tilde{M} = A \cup B$, A, B "nice" opy subsets, a notion of being nice should satisfy:

- A bounded opy set is nice
- if $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^r A_i$ where r is large enough and A_i are nice in a uniform way, then A is nice
- $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ means $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ where $d(A_i, A_j) \geq 2$ for $i \neq j$

Finite decomposition complexity (FDC)

Notation: A "metric family" $X = \{X\}$ is a family of metric spaces.

If X, Y are metric families and $r \geq 0$, we denote $X \xrightarrow{r} Y$ if $\forall X \in X$ $\exists X_0 \cup X_1, \dots, X_r = \bigcup_{i=1}^r X_i$ where $\{X_i\} \subset Y$

Decomposition game: X metric family

$X_0 = X$

X called bounded if $\sup \{ \text{diam}(X) : X \in \mathcal{X} \}$ is finite.

player 1 player 2 ... and so on

$\Gamma_0 \xrightarrow{r_1} X_0 \xrightarrow{r_2} X_1 \xrightarrow{r_3} X_2 \dots$

r_2 r_3 ...

... and so on

player 2 wins at step K if X_K is bdd.

$\bullet X$ has FDC if player 2 has a winning strategy

$\bullet X$ has finite decomposition asymptotic dimension (FAD) if player 2 has a winning strategy in at most K steps for some $K \in \mathbb{N}$.

Ex: $X = \{ \mathbb{R} \}$ has FAD, in one step:

Γ_0 $x_{0,n_1} \quad x_{0,n_2} \quad x_{0,n_3} \quad x_{0,n_4} \quad x_{0,n_5}$

X_i bdd $2r_1 \quad 2r_1$

countable groups: Γ a ctbl gp, we fix a left-invariant proper metric on Γ

Thm (Guerrner, Tessera, Yu)

A ctbl, aspherical mfd s.t. its fundam. gp has FDC, is stably rigid.

Ex: \mathbb{Z}^k has FAD
 $\bigoplus_{\mathbb{N}} \mathbb{Z}$ does not have FAD, but FDC

For linear gps:

Thm: If Γ is a f.g. subgroup of $GL_n(K)$, then:

- if $\text{char } K > 0$, then Γ has FAD

- if $\text{char } K = 0$, then Γ has FDC

(but possibly not FAD)

Ex: $\mathbb{Z} \wr \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}^{(\mathbb{Z})} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}$ has FDC but not FAD