

Orders on Computable Torsion-Free Abelian Groups

Asher M. Kach

(Joint Work with Karen Lange and Reed Solomon)

University of Chicago

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- 1 Classical Algebra Background
- 2 Computing a Basis
- 3 Computing an Order
 - With A Basis
 - Without A Basis
- 4 Open Questions

Remark

Disclaimer: Hereout, the word *group* will always refer to a countable torsion-free abelian group. The words *computable group* will always refer to a (fixed) computable presentation.

Definition

A group $\mathcal{G} = (G : +, 0)$ is *torsion-free* if non-zero multiples of non-zero elements are non-zero, i.e., if

$$(\forall x \in G)(\forall n \in \omega) [x \neq 0 \wedge n \neq 0 \implies nx \neq 0].$$

Theorem

A countable abelian group is torsion-free if and only if it is a subgroup of \mathbb{Q}^ω .

Definition

The *rank* of a countable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} is the least cardinal κ such that \mathcal{G} is a subgroup of \mathbb{Q}^κ .

Examples of Torsion-Free Abelian Groups

Example

Any subgroup \mathcal{G} of \mathbb{Q} is torsion-free and has rank one.

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The subgroup \mathcal{H} of $\mathbb{Q} \oplus \mathbb{Q}$ (viewed as having generators b_1 and b_2) generated by b_1 , b_2 , and $\frac{b_1+b_2}{2}$

So elements of \mathcal{H} look like $\beta_1 b_1 + \beta_2 b_2 + \alpha \frac{b_1+b_2}{2}$ for $\beta_1, \beta_2, \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$.

has rank two.

Remark

Note that $\frac{b_1}{2}$ and $\frac{b_2}{2}$ do not belong to \mathcal{H} despite their sum $\frac{b_1+b_2}{2}$ belonging to \mathcal{H} . We will often abuse notation and write such things as $\frac{1}{2}b_1 + \frac{1}{2}b_2$ for $\frac{b_1+b_2}{2}$.

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The Motivating Theorem

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Fix a group $\mathcal{G} = (G : +, 0)$. A set $B \subset G$ (not containing 0) is a *basis* if it is a maximal linearly independent set (with coefficients in \mathbb{Z}).

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Every torsion-free abelian group has a basis.

Question

Does this remain true in the effective setting?

In other words, does every computable torsion-free abelian group admit a computable basis?

Basis Results (I)

Proposition (Folklore (?))

Every computable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} has a basis $B \subset G$ computable from $\mathbf{0}'$.

Proof.

Enumerate G as $\{a_i\}_{i \in \omega}$. Recursively determine if we should place $a_i \in B$ by checking whether a_i is nonzero and linearly independent (over \mathbb{Z}) from $\{a_0, \dots, a_{i-1}\}$. □

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Theorem

The following are equivalent (over RCA_0):

- ACA_0 .
- *Every torsion-free abelian group has a basis.*

Basis Results (I)

Proof.

Note that the linear (in)dependence relation can be computed from a basis.

Given elements $\mathbf{a}_{i_0}, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i_n}$, write each as a linear combination of the basis elements. Determine linear (in)dependence using linear algebra.

Thus, it suffices to construct a computable group \mathcal{G} for which the linear (in)dependence relation computes $\mathbf{0}'$.

Let \mathcal{G} be the computable presentation of \mathbb{Z}^ω with generators $\{g_i\}_{i \in \omega}$. If i enters K at stage s , set $g_{2i+1} = s g_{2i}$.

Then $i \in K$ if and only if g_{2i} and g_{2i+1} are linearly dependent. □

Theorem (Dobritsa (1983))

Every computable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} has an isomorphic computable \mathcal{H} admitting a computable basis.

Basis Results (II)

Theorem (Dobritsa (1983))

Every computable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} has an isomorphic computable \mathcal{H} admitting a computable basis.

Corollary

Every computable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} of infinite rank has an isomorphic computable \mathcal{H} for which every basis computes $\mathbf{0}'$.

Proof.

Combine Dobritsa's construction with the ACA_0 construction. □

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The Motivating Question

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An abelian group $\mathcal{G} = (G : +, 0)$ equipped with a binary relation \leq is *(totally) ordered* if the relation satisfies:

- antisymmetry (if $a \leq b$ and $b \leq a$, then $a = b$),
- transitivity (if $a \leq b$ and $b \leq c$, then $a \leq c$),
- totality ($a \leq b$ or $b \leq a$), and
- translation invariance (if $a \leq b$, then $a + c \leq b + c$).

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Theorem (Levi (1942))

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Does this remain true in the effective setting?

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Example

Fixing a basis $\{b_0, b_1\}$ of \mathbb{Q}^2 , lexicograph order yields an ordering. Under this order, we have

$$b_0 \gg b_1 \gg 0$$

and so, for example, $\frac{1}{2}b_0 > \frac{1}{2}b_0 - 2b_1 > b_1 > 0 > -2b_0 + 18b_1$.

Non-Archimedean Orders on \mathbb{Q}^k

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Example

Fixing a basis $\{b_i\}_{i \in \omega}$ of \mathbb{Q}^ω , lexicograph order yields an ordering. Under this order, we have

$$b_0 \gg b_1 \gg b_2 \gg \dots \gg 0$$

and so, for example, $\frac{1}{2}b_0 > b_1 + b_2 > b_1 + 2b_3 > 0 > -b_2 + b_{18} > -b_2$.

Example

Fixing a basis $\{b_0, b_1\}$ of \mathbb{Q}^2 and an irrational $r \in \mathbb{R}$, the order induced by putting $b_0 := 1 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $b_1 := r$ is an ordering on \mathbb{Q}^2 .

Thus, for example if $r := \sqrt{2} \approx 1.41$, we have $1.4b_0 < b_1 < 1.5b_0$.

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Example

Fixing a basis $\{b_i\}_{i \in \omega}$ of \mathbb{Q}^ω , the order induced by putting $b_0 := 1 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $b_i := \sqrt{p_i}$ for $i > 0$ is an ordering on \mathbb{Q}^ω .

Under this order, we have $1.4b_0 < b_1 < 1.5b_0$ (as $\sqrt{p_1} = \sqrt{2} \approx 1.41$) and $1.2b_1 < b_2 < 1.3b_1$ (as $\sqrt{p_2}/\sqrt{p_1} = \sqrt{3}/\sqrt{2} \approx 1.22$).

Orders From a Basis

Theorem (Solomon (2002))

Fix a computable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} with rank at least two. Let $B \subseteq G$ be an X -computable basis. Then \mathcal{G} has orders in all degrees computing X .

Proof.

Let $r := X$ (with r irrational). Enumerate $B = \{b_i\}_{i \in \omega}$. The order on \mathcal{G} induced by

$$b_0 = rb_1 \gg b_2 \gg b_3 \gg 0$$

has degree X . □

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has degree X . □

Corollary

Fix a computable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} . Then \mathcal{G} has an order of every degree computing $\mathbf{0}'$.

Order Results (I)

Corollary (Low Basis Theorem)

Every computable torsion-free abelian group has a low order.

Proof.

It is a Π_1^0 property for a relation to be an order. □

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There is a computable torsion-free abelian group admitting no computable order.

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Theorem (Downey and Kurtz (1986))

There is a computable torsion-free abelian group admitting no computable order.

Theorem (Hatzikiriakou and Simpson (1990))

The following are equivalent (over RCA_0):

- WKL_0 .
- *Every torsion-free abelian group is orderable.*

Question

Is there, for every Π_1^0 tree \mathcal{P} , a computable torsion-free abelian group whose orders are in one-to-one correspondence with the paths in \mathcal{P} ?

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Remark

The immediate answer is NO as \leq^* (where $y \leq^* x$ if and only if $x \leq y$) is an order whenever \leq is an order.

Further, the space of orders on a torsion-free abelian group has size two (if its rank is one) or size continuum (if its rank is greater than one).

More Questions

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Question

Is there a computable torsion-free abelian group with rank at least two whose degrees of orders is not upward closed?

Theorem (Kach, Lange, and Solomon)

There is a computable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} of isomorphism type \mathbb{Q}^ω and a noncomputable c.e. set C such that:

- *The group \mathcal{G} has exactly two computable orders.*
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Proof.

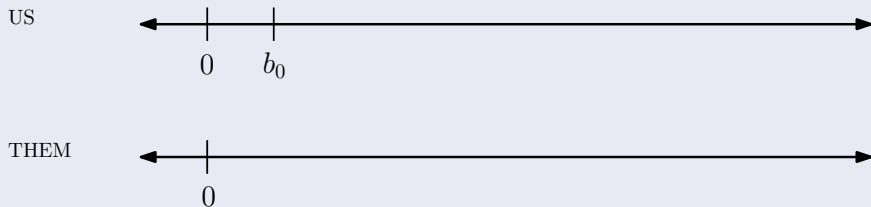
Build the computable presentation \mathcal{G} , a computable order \leq , and the set C simultaneously via a finite injury construction.

For each $i, e \in \omega$, satisfy the requirements

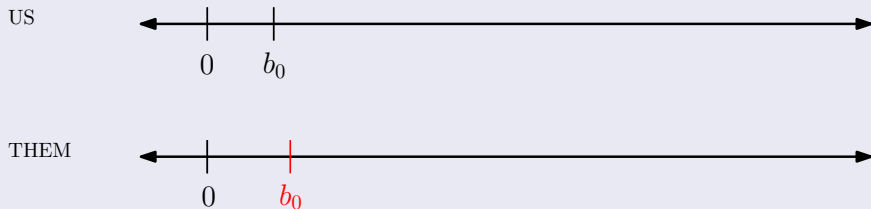
\mathcal{P}_i : That $C \neq \Phi_i$.

\mathcal{N}_e : If Φ_e^C is an order on \mathcal{G} , then \leq_e^C is either \leq or \leq^* .

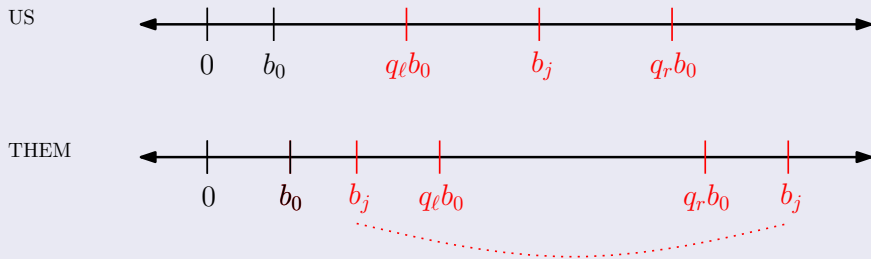
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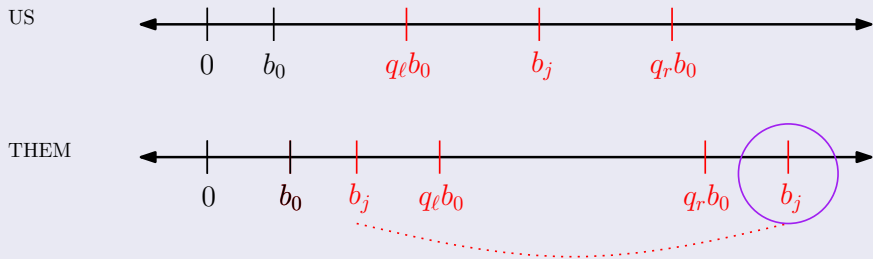
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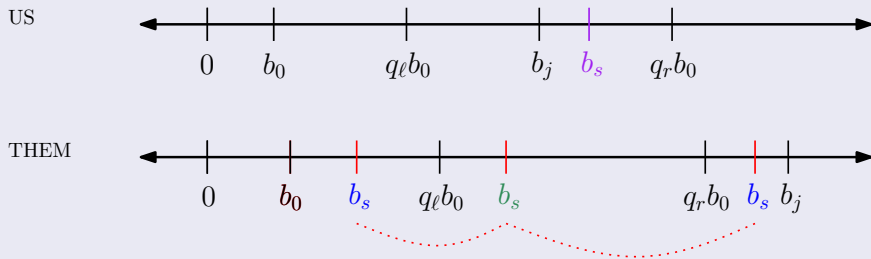
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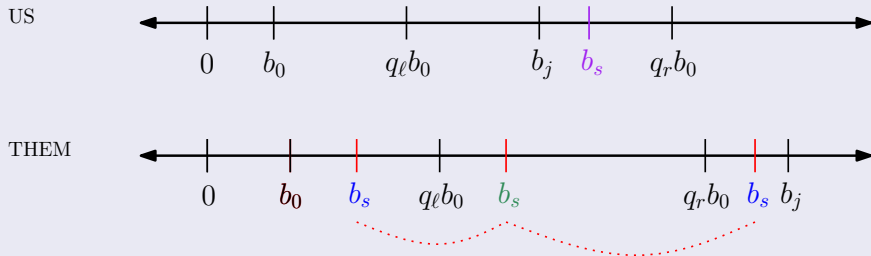
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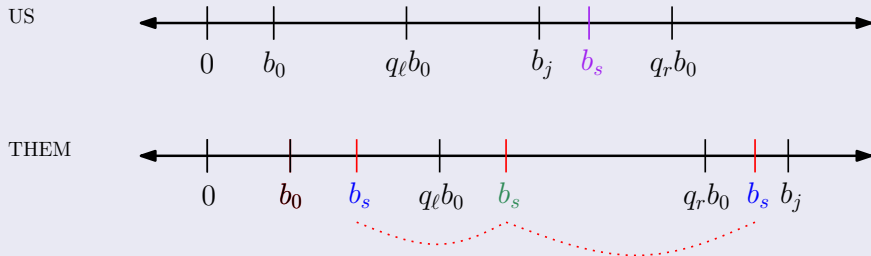


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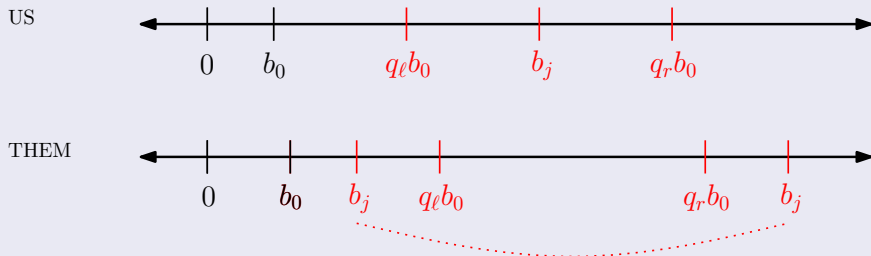
Proof.

As before. The major differences are that we can no longer measure size using only multiples of b_0 and we can no longer create arbitrary rational dependencies. □

The Group \mathbb{Z}^ω

Meeting an \mathcal{N}_e Requirement.

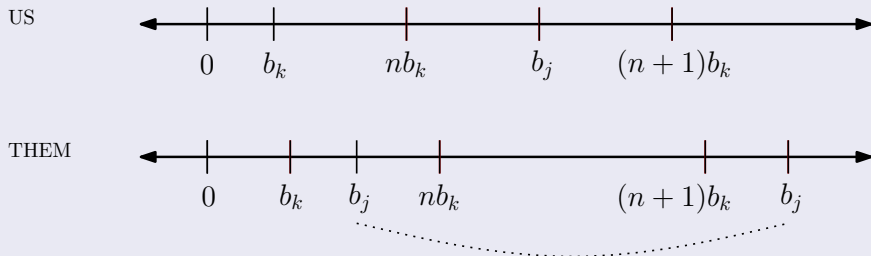
Measure size by building the computable order so that the even basis elements b_{2k} satisfy $0 < b_{2k} \leq \frac{1}{2^k}$, identifying $b_0 := 1 \in \mathbb{R}$. Maintain a *basis restraint* K preventing extra divisibility to any basis element b_k with $k < K$.



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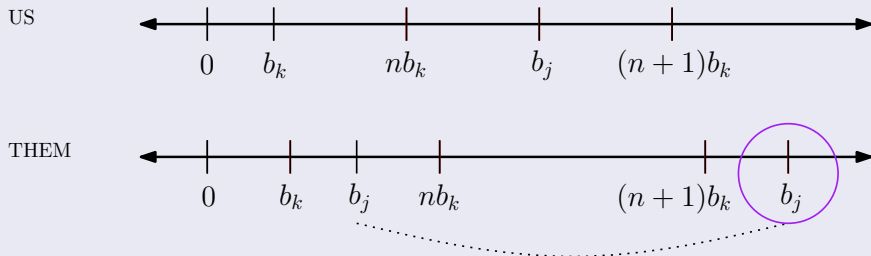
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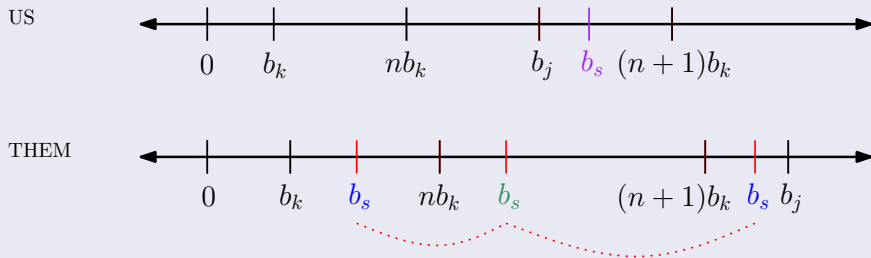
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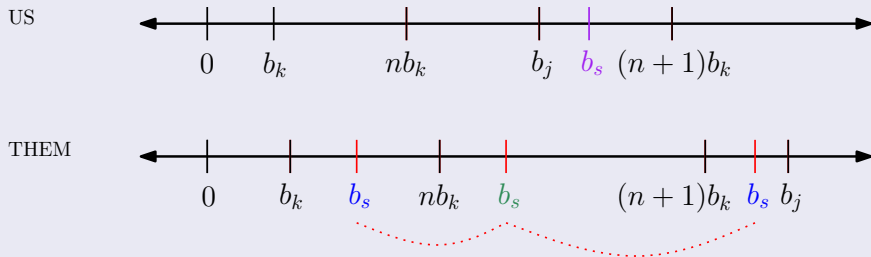
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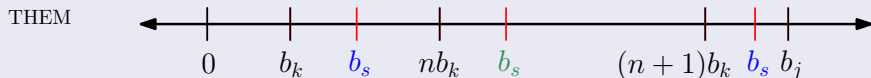
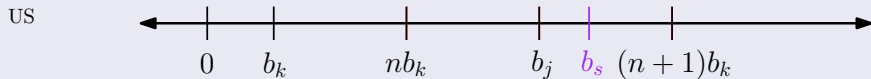


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If THEM puts $nb_k <_e^C b_s <_e^C (n+1)b_k$, we declare $b_s = m_1 b_k - m_2 b_j$.



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Question

Is the choice of \mathbb{Q}^ω and \mathbb{Z}^ω important? In other words, is there, for every computable torsion-free abelian group \mathcal{G} , an isomorphic computable \mathcal{H} for which the set of degrees of orders on \mathcal{H} is not upward closed?

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What more can be said about the set of degrees of orders for the groups \mathcal{G} constructed?

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Question

What more can be said about the set of degrees of orders for the groups \mathcal{G} constructed?

Question

Is there a computable torsion-free abelian group whose orders are either computable or compute $\mathbf{0}'$?

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