



A topological game on the space of ultrafilters

José Carlos Fontanesi Kling

jose.kling@pm.me

Instituto de Ciências Matemáticas e de Computação ICMC - USP

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Leandro Fiorini Aurichi

José Carlos Fontanesi Kling

Rules

José Carlos Fontanesi Kling

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- ▶ Two players, *Alice* and *Bob*, take turns alternately.
- In each turn, the player chooses a natural number that has not been chosen by any player in the previous rounds.
- ► A play is an infinite string of pairwise distinct natural numbers (a₁, b₁, a₂, b₂,...), the terms a_n indicating *Alice*'s choices and b_n *Bob*'s choices.

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- ► A play is an infinite string of pairwise distinct natural numbers (a₁, b₁, a₂, b₂,...), the terms a_n indicating *Alice*'s choices and b_n *Bob*'s choices.
- ▶ Alice wins if the set of her choices during the game is in T, that is, $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, ...\} \in T$. Bob wins otherwise.

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- There are no restrictions to the players possible moves.
- Alice wins if the play is one of the following sets:

 $\{(a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2, \dots) \mid \{a_1, a_2, \dots\} \in T \text{ and all term are distinct}\}$

 $\{(a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2, \dots) \mid Bob \text{ is the first to repeat some number}\}$

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We are most interested in some specific targets, namely ultrafilters and sets that arise in Ramsey theoretical results, such as IP-sets and AP-rich sets.

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- Alice and Bob take turns choosing a natural number (principal ultrafilter).
- They cannot repeat previous choices.
- Alice wins if $\overline{\{a_1, a_2, \dots\}} \cap T \neq \emptyset$.

Remember that for a set $A \subset \omega$ and $T \subset \omega^*$, then $\overline{A} \cap T \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \exists p \in T, A \in p$.

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A superfilter is a family S of subsets of ω satisfying:

- If $A \in S$ and $A \subset B$, then $B \in S$.
- If $A \cup B \in S$, then $A \in S$ or $B \in S$.

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Define $F_n^m(T)$ for the game where *Alice* chooses *m* numbers in her turn and *Bob* chooses *n* numbers. We can use *fin* to denote that the corresponding players may choose any finite amount of numbers.

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- \blacktriangleright Alice wins $F_{fin}(\mathcal{IP})$.
- Bob wins $F_{fin}^k(\mathcal{IP})$ for any $k \in \omega$.
- \blacktriangleright Alice wins F(T) for $T \subset \omega^*$ open or dense. (四)
 (1)

Let \mathcal{F} be a filter. In the game $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{F})$ *Alice* and *Bob* take turns choosing a natural number (may be repeated). *Bob* wins if his choices eventually dominates *Alice*'s choices and the set of his choices is in \mathcal{F} .

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Theorem (Bartoszyński and Scheepers)

Alice has a winning strategy in $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{F})$ if, and only if, \mathcal{F} is not a rare filter. (A rare ultrafilter is called a q-point)

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The games $F_{fin}(T)$ and $BM(2^{\omega}, T)$, the Banach-Mazur game on 2^{ω} with target T, are equivalent.

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Theorem (Oxtoby)

Let *X* be a complete metric space and $T \subset X$, then

- Alice has winning strategy if in BM(X,T), and only if, T is comeager in some open set of X.
- ▶ Bob has winning strategy in BM(X,T) if, and only if, T is meager.

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An ultrafilter $p \in \omega^*$ is not meager nor comeager in 2^{ω} , so neither player has a winning strategy in $F_{fin}(p)$.

Theorem (Talagrand)

A superfilter $S \subset 2^{\omega}$ is comeager if, and only if, there is a partition I_1, I_2, \ldots of ω in finite intervals such that for all infinite $N \subset \omega$, $\bigcup_{n \in N} I_n \in S$. (Thanks to Andreas Blass)

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As a consequence we get that if $T \subset 2^{\omega}$ is the union of countable ultrafilters, then it is not comeager. Corolary: If $T \subset \omega^*$ is a countable set, then none of the players have a winning strategy in $F_{fin}(T)$.

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- ► Is there some $p \in \omega^*$ for wich *Bob* has a winning strategy in F(p)?
- Does any of the players have a winning strategy in $F(\mathcal{IP})$?

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- ▶ Does any of the players have a winning strategy in F(IP)?
- ▶ If Alice wins $F(T_1 \cup T_2)$, does she win $F(T_1)$ or $F(T_2)$?
- Can we characterize the targets for wich Alice wins?

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- Can we characterize the targets for wich Alice wins?
- ► Does *Alice* have a winning strategy in $F_{fin}(T)$ if $T \subset \omega^*$ is an uncountable set?

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