Proof-theoretic Methods in Nonlinear Analysis

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Abstract

We discuss applications of methods from proof theory, so-called proof interpretations, for the extraction of explicit bounds in convex optimization, fixed point theory, ergodic theory and nonlinear semigroup theory.

1   Introduction: Proof Theory, Hilbert's Program and Kreisel's 'Unwinding of Proofs'

Proof theory has its origin in what has been called 'Hilbert's program': Since the 19th century noneffective and nonfinitary (set-theoretic) principles became increasingly important which raised the issue of their legitimacy. Hilbert's approach was to establish the consistency of a suitable formalization T of mathematics (first number theory and then analysis and set theory) within some finitary reasoning T_{fin}. In the language of number theory and with a minimal amount of number-theoretic tools one can express the consistency of T (axiomatized by an effective list of axioms) as a purely universal number-theoretic sentence (a so-called Π_1^0-sentence)

$$Con_T := \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \neg Prov_T(n, \lceil 0 = 1 \rceil)$$

which states that no $n \in \mathbb{N} := \{0, 1, 2, \ldots\}$ is the code of a T-proof of $0 = 1$.

Consider now an arbitrary Π_1^0-sentence (called a 'real statement' by Hilbert) $S := \forall n \in \mathbb{N}\, (t(n) = 0)$, where t is some primitive recursive function term. If S is provable in T (using any nonfinitary 'ideal elements' of T), then also $T_{fin} + Con_T$ proves S (see [67][5.2.1]). So if Con_T could be proved in T_{fin}, one could convert the 'ideal' proof of S in T into a finitistic proof of S in T_{fin}.

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Obviously, Gödel's second incompleteness theorem rules out that the consistency of any $T \supseteq T_{fin}$ can be established inside of T_{fin}. Nevertheless, Hilbert's program gave rise to many 'relative consistency proofs' where the consistency of T is reduced to that of an in **some** sense more elementary theory T'. 'More elementary' often is related to being 'quantifier-free': e.g. Gentzen's proof-theoretic analysis of first-order number theory PA ([20]) reduces logically complex instances of ordinary induction to quantifier-free instances of transfinite induction (along ordinals $\alpha < \varepsilon_0$) and Gödel's consistency proof for PA ([24]) reduces PA to a quantifier-free calculus of so-called primitive recursive functionals of finite type (considered already by Hilbert himself in [27]).

In the early 50's, Georg Kreisel suggested to re-orient proof theory by applying proof-theoretic methods - which in some way eliminate quantifiers in terms of quantifier-free constructions - to proofs of theorems which are not purely universal (as consistency statements) but e.g. of the form

$$(*) \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \, \exists m \in \mathbb{N} \, A_{qf}(n, m) \quad (A_{qf} \text{ quantifier-free}).$$

Kreisel noted that the respective consistency proofs for PA due to Gentzen (see [52, 53]) and Gödel resp. (see [54] (3.4)) actually characterize the class of subrecursive functions f needed to realize $(*)$ in the form

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \, A_{qf}(n, f(n))$$

for theorems $(*)$ which are provable in PA, namely as the class of $\alpha < \varepsilon_0$-recursive functions (in the case of Gentzen's proof) and - equivalently - as the class of functions definable in the aforementioned calculus of primitive recursive functionals (in the case of Gödel's proof [23, 24]), see also [61].

While such results concern (the provability of $\forall\exists$-sentences in) formal systems such as PA rather than individual proofs, Kreisel already in [53] also launched the program of analyzing specific prima facie nonconstructive proofs with the aim of extracting new (e.g. effective) information on the theorem proven:

Input: A (prima facie) noneffective proof P of a conclusion C.

Goal: Additional information on C such as:

- effective bounds,
- algorithms,
- continuous dependency or full independence from certain parameters,
- generalizations of proofs: weakening of premises.

Kreisel's examples and suggestions for applications mainly concerned proofs in number theory. E.g. in [55], Kreisel suggested to analyze finiteness statements such as Roth's theorem in diophantine approximation with the aim of extracting bounds on the number of solutions. In [59], Luckhardt extracted the first polynomial such bound for Roth's theorem from a proof due to Esnault and Viehweg (independently, this result was also obtained in [12]). Since the 90's, the program

has been developed most systematically and with specially designed so-called logical metatheorems (see the next section) in the context of nonlinear analysis ('proof mining'). Also while Kreisel's unwindings were based on techniques related to cut-elimination (Herbrand theory, ε-substitution etc.) the applications to analysis are all based on functional interpretations which have their origin in Gödel's 'Dialectica' interpretation on which Gödel's aforementioned consistency proof is based.

2 Logical metatheorems for bound extractions

In order to establish general theorems on the extractability of effective uniform bounds from given proofs one has to set up an appropriate formal deductive context. As the bound extraction methods are based on modern ('monotone') extensions and variants (see [34]) of Gödel's functional interpretation ([23, 24]) one uses formal systems formulated in the language of functionals in all finite types such as appropriate forms of Peano arithmetic in all finite types PA^ω. In such systems one already can represent complete separable metric ('Polish') spaces (X, d) as continuous images of the Baire space $\mathbb{N}^\mathbb{N}$. However, this requires the separability of the space X and for separable spaces one can show that the independence of the extracted bounds from parameters in subspaces of X in general can only be expected if these subspaces are compact (see [34] for discussions of this point). Many theorems in nonlinear analysis, however, involve - in addition to **concrete** Polish spaces such as $\mathbb{R}$ - general classes of **abstract** spaces X (e.g. general Hilbert spaces) which are not required to be separable and one can extract bounds that are independent from parameters in X (and even functions $T : X \to X$) if general metric bounds ('majorants') are given.

Many abstract types of metric structures can be added as atoms to our formal systems. E.g. this applies to metric, W-hyperbolic (see below), CAT(0), CAT(1), δ-hyperbolic, normed, uniformly convex, Hilbert, abstract L^p, abstract $C(K)$ spaces and $\mathbb{R}$-trees, and, in fact, all normed structures that are axiomatizable in so-called positive bounded logic (see [25]). In order to be able to speak about such spaces one adds a **new base type** X to the formal system and forms all finite types over $\mathbb{N}, X$ (see [32]; one may also have several such types: see [34], section 17.6). One also adds constants for the metric d_X or normed space operators with appropriate axioms that characterize the class of structures in question.

Condition: the defining axioms must have a monotone functional interpretation (possibly with the addition of appropriate moduli, see [34]).

Counterexamples (to the extractability of uniform bounds) exist for the classes of strictly convex or separable spaces which get upgraded by the monotone functional interpretation to uniformly convex resp. boundedly compact spaces.

Formal systems for analysis with abstract spaces X
Types: (i) $\mathbb{N}, X$ are types, (ii) with ρ, τ also $\rho \to \tau$ is a type.

Functionals of type $\rho \to \tau$ map type-ρ objects to type-τ objects.

$PA^{\omega,X}$ is the extension of PA to all types, $\mathcal{A}^{\omega,X} := PA^{\omega,X} + DC$, where

DC: axiom schema of dependent choice for all types,

which implies the axiom schema of countable choice and so, applied to the law-of-excluded middle, full comprehension for numbers

$$CA: \exists f^{\mathbb{N}\to\mathbb{N}} \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (f(n) = 0 \leftrightarrow A(n),$$

where $A(n)$ may contain quantifiers (and parameters) of arbitrary types.

$\mathcal{A}^{\omega}[X, d, \ldots]$ results by adding constants $d_X, \ldots$ with axioms expressing that $(X, d, \ldots)$ is a nonempty metric, hyperbolic … space (we deviate here from the notation used in [34] where this theory is denoted by $\mathcal{A}^{\omega}[X, d, \ldots]_{-b}$, and $\mathcal{A}^{\omega}[X, d, \ldots]$ denotes the theory with an axiom stating the boundedness of (X, d) by some constant b being added).

A warning concerning equality: our formal theories only have a **quantifier-free rule of extensionality** (with A_{qf} being a quantifier-free formula)

$$\frac{A_{qf} \to s =_{\rho} t}{A_{qf} \to r[s/x] =_{\tau} r[t/x]},$$

where only $x =_{\mathbb{N}} y$ is a primitive predicate but for X and $\rho \to \tau$ one defines

$$x^X =_X y^X :\equiv d_X(x, y) =_{\mathbb{R}} 0_{\mathbb{R}}, \ x =_{\rho\to\tau} y :\equiv \forall v^{\rho}(x(v) =_{\tau} y(v)).$$

This is crucial as the uniform quantitative rendering of the extensionality axiom $x =_X y \to Tx =_X Ty$ for T of type $X \to X$ implies the uniform continuity of T (on bounded subsets) and we want (in contrast to the setting of current continuous model theory; see, however, the recent [18]) also to be able to treat discontinuous situations (see [34] for extensive discussions of this point).

Extension of majorizability to the new types: A crucial notion used is an extension of Howard's ([28]) concept of majorizability to the new types, where we 'bound' an element in a metric space by the distance it has from a fixed reference point $a \in X$ (where $a = 0_X$ in the normed case): let y, x be functionals be of types $\rho, \hat{\rho} := \rho[\mathbb{N}/X]$ and a^X of type X:

$$x^{\mathbb{N}} \gtrsim_{\mathbb{N}}^a y^{\mathbb{N}} :\equiv x \geq y, \ x^{\mathbb{N}} \gtrsim_X^a y^X :\equiv x \geq d(y, a).$$

For complex types $\rho \to \tau$ this is extended in a hereditary fashion.

Example: for monotone T^* one defines

$$T^* \gtrsim_{X\to X}^a T \equiv \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, x \in X[n \geq d(a, x) \to T^*(n) \geq d(a, T(x))] \ (\text{see } [21, 34]).$$

$T : X \to X$ is nonexpansive (n.e.) if $d(T(x), T(y)) \leq d(x, y)$.

Then $\lambda n.n + b \gtrsim_{X\to X}^a T$, if $d(a, T(a)) \leq b$.

Proof mining exhibits the finitary combinatorial kernel of a proof and as a

consequence of this it often is easy to generalize things from a normed linear setting to some geodesic setting. In fact, the approach has been particularly useful in the context of hyperbolic spaces which is a variant of notions considered by Takahashi [70], Goebel and Kirk [22, 30] and Reich and Shafrir [62] (see [32] for the precise relationship):

Definition 2.1 ([32]). *A (W-)hyperbolic space is a triple (X, d, W) where (X, d) is a metric space and $W : X \times X \times [0, 1] \to X$ s.t. for all $x, y, z \in W$ and $\lambda, \tilde{\lambda} \in [0, 1]$*

(i) $d(z, W(x, y, \lambda)) \le (1 - \lambda)d(z, x) + \lambda d(z, y)$,

(ii) $d(W(x, y, \lambda), W(x, y, \tilde{\lambda})) = |\lambda - \tilde{\lambda}| \cdot d(x, y)$,

(iii) $W(x, y, \lambda) = W(y, x, 1 - \lambda)$,

(iv) $d(W(x, z, \lambda), W(y, w, \lambda)) \le (1 - \lambda)d(x, y) + \lambda d(z, w)$.

CAT(0)-spaces (Gromov) are hyperbolic spaces (X, d, W) which satisfy the CN-inequality of Bruhat-Tits (determining W uniquely): for all $x, y_0, y_1, y_2 \in X$

$$\begin{cases} d(y_0, y_1) = \frac{1}{2}d(y_1, y_2) = d(y_0, y_2) \to \\ d(x, y_0)^2 \le \frac{1}{2}d(x, y_1)^2 + \frac{1}{2}d(x, y_2)^2 - \frac{1}{4}d(y_1, y_2)^2. \end{cases}$$

Small types (over $\mathbb{N}, X$) include: $\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}, X, \mathbb{N} \to X, X \to X$.

Theorem 2.2 ([21, 34]). *Let P, K be Polish resp. compact metric spaces (definable in $\mathcal{A}^\omega$), $A_\exists$[1] be an $\exists$-formula and $\underline{\tau}$ be a tuple of small types. If $\mathcal{A}^\omega[X, d, W]$ proves*

$$\forall x \in P \, \forall y \in K \, \forall \underline{z}^{\underline{\tau}} \, \exists v^\mathbb{N} \, A_\exists(x, y, \underline{z}, v),$$

then one can extract a computable $\Phi : \mathbb{N}^\mathbb{N} \times \underline{\mathbb{N}}^{(\mathbb{N})} \to \mathbb{N}$ s.t. the following holds in every nonempty hyperbolic space: for all representatives $r_x \in \mathbb{N}^\mathbb{N}$ of $x \in P$ and all $\underline{z}^{\underline{\tau}}$ and $\underline{z}^* \in \mathbb{N}^{(\mathbb{N})}$ s.t. $\exists a \in X(\underline{z}^* \gtrsim_{\underline{\tau}}^a \underline{z})$:

$$\forall y \in K \, \exists v \le \Phi(r_x, \underline{z}^*) \, A_\exists(x, y, \underline{z}, v).$$

For the case of bounded hyperbolic spaces, see [32].

As a special case of the above metatheorem one has:

Corollary 2.3 ([21, 34]). *If $\mathcal{A}^\omega[X, d, W]$ proves*

$$\forall x \in P \, \forall y \in K \, \forall z \in X \, \forall T : X \to X \, \big(T \ n.e. \to \exists v \in \mathbb{N} \, A_\exists\big),$$

then one can extract a computable $\Phi : \mathbb{N}^\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ s.t. for all $x \in P, b \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\forall y \in K \, \forall z \in X \, \forall T : X \to X \, \big(T \ n.e. \wedge d_X(z, T(z)) \le b \to \exists v \le \Phi(r_x, b) A_\exists\big)$$

holds in all nonempty hyperbolic spaces (X, d, W).

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[1]There are some mild restrictions on the types of the quantified variables in $A_\exists$.

Similar results hold for the other classes of metric and normed structures listed above. In the normed case, one additionally needs $\|z\| \leq b$ as an assumption in the conclusion of the corollary.

Remark 2.4. *Usually, proofs in ordinary mathematics only require a small fragment of $\mathcal{A}^\omega[X, d, \ldots]$ with e.g. the binary ('weak') König's lemma* WKL *instead of* DC *and Σ_1^0-induction only, which guarantees the extractability of primitive recursive (in the sense of Kleene) bounds.* WKL *is equivalent to a sentence of the form $\forall f^{\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}} \exists b \leq_{\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}} 1 \forall x^{\mathbb{N}} A_{qf}(f, b, x)$ and can be added to the system via a Skolem constant B with the purely universal axiom $\forall f, x(Bf \leq 1 \wedge A_{qf}(f, Bf, x))$ which is satisfiable in the full set-theoretic model and B is trivially majorized by the constant-1 functional in the extracted bound (see [34]).*

3 General types of applications

3.1 Asymptotic regularity theorems

Consider a metric space (X, d) and a continuous function $F : X \to \mathbb{R}$. Many problems can be stated in the form of finding a zero $z \in X$ of F. Such problems are often algorithmically approached by setting up some iterative procedure resulting in a sequence (x_n) in X which converges to a zero z of F :

$$(*) \ F(\lim_{n \to \infty} x_n) = F(z) = 0.$$

In this case one, in particular, has that

$$(**) \ F(x_n) \to 0.$$

Quite often, $(**)$ holds under much more general conditions than those needed to ensure the convergence of (x_n) itself. In the case of fixed point problems for mappings $T : X \to X$, i.e. the case where $F(x) := d(x, Tx)$, results of the form $(**)$ are usually referred to as asymptotic regularity statements where this term was originally introduced by Browder and Petryshyn [15] to refer to the property of T that the sequence $x_n := T^n x$ of Picard iterates satisfies $d(x_n, Tx_n) \to 0$. In many cases (see below) $(d(x_n, Tx_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ for some iterative process not only converges to 0 but does so in a nonincreasing way. In this situation the asymptotic regularity statement can be equivalently written in the form

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} \ \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ (d(x_n, Tx_n) < 2^{-k}) \in \forall\exists$$

and any upper bound $\Phi(k)$ on '$\exists n$' provides a rate of convergence. This means that one can apply the logical metatheorems mentioned in the previous section to extract effective and highly uniform rates of asymptotic regularity even from prima facie noneffective proofs of asymptotic regularity. In fact, this has been achieved in many instances in the context of nonlinear analysis (see some of the applications below and [35, 39] for general surveys).

3.2 Strong convergence theorems

Suppose that the theorem to be studied is not about an asymptotic regularity result but about the convergence of the sequence (x_n) itself, e.g. towards a zero of F or a fixed point of T. Already the Cauchy property of (x_n)

$$(+) \ \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \, \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \, \forall i, j \geq n \ (d(x_i, x_j) \leq 2^{-k}) \in \forall \exists \forall$$

has too complicated a logical form to directly apply the logical metatheorems on uniform bound extractions and, in fact, there are already simple cases of computable monotone sequences of rational numbers in $[0, 1]$ which do not have a computable rate of convergence ([68]).

Roughly speaking, one can distinguish the following situations:

1) The proof of the Cauchy property of (x_n) (or of the convergence of (x_n) to some known element $x \in X$) uses - on top of constructive ('intuitionistic') reasoning - at most the law-of-excluded-middle schema LEM for negated formulas

$$\text{LEM}_\neg : \ \neg A \vee \neg\neg A$$

which, in particular covers the case where A is $\exists$-free (e.g. $A \in \Pi_1^0$) as such formulas are equivalent to their double negation (using the stability of the prime formulas in our formal systems).

Alternatively (but not combined), one may use the so-called Markov principle

$$\text{M} : \ \neg\neg\exists n \in \mathbb{N} \, A_{qf}(n) \to \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \, A_{qf}(n) \ \ (A_{qf} \text{ quantifier-free with parameters})$$

together with the following weak form of LEM (weaker than LEM for Π_1^0-formulas):

$$\text{LLPO} : \ \neg(\exists n \in \mathbb{N} \, A_{qf}(n) \wedge \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \, B_{qf}(n)) \to \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \, \neg A_{qf}(n) \vee \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \, \neg B_{qf}(n),$$

where A_{qf}, B_{qf} are quantifier-free formulas. In both scenarios one can set up logical bound extraction metatheorems, where instead of the purely existential formula $A_\exists$ one may now have an arbitrary formula (see [34]). Since $(+)$ is monotone w.r.t. '$\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$' any upper bound on $n \leq \Phi(k)$ in fact is a Cauchy rate for (x_n) and so one can in these cases extract effective rates of convergence.

2) If the proof of the Cauchy property of (x_n) uses LEM for Σ_1^0-formulas (purely existential formulas for natural numbers) as in the case of the Specker sequences from [68], then one often has the following dichotomy: either one can show that (x_n) converges to the **unique** zero of F or fixed point of T, or one can use the non-uniqueness of the solution to construct an instance of the Cauchy statement in question which provably does not allow for an effective Cauchy rate.

(i) **Unique existence:** in many cases one can obtain effective rates of convergence (and in fact also with a constructive verification of this fact) for (x_n) if (x_n) converges towards a **unique** zero of F resp. fixed point of T: consider a function $F : X \to \mathbb{R}$ on some metric space (X, d) which has exactly one zero z. The uniqueness part

$$(a) \ \forall x, y \in X \ (F(x) = 0 = F(y) \to x = y)$$

can be written equivalently as

(b) $\forall x, y \in X \, \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \, \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \, (|F(x)|, |F(y)| \leq 2^{-n} \to d(x, y) < 2^{-k}) \in \forall\exists.$

Then logical metatheorems can be applied to extract from a proof of (a) an effective uniform bound $\Phi(k)$ on '$\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$' in (b), which we called in [31] a 'modulus of uniqueness', where $\Phi(k)$ depends on x, y only via general majorizing data and, in particular, is independent of x, y if X is bounded (in the case where X can be treated as an abstract space and, otherwise, if X is compact). Suppose now that we can construct some (bounded) sequence (x_n) of approximate zeros, i.e.

(c) $\forall k \in \mathbb{N} \, \exists n \in \mathbb{N}(|F(x_n)| < 2^{-k}) \in \forall\exists$

from which we then can extract (using again a logical metatheorem) an effective bound $\Psi(k)$ on '$\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$' in (c), then for $\chi(k) := \Psi(\Phi(k))$ we have

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} \, \exists n \leq \chi(k) \, (d(x_n, z) < 2^{-k})$$

and, if we even have that $(|F(x_n)|)_n$ is nonincreasing, it follows that χ is a rate of convergence for $\lim x_n = z$. In [14], it is shown that for Picard iterations $x_n = T^n x$ for suitable classes of mappings T the aforementioned logical metatheorems can be used to obtain such rates of convergence even when $(|F(x_n)|)_n$ (for $F(x) := d(x, Tx)$) is not nonincreasing which explains the explicit construction of effective rates of convergence for the classes of asymptotic contractions in the sense of Kirk and of uniformly generalized p-contractive mappings given by Briseid (see [14] and the literature cited there).

(ii) **Non-unique existence:** when F or T possess many zeros resp. fixed points, one usually can construct computable instances of iterative procedures (x_n) (converging to some zero or fixed point) that do not have a computable rate of convergence. In fact, [60] shows that this is the case for the usual iterative schemes used in metric fixed point theory, ergodic theory and convex optimization which even for (firmly) nonexpansive selfmappings $T : [0, 1] \to [0, 1]$ fail to have a computable rate of convergence for simple computable such mappings T. One then has to weaken the goal to what has been called an effective rate of metastability: Noneffectively, (+) is equivalent to

(++) $\forall k \in \mathbb{N} \, \forall g \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \, \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \, \forall i, j \in [n, n + g(n)] \, (d(x_i, x_j) < 2^{-k}) \in \forall\exists,$

the so-called Herbrand normal of (+), and a bound $\Phi(k, g)$ on '$\exists n$' is a bound for the Kreisel 'no-counterexample interpretation' ([52, 53]) of the Cauchy property. Since Tao [71] calls an interval $[n, n+g(n)]$ with the property in (++) an interval of 'metastability', we call bounds $\Phi(k, g)$ on '$\exists n$' in (++) rates of metastability. If one additionally knows that (x_n) is converging to a zero of F or a fixed point of T with some rate of metastability then one can actually combine both rates into a common one (formulated here for the case of fixed points), i.e. a bound $\Phi(k, g)$ such that for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $g : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$

(+++) $\exists n \leq \Phi(k, g) \, \forall i, j \in [n, n + g(n)] \, (d(x_i, x_j), d(x_i, Tx_i) \leq 2^{-k}).$

If one has a rate of convergence for $d(x_n, Tx_n) \to 0$, one can even achieve that

$$\exists n \le \Phi(k,g) \, \forall i,j \in [n, n+g(n)] \, \forall l \ge n \; (d(x_i, x_j), d(x_l, Tx_l) \le 2^{-k})$$

(see e.g. [46] and [38], Rem.2.11).

The extraction of explicit bounds Φ on the metastable form of Cauchy or convergence statements is of interest for the following reasons:

a) Disregarding bounded quantifiers, the statement $(+ + +)$ is purely universal ('real') and captures all the mathematical content of the theorem $\lim x_n = x = Tx$: by a fixed piece of proof it implies back the original convergence theorem: forgetting the bound Φ gives the Herbrand normal form which by recursive comprehension (more precisely QF-AC^{0,0} in the terminology of [34]) and LEM implies the Cauchy property and so by arithmetical comprehension (more precisely Π_1^0-AC^{0,0} in our formal context, see [34]) the convergence of (x_n). Applying $(+ + +)$ to the constant function $g(n) := K \in \mathbb{N}$ shows the existence of $i \ge K$ with $d(x_i, Tx_i) < 2^{-k}$ which - together with the continuity of T - gives $Tx = x$ for $x := \lim x_n$.

b) The proof-theoretic extraction of a rate of metastability from a convergence proof exhibits the finitary combinatorial content of that proof which may lead to generalizations of the resulting metastable statement and so - when unpacked into the full convergence statement (see above) - to generalized convergence theorems.

c) The concrete bounds extracted are of numerically interest: often they provide explicit information on the **algorithmic learnability** of a rate of convergence which - if a gap condition is satisfied - yields **oscillation bounds** ([3, 49] and section 5 below).

d) In many cases, asymptotic regularity is just the special case of metastability where $g(n) := 1$, e.g. for Picard iterates of nonexpansive functions T.

Some history:

- 2004, first rate of metastability (for the asymptotic regularity of asymptotically nonexpansive mappings) extracted ([43]).

- 2005, rate of metastability for Krasnoselski-Mann iterations of nonexpansive selfmappings $T : X \to X$ of compact hyperbolic spaces X ([33]).

- 2007, Tao [71] introduced the term 'metastability' in connection with the von Neumann Mean Ergodic Theorem (MET).

- 2007, independently from Tao, the first rate of asymptotic regularity for MET was extracted in [2].

- 2008, [44] generalized this with a better bound to uniformly convex Banach spaces which, subsequently, led to oscillation bounds by [3] (see below).

- Since then, many papers extracting explicit rates of metastability have appeared, including [3, 36, 37, 38, 41, 44, 45, 46, 47, 50, 57, 64, 66].

We like to emphasize that sometimes in analyzing convergence proofs one uses a combination of the approach used in the semi-constructive context discussed further above (applied to those parts of the proof that do not require Σ_1^0-LEM) and the approach to proofs based on full classical logic (applied to the more noneffective parts of the proof). E.g. [56, 65] provide interesting instances of such a hybrid approach.

In very special, but important, cases for applications one can extract rates of convergence for iterative procedures towards some non-unique zero of F or fixed point of T, namely when one has an effective so-called modulus of regularity which is closely related to the concepts of weak sharp minima and metric regularity used in convex optimization (see [48]).

3.3 Inclusions between sets of solutions

Consider functions $F, G : X \to \mathbb{R}$ on a metric space (X, d) such that every zero of F is also one of G :

$$\forall x \in X \ (F(x) = 0 \to G(x) = 0)$$

which can be re-written in $\forall\exists$-form as

$$\forall x \in X \, \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \, \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ \overbrace{(|F(x)| \leq 2^{-n} \to |G(x)| < 2^{-k})}^{\in \Sigma_1^0}$$

so that logical metatheorems can be applied to extract effective uniform bounds (which due to monotonicity are in fact realizers) for '$\exists n$', i.e.

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} \ (|F(x)| \leq 2^{-\Phi(x^*,k)} \to |G(x)| < 2^{-k}),$$

where x^* are appropriate majorizing data for x.
For concrete instances of such applications see sections 4 and 6 below.

3.4 Extraction of effective moduli

The first applications of the proof mining methodology in analysis concerned the extraction of explicit moduli of uniqueness in the aforementioned sense (as well as so-called constants of strong unicity) in Chebycheff approximation by us in 1990-1993 which in 2003 - together with Paulo Oliva - was also carried out for best L^1-approximation (see [34] for an extensive coverage of this and the references given there). However, many more concepts of quantitative 'moduli' exist in mathematics or have been introduced as quantitative proof-theoretic versions of qualitative concepts in analysis. Proof mining has been used to explicitly transform moduli for one situation into moduli for another one. This e.g. is used essentially in [4] and [48].

In the rest of the paper we give a few typical examples of explicit bounds which have been obtained by the proof-theoretic machinery discussed so far. For more comprehensive surveys, see [35] for results up to 2008 and [39] for applications since 2008.

4 Proof Mining in Convex Analysis

A polynomial rate of asymptotic regularity in Bauschke's solution of the 'zero displacement conjecture'

Consider a real Hilbert space H and nonempty closed and convex subsets $C_1, \ldots, C_N \subseteq H$ with metric projections P_{C_i}, define $T := P_{C_N} \circ \ldots \circ P_{C_1}$. In 2003, Bauschke proved the 'zero displacement conjecture' ([8]):

$$\|T^{n+1}x - T^n x\| \to 0 \quad (x \in H).$$

Previously, this was only known for $N = 2$ or $Fix(T) \neq \emptyset$ (or even $\bigcap_{i=1}^{N} C_i \neq \emptyset$) or C_i half spaces etc.

The proof uses the Bruck/Reich [17] theory of firmly and strongly nonexpansive mappings and the abstract theory of maximal monotone operators: Minty's theorem, Brézis-Haraux theorem, Rockafellar's maximal monotonicity and sum theorems, conjugate functions, normal cone operator.

The sequence $(\|T^{n+1}x - T^n x\|)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is nonincreasing and hence the conclusion in Bauschke's theorem is of the form $\forall\exists$. Logical metatheorems as discussed above, therefore, guarantee (modulo the formalizability of the proof in the resp. formal system which, however, does not need to be checked if one explicitly has carried out the extraction) the extractability of an effective uniform rate of asymptotic regularity which only depends on the error $\varepsilon > 0$, $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and majorants for $x \in H$ and $P_{C_1}, \ldots, P_{C_N}$, i.e. $b \geq \|x\|$ and $K \geq \|c_1\|, \ldots, \|c_N\|$ for some points $c_1 \in C_1, \ldots, c_N \in C_N$ since

$$n \geq \|y\| \to n + K \geq \|P_{C_i}y - P_{C_i}0\| + \|P_{C_i}0\| \geq \|P_{C_i}y\|.$$

So one gets a computable $\Phi(\varepsilon, N, b, K)$ s.t. for $b \geq \|x\|$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \, \forall n \geq \Phi(\varepsilon, N, b, K) \, (\|T^{n+1}x - T^n x\| < \varepsilon).$$

Strongly nonexpansive mappings

Definition 4.1 ([38])**.** *Let $S \subseteq X$ be a nonempty subset of a normed space X. $T : S \to X$ is strongly nonexpansive with SNE-modulus $\omega : \mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}_+^* \to \mathbb{R}_+^*$ if*

$$\forall d, \varepsilon > 0 \, \forall x, y \in S \, (\|x - y\| \leq d \, \wedge \, \|x - y\| - \|Tx - Ty\| < \omega(d, \varepsilon)$$
$$\to \|(x - y) - (Tx - Ty)\| < \varepsilon).$$

Remark: T is strongly nonexpansive in the sense of Bruck and Reich [17] iff it possesses an SNE-modulus.

Recall that in Hilbert spaces $H = X$, a function $T : S \to H$ is called firmly nonexpansive if

$$\forall x, y \in S \, (\|Tx - Ty\|^2 \leq \langle x - y, Tx - Ty \rangle)$$

and metric projections onto closed convex subsets of H are firmly nonexpansive.

The next two results have been obtained by a proof-theoretic analysis of [17]:

Lemma 4.2 ([38]). *Let H be a real Hilbert space and $T = T_N \circ \ldots \circ T_1$ with firmly nonexpansive $T_1, \ldots, T_N : H \to H$. Then T is SNE with modulus*

$$\omega_T(d, \varepsilon) := \frac{1}{16d}\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{N}\right)^2.$$

A rate of asymptotic regularity for SNE-mappings

Theorem 4.3 ([40]). *Let $T : S \to S$ be SNE with modulus ω s.t. $\inf\{\|x - Tx\| : x \in S\} = 0$ and let $\alpha : \mathbb{R}_+^* \to \mathbb{R}_+^*$ be such that*

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \, \exists y \in S \, (\|y\| \le \alpha(\varepsilon) \wedge \|y - Ty\| \le \varepsilon).$$

Then for $x \in S$, $x_n := T^n x$ and $D > 0$ such that $\|x - Tx\| \le D$ one has

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \, \forall n \ge \psi(\varepsilon, b, D, \alpha, \omega) \, (\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| < \varepsilon), \text{ where}$$

$$\psi(\varepsilon, b, D, \alpha, \omega) := \left\lceil \frac{18b + 12\alpha(\varepsilon/6)}{\varepsilon} - 1 \right\rceil \left\lceil \left(\frac{D}{\omega(D, \tilde{\varepsilon})} \right) \right\rceil, \quad \tilde{\varepsilon} := \frac{\varepsilon^2}{27b + 18\alpha(\varepsilon/6)}.$$

The proof-theoretic analysis of the **operator-theoretic part of Bauschke's proof** gives:

Theorem 4.4 ([40]). *Let H be real Hilbert space, $C_1, \ldots, C_N \subseteq H$ nonempty closed and convex subsets, P_{C_i} metric projections onto C_i for $i = 1, \ldots, N$. Let $c = (c_1, \ldots, c_N) \in C_1 \times \ldots \times C_N$ be arbitrary and $K \ge \|c\| = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N \|c_i\|^2}$. Let $T := P_{C_N} \circ \ldots \circ P_{C_1}$. Then for every $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ there exists a point $y \in C_N$ with*

$$\|y\| \le \alpha(\varepsilon) \text{ and } \|Ty - y\| \le \varepsilon, \text{ where}$$

$$\alpha(\varepsilon) := \frac{(K^2 + N^3(N-1)^2 K^2)N^2}{\varepsilon}.$$

Corollary 4.5 ([40]).

$$\Phi(\varepsilon, N, b, K) := \left\lceil \frac{18b + 12\alpha(\varepsilon/6))}{\varepsilon} - 1 \right\rceil \left\lceil \left(\frac{D}{\omega(D, \tilde{\varepsilon})} \right) \right\rceil$$

is a rate of asymptotic regularity in Bauschke's result, where

$$\tilde{\varepsilon} := \frac{\varepsilon^2}{27b + 18\alpha(\varepsilon/6)}, \quad D := 2b + NK, \quad \omega(D, \tilde{\varepsilon}) := \frac{1}{16D}(\tilde{\varepsilon}/N)^2.$$

$$\alpha(\varepsilon) := \frac{(K^2 + N^3(N-1)^2 K^2)N^2}{\varepsilon}.$$

The case where $Fix(T) \ne \emptyset$ is much simpler:

Theorem 4.6 ([38]). *Let $C \subseteq H$ be any nonempty subset of a real Hilbert space H, $T_1, \ldots, T_N : C \to C$ be firmly nonexpansive. Let $T := T_N \circ \ldots \circ T_1$ possess a fixed point $p \in C$ and, for $x \in C$, let $b \ge \|x - p\|, b > 0$. Then for $x_n := T^n x$:*

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \, \forall n \ge \lceil b/\omega_T(b, \varepsilon) \rceil \, (\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| < \varepsilon), \text{ where}$$

$$\omega_T(b, \varepsilon) := \frac{1}{16b}(\varepsilon/N)^2.$$

Convex feasibility problems

If in Theorem 4.6 the fixed point sets $Fix(T_1), \ldots, Fix(T_N)$ have a nonempty intersection, then any fixed point of T in fact is a common fixed point of $T_1, \ldots, T_N$. This even holds for arbitrary strongly nonexpansive mappings $T_1, \ldots, T_N$ in arbitrary Banach spaces X. In [38], an explicit bound $\rho(b, \varepsilon)$ (in terms of SNE-moduli for $T_1, \ldots, T_N$) is extracted from the classical proof of this fact such that for $x, p \in C$, p a common fixed point of $T_1, \ldots, T_N$ and $b \geq \|x - p\|$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \ (\|T_N T_{N-1} \ldots T_1 x - x\| < \rho(b, \varepsilon) \to \bigwedge_{i=1}^{N} (\|T_i x - x\| < \varepsilon)).$$

Combined with a rate of asymptotic regularity for $T = T_N \circ \ldots \circ T_1$ (which even in this generality is provided in [38]) this quantitatively solves the problem of constructing a common approximate fixed point of $T_1, \ldots, T_N$.

All this largely holds even in general metric spaces and for strongly quasi-nonexpansive mappings in the sense of [16]. Metric projections in so-called CAT(κ)-spaces X (in the sense of Gromov) with $\kappa > 0$ are strongly quasi-nonexpansive and one can construct an explicit modulus for this property which then makes it possible to quantitatively solve the problem to construct a point in the intersection of (ε-neighbourhoods of) finitely many overlapping closed convex subsets of X (i.e. the so-called convex feasibility problem for CAT(κ)-spaces). In the case where X is compact one obtains a rate of metastability for the strong convergence of the iterative use of the composition of the corresponding projections towards a point in the intersection of these sets (see [38]).

Other quantitative results in convex optimization have been obtained in

- [1, 47]: rates of asymptotic regularity and - for compact X - metastability for iterations of compositions of two resolvents in CAT(0)-spaces.

- [46, 48, 66] rates of asymptotic regularity, strong convergence (in special cases) resp. metastability for the proximal point algorithm.

- [50] explicit such rates for Yamada's hybrid steepest descent method.

5 Proof Mining in Ergodic Theory

Let H be a real Hilbert space, $T : H \to H$ be linear and $\|T(x)\| \leq \|x\|$ for all $x \in H$. Consider the Cesàro mean of the iterates of T :

$$A_n(x) := \frac{1}{n} S_n(x), \text{ where } S_n(x) := \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} T^i(x) \quad (n \geq 1).$$

The von Neumann Mean Ergodic Theorem in the formulation of Riesz states:

Theorem 5.1 (von Neumann Mean Ergodic Theorem)**.** *For every $x \in H$, the sequence $(A_n(x))_n$ strongly converges.*

In [2], it is shown that in general there is no computable rate of convergence, but a primitive recursive rate of metastability is extracted using the proof-theoretic methods discussed above. Tao [72] also established (without bound) a uniform metastable version of the Mean Ergodic Theorem in Hilbert space and used that uniformity as a base step for a generalization to commuting families of operators. On the connection to the proof-theoretic approach he comments:

'We shall establish Theorem 1.6 by "finitary ergodic theory" techniques, reminiscent of those used in [Green-Tao]...' 'The main advantage of working in the finitary setting ... is that the underlying dynamical system becomes extremely explicit'...'In proof theory, this finitisation is known as Gödel functional interpretation...which is also closely related to the Kreisel no-counterexample interpretation' (T. Tao [72]).

In 1939, Garrett Birkhoff proved:

Theorem 5.2 ([11]). *The Mean Ergodic Theorem holds for arbitrary uniformly convex Banach spaces.*

Remark 5.3. *In the same year as* [11], *Lorch* [58] *showed that the mean ergodic theorem even holds in all reflexive spaces. However, the class of reflexive spaces does not have enough uniformity to allow for a logical metatheorem on uniform bound extractions and, in fact, in* [3] *it is shown that a uniform rate of metastability has to depend on the modulus of uniform convexity.*

Since Birkhoff's proof formalizes in the deductive framework of uniformly convex normed spaces (with modulus η) $\mathcal{A}^\omega[X, \|\cdot\|, \eta]$ (see [34] for the definition of this system) the following is guaranteed a-priorily:

Let X be a uniformly convex Banach space with modulus η and $T : X \to X$ nonexpansive linear operator. Let $b > 0$. Then there is an effective functional Φ in ε, g, b, η s.t. for all $x \in X$ with $\|x\| \le b$, all $\varepsilon > 0$, all $g : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$:

$$\exists n \le \Phi(\varepsilon, g, b, \eta) \, \forall i, j \in [n, n + g(n)] \left(\|A_i(x) - A_j(x)\| < \varepsilon \right).$$

Note that $T^* := id$ majorizes T.

Based on the logical metatheorem above (for uniformly convex normed spaces) the following rate of metastability was extracted from Birkhoff's proof:

Theorem 5.4 ([44]). *Let X be a uniformly convex Banach space, η a modulus of uniform convexity, $T : X \to X$ be as above and $b > 0$. Then for all $x \in X$ with $\|x\| \le b$, all $\varepsilon > 0$ and all $g : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$:*

$$\exists n \le \Phi(\varepsilon, g, b, \eta) \, \forall i, j \in [n, n + g(n)] \left(\|A_i(x) - A_j(x)\| < \varepsilon \right), \text{ where}$$

$$\Phi(\varepsilon, g, b, \eta) := M \cdot \tilde{h}^{(K)}(1), \text{ with } M := \left\lceil \tfrac{16b}{\varepsilon} \right\rceil, \gamma := \tfrac{\varepsilon}{16} \eta \left(\tfrac{\varepsilon}{8b} \right), \quad K := \left\lceil \tfrac{b}{\gamma} \right\rceil,$$
$$h, \tilde{h} : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}, \ h(n) := 2(Mn + g(Mn)), \quad \tilde{h}(n) := \max_{i \le n} h(i).$$

If $\eta(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon \cdot \tilde{\eta}(\varepsilon)$ with increasing $\tilde{\eta}$, then we can replace 'η' by '$\tilde{\eta}$' and '16' by '8'. In particular, for $X = L^p$ with $1 < p < \infty$, we may take $\tilde{\eta}(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon^{p-1}/(p2^p)$.

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Bounding the number of fluctuations: We say that (x_n) admits k ε-fluctuations if there are $i_1 \le j_1 \le \ldots i_k \le j_k$ s.t. $\|x_{j_n} - x_{i_n}\| \ge \varepsilon$ for $n = 1, \ldots, k$.

Using the analysis of Birkhoff's proof in [44], Avigad and Rute subsequently improved the rate of metastability to a bound on the number of ε-fluctuations:

Theorem 5.5 ([3]). *$(A_n(x))$ admits at most*

$$\left\lfloor 4 \log(M) \cdot \frac{b}{\varepsilon} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{b}{\gamma} \right\rfloor \cdot \left\lfloor (4 \log(2M) \cdot \frac{b}{\varepsilon} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{b}{\gamma} \right\rfloor$$

many ε-fluctuations with b, M, γ as in Theorem 5.4.

In the Hilbert space case, fluctuation bounds had already been obtained in [29].

If the linearity of the nonexpansive operator T is dropped, then the convergence of (x_n) holds weakly (but in general not strongly, see [19]) by Baillon's nonlinear ergodic theorem:

Theorem 5.6 ([5]). *Let H be a real Hilbert space, $C \subseteq H$ bounded closed and convex and $T : C \to C$ be nonexpansive. Then for every $x_0 \in C$, the sequence of Cesàro means (x_n) converges weakly to a fixed point of T.*

A rate of metastability for the weak Cauchy property is extracted in [37].

If one either changes the Cesàro means slightly (or adds some weak form of linearity, see below) one can achieve strong convergence. Consider the so-called Halpern iteration [26]: Let $T : C \to C$ be nonexpansive, $x_1 \in C$, $\alpha_n \in [0,1]$

$$x_{n+1} := \alpha_n \, x_1 + (1 - \alpha_n) \, T(x_n) \quad (n \ge 1).$$

In contrast to other iterative schemes such as Krasnoselski-Mann iterations, the Halpern iteration often converges strongly (one reason, though, why it is less used convex optimization is that it is not Fejér monotone; see [46] for explicit rates of metastability from strong convergence proofs based on Fejér monotonicity).

Using a weak compactness argument, Wittmann proved in 1992 the following strong convergence result:

Theorem 5.7 ([74]). *Let H be a real Hilbert space, $C \subseteq H$ closed and convex, $x_0 \in C$ and $Fix(T) \neq \emptyset$. Under suitable conditions on (α_n) (e.g. for $\alpha_n := \frac{1}{n+1}$) (x_n) converges strongly towards the fixed point of T that is closest to x_0.*

Remark 5.8.   *1. Wittmann's theorem is a nonlinear generalization of the Mean Ergodic Theorem: for $\alpha_n := 1/(n+1), C := H$ and linear T, the Halpern iteration coincides with the Cesàro means.*

  2. Another nonlinear generalization of the Mean Ergodic Theorem has been obtained in [6]. Here one keeps the original Cesàro means but requires that T (in addition to being nonexpansive) is odd (and C is symmetric). This was further generalized in [73] from which an explicit rate of metastability was extracted in [64].

Wittmann's result has been generalized to CAT(0)-spaces by Saejung [63] using Banach limits. Explicit rates of metastability have been extracted in [36] (for Hilbert spaces) with an elimination of the use of weak compactness and in [45] (for CAT(0) spaces) with an elimination of the use of Banach limits.

Moreover, one has a quadratic rate of asymptotic regularity $d(x_n, T(x_n)) \to 0$:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \, \forall n \geq \frac{4M}{\varepsilon} + \frac{32M^2}{\varepsilon^2} \, (d(x_n, T(x_n)) < \varepsilon) \, \, ([45]).$$

In [57], the proof-theoretic analysis of Saejung's proof has been further generalized to the highly nontrivial case of CAT(κ)-spaces for $\kappa > 0$ producing an explicit rate of metastability even in this context.

6 Proof Mining in Nonlinear Semigroup Theory

Let X be a Banach space, $C \subseteq X$ be a nonempty subset and $\lambda \in (0,1)$.

Definition: A family $\{T(t) : t \geq 0\}$ of nonexpansive mappings $T(t) : C \to C$ is a nonexpansive semigroup if

$$(i) \, T(s + t) = T(s) \circ T(t) \, \, (s, t \geq 0),$$
$$(ii) \text{ for each } x \in C, \text{ the mapping } t \mapsto T(t)x \text{ is continuous.}$$

Theorem 6.1 ([69]). *Let $0 < \alpha < \beta$ such that α/β is irrational. Then any fixed point $p \in C$ of*

$$S := \lambda T(\alpha) + (1 - \lambda)T(\beta) : C \to X$$

is a common fixed point of $T(t)$ for all $t \geq 0$.

Let $t \mapsto T(t)x$ be equicontinuous on norm-bounded subsets of C with modulus ω, let f_γ be an effective irrationality measure for $\gamma := \alpha/\beta$, $\Lambda, N, D \in \mathbb{N}$ be s.t. $1/\Lambda \leq \lambda, 1 - \lambda$ and $1/N \leq \beta \leq D$. Then one can extract a bound (see section 3.3) $\Phi(\varepsilon, M, b) := \Phi(\varepsilon, M, b, N, \Lambda, D, f_\gamma, \omega)$ s.t. for all $M, b \in \mathbb{N}$, $p \in C$, $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\|p\| \leq b \land \|S(p) - p\| \leq \Phi(\varepsilon, M, b) \to \forall t \in [0, M] \, (\|T(t)p - p\| \leq \varepsilon).$$

The main noneffective tool used in Suzuki's proof is the binary König's lemma WKL and by Remark 2.4 it is guaranteed to have a primitive recursive (in the sense of Kleene) bound Φ. In fact, the bound actually extracted in [42] is of rather low complexity:

$$\Phi(2^{-m}, M, b) = \frac{2^{-m}}{8(\sum_{i=1}^{\phi(k, f_\gamma)-1} \Lambda^i + 1)(1 + MN)}, \text{ where}$$

$$k := D2^{\omega_{D,b}(3 + [\log_2(1+MN)] + m) + 1}, \, \phi(k, f) := \max\{2f(i) + 6 \, : \, 0 < i \leq k\}.$$

Example: $\alpha = \sqrt{2}, \beta = 2, \lambda = 1/2$. Then $\Lambda = 2, N = 1, D = 2, f_\gamma(p) = 4p^2$.

If C is convex (so that $S : C \to C$) and $x_{n+1} := \frac{1}{2}x_n + \frac{1}{2}Sx_n \in C$ starting from $x_0 \in C$ is a d-bounded Krasnoselski iteration sequence of S one has a quadratic rate of asymptotic regularity $\Psi(\varepsilon, d) := 4d^2/(\pi\varepsilon^2)$ ([7]) and so

$$\forall n \geq \Psi(\Phi(\varepsilon, M, b), d) \ \forall t \in [0, M] \left(\|T(t)x_n - x_n\| \leq \varepsilon \right).$$

Nonexpansive semigroups feature prominently - via the Crandall-Liggett formula - in the study of abstract Cauchy problems that are given by accretive set-valued operators. Explicit rates on the asymptotic behavior of solutions have been obtained by our proof-theoretic methods in [41, 51].

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