

7. Let  $L$  be the language whose only nonlogical symbol is one unary relation symbol. Find all  $L$ -theories that have quantifier elimination. Are they all complete?

*Proof.* Let  $R$  denote the unary relation symbol in the language  $L$ . To any countable  $L$ -structure  $A$  we can associate a pair of cardinals  $(m, n) = (|R[A]|, |A - R[A]|)$ , which we will call the *characteristic* of  $A$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are either finite or  $\omega$ . We will prove the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.** *An  $L$ -theory  $T$  has quantifier elimination if and only if whenever  $B, C \models T$  are models with isomorphic 1-element substructures, then  $B$  and  $C$  must have the same characteristic.*

We will use the fact (Theorem 3.1.4 in *Marker*) that  $T$  has quantifier elimination if and only if

$$\text{tp}_B^{q.f.}(\mathbf{b}) = \text{tp}_C^{q.f.}(\mathbf{c}) \longrightarrow \text{tp}_B(\mathbf{b}) = \text{tp}_C(\mathbf{c})$$

for  $\mathbf{b} \in B^n, \mathbf{c} \in C^n$ . To show the forward direction, let  $B' \subseteq B, C' \subseteq C$  be isomorphic substructures generated by the elements  $b \in B$  and  $c \in C$  respectively (if no such substructures exist we are done), then we have  $\text{tp}_B(b) = \text{tp}_C(c)$ . Let  $\sigma_{(n,m)}^\pm(x)$  be the sentence

$$\sigma_{(n,m)}^\pm(x) = \pm R(x) \wedge \left( (\exists y_1) \cdots (\exists y_{n+m}) \left( \bigwedge_{i,j} (y_i \neq y_j) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=1}^n R(y_i) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=n+1}^{n+m} \neg R(y_i) \right) \right)$$

Then we can see that  $\sigma_{(n,m)}^\pm(x) \in \text{tp}_B(b)$  if and only if  $\pm R(b)$  and  $n \leq |R[B]|, m \leq |B - R[B]|$ . If  $\sigma_{(n,m)}^\pm(x)$  is in  $\text{tp}_B(b)$  for all  $n$  that would imply that  $|R[B]| = \omega$ , and similar reasoning would apply if  $|B - R[B]| = \omega$ . Since  $\text{tp}_B(b) = \text{tp}_C(c)$  this means  $B$  and  $C$  must have the same characteristic.

For the other direction, we may assume that  $B$  and  $C$  have isomorphic 1-element substructures and thus have the same characteristic (if they don't have isomorphic substructures there is nothing to check). To show that  $T$  has quantifier elimination, we must show that if  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  have the same quantifier free type then they have the same elementary type, for  $\mathbf{b} \in B^n, \mathbf{c} \in C^n$ . Let  $B'$  be the substructure generated by  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $C'$  the substructure generated by  $\mathbf{c}$ . Note that in our case a substructure is a subset with  $R$  restricted to that subset, so  $B'$  and  $C'$  have as their underlying sets the elements in the tuples  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  respectively. Also note that  $\text{tp}_B^{q.f.}(\mathbf{b})$  contains the sentence

$$\bigwedge_{i \in U} R(x_i) \wedge \bigwedge_{j \notin U} \neg R(x_j)$$

for a unique  $U \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$  determined by the tuple  $\mathbf{b}$ , and so  $\text{tp}_B^{q.f.}(\mathbf{b})$  determines  $B'$  up to isomorphism.

Since  $\text{tp}_B^{q.f.}(\mathbf{b}) = \text{tp}_C^{q.f.}(\mathbf{c})$ , we must have that  $B' \cong C'$ , and consequently the characteristic of  $B'$  must be the same as the characteristic of  $C'$ . Let  $f : B' \rightarrow C'$  be an isomorphism of  $B'$  and  $C'$ , then we can extend  $f$  to an isomorphism  $f : B \rightarrow C$  since  $|(B')^c \cap R[B]| =$

$|(f(B'))^c \cap R[C]|$  and  $|(B')^c \cap (B - R[B])| = |(f(B'))^c \cap (C - R[C])|$ . Hence  $\text{tp}_B(\mathbf{b}) = \text{tp}_C(\mathbf{c})$ , and so we can conclude that  $T$  has quantifier elimination.  $\square$

We may now ask which of the  $L$ -theories with quantifier elimination, as described above, are complete?

**Lemma 2.** *A non-complete  $L$ -theory with quantifier elimination must have exactly two models up to equivalence which have characteristics  $(n, 0)$  and  $(0, m)$  for some  $n$  and  $m$ .*

*Proof.* If  $T$  is an  $L$ -theory which is not complete and has quantifier elimination, then  $T$  has at least two models that are not elementary equivalent, meaning they cannot have the same characteristic. Since models which have isomorphic 1-element substructures must have the same characteristic per the previous lemma, these two models, which we will call  $A$  and  $B$ , must satisfy  $\forall x R(x)$  and  $\forall x \neg R(x)$ , respectively. Then the characteristic of  $A$  is  $(n, 0)$  and the characteristic of  $B$  is  $(0, m)$  for some  $n$  and  $m$ . Any other model  $M$  must have the same characteristic as  $A$  if it satisfies  $\exists x R(x)$ , since  $M$  and  $A$  would have an isomorphic 1-element substructure. Similarly any model satisfying  $\exists x \neg R(x)$  must have the same characteristic as  $B$ , hence there are exactly two models of  $T$  up to elementary equivalence.  $\square$