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Neostability transfers in derivation-like theories

Omar León Sánchez and Shezad Mohamed



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Motivated by structural properties of differential field extensions, we introduce the notion of a theory T being derivation-like with respect to another model complete theory T_0 . We prove that when T admits a model companion T_+ , several model-theoretic properties transfer from T_0 to T_+ . These properties include completeness, quantifier elimination, stability, simplicity, and NSOP₁. We also observe that, aside from the theory of differential fields, examples of derivation-like theories are plentiful.

1. Introduction

Extending the argument of simplicity of the theory ACFA, Chatzidakis and Pillay [1998] studied the abstract condition of adding an automorphism to a first-order theory T_0 and proved that if such an expanded theory has a model companion T_0A , then T_0A is simple whenever T_0 is stable (this stable-to-simple transfer result has been further generalised in [Blossier and Martin-Pizarro 2019]). In this paper we propose an abstract analogue of this where instead of adding an automorphism, we expand T_0 to a theory T that satisfies certain conditions which resemble structural properties of derivations.

Recall that given a difference field (K, σ) , the automorphism σ extends (not necessarily uniquely) to the separable closure K^{sep} . In the case of a differential field (K, δ) much more is true: the derivation extends *uniquely* to any separably algebraic extension. This is a crucial difference between the theories of difference fields and differential fields; for instance, it is one of the reasons why DCF_0 has quantifier elimination while ACFA does not. Another structural property of differential fields (or even differential rings) is that given two differential fields (K, δ_1) and (L, δ_2) with a common differential subfield (E, δ) , the tensor product $K \otimes_E L$ has a *unique* derivation extending those on K and L (note that this property also holds for difference fields).

We extract the above two properties of differential field extensions to an abstract setup and define (in Definition 3.1) the notion of a theory T being derivation-like

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with respect to a complete and model complete theory T_0 equipped with an invariant ternary relation \downarrow^0 . The motivating example, of course, is that the theory DF_0 of differential fields in characteristic 0 is derivation-like with respect to ACF_0 equipped with the algebraic disjointness relation \downarrow^{alg} . In [Section 4](#), we provide several other instances of derivation-like theories; in particular, we note that the recently developed theory DCCM of compact complex manifolds with meromorphic vector fields, introduced in [\[Moosa 2024\]](#), is derivation-like.

In [Section 3](#), under the assumption that T has a model companion T_+ (and some assumptions on \downarrow^0), we prove that several model-theoretic properties transfer from T_0 to T_+ . In particular, completeness and quantifier elimination transfer, the model-theoretic dcl and acl have a natural description, and the neostability properties of stability, simplicity, NSOP_1 (under additional conditions), and rosiness transfer from T_0 to T_+ .

While most neostability properties have local combinatorial descriptions, for each of the four mentioned above there is a theorem of a form similar to the Kim–Pillay theorem — one indicating a semantic way to characterise the given property in terms of the existence of an independence relation satisfying certain conditions. These appear in [\[Kim 2014; Kim and Pillay 1997; Conant et al. 2025; Adler 2009\]](#), respectively, and will be stated in full in [Theorem 2.2](#) below.

By inducing (from \downarrow^0) a natural independence relation

$$A \downarrow_C^+ B \iff \text{acl}(AC) \downarrow_{\text{acl}(C)}^0 \text{acl}(BC)$$

on the model companion T_+ and using [Theorem 2.2](#), in [Section 3](#) we are able to prove that stability and simplicity transfer from T_0 to T_+ .

Theorem 1.1. *Suppose \downarrow^0 is nonforking independence in T_0 and that for every model $M \models T_+$ we have that $\text{dcl}_0(M) \models T_0$. Suppose also that T is derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \downarrow^0) .*

- (1) *If T_0 is stable, then T_+ is stable and \downarrow^+ is nonforking independence.*
- (2) *If T_0 is simple, then T_+ is simple and \downarrow^+ is nonforking independence.*

We also prove the following transfer result for NSOP_1 .

Theorem 1.2. *Suppose \downarrow^0 is Kim-independence in T_0 , that T_0 has an independence relation \downarrow^1 such that $\downarrow_M^0 \implies \downarrow_M^1$ for every $M \models T_+$, and that $T_0 \subseteq T_+$. Suppose also that T is derivation-like with respect to (T, \downarrow^1) .*

If T_0 is NSOP_1 , then T_+ is NSOP_1 and \downarrow^+ is Kim-independence.

In particular, when T_0 is the theory of a very slim field, the relation \downarrow^{alg} is a natural choice for \downarrow^1 . Finally, assuming that both T_0 and T_+ eliminate imaginaries, we obtain that rosiness also transfers.

Theorem 1.3. *Suppose that T_0 eliminates imaginaries and is rosy with strict independence relation \perp^0 . Suppose also that T is derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \perp^0) and that T_+ eliminates imaginaries. Then \perp^+ is a strict independence relation on T_+ , and hence T_+ is rosy.*

Our method of proof relies on a detailed study of how the individual properties of independence relations constituting [Definition 2.1](#) transfer from T_0 to T_+ . This is explicitly done in [Theorems 3.12, 3.14, and 3.15](#).

As consequences of these theorems, we obtain the following familiar results on the stability and simplicity of theories of fields with operators.

- Corollary 1.4.** (1) $\text{SCF}_{p,e}$ (for $e < \infty$) is stable, and forking independence coincides with algebraic disjointness in the language with constant symbols for a fixed p -basis and λ -functions.
- (2) DCCM is stable, and forking independence coincides with that in CCM.
- (3) The model companion of a bounded PAC differential field of characteristic 0 is simple, and forking independence coincides with algebraic disjointness.
- (4) CODF is rosy.

And we obtain novel results.

- Corollary 1.5.** (1) $\text{SDCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$, the theory of separably differentially closed fields of characteristic p and infinite differential degree of imperfection, is stable, and forking independence coincides with algebraic disjointness and p -disjointness in the language with the λ -functions.
- (2) The model companion of an ω -free PAC differential field of characteristic 0 is NSOP_1 .

Stability of $\text{SDCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$ was established in [\[Ino and León Sánchez 2023\]](#) by counting types; here we give a characterisation of forking.

Conventions. We assume that all our theories are closed under deductions.

2. Preliminaries

As discussed in the introduction, our definitions and proofs rely on the notion of abstract independence relations and the fact that stability, simplicity, NSOP_1 , and rosiness all have a theorem of the form of the Kim–Pillay theorem — one characterising the given property in terms of the existence of a ternary relation satisfying certain properties. In this section, we collect the necessary material and use it freely.

We follow the treatment of independence relations in [\[Adler 2009\]](#). We fix a complete first-order theory T_0 .

Definition 2.1. A relation \downarrow^0 on triples of small subsets of a monster model \mathcal{U}_0 of T_0 is called an independence relation if it is invariant under automorphisms and satisfies the following eight properties:

- (1) *normality*: $A \downarrow_C^0 B \implies A \downarrow_C^0 BC$;
- (2) *monotonicity*: $A \downarrow_C^0 BD \implies A \downarrow_C^0 B$;
- (3) *base monotonicity*: $A \downarrow_C^0 BD \implies A \downarrow_{CD}^0 B$;
- (4) *transitivity*: $A \downarrow_C^0 B$ and $A \downarrow_B^0 D \implies A \downarrow_C^0 D$ for $C \subseteq B \subseteq D$;
- (5) *symmetry*: $A \downarrow_C^0 B \implies B \downarrow_C^0 A$;
- (6) *full existence*: for any A, B, C there is $A' \equiv_C A$ with $A' \downarrow_C^0 B$;
- (7) *finite character*: if $A_0 \downarrow_C^0 B$ for all finite $A_0 \subseteq A$ then $A \downarrow_C^0 B$;
- (8) *local character*: for any A there is a cardinal $\kappa = \kappa(A)$ such that for any B there is $C \subseteq B$ with $|C| < \kappa$ such that $A \downarrow_C^0 B$.

There are other properties that are generally of interest:

- *existence*: for any A and C we have $A \downarrow_C^0 C$;
- *extension*: if $A \downarrow_C^0 B$ then for any D there is $A' \equiv_{BC} A$ with $A' \downarrow_C^0 BD$;
- *antireflexivity*: if $a \downarrow_C^0 a$ then $a \in \text{acl}(C)$ (an independence relation is called strict if it satisfies antireflexivity);
- *chain local character*: for a finite tuple a and a regular cardinal $\kappa > |T_0|$, for every continuous chain of models $(M_i)_{i < \kappa}$ with $|M_i| < \kappa$ there is $j < \kappa$ such that $a \downarrow_{M_j}^0 \bigcup_{i < \kappa} M_i$;
- *independence theorem over M* : if $A_1 \downarrow_M^0 A_2$, $a_1 \downarrow_M^0 A_1$, $a_2 \downarrow_M^0 A_2$, and $a_1 \equiv_M a_2$, then there is $a \models \text{tp}(a_1/MA_1) \cup \text{tp}(a_2/MA_2)$ with $a \downarrow_M^0 A_1 A_2$;
- *stationarity over M* : if $M \subseteq A$, $a \downarrow_M^0 A$, $b \downarrow_M^0 A$, and $a \equiv_M b$, then $a \equiv_A b$.

We say that *monotonicity*, *symmetry*, *finite character*, *existence*, or *extension* holds over models if the property holds when C is a small model of T_0 , and we say that \downarrow_M^0 satisfies the property if it holds when $C = M$. The *independence theorem* or *stationarity* holds over models if the property holds when M is a small model of T_0 . We say that *transitivity* holds over models if the property holds when C and B are small models of T_0 .

We collect the various theorems of the form of the Kim–Pillay theorem.

Theorem 2.2. (i) [Kim 2014] *The theory T_0 is stable if and only if it admits an independence relation \downarrow^0 (that is, one satisfying (1)–(8) above) which satisfies stationarity over models. In this case \downarrow^0 coincides with forking independence.*

- (ii) [Kim and Pillay 1997] *The theory T_0 is simple if and only if it admits an independence relation \perp^0 which satisfies the independence theorem over models. In this case \perp^0 coincides with forking independence.*
- (iii) [Conant et al. 2025] *The theory T_0 is NSOP₁ if and only if it admits an invariant ternary relation \perp^0 with chain local character and which over models satisfies monotonicity, transitivity, symmetry, finite character, existence, extension, and the independence theorem. In this case \perp^0 coincides with Kim-independence over models.*
- (iv) [Adler 2009] *Suppose T_0 eliminates imaginaries. Then T_0 is rosy if and only if it admits a strict independence relation.*

Finally, we define some notation that we use freely throughout the next section.

Definition 2.3. Let \mathcal{L} be a language, let M and N be two \mathcal{L} -structures, and let $X \subseteq M$ be some subset.

- (1) $M \leq_{\mathcal{L}} N$ means that M is an \mathcal{L} -substructure of N .
- (2) $\langle X \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}$ is the \mathcal{L} -structure generated by X (inside M).
- (3) $\text{diag}_{\mathcal{L}}^M(X)$ is the quantifier-free \mathcal{L} -diagram of X inside M ; that is, the set of all quantifier free $\mathcal{L}(C)$ -sentences true in M , where $C = \{c_x : x \in X\}$ is a set of new constant symbols and M is expanded to an $\mathcal{L}(C)$ -structure by interpreting c_x as x .

3. Main results

We fix the following data:

- $\mathcal{L}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{L}$ are two (first-order) languages, possibly multisorted.
- T_0 is a complete and model complete \mathcal{L}_0 -theory equipped with an automorphism invariant ternary relation \perp^0 , we denote by \mathcal{U}_0 a monster model of T_0 , and, unless otherwise stated, acl_0 refers to model-theoretic algebraic closure taken with respect to the language \mathcal{L}_0 in \mathcal{U}_0 .
- T is an \mathcal{L} -theory such that $T_0^{\forall} \subseteq T$.

Definition 3.1. We say that T is derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \perp^0) if whenever $A, B, C \models T^{\forall}$ (with C a common \mathcal{L} -substructure of A and B) are such that $A, B \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$, $\text{acl}_0(C) \cap A = \text{acl}_0(C) \cap B = C$, and $A \perp_C^0 B$, we have that

- (i) there exists $M \models T$ such that $M \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ and $A, B \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M$, and
- (ii) for any M as in (i) and any \mathcal{L}_0 -structure D such that

$$\langle A, B \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0} \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} D \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \text{acl}_0(A, B) \cap M,$$

we have that $D \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M$ and, moreover, this \mathcal{L} -structure on D is the unique one expanding its \mathcal{L}_0 -structure, making it a model of T^{\forall} , and extending the \mathcal{L} -structures of A and B .

Note that part (i) of the definition is, in some sense, a strong form of independent amalgamation.

Remark 3.2. (1) Suppose T is derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \perp^0) and $M \models T$ with $M \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$. We note that if $A \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M$ is such that

$$A \perp_A^0 A,$$

then $\text{acl}_0(A) \cap M \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M$. Indeed, taking B and C equal to A , part (ii) of the definition yields

$$\text{acl}_0(A) \cap M = \text{acl}_0(A, B) \cap M \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M.$$

More generally, for any \mathcal{L}_0 -structure D such that $A \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} D \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \text{acl}_0(A) \cap M$, we have that $D \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M$ and this \mathcal{L} -structure on D is the unique one expanding its \mathcal{L}_0 -structure, making it a model of T^{\forall} , and extending the \mathcal{L} -structure of A .

(2) We say that T is *almost* derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \perp^0) if in condition (ii) of [Definition 3.1](#) we restrict only to $A = B = C$. Some of the preliminary results of this section also hold for almost derivation-like theories.

(3) When $T_0 \subseteq T$, we may weaken condition (ii) by restricting to only those cases where D is dcl_0 -closed: the results of this section continue to hold.

Example 3.3. We highlight the distinction made above in [Remark 3.2\(3\)](#) between $T_0 \subseteq T$ and $T_0 \not\subseteq T$.

Let $T_0 = \text{ACF}_p$ and $T = \text{SCF}_{p,e}$ with $e > 0$. Then $T_0^{\forall} \subseteq T$ but $T_0 \not\subseteq T$ since fields of positive degree of imperfection are not algebraically closed.

If $T_0 = \text{ACF}_0$ and $T = \text{DCF}_0$, then $T_0 \subseteq T$ since every differentially closed field is necessarily algebraically closed.

The following assumptions will be in place throughout the rest of this section.

Assumption 3.4. (i) From now on T is a derivation-like theory with respect to (T_0, \perp^0) .

(ii) We assume that T has a model companion T_+ and that $T \subseteq T_+$. We fix a monster model \mathcal{U}_+ of a completion of T_+ . Since $T_0^{\forall} \subseteq T_+$, without loss of generality we may assume that $\mathcal{U}_+ \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$. The notation acl_+ refers to model-theoretic algebraic closure taken in \mathcal{U}_+ (with respect to the language \mathcal{L}).

(iii) If $T_0 \not\subseteq T_+$, we further assume that T_0 has quantifier elimination.

Let \mathcal{L}_0^* be some language expanding \mathcal{L}_0 , and set $\mathcal{L}^* = \mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{L}_0^*$. Let T_0^* be an expansion by definitions of T_0 to the language \mathcal{L}_0^* (for instance, the Morleyisation

of T_0). Also, expand T and T_+ to T^* and T_+^* , respectively, to the language \mathcal{L}^* using the same definitions as for T_0^* .

Remark 3.5. The following can be readily checked:

- (1) $(T_0^*)^\forall \subseteq T^*$.
- (2) \downarrow^0 is naturally an invariant ternary relation on \mathcal{U}_0 as a model of T_0^* .
- (3) T^* is derivation-like with respect to (T_0^*, \downarrow^0) .
- (4) T_+^* is the model companion of T^* and $T^* \subseteq T_+^*$.
- (5) \mathcal{U}_0 and \mathcal{U}_+ remain monster models of T_0^* and T_+^* , respectively, and $\mathcal{U}_+ \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0^*} \mathcal{U}_0$.

For (1), in particular to obtain $\mathcal{U}_+ \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0^*} \mathcal{U}_0$, we need to ensure that any new symbols of \mathcal{L}_0^* have compatible interpretations in $M \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} N$ for $M \models T$ and $N \models T_0$; that is, that for any \mathcal{L}_0 -formula ϕ defining a new symbol we have

$$\phi(M) = \phi(N) \cap M.$$

If $T_0 \subseteq T$, then $M \leq N$ as T_0 is model complete, and this is automatic. If $T_0 \not\subseteq T$, this can be ensured by assuming T_0 has quantifier elimination in the language \mathcal{L}_0 . This is the basis for [Assumption 3.4\(iii\)](#).

Lemma 3.6. *Assume \downarrow^0 satisfies full existence. Let $A \leq_{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{U}_+$. If $T_0^* \cup \text{diag}_{\mathcal{L}_0^*}^{\mathcal{U}_0}(A)$ is complete, then $T_+^* \cup \text{diag}_{\mathcal{L}^*}^{\mathcal{U}_+}(A)$ is complete.*

Proof. Let $K \models T_+^* \cup \text{diag}_{\mathcal{L}^*}^{\mathcal{U}_+}(A)$. We show that $K \equiv_A \mathcal{U}_+$ as \mathcal{L}^* -structures. First note that $K \models (T_0^*)^\forall$, and hence it \mathcal{L}_0^* -embeds in some $K' \models T_0^*$. Now by the completeness of $T_0^* \cup \text{diag}_{\mathcal{L}_0^*}^{\mathcal{U}_0}(A)$, K' \mathcal{L}_0^* -embeds inside \mathcal{U}_0 over A . Let L be an \mathcal{L}^* -elementary substructure of \mathcal{U}_+ containing A . Use full existence to find a copy of L with $L' \downarrow_A^0 K$ and $\text{tp}_{\mathcal{L}_0^*}^{\mathcal{U}_0}(L'/A) = \text{tp}_{\mathcal{L}_0^*}^{\mathcal{U}_0}(L/A)$. This last fact means that L induces an isomorphic \mathcal{L}^* -structure on L' . The partial \mathcal{L}_0^* -elementary map $A \rightarrow A$ from K to L' extends to a partial \mathcal{L}_0^* -elementary map $\text{acl}_{\mathcal{L}_0^*}^{\mathcal{U}_0}(A) \cap K \rightarrow \text{acl}_{\mathcal{L}_0^*}^{\mathcal{U}_0}(A) \cap L'$. By [Remark 3.2\(1\)](#), this map must be an \mathcal{L}^* -isomorphism (note that full existence yields $A \downarrow_A^0 A$). So we may assume that A is relatively $\text{acl}_{\mathcal{L}^*}$ -closed in K and L' .

Since T^* is derivation-like, there is some $M \models T^*$ such that $M \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0^*} \mathcal{U}_0$ and $K, L' \leq_{\mathcal{L}^*} M$. Since T_+^* is the model companion of T^* , there is some $N \models T_+^*$ extending M as an \mathcal{L}^* -structure. Now, T_+^* is model complete, so $L' \leq N \geq K$ as \mathcal{L}^* -structures. Finally $K \equiv_A N \equiv_A L' \equiv_A L \equiv_A \mathcal{U}_+$. \square

We collect some immediate corollaries.

Corollary 3.7. *Assume \downarrow^0 satisfies full existence. Suppose T_0^* is the model companion of some inductive \mathcal{L}_0^* -theory S .*

- (1) $T_+ \cup S$ is the model companion of $T \cup S$.

- (2) If T_0^* is the model completion of S , then $T_+ \cup S$ is the model completion of $T \cup S$.
 (3) If T_0^* has quantifier elimination, then T_+^* has quantifier elimination.

Proof. This is precisely the analogous result of Theorem 7.2 of [Tressl 2005]. The argument is given in more detail in Theorem 3.9 of [Mohamed 2023]. \square

As a result, we now *assume* in all cases that T_0 has quantifier elimination— if $T_0 \subseteq T$, then we Morleyise and use Remark 3.5; if $T_0 \not\subseteq T$, we assumed in Assumption 3.4(iii) that T_0 has quantifier elimination in \mathcal{L}_0 . Hence by Corollary 3.7, T_+ also has quantifier elimination.

Lemma 3.8. *Assume \downarrow^0 satisfies monotonicity, symmetry, full existence, and antireflexivity. Then for any $A \subset \mathcal{U}_+$, we have*

$$\text{acl}_+(A) = \text{acl}_0(\langle A \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}) \cap \mathcal{U}_+.$$

Proof. By full existence, we have that $A \downarrow_A^0 A$, and so by Remark 3.2(1) we have that

$$F := \text{acl}_0(\langle A \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}) \cap \mathcal{U}_+$$

is an \mathcal{L} -substructure of \mathcal{U}_+ . As T_0 has quantifier elimination, we get $F \subseteq \text{acl}_+(A)$.

For the other containment, consider $a \in \text{acl}_+(A)$. Let K be an elementary \mathcal{L} -substructure of \mathcal{U}_+ containing all (finitely many) realisations of $\text{tp}_+(a/F)$. By full existence, there is an \mathcal{L}_0 -substructure L of \mathcal{U}_0 with $L \downarrow_F^0 K$ and $\text{tp}_0(L/F) = \text{tp}_0(K/F)$. The latter induces an \mathcal{L} -structure on L , via some $\sigma \in \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{L}_0}(\mathcal{U}_0/F)$ with $L = \sigma(K)$, making L a model of T_+ and an \mathcal{L} -extension of F . Since T is derivation-like, there is $M \models T$ with $M \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ such that K and L are \mathcal{L} -substructures of M . Let $N \models T_+$ be an \mathcal{L} -extension of M . Since T_+ is model complete and $K \models T_+$ is a common substructure of N and \mathcal{U}_+ , there is an elementary \mathcal{L} -embedding $\phi : N \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_+$ over K . Let $L' = \phi(L)$. We first note that

$$\text{tp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(a/F) = \text{tp}_+^K(a/F) = \text{tp}_+^L(\sigma(a)/F) = \text{tp}_+^N(\sigma(a)/F) = \text{tp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(\phi(\sigma(a))/F),$$

and so $\phi(\sigma(a)) \in K$ (as K contains all realisations of $\text{tp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(a/F)$).

We now claim that $\text{tp}_0(L/K) = \text{tp}_0(L'/K)$. First note that

$$\text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_0}(L/K) = \text{qftp}_0^M(L/K) = \text{qftp}_0^N(L/K) = \text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_+}(L'/K) = \text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_0}(L'/K).$$

Since T_0 has quantifier elimination, it follows that $\text{tp}_0(L/K) = \text{tp}_0(L'/K)$.

Now, by invariance, we have $L' \downarrow_F^0 K$. Then monotonicity and symmetry imply that $\phi(\sigma(a)) \downarrow_F^0 \phi(\sigma(a))$. By antireflexivity, $\phi(\sigma(a)) \in \text{acl}_0(F) \cap \mathcal{U}_+ = F$. Since $\phi \circ \sigma$ fixes F pointwise, we get that $a \in F$, as desired. \square

We now observe that in derivation-like theories with $T_0 \subseteq T_+$ we have a natural description of dcl.

Lemma 3.9. *Assume \downarrow^0 satisfies monotonicity, symmetry, full existence, and antireflexivity. In addition, assume that $T_0 \subseteq T_+$. Then for any $A \subset \mathcal{U}_+$, we have*

$$\mathrm{dcl}_+(A) = \mathrm{dcl}_0(\langle A \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}).$$

Proof. As $T_0 \subseteq T_+$, we have

$$\mathrm{dcl}_0(\langle A \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}) \subseteq \mathrm{dcl}_+(A).$$

For the other containment, let $a \in \mathrm{dcl}_+(A)$ and let σ be an \mathcal{L}_0 -automorphism of \mathcal{U}_0 fixing $\langle A \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}$ pointwise. We aim to show that $\sigma(a) = a$. Note that the assumption $T_0 \subseteq T_+$ implies $\mathcal{U}_+ \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$; this together with [Lemma 3.8](#) yields

$$\sigma(\mathrm{dcl}_+(A)) \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \sigma(\mathrm{acl}_0(\langle A \rangle_{\mathcal{L}})) = \mathrm{acl}_0(\langle A \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}) \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_+.$$

Because T is derivation-like, by [Remark 3.2\(1\)](#) we have that $\sigma(\mathrm{dcl}_+(A)) \leq_{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{U}_+$ and this is the unique \mathcal{L} -structure expanding its \mathcal{L}_0 -structure, making it a model of T^\forall , and extending $\langle A \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}$. It follows from this and the fact that T_+ has quantifier elimination (by [Corollary 3.7\(3\)](#)) that σ restricted to $\mathrm{dcl}_+(A)$ is a partial \mathcal{L} -elementary map of \mathcal{U}_+ . Thus, we may extend this restriction to an automorphism ρ of \mathcal{U}_+ (which fixes A). But then, as $a \in \mathrm{dcl}_+(A)$, we have that $a = \rho(a) = \sigma(a)$. \square

Remark 3.10. We note that in the proofs of [Lemmas 3.6, 3.8, and 3.9](#), condition (ii) of derivation-like ([Definition 3.1](#)) was only used when $A = B = C$. Namely, we applied [Remark 3.2\(1\)](#), and so all results stated so far hold when T is almost derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \downarrow^0) in the sense of [Remark 3.2\(2\)](#).

Definition 3.11. Define the following relation on triples of small subsets of \mathcal{U}_+ :

$$A \downarrow_C^+ B \iff \mathrm{acl}_+(AC) \downarrow_{\mathrm{acl}_+(C)}^0 \mathrm{acl}_+(BC).$$

The following provides a detailed description of how independence properties of \downarrow^0 transfer to \downarrow^+ .

Theorem 3.12. (1) *The relation \downarrow^+ is invariant and normal.*

(2) *If \downarrow^0 satisfies any of monotonicity, symmetry, finite character, then so does \downarrow^+ .*

(3) *If \downarrow^0 is transitive and monotone, then \downarrow^+ is transitive.*

(4) *If \downarrow^0 satisfies base monotonicity, finite character, and local character, then \downarrow^+ has local character.*

(5) *If \downarrow^0 satisfies normality, monotonicity, base monotonicity, transitivity, symmetry, and full existence, then \downarrow^+ satisfies base monotonicity.*

(6) *If \downarrow^0 satisfies monotonicity, symmetry, and full existence, then \downarrow^+ satisfies full existence.*

(7) If \downarrow^0 satisfies monotonicity and extension and T_+ has quantifier elimination, then \downarrow^+ satisfies extension.

In addition, if $T_0 \subseteq T_+$, then (2), (3), and (7) also hold for the corresponding properties stated over models.

Proof. Invariance. Suppose $A \downarrow_C^+ B$ and $\text{tp}_+(ABC) = \text{tp}_+(A'B'C')$. Then

$$\text{tp}_+(\text{acl}_+(ABC)) = \text{tp}_+(\text{acl}_+(A'B'C')),$$

and similar arguments to the proofs above (using quantifier elimination for T_0) show that

$$\text{tp}_0(\text{acl}_+(ABC)) = \text{tp}_0(\text{acl}_+(A'B'C')).$$

Invariance for \downarrow^0 then means that $A' \downarrow_{C'}^+ B'$.

Normality. This is by definition — it does not require normality of \downarrow^0 .

Monotonicity. Suppose $A \downarrow_C^+ B$ and $D \subseteq B$. Then $\text{acl}_+(AC) \downarrow_{\text{acl}_+(C)}^0 \text{acl}_+(BC)$. Also $\text{acl}_+(DC) \subseteq \text{acl}_+(BC)$, so by monotonicity for \downarrow^0 , we have that

$$\text{acl}_+(AC) \downarrow_{\text{acl}_+(C)}^0 \text{acl}_+(DC);$$

that is, $A \downarrow_C^+ D$.

Transitivity. This follows from transitivity and monotonicity of \downarrow^0 .

Symmetry. This follows from symmetry of \downarrow^0 .

Finite character. This follows from finite character of \downarrow^0 and the fact that acl_+ is finitary.

Local character. Precisely the same proof as in Theorem 2.1 of [Blossier and Martin-Pizarro 2019] applies here.

Base monotonicity. Suppose $A \downarrow_C^+ B$ and $C \subseteq D \subseteq B$. We may also assume that $A \supseteq C$ by normality. Then $\text{acl}_+(A) \downarrow_{\text{acl}_+(C)}^0 \text{acl}_+(B)$. By monotonicity, we have $\text{acl}_+(A) \downarrow_{\text{acl}_+(C)}^0 \text{acl}_+(D)$. Since T is derivation-like,

$$\text{acl}_0(\text{acl}_+(A) \text{acl}_+(D)) \cap \mathcal{U}_+ \leq_{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{U}_+.$$

So $\langle AD \rangle_{\mathcal{L}} \subseteq \text{acl}_0(\text{acl}_+(A) \text{acl}_+(D)) \cap \mathcal{U}_+$, and so by Lemma 3.8 we have

$$\text{acl}_+(AD) = \text{acl}_0(\langle AD \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}) \cap \mathcal{U}_+ \subseteq \text{acl}_0(\text{acl}_+(A) \text{acl}_+(D)) \cap \mathcal{U}_+.$$

By base monotonicity and normality for \downarrow^0 , we get

$$\text{acl}_+(A) \text{acl}_+(D) \downarrow_{\text{acl}_+(D)}^0 \text{acl}_+(B).$$

By full existence, we get

$$\text{acl}_0(\text{acl}_+(A) \text{acl}_+(D)) \downarrow_{\text{acl}_+(A) \text{acl}_+(D)}^0 \text{acl}_+(B),$$

and by symmetry, transitivity, and monotonicity, $\text{acl}_+(AD) \downarrow_{\text{acl}_+(D)}^0 \text{acl}_+(B)$; that is, $A \downarrow_D^+ B$.

Full existence. Suppose a, A, B are given inside \mathcal{U}_+ . We need to find $a' \in \mathcal{U}_+$ such that $\text{tp}_+(a'/A) = \text{tp}_+(a/A)$ and $a' \downarrow_A^+ B$. Let K be some small \mathcal{L} -elementary substructure of \mathcal{U}_+ containing a, A, B . Write $C = \text{acl}_+(A)$. Use full existence for \downarrow^0 to find $L \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ with $L \downarrow_C^0 K$ and $\text{tp}_0(L/C) = \text{tp}_0(K/C)$. Let $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{U}_0/C)$ be the \mathcal{L}_0 -automorphism taking K to L . This automorphism then induces an \mathcal{L} -structure on L . Since T is derivation-like, there is some $M \models T$ such that $K, L \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$. Since T_+ is the model companion of T , there is some $N \models T_+$ extending M . Let $\phi : N \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_+$ be the \mathcal{L} -elementary embedding of N inside \mathcal{U}_+ that fixes K . Then

$$\text{tp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(a/C) = \text{tp}_+^K(a/C) = \text{tp}_+^L(\sigma(a)/C) = \text{tp}_+^N(\sigma(a)/C) = \text{tp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(\phi\sigma(a)/C).$$

We also have the following chain of equalities of quantifier-free \mathcal{L}_0 -types:

$$\text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_0}(L/K) = \text{qftp}_0^M(L/K) = \text{qftp}_0^N(L/K) = \text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_+}(\phi(L)/K) = \text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_0}(\phi(L)/K).$$

As T_0 has quantifier elimination, this yields $\text{tp}_0(L/K) = \text{tp}_0(\phi(L)/K)$. Invariance then gives $\phi(L) \downarrow_C^0 K$, and monotonicity gives $\text{acl}_+(C, \phi\sigma(a)) \downarrow_C^0 \text{acl}_+(AB)$; that is, $\phi\sigma(a) \downarrow_A^+ B$.

Extension. Suppose $A \downarrow_C^+ B$ and $D \supseteq B$ is given. We need to find $A' \equiv_{BC} A$ with $A' \downarrow_C^+ D$. As usual we may assume $C \subseteq A, B$ and that these parameter sets are acl_+ -closed. Let K be a small \mathcal{L} -elementary substructure of \mathcal{U}_+ containing all of these sets. Use extension for \downarrow^0 to find $A' \downarrow_C^0 K$ with $\text{tp}_0(A'/B) = \text{tp}_0(A/B)$. This \mathcal{L}_0 -isomorphism induces an \mathcal{L} -isomorphic structure on A' . By the derivation-like axiom, there is some $M \models T$ such that $M \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ with $A', K \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M$. Since T_+ is the model companion of T , extend M to some $N \models T_+$, and let $\phi : N \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_+$ be an \mathcal{L} -elementary embedding of N in \mathcal{U}_+ which fixes K . Then

$$\text{qftp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(A/B) = \text{qftp}_+^K(A/B) = \text{qftp}_+^M(A'/B) = \text{qftp}_+^N(A'/B) = \text{qftp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(\phi(A')/B).$$

By quantifier elimination for T_+ , $\text{tp}_+(A/B) = \text{tp}_+(\phi(A')/B)$.

As usual,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_0}(A'/K) &= \text{qftp}_0^M(A'/K) = \text{qftp}_0^N(A'/K) \\ &= \text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_+}(\phi(A')/K) = \text{qftp}_0^{\mathcal{U}_0}(\phi(A')/K), \end{aligned}$$

and by quantifier elimination for T_0 and invariance and monotonicity for \downarrow^0 , we get $\phi(A') \downarrow_C^0 D$.

For the final clause of the statement, note that the arguments provided in (2), (3), and (7) hold when working over models since $T_0 \subseteq T_+$. As an example, we will

give the proof that if \downarrow^0 satisfies monotonicity over models, then \downarrow^+ satisfies monotonicity over models.

Monotonicity over models. Suppose $A \downarrow_C^+ B$ and $D \subseteq B$, where $C \models T_+$. Then $\text{acl}_+(AC) \downarrow_C^0 \text{acl}_+(BC)$ —since C is acl_+ -closed—and $\text{acl}_+(DC) \subseteq \text{acl}_+(BC)$. Now since $T_0 \subseteq T_+$, C is also a model of T_0 , and so by monotonicity over models for \downarrow^0 , we have that

$$\text{acl}_+(AC) \downarrow_C^0 \text{acl}_+(DC);$$

that is, $A \downarrow_C^+ D$. □

Using the above theorem, we observe that rosiness transfers.

Corollary 3.13. *Assume both T_0 and T_+ admit elimination of imaginaries. If T_0 is rosy, then so is T_+ .*

Proof. By [Theorem 2.2\(iv\)](#), it suffices to show that T_+ admits a strict independence relation. Taking \downarrow^0 to be any strict independence relation (which exists by rosiness of T_0), [Theorem 3.12](#) yields that \downarrow^+ is an independence relation; thus, it suffices to show that \downarrow^+ satisfies antireflexivity. Suppose $a \downarrow_C^+ a$. Then, by symmetry and monotonicity of \downarrow^0 , we get $a \downarrow_{\text{acl}_+(C)}^0 a$; and so, by antireflexivity of \downarrow^0 , we obtain

$$a \in \text{acl}_0(\text{acl}_+(C)) \cap \mathcal{U}_+ = \text{acl}_+(C),$$

where the last equality uses [Lemma 3.8](#). □

We now address the transfer of the independence theorem.

Theorem 3.14. *Let $M \subset \mathcal{U}_+$ with $M = \text{acl}_+(M)$, and suppose $T_0 \subseteq T$. Assume the following:*

- (1) T_0 has, in addition to \downarrow^0 , an independence relation \downarrow^1 such that $\downarrow_M^0 \implies \downarrow_M^1$.
- (2) T is derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \downarrow^1) .
- (3) And \downarrow_M^0 satisfies monotonicity, symmetry, and extension.

If \downarrow^0 satisfies the independence theorem over M , then so does \downarrow^+ .

Proof. Let $A_1 \downarrow_M^+ A_2$, $a_1 \downarrow_M^+ A_1$, $a_2 \downarrow_M^+ A_2$, and $\text{tp}_+(a_1/M) = \text{tp}_+(a_2/M)$. We will show that there is $a \downarrow_M^+ A_1 A_2$ realising $\text{tp}_+(a_1/MA_1) \cup \text{tp}_+(a_2/MA_2)$. Let $N \models T_+$ be some \mathcal{L} -elementary substructure of \mathcal{U}_+ containing all of the above subsets.

Note that, by [Theorem 3.12](#), \downarrow_M^+ satisfies symmetry and extension (the fact that T is derivation-like with respect to the independence relation \downarrow^1 yields that T_+ has quantifier elimination by [Corollary 3.7](#)). Thus, we may assume that A_1, A_2, a_1 , and a_2 are all acl_+ -closed and contain M (note that $T_0 \subseteq T$ implies that they are also acl_0 -closed).

Claim 1. *There is some $a \in \mathcal{U}_0$ with $a \downarrow_M^0 N$ and $a \models \text{tp}_0(a_1/A_1) \cup \text{tp}_0(a_2/A_2)$.*

Proof of claim. Note first that by definition of \downarrow^+ , we have that $A_1 \downarrow_M^0 A_2$, $a_1 \downarrow_M^0 A_1$, $a_2 \downarrow_M^0 A_2$, and $\text{tp}_0(a_1/M) = \text{tp}_0(a_2/M)$. By the independence theorem for \downarrow^0 , there is $a \in \mathcal{U}_0$ with $a \downarrow_M^0 A_1 A_2$ and $a \models \text{tp}_0(a_1/A_1) \cup \text{tp}_0(a_2/A_2)$. Now by extension for \downarrow_M^0 , we may assume that $a \downarrow_M^0 N$. \square

Claim 2. *Inside \mathcal{U}_0 , there are \mathcal{L}_0 -isomorphic copies N_1 and N_2 of N , both containing a , with $N_1 \downarrow_a^1 N_2$ and $N \downarrow_{A_1 A_2}^1 N_1 N_2$.*

Proof of claim. Note first that, by assumption and the fact that $a \downarrow_M^0 N$, we have that $a \downarrow_M^1 N$. Now for $i = 1, 2$, let N'_i be the copy of N coming from the \mathcal{L}_0 -automorphism $A_i a_i \mapsto A_i a$. By full existence for \downarrow^1 , let $N_i \equiv_{A_i a}^0 N'_i$ with $N_1 \downarrow_{A_1 a}^1 N$ and $N_2 \downarrow_{A_2 a}^1 N N_1$. Then $N \downarrow_{A_1}^1 N_1$ and $N \downarrow_{A_2}^1 N_2$ by transitivity. From $a \downarrow_M^1 N$ we get $a \downarrow_{A_1}^1 A_2$, and so $A_1 a \downarrow_{A_1}^1 A_2$. Along with $A_1 \downarrow_M^1 A_2$, transitivity gives $A_1 a \downarrow_M^1 A_2$, so that $A_1 a \downarrow_a^1 A_2$ by base monotonicity. This implies $A_1 \downarrow_a^1 A_2$ and $N_1 \downarrow_a^1 A_2$. This last part implies $N_1 \downarrow_a^1 A_2 a$ and along with $N_2 \downarrow_{A_2 a}^1 N N_1$ implies $N_1 \downarrow_a^1 N_2$. Also, $N \downarrow_{A_1 A_2}^1 N_1$ by base monotonicity since $A_1 A_2 \subseteq N$. From $N N_1 \downarrow_{A_2 a}^1 N_2$, we get $N \downarrow_{A_2 a N_1}^1 N_2$, and hence $N \downarrow_{A_2 N_1}^1 N_2$ since $a \in N_1$. Combining this with $N \downarrow_{A_1 A_2}^1 N_1$ gives $N \downarrow_{A_1 A_2}^1 N_1 N_2$. \square

Claim 3. *There is some model of T which is an \mathcal{L} -extension of N , N_1 , and N_2 .*

Proof of claim. Define \mathcal{L} -structures on N_1 and N_2 such that (N_i, A_i, a) is \mathcal{L} -isomorphic to (N, A_i, a_i) . So $N_i \models T_+$ for $i = 1, 2$. Note that since a_i is an \mathcal{L} -substructure of N , a is also an \mathcal{L} -substructure of N_i . Now $N_1 \downarrow_a^1 N_2$, and a is relatively acl_0 -closed in N_1 and N_2 ; since T is derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \downarrow^1) , there is some $P \models T$ such that $P \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ and $N_1, N_2 \leq_{\mathcal{L}} P$. Since $T_0 \subseteq T$ and using part (ii) of the definition of derivation-like (Definition 3.1), we have that $\text{acl}_0(N_1 N_2)$ is an \mathcal{L} -substructure of P . By the uniqueness clause of part (ii) of derivation-like and the fact that $A_1 \downarrow_M^1 A_2$, we have that $\text{acl}_0(A_1 A_2)$ is equipped with an \mathcal{L} -structure that makes it simultaneously an \mathcal{L} -substructure of N and an \mathcal{L} -substructure of $\text{acl}_0(N_1 N_2)$. Now $N \downarrow_{A_1 A_2}^1 N_1 N_2$, and so $N \downarrow_{\text{acl}_0(A_1 A_2)}^1 \text{acl}_0(N_1 N_2)$ by invariance, base monotonicity, monotonicity, transitivity, and full existence. Now by part (i) of the derivation-like axiom we may find some $S \models T$ with $S \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ and $N, \text{acl}_0(N_1 N_2) \leq_{\mathcal{L}} S$. So S is an \mathcal{L} -extension of N , N_1 , and N_2 , as desired. \square

Now S extends to some $S' \models T_+$. Let $j : S' \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_+$ be an \mathcal{L} -elementary embedding of S' in \mathcal{U}_+ that fixes N . Then

$$\text{tp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(a_1/A_1) = \text{tp}_+^N(a_1/A_1) = \text{tp}_+^{N_1}(a/A_1) = \text{tp}_+^{S'}(a/A_1) = \text{tp}_+^{\mathcal{U}_+}(j(a)/A_1),$$

and similarly we have $j(a) \equiv_{A_2}^+ a_2$.

As T_0 has quantifier elimination, we have $\text{tp}_0(a/N) = \text{tp}_0(j(a)/N)$. Now, by construction of a , we have $a \downarrow_M^0 N$, and by monotonicity and invariance, we get $j(a) \downarrow_M^0 \text{acl}_+(A_1 A_2)$, and so $j(a) \downarrow_M^+ A_1 A_2$. \square

The following addresses transfer of stationarity.

Theorem 3.15. *Suppose $M \subset \mathcal{U}_+$ with $M = \text{acl}_+(M)$ and $\text{dcl}_0(M) = \text{acl}_0(M)$. Suppose also that \downarrow^0 satisfies base monotonicity, extension, and full existence. If \downarrow^0 satisfies stationarity over $\text{dcl}_0(M)$, then \downarrow^+ satisfies stationarity over M .*

Proof. Note that, by full existence and Corollary 3.7, T_+ has quantifier elimination. Now suppose $M \subset N \subset \mathcal{U}_+$, $a, b \in \mathcal{U}_+$ with $\text{tp}_+(a/M) = \text{tp}_+(b/M)$, $a \downarrow_M^+ N$, and $b \downarrow_M^+ N$. Since \downarrow^+ satisfies extension (by Theorem 3.12(7)), we may assume that N is a model of T_+ . Let $K_a = \text{acl}_+(Ma)$ and $K_b = \text{acl}_+(Mb)$. By definition of \downarrow^+ , we have that $K_a \downarrow_M^0 N$ and $K_b \downarrow_M^0 N$. By extension for \downarrow^0 , the same independence holds after replacing N for some N_0 containing $N \cup \text{dcl}_0(M)$. Hence, by base monotonicity, $K_a \downarrow_{\text{dcl}_0(M)}^0 N_0$ and $K_b \downarrow_{\text{dcl}_0(M)}^0 N_0$. Note that $\text{tp}_0(K_a/\text{dcl}_0(M)) = \text{tp}_0(K_b/\text{dcl}_0(M))$. Then by stationarity for \downarrow^0 over $\text{dcl}_0(M)$,

$$\text{tp}_0(K_a/N) = \text{tp}_0(K_b/N).$$

This implies that there is an \mathcal{L}_0 -isomorphism $\langle K_a N \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0} \rightarrow \langle K_b N \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0}$ taking $a \mapsto b$ and fixing N .

Note that M is an \mathcal{L} -substructure of K_a , K_b , and N . Moreover, by Remark 3.2(1) and full existence, $\text{acl}_0(M) \cap \mathcal{U}_+ = \text{acl}_+(M) = M$.

By the derivation-like axiom, $\langle K_a N \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0}$ and $\langle K_b N \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0}$ are \mathcal{L} -substructures of \mathcal{U}_+ . By its uniqueness clause, this \mathcal{L}_0 -isomorphism must be an \mathcal{L} -isomorphism. So $\text{qftp}_+(a/N) = \text{qftp}_+(b/N)$. By quantifier elimination for T_+ , we have

$$\text{tp}_+(a/N) = \text{tp}_+(b/N). \quad \square$$

Corollary 3.16. *Suppose \downarrow^0 is nonforking independence.*

- (1) *Assume that $\text{dcl}_0(M) \models T_0$ whenever $M \models T_+$. If T_0 is stable, then T_+ is stable and \downarrow^+ is nonforking independence.*
- (2) *Assume $T_0 \subseteq T$. If T_0 is simple, then T_+ is simple and \downarrow^+ is nonforking independence.*

Proof. Part (1) follows from Theorems 3.12 and 3.15, while part (2) follows from Theorems 3.12 and 3.14 (note that in the latter we take $\downarrow^1 = \downarrow^0$). \square

Example 3.17. In Corollary 3.16 we required that $\text{dcl}_0(M) \models T_0$ for every $M \models T_+$. If $T_0 \subseteq T_+$, then this holds automatically since T_0 is model complete. Otherwise, Example 3.3 provides a case where this requirement holds. Suppose $T_0 = \text{ACF}_p$ and $T = \text{SCF}_{p,e}$. Then for any set A , $\text{dcl}_0(A)$ coincides with the perfect closure of the field generated by A . So, if $M \models \text{SCF}_{p,e}$, then $\text{dcl}_0(M) \models \text{ACF}_p$.

We now aim to prove a similar result on the transfer of NSOP_1 . We will need to restrict to the case of fields to apply [Theorem 3.14](#) with a particular choice of \downarrow^1 .

Assume T_0 is an \mathcal{L}_0 -theory of fields. We say that a relation \downarrow^1 on T_0 *implies \mathcal{L}_0 -compositums* if for all $K, L \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ satisfying $K \downarrow_E^1 L$, for some $E = \text{acl}_0(E) \cap K = \text{acl}_0(E) \cap L$, the compositum $K \cdot L$ is an \mathcal{L}_0 -substructure of \mathcal{U}_0 . Following [\[Junker and Koenigsmann 2010\]](#), we say that T_0 is *very \mathcal{L}_0 -slim* if for every $F \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ we have that

$$\text{acl}_0(F) = F^{\text{alg}} \cap \mathcal{U}_0.$$

Define the relation \downarrow^1 on small subsets of \mathcal{U}_0 by

$$A \downarrow_C^1 B \iff \langle AC \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0} \downarrow_{\langle C \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0}}^{\text{alg}} \langle BC \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0}, \quad (1)$$

where \downarrow^{alg} denotes algebraic independence in fields.

Fact 3.18. *Assume \downarrow^1 implies \mathcal{L}_0 -compositums. The relation \downarrow^1 as defined above is an independence relation if and only if T_0 is very \mathcal{L}_0 -slim.*

The proof is an adaptation of [Theorem 2.1](#) of [\[Junker and Koenigsmann 2010\]](#). Some details are provided in [Lemma 4.4.7](#) of [\[Mohamed 2024\]](#).

Corollary 3.19. *Assume that T_0 is very \mathcal{L}_0 -slim, that \downarrow^1 implies \mathcal{L}_0 -compositums, that T is derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \downarrow^1) , and that $T_0 \subseteq T$. If T_0 is NSOP_1 and \downarrow^0 is Kim-independence, then T_+ is NSOP_1 and \downarrow^+ is Kim-independence.*

Proof. By [\[Ramsey 2018, Proposition 3.9.26\]](#), if two subfields are Kim-independent over a submodel, then they are algebraically independent. So $\downarrow_M^0 \implies \downarrow_M^1$ holds, and \downarrow^+ satisfies the independence theorem over models by [Theorem 3.14](#) (noting that \downarrow^1 is an independence relation by [Fact 3.18](#)). Existence over models and chain local character each transfer from \downarrow^0 to \downarrow^+ since every model of T_+ is also a model of T_0 . The remaining conditions of [Theorem 2.2\(iii\)](#) hold by [Theorem 3.12](#) (note that (7) of that theorem, the transfer of existence, does apply as T_+ has quantifier elimination; this is by [Corollary 3.7](#) and the fact that \downarrow^1 satisfies full existence). \square

4. Examples

In this section we observe that there are plenty of examples of theories that are derivation-like, and hence to which the results of the previous section apply (when the model companion exists).

4.1. Separably closed fields and Hasse–Schmidt fields. Fix a prime $p > 0$ and a finite nonnegative integer e . Let \mathcal{L}_0 be the language of fields, $T_0 = \text{ACF}_p$, and \downarrow^0 forking independence (which coincides with algebraic disjointness \downarrow^{alg}). Let $\mathcal{L}_{b,\lambda}$ be the language of fields expanded by constants $b = (b_1, \dots, b_e)$ and unary function symbols $(\lambda_i)_{i \in p^e}$. Let $T_{b,\lambda}$ be the theory of fields of characteristic p

together with sentences specifying that b is a p -basis and that the λ_i are interpreted as the λ -functions with respect to b (in some fixed order of the p -monomials).

Lemma 4.1. *The theory $T_{b,\lambda}$ is derivation-like with respect to $(\text{ACF}_p, \downarrow^{\text{alg}})$.*

Proof. With \mathcal{U}_0 a monster model of ACF_p , let $A, B, C \models T_{b,\lambda}^\forall$ be as in the definition of derivation-like. Since $C \leq_{\mathcal{L}_{b,\lambda}} A$, we have that A/C is a separable field extension. This, together with the fact that $C = C^{\text{alg}} \cap A$, implies that the field extension A/C is regular (i.e., separable and relatively algebraically closed). This, together with $A \downarrow_C^{\text{alg}} B$, implies that A and B are linearly disjoint over C . Linear disjointness implies that b is p -independent in the compositum $A \cdot B$ (and hence a p -basis). It follows that $A \cdot B \models T_{b,\lambda}$ and $A, B \leq_{\mathcal{L}_{b,\lambda}} A \cdot B \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$. This shows condition (i) of Definition 3.1. Condition (ii) follows from the fact that p -bases are preserved when passing to separably algebraic extensions. \square

The model companion of $T_{b,\lambda}$ is $\text{SCF}_{p,e}$. In this case for any $M \models \text{SCF}_{p,e}$ we have that $\text{dcl}^{\text{ACF}_p}(M) \models \text{ACF}_p$ (since perfect closures of separably closed fields remain separably closed). Thus, our Corollary 3.16(1) applies and recovers the well known fact that $\text{SCF}_{p,e}$ is stable and (in the language $\mathcal{L}_{b,\lambda}$) forking independence coincides with algebraic disjointness.

In a similar fashion we can also recover the context of iterative Hasse–Schmidt derivations from [Ziegler 2003]. Let \mathcal{L}_∂ be the language of fields expanded by unary function symbols

$$((\partial_{1,j})_{j=1}^\infty, \dots, (\partial_{e,j})_{j=1}^\infty).$$

Let T_∂ be the theory of fields of characteristic p expanded by sentences specifying that $(\partial_{i,j})_{j=1}^\infty$ is an iterative Hasse–Schmidt derivation and that, for different i , they pairwise commute.

Lemma 4.2. *The theory T_∂ is derivation-like with respect to $(\text{ACF}_p, \downarrow^{\text{alg}})$.*

Proof. Let $A, B, C \models T_\partial^\forall$ be as the definition of derivation-like. By Lemmas 2.3 and 2.4 from [Ziegler 2003], after possibly passing to a purely inseparable extension of the separable closure of C , we may assume that C is strict and separably closed. Strictness implies that A/C is a separable extension. Thus, since C is separably closed, A/C is a regular field extension; this implies that A and B are linearly disjoint over C . It follows that $A \cdot B$ is isomorphic to the quotient field of $A \otimes_C B$. The Hasse–Schmidt derivations extend uniquely to $A \otimes_C B$ and this yields an \mathcal{L}_∂ -structure on $A \cdot B$ making it a model of T_∂ (see for instance Lemma 2.5 of [Ziegler 2003]). This yields condition (i) of derivation-like. Since Hasse–Schmidt fields have a smallest strict extension (see [Ziegler 2003, Lemma 2.4]) and separably algebraic extensions are étale, condition (ii) of derivation-like follows. \square

The model companion of T_∂ is $\text{SCH}_{p,e}$ (using the notation from [Ziegler 2003]). Recall that the latter is the theory of fields equipped with strict and iterative Hasse–Schmidt derivations that pairwise commute and whose underlying field is a model of $\text{SCF}_{p,e}$. As in the SCF case above, for any $M \models \text{SCH}_{p,e}$ we have that $\text{dcl}^{\text{ACF}_p}(M) \models \text{ACF}_p$. Thus, Corollary 3.16(1) applies and recovers the fact that $\text{SCH}_{p,e}$ is stable and in the language \mathcal{L}_∂ forking independence coincides with algebraic disjointness.

4.2. \mathcal{D} -fields in characteristic 0. Let \mathcal{L}_0 be an expansion of the field language and T_0 a complete and model complete \mathcal{L}_0 -theory of fields of characteristic 0. As before, we denote by \downarrow^0 an invariant ternary relation on a monster model $\mathcal{U}_0 \models T_0$. Recall that \downarrow^{alg} denotes the algebraic disjointness relation.

We say that \downarrow^0 implies algebraic disjointness if

$$K \downarrow_E^0 L \implies K \downarrow_E^{\text{alg}} L$$

for K, L \mathcal{L}_0 -substructures of \mathcal{U}_0 and E a common \mathcal{L}_0 -substructure of K and L . Recall from the previous section that \downarrow^0 implies \mathcal{L}_0 -compositums if for all $K, L \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ satisfying $K \downarrow_E^0 L$, for some $E = \text{acl}_0(E) \cap K = \text{acl}_0(E) \cap L$, the compositum $K \cdot L$ is an \mathcal{L}_0 -substructure of \mathcal{U}_0 . Recall also that T_0 is very \mathcal{L}_0 -slim if for every $F \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \mathcal{U}_0$ we have that

$$\text{acl}_0(F) = F^{\text{alg}} \cap \mathcal{U}_0.$$

Following the general framework of [Moosa and Scanlon 2014], let \mathcal{D} be a finite-dimensional algebra over a field k of characteristic 0 equipped with a k -basis $\epsilon_0 = 1, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_d$ such that \mathcal{D} is a local ring with residue field k . A \mathcal{D} -field K is a field which is also a k -algebra equipped with a sequence of operators $(\partial_i : K \rightarrow K)_{i=1}^d$ such that the map $K \rightarrow K \otimes_k \mathcal{D}$ defined by

$$a \mapsto a \otimes \epsilon_0 + \partial_1(a) \otimes \epsilon_1 + \dots + \partial_d(a) \otimes \epsilon_d$$

is a k -algebra homomorphism. Let $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}}$ be the language \mathcal{L}_0 expanded by the language of k -algebras and the unary function symbols $\{\partial_1, \dots, \partial_d\}$. Let $T_{\mathcal{D}}$ be $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}}$ -theory consisting of T_0 together with the theory of \mathcal{D} -fields. In addition, let $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}$ be $T_{\mathcal{D}}$ expanded by sentences specifying that the ∂_i pairwise commute.

Remark 4.3. Let $\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{Q}[x_1, \dots, x_d]/(x_1, \dots, x_d)^2$. In this case, the theory $T_{\mathcal{D}}$ is the theory of differential fields of characteristic 0 with d many (not necessarily commuting) derivations whose underlying field is a model of T_0 . The theory $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}$ is similar but requires the derivations to pairwise commute.

Lemma 4.4. Suppose \downarrow^0 implies algebraic disjointness and \mathcal{L}_0 -compositums. Also assume T_0 is very \mathcal{L}_0 -slim. Then the theories $T_{\mathcal{D}}$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}$ are derivation-like with respect to (T_0, \downarrow^0) .

Proof. First we prove $T_{\mathcal{D}}$ is derivation-like. Let $K, L, E \models T_{\mathcal{D}}^{\forall}$ be as in the definition of derivation-like. Since $E = \text{acl}_0(E) \cap K$ and T_0 is very \mathcal{L}_0 -slim, K/E is a regular field extension. Since \perp^0 implies algebraic disjointness, it follows that K and L are linearly disjoint over E . Then $K \cdot L$ is isomorphic to the quotient field of $K \otimes_E L$. Since \perp^0 implies \mathcal{L}_0 -compositums and \mathcal{D} -structures extend uniquely to $K \otimes_E L$ (see [Beyarslan et al. 2019, Proposition 2.20]), this yields an $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}}$ -structure on $K \cdot L$. As we are in characteristic 0, this \mathcal{D} -structure extends to all of \mathcal{U}_0 (recall from [Beyarslan et al. 2019, Lemma 2.7(3)] that \mathcal{D} -structures always extend to smooth extensions) which yields condition (i) of derivation-like. Since algebraic extensions are étale (in characteristic 0), condition (ii) follows (recall from [Beyarslan et al. 2019, Lemma 2.7(2)] that \mathcal{D} -structures extend uniquely to étale extensions).

For $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}$, the same argument works by simply noting that uniqueness of the \mathcal{D} -structure on $K \otimes_E L$ forces the ∂_i to commute. And similarly when passing to algebraic extensions (as they are étale in characteristic 0). To extend the \mathcal{D} -structure from $K \cdot L$ to \mathcal{U}_0 , first extend to a transcendence basis in a trivial way to force commutativity of the ∂_i and after this the unique extension to \mathcal{U}_0 necessarily commutes. This sort of argument is spelled out in Example 4.4.11 of [Mohamed 2024]. □

For the remainder of this section we set \perp^0 to be the relation we defined in (1) at the end of Section 3:

$$A \perp_C^0 B \iff \langle AC \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0} \perp_{\langle C \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0}}^{\text{alg}} \langle BC \rangle_{\mathcal{L}_0}. \tag{2}$$

Note that this particular relation implies algebraic disjointness. We recall Fact 3.18 along with an additional fact.

Fact 4.5. (1) Assume \perp^0 implies \mathcal{L}_0 -compositums. The relation \perp^0 as defined in (2) above is an independence relation if and only if T_0 is very \mathcal{L}_0 -slim.

(2) Suppose $\mathcal{L}_0 = \mathcal{L}_{\text{fields}}(C)$, where C is a set of constant symbols. If models of T_0 are large fields, then T_0 is very \mathcal{L}_0 -slim.

We note that (2) is an adaptation of Theorem 5.4 of [Junker and Koenigsmann 2010] and appears in Lemma 4.4.10 of [Mohamed 2024].

Corollary 4.6. Suppose models of T_0 are large fields, $\mathcal{L}_0 = \mathcal{L}_{\text{fields}}(C)$ for C a set of constant symbols, and \perp^0 is given as in (2). Assume $T_{\mathcal{D}}$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}$ have model companions $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$, respectively.

- (i) If T_0 is simple, then so are $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$.
- (ii) If T_0 is NSOP₁, then so are $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$.
- (iii) Assume $T_0, T_{\mathcal{D}}^+,$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$ all eliminate imaginaries. If T_0 is rosy, then so are $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$.

Proof. Part (i) follows immediately by [Corollary 3.16\(2\)](#), (ii) by [Corollary 3.19](#), and (iii) by [Corollary 3.13](#). \square

Remark 4.7. Under the hypothesis of [Corollary 4.6](#) (and recall that we are in characteristic 0), an immediate application is that

- (i) if T_0 is the theory of a bounded PAC field, then $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$ are simple,
- (ii) the theory CODF (closed ordered differential fields in one derivation) is rosy.

Indeed, for (i) recall that bounded PAC fields are simple, while for (ii), recall that the theory RCF is rosy and eliminates imaginaries; also, CODF eliminates imaginaries by [[Cubides Kovacsics and Point 2023](#)].

We also note that under the hypothesis of [Corollary 4.6](#), the model companions $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$ in fact exist. Existence of $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ is one of the main results of [[Mohamed 2023](#)] and, moreover, the simplicity claimed in [Remark 4.7\(i\)](#) already appears there. Existence of $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$ will appear in a forthcoming paper.¹ In the case when $\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{Q}[x_1, \dots, x_d]/(x_1, \dots, x_d)^2$ (i.e., in the context of differential fields of characteristic 0, see [Remark 4.3](#)) and T_0 is the theory of a bounded PAC field, the existence of $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$ is an instance of the main result of [[Tressl 2005](#)] and its simplicity already appears in [[Hoffmann and León Sánchez 2022](#)].

A natural question is whether [Corollary 3.19](#) applies when T_0 is the theory of an ω -free PAC field of characteristic 0. The authors do not know if such a theory can be made model complete in a language $\mathcal{L}_{\text{fields}}(C)$ for some set of constant symbols C , which is required for [Corollary 4.6](#) and to argue as above that $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$ exist. However, in the case $\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{Q}[x_1, \dots, x_d]/(x_1, \dots, x_d)^2$ — the context of differential fields of characteristic 0 (see [Remark 4.3](#)) — we may use results of [[Fornasiero and Terzo 2024](#)] on algebraically bounded structures with generic derivations. Any PAC field of characteristic 0 is very $\mathcal{L}_{\text{fields}}$ -slim by [Corollary 4.5](#) of [[Chatzidakis and Pillay 1998](#)]. In Section 30.2 of [[Fried and Jarden 1986](#)], the authors expand by definitions an ω -free PAC field to a language $\mathcal{L}_{\text{fields}}(R_n : n > 0)$ and show that, in this language, T_0 is model complete. Here the symbols R_n are predicates that ensure that extensions are regular field extensions. This theory is then very $\mathcal{L}_{\text{fields}}(R_n : n > 0)$ -slim, and hence algebraically bounded. By [Theorems 4.5](#) and [5.12](#) of [[Fornasiero and Terzo 2024](#)], $T_{\mathcal{D}}^+$ and $T_{\mathcal{D}^*}^+$ exist. By [Corollary 3.19](#) of this paper, both are NSOP₁.

4.3. Differential fields in positive characteristic. In this section we apply our results in the context of separably differentially closed fields [[Ino and León Sánchez 2023](#)]. Fix a prime $p > 0$. Let \mathcal{L}_λ be the language of fields expanded by the (countably many) λ -functions, namely, by functions $(\lambda_{n,i} : n \in \omega, i \in p^n)$, where

¹As part of joint work of the first author with Jan Dobrowolski.

$\lambda_{n,i}$ is $(n+1)$ -ary. We denote by $\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$ the theory of separably closed fields of infinite (algebraic) degree of imperfection expanded by sentences specifying that the $\lambda_{n,i}$ are to be interpreted as the λ -functions; that is, for (\bar{a}, b) , if \bar{a} is p -dependent or (\bar{a}, b) is p -independent then $\lambda_{n,i}(\bar{a}, b) = 0$; otherwise,

$$b = \sum_{i \in p^n} (\lambda_{n,i}(\bar{a}, b))^p m_i(\bar{a}),$$

where the $m_i(\bar{a})$ denote the p -monomials (with some fixed order). We denote forking independence in $\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$ by \downarrow^0 , and \mathcal{U}_0 is a monster model. Recall from [Srou 1986] that for \mathcal{L}_λ -substructures K, L, E of \mathcal{U}_0 we have

$$K \downarrow_E^0 L \iff K \text{ and } L \text{ are algebraically disjoint and } p\text{-disjoint over } E.$$

Let $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda,\delta}$ be the expansion of \mathcal{L}_λ by a (single) unary function symbol δ and let DF_p^λ be the theory of differential fields of characteristic p with sentences specifying that the $\lambda_{n,i}$ are the λ -functions.

Lemma 4.8. *The theory DF_p^λ is derivation-like with respect to $(\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda, \downarrow^0)$.*

Proof. Let $K, L, E \models (\text{DF}_p^\lambda)^\forall$ be as in the definition of derivation-like. Since $K \downarrow_E^0 L$, K and L are p -disjoint over E , and so $K \cdot L$ is an \mathcal{L}_λ -substructure of \mathcal{U}_0 .

On the other hand, since $E \leq_{\mathcal{L}_{\lambda,\delta}} K$, we have that K/E is a separable field extension. This, together with the fact that $E = E^{\text{alg}} \cap K$, implies that K/E is a regular field extension. This, together with $K \downarrow_E^0 L$, implies that K and L are linearly disjoint over E . Linear disjointness implies $K \cdot L$ is isomorphic to the quotient field of $K \otimes_E L$. This yields a derivation on $K \cdot L$ making it a model of DF_p^λ . This yields condition (i) of derivation-like. Since separably algebraic extensions are étale, condition (ii) follows. \square

For $\epsilon \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, recall that a differential field (K, δ) of characteristic p is said to have differential degree of imperfection ϵ if

$$[C_K : K^p] = p^\epsilon.$$

Here C_K denotes the field of δ -constants of (K, δ) . When $\epsilon = \infty$ the above equality should be understood as the degree $[C_K : K^p]$ being infinite. See [Ino and León Sánchez 2023] for further details.

In [Ino and León Sánchez 2023] it was shown that DF_p^λ has a model companion; namely, the theory $\text{SDCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$ of separably differentially closed fields of characteristic p of infinite differential degree of imperfection expanded by the λ -functions. We note that in [Ino and León Sánchez 2023] the authors work in the language of the so-called differential λ -functions, denoted by $\ell_{n,i}$, but the result on the existence of the model companion also holds working with the algebraic λ -functions (the argument is spelled out in [Mohamed 2024, Fact 4.4.16]). We note

that $\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda \subseteq \text{SDCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$. Thus, [Corollary 3.16\(1\)](#) applies and recovers the fact that $\text{SDCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$ is stable; furthermore, it shows that, in the language $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda,\delta}$, forking independence coincides with algebraic disjointness and p -disjointness (which is not explicitly stated in [\[Ino and León Sánchez 2023\]](#)).

We conclude this section by noting that, unfortunately, our results do not seem to apply to the theory DCF_p of differentially closed fields of characteristic $p > 0$, studied in [\[Wood 1973\]](#). Recall that DCF_p is the model companion of DF_p , the theory of differential fields (of characteristic p) in the language of differential fields \mathcal{L}_δ . In this language the theory DCF_p does not eliminate quantifiers, but Wood [\[1973\]](#) showed that it suffices to add the p -th root on constants function ℓ_0 ; namely, the unique function satisfying

$$\begin{cases} (\ell_0(x))^p = x & \text{when } \delta(x) = 0, \\ \ell_0(x) = 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

The theory of differentially perfect fields (i.e., those (K, δ) such that $C_K = K^p$) is denoted by $\text{DPF}_p^{\ell_0}$ and can be axiomatised by expanding DF_p by a sentence specifying (3) above. It follows that $\text{DCF}_p^{\ell_0}$ is the model completion of $\text{DPF}_p^{\ell_0}$. One could ask whether $\text{DPF}_p^{\ell_0}$ is derivation-like with respect to $\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$ (note that the underlying field of a model of DCF_p is a model of $\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}$). We now prove this is not the case.

Lemma 4.9. *The theory $\text{DPF}_p^{\ell_0}$ is **not** derivation-like with respect to $(\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda, \perp^0)$.*

Proof. Consider the function field $K = \mathbb{F}_p(t)$ with standard derivation $\delta = d/dt$. Note that $(K, \delta) \models \text{DPF}_p$ since $C_K = \mathbb{F}_p$. Inside the model \mathcal{U}_0 of $\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda$, find s such that $t \perp_{\mathbb{F}_p}^0 s$ and $\text{tp}^{\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda}(t/\mathbb{F}_p) = \text{tp}^{\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}^\lambda}(s/\mathbb{F}_p)$. Equip $L = \mathbb{F}_p(s)$ with the derivation $\delta = d/ds$. We argue that there cannot be an M as in condition (i) of derivation-like. If there were, M would be a model of $\text{DPF}_p^{\ell_0}$. In other words, $C_M = M^p$. Since $K \perp_{\mathbb{F}_p}^0 L$, we obtain that K and L are p -disjoint over \mathbb{F}_p , and so $K \cdot L = \mathbb{F}_p(t, s)$ is an \mathcal{L}_λ -substructure of M . Hence, the extension $M/\mathbb{F}_p(t, s)$ is separable, which implies that $\mathbb{F}_p(t, s)$ is differentially perfect. But, since $\delta(t-s) = 0$, this would imply that $t-s$ has a p -th root in $\mathbb{F}_p(t, s)$, which is impossible (as t and s are algebraically independent). \square

One could further ask whether $\text{DPF}_p^{\ell_0}$ is derivation-like with respect to ACF_p . Again, this is not the case.

Lemma 4.10. *The theory $\text{DPF}_p^{\ell_0}$ is **not** derivation-like with respect to $(\text{ACF}_p, \perp^{\text{alg}})$.*

Proof. Consider the function field $K = \mathbb{F}_p(t)$ equipped with the standard derivation $\delta = d/dt$. Let x be a differential indeterminate over K . Let $s := t + x^p$. Then, the derivation on $M := K(x) = K(x, \delta x, \dots)$ restricts to the standard derivation $\delta = d/ds$ on $L := \mathbb{F}_p(s)$. Note that both K and L are differentially

perfect and $K \downarrow_{\mathbb{F}_p}^{\text{alg}} L$. However, the algebraic closure of the compositum $K \cdot L$ contains x but it does not contain $\delta(x)$; namely, it is not a differential subfield. In other words, condition (ii) of derivation-like does not hold. \square

Remark 4.11. (i) While DCF_p is a stable theory, the two proofs above show that forking independence does not have an obvious algebraic description.² Indeed, the proof of [Lemma 4.9](#) shows that $\downarrow^0 = \downarrow^{\text{SCF}_{p,\infty}}$ does not satisfy full existence in DCF_p ; while the proof of [Lemma 4.10](#) shows that \downarrow^{alg} does not satisfy base monotonicity in DCF_p . Currently the authors are not aware of an algebraic description of forking independence in this theory.

(ii) We leave it as an exercise to check that $\text{DPF}_p^{\ell_0}$ is almost derivation-like with respect to $(\text{ACF}_p, \downarrow^{\text{alg}})$ in the sense of [Remark 3.10](#), and hence [Lemmas 3.6](#) and [3.8](#) apply to the theory $\text{DCF}_p^{\ell_0}$.

4.4. CCMs with meromorphic vector fields. Our final examples demonstrates that our results apply beyond theories of fields. In this section we observe that the theory, recently formulated in [\[Moosa 2024\]](#), of compact complex manifolds equipped with a “differential” structure fits into our setup.

Recall that the theory CCM (compact complex manifolds) is the theory of the multisorted structure consisting of all compact complex manifolds (or rather all reduced and irreducible compact complex-analytic spaces) by naming as basic relations all closed complex-analytic subsets of finite cartesian products of sorts. See [\[Moosa 2005\]](#) for further details on this theory. However, Moosa [\[2024\]](#) works in the seemingly more general setup of “compactifiable” (rather than compact) complex-analytic spaces. Namely, he works in a definable expansion of CCM where there is a sort for each irreducible meromorphic variety. We denote by \mathcal{L}_0 the language of this expansion and continue to denote the theory of the expanded structure by CCM. The advantage of this expansion is that now sorts are closed under taking tangent bundles. We refer the reader to [\[Moosa 2024, §2\]](#) for further details and explanations.

In the language $\mathcal{L}_\nabla = \mathcal{L}_0 \cup \{\nabla_S : S \text{ is a sort of } \mathcal{L}_0\}$, where each ∇_S is a function symbol from sort S to TS , Moosa considers the universal \mathcal{L}_∇ -theory $\text{CCM}_\nabla^\forall$ obtained by adding to CCM^\forall axioms specifying that $\nabla_S : S \rightarrow TS$ is a section to $\pi : TS \rightarrow S$ together with a compatibility condition of ∇ with definable meromorphic maps between sorts (see [\[Moosa 2024, Definition 3.3\]](#)). It turns out that, somewhat unintentionally, Moosa has proven that $\text{CCM}_\nabla^\forall$ is derivation-like.

Lemma 4.12. *The theory $\text{CCM}_\nabla^\forall$ is derivation-like with respect to $(\text{CCM}, \downarrow^0)$ (here \downarrow^0 denotes forking independence).*

²These examples grew out of discussions with Amador Martin-Pizarro.

Proof. Moosa [2024, Lemma 6.2] proved a form of independent amalgamation that readily yields condition (i) of derivation-like. In addition, in [Moosa 2024, Lemma 6.1], he proves the uniqueness of differential CCM-structures of dcl-closed sets inside acl^{CCM} -closures, yielding condition (ii) of derivation-like (or rather the weakening observed in Remark 3.2(3)). \square

In [Moosa 2024, Theorem 5.5], Moosa proves that the theory $\text{CCM}_{\forall}^{\forall}$ admits a model companion, which he denotes by DCCM. Our results then yield some of the model-theoretic properties of DCCM deduced in §6 and §7 of [Moosa 2024]; e.g., completeness, quantifier elimination, description acl and dcl , and stability.

4.5. Theories with an automorphism. For our final example, we exhibit some \mathcal{L}_0 -theories T_0 where the $\mathcal{L}_0(\sigma)$ -theory $T = T_0 \cup \{\text{“}\sigma \text{ is an } \mathcal{L}_0\text{-automorphism”}\}$ is derivation-like with respect to T_0 . We would like to thank the referee of this paper for suggesting this example.

Let T_0 be a complete and model-complete \mathcal{L}_0 -theory with \downarrow^0 denoting nonforking independence, and suppose that dcl_0 and acl_0 coincide in T_0 . This, together with Remark 3.2(3), immediately yields condition (ii) of derivation-like. Indeed, suppose we are given \mathcal{L} -substructures A and B of $M \models T$. Let $D = \text{dcl}_0(D)$ be an \mathcal{L}_0 -substructure of M such that

$$\langle A, B \rangle_0 \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} D \leq_{\mathcal{L}_0} \text{acl}_0(A, B) \cap M.$$

Then $D = \text{dcl}_0(A, B)$. Now $d \in D$ is definable over A and B by some \mathcal{L}_0 -formula $\phi(x, a, b)$. Then $\phi(x, \sigma(a), \sigma(b))$ defines some element e . Since D is dcl_0 -closed, $e \in D$. We have that $\sigma|_M(d) = e$, and hence $D \leq_{\mathcal{L}} M$, and that any \mathcal{L}_0 -automorphism of D must send $d \mapsto e$, and hence this is the unique \mathcal{L}_0 -automorphism on D making it a model of T^{\forall} and extending the ones on A and B .

Example 4.13. (1) Let $T_0 = \text{Infset}$ be the theory of an infinite set. T_0 is stable (see Section 5.7 in [Tent and Ziegler 2012]), and $A \downarrow_C^0 B \iff A \cap B \subseteq C$. Now if $A \downarrow_C^0 B$, then $\sigma_A \cup \sigma_B$ is an automorphism of AB ; this yields condition (i) of derivation-like. So, the theory of infinite sets with an automorphism is derivation-like with respect to the theory of an infinite set, and hence $\text{Infset } A$ is stable (note that $\text{Infset } A$ exists as Infset has the DMP [Kikyo and Pillay 2000, Fact 1.5]).

(2) Let K be a field, \mathcal{L}_0 be the language of K -vector spaces, and T_0 the theory of infinite K -vector spaces. Then T_0 is stable (see Section 5.7 in [Tent and Ziegler 2012]), and $A \downarrow_C^0 B \iff \dim(A/C) = \dim(A/BC)$. Suppose $A \downarrow_C^0 B$. Let β_C be a basis of C , and extend β_C to bases β_A and β_B of A and B , respectively. Now $\beta = \beta_A \cup \beta_B$ is a basis of $\text{span}(AB)$. Defining $\sigma|_{\beta} = \sigma|_{\beta_A} \cup \sigma|_{\beta_B}$ and extending K -linearly gives the desired amalgam for condition (i) of derivation-like. Hence, the theory of infinite K -vector spaces with an automorphism is derivation-like with

respect to the theory of infinite K -vector spaces, and hence $\text{Vect}_K A$ is stable (note that $\text{Vect}_K A$ exists as Vect_K has the DMP [Kikyo and Pillay 2000, Fact 1.5]).

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OMAR LEÓN SÁNCHEZ:

omar.sanchez@manchester.ac.uk

Department of Mathematics, University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom

SHEZAD MOHAMED:

shehad.mohamed@manchester.ac.uk

Department of Mathematics, University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom

Model Theory

msp.org/mt

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

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- Silvio Levy (Scientific Editor)
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