# The 2-Rothberger Game and a Generalization

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August 29, 2017

# The 2-Rothberger Game

#### Definition

The game  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  is played as the familiar Rothberger game, except that II picks two elements instead of one.

#### Theorem

Let X be a  $T_2$  space. Then the games  $G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  and  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  are equivalent on X.

## **Proof Outline**

Two of the implications we must prove are trivial. If  $I \uparrow G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ , then  $I \uparrow G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ , and if  $II \uparrow G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ , then  $II \uparrow G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ .

Since we know that X is  $S_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  if and only if  $I \not\supset G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  and that  $S_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  is equivalent to  $S_k(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  for  $k \in \omega$ , it is not difficult to prove the third:

 $I \uparrow G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}) \Rightarrow X \text{ is not } S_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}) \Rightarrow X \text{ is not } S_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}).$ 

So if  $I \uparrow G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ , then I can simply play a sequence of open covers that witness the fact that X is not  $S_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  in order to win  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ .

So we need only show that  $II \uparrow G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}) \Rightarrow II \uparrow G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}).$ 

# $(\mathsf{II}\uparrow {\sf G}_2({\cal O},{\cal O})\Rightarrow \mathsf{II}\uparrow {\sf G}_1({\cal O},{\cal O}))-\mathsf{Setup}$

Let  $\tau$  be a winning strategy for II in  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ . Let  $g : \mathcal{O} \times X \to \mathcal{T}(X)$  be defined such that  $x \in g(\mathcal{U}, x) \in \mathcal{U}$ . Where A is an infinite subset of  $\omega$ , let  $f(A) = \{\min(A), \min(A \setminus \min(A))\}$ . Let  $A_{\varnothing} = \omega$ . For  $s \in \omega^{<\omega}$ , where  $A_s$  has been defined, let  $(A_{s \frown i})_{i \in \omega}$  be a partition of  $A_s \setminus f(A_s)$  such that when  $2k \in A_{s \frown i}, 2k + 1 \in A_{s \frown i}$ . For  $n \in \omega$ , let  $\phi(n) = s \Leftrightarrow n \in f(A_s)$ .

# $(\mathsf{II}\uparrow \mathsf{G}_2(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O})\Rightarrow \mathsf{II}\uparrow \mathsf{G}_1(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O}))$ – Kickoff

Let  $t_{<>}$  be the empty play of  $G_2$ .

Let  $C_{t_{<>}} = \{x \in X : \forall \text{ open cover } \mathcal{U} \text{ of } X, x \in \overline{\bigcup \tau(t_{<>} \frown \mathcal{U})}\}$   $= \{x \in X : \forall \text{ open cover } \mathcal{U} \text{ of } X, x \in \overline{\bigcup \tau(\mathcal{U})}\}.$ We know that such a set has at most two elements. If  $|C_{t_{<>}}| = 2$ , let  $x_0^{<>}$  and  $x_1^{<>}$  be its distinct elements. If  $|C_{t_{<>}}| = 1$ , let  $x_0^{<>} = x_1^{<>}$  be its lone element. If  $C_{t_{<>}} = \emptyset$ , let  $x_0^{<>}$  and  $x_1^{<>}$  be arbitrary elements of X. When I begins a play of  $G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$  with an open cover  $\mathcal{U}_0$  of X, let  $\tau'(\mathcal{U}_0) = g(\mathcal{U}_0, x_0^{<>}).$ When I plays  $\mathcal{U}_1$  next in  $G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$ , set  $\tau'(\mathcal{U}_0, \tau'(\mathcal{U}_0), \mathcal{U}_1) = g(\mathcal{U}_1, x_1^{<>}).$ 

Suppose that we have a partial play  $t = \{\mathcal{U}_0, \tau'(\mathcal{U}_0), \mathcal{U}_1, \tau'(\mathcal{U}_0, \tau'(\mathcal{U}_0), \mathcal{U}_1)\}.$ Let  $W_{\emptyset}(t) = g(\mathcal{U}_0, x_0^{<>}) \cup g(\mathcal{U}_1, x_1^{<>})$ (the union of the last two moves by II in t). Let  $Y_{\varnothing}(t) = X \setminus W_{\varnothing}(t)$ . Note that 1) X is Lindelöf and Y is a closed subset of X, so Y is also Lindelöf, and 2)  $Y_{\varnothing}(t) \subset X \setminus C_{t_{\varnothing}}$ . The collection  $\{X \setminus \overline{\bigcup \tau}(\mathcal{U}) : \mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{O}\}$  is an open cover of  $Y_{\emptyset}(t)$ . Since  $Y_{\emptyset}(t)$  is Lindelöf, there is a countable subcollection  $Q_{\emptyset}(t)$  that covers  $Y_{\emptyset}(t)$ . So, for each  $i \in \omega$ , let  $\mathcal{V}_{(i)}(t)$  be an open cover of X such that  $\mathcal{Q}_{\varnothing}(t) = \{X \setminus \overline{\bigcup \tau(\mathcal{V}_{(i)}(t))} : i \in \omega\}.$ 

### *s* =<> Step, Continued

Set  $t_{(i)}(t) = t_{\varnothing} \frown \mathcal{V}_{(i)}(t) \frown \tau(t_{\varnothing} \frown \mathcal{V}_{(i)}(t)) = (\mathcal{V}_{(i)}(t), \tau(\mathcal{V}_{(i)}(t))$ , and set  $C_{(i)}(t) = \{x \in X \text{ :for each open cover } \mathcal{U} \text{ of } X, x \in \bigcup \tau(t_{(i)} \frown \mathcal{U})\}$ . Define  $x_0^{(i)}(t)$  and  $x_1^{(i)}(t)$  as we did in the initial step. Given a partial play t' extending t of length  $m \in f(A_{(i)})$  innings, if I plays an open cover  $\mathcal{U}_m$ , set  $\tau'(t' \frown \mathcal{U}_m) = g(\mathcal{U}_m, x_j^{(i)}(t))$ , where j = 1 if  $m = max(f(A_{(i)})$  and j = 0 otherwise.

## Moving to the General Step

Suppose *n* is an even natural. For every even m < n, there is a strictly increasing finite sequence  $(m_i)_{i \in \omega}$  of even naturals such that

(1) 
$$m_0 = 0 < m_1 < ... < m_{k-1} < m_k = m$$
,

(2) 
$$\phi(m_{i+1}) \ge \phi(m_i)$$
, and

(3) 
$$|\phi(m_{i+1})| = |\phi(m_i)| + 1.$$

Suppose t is a partial play of  $G_1$  with an even number n of innings, such that t has the form

$$t = \{\mathcal{U}_0, \tau'(\mathcal{U}_0), ..., \mathcal{U}_{n-1}, \tau'(t \upharpoonright_{n-1} \frown \mathcal{U}_{n-1})\}.$$
  
For each  $i \in \{1, ..., k\}$ , we will define  $W_{\phi(m_i)}(t \upharpoonright_{m_i+1})$ ,  $Y_{\phi(m_i)}(t \upharpoonright_{m_i+1})$ ,  
and so on in a similar way to what we did in the  $s = <>$  step. Note that  
 $Y_{\phi(m_i)}(t \upharpoonright_{m_i+1})$  will exclude all  $W_{\phi(m_j)}(t \upharpoonright_{m_i+1})$  for  $j \leq i$ , not just the last  
one.

## The General Step, Continued

Given a play t' of length  $l = min(f(A_{\phi(m)\frown i}))$  that extends t, if I plays an open cover  $\mathcal{U}_l$  next, set  $\tau'(t' \frown \mathcal{U}_l) = g(\mathcal{U}_l, x_0^{\phi(m)\frown i})$ , and when an open cover  $\mathcal{U}_{l+1}$  is played in the following inning, set  $\tau'(t' \frown \mathcal{U}_l \frown \tau'(t' \frown \mathcal{U}_l) \frown \mathcal{U}_{l+1}) = g(\mathcal{U}_{l+1}, x_1^{\phi(m)\frown i})$ .

- Suppose that some point  $x \in X$  is left uncovered by II in a play t in which he follows  $\tau'$ .
- Consider a partial play  $t_s$  of  $G_2$  that corresponds to some subplay of t
- where x has not been covered yet (we can simply take  $t_s$  to be  $t_{\emptyset}$ ).
- x is in the corresponding  $Y_s$ , which is covered by  $Q_s$ , so there exists  $i \in \omega$  such that  $x \in X \setminus \overline{\bigcup \tau(t_s \frown \mathcal{V}_{s \frown i})}$ .
- Choose such an *i*, and note that  $t_{s \frown i}$  is an extension of  $t_s$  such that x has still not been covered.
- Continuing in this way, we build a play of  $G_2$  in which II follows  $\tau$  yet loses a contradiction.

### Monotone and Coordinatewise Monotone Properties

Here,  $\mathcal{P}$  will be a property that a sequence of open sets can have, such as "is an open cover" or "covers a dense subset of X".

1) Suppose  $\mathcal{P}$  is such that whenever  $(U_n)_{n\in\omega}$  satisfies  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $(V_n)_{n\in\omega}$  is a sequence such that for each  $n \in \omega$ , there is  $m \in \omega$  such that  $U_n \subseteq V_m$ , then  $(V_n)_{n\in\omega}$  also satisfies  $\mathcal{P}$ . We will call such a property "monotone". 2) Suppose  $\mathcal{P}$  is such that whenever  $(U_n)_{n\in\omega}$  satisfies  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $(V_n)_{n\in\omega}$  is a sequence such that for each  $n \in \omega$ ,  $U_n \subseteq V_m$ , then  $(V_n)_{n\in\omega}$  also satisfies  $\mathcal{P}$ . We will call such a property "coordinatewise monotone".

A property that is monotone will also be coordinatewise monotone. The property "is a  $\gamma$ -cover" is coordinatewise monotone but not monotone.

# Rothberger and Point-Open Games with ${\mathcal P}$

Theorem

(i)  $G_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{P})$  is dual to the  $\mathcal{P} - POG$ . (ii) If  $\mathcal{P}$  is coordinatewise monotone and X is a compact  $T_2$  space, then  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{P})$  is dual to the  $\mathcal{P} - 2 - POG$ .

(i) follows from a proof similar to Galvin's for the original games. Tkachuk noted this for a specific property – that of covering a dense subset of X.

# $(\mathsf{II}\uparrow G_2(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{P})\Rightarrow \mathsf{I}\uparrow \mathcal{P}-2-\mathsf{POG})$

#### Lemma

Suppose that X is a topological space and f is a function on the collection  $\mathcal{O}$  such that  $f(\mathcal{U})$  is an ordered pair  $(G_1, G_2)$  of elements of  $\mathcal{U}$ . If X is a compact  $T_2$  space, then there exist  $x_0, y_0 \in X$  such that for any open neighborhoods  $U \ni x_0, V \ni y_0$  and for any open cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of X, there is an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of X such that  $\mathcal{V}$  refines  $\mathcal{U}, [f(\mathcal{V})]_0 \subseteq U$ , and  $[f(\mathcal{V})]_1 \subseteq U$ .

When II has a winning strategy  $\tau$  in  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{P})$ , we can form a winning strategy for I in  $\mathcal{P} - 2 - POG$  by

\*playing two such points  $(x_n, y_n)$  in each inning of the  $\mathcal{P} - 2 - POG$ , \*considering the neighborhoods  $(U_n, V_n)$  in II's response, then \*playing an open cover  $\mathcal{U}_n$  in an ongoing play of  $G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{P})$  where II follows his winning strategy, such that  $\mathcal{U}_n$  refines the previous move (for  $n \neq 0$ ) and each part of the response by  $\tau$  is contained in  $\mathcal{U}_n$  or  $V_n$  as applicable. Showing that  $(II \uparrow \mathcal{P} - 2 - POG \Rightarrow I \uparrow G_2(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{P}))$  is nontrivial, but not especially interesting.

The remaining two implications follow from typical game arguments.

## The End

Questions? Comments? Complaints?