

Locally moving groups and the reconstruction of structures from their automorphism groups

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Let X be a regular space and G be a group of auto-homeomorphisms of X . G is said to be a locally moving group (LM group) for X , if for every nonempty open $U \subseteq X$, there is $g \in G \setminus \{\text{Id}\}$ such that $G \upharpoonright (X \setminus U) = \text{Id}$. Let $\text{Ro}(X)$ denote the partially ordered set of regular open subsets of X . (A subset of X is regular open, if it is equal to the interior of its closure.)

Theorem Let X, Y be regular spaces and G, H be LM groups for X and Y . Suppose that ϕ is an isomorphism between G and H (as abstract groups). Then there is an isomorphism ψ between $\text{Ro}(X)$ and $\text{Ro}(Y)$ such that for every $g \in G$, $\phi(g) = \psi \circ g \circ \psi^{-1}$.

The above theorem has many applications in answering questions of the type: “When does the automorphism group of a mathematical structure determine the structure”. For example:

Theorem Let U, V be open subsets of normed spaces E and F . Suppose that ϕ is an isomorphism between the group $\text{H}(X)$ of all auto-homeomorphisms of X , and the group $\text{H}(Y)$ of all auto-homeomorphisms of Y . Then there is a homeomorphism τ between X and Y such that for every $g \in \text{H}(X)$, $\phi(g) = \tau \circ g \circ \tau^{-1}$.

I shall describe this framework and some results. I shall also mention some open questions in this area.