

Contents

Introduction	1
Historical remarks and overview of the main results.	
Chapter 0. Preliminaries	9
0A. Actions	9
0B. Equivalence relations	9
0C. Borel notions	10
0D. Measures	11
0E. Borel actions and measures	11
0F. Amenability	12
Chapter 1. Actions of Free Groups and Treeable Equivalence Relations	15
Chapter 2. A Cocycle Reduction Result	21
The ad hoc notion of <i>near hyperbolic</i> .	
The main technical device under the assumption of E_0 -ergodicity (2.2).	
Chapter 3. Some Applications	25
Various applications are presented for the structure of countable Borel equivalence relations under Borel reducibility.	
3A. An “elementary” proof of existence of incomparables	25
3B. Further “elementary” proofs of theorems of Adams-Kechris	27
3C. “Elementary” proofs of results of Adams and Thomas	28
3D. Relative ergodicity and rigidity results for product group actions	37
Chapter 4. Factoring Homomorphisms	41
A further technical theorem <i>without</i> the assumption of E_0 -ergodicity (4.2).	
A theorem on factoring homomorphisms of equivalence relations.	
Chapter 5. Further Applications	45
5A. Rigidity results for reducibility and stable orbit equivalence	45
5B. Products of hyperbolic groups	46
Chapter 6. Product Actions, I	49
Non-reducibility of mixing product group actions to products of treeable equivalence relations.	
Chapter 7. Product Actions, II	55
A parallel non-reducibility result for product actions of $\Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2$, where Γ_1 has large approximate ergodic dimension and Γ_2 is non-amenable, to smaller products of treeable equivalence relations.	

Chapter 8. A Final Application	61
Product actions formed from the shift action of F_2 and shift actions formed from products of F_2 cataloged by Borel reducibility.	
Appendix A. Strong Notions of Ergodicity	63
A1. Homomorphisms and relative ergodicity	63
A2. E_0 -ergodicity and almost invariant sets	63
A3. Almost invariant vectors	66
A4. E_0 -ergodicity of the shift action	69
A5. Characterizations of amenable and Kazhdan groups	70
A6. Mixing	71
A7. Non-orbit equivalent relations	74
Appendix B. Cocycles and Cocycle-invariant Functions	77
B1. Review	77
B2. α -invariant functions	78
B3. α -invariant measures	78
The existence in the measurable context for amenable groups. The non-existence in the Baire measurable context and a negative answer to a question of Weiss.	
B4. Maximum two-supported measures	85
Appendix C. Actions on Boundaries	87
C1. Trees	87
C2. Free groups	89
C3. Free products of finite groups	91
C4. Hyperbolic groups	93
Appendix D. \mathcal{K} -structured Equivalence Relations	95
Appendix E. Proof of the General Case of Theorem 4.4	99
E1. Amenable classes of structures	99
E2. The factoring lemma	101
Bibliography	107