Model Theory and Minimality

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Abstract

A newcomer to model theory will find that the subject seems to be made up of an almost dizzying array of different notions of “minimality”. We begin with an introduction to the subject from the perspective of these notions, and explain how and why it has developed in this way. Then, we focus on a more recent addition to the family, ‘VC-minimality’, and in particular how it relates to one of the main unifying and motivating examples, the model theory of valued fields.