

# An uncountable analogue of Fraïssé's theorem

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Given a suitable class  $K$  of finite structures, a theorem of Fraïssé shows how to construct a special model, called the Fraïssé limit of  $K$ : the unique strongly homogeneous countable structure whose finite substructures are precisely the members of  $K$ . Some classes of finite structures do not quite satisfy the hypotheses of Fraïssé's theorem, but nearly do. For such a class  $K$ , we show that although there is no particularly special countable model corresponding to  $K$ , the Continuum Hypothesis implies there is nevertheless a special model of size  $c$ . It is the unique size- $c$  structure with the countable extension property and the decisiveness property whose finite substructures are precisely the members of  $K$ . We will describe the construction of this generalized Fraïssé limit, and give one or two examples of familiar structures that can be realized in this way.