

**LOCALLY CONSISTENT EQUATIONS,  
THE STRUCTURE OF SOLUTION SPACES,  
AND QUANTUM INFORMATION GAMES**

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based on joint with  
Kolaitis, Ochremiak, Roberson, Severini

## Talk plan

1. What I worked on before the program
2. What I learned and worked on at the program
3. What I worked on after the program

## Homomorphism and Isomorphism Problems

$$G \xrightarrow{\text{hom}} H$$

$$G \stackrel{\text{iso}}{\equiv} H$$

# Part I

## LOGICO-COMBINATORIAL RELAXATIONS

# Logico-Combinatorial Relaxations

$$G \xrightarrow{\text{hom}} H \iff G \xrightarrow{E_+} H \implies G \xrightarrow{E_+^k} H$$

$E_+$  : existential-positive first-order logic, i.e., atoms,  $\wedge$ ,  $\exists$ .

$E_+^k$  :  $k$ -variable fragment of  $E_+$

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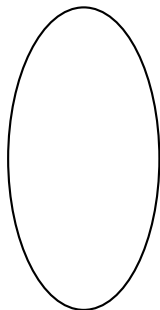
$E_+^k$  :  $k$ -variable fragment of  $E_+$

$$G \stackrel{\text{iso}}{\equiv} H \iff G \stackrel{C}{\equiv} H \implies G \stackrel{C^k}{\equiv} H$$

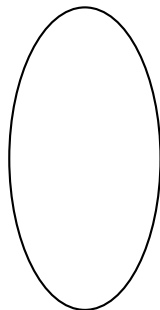
$C$  : counting logic, i.e., atoms,  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\exists^{\geq 1}$ ,  $\exists^{\geq 2}$ ,  $\dots$

$C^k$  :  $k$ -variable fragment of  $C$ .

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé-type $k$ -pebble games



$G$



$H$

$E_+^k$ : existential-positive  $k$ -pebble game [KV95]

$C^k$ : bijective  $k$ -pebble game [H96]

## Counterexamples to reverse implication for $E_+^k$

**An easy counterexample:**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K_{k+1} & \xrightarrow{\text{hom}} & K_k \\ K_{k+1} & \xrightarrow{E_+^k} & K_k \end{array}$$

**A stronger counterexample from [A05]:**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{TSEITIN}_{k,\text{odd}} & \xrightarrow{\text{hom}} & \text{3-XOR} \\ \text{TSEITIN}_{k,\text{odd}} & \xrightarrow{E_+^k} & \text{3-XOR} \end{array}$$

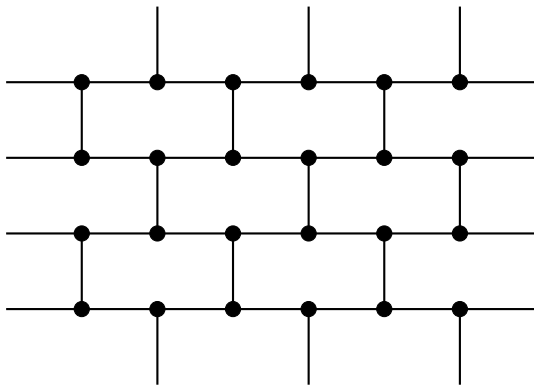
where

3-XOR = template for parity equations, i.e.,  $(\{\pm 1\}, xyz = \pm 1)$

$\text{TSEITIN}_{k,\text{odd}}$  = certain system of parity eqns on the  $k^2$ -wall



# The $m$ -wall graph



# Tseitin system of parity equations

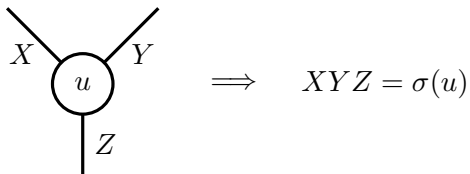
**Construction of TSEITIN**( $G, \sigma$ ):

$G$  is an undirected graph.

$\sigma : V(G) \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$  is a  $\pm 1$  labelling of the nodes of  $G$ .

There is a variable at every edge.

There is an equation at every node:



# Counterexamples to reverse implication for $C^k$

A counterexample from [CFI95]:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{CFI}_k^+ \stackrel{\text{iso}}{\not\equiv} \text{CFI}_k^- \\ \text{CFI}_k^+ \stackrel{C^k}{\equiv} \text{CFI}_k^- \end{array}$$

A reinterpretation of CFI from [ABD07]:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{TSEITIN}_{k,\text{even}}^{\times 2} \stackrel{\text{iso}}{\not\equiv} \text{TSEITIN}_{k,\text{odd}}^{\times 2} \\ \text{TSEITIN}_{k,\text{even}}^{\times 2} \stackrel{C^k}{\equiv} \text{TSEITIN}_{k,\text{odd}}^{\times 2} \end{array}$$

## Part II

# LINEAR AND SEMIDEFINITE PROGRAMMING RELAXATIONS

## Part II

# OR, BY DUALITY, SHERALI-ADAMS AND LASSERRE/SUMS-OF-SQUARES REFUTATIONS

# Hom and Iso as systems of polynomial equations

## Variables:

$X_{u,v}$  : a variable for each  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v \in V(H)$

## Equations:

$$\sum_v X_{u,v} - 1 = 0 \quad \text{for all } u$$

$$X_{u,v} X_{u',v'} = 0 \quad \text{for all } (u, u') \in E(G) \text{ and } (v, v') \notin E(H)$$

$$X_{u,v} X_{u',v'} = 0 \quad \text{for all } u = u' \text{ and } v \neq v'$$

$$X_{u,v}^2 - X_{u,v} = 0 \quad \text{for all } u \text{ and } v$$

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# Nullstellensatz, Sherali-Adams, and Lasserre/SOS

**Systems of polynomial equations over  $\{0, 1\}^n$ :**

$$\begin{aligned} X_1^2 - X_1 &= 0, \dots, X_n^2 - X_n = 0 \\ P_1(X) &= 0, \dots, P_m(X) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Nullstellensatz refutation of degree  $k$ :**

$$\sum_{j=1}^t P_{i_j} Q_j = -1$$

where  $Q_1, \dots, Q_t$  are arbitrary polynomials of total degree  $\leq k$ .



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**Sherali-Adams refutation of degree  $k$ :**

$$\sum_{j=1}^t P_j Q_j + Q_0 = -1$$

where  $Q_1, \dots, Q_t$  are arbitrary polynomials  
and

$$Q_0 = \sum_i c_i^2 \prod_{i \in I} X_i \prod_{i \in J} (1 - X_i),$$

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## Proof complexity relaxations

$$G \xrightarrow{\text{hom}} H \implies G \xrightarrow{\text{SOS}^k} H \implies G \xrightarrow{\text{SA}^k} H \implies G \xrightarrow{\text{NS}^k} H$$

$$G \stackrel{\text{iso}}{\equiv} H \implies G \stackrel{\text{SOS}^k}{\equiv} H \implies G \stackrel{\text{SA}^k}{\equiv} H \implies G \stackrel{\text{NS}^k}{\equiv} H$$

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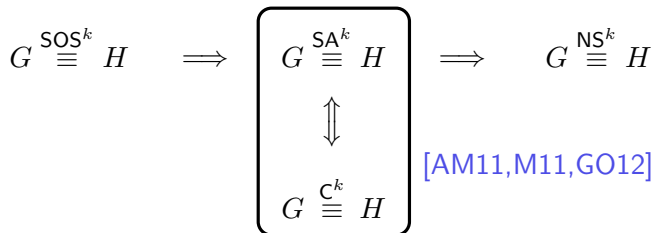
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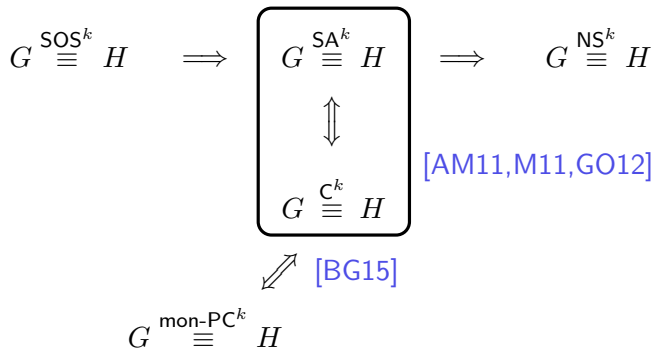
## Implication diagram

$$G \stackrel{\text{SOS}^k}{\equiv} H \quad \implies \quad G \stackrel{\text{SA}^k}{\equiv} H \quad \implies \quad G \stackrel{\text{NS}^k}{\equiv} H$$

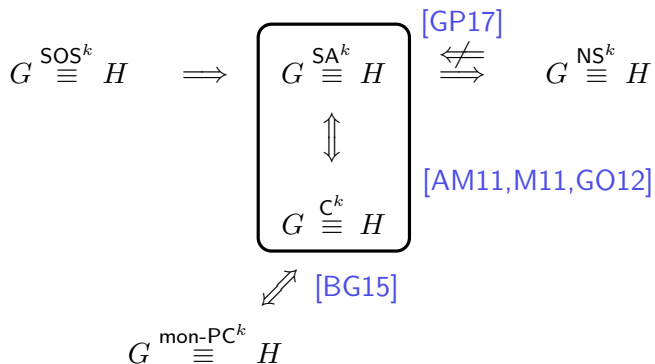
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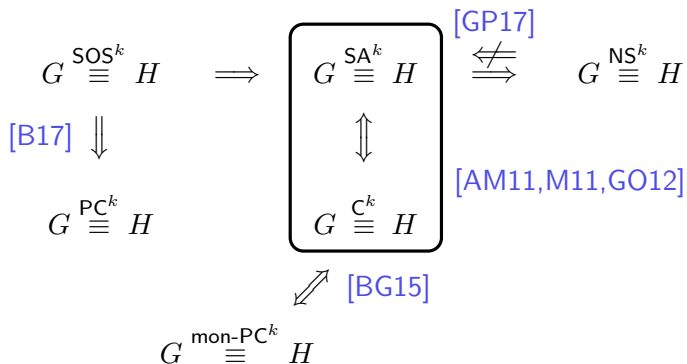
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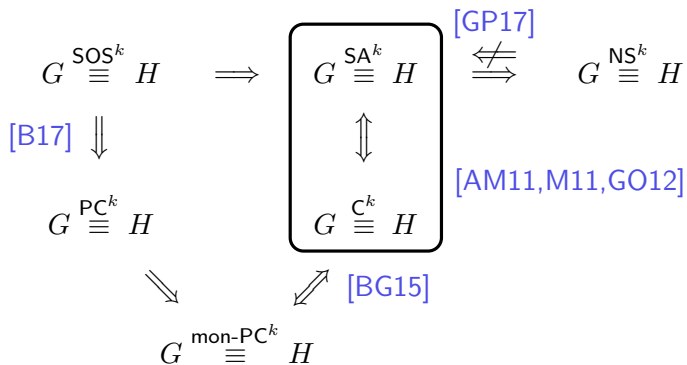
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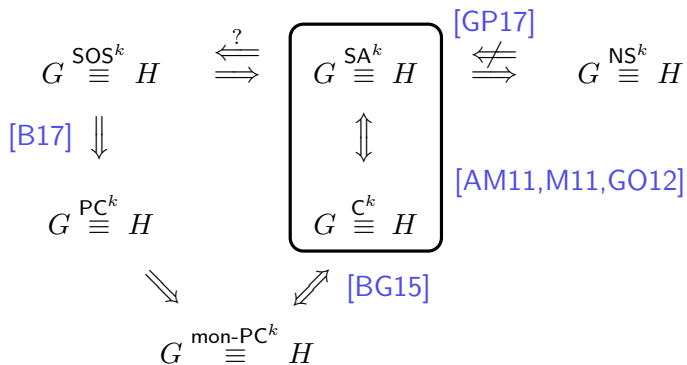
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  - $NS^k$  by [GP17],
  - mon- $PC^k$  by [GP17b],
  - width- $k$  and Horn resolution by [GP17b] (but see also [A02]),
  - $SA^k$  by [ADH15],
  - $PC^k$  and  $SOS^k$ ?

## Part III

# QUANTUM RELAXATIONS

# An Important Example: Mermin-Peres Magic Square

**Nine variables, six equations:**

$$X_{11} X_{12} X_{13} = +1$$

$$X_{21} X_{22} X_{23} = +1$$

$$X_{31} X_{32} X_{33} = +1$$

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} \parallel & \parallel & \parallel \\ \perp & \perp & \perp \\ \perp & \perp & \perp \end{array}$$

## Proof of unsatisfiability (over $\mathbb{R}$ )

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### Remark:

Relies heavily on the fact that **product commutes**.



Indeed ...

**There is a solution in 4x4 complex matrices**

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} I \otimes Z & Z \otimes I & Z \otimes Z & = & +I \\ X \otimes I & I \otimes X & X \otimes X & = & +I \\ X \otimes Z & Z \otimes X & Y \otimes Y & = & +I \\ \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & & \\ +I & +I & -I & & \end{array}$$

**where  $X, Y, Z$  are the Pauli matrices:**

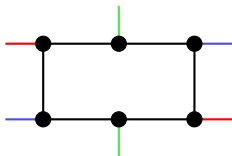
$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad Z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Guess what ...

MERMIN SQUARE = TSEITIN( $K_{3,3}$ , odd)

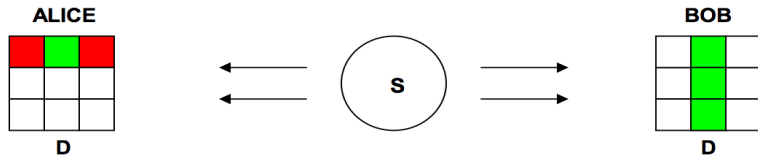
and

$K_{3,3}$  = twisted 6-wall



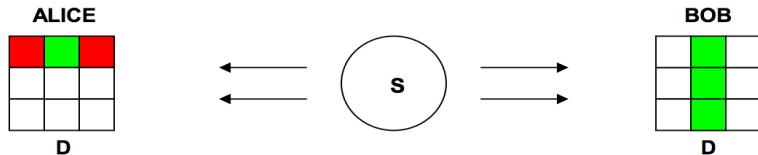
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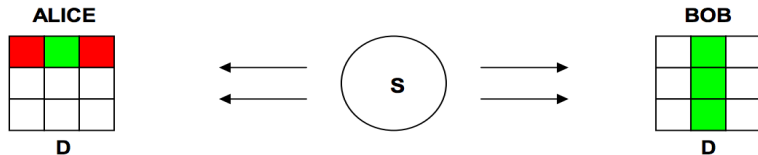
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$\hat{p}_{ij,ab} :=$  “empirical probability that  $ij$  lights as  $ab$ ”

- ▶ **Not explained** by **classical probability**:  $\hat{p}_{ij,ab} \neq \mu(ab|ij)$
- ▶ **Explained** by **quantum entanglement**:  $\hat{p}_{ij,ab} = \langle \psi | P_{ij,ab} | \psi \rangle$ .

# Quantum homomorphisms and isomorphisms

Quantum homomorphisms defined in [MR12]

Quantum isomorphisms defined in [AMRŠSV17]

Both defined in terms of **non-local games**

Here we define them **algebraically**  
(equivalences are proved in the papers)

# Quantum isomorphism

## Variables:

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## Equations:

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$$X_{u,v} X_{u',v'} = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, u', v, v' \text{ s.t. } \text{atp}_G(u, u') \neq \text{atp}_G(v, v')$$

$$X_{u,v}^2 - X_{u,v} = 0 \quad \text{for all } u \text{ and } v$$

## Subject to:

Each  $X_{u,v}$  is a self-adjoint linear operator of a Hilbert space.

## Quantum relaxation of isomorphism

$$G \stackrel{\text{iso}}{\equiv} H \implies G \stackrel{\text{qiso}}{\equiv} H \implies G \stackrel{\text{C}^3}{\equiv} H$$

$\begin{array}{ccc} ? & & \text{[MRV17]} \\ \longleftarrow & & \not\leftarrow \end{array}$



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**Fact** [AMRŠSV17]:

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Proof.

- ▶ View CFI as TSEITIN in disguise (by [ABD07])
- ▶ Build the matrix solution from the one for Mermin's square.

# A fundamental-looking problem

## A fundamental-looking problem

Find a logic  $\mathcal{L}$  for which

$$G \stackrel{\text{qiso}}{\equiv} H \text{ iff } G \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{\equiv} H$$

## Part IV

# QUANTUM SATISFIABILITY

# Schaefer's framework for generalized satisfiability

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## Examples:

OR	disjunctions of literals
LIN	linear equations over $\mathbb{Z}_2$
1-IN-3	triples with one $-1$ and two $+1$ components
NAE	triples with not-all-equal components


## Generalized Satisfiability Problems: SAT( $A$ )

$$\exists X_1 \cdots X_n (C_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge C_m)$$

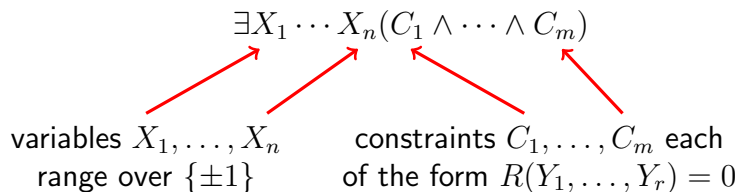
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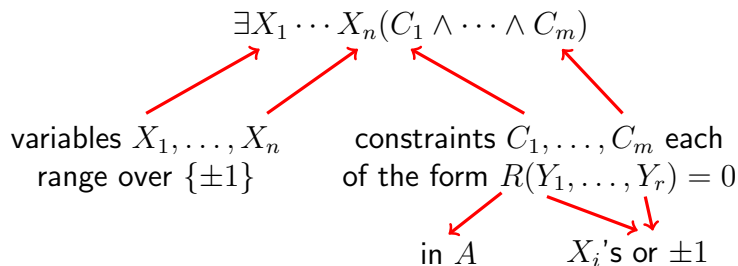
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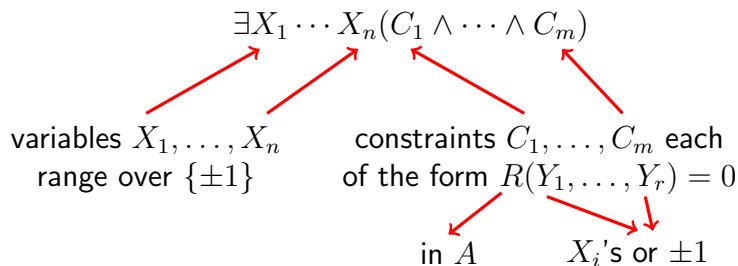


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## Examples:

3-SAT

HORN-SAT

LIN-SAT

1-IN-3-SAT

NAE-SAT

...

[Schaefer 1978]

... via Operator Assignments [CM14]

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and  
 $X_i^2 = I$  for all  $i \in [n]$

## ... via Operator Assignments [CM14]

$$\exists X_1 \cdots X_n (C_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge C_m)$$

variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$   
range over  $B(\mathcal{H})$ , the  
self-adjoint linear operators  
of a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$

constraints  $C_1, \dots, C_m$  each  
of the form  $R(Y_1, \dots, Y_r) = 0$   
 $Y_i Y_j = Y_j Y_i$  for all  $i, j \in [r]$   
and  
 $X_i^2 = I$  for all  $i \in [n]$

**SAT**( $A$ )

satisfiability over Boolean domain

**SAT\***( $A$ )

satisfiability over some finite-dimensional  $\mathcal{H}$

**SAT\*\***( $A$ )

satisfiability over some arbitrary  $\mathcal{H}$

## Gap Instances

$$X_{11} X_{12} X_{13} = +1$$

$$X_{21} X_{22} X_{23} = +1$$

$$X_{31} X_{32} X_{33} = -1$$

|| || ||

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Mermin-Peres Magic Square

Unsatisfiable SAT-instance of LIN

Satisfiable SAT\*-instance of LIN

↓  
a SAT-vs-SAT\* gap for LIN

## Gap Instances

 Mermin-Peres Magic Square

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Unsatisfiable SAT-instance of LIN  
Satisfiable SAT\*-instance of LIN

a SAT-vs-SAT\* gap for LIN

SAT-vs-SAT\*

gap of the **first** kind

SAT-vs-SAT\*\*


gap of the **second** kind

SAT\*-vs-SAT\*\*

gap of the **third** kind



## Gap Instances



Mermin-Peres Magic Square

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Unsatisfiable SAT-instance of LIN  
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a SAT-vs-SAT\* gap for LIN

SAT-vs-SAT\* gap of the **first** kind  
SAT-vs-SAT\*\* gap of the **second** kind  
SAT\*-vs-SAT\*\* gap of the **third** kind

Gaps of first kind for LIN exist [Mermin 1990]

Gaps of third kind for LIN exist [Slofstra 2017]

Gaps of **first kind** for 2-SAT or HORN do not exist [Ji 2014]

# Classification

**Theorem:**

For every Boolean constraint language  $A$ ,

1. either gaps of every kind for  $A$  exist,
2. or gaps of no kind for  $A$  exist.

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Moreover:

gaps for  $A$  **do not** exist  
iff  
 $A$  **is** of one of the following types:

- 0-valid
- 1-valid
- Horn
- dual Horn
- bijunctive

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Moreover:

gaps for  $A$  **do not** exist  
iff  
 $A$  is of one of the following types:  
iff  
LIN is **not pp-definable** from  $A$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0\text{-valid} \\ 1\text{-valid} \\ \text{Horn} \\ \text{dual Horn} \\ \text{bijunctive} \end{array} \right.$

## Comparison with Schaefer's dichotomy for tractability

	Tractable	Gaps exist
0-valid/1-valid	YES	NO
Horn/dual-Horn	YES	NO
bijunctive	YES	NO
linear	YES	YES
anythingelse	NO	YES


## Primitive Positive Definitions

$$R(Y_1, \dots, Y_r) \equiv \exists Z_1 \dots \exists Z_s (C_1 \wedge \dots \wedge C_t)$$

auxiliary variables      constraints on the  $Y$ 's and  $Z$ 's

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auxiliary variables                  constraints on the Y's and Z's

**Example:**

$$\text{NAE}(X, Y, Z) \equiv (X \vee Y \vee Z) \wedge (\bar{X} \vee \bar{Y} \vee \bar{Z})$$

# Proof technique



# Proof technique

Ingredient 1: gap preserving reductions

**Lemma:**

If  $A$  is pp-definable from  $B$ ,  
then gaps for  $B$  imply gaps for  $A$ .

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**Lemma:**

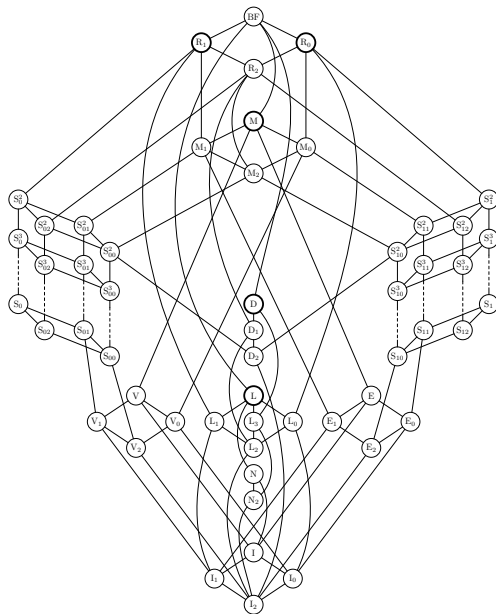
If  $A$  is pp-definable from  $B$ ,  
then gaps for  $B$  imply gaps for  $A$ .

Ingredient 2: Post's Lattice of Boolean co-clones

**Theorem [Post 1941]:**

There are countably many Boolean constraint languages up to pp-definability, **and we know them.**

# Post's Lattice



## More on Primitive Positive Definability

$$R(Y_1, \dots, Y_r) \equiv \exists Z_1 \cdots \exists Z_s (C_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge C_t)$$

**pp-def**  $Z_i$ 's range over  $B(\mathbb{C})$  (i.e., over  $\{\pm 1\}$  by  $Z_i^2 = I$ )

**pp\*-def**  $Z_i$ 's range over  $B(\mathcal{H})$ , for some finite-dim  $\mathcal{H}$

**pp\*\*-def**  $Z_i$ 's range over  $B(\mathcal{H})$ , for some arbitrary  $\mathcal{H}$

## A Conservativity Theorem

**Theorem:**

For every two constraint languages  $A$  and  $B$ , the following statements are equivalent.

1. every relation in  $A$  is **pp-definable** from  $B$
2. every relation in  $A$  is **pp\*-definable** from  $B$

## A Conservativity Theorem

### **Theorem:**

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1. every relation in  $A$  is **pp-definable** from  $B$
2. every relation in  $A$  is **pp\*-definable** from  $B$

**Corollary:** OR is **not** pp\*-definable from LIN

## Closure Operations via Operators

$R$  is **invariant** under  $F : B(\mathcal{H}_1) \times \cdots \times B(\mathcal{H}_s) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$  if

$$R( \begin{matrix} A_{1,1} & , \cdots , & A_{1,r} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \end{matrix} ) = 0 \text{ and commute}$$

$$R( \begin{matrix} A_{s,1} & , \cdots , & A_{s,r} \end{matrix} ) = 0 \text{ and commute}$$

---

$$R(F(\mathbf{A}_{*,1}), \cdots, F(\mathbf{A}_{*,r})) = 0 \text{ and commute}$$

## Closure Operations via Operators

$R$  is **invariant** under  $F : B(\mathcal{H}_1) \times \cdots \times B(\mathcal{H}_s) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$  if

$$R( A_{1,1} \quad , \cdots , A_{1,r} ) = 0 \text{ and commute}$$
$$\vdots \quad \ddots \quad \vdots$$

$$R( A_{s,1} \quad , \cdots , A_{s,r} ) = 0 \text{ and commute}$$

---

$$R(F(\mathbf{A}_{*,1}), \cdots, F(\mathbf{A}_{*,r})) = 0 \text{ and commute}$$

**Lemma:** If  $A$  is invariant under  $F : \{\pm 1\}^s \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ , then every  $R \subseteq \{\pm 1\}^r$  pp\*-definable from  $A$  is invariant under

$$F^*(X_1, \dots, X_s) := \sum_{S \subseteq [s]} \widehat{F}(S) \bigotimes_{i=1}^s X_i^{S(i)}$$



## Proof by Example

**Operator composition doesn't work:**

$$X_{11} X_{12} X_{13} = +1$$

$$X_{21} X_{22} X_{23} = +1$$

$$X_{31} X_{32} X_{33} = +1$$

$$\parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \perp \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \perp \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \perp \\ \hline \end{array} \neq +1 (!)$$

## Proof by Example

**Operator composition doesn't work:**

$$\begin{aligned} X_{11} X_{12} X_{13} &= +1 \\ X_{21} X_{22} X_{23} &= +1 \\ X_{31} X_{32} X_{33} &= +1 \\ \parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel & \\ \underline{\oplus} \quad \underline{\oplus} \quad \underline{\ominus} &\neq +1 (!) \end{aligned}$$

**Operator tensoring works:**

$$\begin{aligned} (X_{11} \otimes X_{21} \otimes X_{31})(X_{12} \otimes X_{22} \otimes X_{32})(X_{13} \otimes X_{23} \otimes X_{33}) &= \\ (X_{11} X_{12} X_{13}) \otimes (X_{21} X_{22} X_{23}) \otimes (X_{31} X_{32} X_{33}) &= \\ (+I) \otimes (+I) \otimes (+I) &= \\ +I & \end{aligned}$$

## Future Work

### Question 1:

Are  $\text{SAT}^*(\text{LIN})$  and  $\text{QISO}^*$  decidable?

### Question 2:

Is  $\text{pp}^{**}$ -definability =  $\text{pp}$ -definability also?

### Question 3:

Find a logic  $\mathcal{L}$  for which

$$G \stackrel{\text{qiso}}{\equiv} H \text{ iff } G \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{\equiv} H$$

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