

Flexible satisfaction



LCC 2016, Aix-Marseille Université

Marcel Jackson



A problem in semigroup theory

The semigroup \mathbf{B}_2^1

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Theorem (J, 2015)

It is NP-hard to decide membership of a finite semigroup in $\text{HSP}(\mathbf{B}_2^1)$

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Theorem (J, 2015)

It is NP-hard to decide membership of a finite semigroup in $\text{HSP}(\mathbf{B}_2^1)$

Requires the NP-hardness of a **promise problem** +1-in-3SAT:

NO: a NO instance of +1-in-3SAT

YES: the +1-in-3SAT instance lies in the “quasivariety” of +1-in-3SAT

Overview of talk and results

- Quasivariety concepts, and their relationship with constraint problems and implicit constraints

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- Quasivariety concepts, and their relationship with constraint problems and implicit constraints
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 - ▶ implementation of implicit constraints coincides with “reflection” into the quasivariety
- **Result:** Intractability of the stated promise problem +1-in-3SAT
- **Result:** Generalisation to (probably) all finite core relational structures with hard CSP

Quasivarieties (Maltsev)



A. I. Maltsev

Quasivarieties (Maltsev)

Semantic

Closed under isomorphic copies of substructures, direct products and ultraproducts

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Closed under isomorphic copies of substructures, direct products and ultraproducts

Syntactic

Definable by a set of **quasi-equations**:

$$\left(\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} \alpha_i \right) \rightarrow \alpha_0$$

with each $\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_n$ atomic

Universal Horn classes

Semantic

Closed under isomorphic copies of substructures, direct products **over nonempty index sets** and ultraproducts

Syntactic

Definable by a set of **universal Horn sentences**:

$$\bigvee_{0 \leq i \leq n} \alpha_i$$

where all α_i are atomic or negated atomic, and at most one is atomic

Quasivarieties versus universal Horn classes

- The quasivariety $Q(K)$ generated by a universal Horn class K differs from K , if at all, only on one element structures

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- The quasivariety $Q(K)$ generated by a universal Horn class K differs from K , if at all, only on one element structures
- ⇒ We can blur the distinction when it suits us

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Examples

Cancelative semigroups:

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Examples

Cancelative semigroups: $x(yz) = (xy)z$,
 $xy = xz \rightarrow y = z$, $xy = zy \rightarrow x = z$

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Examples

Semigroups embeddable in a group:

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Examples

Semigroups embeddable in a group: *it's complicated*

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Ordered sets:

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Examples

Ordered sets: $x \leq x$, $x \leq y \ \& \ y \leq z \rightarrow x \leq z$,
 $x \leq y \ \& \ y \leq x \rightarrow x = y$

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Examples

Simple graphs:

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Examples

Simple graphs: $x \not\sim x$, $x \sim y \rightarrow y \sim x$ (a universal Horn class)

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Examples

2-colourable graphs:

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Examples

2-colourable graphs: simple graphs with no odd cycles (a universal Horn class)

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Examples

3-colourable graphs:

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Examples

3-colourable graphs: ... (a universal Horn class)

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Examples

For any fixed finite relational structure \mathbb{A} : the class of structures admitting a homomorphism into \mathbb{A} (a universal Horn class)

Constraint Satisfaction Problems

Fix a relational structure \mathbb{A} (always finite, with signature \mathcal{R})

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$\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$

Instance: a finite \mathcal{R} -structure \mathbb{B}

Question: is there a homomorphism from \mathbb{B} into \mathbb{A} ?

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CSP(\mathbb{A})

Instance: a finite \mathcal{R} -structure \mathbb{B}

Question: is there a homomorphism from \mathbb{B} into \mathbb{A} ?

(Alternatively, the elements of the universe B are the “variables” and the tuples $(b_1, \dots, b_i) \in r$ for $r \in \mathcal{R}^{\mathbb{B}}$ are the “constraints”)

Constraint Satisfaction Problems

Fix a relational structure \mathbb{A} (always finite, with signature \mathcal{R})

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Example: +1-in-3SAT

$$\mathbb{A} = \langle \{0, 1\}; \overbrace{\{(0, 0, 1), (0, 1, 0), (1, 0, 0)\}}^{\mathcal{R}} \rangle$$

Constraint Satisfaction Problems

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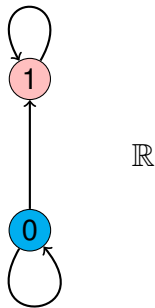
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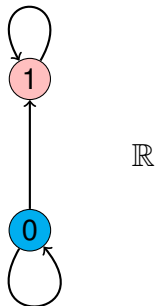
Very important

$\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$ is a quasivariety membership problem, but it is not membership in the quasivariety of \mathbb{A}

CSP(\mathbb{A}) versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$ Example: signature $\{\sim, 0, 1\}$ 

CSP(\mathbb{A}) versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$

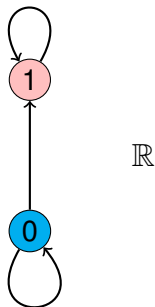
Example: signature $\{\sim, 0, 1\}$



- CSP(\mathbb{R}) is directed graph unreachability: **NL-complete**

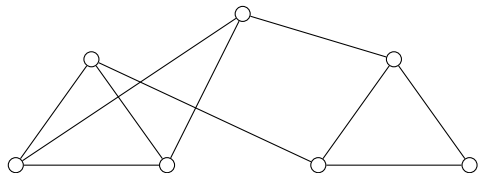
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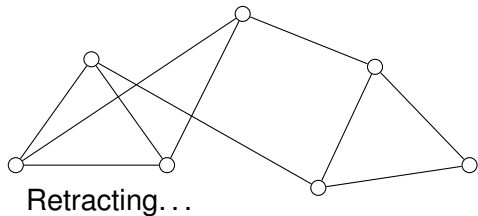
- CSP(\mathbb{R}) is directed graph unreachability: **NL-complete**
- $Q(\mathbb{R})$ is (roughly) just the class of ordered sets (**first order definable**)

CSP(\mathbb{A}) versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$: core retracts

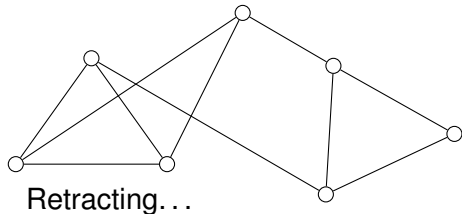


A graph

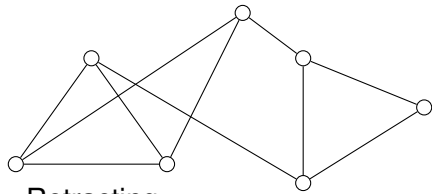
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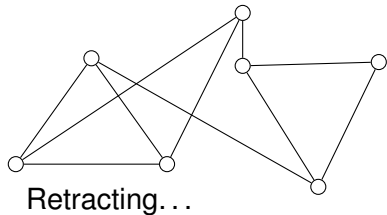
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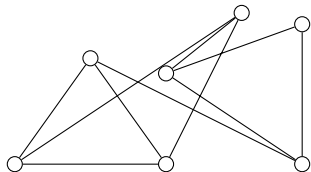
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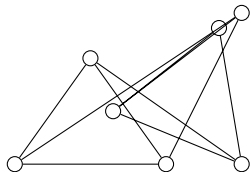


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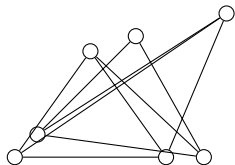
Retracting...

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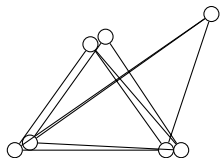
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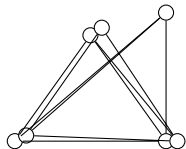
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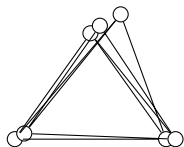
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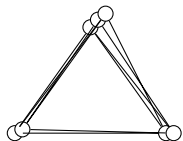
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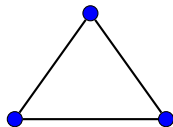
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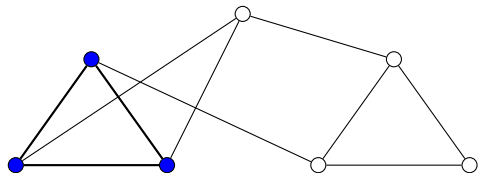
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CSP(\mathbb{A}) versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$: core retracts



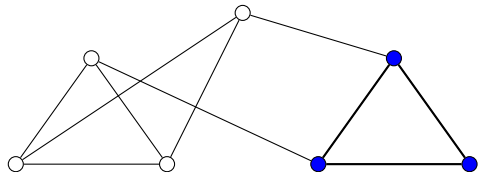
A **core** retract: all endomorphisms are automorphisms

CSP(\mathbb{A}) versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$: core retracts



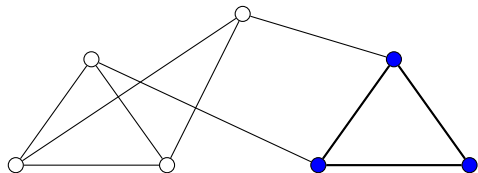
The original graph, with its core retract in bold

CSP(\mathbb{A}) versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$: core retracts



Another core retract, necessarily isomorphic

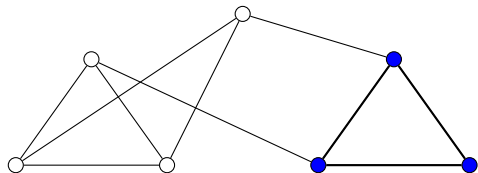
$CSP(\mathbb{A})$ versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$: core retracts



Another core retract, necessarily isomorphic

- *It is obvious that $CSP(\mathbb{A}) = CSP(\text{core}(\mathbb{A}))$*
-

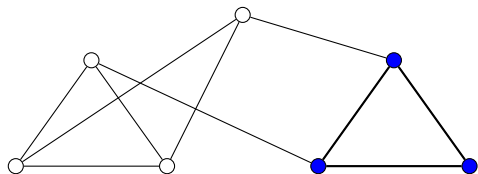
$\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$ versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$: core retracts



Another core retract, necessarily isomorphic

- *It is obvious that $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A}) = \text{CSP}(\text{core}(\mathbb{A}))$*
- Homomorphism equivalent structures have the same CSP, *but not necessarily the same quasivariety*

$\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$ versus $Q(\mathbb{A})$: core retracts



Another core retract, necessarily isomorphic

- *It is obvious that $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A}) = \text{CSP}(\text{core}(\mathbb{A}))$*
- In particular: $Q(\mathbb{A})$ is almost never equal to $Q(\text{core}(\mathbb{A}))$

Implicit constraints for $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$

Frozen in

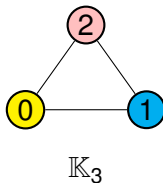
For a finite \mathcal{R} -structure \mathbb{B} , a relation $r \in \mathcal{R} \cup \{=\}$, a tuple (b_1, \dots, b_n) is *frozen in* to r if every homomorphism $\phi : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$ has $(\phi(b_1), \dots, \phi(b_n)) \in r$

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Example: $\mathcal{R} = \{\sim\}$ (binary)



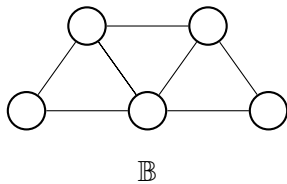
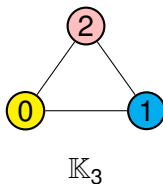
(here \mathbb{A} will be \mathbb{K}_3)

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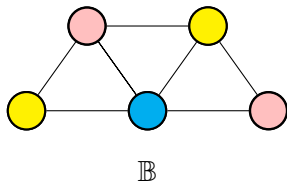
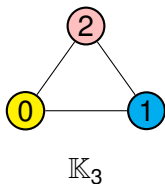


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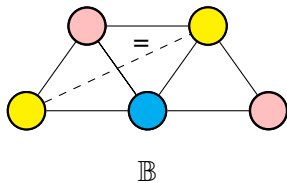
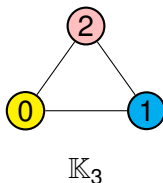


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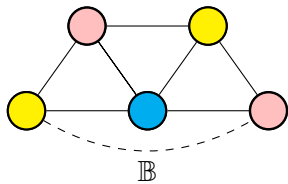
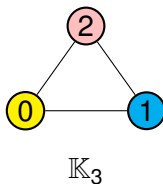
- *Frozen-in to $=$* (may as well have been equal)

Implicit constraints for $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$

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Example: $\mathcal{R} = \{\sim\}$ (binary)



- *Frozen-in* to the edge relation (may as well have added the edge)

Implicit constraints for $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$

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Example: backbone

The **backbone** of \mathbb{B} (wrt \mathbb{A}) is the subset of B that are forced to take only one value under any homomorphism from \mathbb{B} to \mathbb{A}

Implicit constraints for CSP(\mathbb{A})

Frozen in

For a finite \mathcal{R} -structure \mathbb{B} , a relation $r \in \mathcal{R} \cup \{=\}$, a tuple (b_1, \dots, b_n) is *frozen in* to r if every homomorphism $\phi : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$ has $(\phi(b_1), \dots, \phi(b_n)) \in r$

Example: backbone

The **backbone** of \mathbb{B} (wrt \mathbb{A}) is the subset of B that are forced to take only one value under any homomorphism from \mathbb{B} to \mathbb{A}

Emergence of large backbone a possible cause of intractability:

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Emergence of large backbone a possible cause of intractability:
 “efficient means of finding the backbone would be specific to each problem type, but should nonetheless provide a step forwards in algorithm efficiency.” (Monasson et al, Nature, 1999)

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(also, Beacham 2000 and others)

Implicit constraints for $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$

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r is *unfrozen*:

if no tuple is frozen in to r

Unfrozenness is quasivariety membership!

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Theorem (J, 2015, after Maltsev)

For a finite relational structure \mathbb{A} and a subset $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{R} \cup \{=\}$. TFAE for a finite relational structure \mathbb{B} having at least one homomorphism into \mathbb{A} :

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In particular:

no implicit constraints \Leftrightarrow in the quasivariety of \mathbb{A}

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In particular:

no relations required to be unfrozen \Leftrightarrow in $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$

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In particular:

equality is unfrozen \Leftrightarrow in $\text{SEP}(\mathbb{A})$

+1-in-3SAT

Recall:

Example: +1-in-3SAT

$$\mathbb{A} = \langle \{0, 1\}; \{(0, 0, 1), (0, 1, 0), (1, 0, 0)\} \rangle$$

+1-in-3SAT

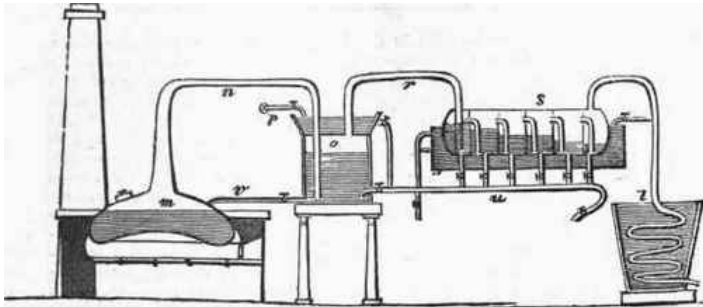
Recall:

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$$\mathbb{A} = \langle \{0, 1\}; \{(0, 0, 1), (0, 1, 0), (1, 0, 0)\} \rangle$$

- original semigroup theoretic motivation
- fulcrum for Ham's Gap Trichotomy Theorem on Boolean domains

+1-in-3SAT



Proof by “distillation”
(passing the problem through a series of otherwise unnecessary
reductions)

+1-in-3SAT

$$\text{NAE3SAT} \leq_L \text{NAE21SAT}$$

Introduces “6-robustness” promise:

either there is no solution or every assignment on at most 6 variables extends to a solution

+1-in-3SAT

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Follows technique of Gottlob, CP 2011

+1-in-3SAT

$$\text{NAE3SAT} \leq_L \text{NAE21SAT}$$
$$\leq_L \text{NAE3SAT}$$

(Standard reduction.) Maintains “2-robustness” promise:
either there is no solution or every assignment on at most 2 variables extends to a solution

+1-in-3SAT

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NAE3SAT} &\leq_L \text{NAE21SAT} \\ &\leq_L \text{NAE3SAT} \\ &\leq_L \text{G3C on graphs with triangulated edges} \end{aligned}$$

(Standard reduction, but with triangulation of all edges.) Maintains “2-robustness” promise:

either there is no 3-colouring, or every valid colouring of any two vertices extends to a 3-colouring

+1-in-3SAT

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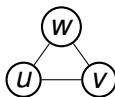
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(Non-triangulated case proved by Abramsky, Gottlob and Kolaitis, IJCAI 2013)

+1-in-3SAT

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 \end{aligned}$$



Obvious reduction: for each triangle U, V, W and each “colour” $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ create clauses

$(u_i \vee v_i \vee w_i)$: “colour i appears exactly once” and

$(u_0 \vee u_1 \vee u_2)$: “vertex u has exactly one colour”

Mega extension

Big Gap Theorem (previous talk), enables us to prove a corresponding result for probably any hard CSP



Mega extension

Quasivariety Gap Theorem (Ham and Jackson, 2016)

For a finite relational structure \mathbb{A} of finite type:



Mega extension

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For a finite relational structure \mathbb{A} of finite type:

- if the core retract of \mathbb{A} has no “weak NU”, then deciding membership in the quasivariety of \mathbb{A} is NP-complete

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- “weak NU” is a polymorphism property

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- if the core retract of \mathbb{A} has no “weak NU”, then deciding membership in the quasivariety of \mathbb{A} is NP-complete
- “weak NU” is a polymorphism property
- *Algebraic Dichotomy Conjecture: a CSP over core \mathbb{A} is NP-complete if and only if it has no weak NU (Bulatov, Jeavons, Krokhin, 2001)*

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NO \mathbb{B} has no homomorphisms into \mathbb{A} (or $\text{core}(\mathbb{A})$)

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*A slightly nontrivial consequence of the Big Gap Theorem
(previous talk)*

Corollary

For a finite simple graph \mathbb{G} :

- 1 \mathbb{G} **bipartite**: membership in $Q(\mathbb{G})$ is tractable
- 2 \mathbb{G} **not bipartite**: membership in $Q(\mathbb{G})$ is NP-complete

Corollary

For a finite simple graph \mathbb{G} :

- 1 \mathbb{G} bipartite: deciding $CSP(\mathbb{G})$ is tractable
 - 2 \mathbb{G} not bipartite: deciding $CSP(\mathbb{G})$ is NP-complete
- (The Hell-Nešetřil dichotomy)

Corollary

For a finite simple graph \mathbb{G} :

- 1 \mathbb{G} **bipartite**: Both $Q(\mathbb{G})$ and $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{G})$ are tractable
- 2 \mathbb{G} **not bipartite**: any class K with $Q(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq K \subseteq \text{CSP}(\mathbb{G})$ has NP-hard membership

Corollary

For a finite simple graph G :

- 1 G bipartite: Both $Q(G)$ and $CSP(G)$ are tractable
- 2 G not bipartite: any class K with $Q(G) \subseteq K \subseteq CSP(G)$ has NP-hard membership

Corollary

Let \mathbb{A} be a relational structure on $\{0, 1\}$. Deciding membership in the quasivariety of \mathbb{A} is

- solvable in polynomial time if \mathbb{A} has a weak NU
- NP-complete otherwise

Fundamental ideas for proof

- 1 all of the previous talk (Big Gap Theorem)

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reflection?

enables transition from (k, \mathcal{F}) -robust satisfiability to quasivariety membership

Reflection into a quasivariety (Maltsev again)

Semantic: given generator \mathbb{A} for quasivariety

Apply natural homomorphism from \mathbb{B} into the direct product

$\prod_{\text{hom}(\mathbb{B}, \mathbb{A})} \mathbb{A}$ (ie $b(\phi) = \phi(b)$)

- The reflection of \mathbb{B} into $Q(K)$ is the induced substructure on the image of \mathbb{B}

Blah blah blah blah¹

¹actually it's really beautiful

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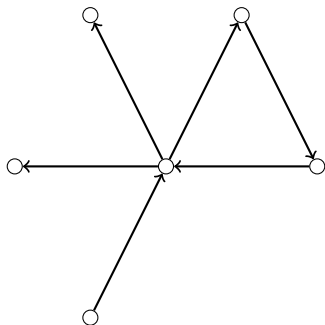
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Syntactic: given set Σ of axioms for quasivariety

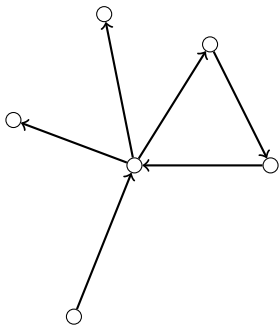
Iteratively apply quasi-equations in Σ to \mathbb{B} : for each interpretation of the premise, implement the conclusion

Example: syntactic reflection into ordered sets



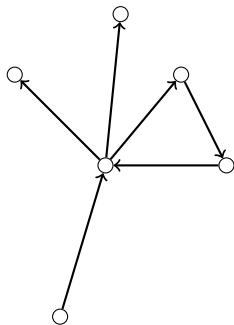
A directed graph...

Example: syntactic reflection into ordered sets



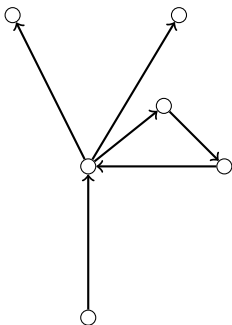
(Redrawing only...)

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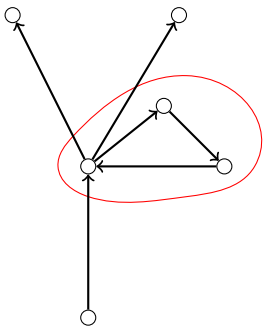
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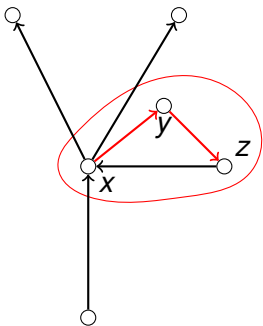


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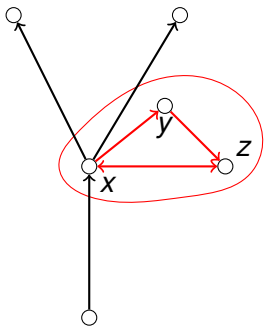
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Reflecting

$$x \leq y \ \& \ y \leq z \rightarrow x \leq z$$

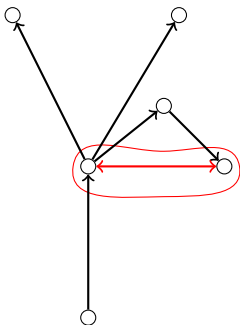
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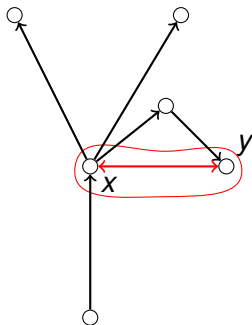
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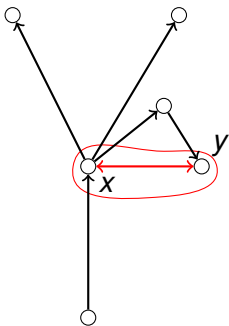
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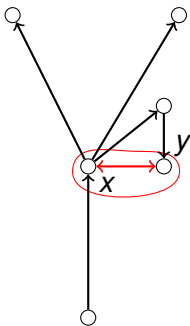
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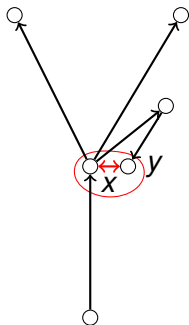
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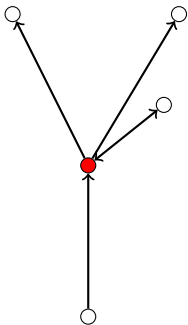
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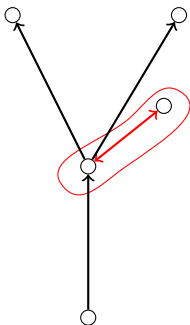
Example: syntactic reflection into ordered sets



Reflecting (ignoring loops)

$$x \leq y \ \& \ y \leq x \rightarrow x = y$$

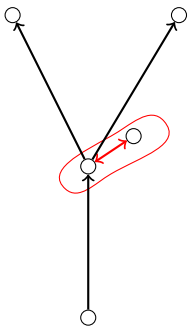
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Reflecting

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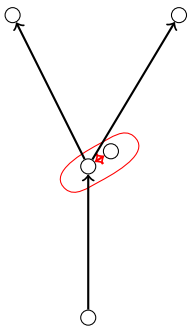
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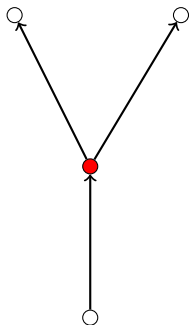
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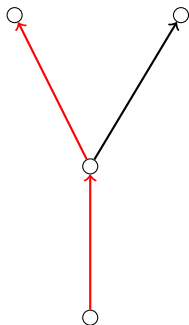
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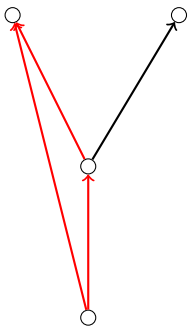
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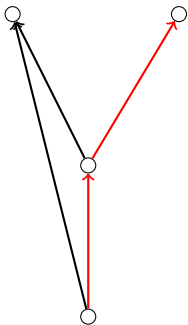
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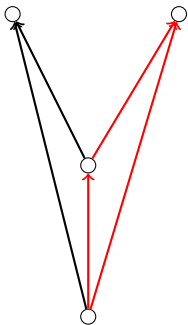
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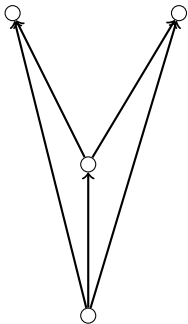
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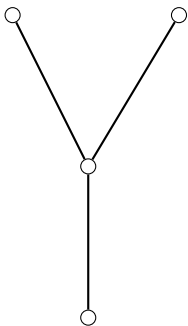
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As a Hasse Diagram

Reflection and implicit constraints

The reflection of an instance \mathbb{B} with respect to $Q(\mathbb{A})$ is the result of iteratively implementing all implicit constraints in \mathbb{B} with respect to $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})$!

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(he can't get no satisfaction)

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- Best news ever: if k is larger than the maximal arity of any relation, and \mathbb{B} is (k, \mathcal{F}) -robustly satisfiable, then the reflection into the quasivariety of \mathbb{A} is first order definable from \mathbb{B}

Reflection and implicit constraints

The reflection of an instance \mathbb{B} with respect to $Q(\mathbb{A})$ is the result of iteratively implementing all implicit constraints in \mathbb{B} with respect to $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{A})!$

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Apply this first order reduction from the promise problem in the Big Gap Theorem to obtain the Quasivariety Gap Theorem

Thank you!