

# Boolean Constraint Satisfaction Problems

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or: When does Post's Lattice Help?

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CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

$\Gamma$  – a finite set of Boolean relations

**Constraint:**  $R(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  for  $R \in \Gamma$ ,  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  propos. variables

**$\Gamma$ -formula:** Conjunction of constraints over  $\Gamma$

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**Example:**  $R_{1\text{-IN-}3} = \{(0, 0, 1), (0, 1, 0), (1, 0, 0)\}$ .

Then:  $\{R_{1\text{-IN-}3}\}$ -formulas = instances of 1-IN-3-SAT.

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**CSP( $\Gamma$ ):**

**Input:** a propositional  $\Gamma$ -formula  $F$

**Question:** Is  $F$  satisfiable?

# Comparing Complexities of CSPs

Goal: Determine the computational complexity of  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  as a function of  $\Gamma$ !

- ▶ Determine  $\Gamma_0$  such that  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma_0)$  is NP-complete and conclude that  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is NP-complete for all “harder”  $\Gamma$  as well.
- ▶ Determine  $\Gamma_1$  such that  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma_1)$  is tractable and conclude that  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is tractable for all “easier”  $\Gamma$  as well.

Need a way to compare complexity of  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  for different  $\Gamma$ .

# Reductions

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**Answer:** When using relations in  $\Gamma'$  we can simulate (implement) all relations in  $\Gamma$ .



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**Question:** When does  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  reduce to  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma')$ ?

**Answer:** When using relations in  $\Gamma'$  we can simulate (implement) all relations in  $\Gamma$ .

Develop a reasonable notion of the class of relations that can be implemented by  $\Gamma'$ .

# Relational Clones

Let  $\langle \Gamma \rangle$  be the **relational clone** (or **co-clone**) generated by  $\Gamma$ , i.e.,

- $\langle \Gamma \rangle$  contains the equality relation and all relations in  $\Gamma$ .
- $\langle \Gamma \rangle$  is closed under primitive positive definitions, i.e.,

if  $\phi$  is a  $\langle \Gamma \rangle$ -formula and

$$R(x_1, \dots, x_n) \equiv \exists y_1 \dots y_\ell \phi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_\ell)$$

then  $R \in \langle \Gamma \rangle$ .

(Such  $R$  are also called **conjunctive queries** over  $\langle \Gamma \rangle$ .)

$\langle \Gamma \rangle$  is called the **expressive power** of  $\Gamma$ .

If  $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$  then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \leq_m^{\log} \text{CSP}(\Gamma')$

[CSP](#) [Post](#) [Schaefer](#) [QCSP](#) [#QCSP](#) [Galois](#) [FO](#) [Equality](#) [Classification](#) [Applications](#) [Résumé](#)

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Let  $F$  be a  $\Gamma$ -formula. Construct  $F'$  as follows:

- ▶ Replace every constraint from  $\Gamma$  by its defining existentially quantified  $(\Gamma' \cup \{=\})$ -formula.

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Let  $F$  be a  $\Gamma$ -formula. Construct  $F'$  as follows:

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- ▶ Delete equality clauses and replace all variables that are connected via a chain of equality constraints by a common new variable (undirected graph accessibility problem).

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$F'$  is a  $\Gamma'$ -formula.

Then:  $F$  is satisfiable iff  $F'$  is satisfiable.

# Relational Clones and CSPs

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- ▶ If  $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$ , then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \leq_m^{\log} \text{CSP}(\Gamma')$ .
- ▶ If  $\langle \Gamma \rangle = \langle \Gamma' \rangle$ , then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \equiv_m^{\log} \text{CSP}(\Gamma')$ ,  
i.e., the complexity of  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  depends only on  $\langle \Gamma \rangle$ .

We only have to study co-clones in order to obtain a full classification.

*“Galois connection helps for satisfiability.”*



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What co-clones are there?

# Closure Properties of Relations

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Let  $f: \{0, 1\}^m \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ ,  $R \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$ .

$f \approx R$ , if

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$f \approx R$ , if

$$\begin{array}{rcccccccc} x_1 & = & x_{1,1} & x_{1,2} & x_{1,3} & \cdots & x_{1,n} & \in R \\ x_2 & = & x_{2,1} & x_{2,2} & x_{2,3} & \cdots & x_{2,n} & \in R \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \\ x_m & = & x_{m,1} & x_{m,2} & x_{m,3} & \cdots & x_{m,n} & \in R \end{array}$$

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$x_1$	=	$x_{1,1}$	$x_{1,2}$	$x_{1,3}$	$\cdots$	$x_{1,n}$	$\in R$
$x_2$	=	$x_{2,1}$	$x_{2,2}$	$x_{2,3}$	$\cdots$	$x_{2,n}$	$\in R$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$	
$x_m$	=	$x_{m,1}$	$x_{m,2}$	$x_{m,3}$	$\cdots$	$x_{m,n}$	$\in R$

then also

$z$	=	$z_1$	$z_2$	$z_3$	$\cdots$	$z_n$	$\in R$ .
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$R$  is **invariant** under  $f$ .  $f$  **preserves**  $R$ .

# Clones of Polymorphisms

$\text{Pol}(\Gamma)$  is the set of all **polymorphisms** of  $\Gamma$ , i.e., the set of all Boolean functions that preserve every relation in  $\Gamma$ .

- ▶  $\text{Pol}(\Gamma)$  is a **clone**, i.e., a set of Boolean functions that contains all projections and is closed under composition.

Post's lattice [Emil Post, 1921/1941]:

- List of all Boolean clones
- Inclusion structure among them
- Finite basis for each of them

# Co-Clones of Invariants

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$\text{Inv}(B)$  is the set of all **invariants** of  $B$ , i.e., the set of all Boolean relations that are preserved by every function in  $B$ .

- ▶  $\text{Inv}(B)$  is a **relational clone**.

# Co-Clones of Invariants

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- ▶  $\text{Inv}(B)$  is a **relational clone**.

[Post 1941]:

Every clone  $B$  can be characterized by the set of its invariant constraints:

Let  $\Gamma_0$  be a basis for the co-clone  $\text{Inv}(B)$ . Then,

- ▶ A function belongs to  $B$  iff it preserves all relations in  $\Gamma_0$ .



# The Galois Correspondence

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- ▶  $\text{Inv}(\text{Pol}(\Gamma)) = \langle \Gamma \rangle$ .
- ▶  $\text{Pol}(\text{Inv}(B)) = [B]$ .

One-one correspondence between clones and co-clones;  
obtain complete list of co-clones from Post's lattice.

Determine easy bases for relational clones!

# Efficient SAT Algorithms

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If  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(E_2)$  ( $\wedge \approx \Gamma$ ) then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \in P$  (Horn relations).

If  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(V_2)$  ( $\vee \approx \Gamma$ ) then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \in P$  (anti-Horn relations).

If  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(D_2)$  ( $T_2^3 \approx \Gamma$ ) then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \in P$  (2-CNF relations).

If  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(L_2)$  ( $\oplus^3 \approx \Gamma$ ) then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \in P$  (affine relations).

If  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(I_1)$  ( $1 \approx \Gamma$ ) then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \in P$  (1-valid relations).

If  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(I_0)$  ( $0 \approx \Gamma$ ) then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \in P$  (0-valid relations).

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What remains?

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## What remains?

$\langle \Gamma \rangle \supseteq \text{Inv}(N_2)$ , i.e., only polymorphism is negation.

# Schaefer's Theorem

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$$R_{\text{NAE}} = \{(0, 0, 1), (0, 1, 0), (0, 1, 1), (1, 0, 0), (1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0)\}.$$
$$\text{Pol}(R_{\text{NAE}}) = N_2.$$

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**But:**  $\text{CSP}(\{R_{\text{NAE}}\}) = \text{NOT-ALL-EQUAL-SAT}$ , NP-complete.

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**But:**  $\text{CSP}(\{R_{\text{NAE}}\}) = \text{NOT-ALL-EQUAL-SAT}$ , NP-complete.

- ▶ If  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \supseteq \text{Inv}(N_2)$  then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is NP-complete, otherwise  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is in P. [Schaefer 1978]

Through “polynomial-time glasses”, we observe dichotomy.

# A Finer Classification w.r.t. Logspace-Reductions

- ▶ If  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \in \{\text{Inv}(I_2), \text{Inv}(N_2)\}$ , then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is NP-complete.
- ▶ If  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \in \{\text{Inv}(V_2), \text{Inv}(E_2)\}$ , then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is P-complete.
- ▶ If  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \in \{\text{Inv}(L_2), \text{Inv}(L_3)\}$ , then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is  $\oplus L$ -complete.
- ▶ If  $\text{Inv}(S_{00}^2) \subseteq \langle \Gamma \rangle \subseteq \text{Inv}(S_{00})$  or  $\text{Inv}(S_{10}^2) \subseteq \langle \Gamma \rangle \subseteq \text{Inv}(S_{10})$  or  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \in \{\text{Inv}(D_2), \text{Inv}(M_2)\}$ , then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is NL-complete.
- ▶ If  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \in \{\text{Inv}(D_1), \text{Inv}(D)\}$  or  $\text{Inv}(R_2) \subseteq \langle \Gamma \rangle \subseteq \text{Inv}(S_{02})$  or  $\text{Inv}(R_2) \subseteq \langle \Gamma \rangle \subseteq \text{Inv}(S_{12})$ , then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is in L.
- ▶ If  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(I_0)$  or  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(I_1)$ , then every constraint formula over  $\Gamma$  is satisfiable, and therefore  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is trivial.

[Allender-Bauland-Immerman-Schnoor-Vollmer 2005]

Through “logspace glasses”, there are 5 complexity levels for CSP.



# Quantified Boolean Formulae

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- ▶ **QBF** (determination of truth of a closed quantified Boolean formula) is PSPACE-complete. [Stockmeyer-Meyer 1973]
- ▶ **QCNF** (restriction to matrix in CNF) remains complete.

# Quantified Boolean Formulae

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- ▶ **QCNF** (restriction to matrix in CNF) remains complete.
  
- ▶ **QCSP( $\Gamma$ )** (determination of truth of a closed quantified  $\Gamma$ -formula) is PSPACE-complete if  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \supseteq \text{Inv}(\mathbb{N})$ , otherwise QCSP( $\Gamma$ ) is tractable.  
[Schaefer 1978, Dalmau 2000, Creignou-Khanna-Sudan 2001]

# Bounded Number of Alternations

- ▶  $QBF_i$  (restriction of QBF to prenex normal-form with  $i - 1$  quantifier alternations, starting with existential) is complete for the class  $\Sigma_i^P$  of the polynomial-time hierarchy.
- ▶ For  $i$  odd,  $QCNF_i$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete.
- ▶ For  $i$  even,  $QDNF_i$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete.

[Wrathall, 1977]

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How to define  $QCSP_i$ ?

# Quantified Constraints

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$QCSP_i(\Gamma)$ :

For  $i$  odd, determine if a closed quantified  $\Gamma$ -formula with  $i - 1$  quantifier alternations starting with existential quantifier is true.  
For  $i$  even, determine if a closed quantified  $\Gamma$ -formula with  $i - 1$  quantifier alternations starting with universal quantifier is false.

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QCSP<sub>*i*</sub>( $\Gamma$ ):

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► If  $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$ , then  $\text{QCSP}_i(\Gamma) \leq_m^{\log} \text{QCSP}_i(\Gamma')$ .

*“Galois connection helps for quantified satisfiability.”*

# Classification of $\text{QCSP}_i(\Gamma)$

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- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_{1\text{-IN-}3}\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete,  
since  $\text{Inv}(R_{1\text{-IN-}3})$  is the class of all Boolean relations.

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- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_{\text{NAE}}\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete:  
Replace every constraint  $R_{1\text{-IN-}3}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  by  $R_{2\text{-IN-}4}(x_1, x_2, x_3, t)$  for a (common) new variable  $t$ , and observe  $R_{2\text{-IN-}4}(x_1, x_2, x_3, t) = \bigwedge_{i \neq j} R_{\text{NAE}}(x_i, x_j, t) \wedge R_{\text{NAE}}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ .  
Quantify  $t$  in first quantifier block.



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Quantify  $t$  in first quantifier block.
- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_0\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete, where  $R_0(u, v, x_1, x_2, x_3) \equiv u = v \vee \text{NAE}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ :  
Replace every constraint  $\text{NAE}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  by  $R_0(u, v, x_1, x_2, x_3)$ .  
Quantify  $u, v$  in last universal quantifier block.

# Classification of $\text{QCSP}_i(\Gamma)$

- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_{1\text{-IN-}3}\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete, since  $\text{Inv}(R_{1\text{-IN-}3})$  is the class of all Boolean relations.  $R_{1\text{-IN-}3} \in \text{Inv}(I_2)$
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- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_{1\text{-IN-}3}\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete,  $R_{1\text{-IN-}3} \in \text{Inv}(I_2)$   
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- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_{\text{NAE}}\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete:  $R_{\text{NAE}} \in \text{Inv}(N_2)$   
Replace every constraint  $R_{1\text{-IN-}3}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  by  $R_{2\text{-IN-}4}(x_1, x_2, x_3, t)$  for a (common) new variable  $t$ , and observe  $R_{2\text{-IN-}4}(x_1, x_2, x_3, t) = \bigwedge_{i \neq j} R_{\text{NAE}}(x_i, x_j, t) \wedge R_{\text{NAE}}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ .  
Quantify  $t$  in first quantifier block.
- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_0\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete,  
where  $R_0(u, v, x_1, x_2, x_3) \equiv u = v \vee \text{NAE}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ :  
Replace every constraint  $\text{NAE}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  by  $R_0(u, v, x_1, x_2, x_3)$ .  
Quantify  $u, v$  in last universal quantifier block.

# Classification of $\text{QCSP}_i(\Gamma)$

- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_{1\text{-IN-}3}\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete,  $R_{1\text{-IN-}3} \in \text{Inv}(I_2)$   
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- ▶  $\text{QCSP}_i(\{R_0\})$  is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete,  $R_0 \in \text{Inv}(N)$   
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# Hemaspaandra's Theorem

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

- ▶ QCSP( $\Gamma$ ) is tractable if  $\Gamma$  is Horn, anti-Horn, bijunctive, or affine. [Schaefer 1978, Creignou-Khanna-Sudan 2001]

If  $\Gamma$  is not in one of these cases, then  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \supseteq \text{Inv}(\mathbb{N}) \ni R_0$ .

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If  $\Gamma$  is not in one of these cases, then  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \supseteq \text{Inv}(\mathbb{N}) \ni R_0$ . Hence:

- ▶ If  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \supseteq \text{Inv}(\mathbb{N})$  then QCSP<sub>i</sub>( $\Gamma$ ) is  $\Sigma_i^P$ -complete and QCSP( $\Gamma$ ) is PSPACE-complete; otherwise QCSP<sub>i</sub>( $\Gamma$ ) and QCSP( $\Gamma$ ) are tractable. [Hemaspaandra 2004]

# Counting Solutions for Quantified Constraints

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$\#QCSP_i(\Gamma)$ :

For  $i$  odd, determine number of satisfying assignments of a quantified  $\Gamma$ -formula with  $i - 1$  quantifier alternations starting with existential quantifier.

For  $i$  even, determine number of unsatisfying assignments of a quantified  $\Gamma$ -formula with  $i - 1$  quantifier alternations starting with universal quantifier.

► If  $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$ , then  $\#QCSP_i(\Gamma) \leq_m^P \#QCSP_i(\Gamma')$ .

“Galois connection helps for  $\#QCSP_i$ .”

# Reductions for Counting Problems

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

$A$  – binary relation s.t.  $(x, y) \in A \implies |y|$  is polynomial in  $|x|$

$A(x) = \{y \mid (x, y) \in A\}$ ,  $\#A(x) = |A(x)|$ .

$\#A \leq_m^p \#B$  if there is polynomial-time computable function  $f$   
s.t. for all  $x$ ,  $\#A(x) = \#B(f(x))$ . [Valiant 1979]

(“parsimonious reductions”)



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(“parsimonious reductions”)

$\#\text{SAT}$  is  $\leq_m^P$ -complete for  $\#P$ , but not many further complete problems are known.

# Reductions for Counting Problems

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$\#A \leq_{cnt}^P \#B$  if there are polynomial-time computable function  $f, g$   
s.t. for all  $x$ ,  $\#A(x) = g(\#B(f(x)))$ . [Zankó 1991]

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CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

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Permanent and many further problems are known to be  
 $\leq_{cnt}^P$ -complete for  $\#P$ , but  $\#P$  is not closed under counting  
reductions, in fact:

▶  $\leq_{cnt}^P(\#P) = \#PH = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} \#\Sigma_k^P$ . [Toda-Watanabe 1992]

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CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

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▶  $\leq_{cnt}^P(\#P) = \#PH = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} \#\Sigma_k^P$ . [Toda-Watanabe 1992]

Look for a reduction **powerful enough** to prove completeness results  
but **strict enough** to distinguish among levels of the  $\#\Sigma_k^P$ -hierarchy.

# Reductions for Counting Problems

$\#A \leq_{ssub}^P \#B$  if there are polynomial-time computable function  $f, g$  s.t. for all  $x$ ,

- $B(g(x)) \subseteq B(f(x))$ .
- $\#A(x) = \#B(f(x)) - \#B(g(x))$ .

“Subtractive reduction”  $\leq_{sub}^P$  is the transitive closure of strong subtractive reduction  $\leq_{ssub}^P$ . [Durand-Hermann-Kolaitis 2000]

- ▶  $\#P$  and all classes  $\#\Pi_k^P$  for  $k > 1$  are closed under subtractive reductions, but  $\leq_{sub}^P(\#\Sigma_k^P) = \#\Pi_k^P$ .

# Reductions for Counting Problems

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

$\#A \leq_{sc}^P \#B$  if there are polynomial-time computable function  $f, g$  and a bipartite permutation  $\pi$  on the alphabet underlying  $B$  s.t. for all  $x$ ,

- $B(g(x)) \subseteq B(f(x))$ .
- $y \in B(x) \iff \pi(y) \in B(x)$
- $2 \cdot \#A(x) = \#B(f(x)) - \#B(g(x))$ .

“Complementary reduction”  $\leq_{com}^P$  is the transitive closure of strong complementary reduction  $\leq_{sc}^P$  and parsimonious reduction  $\leq_m^P$ .

[Bauland-Chapdelaine-Creignou-Hermann-Vollmer 2004]

- $\#P$  and all classes  $\#\Pi_k^P$  for  $k > 1$  are closed under complementary reductions, but  $\leq_{com}^P(\#\Sigma_k^P) = \#\Pi_k^P$ .

# Classification of #QCSP

For every  $i \geq 1$ ,

- ▶ if  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(L_2)$  then  $\#\text{QCSP}_i(\Gamma)$  and  $\#\text{QCSP}(\Gamma)$  are **tractable**,
- ▶ else if  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(E_2)$  or  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(V_2)$  or  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(D_2)$  then  $\#\text{QCSP}_i(\Gamma)$  and  $\#\text{QCSP}(\Gamma)$  are  $\leq_{cnt}^P$ -complete for **#P**,
- ▶ else (**note:  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \supseteq \text{Inv}(N)$** )  $\#\text{QCSP}_i(\Gamma)$  is  $\leq_{com}^P$ -complete for  **$\#\Sigma_i^P$**  and  $\#\text{QCSP}(\Gamma)$  is  $\leq_{com}^P$ -complete for **#PSPACE**.

[Bauland-Böhler-Creignou-Reith-Schnoor-Vollmer 2006]

# Classification of #QCSP

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- ▶ else (**note:  $\langle \Gamma \rangle \supseteq \text{Inv}(N)$** )  $\#QCSP_i(\Gamma)$  is  $\leq_{com}^P$ -complete for  **$\#\Sigma_i^P$**  and  $\#QCSP(\Gamma)$  is  $\leq_{com}^P$ -complete for **#PSPACE**.

[Bauland-Böhler-Creignou-Reith-Schnoor-Vollmer 2006]

- In 2nd case,  $\#QCSP_i(\Gamma)$  is not tractable unless  $FP = \#P$ .
- In 3rd case,  $\#QCSP_i(\Gamma)$  is not in  $\#\Sigma_{i-1}^P$  unless  $\#\Sigma_i^P = \#\Pi_{i-1}^P$ .



# A priori

The Galois connection holds *a priori* for a computational problem  $\Pi$ , if we can prove

▶ If  $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$  then  $\Pi(\Gamma) \leq_m^{\log} \Pi(\Gamma')$

and use this to obtain a complexity theoretic classification.

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and use this to obtain a complexity theoretic classification.

For problems above, the Galois connection holds *a priori*.

# If $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$ then $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \leq_m^{\log} \text{CSP}(\Gamma')$

Let  $F$  be a  $\Gamma$ -formula. Construct  $F'$  as follows:

- ▶ Replace every constraint from  $\Gamma$  by equivalent  $(\Gamma' \cup \{=\})$ -formula.
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**Problem:** Introduction of new existentially quantified variables.

Preserves satisfiability, but does not preserve number of solutions, etc.

# When does the Galois Connection Hold?

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

Galois connection *holds a priori* for  $\Pi$ , if definition of  $\Pi$  allows to “hide” the new existentially quantified variables that are introduced by co-clone implementation.

# When does the Galois Connection Hold?

Galois connection *holds a priori* for  $\Pi$ , if definition of  $\Pi$  allows to “hide” the new existentially quantified variables that are introduced by co-clone implementation.

## Examples:

- Satisfiability
- Several computational problems for quantified constraints

# Positive Examples

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- Circumscription: [\[Nordh-Jonsson 2004\]](#)  
Given formula  $F$ , subset  $M$  of variables, clause  $C$ , determine if  $C$  holds in every satisfying assignment of  $F$  that is minimal on  $M$  in componentwise order.

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Given formula  $F$ , subset  $M$  of variables, clause  $C$ , determine if  $C$  holds in every satisfying assignment of  $F$  that is minimal on  $M$  in componentwise order.
- Frozen variables: [\[Jonsson-Krokhin 2003\]](#)  
[\[Bauland-Chapdelaine-Creignou-Hermann-Vollmer 2004\]](#)  
Given formula  $F$ , subset  $M$  of variables, check if there is a variable  $x \in M$  that has the same value in every satisfying assignment of  $F$ .



# Positive Examples

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

- Abduction: [\[Creignou-Zanuttini 2006\]](#)  
Given formula  $F$ , subset  $M$  of variables, variable  $x \notin M$ , check if there is a set  $E$  of literals over  $M$  such that  $F \wedge \bigwedge E$  is satisfiable but  $F \wedge \bigwedge E \wedge \neg x$  is not? ( $E$  is “explanation” of  $x$ .)

# A posteriori

The Galois connection holds *a posteriori* for a computational problem  $\Pi$ , if we obtain a complexity classification “by hand” that speaks only of co-clones, and we can read the implication

► If  $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$  then  $\Pi(\Gamma) \leq_m^{\log} \Pi(\Gamma')$

from the classification.

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For many problems, the Galois connection holds *a posteriori*, e.g.

- Counting [Creignou-Hermann 1996]
- Enumeration [Creignou-Hébrard 1997]
- Equivalence and isomorphism [Böhler-Hemaspaandra-Reith-Vollmer 2002,4]

# Negative Examples

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

The Galois connection does **not hold** for

- MaxSAT
- Fixed parameter tractability
- Approximation

# When does the Galois Connection Hold?

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

**Open Problem:** Determine properties of computational problems  $\Pi$  that imply that the Galois connection holds for  $\Pi$ .

# Different Galois Connections

[CSP](#) [Post](#) [Schaefer](#) [QCSP](#) [#QCSP](#) [Galois](#) [FO](#) [Equality](#) [Classification](#) [Applications](#) [Résumé](#)

Problems arise from existentially quantified variables in definition of relational clone.

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CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

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Let  $\langle \Gamma \rangle'$  be defined as follows:

- $\langle \Gamma \rangle'$  contains the equality relation and all relations in  $\Gamma$ .
- $\langle \Gamma \rangle'$  is closed under definitions by  $\langle \Gamma \rangle'$ -formulas, i.e. if  $R(x_1, \dots, x_n) \equiv \phi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  for  $\langle \Gamma \rangle'$ -formulas  $\phi$ , then  $R \in \langle \Gamma \rangle'$ .

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**Road map:** Look for Galois connection between lattice of classes  $\langle \Gamma \rangle'$  and suitable refinement of Post's lattice.



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↪ **Talk by Ilka Schnoor.**

# If $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$ then $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \leq_m^{\log} \text{CSP}(\Gamma')$

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Can we do better than logspace-reductions?

# The Equality Constraint

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

**Example 1:**  $\Gamma_1 = \{x, \bar{x}\}$ :

A  $\Gamma_1$ -formula  $F$  is unsatisfiable iff it contains clauses  $x$  and  $\bar{x}$  for some  $x$ , hence  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma_1) \in \text{AC}^0$ .

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**Example 2:**  $\Gamma_2 = \{x, \bar{x}, =\}$ :

Then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma_2)$  can express undirected graph reachability as follows: Given  $G, s, t$ , construct  $F$  to consist of clauses  $\bar{s}$ ,  $t$ , and  $u = v$  for every edge  $(u, v) \in G$ .

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**Thus:** Provably different complexity:  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma_2) \not\leq_m^{\text{AC}^0} \text{CSP}(\Gamma_1)$ ,  
but  $\text{Pol}(\Gamma_1) = \text{Pol}(\Gamma_2)$  ( $= \text{R}_2$ ).

# The Equality Constraint

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

▶ If  $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \Gamma' \rangle$  then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \leq_m^{\text{AC}^0} \text{CSP}(\Gamma' \cup \{=\}) \leq_m^{\log} \text{CSP}(\Gamma')$ .



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Say that  $\Gamma$  can express equality if equality constraint can be defined by a conjunctive query over  $\Gamma$ .

► If  $\Gamma$  can express equality then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma \cup \{=\}) \leq_m^{\text{AC}^0} \text{CSP}(\Gamma)$ .

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There is an algorithm that detects if  $\Gamma$  can express equality.

- ▶ If  $\Gamma$  can express equality then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is hard for L, otherwise  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma) \in \text{AC}^0$ .

# Inside LOGSPACE

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

Two remaining cases:  $\text{Pol}(\Gamma) \in \{D_1, D\}$  and  $S_{02} \subseteq \text{Pol}(\Gamma) \subseteq R_2$  or  $S_{12} \subseteq \text{Pol}(\Gamma) \subseteq R_2$ .

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► If  $\text{Pol}(\Gamma) \in \{D_1, D\}$ , then  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is L-complete.

**Proof:**  $x \oplus y \in \text{Inv}(\Gamma)$ , i.e., there is conjunctive query over  $\Gamma \cup \{=\}$  that defines  $x \oplus y$ . Equality clauses here appear only between existentially quantified new variables and can be removed locally.

Hence,  $\Gamma$  can express  $x \oplus y$ .

Now,  $(\exists z)((x \oplus z) \wedge (z \oplus y))$  expresses equality.

# Inside LOGSPACE

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

- ▶ If  $S_{02} \subseteq \text{Pol}(\Gamma) \subseteq R_2$  or  $S_{12} \subseteq \text{Pol}(\Gamma) \subseteq R_2$ , then either  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is in  $AC^0$ , or  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is L-complete.

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**Proof:** Logspace upper bound:

If  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(S_{02}) = \bigcup_m \text{Inv}(S_{02}^m) = \bigcup_m \langle \{V^m, =, x, \bar{x}\} \rangle$ ,

then  $\Gamma \subseteq \langle \{V^m, =, x, \bar{x}\} \rangle$  for some  $m$ .

# Inside LOGSPACE

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$\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(S_{12})$ : analogously with  $\text{NAND}^m$ .



# Can We Express Equality?

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

Let  $R \in \text{Inv}(S_{02}^m)$ , i.e.,  $R$  is defined by conjunctive query  $\phi$  over  $\{\forall^m, =, x, \bar{x}\}$ .

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- For all clauses  $x_1 = x_2$ :  
If  $x_1$  or  $x_2$  occur in literals in  $\phi$ , delete  $x_1 = x_2$  and insert corresponding literal for the other variable.
- For all clauses  $x_1 \vee \dots \vee x_k$ :  
If there is a literal  $\bar{x}_i$ , delete  $x_i$  in this clause.
- For all clauses  $x_1 \vee \dots \vee x_k$ :  
If occurring variables are connected by  $=$ -path, delete all of them except one.

# Can We Express Equality?

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

**Case 1:** No clause  $x_1 = x_2$  remains. Then

$\text{CSP}(\{R, \vee^m, x, \bar{x}\}) \in \text{AC}^0$ .

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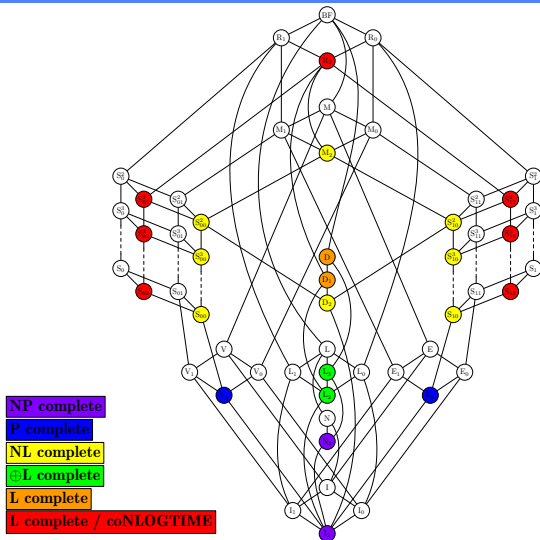
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Analogous argument with  $\text{NAND}^m$  for  $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Inv}(S_{12})$ .

# Classification of CSP-Satisfiability

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé



# The Power of $\oplus L$

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications **Applications** Résumé

Post's lattice:  $L_2 \subseteq R_2$ , hence  $\text{Inv}(R_2) \subseteq \text{Inv}(L_2)$ .

Hence:

▶ Undirected graph accessibility is in  $\oplus L$ , in other words:

$$SL \subseteq \oplus L.$$

[Karchmer, Wigderson, 1993]

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(Today we even know  $SL \subseteq L$ .)



# Isomorphism

**Isomorphism Theorem** holds for  $\leq_m^{\text{AC}^0}$ -reducibility:

- ▶ For every constraint language  $\Gamma$ ,  $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$  is  $\text{AC}^0$ -isomorphic either to  $0\Sigma^*$  or to the standard complete set for one of the complexity classes NP, P,  $\oplus\text{L}$ , NL, or L.

Through FO glasses, there are only six different CSP-problems!

# Why study Boolean CSP?

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

Provide a reasonably accurate **bird's eye view of complexity theory**:  
[Creignou-Khanna-Sudan 2001]

- inclusions among complexity classes
- relations among reducibility notions
- structure of complete problems

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- relations among reducibility notions
- structure of complete problems
  
- playground for the study of many issues related to counting classes
- CSP isomorphism problems yield good candidates for “intermediate problems”

# Why study Boolean CSP?

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Classifications of problems for Boolean CSPs provide a **guidepost** for study of general CSPs:

- If Galois connection holds *a priori*, then usually for arbitrary CSPs.
- Hard cases translate from Boolean to general case, sometimes in nontrivial way: **#QCSP**

[Bauland-Böhler-Creignou-Reith-Schnoor-Vollmer 2006]

- Issues from Post's lattice show direction for general classification:

**Non-FO CSPs are logspace-hard:**  $\rightsquigarrow$  **Talk by Benoît Larose**

# Open Questions for Boolean CSP

[CSP](#) [Post](#) [Schaefer](#) [QCSP](#) [#QCSP](#) [Galois](#) [FO](#) [Equality](#) [Classification](#) [Applications](#) [Résumé](#)

- Obtain fine classification for Boolean counting problem.
- Study different Galois connections.
- Uniform Boolean CSP?

# Open Questions for General CSP

CSP Post Schaefer QCSP #QCSP Galois FO Equality Classification Applications Résumé

- Study different Galois connections.
- Obtain fine classification for satisfiability over 3-element domain.
- Study different computational problems (besides satisfiability) for general CSPs.