

# Mal'tsev terms & compact representations

6th CWC  
26.09.24 - Calfasch

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Local consistency: only small, local and necessary changes,  
does not waste resources  $\Rightarrow$  conservative

Linear equations: costly, ineffective (Gaussian elimination),  
constantly invents something new that never works out  
(more effective algorithms)  $\Rightarrow$  socialist

**Fun fact:** Finite-domain CSP solved by a combination  
of local consistency and linear equations (Bulatov, Zhuk, 2017)

Tomáš Nagy  
AAA 105

„Neoliberalism and local consistency“

# Mal'tsev terms, compact representations & Socialism

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# The dialectical materialism of linear equations

Example: solving linear equations over  $\mathbb{Z}_3$

- row echelon form  $\Leftrightarrow$  basis of solution space

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \bar{x} \in V := \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

- adding an equation  $\Leftrightarrow$  intersecting spaces

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \bar{x} \in V \cap W \quad W = \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

- gauss elimination  $\Leftrightarrow$  find basis of intersection

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \bar{x} \in V \cap W = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

# The dialectical materialism of linear equations

Example: solving linear equations over  $\mathbb{Z}_3 \cong \text{CSP}(\mathbb{Z}_3^{\text{rel}})$

$$\mathbb{Z}_3^{\text{rel}} := (\mathbb{Z}_3, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, R_+) \quad R_+ = \{ (x, y, z) \mid z \equiv x+y \pmod{3} \}$$

solve  $R_+(x_1, x_2, x_4) \wedge (x_2 = 2) \wedge R_+(x_4, x_4, x_3) \wedge \dots$

by iteratively computing canonical generating sets

of solution set of first  $n$  constraints.

(closure under  $x-y+z$ )

How far can this idea be pushed?

BD '06 : Mal'tsev  
D'05 : maj.-min.  
IMMRW '10 : few subpowers

# Outline

- 1) What are  
Mal'tsev constraints?
- 2) What are the 'canonical generating sets'?  
Compact representations
- 3) The algorithm
- 4) Beyond CSP



Bulatov, Dalman  
2006 A simple algorithm  
for Mal'tsev  
constraints

# Mal'tsev operation

$d: A^3 \rightarrow A$  is Mal'tsev

$$\text{if } d(yxx) \approx d(xxy) \approx y$$

Mal'cev  
Malcev  
Maltsev  
Мальцев

An algebra  $\underline{A}$  / clone  $\mathcal{C}$  is Mal'tsev if  $\text{Cl}(\underline{A})/\mathcal{C}$  contains a Mal'tsev operation.

## Examples

• ring  $(A, +, 0, -, \cdot)$

$$d(xyz) = x - y + z$$

• group  $(A; \circ, 1, ^{-1})$

$$d(xyz) = x \cdot y^{-1} z$$

• BA  $(A, \wedge, \vee, 0, 1, \neg)$

$$d(xyz) = (x \wedge y \wedge z) \vee (x \wedge y \wedge \neg z) \vee (\neg x \wedge y \wedge z)$$

• minority

$$m(xyy) \approx m(yxy) = m(yyy) = x$$

• semilattice  $(A, \wedge)$

✗

# Mal'tsev operation

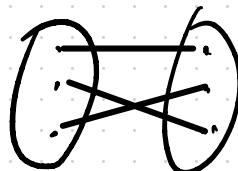
$d: A^3 \rightarrow A$  is Mal'tsev

if  $d(yxx) \approx d(xxy) \approx y$

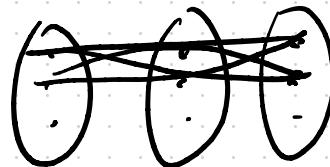
Examples (polymorphisms)

$\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_3^{\text{rel}} \rightsquigarrow x-y+z \in \text{Pol}(\mathbb{Z}_3^{\text{rel}})$  [  $A^{\text{rel}}$  for every ab. group ]

$\Rightarrow A = (\{0, 1, 2\}, (\pi)_{\pi \in S_3}, R_{01})$   $R_{01} = \{(xyz) \in \{0, 1\}^3 \mid x+y \equiv z \pmod{2}\}$



$$\pi = (2, 3)$$



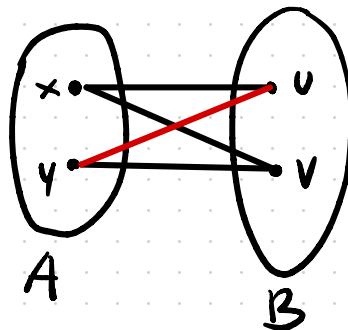
$$R$$

$$d(xyz) = \begin{cases} xy & \text{if } |\{x, y, z\}| = 3 \\ m(xyz) & \text{else} \end{cases} \in \text{Pol}(A)$$

# The parallelogram property

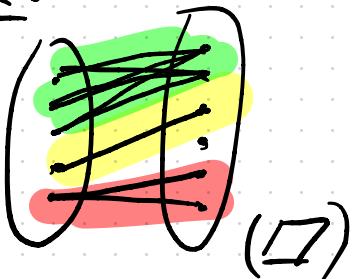
$R \subseteq A \times B$  has the parallelogram property ( $\square$ )

iff  $\begin{cases} (x, u) \in R \\ (x, v) \in R \\ (y, v) \in R \end{cases} \Rightarrow (y, u) \in R$



$R \subseteq A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n$  has ( $\square$ ) iff  $R \subseteq \prod_{i \in I} A_i \times \prod_{j \in J} A_j$  has ( $\square$ )  $\forall I, J \subseteq [n]$

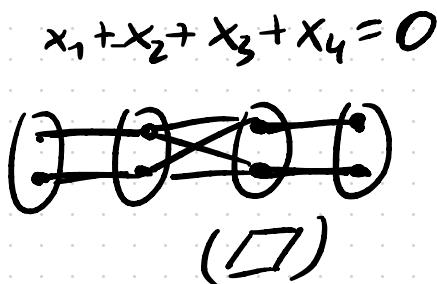
Ex.



$$x_1 \leq x_2$$



not ( $\square$ )



( $\square$ )

# The parallelogram property

$\exists \underline{A} \subseteq A^n$   $\underline{A}$  Mal'tsev  $\Rightarrow R$  has  $(\square)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ u \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} y \\ v \end{pmatrix} \in R \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} d(x \times y) \\ d(u \times v) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ u \end{pmatrix} \in R$$

Theorem (Mal'tsev '54)

For finite  $\underline{A}$ :  $\underline{A}$  Mal'tsev  $\Leftrightarrow \forall R \subseteq A^n \ R$  has  $(\square)$

Proof ( $\Leftarrow$ )  $\text{Clo}^3(\underline{A}) = \text{Sg}(\pi_1^1, \pi_1^2, \pi_1^3) \subseteq A^{A^3}$

$$R = \text{Sg}\left(\begin{pmatrix} y \\ x \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}\right) \leq (A^{A^3})^2 \text{ has } (\square) \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} y \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in R$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists d \in \text{Clo}(\underline{A}): \begin{pmatrix} y \\ y \end{pmatrix} = d\begin{pmatrix} y & x & x \\ x & x & y \end{pmatrix} \quad \square$$

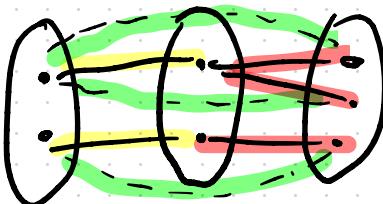
# The parallelogram property

Theorem (Mal'tsev '54)

For finite  $\underline{A}$ :  $\underline{A}$  Mal'tsev  $\Leftrightarrow \forall R \leq \underline{A}^n R \text{ has } (\square)$

If  $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Con}(\underline{A})$

$$\gamma = \alpha \circ \beta \leq \underline{A}^2, \text{ reflexive}$$



$\gamma$  has  $(\square) \Rightarrow \gamma \in \text{Con}(\underline{A})$

Ex.:  $\underline{G}$  group  $N, M \leq \underline{G} \Rightarrow NM = MN \cong \underline{G}$

original formulation

$V = \text{HSP}(\underline{A})$  has Mal'tsev term



$\forall \underline{B} \in V, \forall \alpha, \beta \in \text{Con}(\underline{B}):$

$$\alpha \circ \beta = \beta \circ \alpha = \alpha \vee \beta$$

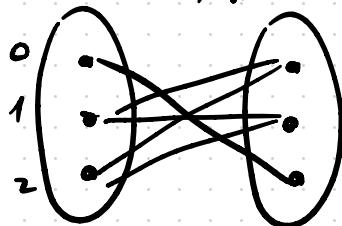
# The parallelogram property

Theorem (Mol'tsev '54)

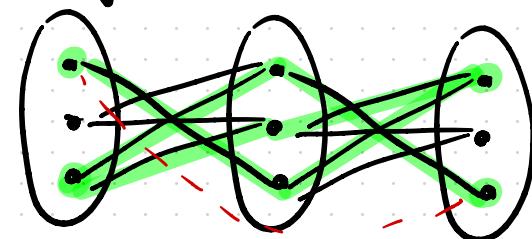
For finite  $A$ :  $\underline{A}$  Mol'tsev  $\Leftrightarrow \forall R \subseteq A^n \quad R$  has  $(\square)$

Remark:

$$R(x,y)$$



$$Q(x,y) = \exists z \quad R(x,z) \wedge R(z,y)$$



has no  $(\square)$

$$\begin{aligned}(0,0) &\in Q \\ (2,0) &\in Q \\ (2,2) &\in Q\end{aligned}$$

$$(0,2) \notin Q$$

$(\{0,1,2\}, R)$  has no Mol'tsev polymorphism!

Question: How hard is checking if  $Po(\underline{A})$  is Mol'tsev?

# Outline

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Mal'tsev constraints? ✓
- 2) What are the 'canonical  
generating sets'?  
compact representations
- 3) The algorithm
- 4) Beyond CSP



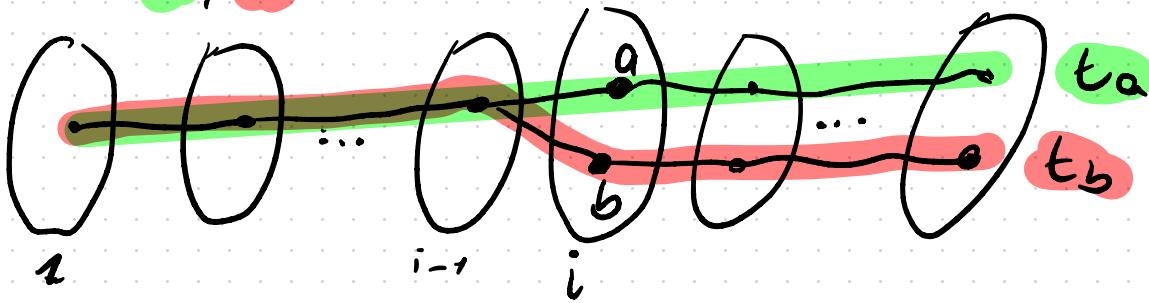
Bulatov, Dalman  
2006 A simple algorithm  
for Mal'tsev  
constraints

# Forks and Signatures

$$R \subseteq A^n$$

Def.  $(i, a, b) \in [n] \times A^2$  is a fork of  $R$

$$\exists t_a, t_b \in R:$$



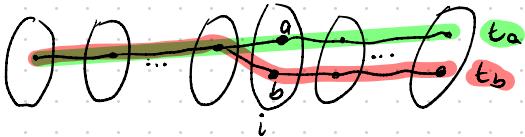
Signature of  $R$  =  $\text{Sig}(R) = \{ (i, a, b) \mid (i, a, b) \text{ fork of } R \}$

Ex.  $\text{Sig}(R^+) = \{1, 2\} \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2 \cup \{3\} \times (=)$  =  $\text{Sig}(\{(xyz)\} \mid y = z)$

$$x + y = z$$

# Forks and Signatures

$$\text{Sig}(\underline{R}) = \{f(i, a, b) \mid (i, a, b) \text{ fork of } \underline{R}\}$$



Thm.  $\underline{A}$  Mult'sev,  $\underline{R} \subseteq \underline{A}^n$ ,  $C \subseteq \underline{R} \Rightarrow \text{Sig}_{\underline{A}^n}(C) = \underline{R}$   
s.t.  $\text{Sig}(C) = \text{Sig}(\underline{R})$

Proof: Induction on  $n$ .  $n=1 \Rightarrow C = R \checkmark$

$n-1 \rightarrow n$ : Let  $(\bar{a}, b) \in R$ .  $\stackrel{\text{IH}}{\Rightarrow} \exists (\bar{a}, c) \in \text{Sig}(C) \subseteq R$

$\Rightarrow (n, b, c) \in \text{Sig}(\underline{R}) = \text{Sig}(C) \Rightarrow \exists \text{ witnesses } (\bar{f}, b), (\bar{f}, c) \in C$

$$d((\bar{a}, c), (\bar{f}, c), (\bar{f}, b)) = (\bar{a}, b) \in \text{Sig}(C)$$

□

# Compact Representations

Thm.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{A Mal'tsev, } R \subseteq A^n, C \subseteq R \\ \text{s.t. } \text{Sig}(C) = \text{Sig}(R) \end{array} \Rightarrow \text{Sg}_{A^n}(C) = R$$

Def. For  $R \subseteq A^n$ ,  $C \subseteq R$  is a compact representation (CR)

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \cdot) \text{Sig}(C) = \text{Sig}(R) \\ \cdot) |C| \leq 2 \cdot \text{Sig}(C) \leq 2n|A|^2 \end{cases}$$

by the prop if  $\bar{a} \in R \Rightarrow \exists \bar{c}_i, \bar{d}_i \in C$

$$\bar{a} = d(\dots d(d(\bar{c}_1, \underbrace{\bar{d}_2, \bar{c}_2}_{\text{2-fork}}), \underbrace{\bar{d}_3, \bar{c}_3}_{\text{3-fork}}) \dots \underbrace{\bar{d}_n, \bar{c}_n}_{\text{n-fork}})$$

# Compact Representations

Given CR  $C$  of  $R \leq A^n$

$\bar{a} \in R?$  is decidable in time  $O(n^2)$ .

1)  $\exists \bar{c}_1 \in C : c_1[1] = a[1] ?$

[ If NO  $\rightarrow$  return NO ]

2) for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$

$\exists \bar{d}_i, \bar{c}_i \in C$  witnessing the  $i$ -fork

$(d_1 \cdot d(c_1, d_2, c_2) \cdots d_{i-1}, c_{i-1})[i], a[i])$

[ If NO  $\rightarrow$  return NO ]

3) return YES ( $\bar{a} = d_1 \cdots d(\bar{c}_1, \bar{d}_2, \bar{c}_2), \dots, \bar{d}_n, \bar{c}_n))$

# Compact Representations

## Example

) affine basis for  $R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \leq \mathbb{Z}_3^4$

$$C = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + j \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_3 \right\}$$

is a CR of  $R$ .

) For a group  $G$ ,  $H \leq G^n$

"strong generating sets"  $\rightsquigarrow$  compact representation  
of  $H \leq G^n$

(Schreier-Sims ~70ies)

# Outline

- 1) What are  
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generating sets'?  
compact representations ✓
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Bulatov, Dalman  
2006 A simple algorithm  
for Mal'tsev  
constraints

# The algorithm for Mal'tsev CSPs

$$A = (A; R_1, \dots, R_n) \quad d(x, y, z) \in \text{Pol}(A) \text{ Mal'tsev}$$
$$\underline{A} := (A, d(x, y, z))$$

recall: want to solve  $\text{CSP}(A)$

$$\exists \bar{x}: R_i(\dots) \sqcap R_{i+1}(\dots) \sqcap \dots \sqcap R_{i_k}(\dots)$$

CR

by iteratively computing compact representations, solving:

Intersect( $\underline{A}$ )

Input: CR's  $C_1, C_2$  of  $R_i = S_g(C_i) \leq A^n$

Output: CR of  $R_1 \cap R_2$

(or  $\emptyset$  if  $R_1 \cap R_2 = \emptyset$ )

# The algorithm for Mal'tsev CSPs

[Zeb's CSP notes]

**Algorithm 4** Nonempty( $R, i_1, \dots, i_k, S$ )  $p$  a Mal'cev term,  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n$ ,  $S \leq A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ .

```
1: Set  $R' \leftarrow R$ .
2: while  $\pi_{i_1, \dots, i_k}(R')$  is not closed under  $p$  and  $R' \cap S = \emptyset$  do
3:   Pick  $t_1, t_2, t_3 \in R'$  with  $\pi_{i_1, \dots, i_k}(p(t_1, t_2, t_3)) \notin \pi_{i_1, \dots, i_k}(R')$ .
4:   Set  $R' \leftarrow R' \cup \{p(t_1, t_2, t_3)\}$ .
5: if  $R' \cap S \neq \emptyset$  then
6:   return any element of  $R' \cap S$ .
7: else
8:   return  $\emptyset$ .
```

exhaustively compute  
 $R^1 = \pi_{i_1, \dots, i_k}(IR)$

return  $\bar{a} \in R \cap S$  or  $\emptyset$

$\text{poly}(|R|, |A|^k)$

# The algorithm for Mal'tsev CSPs

[Zeb's CSP notes]

**Algorithm 4**  $\text{Nonempty}(R, i_1, \dots, i_k, S)$ ,  $p$  a Mal'cev term,  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n$ ,  $S \leq A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ .

$\text{poly}(|R|, |A|^k)$

$\rightsquigarrow \bar{a} \in R \cap S \text{ or } \emptyset$

**Algorithm 5**  $\text{Fix-values}(R, a_1, \dots, a_m)$ ,  $p$  a Mal'cev term,  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n$ .

```
1: Set  $R_0 \leftarrow R$ .
2: for  $j$  from 1 to  $m$  do
3:   if  $(j, a_j, a_j) \notin \text{Sig}(R_{j-1})$  then
4:     return  $\emptyset$ .
5:   else
6:     Set  $R_j \leftarrow \{t\}$ , where  $t \in R_{j-1}$  and the pair  $t, t$  witnesses the triple  $(j, a_j, a_j)$ .
7:   for all  $(i, a, b) \in \text{Sig}(R_{j-1})$  with  $i > j$  do
8:     Let  $t_a, t_b \in R_{j-1}$  witness the triple  $(i, a, b)$ .
9:     Let  $t \leftarrow \text{Nonempty}(R_{j-1}, j, i, \{(a_j, a)\})$ .
10:    if  $t \neq \emptyset$  then
11:      Set  $R_j \leftarrow R_j \cup \{t, p(t, t_a, t_b)\}$ .
12: return  $R_m$ .
```

$R_j \dots \text{CR of } R_1(x_1=a_1) \dots (x_i=a_i)$

$t, p(t, t_a, t_b)$  witnesses

$t[i] = a \quad p(t, t_a, t_b)[i] = p(aab) = b$

# The algorithm for Mal'tsev CSPs

[Zeb's CSP notes]

**Algorithm 4** Nonempty( $R, i_1, \dots, i_k, S$ ),  $p$  a Mal'cev term,  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n, S \leq A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ .

$\text{poly}(|R|, |A|^k)$

$\rightsquigarrow \bar{a} \in R \cap S \text{ or } \emptyset$

**Algorithm 5** Fix-values( $R, a_1, \dots, a_m$ ),  $p$  a Mal'cev term,  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n$ .

$\text{poly}(|R|, m)$

$\rightsquigarrow \text{CR of } R_{A_1 \times \dots \times A_m} \text{ or } \emptyset$

**Algorithm 6** Next-beta( $R, i_1, \dots, i_k, S$ ),  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n, S \leq A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ .

$\text{poly}(|R|, |A|^k)$

$\rightsquigarrow \text{CR of } R \cap S \text{ or } \emptyset$

```
1: Set  $R' \leftarrow \emptyset$ .
2: for all  $(i, a, b) \in \text{Sig}(R)$  do
3:   Set  $t_a \leftarrow \text{Nonempty}(R, i_1, \dots, i_k, i, S \times \{a\})$ .
4:   if  $t_a \neq \emptyset$  then
5:     Set  $t_b \leftarrow \text{Nonempty}(\text{Fix-values}(R, \pi_1(t_a), \dots, \pi_{i-1}(t_a)), i_1, \dots, i_k, i, S \times \{b\})$ .
6:     if  $t_b \neq \emptyset$  then
7:       Set  $R' \leftarrow R' \cup \{t_a, t_b\}$ .
8: return  $R'$ .
```

witnesses for forks of  $R \cap S$

# The algorithm for Mal'tsev CSPs

[Zeb's CSP notes]

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$\text{poly}(|R|, |A|^k)$

$\rightsquigarrow \bar{a} \in R \cap S \text{ or } \emptyset$

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$\text{poly}(|R|, |A|^k)$

$\rightsquigarrow \text{CR of } R \cap S \text{ or } \emptyset$

**Algorithm 7** Intersect( $R, i_1, \dots, i_k, S$ ),  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n, S$  a compact representation of  $S \leq A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ .

1: Let  $t_R \in R$  and  $t_S \in S$  be any tuples.  
2: Set  $R' \leftarrow (R \times \{t_S\}) \cup (\{t_R\} \times S) \subseteq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n \times A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ . CR of  $R \times S$

3: for  $j \leq k$  do

4:     Set  $R' \leftarrow \text{Next-beta}(R', i_j, n + j, =_{A_{i_j}})$ .

5: return a minimal subset of  $\pi_{1, \dots, n}(R')$  which witnesses every triple  $(i, a, b) \in \text{Sig}(\pi_{1, \dots, n}(R'))$ .

# The algorithm for Mal'tsev CSPs

[Zeb's CSP notes]

**Algorithm 4** Nonempty( $R, i_1, \dots, i_k, S$ ),  $p$  a Mal'cev term,  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n, S \leq A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ .

poly(|R|, |A|^k)

$\rightsquigarrow a \in R \cap S$  or  $\emptyset$

**Algorithm 5** Fix-values( $R, a_1, \dots, a_m$ ),  $p$  a Mal'cev term,  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n$ .

poly(|R|, m)

$\rightsquigarrow CR$  of  $R_{A_1 = a_1, \dots}$  or  $\emptyset$

**Algorithm 6** Next-beta( $R, i_1, \dots, i_k, S$ ),  $R$  a compact representation of  $\mathbb{R} \leq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n, S \leq A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ .

poly(|R|, |A|^k)

$\rightsquigarrow CR$  of  $R \cap S$  or  $\emptyset$

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poly(|R|, |S|)

1: Let  $t_R \in R$  and  $t_S \in S$  be any tuples.

CR of  $R \times S$

2: Set  $R' \leftarrow (R \times \{t_S\}) \cup (\{t_R\} \times S) \subseteq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n \times A_{i_1} \times \dots \times A_{i_k}$ .

3: for  $j \leq k$  do

4: Set  $R' \leftarrow \text{Next-beta}(R', i_j, n + j, =_{A_{i_j}})$ .

CR of  
 $R \cap S$  or  $\emptyset$ .

5: return a minimal subset of  $\pi_{1, \dots, n}(R')$  which witnesses every triple  $(i, a, b) \in \text{Sig}(\pi_{1, \dots, n}(R'))$ .

$\Rightarrow CSP(A) \in P$  for  $Poly(A)$  Mal'tsev

# Outline

- 1) What are  
Mal'tsev constraints? ✓
- 2) What are the 'canonical generating sets'?  
compact representations ✓
- 3) The algorithm ✓ \*
- 4) Beyond CSP



Bulatov, Dalman  
2006 A simple algorithm  
for Mal'tsev  
constraints

Is the algorithm necessary? (in the light of CLAP)

Yes!

→ Monday

(next... my slide before Mb... )

# Is the algorithm necessary? (in the light of CLAP)

A Mol'tsev

$$d(yxy) = d(yxx) = d(xxy) = y$$

•)  $\text{CSP}(A)$  has bounded width  $\Leftrightarrow \text{Pol}(A)$  has majority

•) If  $x-y+z \in \text{Pol}(A)$   $\rightarrow$  alt. terms  $x_1 - x_2 + x_3 - x_4 \dots + x_n \in \text{Pol}(A)$   
 $\Rightarrow \text{CSP}(A)$  solvable by AIP

•)  $A = (\{0,1,2\}, (\pi)_\pi \in S_3, R_{01}) \xrightarrow{\text{AT}} \text{CSP}(A)$  solved by AIP.

•)  $\text{Pol}(A)$  conservative  $\rightsquigarrow$  Andrew's talk!  $\oplus L - E$

[BGW '20]

PCSP( $A, B$ ) is solvable by BLP + AIP

$\Leftrightarrow \text{Pol}(A, B)$  has block symmetric t

$$t(\overleftarrow{x_1 \dots x_e}, \overrightarrow{x_{e+1} \dots x_{2e+1}}) \quad \forall e \geq 1$$

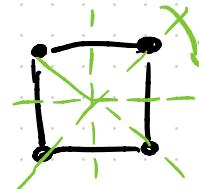
# An example not solved by BLP+AIP

$(D_8, \cdot)$  dihedral group

$$t \in \text{Clo}(D_8, \cdot)$$

has normal form

$$t(x_1 \dots x_n) = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n} [x_1 x_2]^{\beta_{12}} [x_1 x_3]^{\beta_{13}} \dots [x_{n-1} x_n]^{\beta_{n,n}}$$



$$[x, y] = x^{-1} y^{-1} x y$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_i &\in \{4\} \\ \beta_{ij} &\in \{2\} \end{aligned}$$

Claim:  $\exists$  idempotent block symmetric  $t \in \text{Clo}(D_8, \cdot)$

Pf.

Assume  $t(x_1 \dots x_n) = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n} [x_1 x_2]^{\beta_{12}} [x_1 x_3]^{\beta_{13}} \dots [x_{n-1} x_n]^{\beta_{n,n}}$  is block symmetric  $t(\overleftarrow{x_1 \dots x_3} \overrightarrow{x_4 \dots x_n})$ , idempotent

$$(i) \quad x = t(x x \dots x) = x^{\sum \alpha_i} \Rightarrow \exists \alpha_i = \pm 1 \text{ (wlog } i=1)$$

$$(ii) \quad t(1 \times 1 \dots 1) = t(1 \times 1 \dots 1) \Rightarrow \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha$$

$$(iii) \quad \begin{aligned} t(x y 1 \dots 1) &= x^\alpha y^\alpha [x, y]^{\beta_{12}} \\ t(y x 1 \dots 1) &= y^\alpha x^\alpha [y, x]^{\beta_{12}} \end{aligned} \Rightarrow x \cdot y = y \cdot x \text{ in } D_8 \quad \text{↯}$$

# An example not solved by BLP+AIP

Thm.

[AMM'14] For every finite Maltsev  $\underline{A}$ ,

$$\exists \mathbb{D} = (D_8, R_1, \dots, R_n) : \text{Pol}(\mathbb{D}) = \text{Clo}(\underline{A})$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \mathbb{D} = (D_8, R_1, \dots, R_n) : \text{Pol}(\mathbb{D}) = \text{Clo}(D_8, xy^{-1}z)$$

$\text{CSP}(\mathbb{D})$  solved by Maltsev, not AIP+BLP.

Moreover  $\text{Clo}(D_8, xy^{-1}z)$  is minimal Taylor.

→ Is  $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{D})$  solved by CLAP?

[AMM'14] uses compactness.

↪ How can we construct  $\mathbb{D}$  from  $\underline{A}$ ?

# Mal'tsev terms. relational bases & Socialism

6th CWC  
27.09.24 - Calfasch

Michael Kompatscher  
Charles University

# ... Yesterday

Thm.

[AMM'14] For every finite Maltsev  $\underline{A}$ ,

$$\exists \underline{A} = (\underline{A}, R_1, \dots, R_n) \quad \text{Pol}(\underline{A}) = \text{Clo}(\underline{A})$$

$$R \leq S \leq \underline{A}^n$$

—

$$\text{Sig}(R) \subsetneq \text{Sig}(S)$$

(non-constr. proof)

- $\forall n: (\text{Clo}(\underline{A}))^n \leq \underline{A}^{A^n}$  has forks  $(\bar{a}, f(\bar{a}), g(\bar{a}))$
- $\lambda((c, d)) = \{ \bar{a} \in A^{<\omega} \mid (\bar{a}, c, d) \text{ not fork} \} \xrightarrow{\text{compactness}} \exists \text{fin. many "minimal" } \bar{a} \text{ in } \lambda(c, d)$
- take  $m := \max |\bar{a}| \Rightarrow \text{Clo}(\underline{A}) = \text{Pol}(\text{Clo}(\underline{A})^m)$

Question today: How can we construct  $\underline{A} = (\underline{A}, \underline{R}_1, \dots, \underline{R}_n)$ ?

↪ In general unknown, e.g. for  $(G, xy^{-1}z)$

*relational basis*

# Motivation 1

Thm.

[AMM'14] For every finite Maltsev  $\underline{A}$ ,  
 $\exists A = (A, R) \quad \text{Pol}(A) = \text{Clo}(\underline{A})$

Cor.: For fixed  $\underline{A}$  Maltsev

$\text{Term}(\underline{A})$

Input:  $f: A^n \rightarrow A$

Question: Is  $f \in \text{Clo}(\underline{A})$ ?

is in  $\textcircled{P}$

check if  $f$  preserves  $R$

Remark

$\exists A: \text{Term}(\underline{A}) \in \text{EXPTIME-c.}$  [Kozik '08]

fin.  
not Maltsev

cannot describe  
algorithm, unless  
we know  $R$

# Motivation 2

Thm.

[AMM'14] For every finite Mal'tsev  $\underline{A}$ ,

$$\exists A = (A, R) \quad \text{Pol}(A) = \text{Clo}(\underline{A})$$

Corollary:

On fixed  $A$   $\exists \leq \text{countable}$  Mal'tsev clones

Can we classify them?

$\Leftrightarrow$  Can we classify Mal'tsev CSP templates  
up to pp-definability?

# Motivation 2

Thm [Bulatov '05]  $\text{Clo}(\underline{A}) = \text{Pol}(\text{Inv}^{(4)}(\underline{A}))$

On  $|\underline{A}|=3$ , there are 1129 Mal'tsev clones.

But On  $|\underline{A}|=4$

Why?

$$\underline{A}_k = (\mathbb{Z}_4, +, 0, -, 2x_1 x_2 \dots x_k)$$

$$\text{Clo}(\underline{A}_n) = \{ \sum \alpha_i x_i + 2 \cdot p(x_1 \dots x_n) \mid \deg(p) \leq k \}$$

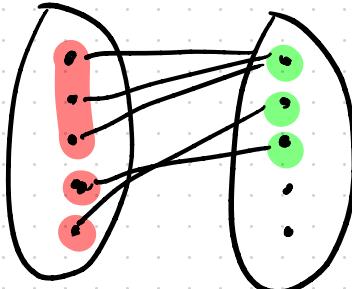
$$\text{Clo}(\underline{A}_1) \subsetneq \text{Clo}(\underline{A}_2) \subsetneq \text{Clo}(\underline{A}_3) \subsetneq \dots$$

Basic questions are still open, e.g.:

$\exists$  infinite antichain on some  $A$ ?

# An observation

$\underline{A}$  Mal'tsev,  $R \subseteq \underline{A}^2$



$(x, y) \mapsto (x/\alpha_1, y/\alpha_2)$   
maps to

$$\begin{array}{c} \bar{R} \\ A_1 = \text{pr}_1 R / \alpha_1 \quad A_2 = \text{pr}_2 R / \alpha_2 \end{array}$$

Link-congruences  $\alpha_i \in \text{Con}(\text{pr}_i R)$

- $\times \alpha_1 y : \Leftrightarrow \exists z R(xz) \wedge R(yz)$
- $\times \alpha_2 y : \Leftrightarrow \exists z R(zx) \wedge R(zy)$

• So binary relations  $R \subseteq \underline{A}^2 \leftrightarrow$

isomorphisms  $\bar{R} \subseteq \underline{A}_1 \times \underline{A}_2 \quad \underline{A}_i \in \text{HS}(\underline{A})$

• Similarly

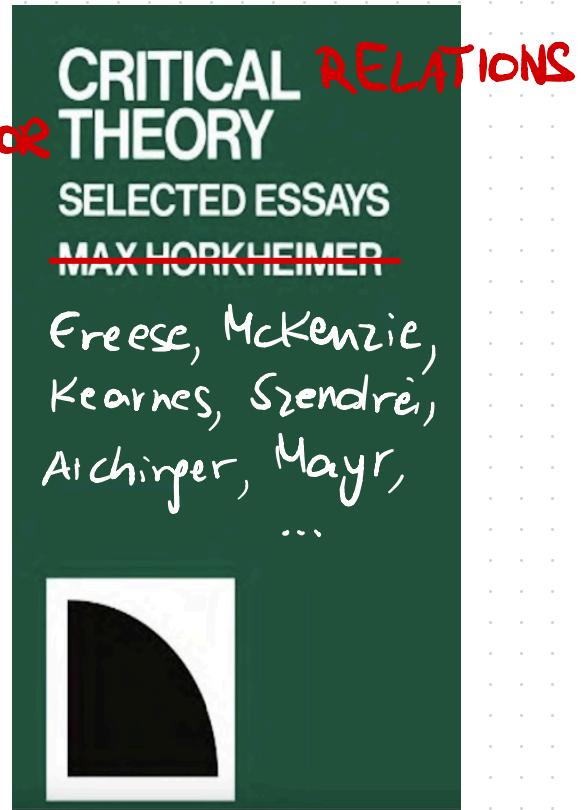
$R \subseteq \underline{A}^n \leftrightarrow \text{reduced representation}$

$$\bar{R} \subseteq_{\text{sd}} \underline{A}_1 \times \dots \times \underline{A}_n \quad \underline{A}_i \in \text{HS}(\underline{A})$$

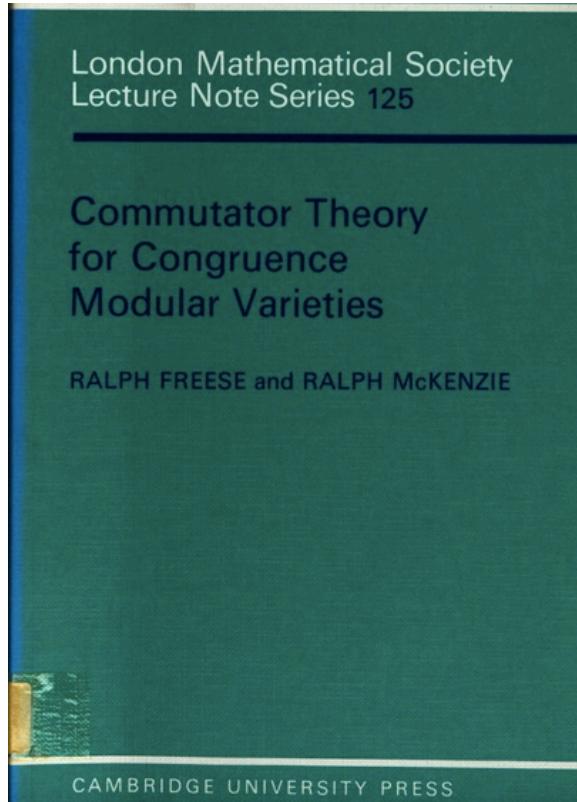
# Outline

- 1) Relational basis ✓
- 2) Commutator theory
- 3) Critical relations
- 4) 3-element Mal'tsev  
algebras

COMMUTATOR



# Commutator Theory



Generalizes concepts as

Abelian  
nilpotent  
solvable

commutator  
centralizer  
...

groups / NS  
↓  
algebras / congruences.

# Abelianness

A... algebra with Mal'tsev term  $d(xyz)$

Def.:  $A$  is Abelian : $\Leftrightarrow$

$$d = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} x - d(yz) \\ \downarrow \quad | \\ y - z \end{array} \mid x, y, z \in A \right\} \subseteq A^4$$

Ex.  $G = (G, \cdot, 1, -1)$  group,  $d(xyz) = xy^{-1}z$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{G Abelian} & d \subseteq G^4 & \\ \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} b - ab \\ \downarrow \quad | \\ 1 - a \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} b - b \\ \downarrow \quad | \\ 1 - 1 \end{array} \end{array} \in d & \Rightarrow & \begin{array}{c} b - ab \\ \downarrow \quad | \\ 1 - a \end{array} \in d \Rightarrow ab = b \cdot 1^{-1}a = ba \\ & & \rightarrow \text{G abelian} \end{array}$$

Thm [S. 70ies]  $A$  Abelian  $\Leftrightarrow \text{Col}(A, (a)_{a \in A}) = \left\{ \bar{x} \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n r_i x_i + c \right\}$  w.R.b. a module

# Centralizers

Def.  $\alpha \in \text{Con}(G)$  Abelian : $\Leftrightarrow$

$$d\Gamma_\alpha := \left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} x & -d(x,y,z) \\ | & | \\ y & z \end{smallmatrix} \mid x \alpha y \alpha z \right\} \leq A^4$$

$d(x,y,z)$   
 $x = d(x,y)$

$\alpha$  centralizes  $\beta$  : $\Leftrightarrow$

$$d\Gamma_{\alpha,\beta} := \left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} x & -d(x,y,z) \\ | & | \\ y & z \end{smallmatrix} \mid x \alpha y \beta z \right\} \leq A^4$$

centralizer ( $l_G(\alpha)$ ) : $\Leftrightarrow$  biggest  $\beta$ :  $d\Gamma_{\alpha,\beta} \leq A^4$

Ex. In groups  $G$   $\alpha \in \text{Con}(G) \Leftrightarrow N \trianglelefteq G \quad x \alpha y \Leftrightarrow xy^{-1} \in N$

$\alpha$  centralizes  $\beta \Leftrightarrow$  for  $N = [1]_\alpha$   $\forall n \in N, m \in M:$

$$N = [1]_\beta \quad n \cdot m = m \cdot n$$

# Central congruences

Unlike in groups for  $\underline{A}$  Maltsev,  $\alpha \in \text{Con}(\underline{A})$

$|[\alpha]_\alpha| \neq |[\beta]_\alpha|$  possible.

But if  $\alpha$  centralizes  $1_A = A \times A$  ( $\alpha$  is central)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} x - d(x,yz) \\ | \\ y - z \end{array} \right\} = d[\alpha, 1]_{A^b} = \text{Sg}_{A^b} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} x - y \\ | \\ x - y \\ | \\ y - z \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} x - y \\ | \\ d(xyz) - z \end{array} \right\} \leq A^b$$

$\Rightarrow$  For fixed  $a, b$   $x \mapsto d(x, a, b)$  is bijection  
from  $[\alpha]_\alpha \rightarrow [\beta]_\alpha$ .

$\Rightarrow |[\alpha]_\alpha| = |[\beta]_\alpha|$  for  $\alpha$  central.

# Commutator

$$[1]_{\alpha \beta} = Sg_{\underline{A^G}}(df_{\alpha \beta})$$



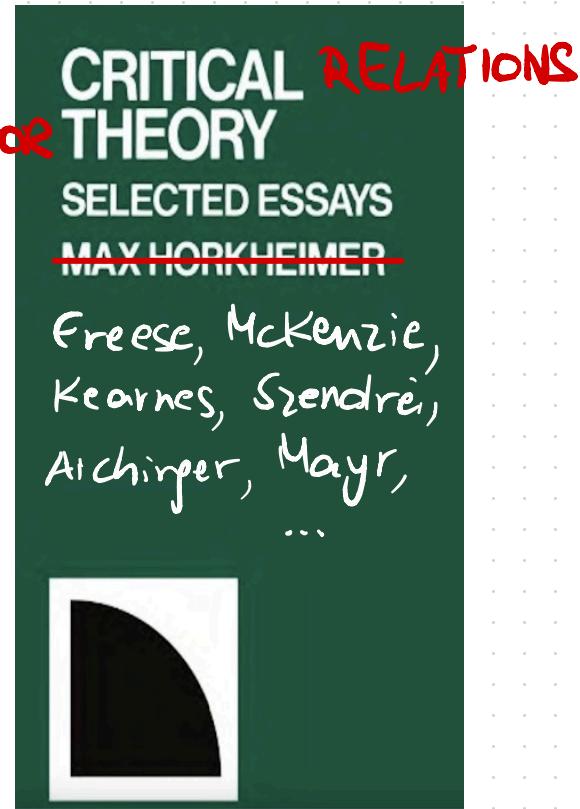
$[\alpha, \beta] :=$  linkedness-congruence

$\Leftrightarrow [\alpha, \beta]$  is smallest  $\gamma \in \text{Con}(\underline{A})$  :

'n  $\underline{A}/\gamma$   $\alpha/\gamma$  centralizes  $\beta/\gamma$

# Outline

- 1) Relational basis ✓
- 2) Commutator theory ✓
- 3) Critical relations
- 4) 3-element Mal'tsev  
algebras



# Critical relations

Def.: For algebra  $\underline{A}$ ,

$R \subseteq \underline{A}^n$  is critical : $\Leftrightarrow$

- ) no dummy variables
- )  $\exists R_1, R_2 \subseteq \underline{A}^n$   
with  $R = R_1 \cap R_2$

Ex.

)  $\underline{A} = \{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\}$  critical

)  $\underline{A} = (\mathbb{Z}_3, x - y + z)$

$R(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is critical  $\Leftrightarrow R = \{ \bar{x} \mid \sum \alpha_i x_i = c \}$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$

$\Gamma$  pp-defines  $\text{Inv}(\underline{A}) \Leftrightarrow \Gamma$  pp-def. all critical relations

# Critical relations in Mal'tsev algebras

Thm. [KS'12]

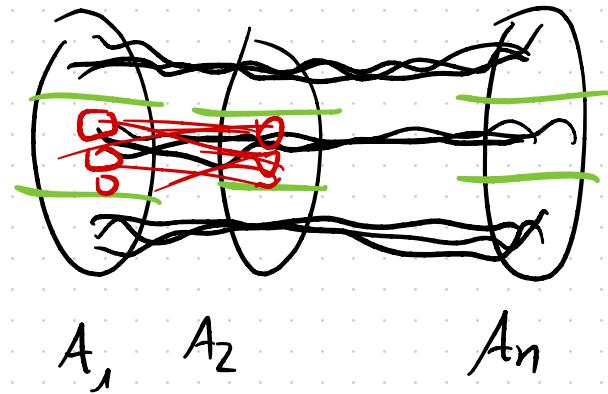
$\underline{A}$  Mal'tsev,  $R \leq \underline{A}^n$  critical,  $n \geq 3$

$\bar{R} \leq_{sd} \underline{A}_1 \times \dots \times \underline{A}_n$  reduced rep.

$\Rightarrow$  1)  $\text{Con}(\underline{A}_i) = \begin{matrix} 1+ \\ \mu_i \\ 0_{A_i} \end{matrix}$ ,  $\mu_i$  Abelian

2)  $\text{pr}_{ij} \bar{R}$  is isomorphism

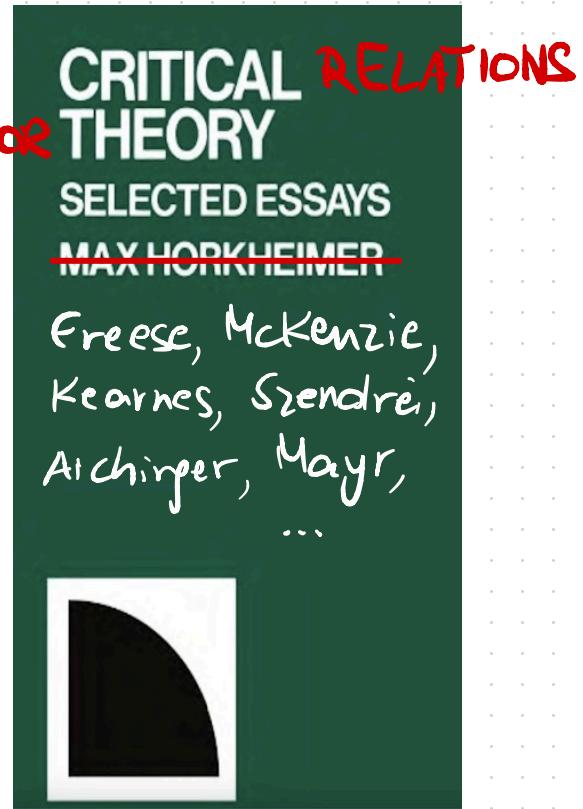
$$\underline{A}_i / (\underline{0} : \mu_i) \rightarrow \underline{A}_i / (\underline{0} : \mu_i)$$



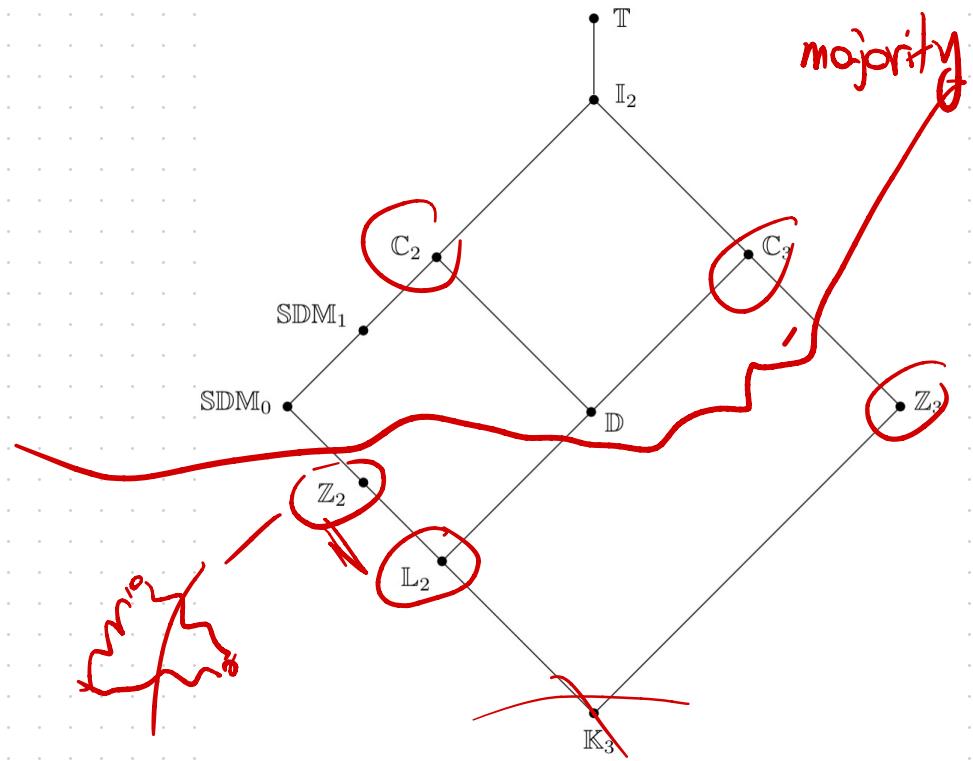
# Outline

- 1) Relational basis ✓
- 2) Commutator theory ✓
- 3) Critical relations ✓
- 4) 3-element Mal'tsev algebras

COMMUTATOR



# 3-element Mel'tsev up to minor homom.



A Mol'tsev  $A = \{0, 1, 2\}$

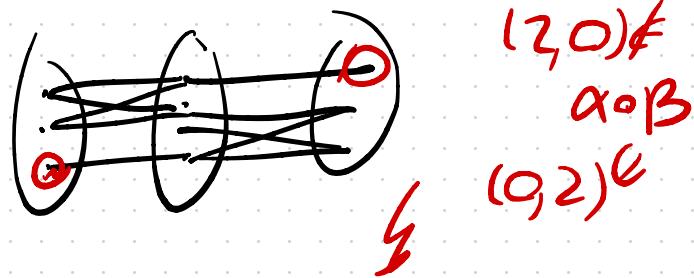
$R \subseteq A^2 \hookrightarrow$  isomorphisms:  $\text{HS}(A)$

Lemma  $\text{Cor}_A$

$0_4^0 \xrightarrow{\quad} 0_4^1$

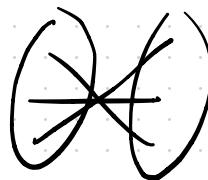
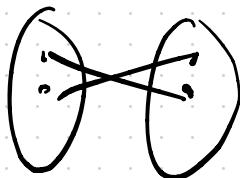
$1_4^0 \xrightarrow{\quad} 1_4^1$

Proof Assume  
 $0112, 0112 \in \text{Cor}_A$

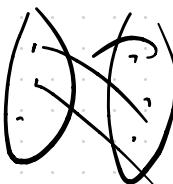
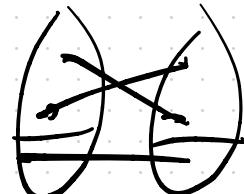
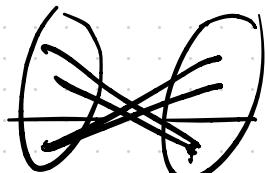
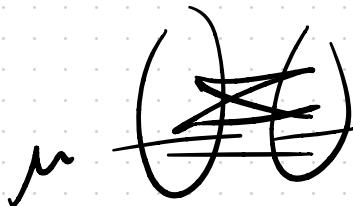


If  $A$  simple

$\rightarrow R$  is a partial isomorphism



If  $\exists \mu \neq 0_4, 1_4$



$$|A|^{(A)+1} / (B(|A|+1)-1)$$

$\mu = 0/1/2 \in (\text{on } A)$

$\mu$  is not central

If  $\mu$  is Abelian

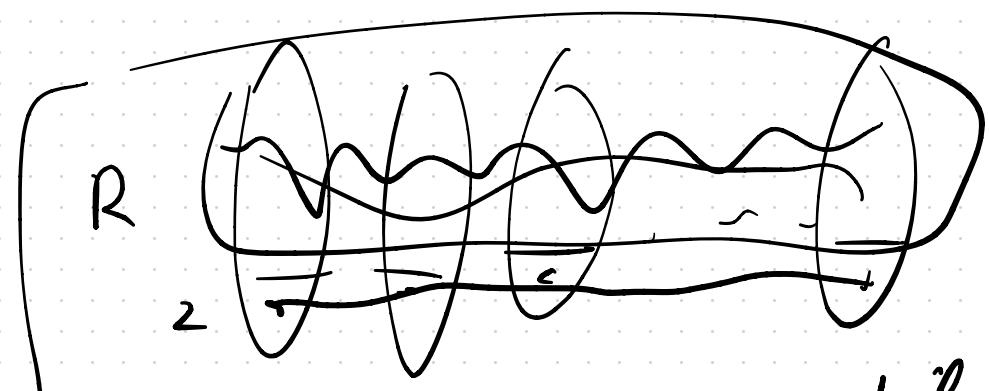
Def

$\forall B \in HS(A)$

$\mu_B$  Abelian nondistr of B

$\Rightarrow (0:\mu_B)$  is Abelian

$\mu = (0:\mu) \Rightarrow A \text{ satisfies (C1)}$



$$\left\{ \sum \alpha_i x_i = c \pmod{2} \right\}$$

$R$  is pp-def by  $d_{\mathbb{F}_2}$  and binary

1) No algebra in  $\text{HS}(\underline{A})$  has Ab. monolith

$\Rightarrow$  all crit. rel. have arity  $\leq 2$

$\Leftrightarrow \underline{A}$  has majority

2)  $R \leq \underline{A}^n$   $R = \bar{R} \subseteq A_1 \times \dots \times A_n$

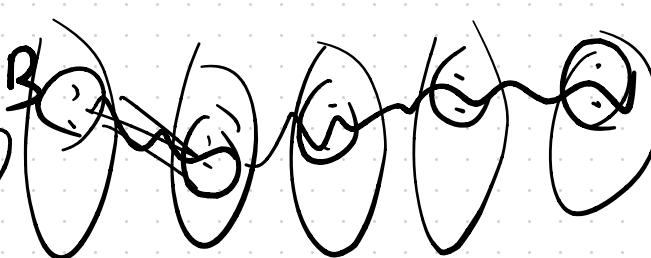
assume  $A_i$  are not Abelian  $\Rightarrow |A_i| = 3$

$\mu_i$  Abelian  $\mu_i = (0 : \mu_i)$

3)  $\exists \underline{A}; \text{Abelian} \rightarrow \forall \underline{A}; \text{Abelian}$

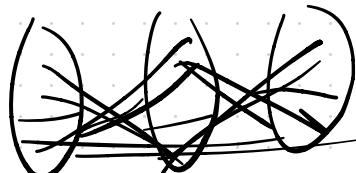
$$|\underline{A}| = 3 \rightarrow A = \mathbb{Z}_3$$

$|\underline{A}| = 2$   
If all  $\underline{A} \in S(A)$



-- pp-definable  
by  $d \models_B$

$\underline{A} \in H(A)$



-- pp-definable by

$d_{\text{pp}}$

$[\alpha, \beta] \text{ -- linkedness } Sp \left( \begin{array}{c} x \\ \alpha \\ y \\ \beta \\ z \end{array} \right) \cup \left( \begin{array}{c} D \\ \alpha \\ v \\ p \\ \beta \end{array} \right)$

$[1, 1, 1] = Q_1 \quad SG \left( \begin{array}{c} x \\ u \\ y \\ v \\ z \end{array} \right) \cup \left( \begin{array}{c} x \\ u \\ y \\ v \\ z \end{array} \right) \cup \left( \begin{array}{c} x \\ u \\ y \\ v \\ z \end{array} \right) = \Delta_{M1}$

i  
linkedness  
in 1 coordinate

$(Z_4, +, C, -, 2xy) \text{ -- } \underline{\Delta_{M1}} \text{ is critical}$   
 $(D_8)?$