

# CSP Reading Group

## Sections 3.1-32

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### 3.1 INTRODUCING PP-INTERPRETATIONS

**DEF 2.4.1:**  $A, B$  rel. structures  $d \dots$  dimension

$I$  partial surjection  $A^d \rightarrow B$  is a pp-interpretation of  $B$  in  $A$   
if for every  $R$  of arity  $k$  defined by an atomic fca  $\phi$  in  $B$

$I^{-1}(R) \subseteq A^{dk}$  has a pp-definition  $\phi_I$  in  $A$

**OBSERVATION:**

$T_I \dots$  domain of  $I$

$=_I \dots$  kernel of  $I$

full interpretation:

$R \subseteq B^k$  is pp-definable in  $B$  iff  $I^{-1}(R)$  is in  $A$

EXAMPLE 3.1.3:

$(\mathbb{Q}; 0, 1, +, *)$  has a 2-dim. pp-interpretation in  $(\mathbb{Z}; 0, 1, +, *)$

(+ and \* are graphs of the operations)

Fact:  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  is expressed by

$$\phi(x) = \exists x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \quad (x = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2)$$

doable with an existential formula

$$T_I(x, y): \quad y \geq 1 \Leftrightarrow \exists z \quad z+1=0 \wedge \phi(y+z)$$

$$= I(x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2): \quad x_1 y_2 = y_1 x_2$$

etc.

# Why pp-interpretations? Reductions!

## THEOREM 3.1.4

$A, B$  rel. structures with finite signatures

$\exists$  pp-interpretation of  $A$  in  $B \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  poly-time reduction from  $\text{CSP}(A)$  to  $\text{CSP}(B)$

Proof idea: Translate the constraints and ensure by constraints  $T_I(\dots)$  that the solution is in the domain of  $I$ . ■

REMARK: We may compose pp-interpretations in a natural way.

### COROLLARY 3.1.6:

If  $\mathcal{B}$  pp-interprets [a hard structure e.g.  $K_3$ ,  $(\{0,1\}, 1IN3)$ ,  $(\{0,1\}, NAE)$ ] then  $\mathcal{B}$  has a finite-signature reduct with an NP-hard CSP.

Proof: The pp-interpretation uses only finitely many relations. + Theorem 3.1.4. ■

$\leadsto$  key to "natural" hardness proofs that are stronger than just pp-definitions

### PROPOSITION 3.1.7:

A rel. structure with finite relational signature

$\mathbb{B}, c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{B}$  such that

- the orbit of  $(c_1, \dots, c_k)$  under  $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{B})$  is pp-definable
- $A$  has a pp-interpretation in  $(\mathbb{B}, c_1, \dots, c_k)$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  finite-signature reduct  $\mathbb{B}'$  of  $\mathbb{B}$   
and a poly-time reduction from  
 $\text{CSP}(A)$  to  $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{B}')$

In particular:  $\mathbb{B}$  has finite signature  $\Rightarrow$  we can take  $\mathbb{B}' = \mathbb{B}$

$\rightsquigarrow$  We can use this technique to prove hardness!

$$T_3 := \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{Q}^3 \mid (x=y < z) \vee (x=z < y)\}$$

**PROPOSITION 3.1.9:**

$(\mathbb{Q}; T_3, 0)$  pp-interprets  $(\{0, 1\}, 1 \text{ in } \mathbb{N}^3)$ . →  $\{(0, 0, 1), (0, 1, 0), (1, 0, 0)\}$   
 Prop 3.1.7  $\Rightarrow$   $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{Q}, T_3)$  is NP-hard.  
 $\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}$  the orbit of 0 is  $\mathbb{Q}$

Proof: 2-dim. interpretation

domain fla  $T_I$  is  $T_3(0, x_1, x_2)$

$T_I(b_1, b_2) \Rightarrow$  one of the elements is 0 and the other is  $> 0$

$$I(b_1, b_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } b_1 = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otw.} \end{cases}$$

$= I(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)$  is  $T_3(0, x_1, y_2)$   $\rightsquigarrow$  the second coordinate is needed here

We claim

$11N3_I(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2)$  is

$\exists u, v, w (T_3(0, u, z_1) \wedge T_3(u, v, y_1) \wedge T_3(v, w, x_1) \wedge T_3(0, 0, w))$

Let  $x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

$t := (I(x_1, x_2), I(y_1, y_2), I(z_1, z_2))$

Suppose that  $t \in 11N3$ :

1)  $t = (1, 0, 0) \Rightarrow x_1 = 0, y_1, z_1 > 0 \Rightarrow u, v := 0, w := 1$  ✓

2)  $t = (0, 1, 0) \Rightarrow x_1, z_1 > 0, y_1 = 0 \Rightarrow u := 0, w := \frac{x_1}{2}, v := w$  ✓

3)  $t = (0, 0, 1) \Rightarrow x_1, y_1 > 0, z_1 = 0 \Rightarrow w := \min\left\{\frac{x_1}{2}, \frac{y_1}{2}\right\}, v := w, u := v$  ✓

We claim

$1 \in \mathbb{N} \mathbb{Z}_F(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2)$  is

$\exists u, v, w (T_3(0, u, z_1) \wedge T_3(u, v, y_1) \wedge T_3(v, w, x_1) \wedge T_3(0, 0, w))$

Suppose  $(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2)$  satisfies the fla  $\uparrow$ :

$$T_3(0, 0, w) \Rightarrow w > 0$$

$$T_3(0, u, z_1) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u = 0 \ \& \ z_1 > 0 \Rightarrow T_3(u, v, y_1) \begin{cases} v = 0 \\ y_1 > 0 \end{cases} \xRightarrow{T_3(v, w, x_1)} x_1 = 0 \Rightarrow t = (1, 0, 0) \\ \\ v > 0 \\ y_1 = 0 \end{cases} \xRightarrow{T_3(v, w, x_1)} x_1 > 0 \Rightarrow t = (0, 1, 0) \\ \\ u > 0 \ \& \ z_1 = 0 \Rightarrow v > 0 \ \& \ y_1 > 0 \xRightarrow{T_3(v, w, x_1)} x_1 > 0 \Rightarrow t = (0, 0, 1) \end{array} \right.$$



$$\text{Betw} := \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{Q}^3 \mid x < y < z \vee z < y < x\}$$

PROPOSITION 3.1.10:

$(\mathbb{Q}; \text{Betw}, 0)$  pp-interprets  $(\{0, 1\}, \text{NAE})$

PROP 3.1.7  $\Rightarrow$  CSP( $\mathbb{Q}, \text{Betw}$ ) is NP-hard (the orbit 0 is  $\mathbb{Q}$ ). →  $\{0, 1\}^3 \setminus \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 1, 1)\}$

Proof: dimension = 1

domain formula  $T_I$  is  $\exists z \text{ Betw}(x, 0, z)$  i.e.  $x \neq 0$

$I(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x > 0 \\ 0 & x < 0 \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow$  equality corresponds to having the same sign

$=_I(x, y)$  is  $\exists z (\text{Betw}(x, 0, z) \wedge \text{Betw}(y, 0, z))$  i.e.

$$(x > 0 \Leftrightarrow y > 0)$$

$\text{NAE}_I(x, y, z)$  is  $\exists u (\text{Betw}(x, u, y) \wedge \text{Betw}(u, 0, z))$

they can't both have the same sign as  $z$  u has a different sign than  $z$  ■

## 3.2. PP-INTERPRETING ALL FINITE STRUCTURES

### COROLLARY 3.2.1

$K_3$  pp-interprets all finite structures.

Proof:

Section 6  $\Rightarrow$  every fo-fla is equivalent to a pp-fla

Lemma 2.4.4  $\Rightarrow$  every finite structure has an fo-interpretation  
in  $K_3$

$\leadsto$  towards a universal reason for hardness for finite-domain CSPs ... "expressing  $K_3, (\{0, 1\}, \{1\}), \dots$ "

## THEOREM 3.2.2

TFAE for  $\mathbb{B}$ :

(1)  $\mathbb{B}$  pp-interprets  $(\{0, 1\}, \{1\})$

(2)  $\text{---} \parallel \text{---}$   $(\{0, 1\}, \text{NAE})$

(3)  $\text{---} \parallel \text{---}$   $K_n$  for some  $n \geq 3$

(4)  $\text{---} \parallel \text{---}$  a structure  $A$ ,  $|A| \geq 2$  and all fo-formulas are equivalent to pp-formulas over  $A$

(5)  $\text{---} \parallel \text{---}$  all finite structures

Proof: (5)  $\Rightarrow$  (1), (2), (3)

In Section 6 we get (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2), (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) and (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4).

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (5) is by Lemma 2.4.4 (a structure with  $\geq 2$  elements fo-interprets all finite structures).  $\blacksquare$

Is this "the only reason for hardness" for  $\text{CSP}(A)$  for finite  $A$ ?

$$A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\quad} \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} \end{matrix} K_3 \Rightarrow \text{CSP}(A) = \text{CSP}(K_3) \Rightarrow \text{CSP}(A) \text{ is hard}$$

maps homomorphically in both directions = homomorphically equivalent

$\rightsquigarrow$  we need to add homomorphic equivalence on the top of pp-interpretations

$\rightsquigarrow$  pp-constructions (section 3.6)