

## Lecture 2 (part I):

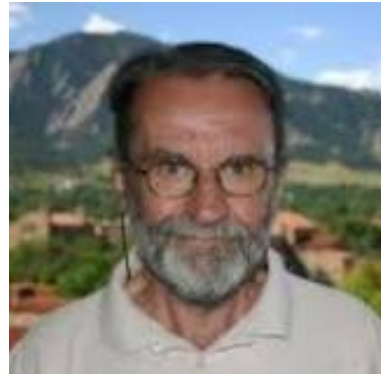
# Non-Definability in First Order Logic and Monadic Second Order Logic

Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Games and Hintikka formulas

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R. Fraïssé  
1920-2008



A. Ehrenfeucht  
1932-



J. Hintikka  
1929-2015

Their work is from the 1950ties

## Tools to Show Non-Definability

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- Compactness of First Order Logic
- Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Games
- Translation Schemes and transductions
- Feferman-Vaught Theorem for sums
- 0 – 1 Laws

## Proving non-definability

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The class of  $\tau$ -structures of finite even cardinality,  $EVEN(\tau)$ , is *not definable* in First Order Logic, (not even in Monadic Second Order Logic):

- For *FOL*: use compactness. Every formula true in all finite even structures has an infinite model.
- For *FOL* (restricted to finite structures): use Pebble Games (Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Games)
- For *MSOL*: use Pebble Games adapted to *MSOL*.

Similarly,  $DisPath(n)$  is not *FOL*-definable even for  $n = 1$ .

## Compactness of $FOL$

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Recall:

$\Sigma$  is **satisfiable** if there is a  $\tau$ -structure  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{A} \models \Sigma$ .

**Theorem:**[Gödel-Mal'cev]

Let  $\Sigma$  be an infinite set of  $FOL(\tau)$ -sentences.

$\Sigma$  is satisfiable iff every finite subset  $\Sigma_0 \subseteq \Sigma$  is satisfiable.

*This theorem was stated and proved in **Logic for CS** for Propositional Logic.*

*This theorem was stated, but probably not proved in **Logic for CS** for First Order Logic.*

*The proof for  $FOL$  is very similar to the one for Propositional Logic.*

## Using Compactness

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Let  $\phi_n$  be the sentence which says that the universe contains at least  $n$  elements.

Let  $\Sigma_{\text{even}}$  consist of

$$\{(\phi_{2n+1} \rightarrow \phi_{2n+2}) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

All **finite** models of  $\Sigma_{\text{even}}$  are of even cardinality.

Assume there is  $\psi_{\text{even}}$  such that

$$\mathcal{A} \models \psi_{\text{even}} \text{ iff } |A| = 2n$$

Define

$$\Sigma_1 = \{\psi_{\text{even}}\} \cup \{\phi_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup$$

Every finite subset  $\Sigma_0 \subseteq \Sigma_1$  is satisfiable (by a finite model of even cardinality).

But  $\Sigma_1$  has no model, **contradicting compactness**.

## *MSOL* is not compact

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Let  $\tau_{a,b} = \tau_{graph} \cup \{a, b\}$  be the vocabulary of graphs with two constants.

In  $MSOL(\tau_{a,b})$  we have a formula  $\phi_{conn}$  which says that the graph is connected.

Let  $\psi_n(a, b)$  say that the shortest path between  $a, b$  is of length  $n$ .

This is in  $FOL(\tau_{a,b})$ .

Now every finite subset of

$$\Sigma = \{\phi_{conn} \cup \{\psi_n(a, b) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

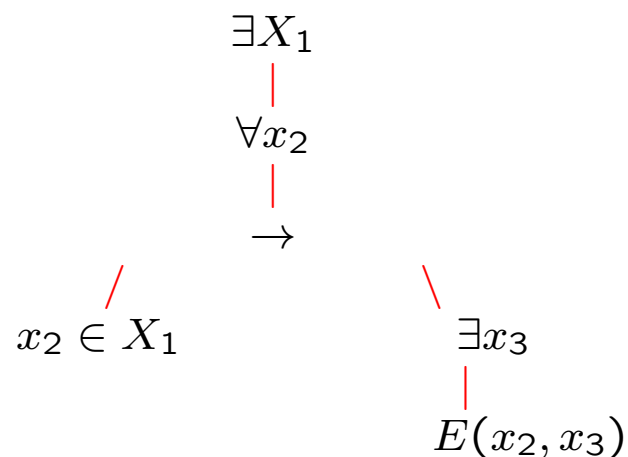
is satisfiable, but  $\Sigma$  is not.

## Quantifier rank of a formula, I

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We write a formula  $\phi$  as a tree:

$$\exists X_1 \forall x_2 (x_2 \in X_1 \rightarrow \exists x_3 E(x_2, x_3))$$



The quantifier rank is biggest number of quantifiers one can find along a path in this tree.

Here it is 3.



## Quantifier rank of a formula, II

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- For formulas in **prenex normal form** the quantifier rank **equals** the **number of quantifiers**.
- If we **reuse variables**, the quantifier rank can be **smaller** than the number of quantifiers used in prenex normal form.

$$\forall x_1 (\exists x_2 E(x_1, x_2) \wedge \exists x_2 \neg E(x_1, x_2))$$

Quantifier rank **2**

$$\forall x_1 \exists x_2 \exists x_3 (E(x_1, x_2) \wedge \neg E(x_1, x_3))$$

Quantifier rank **3**

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Games, I

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Given two  $\tau$ -structures  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and their powersets  $P(A_0)$  and  $P(A_1)$ .

Two players I (spoiler), II (duplicator)

$k$  numbered pebbles for each structure

Two kind of moves: Set- and point-moves

Play for  $n$  moves

$i$ -th move:

I chooses  $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}$  and put pebble on an element in  $P(A_\alpha)$  (Set-move) or in  $A_\alpha$  (point move).

II puts corresponding pebble on set or point.

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Games, II

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After  $n$  moves we have from  $\mathcal{A}_0$

$$A_1^0, a_2^0, A_3^0, \dots, a_{n-1}^0, A_n^0$$

and from  $\mathcal{A}_1$

$$A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1, A_n^1$$

These two sequences are *locally isomorphic* if for all  $j, k$

$$a_k^0 \in A_j^0 \text{ iff } a_k^1 \in A_j^1$$

and for each  $m$ -ary  $R \in \tau$  and  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m$

$$R^{\mathcal{A}_0}(a_{j_1}^0, a_{j_2}^0, \dots, a_{j_m}^0) \text{ iff } R^{\mathcal{A}_1}(a_{j_1}^1, a_{j_2}^1, \dots, a_{j_m}^1)$$

**Lemma:** Two sequences in  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1$  respectively

$$A_1^0, a_2^0, A_3^0, \dots, a_{n-1}^0, A_n^0$$

and

$$A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1, A_n^1$$

are locally isomorphic iff for all quantifierfree formulas  $B$  we have

$$\mathcal{A}_0 \models B(A_1^0, a_2^0, A_3^0, \dots, a_{n-1}^0, A_n^0)$$

iff

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \models B(A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1, A_n^1)$$

**Proof:**

Use induction over the construction of  $B$ .

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Games, III

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Winning the game:

II wins if the correspondence on the pebbles induces a local isomorphism (including the sets).

**Theorem:** (Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé, 1953/61)

II has a winning strategy for the  $k$ -pebble  $n$ -moves game on  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1$  iff they satisfy the same  $MSOL(\tau)$ -sentences with  $k$  variables and quantifier depth  $n$ .

If no set-moves are played this holds for  $FOL(\tau)$ .

We write  $\mathcal{A}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{MSOL} \mathcal{A}_1$  iff

II has a winning strategy in the game with set moves and

$\mathcal{A}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{FOL} \mathcal{A}_1$  in the game without set moves.

## Winning strategies, I

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A winning **strategy** is a function which takes a position of length  $n$

$$A_1^0, a_2^0, A_3^0, \dots, a_{n-1}^0, A_n^0$$

$$A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1, A_n^1$$

from  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1$  respectively

together with a move of player I, say

$X_{n+1}^i \in \{a_{n+1}^i, A_{n+1}^i\}$  as input and returns

$X_{n+1}^{1-i} \in \{a_{n+1}^{1-i}, A_{n+1}^{1-i}\}$  as output such that

$$A_1^0, a_2^0, A_3^0, \dots, a_{n-1}^0, A_n^0, X_{n+1}^0$$

$$A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1, A_n^1, X_{n+1}^1$$

is a winning position

(if it exists, else it is undefined).

## Winning strategies, II

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### Proposition:

$$\mathcal{A}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{FOL} \mathcal{A}_1 \text{ and } \mathcal{A}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{MSOL} \mathcal{A}_1$$

are *equivalence relations* between  $\tau$ -structures.  
I.e., they are **symmetric**, **reflexive** and **transitive**.

### Proof:

Reflexivity: Copy literally

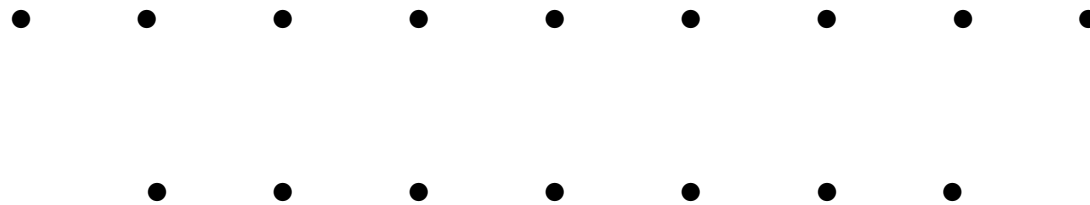
Symmetry: The structures play exchangeable roles (but not the players)

Transitivity: Play on the intermediate board

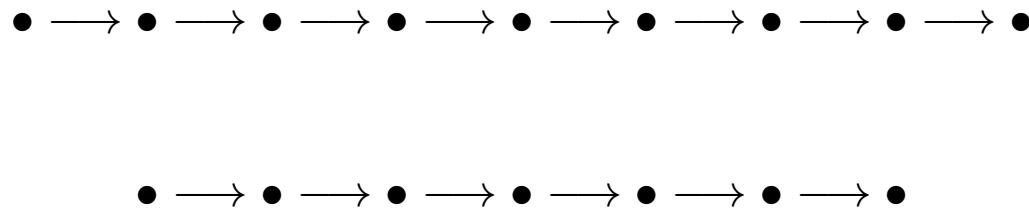
## Winning EF-Games, I

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$\tau = \emptyset$



$\tau = \{R_2\}$ , linear orders





## Winning EF-Games, II

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### Theorem:

Let  $\tau = \emptyset$ .

For two sets  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1$   
of size  $m_0$  and  $m_1$  respectively,  
we have  $\mathcal{A}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{FOL} \mathcal{A}_1$   
(in the game without set moves)

iff

$m_0 = m_1$  or  
 $k \leq m_0$  and  $k \leq m_1$

## Winning EF-Games, III

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### Theorem:

Let  $\tau = \{R_2\}$ .

For two cycle graphs  $\mathcal{G}_0$  and  $\mathcal{G}_1$   
of size  $v_0$  and  $v_1$  respectively,

we have  $\mathcal{G}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{FOL} \mathcal{G}_1$

(in the game without set moves)

provided

$v_0 = v_1$  or

$2^k \leq v_0$  and  $2^k \leq v_1$

Does the converse hold ?

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Games, IV

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**Theorem:** (Feferman, Vaught, 1956)

If  $\mathcal{A}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{MSOL} \mathcal{B}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1 \sim_{k,n}^{MSOL} \mathcal{B}_1$   
then  $\mathcal{A}_0 \sqcup \mathcal{A}_1 \sim_{k,n}^{MSOL} \mathcal{B}_0 \sqcup \mathcal{B}_1$

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**Theorem:** (Feferman, Vaught, 1956)

If  $\mathcal{A}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{FOL} \mathcal{B}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1 \sim_{k,n}^{FOL} \mathcal{B}_1$   
then  $\mathcal{A}_0 \times \mathcal{A}_1 \sim_{k,n}^{FOL} \mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_1$

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The same holds for "gluing" operations.

## Winning EF-Games, IV

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### Theorem:

Let  $\tau = \{R_2\}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{G}_0$  consist of one cycle of size  $2^k$   
and  $\mathcal{G}_1$  consist of two cycles of size  $2^k$ .

Then we have  $\mathcal{G}_0 \sim_{k,n}^{FOL} \mathcal{G}_1$   
(in the game without set moves)

### Corollary:

Connectivity is not *FOL*-definable in the language of graphs.

## Winning EF-Games, V

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First we play the game for *MSOL* for  $\tau = \emptyset$ .

$A_0$  is a set of  $2^n$  elements

$A_1$  is a set of  $2^n - 1$  elements

How many moves does player I need to win?

$C_n$  is the undirected graph with  $n$  vertices which is connected and 2-regular.

$\mathcal{A}_0$  is the graph  $C_{2^n}$

$\mathcal{A}_1$  is the graph  $C_{2^{n-1}}$  elements

How many moves does player I need to win?

## Winning EF-Games, VI

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The rôle of the pebbles.

How long can we play (without set moves) with **two** pebbles?



How long can we play with **three** pebbles?

## Lecture 2 (part II)

Non-Definability in First Order Logic  
and

Monadic Second Order Logic

Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Theorem

Hintikka Formulas

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Theorem, I

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**Theorem:**(Easy part)

Assume there is a  $MSOL(\tau)$ -sentence  $\phi$  with  $k$  variables and quantifier depth  $n$  in Prenex Normal Form such that  $\mathcal{A}_0 \models \phi$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1 \models \neg\phi$ .

Then I has a winning strategy for the  $k$ -pebble  $n$ -moves game on  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1$ .



## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Theorem, II

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We first assume that there infinitely many pebbles.

We write  $\phi$  and  $\neg\phi$  in Prenex Normal Form:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi &= \exists X_1 \exists x_2 \forall X_3 \exists x_4 \dots \exists x_{n-1} \exists X_n \\ &\quad B(X_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X_n) \\ \neg\phi &= \forall X_1 \forall x_2 \exists X_3 \forall x_4 \dots \forall x_{n-1} \forall X_n \\ &\quad \neg B(X_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X_n)\end{aligned}$$

where  $B$  is without quantifiers.

We can read from the quantifier prefix  
a winning strategy.

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Theorem, III

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Assume  $\mathcal{A}_0 \models \phi$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1 \models \neg\phi$ .

Player I follows the existential quantifiers.

Player I picks in  $\mathcal{A}_0$  a set  $A_1$  such that

$$\mathcal{A}_0, A_1^0 \models \exists x_2 \forall X_3 \exists x_4 \dots \exists x_{n-1} \exists X_n \\ B(A_1^0, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X_n)$$

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Theorem, IV

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Whatever player II picks as  $A_1^1$

$$\mathcal{A}_1, A_1^1 \models \forall x_2 \exists X_3 \forall x_4 \dots \forall x_{n-1} \forall X_n \\ \neg B(A_1^1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X_n)$$

Next player I picks an element  $a_2^0$  in  $\mathcal{A}_0$  such that

$$\mathcal{A}_0, A_1^0, a_2^0 \models \forall X_3 \exists x_4 \dots \exists x_{n-1} \exists X_n \\ B(A_1^0, a_2^0, \dots, x_{n-1}, X_n)$$

Whatever player II picks as  $a_2^1$

$$\mathcal{A}_1, A_1^1, a_2^1 \models \exists X_3 \forall x_4 \dots \forall x_{n-1} \forall X_n \\ \neg B(A_1^1, a_2^1, \dots, x_{n-1}, X_n)$$

Now player I picks in  $\mathcal{A}_1$  a set  $A_3^1$  such that

$$\mathcal{A}_1, A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1 \models \forall x_4 \dots \forall x_{n-1} \forall X_n \\ \neg B(A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1, \dots, x_{n-1}, X_n)$$

and so on.....

## Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Theorem, V

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Finally the outcome is from  $\mathcal{A}_0$

$$A_1^0, a_2^0, A_3^0, \dots, a_{n-1}^0, A_n^0$$

and from  $\mathcal{A}_1$

$$A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1, A_n^1$$

such that

$$\mathcal{A}_0 \models B(A_1^0, a_2^0, A_3^0, \dots, a_{n-1}^0, A_n^0)$$

and

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \models \neg B(A_1^1, a_2^1, A_3^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1, A_n^1)$$

which shows that player I wins, as this cannot be a local isomorphism

(We need a Lemma on local isomorphisms and quantifierfree formulas)

## How many non-equivalent formulas? *FOL* atomic case

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Assume we have (first order) variables

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_v$$

This gives  $\binom{v}{2} + \binom{v}{1} = O(v^2)$  many instances of  $x_i = x_j$  with  $i \leq j$ .

For a  $r$ -ary relation symbol  $R$  we get  $r^v$  many instances of  $R(x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}, \dots, x_{j_r})$ .

If we allow  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{v'}$  constants the numbers become  $O((v + v')^2)$  and  $r^{v+v'}$  respectively.

### **Proposition:**

For a fixed finite relational vocabulary  $\tau$  with constants and  $v$  first order variables, there are a finite number of atomic formulas  $\alpha_{\tau, v}^{FOL}$ .

## How many non-equivalent formulas? *MSOL* atomic case

---

Assume we have first and second order variables

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v_1}, U_1, U_2, \dots, U_{v_2}$$

This gives

$O(v_1^2)$  many instances of  $x_i = x_j$  with  $i \leq j$   
and  $v_1 \cdot v_2$  many instances of  $x_i \in U_j$ .

For a  $r$ -ary relation symbol  $R$  we get  $r^v$  many instances of  $R(x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}, \dots, x_{j_r})$ .  
If we allow  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{v_3}$  constants the numbers become  $\binom{v_1+v_3}{2}$ ,  $(v_1+v_3)v_2$  and  $r^{v_1+v_3}$  respectively.

### Proposition:

For a fixed finite relational vocabulary  $\tau$  with constants and  $v$  first order variables, there are a finite number of atomic formulas  $\alpha_{\tau, v}^{MSOL}$ .

## How many non-equivalent formulas? Quantifierfree case

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For quantifierfree formulas we only count formulas in CNF.

There are  $2^{\alpha_{\tau,v}^{FOL}}$ , resp.  $2^{\alpha_{\tau,v}^{MSOL}}$  many disjunctions

$$2^{\alpha_{\tau,v}^{FOL}} \bigvee_{j=1}^{\nu(j)} (\neg)^{\nu(j)} A_j$$

where  $A_j$  ranges over atomic formulas.

Hence we have (at most)  $2^{2^{\alpha_{\tau,v}^{FOL}}}$  many formulas in CNF.

### Proposition:

For a fixed finite relational vocabulary  $\tau$  with constants and  $v$  first order variables, there are a finite number of atomic formulas  $\beta_{\tau,v}^{FOL}$  and  $\beta_{\tau,v}^{MSOL}$ , respectively.

## How many non-equivalent formulas? Quantifiers I: PNF

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Counting quantified formulas is a bit more tricky.  
We can assume that the formulas are in

### Prenex Normal Form

But then variables are NOT reused.

So for each CNF formula with  $v$  variables there are  $3^v \cdot v!$  many quantifier prefixes  
( $\exists, \forall$ , not quantified).

This gives at most

$$3^v \cdot v! \cdot \beta_{\tau, v}^{FOL}$$

many prenex normal form formulas.



## How many formulas are there ?

### Quantifiers II: quantifier rank

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#### Theorem:

For each  $\tau$  and  $v = v_1 + v_2$  many variables

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v_1}, U_1, U_2, \dots, U_{v_2}$$

there are only  $\gamma_{\tau, v, q}^{MSOL}$  many formulas of quantifier rank  $q$ .

**Proof:** We estimate this number by induction over  $q$  for *MSOL*.

For  $q = 0$  we have at most  $\gamma$  many formulas with  $\gamma_0 = \beta_{\tau, v}^{MSOL}$ .

Treating them as atomic formulas we have  $2v$  many ways of adding one quantifier, and hence at most

$$\gamma_{\tau, v, q+1}^{MSOL} = \gamma_{q+1} = 2^{2v \cdot \eta q}$$

many formulas of rank  $q + 1$ .

How many formulas are there ?  
Quantifiers II: quantifier rank

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How many non-equivalent formulas  
are there really?

Exact estimates to the best of our knowledge unknown.

## Hintikka formulas, I

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$\tau$  is a finite, relational vocabulary.

We denote by  $Fm_{k,q}^{MSOL}(\tau)$  the set of  $MSOL(\tau)$  formulas such that the variables are among

$$x_1, \dots, x_k, U_1, \dots, U_k$$

and each formula has quantifier rank at most  $q$ .

Similarly with  $Fm_{k,q}^{FOL}(\tau)$ .

### Definition:

$\phi$  and  $\psi$  are (finitely) equivalent if they have the same (finite) models.  
Free variables are uninterpreted constants

**Note:** There are, up to logical equivalence infinitely many formulas in three variables (use repeated quantification).

## The boolean algebra $Fm_{k,q}(\tau)$ , I

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### Proposition:

There are, up to (finite) equivalence, only finitely many formulas in  $Fm_{k,q}(\tau)$ .

If  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  have only infinite models, they are finitely equivalent (**false**).

There are fewer formulas for finite equivalence.

The number of equivalence classes is growing very fast.

### Proposition:

$Fm_{k,q}(\tau)$  is closed under conjunction  $\wedge$ ,  
disjunction  $\vee$  and negation  $\neg$ ,  
i.e. it forms a finite *boolean algebra*.

## The boolean algebra $Fm_{k,q}(\tau)$ , II

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The formula  $\exists x(x \neq x)$  is the *minimal element*.

The formula  $\exists x(x = x)$  is the *maximal element*.

A formula  $\phi$  is an *atom*, if

- it is not (finitely) equivalent to  $\exists x(x \neq x)$ ,
- but for each  $\psi$  either  $\phi \wedge \psi$  is equivalent to  $\phi$  or to  $\exists x(x \neq x)$ .

## Hintikka formulas, II

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We denote by  $\mathcal{B}_{k,q}(\tau)$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{k,q}^f(\tau)$  the finite boolean algebra of  $Fm_{k,q}^{MSOL}(\tau)$  up to equivalence and finite equivalence, resp. The elements are denoted by  $\bar{\phi}$ .

The set of atoms in  $\mathcal{B}_{k,q}(\tau)$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{k,q}^f(\tau)$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{H}_{k,q}(\tau)$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{k,q}^f(\tau)$ .

The formulas  $\phi$  with  $\bar{\phi} \in \mathcal{H}_{k,q}(\tau)$  ( $\bar{\phi} \in \mathcal{H}_{k,q}^f(\tau)$ ) are called *Hintikka formulas*.

## Hintikka formulas, III

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### Proposition:

- (i) Every sentence  $\phi \in Fm_{k,q}(\tau)$  is equivalent to the disjunction of a unique set of  $(k, q)$ - Hintikka sentences  $\bigvee_i h_i(\phi)$ , with  $\bar{h}_i(\phi) \in \mathcal{H}_{k,q}(\tau)$ .

Not computable from  $k, q, \tau$  and  $\phi$  alone.

- (ii) For every  $k, q, \tau$  and  $\tau$ -structure  $\mathcal{A}$  there is a unique Hintikka sentence  $h_{k,q}(\mathcal{A}) \in Fm_{k,q}(\tau)$  such that  $\mathcal{A} \models h_{k,q}(\mathcal{A})$ .

- (iii) Furthermore, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is finite,  $h_{k,q}(\mathcal{A})$  is computable from  $k, q, \tau$  and  $\mathcal{A}$ .

But only highly ineffective algorithms are known.

## Hintikka formulas, IV

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### **Theorem:**(Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé)

For two  $\tau$ -structures  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $\mathbb{II}$  has a winning strategy in the game with  $n$  moves and  $k$  point pebbles and  $k$  set pebbles.
- (ii)  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  satisfy the same sentences of  $Fm_{k,m}(\tau)$ .
- (iii)  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  satisfy the same unique (up to equivalence)  $(k, m)$ -Hintikka sentence.

We have shown already (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (3).

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) is trivial.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) follows from the properties of Hintikka formulas.

We are left with (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1).



## Constructing the Hintikka sentence, I

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Assume we have more pebbles than moves.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a finite  $\tau$ -structure and  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_s$  elements  $\mathcal{A}$ .

We define a formula  $\phi(v_1, \dots, v_s)_{\bar{a}}^m$

such that

$$\mathcal{A}, \bar{a} \models \phi(v_1, \dots, v_s)_{\bar{a}}^m$$

and whenever

$$\mathcal{B}, \bar{b} \models \phi(v_1, \dots, v_s)_{\bar{a}}^m$$

then player II has a winning strategy in the game for *FOL* for  $m$  more moves starting with  $\mathcal{A}, \bar{a}$  and  $\mathcal{B}, \bar{b}$ .

$\phi(v_1, \dots, v_k)_{\bar{a}}^q$  (i.e.  $k = s, q = m$ ) will be a Hintikka formula for  $Fm_{k,q}^{FOL}(\tau)$ .

## Constructing the Hintikka sentence, II

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$$\begin{aligned}
 \phi(v_1, \dots, v_k)_{\bar{a}}^0 := & \\
 & \left( \bigwedge \{R(v_{j_1}, \dots, v_{j_s}) : R \in \tau, \mathcal{A}, \bar{a} \models R(v_{j_1}, \dots, v_{j_s})\} \right) \\
 & \quad \wedge \\
 & \left( \bigwedge \{\neg R(v_{j_1}, \dots, v_{j_s}) : R \in \tau, \mathcal{A}, \bar{a} \models \neg R(v_{j_1}, \dots, v_{j_s})\} \right) \\
 & \quad \wedge \\
 & \left( \bigwedge \{v_{j_1} = v_{j_2} : j_1, j_2 \leq s \text{ and } \mathcal{A}, \bar{a} \models v_{j_1} = v_{j_2}\} \right) \\
 & \quad \wedge \\
 & \left( \bigwedge \{v_{j_1} \neq v_{j_2} : j_1, j_2 \leq s \text{ and } \mathcal{A}, \bar{a} \models v_{j_1} \neq v_{j_2}\} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

The formula is finite, provided  $\tau$  is.

## Homework (compulsory)

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We look at the example of a linear order with  $s = 3$  and  $m = 2$ .

Assume  $a_2 < a_1 = a_3$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Compute the formula!

## Constructing the Hintikka sentence, III

---

$$\phi(v_1, \dots, v_k)_{\bar{a}}^m := \left( \bigwedge_{a \in A} \exists v_{s+1} \phi(\bar{v}, v_{s+1})_{\bar{a} \cdot a}^{m-1} \right) \wedge \left( \forall v_{s+1} \bigvee_{a \in A} \phi(\bar{v}, v_{s+1})_{\bar{a} \cdot a}^{m-1} \right)$$

This is finite by the previous theorem.

We look at the example of a linear order with  $s = 3$  and  $m = 2$ .

Assume  $a_2 < a_1 = a_3$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Compute the formula.

## Constructing the Hintikka sentence, IV

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We have to verify:

- $\mathcal{A}, \bar{a} \models \phi(v_1, \dots, v_s)_{\bar{a}}^m$
- whenever  $\mathcal{B}, \bar{b} \models \phi(v_1, \dots, v_s)_{\bar{a}}^m$   
then player II has a winning strategy  
in the game for *FOL* for  $m$  more moves  
starting with  $\mathcal{A}, \bar{a}$  and  $\mathcal{B}, \bar{b}$ .

## Constructing the Hintikka sentence, V

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- We can do "*the same*" for *MSOL* and even for *SOL<sup>n</sup>* or *SOL*.
- How do we have to modify the construction if there are fewer pebbles than moves?
- What happens if play infinitely long?

We shall return to these questions later.

## Dense linear orders, I

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We look at linear orders such that between any two distinct elements there is a third element. These are called *dense linear orders*.

### Exercise:

Express this in *FOL*.

Show that such an order is always infinite.

There are variations:

- with/without first element.
- with/without last element.

## Dense linear orders, II

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Examples are

- The real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ , which are uncountably infinite.
- The irrational numbers  $\mathbb{I} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , which are also uncountably infinite.
- The rationals  $\mathbb{Q}$ , which are countably infinite.
- The open intervals  $(a, b) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .
- The open intervals  $(a, b) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ .
- The corresponding closed intervals  $[a, b]$  and the intervals  $(a, b]$  and  $[a, b)$ .



## Dense linear orders, III

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There is a sentence  $\phi_{cut}MSOL(\tau_{ord})$  which is true in  $\mathbb{Q}$  but not in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$\phi_{cut}$  says:

*"The universe is the disjoint union  
of two open intervals"*

### Exercise:

Write down this formula.

In  $\mathbb{Q}$  we take  $(-\infty, \sqrt{2}) \cup (\sqrt{2}, \infty)$ .

In  $\mathbb{R}$  every Cauchy sequence converges, hence such a decomposition is not possible.

## Dense linear orders, IV

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**Theorem:**(Cantor ca. 1870)

Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1$  be two dense linear orders with the same configuration of first and last elements.

Then player II has one (extendible) winning strategy  $WS$  in the  $FOL$  game for games of arbitrary finite length.

Note that this is **stronger** than the statement:

For every game length  $n$  player II has a winning strategy  $WS_n$ .

**Corollary:**

No  $FOL(\tau_{ord})$  sentence  $\phi$  can distinguish

$\mathbb{Q}$  from  $\mathbb{R}$ , or

$(a, b] \cap \mathbb{Q}$  from  $(a, b] \cap \mathbb{R}$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

etc...

## Dense linear orders, $\forall$

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**Proof:** (No first, no last element)

Assume we have played

$$a_{k_1}^0 \leq a_{k_2}^0 \leq \dots \leq a_{k_m}^0 \quad \text{and} \quad a_{k_1}^1 \leq a_{k_2}^1 \leq \dots \leq a_{k_m}^1$$

and player I chooses, w.l.o.g.,  $a_{m+1}^0 = b$ .

There are three cases

- $b < a_{k_1}^0$  or  $a_{k_m}^0 < b$ .
- $b = a_{k_j}^0$  for some  $j \leq m$ .
- $a_{k_{j-1}}^0 < b < a_{k_j}^0$  for some  $j \leq m$ .

In each case II can reply correspondingly.

In the last case we use density.

In the first case we use the absence of first/last elements.

**Exercise:**

Complete the proof also for the cases with first/last elements.