

# The class of congruence meet semidistributive varieties is not strong Maltsev

AAA 108

Andrew Moorhead

Institute für Algebra

TU Dresden

February 7, 2026



Funded by  
the European Union



erc  
European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

# Contents

---

1. The interpretability lattice and Maltsev conditions
2. The connection to the commutator and 2-congruences
3. Term analysis

## **The interpretability lattice and Maltsev conditions**

---

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{V}_1 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_1)$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_2)$  be varieties over the signatures  $\tau_1, \tau_2$ , respectively. An *interpretation* of  $\mathcal{V}_1$  in  $\mathcal{V}_2$  is a mapping  $I : \tau_1 \rightarrow \text{Terms}(\tau_2)$  which preserves the satisfaction of  $\Sigma_1$  identities, i.e.

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \Sigma_1 \implies \mathcal{V}_2 \models (If)(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx (Ig)(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{V}_1 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_1)$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_2)$  be varieties over the signatures  $\tau_1, \tau_2$ , respectively. An *interpretation* of  $\mathcal{V}_1$  in  $\mathcal{V}_2$  is a mapping  $I : \tau_1 \rightarrow \text{Terms}(\tau_2)$  which preserves the satisfaction of  $\Sigma_1$  identities, i.e.

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \Sigma_1 \implies \mathcal{V}_2 \models (If)(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx (Ig)(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

This induces a preorder  $\preceq$  on the class of varieties and we write  $\mathcal{V}_1 \preceq \mathcal{V}_2$  to indicate that  $\mathcal{V}_1$  interprets in  $\mathcal{V}_2$ . If both  $\mathcal{V}_1 \preceq \mathcal{V}_2$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 \preceq \mathcal{V}_1$ , we say  $\mathcal{V}_1$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2$  are *equi-interpretable*.

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{V}_1 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_1)$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_2)$  be varieties over the signatures  $\tau_1, \tau_2$ , respectively. An *interpretation* of  $\mathcal{V}_1$  in  $\mathcal{V}_2$  is a mapping  $I : \tau_1 \rightarrow \text{Terms}(\tau_2)$  which preserves the satisfaction of  $\Sigma_1$  identities, i.e.

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \Sigma_1 \implies \mathcal{V}_2 \models (If)(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx (Ig)(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

This induces a preorder  $\preceq$  on the class of varieties and we write  $\mathcal{V}_1 \preceq \mathcal{V}_2$  to indicate that  $\mathcal{V}_1$  interprets in  $\mathcal{V}_2$ . If both  $\mathcal{V}_1 \preceq \mathcal{V}_2$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 \preceq \mathcal{V}_1$ , we say  $\mathcal{V}_1$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2$  are *equi-interpretable*.

## Example

- The variety of groups interprets in the variety of abelian groups.

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{V}_1 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_1)$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_2)$  be varieties over the signatures  $\tau_1, \tau_2$ , respectively. An *interpretation* of  $\mathcal{V}_1$  in  $\mathcal{V}_2$  is a mapping  $I : \tau_1 \rightarrow \text{Terms}(\tau_2)$  which preserves the satisfaction of  $\Sigma_1$  identities, i.e.

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \Sigma_1 \implies \mathcal{V}_2 \models (If)(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx (Ig)(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

This induces a preorder  $\preceq$  on the class of varieties and we write  $\mathcal{V}_1 \preceq \mathcal{V}_2$  to indicate that  $\mathcal{V}_1$  interprets in  $\mathcal{V}_2$ . If both  $\mathcal{V}_1 \preceq \mathcal{V}_2$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 \preceq \mathcal{V}_1$ , we say  $\mathcal{V}_1$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2$  are *equi-interpretable*.

## Example

- The variety of groups interprets in the variety of abelian groups.
- The variety of sets and the variety of semigroups are equi-interpretable.

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{V}_1 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_1)$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 = \text{Mod}(\Sigma_2)$  be varieties over the signatures  $\tau_1, \tau_2$ , respectively. An *interpretation* of  $\mathcal{V}_1$  in  $\mathcal{V}_2$  is a mapping  $I : \tau_1 \rightarrow \text{Terms}(\tau_2)$  which preserves the satisfaction of  $\Sigma_1$  identities, i.e.

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \Sigma_1 \implies \mathcal{V}_2 \models (If)(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx (Ig)(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

This induces a preorder  $\preceq$  on the class of varieties and we write  $\mathcal{V}_1 \preceq \mathcal{V}_2$  to indicate that  $\mathcal{V}_1$  interprets in  $\mathcal{V}_2$ . If both  $\mathcal{V}_1 \preceq \mathcal{V}_2$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2 \preceq \mathcal{V}_1$ , we say  $\mathcal{V}_1$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2$  are *equi-interpretable*.

## Example

- The variety of groups interprets in the variety of abelian groups.
- The variety of sets and the variety of semigroups are equi-interpretable.
- The variety  $\mathcal{V}$  in the signature with a single ternary operation  $m(xyz)$  axiomatized by the Maltsev identities  $m(yxx) \approx m(xxy) \approx y$  interprets in the variety of groups, by mapping  $m(xyz)$  to the term  $xy^{-1}z$ .





## Theorem

*The class of varieties modulo the equi-interpretability relation forms a bounded lattice.*

## Theorem

*The class of varieties modulo the equi-interpretability relation forms a bounded lattice.*

- Roughly, the interpretability lattice of varieties orders equivalence classes of varieties by 'strength of identities satisfied'.

## Theorem

*The class of varieties modulo the equi-interpretability relation forms a bounded lattice.*

- Roughly, the interpretability lattice of varieties orders equivalence classes of varieties by 'strength of identities satisfied'.
- Upwards closed subclasses of the interpretability poset are therefore natural objects to study.

## Theorem

*The class of varieties modulo the equi-interpretability relation forms a bounded lattice.*

- Roughly, the interpretability lattice of varieties orders equivalence classes of varieties by 'strength of identities satisfied'.
- Upwards closed subclasses of the interpretability poset are therefore natural objects to study.

## Definition

## Theorem

*The class of varieties modulo the equi-interpretability relation forms a bounded lattice.*

- Roughly, the interpretability lattice of varieties orders equivalence classes of varieties by 'strength of identities satisfied'.
- Upwards closed subclasses of the interpretability poset are therefore natural objects to study.

## Definition

- A class of varieties  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to be characterized by a *strong Maltsev condition* if there exists a finitely presented (finite signature and finitely based) variety  $\mathcal{V}$  such that  $\mathcal{C} = \{\mathcal{W} : \mathcal{V} \preceq \mathcal{W}\}$ .

## Theorem

*The class of varieties modulo the equi-interpretability relation forms a bounded lattice.*

- Roughly, the interpretability lattice of varieties orders equivalence classes of varieties by 'strength of identities satisfied'.
- Upwards closed subclasses of the interpretability poset are therefore natural objects to study.

## Definition

- A class of varieties  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to be characterized by a *strong Maltsev condition* if there exists a finitely presented (finite signature and finitely based) variety  $\mathcal{V}$  such that  $\mathcal{C} = \{\mathcal{W} : \mathcal{V} \preceq \mathcal{W}\}$ .
- A class of varieties  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to be characterized by a *Maltsev condition* if there exists a countable sequence of finitely presented varieties  $\mathcal{V}_1 \succeq \mathcal{V}_2 \succeq \cdots \succeq \mathcal{V}_i \succeq \cdots$  such that  $\mathcal{C} = \bigcup_{1 \leq i} \{\mathcal{W} : \mathcal{V}_i \preceq \mathcal{W}\}$ .





Maltsev conditions have been extensively studied and used in Universal algebra. The following are a few classical examples.

Maltsev conditions have been extensively studied and used in Universal algebra. The following are a few classical examples.

- Maltsev showed that a variety has permuting congruences if and only if it has a Maltsev term (hence the class of permutable varieties is characterized by a strong Maltsev condition).

Maltsev conditions have been extensively studied and used in Universal algebra. The following are a few classical examples.

- Maltsev showed that a variety has permuting congruences if and only if it has a Maltsev term (hence the class of permutable varieties is characterized by a strong Maltsev condition).
- Pixley showed that the class of varieties which are congruence distributive and congruence permutable is a strong Maltsev class (Pixley term).

Maltsev conditions have been extensively studied and used in Universal algebra. The following are a few classical examples.

- Maltsev showed that a variety has permuting congruences if and only if it has a Maltsev term (hence the class of permutable varieties is characterized by a strong Maltsev condition).
- Pixley showed that the class of varieties which are congruence distributive and congruence permutable is a strong Maltsev class (Pixley term).
- The class of congruence distributive varieties is definable with a Maltsev condition (Jónsson).

Maltsev conditions have been extensively studied and used in Universal algebra. The following are a few classical examples.

- Maltsev showed that a variety has permuting congruences if and only if it has a Maltsev term (hence the class of permutable varieties is characterized by a strong Maltsev condition).
- Pixley showed that the class of varieties which are congruence distributive and congruence permutable is a strong Maltsev class (Pixley term).
- The class of congruence distributive varieties is definable with a Maltsev condition (Jónsson).
- The class of congruence modular varieties is definable with a Maltsev condition (Day).

Maltsev conditions have been extensively studied and used in Universal algebra. The following are a few classical examples.

- Maltsev showed that a variety has permuting congruences if and only if it has a Maltsev term (hence the class of permutable varieties is characterized by a strong Maltsev condition).
- Pixley showed that the class of varieties which are congruence distributive and congruence permutable is a strong Maltsev class (Pixley term).
- The class of congruence distributive varieties is definable with a Maltsev condition (Jónsson).
- The class of congruence modular varieties is definable with a Maltsev condition (Day).
- Independently, Fichtner (1972) and Kelly (1973) proved that both congruence distributivity and congruence modularity are not definable with strong Maltsev conditions. Each of their arguments relies on some syntactic analysis.

Maltsev conditions have been extensively studied and used in Universal algebra. The following are a few classical examples.

- Maltsev showed that a variety has permuting congruences if and only if it has a Maltsev term (hence the class of permutable varieties is characterized by a strong Maltsev condition).
- Pixley showed that the class of varieties which are congruence distributive and congruence permutable is a strong Maltsev class (Pixley term).
- The class of congruence distributive varieties is definable with a Maltsev condition (Jónsson).
- The class of congruence modular varieties is definable with a Maltsev condition (Day).
- Independently, Fichtner (1972) and Kelly (1973) proved that both congruence distributivity and congruence modularity are not definable with strong Maltsev conditions. Each of their arguments relies on some syntactic analysis.





## Definition

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of algebras is *congruence meet semidistributive* if each congruence lattice of its members satisfies the implication

$$\gamma \wedge \alpha = \gamma \wedge \beta \implies \gamma \wedge (\alpha \vee \beta) = \gamma \wedge \alpha.$$

## Definition

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of algebras is *congruence meet semidistributive* if each congruence lattice of its members satisfies the implication

$$\gamma \wedge \alpha = \gamma \wedge \beta \implies \gamma \wedge (\alpha \vee \beta) = \gamma \wedge \alpha.$$

## Example

- Any congruence distributive variety is congruence meet semidistributive.

## Definition

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of algebras is *congruence meet semidistributive* if each congruence lattice of its members satisfies the implication

$$\gamma \wedge \alpha = \gamma \wedge \beta \implies \gamma \wedge (\alpha \vee \beta) = \gamma \wedge \alpha.$$

## Example

- Any congruence distributive variety is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety of semilattices is congruence meet semidistributive.

## Definition

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of algebras is *congruence meet semidistributive* if each congruence lattice of its members satisfies the implication

$$\gamma \wedge \alpha = \gamma \wedge \beta \implies \gamma \wedge (\alpha \vee \beta) = \gamma \wedge \alpha.$$

## Example

- Any congruence distributive variety is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety of semilattices is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety generated by the polymorphisms of a finite core constraint template  $\mathfrak{A}$  generates a congruence meet semidistributive variety if and only if  $\text{CSP}(\mathfrak{A})$  is solvable with a Datalog program.

## Definition

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of algebras is *congruence meet semidistributive* if each congruence lattice of its members satisfies the implication

$$\gamma \wedge \alpha = \gamma \wedge \beta \implies \gamma \wedge (\alpha \vee \beta) = \gamma \wedge \alpha.$$

## Example

- Any congruence distributive variety is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety of semilattices is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety generated by the polymorphisms of a finite core constraint template  $\mathfrak{A}$  generates a congruence meet semidistributive variety if and only if  $\text{CSP}(\mathfrak{A})$  is solvable with a Datalog program.
- Kearnes and Szendrei, and independently Lipparini showed that the class of congruence meet semidistributive varieties is characterized by a Maltsev condition.

## Definition

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of algebras is *congruence meet semidistributive* if each congruence lattice of its members satisfies the implication

$$\gamma \wedge \alpha = \gamma \wedge \beta \implies \gamma \wedge (\alpha \vee \beta) = \gamma \wedge \alpha.$$

## Example

- Any congruence distributive variety is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety of semilattices is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety generated by the polymorphisms of a finite core constraint template  $\mathfrak{A}$  generates a congruence meet semidistributive variety if and only if  $\text{CSP}(\mathfrak{A})$  is solvable with a Datalog program.
- Kearnes and Szendrei, and independently Lipparini showed that the class of congruence meet semidistributive varieties is characterized by a Maltsev condition.
- An equivalent condition for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  to be congruence meet semidistributive is that there are no nontrivial *abelian* congruences of any algebras in  $\mathcal{V}$ .

## Definition

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of algebras is *congruence meet semidistributive* if each congruence lattice of its members satisfies the implication

$$\gamma \wedge \alpha = \gamma \wedge \beta \implies \gamma \wedge (\alpha \vee \beta) = \gamma \wedge \alpha.$$

## Example

- Any congruence distributive variety is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety of semilattices is congruence meet semidistributive.
- The variety generated by the polymorphisms of a finite core constraint template  $\mathfrak{A}$  generates a congruence meet semidistributive variety if and only if  $\text{CSP}(\mathfrak{A})$  is solvable with a Datalog program.
- Kearnes and Szendrei, and independently Lipparini showed that the class of congruence meet semidistributive varieties is characterized by a Maltsev condition.
- An equivalent condition for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  to be congruence meet semidistributive is that there are no nontrivial *abelian* congruences of any algebras in  $\mathcal{V}$ .





## Definition

An algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  is called a *Taylor* algebra if it satisfies a nontrivial idempotent Maltsev condition that does not interpret in the variety of sets.

## Definition

An algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  is called a *Taylor algebra* if it satisfies a nontrivial idempotent Maltsev condition that does not interpret in the variety of sets.

- Siggers showed in 2015 that the class of locally finite Taylor varieties is characterized by a strong Maltsev condition. Olšák later proved that this is actually true for the class of all Taylor varieties.

## Definition

An algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  is called a *Taylor algebra* if it satisfies a nontrivial idempotent Maltsev condition that does not interpret in the variety of sets.

- Siggers showed in 2015 that the class of locally finite Taylor varieties is characterized by a strong Maltsev condition. Olšák later proved that this is actually true for the class of all Taylor varieties.

TABLE 1. The six conditions

Type Omitting Class	Equivalent Property	Strong for l.f. varieties?	Strong in general?
$\mathcal{M}_{\{1\}}$	satisfies a nontrivial idempotent Maltsev condition	YES (Siggers)	YES (Olšák)
$\mathcal{M}_{\{1,5\}}$	satisfies a nontrivial congruence identity (see [17])	NO (KKVW)	NO
$\mathcal{M}_{\{1,4,5\}}$	congruence $n$ -permutable, for some $n > 1$	NO (KKVW)	NO
$\mathcal{M}_{\{1,2\}}$	congruence meet semidistributive	YES (KKVW)	??
$\mathcal{M}_{\{1,2,5\}}$	congruence join semidistributive (see [17])	NO (KKVW)	NO
$\mathcal{M}_{\{1,2,4,5\}}$	congruence $n$ -permutable for some $n$ and congruence join semidistributive	NO (KKVW)	NO

Table taken from ‘Characterizations of several Maltsev conditions’ by Kozik, Krokhin, Valeriote, Willard.

## **The connection to the commutator and 2-congruences**

---



## Definition

Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an algebra and let  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  be congruences of  $\mathbb{A}$ . We define the *algebra of  $(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ -matrices* as follows.

$$M(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \text{Sg}_{A^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_1 \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_2 \right\} \right).$$

## Definition

Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an algebra and let  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  be congruences of  $\mathbb{A}$ . We define the *algebra of  $(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ -matrices* as follows.

$$M(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \text{Sg}_{A^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{c} x \text{ --- } y \\ | \quad \quad | \\ x \text{ --- } y \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_1 \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{c} y \text{ --- } y \\ | \quad \quad | \\ x \text{ --- } x \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_2 \right\} \right).$$

We then say that  $\theta_1$  *term condition centralizes*  $\theta_2$  if no matrix of  $M(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  has one column which determines a pair of equal elements, while the opposite column determines a pair of unequal elements.

## Definition

Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an algebra and let  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  be congruences of  $\mathbb{A}$ . We define the *algebra of  $(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ -matrices* as follows.

$$M(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \text{Sg}_{A^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} x & y \\ \hline x & y \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_1 \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} y & y \\ \hline x & x \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_2 \right\} \right).$$

We then say that  $\theta_1$  *term condition centralizes*  $\theta_2$  if no matrix of  $M(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  has one column which determines a pair of equal elements, while the opposite column determines a pair of unequal elements. The *term condition commutator* is the least congruence  $\delta$  that one can factor  $\mathbb{A}$  by so that  $\theta_1/\delta$  centralizes  $\theta_2/\delta$ .



## Definition

Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an algebra and let  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  be congruences of  $\mathbb{A}$ . We define the *algebra of  $(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ -matrices* as follows.

$$M(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \text{Sg}_{A^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} x & y \\ \hline x & y \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_1 \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} y & y \\ \hline x & x \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_2 \right\} \right).$$

We then say that  $\theta_1$  *term condition centralizes*  $\theta_2$  if no matrix of  $M(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  has one column which determines a pair of equal elements, while the opposite column determines a pair of unequal elements. The *term condition commutator* is the least congruence  $\delta$  that one can factor  $\mathbb{A}$  by so that  $\theta_1/\delta$  centralizes  $\theta_2/\delta$ . We denote this  $\delta$  by  $[\theta_1, \theta_2]_{TC}$ .

## Definition

Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an algebra and let  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  be congruences of  $\mathbb{A}$ . We define the *algebra of  $(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ -matrices* as follows.

$$M(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \text{Sg}_{A^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} x & y \\ \hline x & y \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_1 \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} y & y \\ \hline x & x \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_2 \right\} \right).$$

We then say that  $\theta_1$  *term condition centralizes*  $\theta_2$  if no matrix of  $M(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  has one column which determines a pair of equal elements, while the opposite column determines a pair of unequal elements. The *term condition commutator* is the least congruence  $\delta$  that one can factor  $\mathbb{A}$  by so that  $\theta_1/\delta$  centralizes  $\theta_2/\delta$ . We denote this  $\delta$  by  $[\theta_1, \theta_2]_{TC}$ . An *abelian* congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$  is an  $\alpha$  such that  $[\alpha, \alpha]_{TC} = 0$



## Theorem (Kearnes + Szendrei, and Lipparini)

*The following are equivalent for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$ :*

1.  $\mathcal{V}$  is congruence meet semidistributive.

## Theorem (Kearnes + Szendrei, and Lipparini)

*The following are equivalent for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$ :*

- 1.  $\mathcal{V}$  is congruence meet semidistributive.*
- 2.  $[\gamma, \gamma]_{TC} = \gamma$  for all congruences  $\gamma$  of algebras in  $\mathcal{V}$  (such  $\mathcal{V}$  are often called congruence neutral varieties).*

## Theorem (Kearnes + Szendrei, and Lipparini)

*The following are equivalent for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$ :*

1.  $\mathcal{V}$  is congruence meet semidistributive.
2.  $[\gamma, \gamma]_{TC} = \gamma$  for all congruences  $\gamma$  of algebras in  $\mathcal{V}$  (such  $\mathcal{V}$  are often called congruence neutral varieties).
3.  $[\gamma, \gamma]_{TC} = \gamma$ , where  $\gamma$  is the principle congruence of  $\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)$  generated by  $(x, y)$ .

## Theorem (Kearnes + Szendrei, and Lipparini)

*The following are equivalent for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$ :*

1.  $\mathcal{V}$  is congruence meet semidistributive.
2.  $[\gamma, \gamma]_{TC} = \gamma$  for all congruences  $\gamma$  of algebras in  $\mathcal{V}$  (such  $\mathcal{V}$  are often called congruence neutral varieties).
3.  $[\gamma, \gamma]_{TC} = \gamma$ , where  $\gamma$  is the principle congruence of  $\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)$  generated by  $(x, y)$ .

## Theorem (Kearnes + Szendrei, and Lipparini)

*The following are equivalent for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$ :*

- 1.  $\mathcal{V}$  is congruence meet semidistributive.*
- 2.  $[\gamma, \gamma]_{TC} = \gamma$  for all congruences  $\gamma$  of algebras in  $\mathcal{V}$  (such  $\mathcal{V}$  are often called congruence neutral varieties).*
- 3.  $[\gamma, \gamma]_{TC} = \gamma$ , where  $\gamma$  is the principle congruence of  $\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)$  generated by  $(x, y)$ .*

Informally, the above theorem is stating that the class of congruence meet semidistributive varieties is exactly the class of varieties which have no nontrivial abelian congruences, and the latter condition (2) holds for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  if and only if there are no abelian principle congruences, which is true if and only if the ‘free’ principle congruence for  $\mathcal{V}$  is neutral.





## Definition

Let  $A$  be a set and let  $R \subseteq A^{2^2}$ . We say that  $R$  is

## Definition

Let  $A$  be a set and let  $R \subseteq A^{2^2}$ . We say that  $R$  is

1. (2)-reflexive if  $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline b & d \\ \hline a & c \\ \hline \end{array} \in R$  implies  $\begin{array}{|c|} \hline a & c \\ \hline a & c \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline b & d \\ \hline b & d \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline d & d \\ \hline c & c \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline b & b \\ \hline a & a \\ \hline \end{array} \in R,$

## Definition

Let  $A$  be a set and let  $R \subseteq A^{2^2}$ . We say that  $R$  is

1. (2)-reflexive if  $\begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array} \in R$  implies  $\begin{array}{c} a \text{ --- } c \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ b \text{ --- } d \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} d \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ c \text{ --- } c \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } b \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } a \end{array} \in R,$
2. (2)-symmetric if  $\begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array} \in R$  implies  $\begin{array}{c} a \text{ --- } c \\ | \quad \quad | \\ b \text{ --- } d \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ c \text{ --- } a \end{array} \in R,$

## Definition

Let  $A$  be a set and let  $R \subseteq A^{2^2}$ . We say that  $R$  is

$$1. \text{ (2)-reflexive if } \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array} \in R \text{ implies } \begin{array}{c} a \text{ --- } c \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ b \text{ --- } d \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} d \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ c \text{ --- } c \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } b \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } a \end{array} \in R,$$

$$2. \text{ (2)-symmetric if } \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array} \in R \text{ implies } \begin{array}{c} a \text{ --- } c \\ | \quad \quad | \\ b \text{ --- } d \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ c \text{ --- } a \end{array} \in R,$$

3. (2)-transitive if

$$\bullet \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} d \text{ --- } f \\ | \quad \quad | \\ c \text{ --- } e \end{array} \in R \text{ implies } \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } f \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } e \end{array} \in R$$

$$\bullet \begin{array}{c} b \text{ --- } d \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} e \text{ --- } f \\ | \quad \quad | \\ b \text{ --- } d \end{array} \in R \text{ implies } \begin{array}{c} e \text{ --- } f \\ | \quad \quad | \\ a \text{ --- } c \end{array} \in R$$



## Definition

We say that  $R$  is a (2)-equivalence relation on  $A$  if it is (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive.

## Definition

We say that  $R$  is a (2)-equivalence relation on  $A$  if it is (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive. If  $A$  is the universe of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ , we say that  $R$  is

1. A (2)-tolerance of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, and (2)-symmetric.



## Definition

We say that  $R$  is a (2)-equivalence relation on  $A$  if it is (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive. If  $A$  is the universe of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ , we say that  $R$  is

1. A (2)-tolerance of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, and (2)-symmetric.
2. A (2)-congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive.

## Definition

We say that  $R$  is a (2)-equivalence relation on  $A$  if it is (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive. If  $A$  is the universe of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ , we say that  $R$  is

1. A (2)-tolerance of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, and (2)-symmetric.
2. A (2)-congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive.

We refer to the (2)-congruence *generated* by  $\text{Cg}_2(X)$ .

## Definition

We say that  $R$  is a (2)-equivalence relation on  $A$  if it is (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive. If  $A$  is the universe of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ , we say that  $R$  is

1. A (2)-tolerance of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, and (2)-symmetric.
2. A (2)-congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive.

We refer to the (2)-congruence *generated* by  $\text{Cg}_2(X)$ . We now define the relation

$$\Delta(\theta, \theta) = \text{Cg}_2 \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_1 \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_2 \right\} \right),$$

for congruences  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ .

## Definition

We say that  $R$  is a (2)-equivalence relation on  $A$  if it is (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive. If  $A$  is the universe of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ , we say that  $R$  is

1. A (2)-tolerance of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, and (2)-symmetric.
2. A (2)-congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive.

We refer to the (2)-congruence *generated* by  $\text{Cg}_2(X)$ . We now define the relation

$$\Delta(\theta, \theta) = \text{Cg}_2 \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_1 \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_2 \right\} \right),$$

for congruences  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ . We say  $\theta_1$  *hypercentralizes*  $\theta_2$  if no matrix of  $\Delta(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  has one column which determines a pair of equal elements, while the opposite column determines a pair of unequal elements.

## Definition

We say that  $R$  is a (2)-equivalence relation on  $A$  if it is (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive. If  $A$  is the universe of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ , we say that  $R$  is

1. A (2)-tolerance of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, and (2)-symmetric.
2. A (2)-congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is  $\mathbb{A}$ -invariant, (2)-reflexive, (2)-symmetric, and (2)-transitive.

We refer to the (2)-congruence *generated* by  $\text{Cg}_2(X)$ . We now define the relation

$$\Delta(\theta, \theta) = \text{Cg}_2 \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_1 \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array} : (x, y) \in \theta_2 \right\} \right),$$

for congruences  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ . We say  $\theta_1$  *hypercentralizes*  $\theta_2$  if no matrix of  $\Delta(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  has one column which determines a pair of equal elements, while the opposite column determines a pair of unequal elements. We denote by  $[\theta_1, \theta_2]_H$  the corresponding commutator.



Let  $S \leq A^{2^2}$ . We define

- $H(S) := \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} b & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & c \end{array} : \exists e, f \left( \begin{array}{cc} b & \text{---} & f & , & f & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | & & | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & e & & e & \text{---} & c \end{array} \in S \right) \right\} \text{ and}$
- $V(S) := \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} b & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & c \end{array} : \exists e, f \left( \begin{array}{cc} b & \text{---} & d & , & e & \text{---} & f \\ | & & | & & | & & | \\ e & \text{---} & f & & a & \text{---} & c \end{array} \in S \right) \right\}$

Let  $S \leq A^{2^2}$ . We define

- $H(S) := \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} b & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & c \end{array} : \exists e, f \left( \begin{array}{ccc} b & \text{---} & f \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & e \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} f & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ e & \text{---} & c \end{array} \in S \right) \right\} \text{ and}$
- $V(S) := \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} b & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & c \end{array} : \exists e, f \left( \begin{array}{ccc} b & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ e & \text{---} & f \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} e & \text{---} & f \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & c \end{array} \in S \right) \right\}$

It is not hard to see that

$$\Delta(\theta, \theta) = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} (V \circ H)^n(M(\theta, \theta)).$$



Let  $S \leq A^{2^2}$ . We define

- $H(S) := \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} b & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & c \end{array} : \exists e, f \left( \begin{array}{ccc} b & \text{---} & f \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & e \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} f & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ e & \text{---} & c \end{array} \in S \right) \right\} \text{ and}$
- $V(S) := \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} b & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & c \end{array} : \exists e, f \left( \begin{array}{ccc} b & \text{---} & d \\ | & & | \\ e & \text{---} & f \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} e & \text{---} & f \\ | & & | \\ a & \text{---} & c \end{array} \in S \right) \right\}$

It is not hard to see that

$$\Delta(\theta, \theta) = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} (V \circ H)^n(M(\theta, \theta)).$$

In particular,  $M(\theta, \theta) \subseteq \Delta(\theta, \theta)$ , so it follows that  $[\theta_1, \theta_2]_{TC} \leq [\theta_1, \theta_2]_H$ .



The following two theorems are important for our characterization of congruence meet semidistributivity.

The following two theorems are important for our characterization of congruence meet semidistributivity.

## Theorem

*Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an algebra and let  $\theta$  be a congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$ . The following are equivalent.*

1.  $(x, y) \in [\theta, \theta]_H$ , and

2. 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array} \in \Delta(\theta, \theta)$$

The following two theorems are important for our characterization of congruence meet semidistributivity.

### Theorem

*Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an algebra and let  $\theta$  be a congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$ . The following are equivalent.*

1.  $(x, y) \in [\theta, \theta]_H$ , and

2.  $\begin{array}{ccc} x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array} \in \Delta(\theta, \theta)$

### Theorem (Follows from a result of Kearnes and Szendrei)

*Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a Taylor algebra and let  $\alpha$  be a congruence of  $\mathbb{A}$ . Then*

$$[\alpha, \alpha]_{TC} = [\alpha, \alpha]_H.$$



We define for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  and the  $(x, y)$ -*elementary matrices*:

$$E_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y) := \text{Sg}_{\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{cc|cc} x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \end{array} , \begin{array}{cc|cc} y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x \end{array} , \begin{array}{cc|cc} y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \end{array} , \begin{array}{cc|cc} x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x \end{array} , \begin{array}{cc|cc} x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} , \begin{array}{cc|cc} y & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\} \right).$$

We define for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  and the  $(x, y)$ -elementary matrices:

$$E_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y) := \text{Sg}_{\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array}, \begin{array}{cc} y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y \end{array}, \begin{array}{cc} y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array}, \begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y \end{array}, \begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array}, \begin{array}{cc} y & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\} \right).$$

## Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety. The following are equivalent.

1.  $\mathcal{V}$  is congruence meet semidistributive,

2.  $\begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} \in \Delta(\gamma, \gamma)$ , where  $\gamma$  is the congruence of the two generated free algebra  $\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  generated by the pair  $(x, y)$ , and

3.  $\begin{array}{cc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} \in \text{Cg}_2(E_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)) = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} (V \circ H)^n(E_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)).$

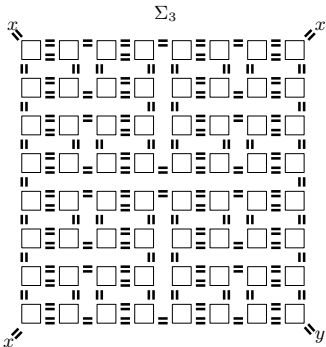
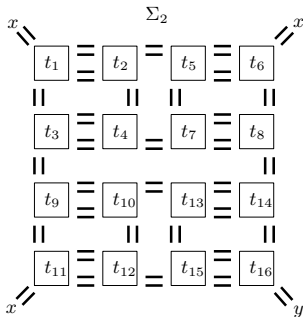
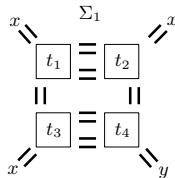
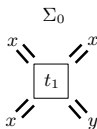


$$\boxed{t} \equiv \boxed{s}$$

stands for

$$\begin{array}{ccc} t(xxyyyy) & \text{---} & t(xyxyyx) = s(xxyyyy) \text{---} s(xyxyyx) \\ | & & | \\ t(xyxyxy) & \text{---} & t(xyxyyx) = s(xyxyxy) \text{---} s(xyxyyx) \end{array}$$

The equational conditions  $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \dots, \Sigma_i, \dots$  which determine a Maltsev condition for congruence meet semidistributivity:





- We denote by  $\mathcal{V}_n$  the variety of algebras in the signature  $\{t_1, \dots, t_{4^n}\}$  which satisfy the package of identities  $\Sigma_n$ .

- We denote by  $\mathcal{V}_n$  the variety of algebras in the signature  $\{t_1, \dots, t_{4^n}\}$  which satisfy the package of identities  $\Sigma_n$ .
- To show that there is no strong Maltsev condition that characterizes congruence meet semidistributivity, it suffices to produce for each  $n \geq 0$  some congruence meet semidistributive variety  $\mathcal{W}$  that does not interpret  $\mathcal{V}_n$ .

- We denote by  $\mathcal{V}_n$  the variety of algebras in the signature  $\{t_1, \dots, t_{4^n}\}$  which satisfy the package of identities  $\Sigma_n$ .
- To show that there is no strong Maltsev condition that characterizes congruence meet semidistributivity, it suffices to produce for each  $n \geq 0$  some congruence meet semidistributive variety  $\mathcal{W}$  that does not interpret  $\mathcal{V}_n$ .
- We define the following sequence of conditions  $\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_l, \dots$  and let  $\mathcal{W}_l$  be the variety of algebras satisfying  $\Lambda_l$ .

- We denote by  $\mathcal{V}_n$  the variety of algebras in the signature  $\{t_1, \dots, t_{4^n}\}$  which satisfy the package of identities  $\Sigma_n$ .
- To show that there is no strong Maltsev condition that characterizes congruence meet semidistributivity, it suffices to produce for each  $n \geq 0$  some congruence meet semidistributive variety  $\mathcal{W}$  that does not interpret  $\mathcal{V}_n$ .
- We define the following sequence of conditions  $\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_l, \dots$  and let  $\mathcal{W}_l$  be the variety of algebras satisfying  $\Lambda_l$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} xyxx - xxyx & & s(xyxx) - s(xxyx) \\ | \quad s \quad | & \text{stands for} & | \quad | \\ yyxx - yxyx & & s(yyxx) - s(yxyx) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} x & & & & & & x \\ // & & & & & & // \\ xxxx - xyxx & = & xyxx - xxyx & = & xxyx - xyxx & = & \dots = xxyx - xyxx = xyxx - xyyy \\ | \quad s_0 \quad | & & | \quad s_1 \quad | & & | \quad s_2 \quad | & & | \quad s_{2l} \quad | & & | \quad s_{2l+1} \quad | \\ yxxx - yyxx & = & yyxx - yxyx & = & yxyx - yyxx & = & \dots = yxyx - yyxx = yyxx - yyyy \\ x & & & & & & & & y \\ // & & & & & & // & & // \end{array}$$

The condition  $\Lambda_l$

## **Term analysis**

---





Recall that

$$E_{\mathcal{W}_l}(x, y) := \text{Sg}_{(\mathbb{F}_l)^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x & x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\} \right).$$

We want to show that for any  $n$ , there exists  $l$  so that it is impossible to glue together such squares to obtain a diagram witnessing the condition  $\Sigma_n$ .

Recall that

$$E_{\mathcal{W}_l}(x, y) := \text{Sg}_{(\mathbb{F}_l)^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x & x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\} \right).$$

We want to show that for any  $n$ , there exists  $l$  so that it is impossible to glue together such squares to obtain a diagram witnessing the condition  $\Sigma_n$ . Let  $\tau_l = \{s_0, \dots, s_{2l+1}\}$  be the signature corresponding to  $\Lambda_l$ .

Recall that

$$E_{\mathcal{W}_l}(x, y) := \text{Sg}_{(\mathbb{F}_l)^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x & x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\} \right).$$

We want to show that for any  $n$ , there exists  $l$  so that it is impossible to glue together such squares to obtain a diagram witnessing the condition  $\Sigma_n$ . Let  $\tau_l = \{s_0, \dots, s_{2l+1}\}$  be the signature corresponding to  $\Lambda_l$ . Consider the sets  $E_0 \subseteq E_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq E_k \subseteq \dots$  whose union is  $E_{\mathcal{W}_l}(x, y)$  defined by

$$E_0 = \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x & x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\} \text{ and}$$

$$E_{k+1} = \{r^{(\mathbb{F}_l)^{2^2}}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) : r \in \tau_l \text{ and } \alpha, \beta, \delta, \gamma \in E_k\} \text{ for } k \geq 0.$$

Recall that

$$E_{\mathcal{W}_l}(x, y) := \text{Sg}_{(\mathbb{F}_l)^{2^2}} \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} y & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & x & x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & y \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} y & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\} \right).$$

We want to show that for any  $n$ , there exists  $l$  so that it is impossible to glue together such squares to obtain a diagram witnessing the condition  $\Sigma_n$ . Let  $\tau_l = \{s_0, \dots, s_{2l+1}\}$  be the signature corresponding to  $\Lambda_l$ . Consider the sets  $E_0 \subseteq E_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq E_k \subseteq \dots$  whose union is  $E_{\mathcal{W}_l}(x, y)$  defined by

$$E_0 = \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} y & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & y \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & x & x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y & x & \text{---} & y \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} , \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} y & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | & | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & x & y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\} \text{ and}$$

$$E_{k+1} = \{r^{(\mathbb{F}_l)^{2^2}}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) : r \in \tau_l \text{ and } \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in E_k\} \text{ for } k \geq 0.$$

Our goal is to show that, for large enough  $l$ , there is no  $k$  where

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} \in (V \circ H)^n(E_k).$$



- An idea: What if we could treat subterms like free generators?

- An idea: What if we could treat subterms like free generators?
- If we define  $\Lambda_{l,i}$  to be the condition produced by deleting the operation  $s_i$  from the signature  $\tau_l$  and all identities mentioning it from  $\Lambda_l$ , then the corresponding variety  $\mathcal{W}_{l,i}$  is equi-interpretable with SET.

- An idea: What if we could treat subterms like free generators?
- If we define  $\Lambda_{l,i}$  to be the condition produced by deleting the operation  $s_i$  from the signature  $\tau_l$  and all identities mentioning it from  $\Lambda_l$ , then the corresponding variety  $\mathcal{W}_{l,i}$  is equi-interpretable with SET.
- Then it would be possible to reduce the complexity of terms of any diagram witnessing  $\Sigma_n$  by interpreting  $\tau_{l,i}$  operation symbols as projections, which would lead to a contradiction, since squares belonging  $E_0$  cannot be arranged to witness  $\Sigma_n$ .



- An idea: What if we could treat subterms like free generators?
- If we define  $\Lambda_{l,i}$  to be the condition produced by deleting the operation  $s_i$  from the signature  $\tau_l$  and all identities mentioning it from  $\Lambda_l$ , then the corresponding variety  $\mathcal{W}_{l,i}$  is equi-interpretable with SET.
- Then it would be possible to reduce the complexity of terms of any diagram witnessing  $\Sigma_n$  by interpreting  $\tau_{l,i}$  operation symbols as projections, which would lead to a contradiction, since squares belonging  $E_0$  cannot be arranged to witness  $\Sigma_n$ .

The condition  $\Lambda_l$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 x & & & & & & x \\
 // & & & & & & // \\
 xxx - yxx & = & yxx - xxy & = & xxy - yxx & = & \dots = xxy - yxx = yxx - xyy \\
 | \quad s_0 & | & | \quad s_1 & | & | \quad s_2 & | & | \quad s_{2l} & | & | \quad s_{2l+1} & | \\
 yxx - yyy & = & yyy - yxy & = & yxy - yyy & = & \dots = yxy - yyy = yyy - yyy \\
 x & & & & & & y \\
 // & & & & & & //
 \end{array}$$

The condition  $\Lambda_{l,1}$  is modeled by projections.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 x & & & & & & x \\
 // & & & & & & // \\
 xxx - yxx & & & & & & \\
 | \quad s_0 & | & & & & & \\
 yxx - yyy & & & & & & \\
 x & & & & & & y \\
 // & & & & & & // \\
 \pi_4 & & & & & &
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{delete } s_1 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccccccc}
 x & & & & & & x \\
 // & & & & & & // \\
 xxy - yxx & = & \dots & = & xxy - yxx = yxx - xyy \\
 | \quad s_2 & | & & & | \quad s_{2l} & | & | \quad s_{2l+1} & | \\
 yxy - yyy & = & \dots & = & yxy - yyy = yyy - yyy \\
 & & & & & & \\
 \pi_1 & & & & & & \pi_1 & & & \pi_1 & & y \\
 & & & & & & & & & // & & //
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 x & & & & & & x \\
 // & & & & & & // \\
 \boxed{s_{10}} & = & \boxed{s_{35}} & & & & \\
 \parallel & & \parallel & & & & \\
 \boxed{s_{16}} & = & \boxed{s_{22}} & & & & \\
 x & & & & & & y \\
 // & & & & & & //
 \end{array}
 \xrightarrow{\text{Interpret with projections}}
 \begin{array}{ccccccc}
 x & & & & & & x \\
 // & & & & & & // \\
 \boxed{\phantom{s_{10}}} & = & \boxed{\phantom{s_{35}}} & & & & \\
 \parallel & & \parallel & & & & \\
 \boxed{\phantom{s_{16}}} & = & \boxed{\phantom{s_{22}}} & & & & \\
 x & & & & & & y \\
 // & & & & & & //
 \end{array}$$



- To prove that the strategy actually works, we prefer to construct the free algebra recursively so that its underlying set is a collection of minimal term complexity normal forms. We do this to avoid worrying that we overlooked any equalities between terms which follow from equational logic.

- To prove that the strategy actually works, we prefer to construct the free algebra recursively so that its underlying set is a collection of minimal term complexity normal forms. We do this to avoid worrying that we overlooked any equalities between terms which follow from equational logic.
- We define a sequence of sets  $\{x, y\} = F_l^0 \subseteq F_l^1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_l^{k-1} \subseteq F_l^k \dots$ , where each  $F_l^k$  is the domain of a partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^k$  with all  $\tau_l$  operations defined on  $(F_l^{k-1})^4$ , for every  $k \geq 1$ .

- To prove that the strategy actually works, we prefer to construct the free algebra recursively so that its underlying set is a collection of minimal term complexity normal forms. We do this to avoid worrying that we overlooked any equalities between terms which follow from equational logic.
- We define a sequence of sets  $\{x, y\} = F_l^0 \subseteq F_l^1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_l^{k-1} \subseteq F_l^k \dots$ , where each  $F_l^k$  is the domain of a partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^k$  with all  $\tau_l$  operations defined on  $(F_l^{k-1})^4$ , for every  $k \geq 1$ .
- Given the partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^k$ , the partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$  is defined by extending the operation  $r^{\mathbb{F}_l^k}$  to  $(F_l^k)^l$  either by applying  $\Lambda_l$ -identities or choosing a new term and adding it to  $F_l^{k+1}$ .

- To prove that the strategy actually works, we prefer to construct the free algebra recursively so that its underlying set is a collection of minimal term complexity normal forms. We do this to avoid worrying that we overlooked any equalities between terms which follow from equational logic.
- We define a sequence of sets  $\{x, y\} = F_l^0 \subseteq F_l^1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_l^{k-1} \subseteq F_l^k \dots$ , where each  $F_l^k$  is the domain of a partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^k$  with all  $\tau_l$  operations defined on  $(F_l^{k-1})^4$ , for every  $k \geq 1$ .
- Given the partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^k$ , the partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$  is defined by extending the operation  $r^{\mathbb{F}_l^k}$  to  $(F_l^k)^l$  either by applying  $\Lambda_l$ -identities or choosing a new term and adding it to  $F_l^{k+1}$ .
- Then define  $F_l = \bigcup_{1 \leq k} F_l^k$  and interpret the operations in the obvious way.

- To prove that the strategy actually works, we prefer to construct the free algebra recursively so that its underlying set is a collection of minimal term complexity normal forms. We do this to avoid worrying that we overlooked any equalities between terms which follow from equational logic.
- We define a sequence of sets  $\{x, y\} = F_l^0 \subseteq F_l^1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_l^{k-1} \subseteq F_l^k \dots$ , where each  $F_l^k$  is the domain of a partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^k$  with all  $\tau_l$  operations defined on  $(F_l^{k-1})^4$ , for every  $k \geq 1$ .
- Given the partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^k$ , the partial  $\tau_l$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$  is defined by extending the operation  $r^{\mathbb{F}_l^k}$  to  $(F_l^k)^l$  either by applying  $\Lambda_l$ -identities or choosing a new term and adding it to  $F_l^{k+1}$ .
- Then define  $F_l = \bigcup_{1 \leq k} F_l^k$  and interpret the operations in the obvious way.



	$s_0^{\mathbb{F}_l^1}$	$s_1^{\mathbb{F}_l^1}$	$s_2^{\mathbb{F}_l^1}$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}^{\mathbb{F}_l^1}$	$s_{2l+1}^{\mathbb{F}_l^1}$
$xxxx$	$x$	$x$	$x$	$\dots$	$x$	$x$
$xxxy$	$s_0(xxxy)$	$s_1(xxxy)$	$s_2(xxxy)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(xxxy)$	$s_{2l+1}(xxxy)$
$xyyx$	$s_0(xyyx)$	$s_1(xyyx)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_1(\mathbf{xyyx})$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(xyyx)$	$s_{2l+1}(xyyx)$
$xyyy$	$s_0(xyyy)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_0(\mathbf{xyyy})$	$s_2(xyyy)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(xyyy)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_{2l}(\mathbf{xyyy})$
$xyxx$	$s_0(xyxx)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_0(\mathbf{xyxx})$	$s_2(xyxx)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(xyxx)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_{2l}(\mathbf{xyxx})$
$xyxy$	$s_0(xyxy)$	$s_1(xyxy)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_1(\mathbf{xyxy})$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(xyxy)$	$s_{2l+1}(xyxy)$
$xyyx$	$s_0(xyyx)$	$s_1(xyyx)$	$s_2(xyyx)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(xyyx)$	$s_{2l+1}(xyyx)$
$xyyy$	$y$	$s_1(xyyy)$	$s_2(xyyy)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(xyyy)$	$x$
$yxxx$	$x$	$s_1(yxxx)$	$s_2(yxxx)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(yxxx)$	$y$
$yxxxy$	$s_0(yxxxy)$	$s_1(yxxxy)$	$s_2(yxxxy)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(yxxxy)$	$s_{2l+1}(yxxxy)$
$yxyyx$	$s_0(yxyyx)$	$s_1(yxyyx)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_1(\mathbf{yxyyx})$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(yxyyx)$	$s_{2l+1}(yxyyx)$
$yxyyy$	$s_0(yxyyy)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_0(\mathbf{yxyyy})$	$s_2(yxyyy)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(yxyyy)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_{2l}(\mathbf{yxyyy})$
$yyxx$	$s_0(yyxx)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_0(\mathbf{yyxx})$	$s_2(yyxx)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(yyxx)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_{2l}(\mathbf{yyxx})$
$yyxy$	$s_0(yyxy)$	$s_1(yyxy)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s}_1(\mathbf{yyxy})$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(yyxy)$	$s_{2l+1}(yyxy)$
$yyyx$	$s_0(yyyx)$	$s_1(yyyx)$	$s_2(yyyx)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(yyyx)$	$s_{2l+1}(yyyx)$
$yyyy$	$y$	$y$	$y$	$\dots$	$y$	$y$

Input tuples  $(a, b, c, d) \in F_l^k$  satisfy  $\{a, b, c, d\} \cap (F_l^k \setminus F_l^{k-1}) \neq \emptyset$

	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_0$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_1$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_2$	$\dots$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_{2l}$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_{2l+1}$
$pppp$	$p$	$p$	$p$	$\dots$	$p$	$p$
$pppq$	$s_0(pppq)$	$s_1(pppq)$	$s_2(pppq)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pppq)$	$s_{2l+1}(pppq)$
$ppqp$	$s_0(ppqp)$	$s_1(ppqp)$	$\leftarrow s_1(\mathbf{ppqp})$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(ppqp)$	$s_{2l+1}(ppqp)$
$ppqq$	$s_0(ppqq)$	$\leftarrow s_0(\mathbf{ppqq})$	$s_2(ppqq)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(ppqq)$	$\leftarrow s_{2l}(\mathbf{ppqq})$
$pqpp$	$s_0(pqpp)$	$\leftarrow s_0(\mathbf{pqpp})$	$s_2(pqpp)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pqpp)$	$\leftarrow s_{2l}(\mathbf{pqpp})$
$pqpq$	$s_0(pqpq)$	$s_1(pqpq)$	$\leftarrow s_1(\mathbf{pqpq})$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pqpq)$	$s_{2l+1}(pqpq)$
$pqqp$	$s_0(pqqp)$	$s_1(pqqp)$	$s_2(pqqp)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pqqp)$	$s_{2l+1}(pqqp)$
$pqqq$	$q$	$s_1(pqqq)$	$s_2(pqqq)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pqqq)$	$p$

Input tuples  $(a, b, c, d) \in F_l^k$  satisfy  $\{a, b, c, d\} \cap (F_l^k \setminus F_l^{k-1}) \neq \emptyset$  and  $|\{a, b, c, d\}| \geq 3$

	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_0$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_1$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_2$	$\dots$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_{2l}$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_{2l+1}$
$abcd$	$s_0(abcd)$	$s_1(abcd)$	$s_2(abcd)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(abcd)$	$s_{2l+1}(abcd)$



## Lemma

*Let  $l \geq 1$ , and  $m \geq 1$ . Consider a set of  $\tau_l$ -terms of the form*

$$T = \{r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) : r_j \in \tau_l \text{ and } a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j \in F_l, \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq m\}$$

## Lemma

*Let  $l \geq 1$ , and  $m \geq 1$ . Consider a set of  $\tau_l$ -terms of the form*

$$T = \{r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) : r_j \in \tau_l \text{ and } a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j \in F_l, \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq m\}$$

*and let*

$$Z = \{z : \text{there exists } r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) \in T \text{ with } r_j = s_z\}$$

*be the set of indices of basic  $\tau_l$ -operation symbols which appear as the outer symbol for a term in  $T$ .*

## Lemma

*Let  $l \geq 1$ , and  $m \geq 1$ . Consider a set of  $\tau_l$ -terms of the form*

$$T = \{r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) : r_j \in \tau_l \text{ and } a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j \in F_l, \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq m\}$$

*and let*

$$Z = \{z : \text{there exists } r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) \in T \text{ with } r_j = s_z\}$$

*be the set of indices of basic  $\tau_l$ -operation symbols which appear as the outer symbol for a term in  $T$ . If there exists  $0 \leq i \leq 2l + 1$  such that  $|z - i| \geq 2$  for all  $z \in Z$ ,*

## Lemma

Let  $l \geq 1$ , and  $m \geq 1$ . Consider a set of  $\tau_l$ -terms of the form

$$T = \{r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) : r_j \in \tau_l \text{ and } a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j \in F_l, \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq m\}$$

and let

$$Z = \{z : \text{there exists } r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) \in T \text{ with } r_j = s_z\}$$

be the set of indices of basic  $\tau_l$ -operation symbols which appear as the outer symbol for a term in  $T$ . If there exists  $0 \leq i \leq 2l + 1$  such that  $|z - i| \geq 2$  for all  $z \in Z$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} r_{j_1}^{\mathbb{F}_l}(a_{j_1}, b_{j_1}, c_{j_1}, d_{j_1}) &= r_{j_2}^{\mathbb{F}_l}(a_{j_2}, b_{j_2}, c_{j_2}, d_{j_2}) \iff \\ r_{j_1}^{\mathbb{G}}(a_{j_1}, b_{j_1}, c_{j_1}, d_{j_1}) &= r_{j_2}^{\mathbb{G}}(a_{j_2}, b_{j_2}, c_{j_2}, d_{j_2}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbb{G} = \mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{W}_{l,i}}(\bigcup_{1 \leq j \leq m} \{a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j\})$  is the algebra for  $\mathcal{W}_{l,i}$  freely generated by

$$\bigcup_{1 \leq j \leq m} \{a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j\}.$$

## Lemma

Let  $l \geq 1$ , and  $m \geq 1$ . Consider a set of  $\tau_l$ -terms of the form

$$T = \{r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) : r_j \in \tau_l \text{ and } a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j \in F_l, \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq m\}$$

and let

$$Z = \{z : \text{there exists } r_j(a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j) \in T \text{ with } r_j = s_z\}$$

be the set of indices of basic  $\tau_l$ -operation symbols which appear as the outer symbol for a term in  $T$ . If there exists  $0 \leq i \leq 2l + 1$  such that  $|z - i| \geq 2$  for all  $z \in Z$ , then

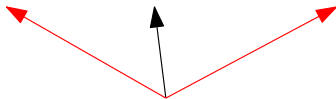
$$\begin{aligned} r_{j_1}^{\mathbb{F}_l}(a_{j_1}, b_{j_1}, c_{j_1}, d_{j_1}) &= r_{j_2}^{\mathbb{F}_l}(a_{j_2}, b_{j_2}, c_{j_2}, d_{j_2}) \iff \\ r_{j_1}^{\mathbb{G}}(a_{j_1}, b_{j_1}, c_{j_1}, d_{j_1}) &= r_{j_2}^{\mathbb{G}}(a_{j_2}, b_{j_2}, c_{j_2}, d_{j_2}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbb{G} = \mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{W}_{l,i}}(\bigcup_{1 \leq j \leq m} \{a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j\})$  is the algebra for  $\mathcal{W}_{l,i}$  freely generated by

$$\bigcup_{1 \leq j \leq m} \{a_j, b_j, c_j, d_j\}.$$



	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_0$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_1$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_2$	$\dots$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_{2l}$	$\mathbb{F}_l^{k+1}$ $s_{2l+1}$
$pppp$	$p$	$p$	$p$	$\dots$	$p$	$p$
$pppq$	$s_0(pppq)$	$s_1(pppq)$	$s_2(pppq)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pppq)$	$s_{2l+1}(pppq)$
$ppqp$	$s_0(ppqp)$	$s_1(ppqp)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s_1(ppqp)}$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(ppqp)$	$s_{2l+1}(ppqp)$
$ppqq$	$s_0(ppqq)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s_0(ppqq)}$	$s_2(ppqq)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(ppqq)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s_{2l}(ppqq)}$
$pqpp$	$s_0(pqpp)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s_0(pqpp)}$	$s_2(pqpp)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pqpp)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s_{2l}(pqpp)}$
$pqpq$	$s_0(pqpq)$	$s_1(pqpq)$	$\leftarrow \mathbf{s_1(pqpq)}$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pqpq)$	$s_{2l+1}(pqpq)$
$pqqp$	$s_0(pqqp)$	$s_1(pqqp)$	$s_2(pqqp)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pqqp)$	$s_{2l+1}(pqqp)$
$pqqq$	$q$	$s_1(pqqq)$	$s_2(pqqq)$	$\dots$	$s_{2l}(pqqq)$	$p$



Intution: if  $i \in Z$ , where  $Z$  is the set of indices of basic  $\tau_l$ -operation symbols being used, then we *at most* need to use identities involving  $s_{i-1}$ ,  $s_i$ , and  $s_{i+1}$  to find the normal form for some  $s_i(a, b, c, d)$ .

Hence, for fixed  $n$ , there is obviously  $l$  large enough so that the lemma applies when  $|Z| = 4^n$ .



## Summarizing:

Summarizing:

- Fix  $n \geq 0$  and choose  $l$  so that the lemma applies (  $l > 2 \cdot 4^n$  for example).

Summarizing:

- Fix  $n \geq 0$  and choose  $l$  so that the lemma applies (  $l > 2 \cdot 4^n$  for example).
- We want to show that  $\mathcal{W}_l$  has no  $\Sigma_n$ -terms. Assume to the contrary, then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} \in \bigcup_{n \geq 0} (V \circ H)^n (E_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)).$$

Summarizing:

- Fix  $n \geq 0$  and choose  $l$  so that the lemma applies ( $l > 2 \cdot 4^n$  for example).
- We want to show that  $\mathcal{W}_l$  has no  $\Sigma_n$ -terms. Assume to the contrary, then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array} \in \bigcup_{n \geq 0} (V \circ H)^n (E_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)).$$

We defined  $E_0 = \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} y & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & x \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} x & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & y \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} x & \text{---} & y \\ | & & | \\ x & \text{---} & y \end{array}, \begin{array}{ccc} y & \text{---} & x \\ | & & | \\ y & \text{---} & x \end{array} \right\}$  and

$$E_{k+1} = \{r^{(\mathbb{F}_l)^{2^2}}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) : r \in \tau_l \text{ and } \alpha, \beta, \delta, \gamma \in E_k\} \text{ for } k \geq 0.$$

Summarizing:

- Fix  $n \geq 0$  and choose  $l$  so that the lemma applies ( $l > 2 \cdot 4^n$  for example).
- We want to show that  $\mathcal{W}_l$  has no  $\Sigma_n$ -terms. Assume to the contrary, then

$$\begin{array}{c} x \text{ --- } x \\ | \quad \quad | \\ x \text{ --- } y \end{array} \in \bigcup_{n \geq 0} (V \circ H)^n (E_{\mathcal{V}}(x, y)).$$

We defined  $E_0 = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} x \text{ --- } x \quad y \text{ --- } y \quad y \text{ --- } y \quad x \text{ --- } x \quad x \text{ --- } y \quad y \text{ --- } x \\ | \quad \quad | \quad | \quad \quad | \quad \quad | \quad \quad | \quad \quad | \quad \quad | \quad \quad | \\ x \text{ --- } x \quad y \text{ --- } y \quad x \text{ --- } x \quad y \text{ --- } y \quad x \text{ --- } y \quad y \text{ --- } x \end{array} \right\}$  and

$$E_{k+1} = \{r^{(\mathbb{F}_l)^{2^2}}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) : r \in \tau_l \text{ and } \alpha, \beta, \delta, \gamma \in E_k\} \text{ for } k \geq 0.$$

- Choose  $k$  minimal so that  $\begin{array}{c} x \text{ --- } x \\ | \quad \quad | \\ x \text{ --- } y \end{array} \in \bigcup_{n \geq 0} (V \circ H)^n (E_k(x, y))$ . Obviously,  $k \neq 0$ .

We apply the lemma and find that  $k - 1$  works also, contradiction.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
r_1^{\mathbb{F}_l}(xxxx) & & & & & & r_6^{\mathbb{F}_l}(xxxx) \\
// & & & & & & // \\
\boxed{r_1(\alpha_1, \beta_1, \gamma_1, \delta_1)} & \equiv & \boxed{r_2(\alpha_2, \beta_2, \gamma_2, \delta_2)} & = & \boxed{r_5(\alpha_5, \beta_5, \gamma_5, \delta_5)} & \equiv & \boxed{r_6(\alpha_6, \beta_6, \gamma_6, \delta_6)} \\
|| & & & || & || & & || \\
\boxed{r_3(\alpha_3, \beta_3, \gamma_3, \delta_3)} & \equiv & \boxed{r_4(\alpha_4, \beta_4, \gamma_4, \delta_4)} & = & \boxed{r_7(\alpha_7, \beta_7, \gamma_7, \delta_7)} & \equiv & \boxed{r_8(\alpha_8, \beta_8, \gamma_8, \delta_8)} \\
|| & & & & & & || \\
\boxed{r_9(\alpha_9, \beta_9, \gamma_9, \delta_9)} & \equiv & \boxed{r_{10}(\alpha_{10}, \beta_{10}, \gamma_{10}, \delta_{10})} & = & \boxed{r_{13}(\alpha_{13}, \beta_{13}, \gamma_{13}, \delta_{13})} & \equiv & \boxed{r_{14}(\alpha_{14}, \beta_{14}, \gamma_{14}, \delta_{14})} \\
|| & & & || & || & & || \\
\boxed{r_{11}(\alpha_{11}, \beta_{11}, \gamma_{11}, \delta_{11})} & \equiv & \boxed{r_{12}(\alpha_{12}, \beta_{12}, \gamma_{12}, \delta_{12})} & = & \boxed{r_{15}(\alpha_{15}, \beta_{15}, \gamma_{15}, \delta_{15})} & \equiv & \boxed{r_{16}(\alpha_{16}, \beta_{16}, \gamma_{16}, \delta_{16})} \\
// & & & & & & // \\
r_{11}^{\mathbb{F}_l}(xxxx) & & & & & & r_{16}^{\mathbb{F}_l}(yyyy)
\end{array}$$

$$\boxed{r(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)} \quad \text{stands for} \quad r^{\mathbb{F}_l^{2^2}} \left( \boxed{\alpha} \quad \boxed{\beta} \quad \boxed{\gamma} \quad \boxed{\delta} \right)$$



Thank you for your attention!