### CSPs and Datalog

Manuel Bodirsky

CNRS/LIX, École Polytechnique

December 2013

### Example

An instance of  $CSP(\mathbb{Q}; \leq, \neq)$ :



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- conjunctive queries + recursion

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Main algorithmic technique studied in more applied AI literature

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Example:  $CSP(\mathbb{Q}; <)$  can be solved by (2,3)-Datalog program

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Advantage of this perspective: can also be applied to infinite  $\Gamma$ However, need:  $\Gamma$  has only finitely many binary primitive positive definable unary relations.

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Say that Datalog solves  $CSP(\Gamma)$  if there exists a Datalog program  $\Pi$  such that for all finite *A*:

Π derives *false* list if and only if there is no homomorphism from A to  $\Gamma$ .

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#### Question: Which CSPs can be solved by Datalog?

Write a Datalog program that solves graph 2-colorability,  $CSP(K_2)$ .



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Two players: Spoiler and Duplicator



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Spoiler wins if eventually  $p_i \mapsto q_i$  is not a partial homomorphism from *A* to *B*, otherwise Duplicator wins.

### The existential pebble game: observations

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- Suppose that Duplicator has a winning strategy: that is, no matter how Spoiler plays, Duplicator can always play such that she wins. Then Duplicator also has a memoryless winning strategy: she can win in such a way that her moves only depend on the current positions of the pebbles, and not on the history of the game.

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#### Theorem 1 (Feder, Vardi'93).

 $CSP(\Gamma)$  cannot be solved by (I, k)-Datalog if and only if there exists an unsatisfiable instance *A* of  $CSP(\Gamma)$  such that Duplicator wins the existential (I, k)-pebble game on *A*,  $\Gamma$ .

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Theorem fails for general infinite  $\Gamma$ :

Let  $T_{\infty}$  be  $\bigcup_{n\geq 1}^{\infty} T_n$ . (CSP( $T_{\infty}$ ) is the same as CSP( $\mathbb{Q}; <$ ))



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Thus:  $CSP(T_{\infty})$  cannot be solved by (1,2)-Datalog program But: Duplicator looses the (1,2)-pebble game on (*G*,  $T_{\infty}$ ) for all graphs *G* with a directed cycle.

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**Claim** (proof comes later):  $(\mathbb{Q}; <)$  and  $(\mathbb{Q}; \{(x, y, z) | x > y \lor x > z\})$  have only finitely many inequivalent primitive positive definable relations, for all *n*.

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Transform into an instance of the CSP Facts:

- the resulting instance A of  $CSP(\mathbb{Q}; x > y \lor x > z)$  is unsatisfiable
- Duplicator wins the existential pebble game on A,  $(\mathbb{Q}; x > y \lor x > z)$

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Clearly, this is satisfied at the beginning of the game.



