

# Gadgets and Anti-Gadgets Leading to a Complexity Dichotomy

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Joint with:  
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Michael Kowalczyk (Northern Michigan University)

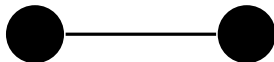
To appear at ITCS 2012

## Definition

A **vertex cover** of a graph is a set of vertices such that each edge of the graph is incident to at least one vertex in the set.

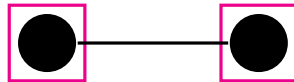
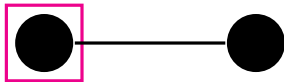
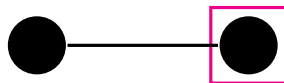
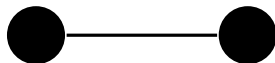
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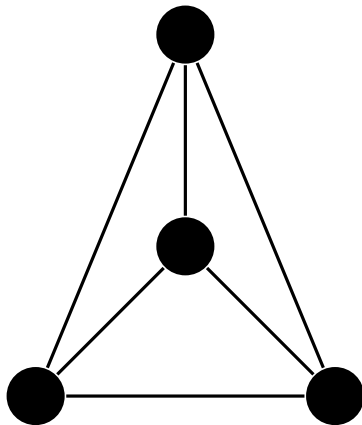
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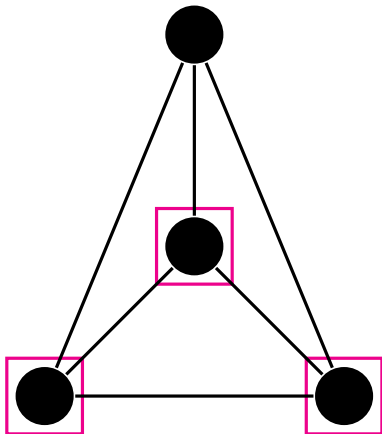
# Systematic Approach to $\#V_{\text{ERTEXCOVER}}$

- $G = (V, E)$



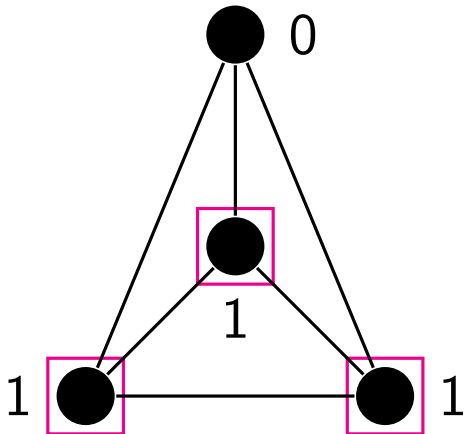
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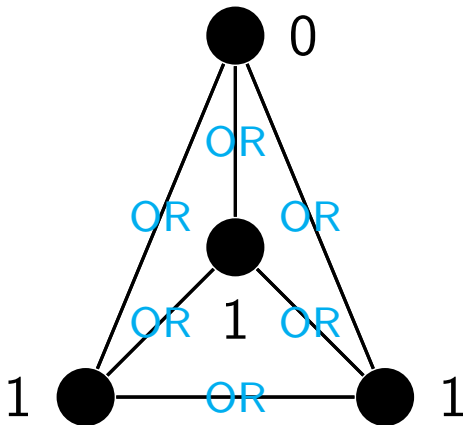
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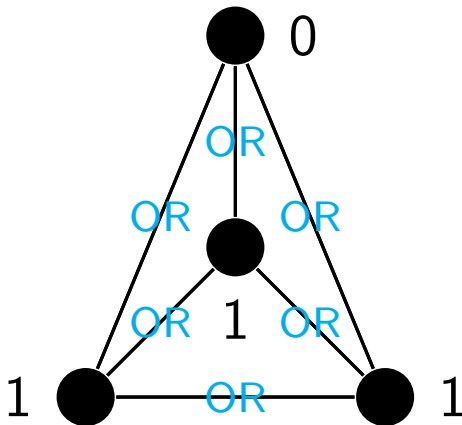
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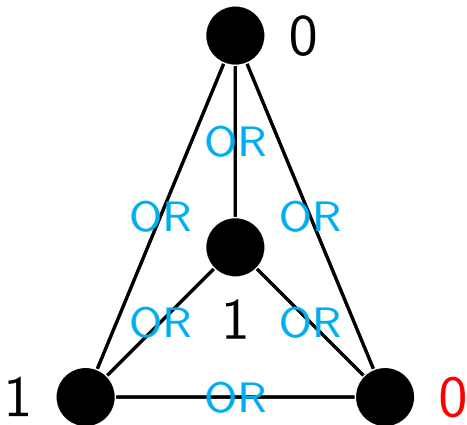
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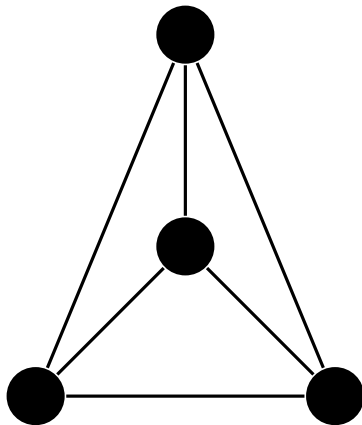
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# Systematic Approach to $\#\text{VERTEXCOVER}$

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$$\#\text{VERTEXCOVER}(G) = \sum_{\sigma: V \rightarrow \{0,1\}} \prod_{(u,v) \in E} \text{OR}(\sigma(u), \sigma(v))$$

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Input		Output
$p$	$q$	$\text{OR}(p, q)$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
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$$\sum_{\sigma: V \rightarrow \{0,1\}} \prod_{(u,v) \in E} f(\sigma(u), \sigma(v))$$

Input		Output
$p$	$q$	$\text{OR}(p, q)$
0	0	0
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1	0	1
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Input		Output
$p$	$q$	$f(p, q)$
0	0	$w$
0	1	$x$
1	0	$y$
1	1	$z$

where  $w, x, y, z \in \mathbb{C}$

Partition Function:  $Z(\cdot)$

$$Z(G) = \sum_{\sigma: V \rightarrow \{0,1\}} \prod_{(u,v) \in E} f(\sigma(u), \sigma(v))$$

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## Theorem (Dichotomy Theorem)

Over 3-regular graphs  $G$ , the counting problem for any (binary) complex-weighted function  $f$

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is either computable in polynomial time or  $\#\text{P}$ -hard. Furthermore, the complexity is efficiently decidable.

- 1 Related work
- 2 Define Holant function
- 3 Proof sketch
  - Anti-gadgets

# Related Work: Dichotomy Theorems

- Symmetric  $f$ 
  - $f(0,1) = f(1,0)$
- 3-regular graphs with outputs in
  - $\{0,1\}$  [Cai, Lu, Xia 08]
  - $\{0,1,-1\}$  [Kowalczyk 09]
  - $\mathbb{R}$  [Cai, Lu, Xia 09]
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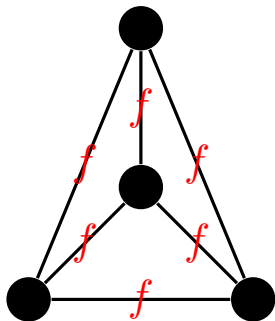
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This work:

- Asymmetric  $f$
- 3-regular graphs with outputs in
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# Definition of Holant Function

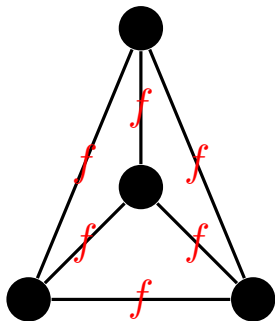
- Partition Function



$$\sum_{\sigma: V \rightarrow \{0,1\}} \prod_{(u,v) \in E} f(\sigma(u), \sigma(v))$$

# Definition of Holant Function

- Partition Function
  - Assignments to vertices
  - Functions on edges

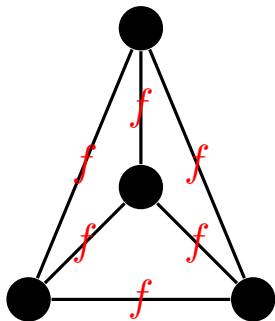


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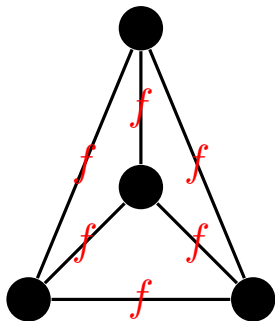
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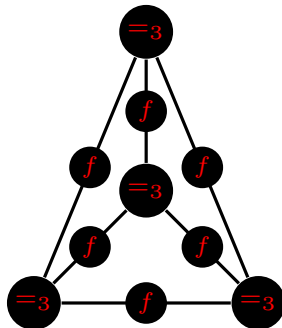
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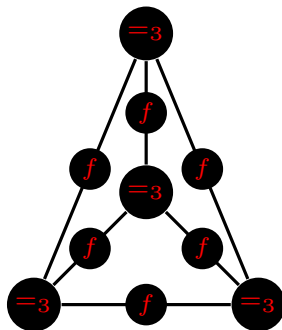
$$\sum_{\sigma: E \rightarrow \{0,1\}} \prod_{v \in V} g_v(\sigma|_{E(v)})$$

# Definition of Holant Function

- $\text{Holant}(\{f\} | \{=3\})$  is a counting problem defined over (2,3)-regular bipartite graphs.

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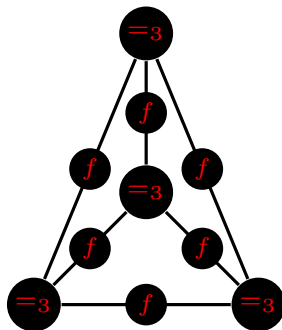
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- Degree 2 vertices take  $f$ .
- Degree 3 vertices take  $=_3$ .

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# Example Holant Problems

- $\text{Holant}(\{\text{OR}_2\} \mid \{=3\})$  is  $\#\text{VERTEXCOVER}$  on 3-regular graphs.

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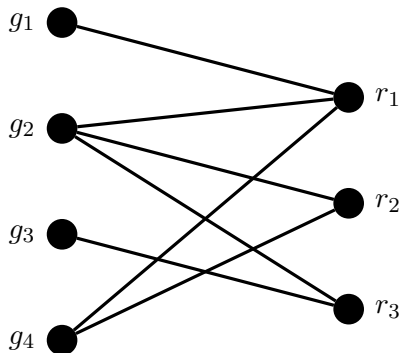
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# General Bipartite Holant Definition

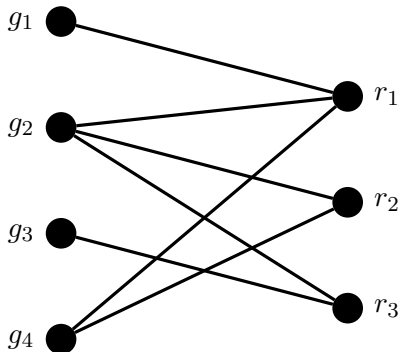
- More generally,  $\text{Holant}(\mathcal{G} | \mathcal{R})$  is a counting problem defined over bipartite graphs.





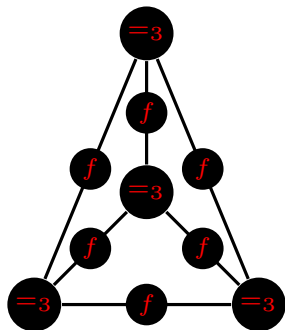
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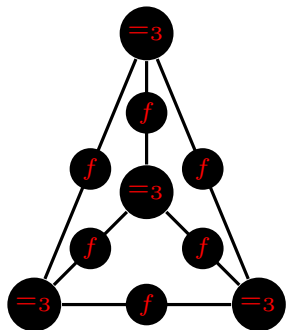
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# Symmetric vs Asymmetric Function

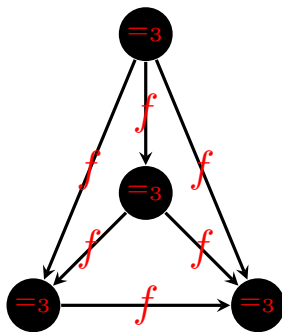


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# Symmetric vs Asymmetric Function



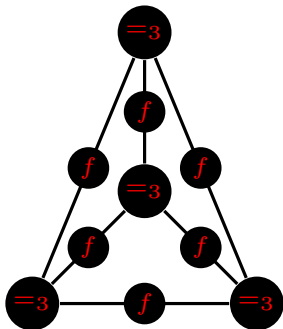
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- Define  $p$  to be on the tail
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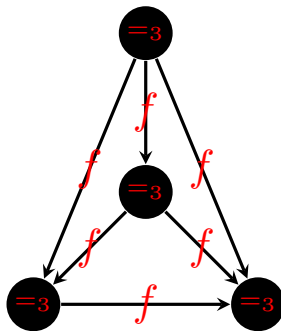
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- Directed 3-regular



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# Strategy for Proving #P-hardness

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where  $\mathcal{U}$  is the set of all **unary functions**.

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- Obtain  $\mathcal{U}$  via **interpolation**.

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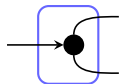
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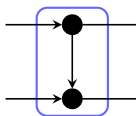
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- We construct unary functions  $g_i$  such that the evaluation points are  $\frac{g_i(0)}{g_i(1)}$ .
- Distinct evaluation points  $\iff$  unary functions pairwise linearly independent (as length-2 vectors).

# Construction of Unary Functions

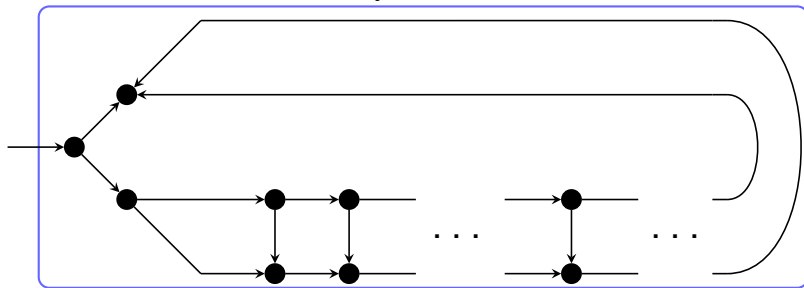
Projective Gadget



Recursive Gadget



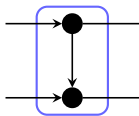
Unary Function





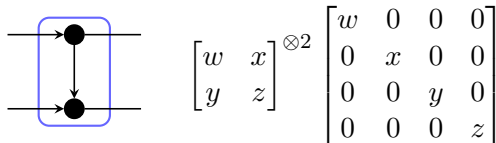
# Matrix Representation

- Left side indexes the row.
- Right side indexes the column.
- High order bit on top.



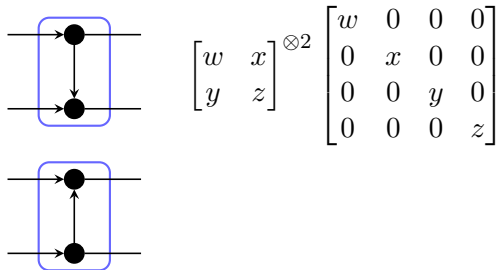
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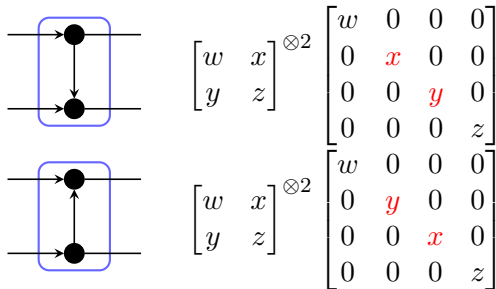
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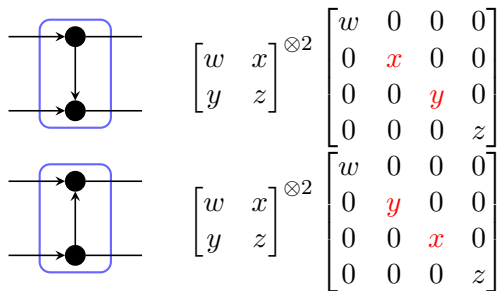
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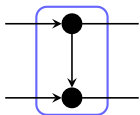
- Matrix of the composition is the product of the component matrices.

# Anti-Gadget Construction

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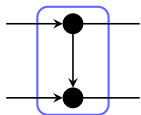
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- If this matrix has this property, then we are done.



$$\begin{bmatrix} w & x \\ y & z \end{bmatrix}^{\otimes 2} = \begin{bmatrix} w & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & z \end{bmatrix}$$

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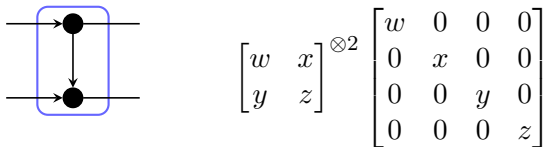
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- Otherwise, some power  $k$  is a multiple of the identity matrix.

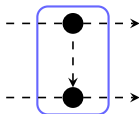


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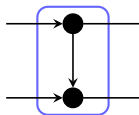


- Otherwise, some power  $k$  is a multiple of the identity matrix.
- Using only  $k - 1$  compositions creates an **anti-gadget**.

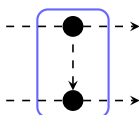


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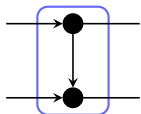

$$\begin{bmatrix} w & x \\ y & z \end{bmatrix}^{\otimes 2} \begin{bmatrix} w & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & z \end{bmatrix}$$

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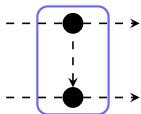
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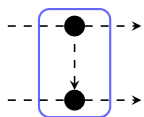
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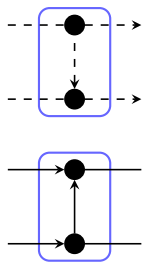
# Anti-Gadget Technique



The diagram shows a blue rounded rectangle containing two black dots. A vertical dashed line with a downward-pointing arrow connects the two dots. Two horizontal dashed lines with arrows extend from the left and right sides of the rectangle, representing inputs and outputs.

$$\left( \begin{bmatrix} w & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & z \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} w & x \\ y & z \end{bmatrix}^{\otimes 2} \right)^{-1}$$

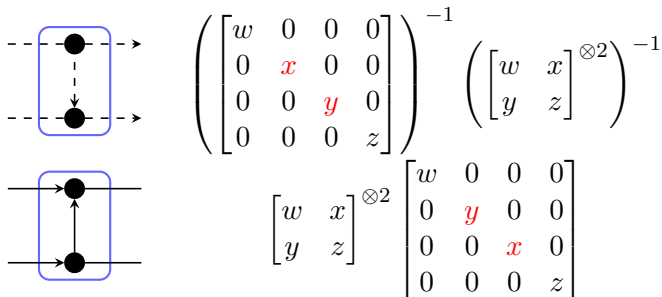
# Anti-Gadget Technique



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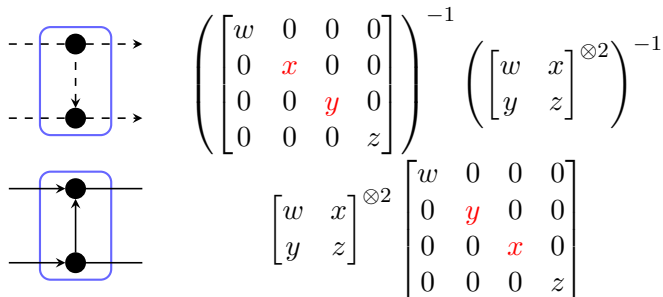
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# The First Anti-Gadget Lemma

## Lemma

For  $w, x, y, z \in \mathbb{C}$ , if

- $wz \neq xy$ ,
- $wxyz \neq 0$ , and
- $|x| \neq |y|$ ,

*then there exists a recursive gadget whose matrix powers form an infinite set of pairwise linearly independent matrices.*



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then there exists a recursive gadget whose matrix powers form an infinite set of pairwise linearly independent matrices.

## Corollary

For  $w, x, y, z \in \mathbb{C}$  as above,  $\text{Holant}(\{f\} \mid \{=_3\})$  is #P-hard.

# Thank You

# Thank You

Paper and slides available on my website.  
[www.cs.wisc.edu/~tdw](http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~tdw)