

# Siegel's Theorem, Edge Coloring, and a Holant Dichotomy

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Carl L. Siegel

### Theorem (Siegel's Theorem)

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### Theorem (Faltings' Theorem–Mordell Conjecture)

*Any smooth algebraic curve of genus  $g > 1$  defined by a polynomial  $f(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$  has only finitely many rational solutions.*

## Diophantine Equations with Enormous Solutions

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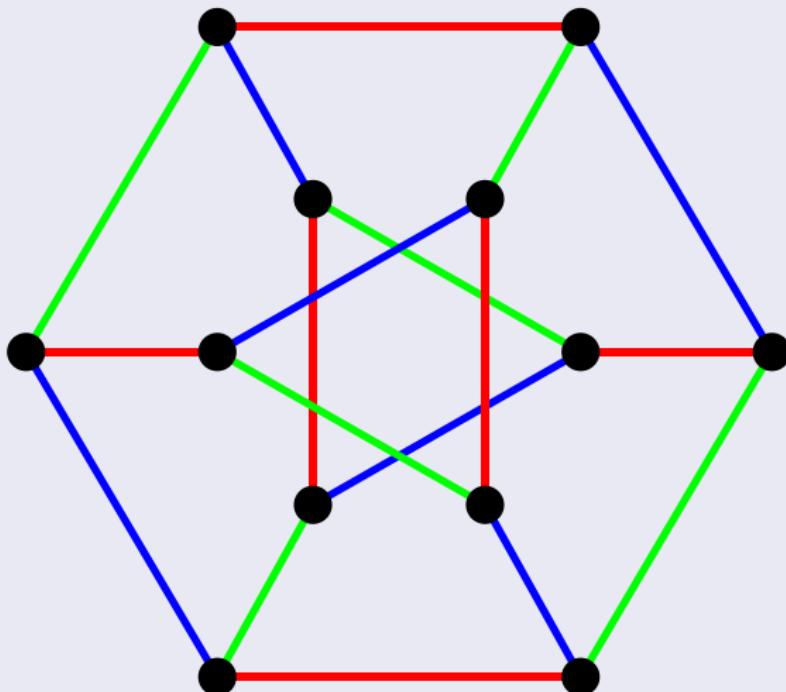
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Next smallest solution:

$$(288065397114519999215772221121510725946342952839946398732799, \\ 9150698914859994783783151874415159820056535806397752666720)$$

## Definition



### Theorem (Vizing's Theorem)

*Edge coloring using at most  $\Delta(G) + 1$  colors exists.*

Obvious lower bound is  $\Delta(G)$ .

Given  $G$ , deciding if  $\Delta(G)$  colors suffice is NP-complete over

- 3-regular graphs [Holyer (1981)],
- $k$ -regular graphs for  $k \geq 3$  [Leven, Galil (1983)].

(No #P-hardness from these results.)

## Edge Coloring–Decision Problem

- ① Easy to show  
 $k$ -regular with bridge  $\implies$  no edge  $k$ -coloring exists.
- ② When planar 3-regular bridgeless, Tait (1880) proved  
edge 3-coloring exists  $\iff$  Four Color (Conjecture) Theorem.

Therefore, for planar 3-regular graphs,

$$\text{edge 3-coloring exists} \iff \text{bridgeless.}$$

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### Theorem

$\#\kappa\text{-EDGECOLORING}$  is  $\#P$ -hard over planar  $r$ -regular graphs  
for all  $\kappa \geq r \geq 3$ .

Trivially tractable when  $\kappa \geq r \geq 3$  does not hold.

Proved in a framework of complexity dichotomy theorems in two cases:

- ①  $\kappa = r$ , and
- ②  $\kappa > r$ .

## Three Frameworks for Counting Problems

- ① Graph Homomorphisms
- ② Constraint Satisfaction Problems (CSP)
- ③ Holant Problems

In each framework, there has been remarkable progress in the classification program of the complexity of counting problems.

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## # $\kappa$ -EdgeColoring as a Holant Problem

Let  $AD_3$  denote the local constraint function

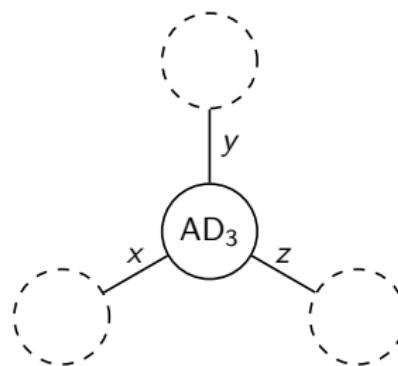
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Place  $\text{AD}_3$  at each vertex with incident edges  $x, y, z$  in a 3-regular graph  $G$ .

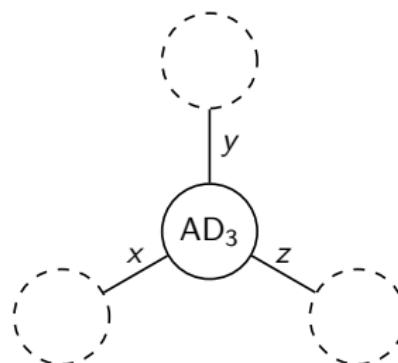


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Place  $\text{AD}_3$  at each vertex with incident edges  $x, y, z$  in a 3-regular graph  $G$ .



Then we evaluate the sum of product

$$\text{Holant}(G; \text{AD}_3) = \sum_{\sigma: E(G) \rightarrow [\kappa]} \prod_{v \in V(G)} \text{AD}_3(\sigma|_{E(v)}).$$

Clearly  $\text{Holant}(G; \text{AD}_3)$  computes  $\#\kappa$ -EDGECOLORING.  
Same as contracting the corresponding tensor network.

## Holant Problems

In general, we consider all **local constraint** functions

$$\textcolor{red}{f}(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } x = y = z \in [\kappa] \\ b & \text{if } |\{x, y, z\}| = 2 \\ c & \text{if } |\{x, y, z\}| = 3. \end{cases}$$

The Holant problem is to compute

$$\text{Holant}(G; \textcolor{red}{f}) = \sum_{\sigma: E(G) \rightarrow [\kappa]} \prod_{v \in V(G)} \textcolor{red}{f}(\sigma|_{E(v)}).$$

Denote  $\textcolor{red}{f}$  by  $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ .

Thus  $\textcolor{red}{AD}_3 = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$ .

## Graph Homomorphism

L. Lovász:

Operations with structures, Acta Math. Hung. 18 (1967), 321-328.

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Let  $\mathbf{A} = (A_{i,j}) \in \mathbb{C}^{\kappa \times \kappa}$  be a symmetric complex matrix.

The **graph homomorphism problem** is:

INPUT: An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

OUTPUT:

$$Z_{\mathbf{A}}(G) = \sum_{\xi: V \rightarrow [\kappa]} \prod_{(u,v) \in E} A_{\xi(u), \xi(v)}.$$

## Examples of Graph Homomorphism

Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $Z_{\mathbf{A}}(G)$  computes the number of **vertex covers** in  $G$ .

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Let

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Then  $Z_{\mathbf{A}}(G)$  computes the number of **vertex  $\kappa$ -colorings** in  $G$ .

## Theorem (Cai, Chen, Lu)

- ① For any symmetric complex-valued matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{\kappa \times \kappa}$ ,  
the problem of computing  $Z_{\mathbf{A}}(\cdot)$  is either in  $P$  or  $\#P$ -hard.
- ② Deciding whether  $Z_{\mathbf{A}}(\cdot)$  is in  $P$  or  $\#P$ -hard can be done in polynomial time (in the size of  $\mathbf{A}$ ).

SIAM J. Comput. 42(3): 924-1029 (2013) (106 pages)

# Dichotomy Theorem for Graph Homomorphism

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Further generalized to all counting CSP.

## Theorem (Cai, Chen)

- ① For any finite set  $\mathcal{F}$  of complex-valued constraint functions over  $[\kappa]$ , the corresponding counting CSP problem  $\#CSP(\mathcal{F})$  is in  $P$  or  $\#P$ -hard.

Unweighted decision version is open ([Feder-Vardi Dichotomy Conjecture](#)).

### Theorem (Main Theorem)

- ① For any domain size  $\kappa \geq 3$  and any  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  
the problem of computing  $\text{Holant}(\cdot; \langle a, b, c \rangle)$  is in  $P$  or  $\#P$ -hard,  
even when the input is restricted to **planar** graphs.
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Recall  $\#\kappa\text{-EDGECOLORING}$  is the special case  $\langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$ .

Let's prove the theorem for this special case.

## Nontrivial Examples of Tractable Holant Problems

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Since

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- ② In general,  $\text{Holant}(G; \langle \kappa^2 - 6\kappa + 4, -2(\kappa - 2), 4 \rangle)$  is in P.
- ③ On domain size  $\kappa = 4$ ,  $\text{Holant}(G; \langle -3 - 4i, 1, -1 + 2i \rangle)$  is in P.

# Tutte Polynomial

## Definition

The **Tutte polynomial** of an undirected graph  $G$  is

$$T(G; x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & E(G) = \emptyset, \\ xT(G \setminus e; x, y) & e \in E(G) \text{ is a bridge,} \\ yT(G \setminus e; x, y) & e \in E(G) \text{ is a loop,} \\ T(G \setminus e; x, y) + T(G/e; x, y) & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $G \setminus e$  is the graph obtained by deleting  $e$  and  $G/e$  is the graph obtained by contracting  $e$ .

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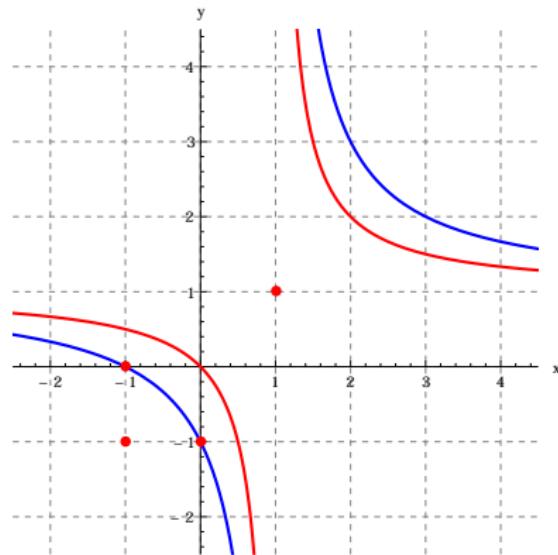
The **chromatic polynomial** is

$$\chi(G; \lambda) = (-1)^{|V|-1} \lambda T(G; 1 - \lambda, 0).$$

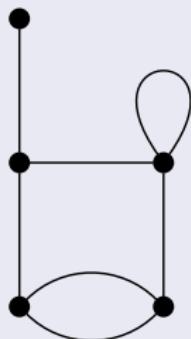
# Tutte Polynomial Dichotomy

## Theorem (Vertigan)

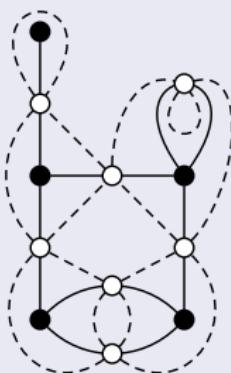
For any  $x, y \in \mathbb{C}$ , the problem of evaluating the Tutte polynomial at  $(x, y)$  over planar graphs is  $\#P$ -hard unless  $(x - 1)(y - 1) \in \{1, 2\}$  or  $(x, y) \in \{(1, 1), (-1, -1), (\omega, \omega^2), (\omega^2, \omega)\}$ , where  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$ . In each of these exceptional cases, the computation can be done in polynomial time.



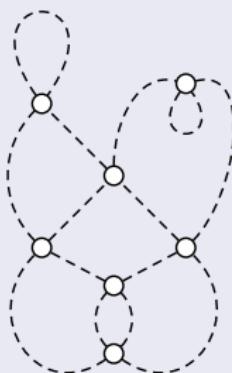
## Definition



(a)



(b)

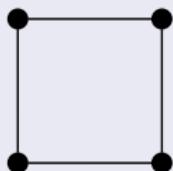


(c)

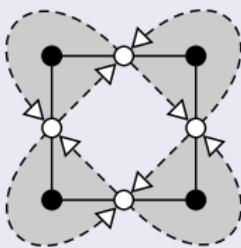
A plane graph (a), its medial graph (c), and the two graphs superimposed (b).

# Directed Medial Graph

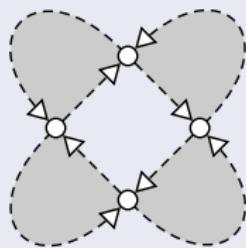
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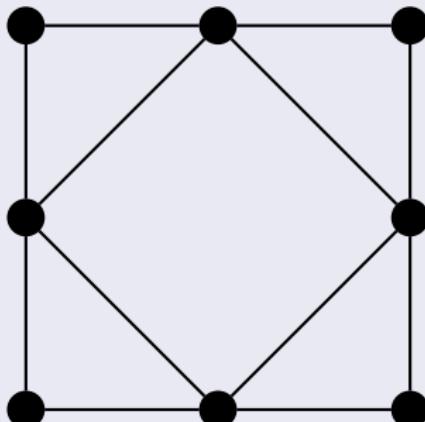


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A plane graph (a), its directed medial graph (c), and the two graphs superimposed (b).

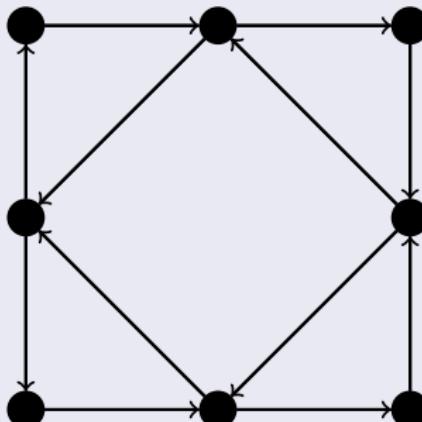
## Definition

- ① A graph is **Eulerian** if every vertex has an even degree.



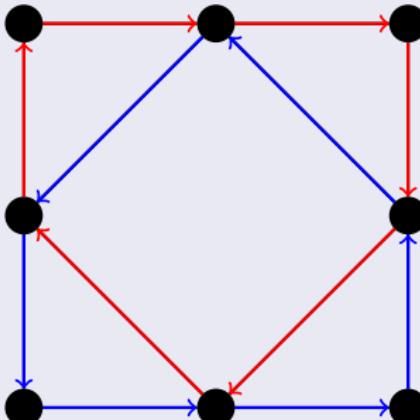
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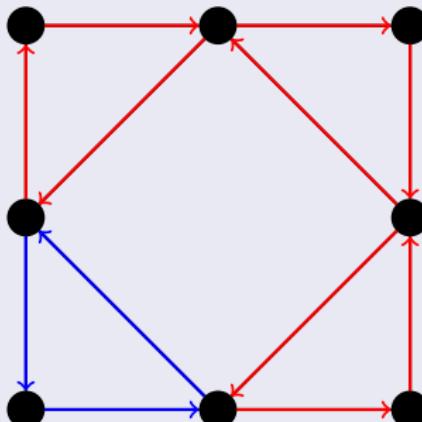
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Let  $\pi_\kappa(\vec{G})$  be the set of Eulerian partitions of  $\vec{G}$  into at most  $\kappa$  parts.  
Example with two **monochromatic** vertices (of degree 4).



## Theorem (Ellis-Monaghan)

For a *plane* graph  $G$ ,

$$\kappa \text{T}(G; \kappa + 1, \kappa + 1) = \sum_{c \in \pi_\kappa(\vec{G}_m)} 2^{\mu(c)},$$

where  $\mu(c)$  is the number of *monochromatic* vertices in  $c$ .

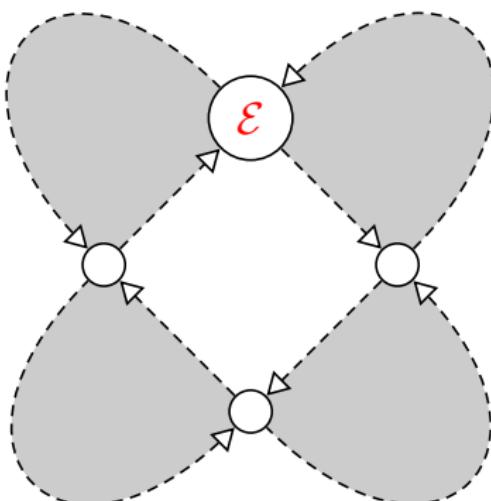
## Connection to Holant

Then

$$\sum_{c \in \pi_\kappa(\vec{G}_m)} 2^{\mu(c)} = \text{Holant}(G_m; \mathcal{E}),$$

where

$$\mathcal{E}\left(\begin{smallmatrix} w & z \\ x & y \end{smallmatrix}\right) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } w = x = y = z \\ 1 & \text{if } w = x \neq y = z \\ 0 & \text{if } w = y \neq x = z \\ 1 & \text{if } w = z \neq x = y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



Denote  $\mathcal{E}$  by  $\langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle$ .

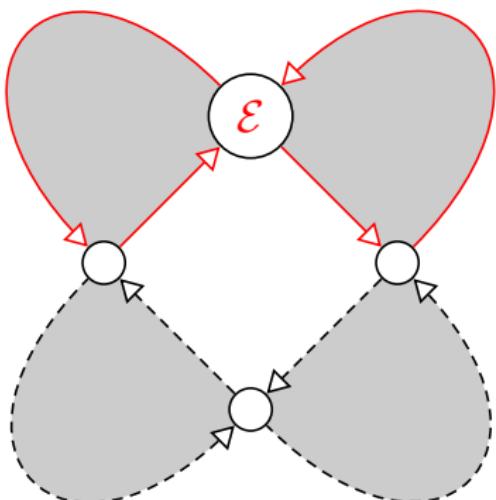
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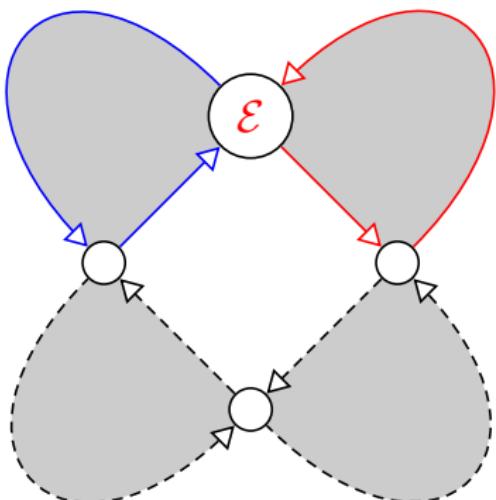
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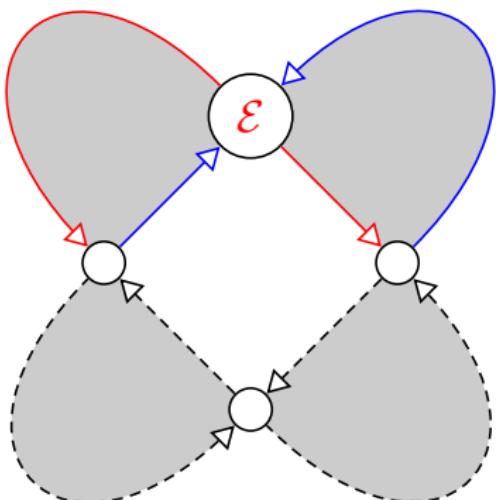
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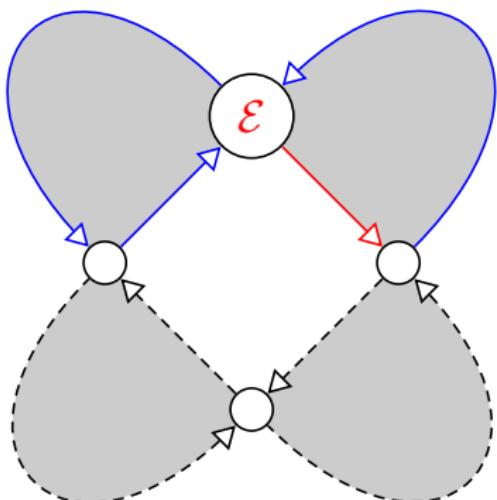
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# #P-hardness of $\# \kappa$ -EdgeColoring

## Theorem

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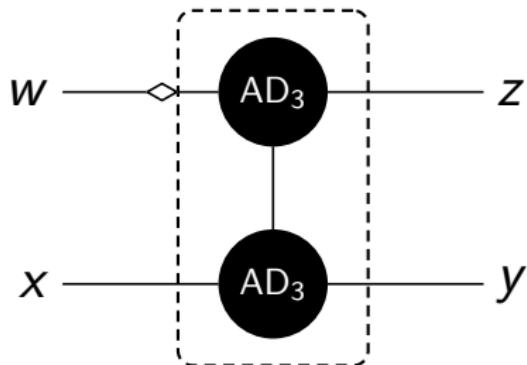
## Proof for $\kappa = 3$ .

Reduce from  $\text{Holant}(\cdot; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle)$  to  $\text{Holant}(\cdot; \text{AD}_3)$  in two steps:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Holant}(\cdot; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) &\leq_T \text{Holant}(\cdot; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle) \quad (\text{polynomial interpolation}) \\ &\leq_T \text{Holant}(\cdot; \text{AD}_3) \quad (\text{gadget construction})\end{aligned}$$

## Gadget Construction Step

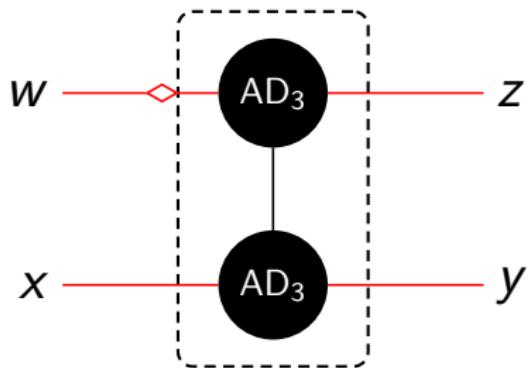
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$$f\left(\begin{smallmatrix} w & z \\ x & y \end{smallmatrix}\right) = \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } w = x = y = z \\ 1 & \text{if } w = x \neq y = z \\ 1 & \text{if } w = y \neq x = z \\ 0 & \text{if } w = z \neq x = y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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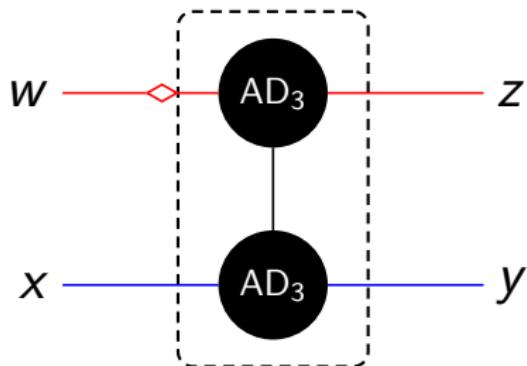
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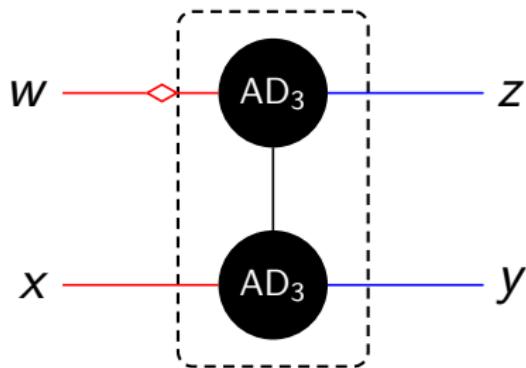
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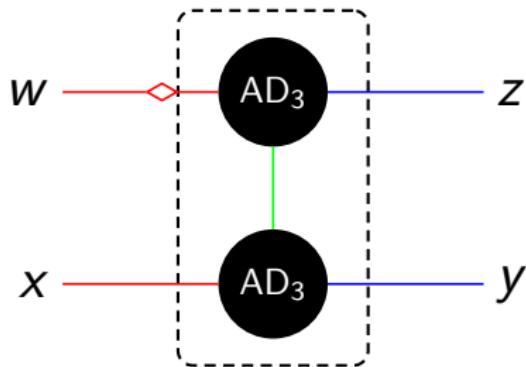
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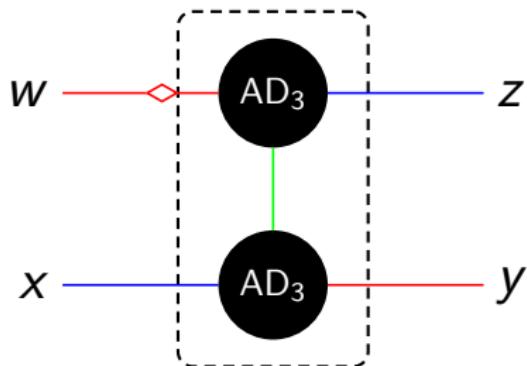
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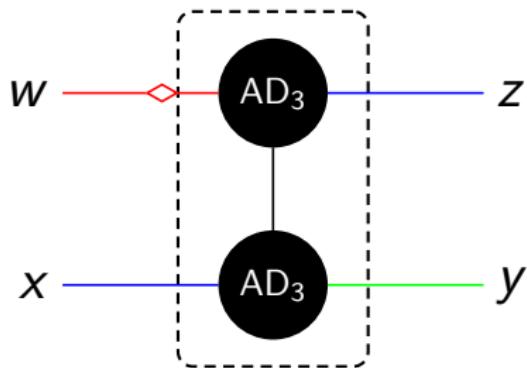
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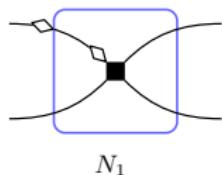
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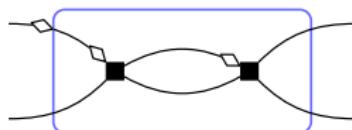
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## Polynomial Interpolation Step: Recursive Construction

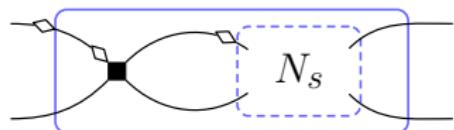
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$N_1$



$N_2$

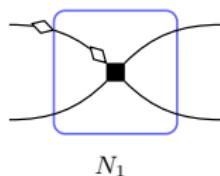


$N_{s+1}$

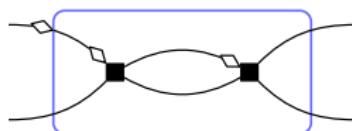
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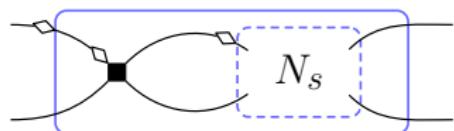
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$N_1$



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$N_{s+1}$

Vertices are assigned  $\langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle$ .

Let  $f_s$  be the function corresponding to  $N_s$ . Then  $f_s = M^s f_0$ , where

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad f_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Obviously  $f_1 = \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle$ .

## Polynomial Interpolation Step: Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

Spectral decomposition  $M = P\Lambda P^{-1}$ , where

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Let  $x = 2^{2s}$ . Then

$$f_{2s} = P\Lambda^{2s}P^{-1}f_0 = P \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} P^{-1}f_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{x-1}{3} + 1 \\ \frac{x-1}{3} \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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(Side note: picking  $s = 1$  so that  $x = 4$  only works when  $\kappa = 3$ .)

## Polynomial Interpolation Step: The Interpolation

$$\text{Holant}(G; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) \leq_T \text{Holant}(G_s; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle)$$

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If  $G$  has  $\textcolor{red}{n}$  vertices, then

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Then  $\text{Holant}(G_{2s}; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle) = \textcolor{red}{p}(2^{2s})$ .

Using oracle for  $\text{Holant}(\cdot; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle)$ , evaluate  $\textcolor{red}{p}(x)$  at  $\textcolor{red}{n} + 1$  distinct points  $x = 2^{2s}$  for  $0 \leq s \leq \textcolor{red}{n}$ .

By **polynomial interpolation**, efficiently compute the coefficients of  $\textcolor{red}{p}(x)$ .  
QED.

## Proof Outline for Dichotomy of $\text{Holant}(\cdot; \langle a, b, c \rangle)$

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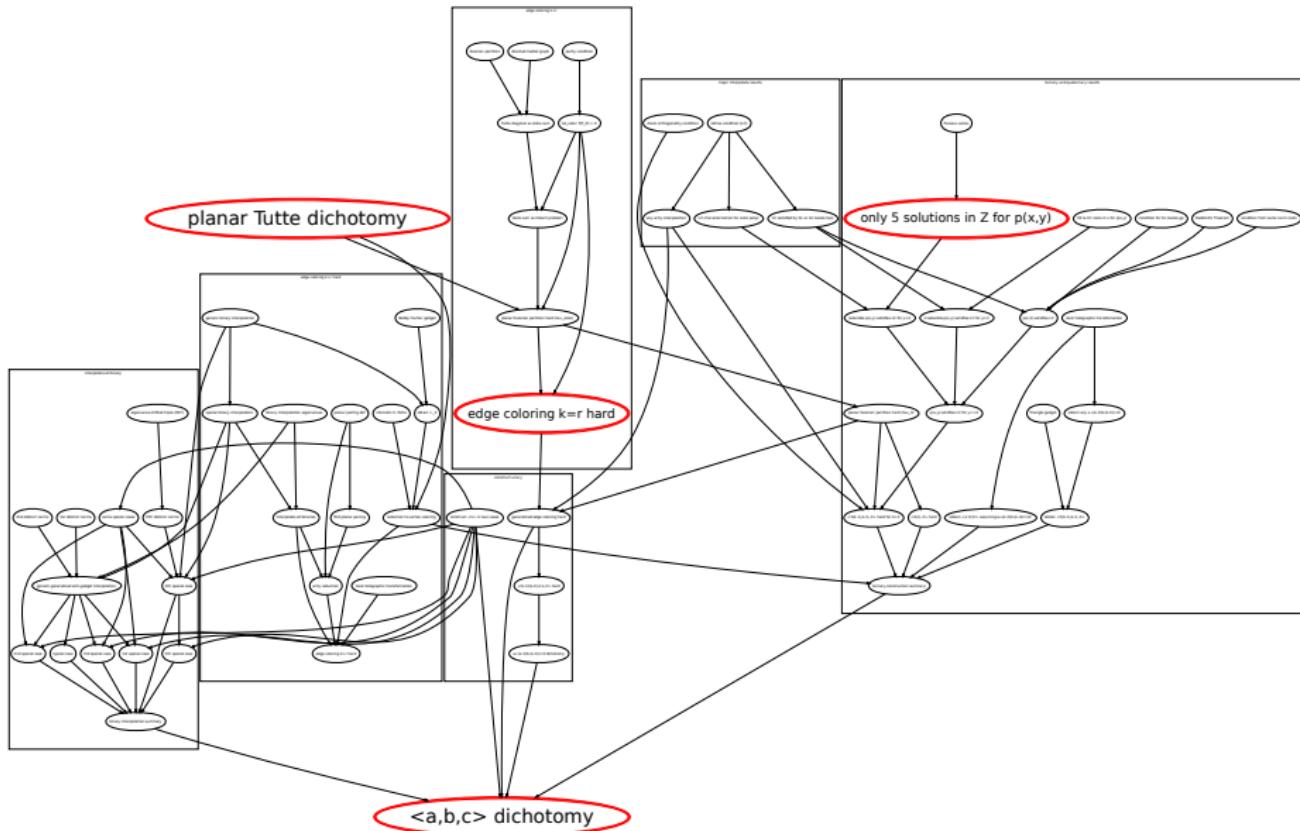
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For some  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$ , our **attempts fail**.

In those cases, we either

- ① show the problem is in P or
- ② prove #P-hardness without the help of additional signatures.



## Interpolating Multivariate Polynomials

Let  $p_d(X) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  be a polynomial of degree  $d$ .

Can interpolate  $p_d(X)$  from  
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## Lattice Condition

### Definition

We say that  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{\ell} \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$  satisfy the **lattice condition** if

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}^{\ell} - \{\mathbf{0}\} \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} x_i = 0,$$

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### Lemma

Let  $p(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  be a polynomial of degree  $n \geq 2$ . If

- ① the **Galois group** of  $p$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $S_n$  or  $A_n$  and
- ② the roots of  $p$  do not all have the same complex norm,  
then the roots of  $p$  satisfy the **lattice condition**.

## Lemma

If there exists an infinite sequence of  $\mathcal{F}$ -gates defined by an initial signature  $s \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times 1}$  and a recurrence matrix  $M \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  satisfying the following conditions,

- ①  $M$  is diagonalizable with  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors;
- ②  $s$  is not orthogonal to exactly  $\ell$  of these linearly independent row eigenvectors of  $M$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\ell$ ;
- ③  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\ell$  satisfy the *lattice condition*;

then

$$\text{Holant}(\cdot; \mathcal{F} \cup \{f\}) \leq_T \text{Holant}(\cdot; \mathcal{F})$$

for any signature  $f$  that is orthogonal to the  $n - \ell$  of these linearly independent eigenvectors of  $M$  to which  $s$  is also orthogonal.

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Our proof applies this with  $n = 9$  and  $\ell = 5$ .

# The Recurrence Matrix

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Want to prove:

for all integers  $y \geq 4$ , the roots of  $p(x, y)$  satisfy the lattice condition.

## Irreducible over $\mathbb{Q}$ ?

We suspect that for any integer  $y \geq 4$ ,  $p(x, y)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

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Don't know how to prove this.

## Lemma

For any integer  $y \geq 1$ , the polynomial  $p(x, y)$  in  $x$  has three distinct real roots and two nonreal complex conjugate roots.

## Proof.

Discriminant. □



# Irreducible Quintic

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Discriminant. □

## Lemma

For any integer  $y \geq 4$ , if  $p(x, y)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ , then the roots of  $p(x, y)$  satisfy the lattice condition.

## Proof.

Three distinct real roots do not have the same norm. An irreducible polynomial of prime degree  $n$  with exactly two nonreal roots has  $S_n$  as its Galois group over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Hence the roots satisfy the lattice condition. □

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We know five integer solutions to  $p(x, y) = 0$ .

For these solutions,  $p(x, y)$  is reducible:

$$p(x, y) = \begin{cases} (x - 1)(x^4 + x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 1) & y = -1 \\ x^2(x^3 - x - 2) & y = 0 \\ (x + 1)(x^4 - x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 1) & y = 1 \\ (x - 1)(x^2 - x - 4)(x^2 + 2x + 2) & y = 2 \\ (x - 3)(x^4 + 3x^3 + 2x^2 - 5x - 9) & y = 3. \end{cases}$$

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### Lemma

Only integer solutions to  $p(x, y) = 0$  are

$$(1, -1), (0, 0), (-1, 1), (1, 2), (3, 3).$$

## Lemma

For any integer  $y \geq 4$ , if  $p(x, y)$  is reducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ , then the roots of  $p(x, y)$  satisfy the lattice condition.

## Proof.

By previous lemma, no linear factor over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

By Gauss' Lemma, no linear factor over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Then more Galois theory if  $p(x, y)$  factors as a product of two irreducible polynomials of degrees 2 and 3. □



## Effective Siegel's Theorem

$$p(x, y) = x^5 - (2y + 1)x^3 - (y^2 + 2)x^2 + (y - 1)yx + y^3.$$

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Consider

$$g_1(x, y) = y - x^2 \quad \text{and} \quad g_2(x, y) = \frac{y^2}{x} + y - x^2 + 1.$$

(This particular choice is due to Aaron Levin.)

Then  $g_1(a, b)$  and  $g_2(a, b)$  are integers.

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Then  $g_1(a, b)$  and  $g_2(a, b)$  are integers.

However, if  $|a| > 16$ , then either  $g_1(a, b)$  or  $g_2(a, b)$  is **not** an integer.

## Puiseux Series

Puiseux series expansions for  $p(x, y)$  are

$$y_1(x) = x^2 + 2x^{-1} + 2x^{-2} - 6x^{-4} - 18x^{-5} + O(x^{-6}),$$

$$y_2(x) = x^{3/2} - \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{8}x^{1/2} - \frac{65}{128}x^{-1/2} - x^{-1} - \frac{1471}{1024}x^{-3/2} - x^{-2} + O(x^{-5/2}),$$

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**Truncate**  $y_2(x)$  to get  $y_2^-(x)$  such that  $p(x, y_2^-(x)) < p(x, y_2(x))$ .

Then

$$-1 < g_2(x, y_2^-(x)) \leq g_2(x, y_2(x)) < 0$$

for  $x > 16$ .

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for  $x > 16$ .

So for “large”  $x$ ,  $g_2(x, y_2(x))$  is not an integer.

Therefore, no “large” integral solutions.

# Thank You

# Thank You

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