

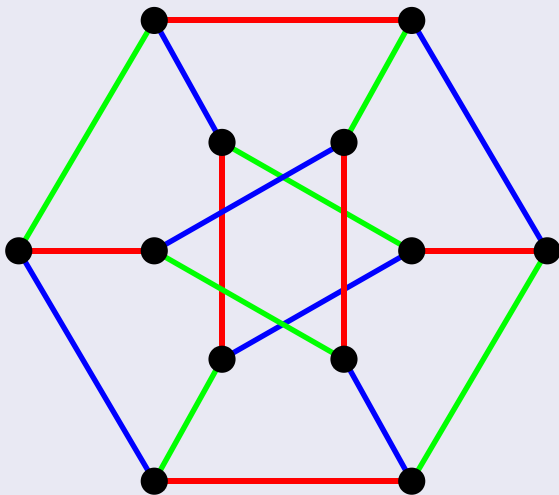
Siegel's theorem, edge coloring, and a holant dichotomy

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Definition



Edge Coloring–Decision Problem

Problem: κ -EDGECOLORING

Input: A graph G

Output: “YES” if G has an edge coloring using at most κ colors and
“NO” otherwise

Edge Coloring–Decision Problem

Problem: κ -EDGE COLORING

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Obviously no edge coloring using less than Δ colors.

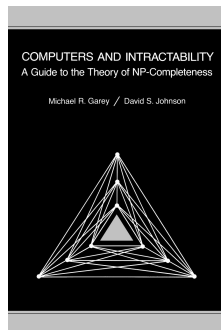
Theorem (Vizing [1964])

An edge coloring using at most $\Delta + 1$ colors exists.

Edge Coloring–Decision Problem

What about $\kappa = \Delta$?

Complexity stated as an **open problem** in

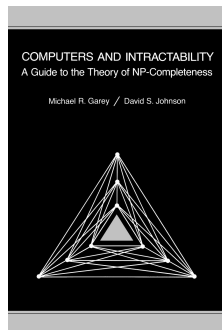


[1979]

Edge Coloring–Decision Problem

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[1979]

Theorem (Holyer [1981])

3-EDGECOLORING is **NP-hard** over **3-regular graphs**.

Theorem (Leven, Galil [1983])

r -EDGECOLORING is **NP-hard** over **r -regular graphs** for all **$r \geq 3$** .

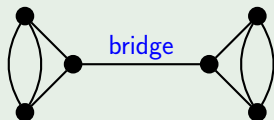
Edge Coloring–Decision Problem

Lemma (Parity Condition)

r -regular graph with a bridge \implies no edge coloring using r colors exists

Example

This graph has no edge coloring using 3 colors.



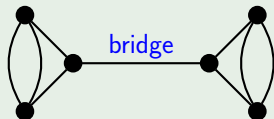
Edge Coloring–Decision Problem

Lemma (Parity Condition)

r -regular graph with a *bridge* \implies no *edge coloring* using r colors exists

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This graph has no *edge coloring* using 3 colors.



Theorem (Tait [1880])

For *planar* 3-regular *bridgeless* graphs,
edge coloring using 3 colors exists \iff Four Color (Conjecture) Theorem.

Corollary

For *planar* 3-regular graphs,
edge coloring using 3 colors exists \iff *bridgeless*.

Trivial Algorithm

$$\kappa \neq \Delta$$

NP-hard

$\kappa = r$ over
 r -regular graphs

Simple Algorithm (Complex Proof)

$\kappa = 3$ over planar
3-regular graphs

Edge Coloring–Counting Problem

Problem: $\#\kappa$ -EDGECOLORING

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Theorem (Cai, Guo, W [2014])

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

Tractable when $\kappa \geq r \geq 3$ does not hold:

- If $\kappa < r$, then no edge colorings
- If $r < 3$, then only trivial graphs (paths and cycles)

Parallel edges allowed (and necessary when $r > 5$).

Proved in the framework of **Holant problems** in two cases:

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

Definition

Holant problems are counting problems defined over graphs that can be specified by **local constraint** functions on the vertices, edges, or both.

Example (Natural Holant Problems)

independent sets, vertex covers, edge covers, cycle covers, vertex colorings, **edge colorings**, matchings, perfect matchings, and Eulerian orientations.

NON-examples: Hamiltonian cycles and spanning trees.

NOT **local**.

Abundance of Holant Problems

Equivalent to:

- counting **read-twice constraint satisfaction problems**,
- contraction of tensor networks, and
- partition function of graphical models (in Forney normal form).

Generalizes:

- simulating quantum circuits,
- counting graph homomorphisms,
- all manner of partition functions including
 - Ising model,
 - Potts model,
 - edge-coloring model.

κ -EdgeColoring as a Holant Problem

Let AD_3 denote the local constraint function

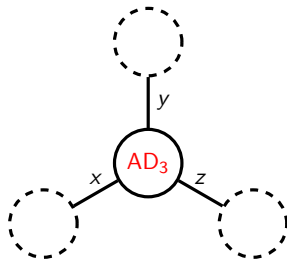
$$AD_3(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x, y, z \in [\kappa] \text{ are distinct} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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Place AD_3 at each vertex with incident edges x, y, z in a 3-regular graph G .

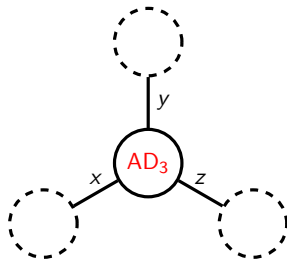


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Place AD_3 at each vertex with incident edges x, y, z in a 3-regular graph G .



Then we evaluate the sum of product

$$\text{Holant}_{\kappa}(G; AD_3) = \sum_{\sigma: E(G) \rightarrow [\kappa]} \prod_{v \in V(G)} AD_3(\sigma|_{E(v)}).$$

Clearly $\text{Holant}_{\kappa}(-; AD_3)$ computes # κ -EDGECOLORING.

Four examples with $\kappa = 2$:

$$\text{Holant}_2(G; f) \text{ counts } \begin{cases} \text{matchings} & \text{when } f = \text{AT-MOST-ONE}_r \\ \text{perfect matchings} & \text{when } f = \text{EXACTLY-ONE}_r \\ \text{cycle covers} & \text{when } f = \text{EXACTLY-TWO}_r \\ \text{edge covers} & \text{when } f = \text{OR}_r \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Holant}_\kappa(G; f) = \sum_{\sigma: E(G) \rightarrow \{0,1\}} \prod_{v \in V(G)} f(\sigma|_{E(v)}).$$

Some Higher Domain Holant Problems

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

$$f(x, y, z) = \langle a, b, c \rangle = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } x = y = z & \text{(all equal)} \\ b & \text{otherwise} \\ c & \text{if } x \neq y \neq z \neq x & \text{(all distinct).} \end{cases}$$

The Holant problem is to compute

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

Note $AD_3 = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$.

Theorem (Main Theorem)

For any $\kappa \geq 3$ and any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$,
the problem of computing $\text{Holant}_{\kappa}(-; \langle a, b, c \rangle)$ is in **P** or **#P-hard**,
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Recall $\#\kappa\text{-EDGE-COLORING}$ is the special case $\langle a, b, c \rangle = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$.

Let's prove the theorem for $\kappa = 3$ and $\langle a, b, c \rangle = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$.

- 1 On domain size $\kappa = 3$,
 $\text{Holant}_3(-; \langle -5, -2, 4 \rangle)$ is in **P**.

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Since

$$\langle -5, -2, 4 \rangle = [(1, -2, -2)^{\otimes 3} + (-2, 1, -2)^{\otimes 3} + (-2, -2, 1)^{\otimes 3}],$$

do a **holographic transformation** by the orthogonal matrix

$$T = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -2 \\ -2 & 1 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Nontrivial Examples of Tractable Holant Problems

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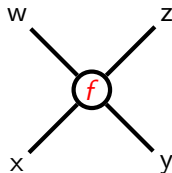
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- 3 On domain size $\kappa = 4$,
 $\text{Holant}_4(G; \langle -3 - 4i, 1, -1 + 2i \rangle)$ is in \mathbf{P} .

Hardness of $\text{Holant}_3(-; \text{AD}_3)$

Hardness of $\text{Holant}_3(-; \text{AD}_3)$ proved by the following reduction chain:

$$\begin{aligned} \#\mathbf{P} &\leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) \\ &\leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle) \\ &\leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; \text{AD}_3) \end{aligned}$$

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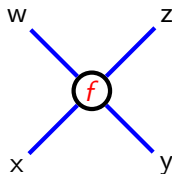


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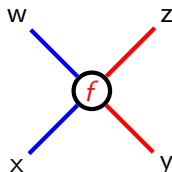


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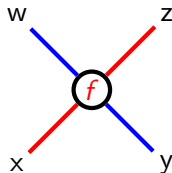


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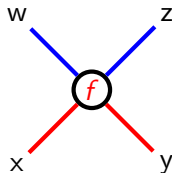


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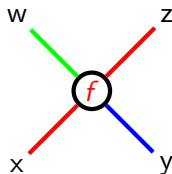


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Definition

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

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

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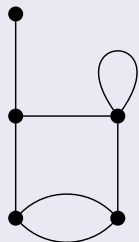
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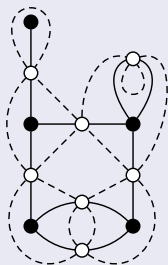
The **chromatic polynomial** is

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

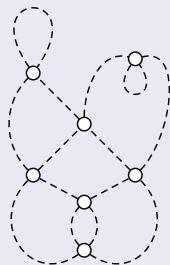
Definition



(a)



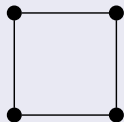
(b)



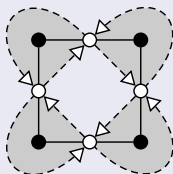
(c)

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

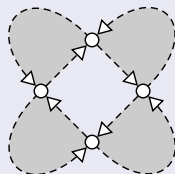
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(b)



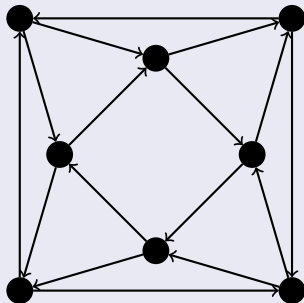
(c)

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

Reduction From Tutte Polynomial: Eulerian Graphs and Eulerian Partitions

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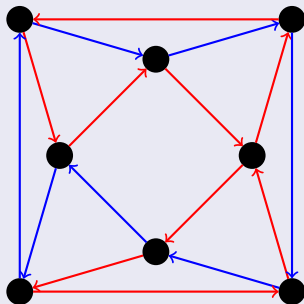
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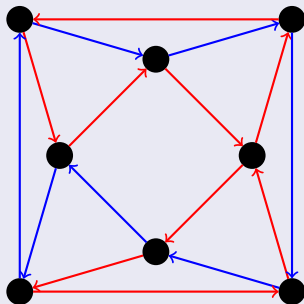
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- 3 Let $\pi_\kappa(\vec{G})$ be the set of Eulerian partitions of \vec{G} into at most κ parts.

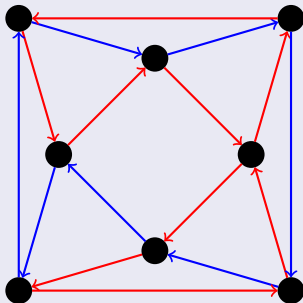


$$\kappa \geq 2$$

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- 4 Let $\mu(c)$ be the number of **monochromatic** vertices in c .



$$\kappa \geq 2$$
$$\mu(c) = 1$$

Theorem (Ellis-Monaghan)

For a *plane* graph G ,

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

Reduction From Tutte Polynomial: Connection to Holant

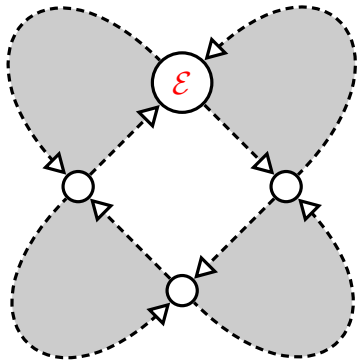
Then

$$\sum_{c \in \pi_\kappa(\vec{G}_m)} 2^{\mu(c)} = \text{Holant}_\kappa(G_m; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle),$$

where

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

where $\mathcal{E} = \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle$.



Reduction From Tutte Polynomial: Connection to Holant

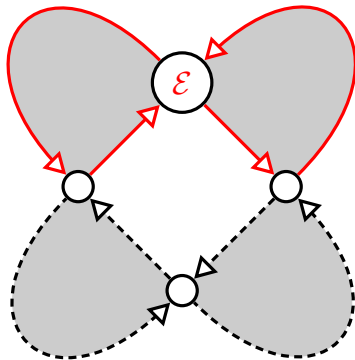
Then

$$\sum_{c \in \pi_\kappa(\vec{G}_m)} 2^{\mu(c)} = \text{Holant}_\kappa(G_m; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle),$$

where

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

where $\mathcal{E} = \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle$.



Reduction From Tutte Polynomial: Connection to Holant

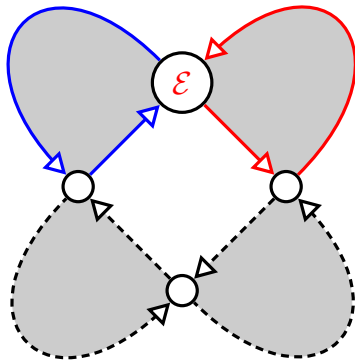
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where $\mathcal{E} = \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle$.



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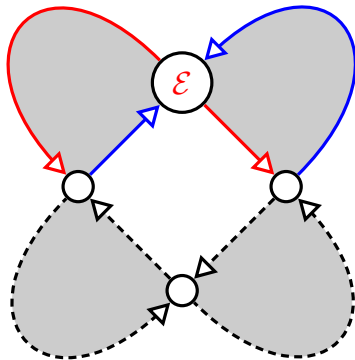
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Reduction From Tutte Polynomial: Connection to Holant

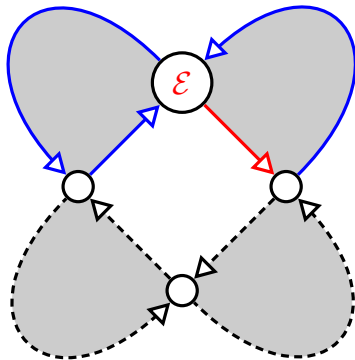
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where $\mathcal{E} = \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle$.



Corollary

For a *plane* graph G ,

$$\kappa T(G; \kappa + 1, \kappa + 1) = \text{Holant}_{\kappa}(G_m; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle)$$

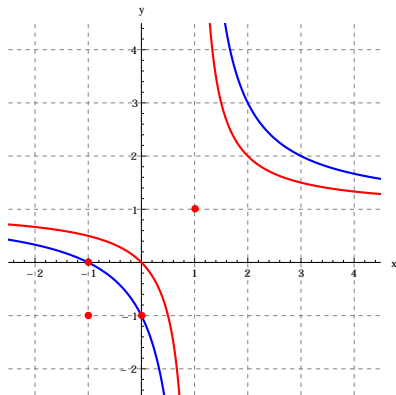
Corollary

For a *plane* graph G ,

$$\kappa T(G; \kappa + 1, \kappa + 1) = \text{Holant}_{\kappa}(G_m; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle)$$

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 $(x, y) \in \{(\pm 1, \pm 1), (\omega, \omega^2), (\omega^2, \omega)\}$, where $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$. In each of these exceptional cases, the computation can be done in polynomial time.



Hardness of $\text{Holant}_3(-; \text{AD}_3)$ proved by the following reduction chain:

$$\begin{aligned} \#P &\leq_{\mathcal{T}} \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) \\ &\leq_{\mathcal{T}} \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle) \\ &\leq_{\mathcal{T}} \text{Holant}_3(-; \text{AD}_3) \end{aligned}$$

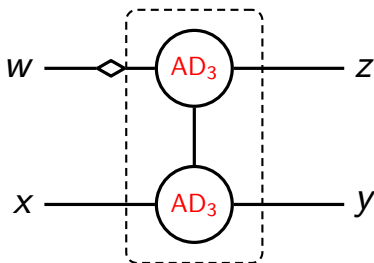
- **First reduction:** From a #P-hard point on the **Tutte polynomial**.
- **Second reduction:** Via **polynomial interpolation**.
- **Third reduction:** Via a **gadget construction**.

Hardness of $\text{Holant}_3(-; \text{AD}_3)$ proved by the following reduction chain:

$$\begin{aligned} \#P &\leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) \\ &\leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle) \\ &\leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; \text{AD}_3) \end{aligned}$$

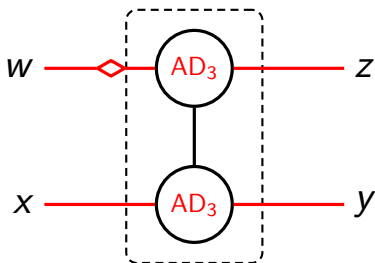
- First reduction: From a #P-hard point on the **Tutte polynomial**.
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- Third reduction: Via a **gadget construction**.

$$\text{Holant}(G; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle) \leq_T \text{Holant}(G'; \text{AD}_3)$$



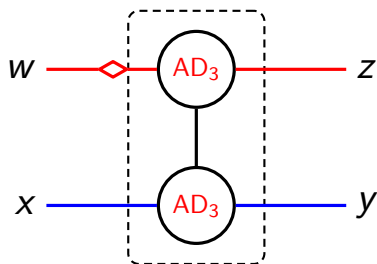
$$f\left(\begin{smallmatrix} w & z \\ x & y \end{smallmatrix}\right) = \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } w = x = y = z \\ 1 & \text{if } w = x \neq y = z \\ 1 & \text{if } w = y \neq x = z \\ 0 & \text{if } w = z \neq x = y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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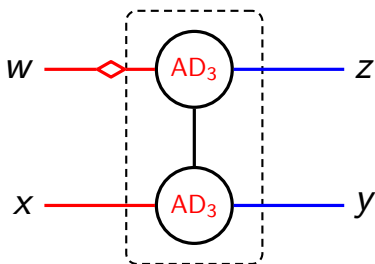
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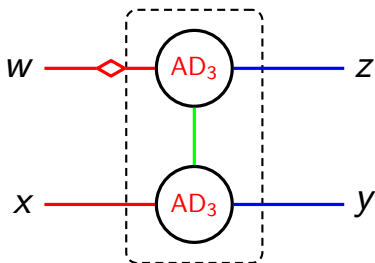
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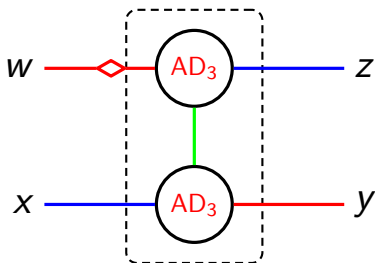
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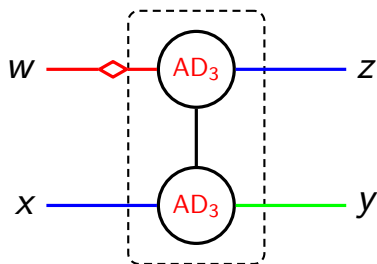
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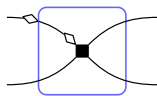
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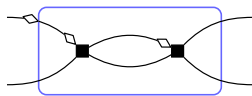
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Polynomial Interpolation: Recursive Construction

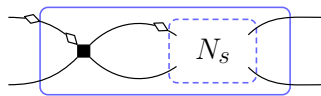
$$\text{Holant}_3(\mathbf{G}; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) \leq_T \text{Holant}_3(\mathbf{G}_s; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle)$$



N_1



N_2

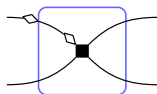


N_{s+1}

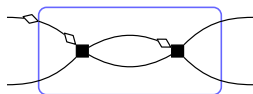
Vertices are assigned $\langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle$.

Polynomial Interpolation: Recursive Construction

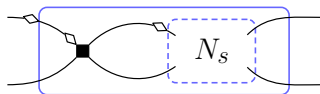
$$\text{Holant}_3(G; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) \leq_T \text{Holant}_3(G_s; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle)$$



N_1



N_2



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

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

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

Polynomial Interpolation: 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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Note $f(4) = \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle$.

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Note $f(4) = \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle$.

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

$$\text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) \leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) &= \text{Holant}_3(-; f(4)) \\ &\leq_{\mathcal{T}} \text{Holant}_3(-; f(x)) \\ &\leq_{\mathcal{T}} \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle)\end{aligned}$$

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If G has n vertices, then

$$p(G, x) = \text{Holant}_3(G; f(x)) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

has degree n .

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If G has n vertices, then

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Let G_{2^s} be the graph obtained by replacing every vertex in G with N_{2^s} . Then $\text{Holant}_3(G_{2^s}; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle) = p(G, 2^{2^s})$.

Polynomial Interpolation: The Interpolation

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 2, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle) &= \text{Holant}_3(-; f(4)) \\ &\leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; f(x)) \\ &\leq_T \text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle)\end{aligned}$$

If G has n vertices, then

$$p(G, x) = \text{Holant}_3(G; f(x)) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

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Let G_{2^s} be the graph obtained by replacing every vertex in G with N_{2^s} . Then $\text{Holant}_3(G_{2^s}; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle) = p(G, 2^{2^s})$.

Using oracle for $\text{Holant}_3(-; \langle 0, 1, 1, 0, 0 \rangle)$, evaluate $p(G, x)$ at $n + 1$ distinct points $x = 2^{2^s}$ for $0 \leq s \leq n$.

By [polynomial interpolation](#), efficiently compute the coefficients of $p(G, x)$.
QED.

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

For all $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$,

want to show that $\text{Holant}(-; \langle a, b, c \rangle)$ is in **P** or **#P-hard**.

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want to show that $\text{Holant}(-; \langle a, b, c \rangle)$ is in **P** or **#P-hard**.

Using $\langle a, b, c \rangle$:

- 1 **Attempt** to **construct** a special **unary** constraint.
- 2 **Attempt** to **interpolate** all **binary** constraints of a special form, assuming we have the special **unary** constraint.
- 3 **Construct** a special **ternary** constraint that we show is **#P-hard**, assuming we have the special **unary** and **binary** constraints.

Proof Outline for Dichotomy of Holant($-; \langle a, b, c \rangle$)

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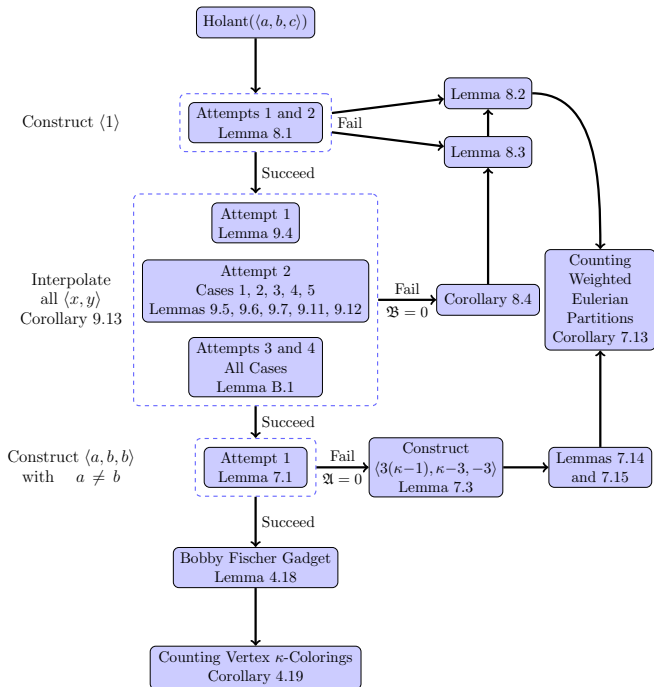
Using $\langle a, b, c \rangle$:

- 1 Attempt to construct a special unary constraint.
- 2 Attempt to interpolate all binary constraints of a special form, assuming we have the special unary constraint.
- 3 Construct a special ternary constraint that we show is **#P-hard**, assuming we have the special unary and binary constraints.

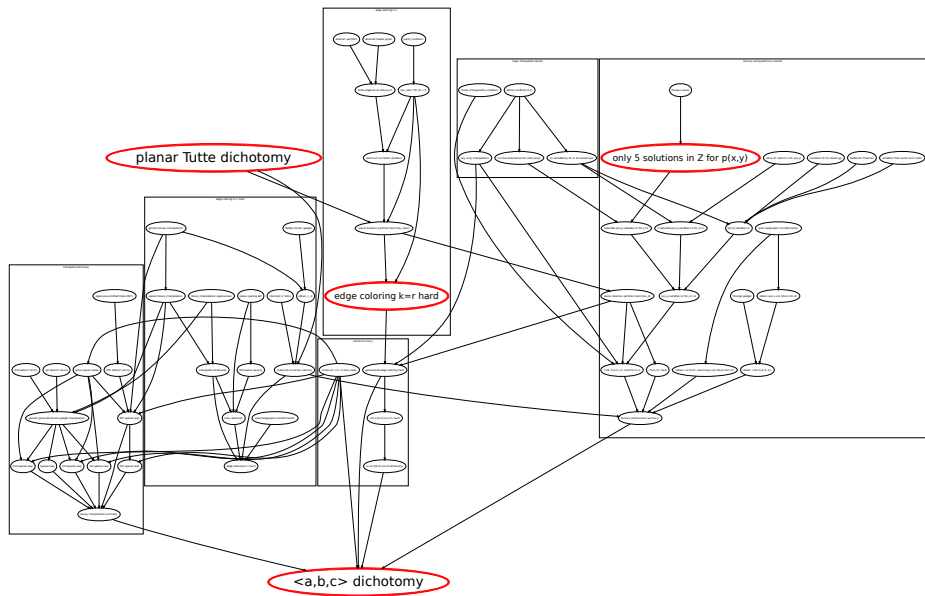
For some $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$, our attempts fail.

In those cases, we either

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



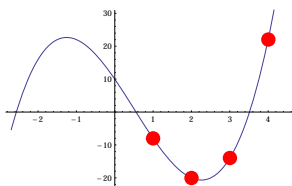
Logical Dependencies in Dichotomy of $\text{Holant}_{\kappa}(-; \langle a, b, c \rangle)$



Polynomial Interpolation

$$p(x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 - 17x + 10$$

Evaluate
 $x \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$



Interpolate

$$p(1) = 2 \cdot 1^3 - 3 \cdot 1^2 - 17 \cdot 1 + 10 = -8$$

$$p(2) = 2 \cdot 2^3 - 3 \cdot 2^2 - 17 \cdot 2 + 10 = -20$$

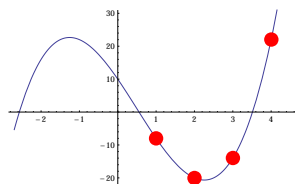
$$p(3) = 2 \cdot 3^3 - 3 \cdot 3^2 - 17 \cdot 3 + 10 = -14$$

$$p(4) = 2 \cdot 4^3 - 3 \cdot 4^2 - 17 \cdot 4 + 10 = 22$$

Polynomial Interpolation

$$p(x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 - 17x + 10$$

Evaluate
 $x \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$



Interpolate

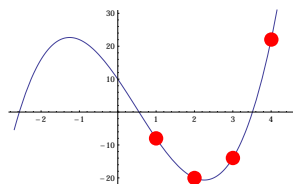
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1^3 & 1^2 & 1^1 & 1^0 \\ 2^3 & 2^2 & 2^1 & 2^0 \\ 3^3 & 3^2 & 3^1 & 3^0 \\ 4^3 & 4^2 & 4^1 & 4^0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ -17 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ -20 \\ -14 \\ 22 \end{bmatrix}$$

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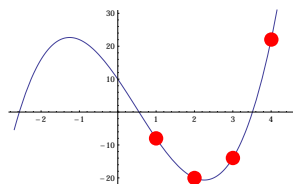
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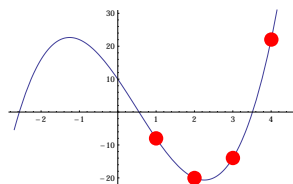
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Interpolating Univariate Polynomials

Let $p_d(X) = c_0 + c_1X + \dots + c_dX^d \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$.

Can interpolate $p_d(X)$ from
 $p_d(x_0), p_d(x_1), \dots, p_d(x_d)$
 \Updownarrow
 x_0, x_1, \dots, x_d are distinct

$$\begin{bmatrix} (x_0)^0 & (x_0)^1 & \cdots & (x_0)^d \\ (x_1)^0 & (x_1)^1 & \cdots & (x_1)^d \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (x_d)^0 & (x_d)^1 & \cdots & (x_d)^d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} p_d(x_0) \\ p_d(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ p_d(x_d) \end{bmatrix}$$

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x is **not** a root of unity

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Vandermonde system

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$$p_d(X, Y, Z) = c_{0,0,d} X^0 Y^0 Z^d + \cdots + c_{d,0,0} X^d Y^0 Z^0 \in \mathbb{Z}[X, Y, Z]$$

be a **homogeneous** multivariate polynomial of degree d .

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 \Updownarrow
?

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lattice condition

$$\begin{bmatrix} (x^0 y^0 z^d)^0 & \cdots & (x^d y^0 z^0)^0 \\ (x^0 y^0 z^d)^1 & \cdots & (x^d y^0 z^0)^1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_{0,0,d} \\ \vdots \\ c_{d,0,0} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} p_d(x^0, y^0, z^0) \\ p_d(x^1, y^1, z^1) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Vandermonde system

Definition

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

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

we have

$$\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i^{x_i} \neq 1.$$

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Example (Easy)

For any $i, j, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

- $i + j + k = 0$ and
- $(i, j, k) \neq (0, 0, 0)$,

it follows that

$$2^i 3^j 5^k \neq 1.$$

Example (Medium)

For any $i, j, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

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$$1^i (3 + \sqrt{2})^j (3 - \sqrt{2})^k \neq 1.$$

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Then

$$j - k = 0 \quad k = 0 \quad j = 0 \quad i = 0.$$

Contradiction!

“Hard” Lattice Condition Example

Want to prove:

For all integers $y \geq 4$, the roots of

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

satisfy the [lattice condition](#).

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satisfy the **lattice condition**.

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**.

Galois group of p over \mathbb{Q} is S_n or A_n

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p is irreducible over \mathbb{Q}

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What are the known nontrivial factorizations of $p(x, y)$?

What are the known integer roots of $p(x, y)$?

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

Theorem (Siegel's Theorem)

*Any smooth algebraic curve of genus $g > 0$ defined by a polynomial in $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ has only *finitely many* integer solutions.*

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- $p(x, y)$ has genus 3, satisfies hypothesis
- Bad news is that Siegel's theorem is *not effective*
- Several *effective* versions, but the best bound we found is 10^{20000}
- Integer solutions could be *enormous*

Diophantine Equations with Enormous Solutions

Pell's Equation (genus 0)

$$x^2 - 991y^2 = 1$$

Smallest solution:

$$(379516400906811930638014896080, \\ 12055735790331359447442538767)$$

Next smallest solution:

$$(288065397114519999215772221121510725946342952839946398732799, \\ 9150698914859994783783151874415159820056535806397752666720)$$

Conjecture

For any integer $y \geq 4$, $p(x, y)$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Don't know how to prove this.

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Lemma

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

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

Proof Sketch

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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We pick functions $g_i(x, y)$ such that

- 1 (a, b) integer solution to $p(x, y) = 0$ implies $g_i(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}$
- 2 $g_i(x, y_i(x)) = o(1)$

Thus, $g_i(x, y_i(x)) \notin \mathbb{Z}$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$

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If $|a| > 16$, then $g_2(a, y_2(a))$ is not an integer.

Thank You

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Paper and slides available on my website:
www.cs.wisc.edu/~tdw