

# Strict Refinement and Definability in Algebras

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TU-Dresden  
October 25th, 2012



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  - Refinement Properties
  - Central Elements
- 2 A Huge Equivalence
  - Tools: Mal'cev Conditions & Preservation
- 3 Applications
  - Property (\*)
  - PO-groupoids

# The Refinement Property

$$A \cong B_1 \times B_2 \cong C_1 \times C_2$$

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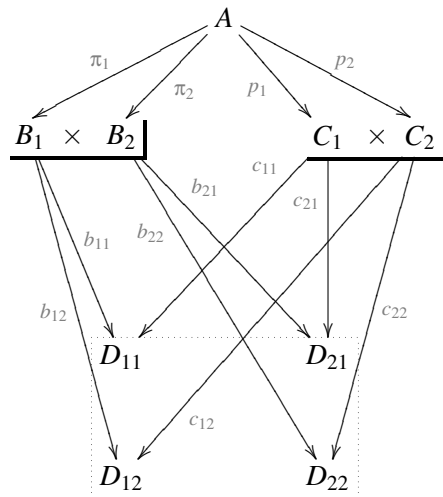
$$A \cong B_1 \times B_2 \cong C_1 \times C_2$$

$\Rightarrow$  there exist  $D_{ij}$  such that

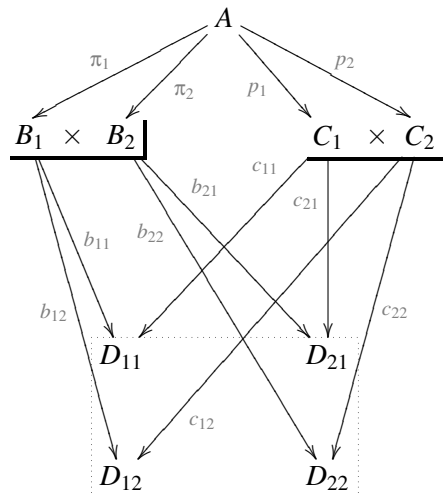
$$B_i \cong D_{i1} \times D_{i2} \text{ y } C_i \cong D_{1i} \times D_{2i}$$

with  $i = 1, 2$

# Strict Refinement (SRP)



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$$b_{11} \circ \pi_1 = c_{11} \circ p_1$$

$$b_{21} \circ \pi_2 = c_{21} \circ p_1$$

$$b_{12} \circ \pi_1 = c_{12} \circ p_1$$

...

# Boolean Factor Congruences (BFC)

Given an algebra  $A$ , the set

$$FC(A) := \{\theta \in \text{Con}A : \exists \theta^*. \theta \cap \theta^* = \Delta^A \text{ and } \theta \circ \theta^* = A \times A\}$$

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Theorem (Chang, Jónsson and Tarski)

$SRP \iff BFC \iff$  factor congruences of direct products factorize (i.e., there are no skew factor congruences).



## Variety with 0 & 1

There exist terms 0 and 1 such that

$$\mathcal{V} \models 0 = 1 \rightarrow x = y$$

# Central Elements and Factor Congruences

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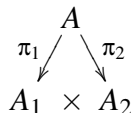
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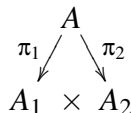
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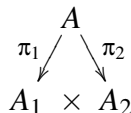
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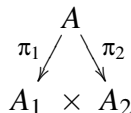
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- $x \cdot e = y \cdot e$ , with  $e = (1^B, 0^C) \rightsquigarrow$   **$\lambda$ -central elements** (Vaggione)



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# Determining Property (DP)

Holds whenever central elements **determine** direct product decompositions:

$$\begin{aligned} Z &\longrightarrow FC(A)^2 \\ e &\longmapsto \langle \theta, \theta^* \rangle \end{aligned}$$

such that  $e \theta = 0$  and  $e \theta^* = 1$ , is a bijection.

# Definable Factor Congruences (DFC)

There exists a first order formula  $\Phi(x, y, z)$  such that

$$B \times C \models \Phi(\langle a, b \rangle, \langle c, d \rangle, \langle 1, 0 \rangle) \text{ if and only if } a = c.$$

for all  $B, C \in \mathcal{V}$ , and  $a, c \in B, b, d \in C$ .



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## Theorem (PST, Vaggione)

For a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  with 0 & 1 TFAE:

- 1  $\mathcal{V}$  has DFC;
- 2  $\mathcal{V}$  has BFC;
- 3  $\mathcal{V}$  has the DP.

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(DP $\Rightarrow$ BFC) This one's really hard.



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### Mal'cev Property

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- Congruence Permutability  $\rightsquigarrow p(x, x, y) = p(y, x, x) = y$ .



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### Examples

- Congruence Permutability  $\rightsquigarrow p(x, x, y) = p(y, x, x) = y$ .
- Congruence Distributivity.
- BFC (Burris).

# Devising factor congruences: The History

## Problem

To work produce 'the most general situation' with two pairs of complementary factor congruences such that, e.g.,  $0 \theta z \theta^* 1$  y  $0 \varphi z \varphi^* 1$ .

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## Idea (Vaggione)

Take  $F := F_{\mathcal{V}}(X)$  with  $X$  very big:

$\forall p, q \in F \exists x_{pq} \in X : p \theta x_{pq} \theta^* q$ .

Then take a good quotient so that  $\theta \cap \theta^*$  and  $\varphi \cap \varphi^*$  trivialize.

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- 1 (Willard) Recipe for a Mal'cev condition for BFC.
- 2 (PST) Mal'cev condition for BFC and DFC.

## Hint for proof III

BFC  $\iff$  no skew factor congruences

I.e. each  $\theta \in FC(A_1 \times A_2)$  is of the form  $\theta_1 \times \theta_2$  with  $\theta_i \in FC(A_i)$ .

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$A_1 \times A_2 \models \Phi(\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle, \langle y_1, y_2 \rangle, \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle) \iff \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle \theta \langle y_1, y_2 \rangle \implies x_1 \theta_1 y_1 \iff A_1 \models \Phi(x_1, y_1, e_1)$ .

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BFC  $\xrightarrow{\text{Mal'cev}}$  Terms  $\longrightarrow \Phi(x, y, z) \xrightarrow{\text{Pres F}}$  BFC.

Same story with DFC!

## Theorem (PST, Willard)

Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety. TFAE:

- 1 *There exists a first order formula  $\pi(x, y, z, w)$  preserved by direct factors and products such that*
  - 1  $\mathcal{V} \models \pi(x, y, x, y)$
  - 2  $\mathcal{V} \models \pi(x, x, z, w)$
  - 3  $\mathcal{V} \models \pi(x, y, z, z) \rightarrow x = y$
- 2  *$\mathcal{V}$  has BFC.*

How complicated  $\Phi$  might be?

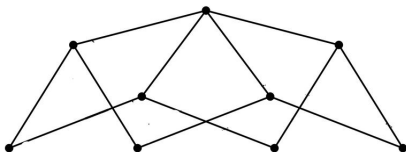


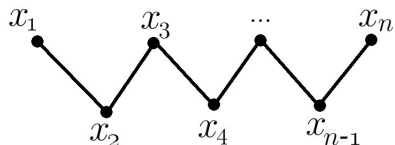
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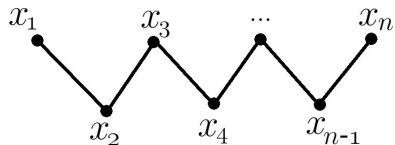
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## Connectivity

$\forall x, y \exists x_1, \dots, x_n :$

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Connected posets have the SRP (CJT, McKenzie; cf. Hashimoto).

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1  $\mathcal{V} \models \psi(x, y, x)$

2  $\mathcal{V} \models \psi(x, y, y)$

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and using that one,  $\pi$  may be defined. With  $\pi$  and 0 & 1 we can define  $\Phi$ .

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## Corollary

If the language is finite,  $\mathcal{V}_{DI}$  is  $\Pi_5$ .

# Thanks!

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Refinement properties for relational structures.  
Fund. Math. **54** (1964), 249–281.

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 $\mathcal{V}$  with factorable congruences and  $\mathcal{V} = \mathbf{I}^a(\mathcal{V}_{DI})$  imply  $\mathcal{V}$  is a  
discriminator variety.  
Acta Sci. Math. **62** (1996), 359–368.

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Varieties Having Boolean Factor Congruences.  
J. Algebra, **132** (1990), 130–153.



# Bonus Track: A Mal'cev Condition for BFC

$$|\alpha| = N$$

$$L_\alpha(\rho(\vec{X})) \approx R_\alpha(\rho(\vec{X}))$$

$$L_\alpha(\rho^*(\vec{X})) \approx R_\alpha(\rho^*(\vec{X}))$$

$$x \approx L_\epsilon(\vec{X})$$

$$y \approx R_\epsilon(\vec{X})$$

$$L_\epsilon(\rho(\vec{X})) \approx L_1(\rho(\vec{X}))$$

$$R_j(\rho(\vec{X})) \approx L_{j+1}(\rho(\vec{X})) \quad \text{if } 1 \leq j \leq N-1$$

$$R_N(\rho(\vec{X})) \approx R_\epsilon(\rho(\vec{X}))$$

$$0 < |\alpha| < N$$

If  $|\alpha|$  is even then

$$L_\alpha(\rho(\vec{X})) \approx L_{\alpha 1}(\rho(\vec{X}))$$

$$R_{\alpha j}(\rho(\vec{X})) \approx L_{\alpha(j+1)}(\rho(\vec{X})) \quad \text{if } 1 \leq j \leq k-1$$

$$R_{\alpha k}(\rho(\vec{X})) \approx R_\alpha(\rho(\vec{X}))$$

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If  $|\alpha|$  is odd then

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## Bonus Track: $\Phi$ for PO-groupoids

$$\Psi(x, y, z) =$$

$$\forall u_1, \dots, u_{2n-1}$$

$$\left( u_1 \cdot x = u_1 \cdot u_2 \wedge \left( \bigwedge_{i=2}^{n-1} u_{2i-1} \cdot u_{2i-2} = u_{2i-1} \cdot u_{2i} \right) \wedge u_{2n-1} \cdot u_{2n-2} = u_{2n-1} \cdot y \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\exists v_1, \dots, v_{n-1} : u_1 \cdot x = u_1 \cdot v_1 \wedge \left( \bigwedge_{i=2}^{n-1} u_{2i-1} \cdot v_{i-1} = u_{2i-1} \cdot v_i \right) \wedge u_{2n-1} \cdot v_{n-1} = u_{2n-1} \cdot z.$$

$$\Phi = \exists a_1, \dots, a_{n-1} : \pi(x, a_1, U_1(x, y, \vec{z}), U_1(x, y, \vec{w})) \wedge$$

$$\wedge \left( \bigwedge_{i \text{ odd}} \pi(a_i, a_{i+1}, U_{i+1}(x, y, \vec{w}), U_{i+1}(x, y, \vec{z})) \right) \wedge$$

$$\wedge \left( \bigwedge_{i \text{ even}} \pi(a_i, a_{i+1}, U_{i+1}(x, y, \vec{z}), U_{i+1}(x, y, \vec{w})) \right) \wedge$$

$$\wedge \pi(a_{n-1}, y, U_k(x, y, \vec{z}), U_k(x, y, \vec{w})).$$