

# MSO $\cap$ Datalog

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Joint work with Manuel Bodirsky and Sebastian Rudolph

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DFG Research Training Group 1763



# Introduction 1

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Which computational problems are expressible in **Monadic Second-Order Logic**  
**AND** can be solved by a **Datalog program**?

Can we describe such problems in a 'nice' way?

# Introduction 2

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- Necessary conditions for MSO definability in Datalog .
- Pebble game characterization of  $\text{MSO} \cap \text{Datalog}$ . **Not in this talk!**

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**Monadic second-order  $\tau$ -sentence**: all first-order variables are quantified,  $\tau$  symbols are not quantified.

## Example

Monadic second-order  $\{E\}$ -sentence:

$$\forall R \exists x \in R \forall y \in R : (\exists z. z \in R) \Rightarrow \neg E(y, x)$$

# MSO definable classes

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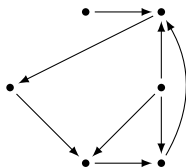
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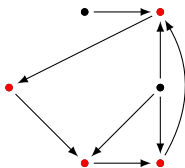
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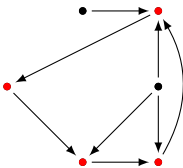
## Example

Consider the MSO  $\{E\}$ -sentence  $\Phi$

$$\forall X \neq \emptyset \exists x \in X \forall y \in X : \neg E(x, y).$$

The class  $[[\Phi]]$  consists of all directed graphs that do not contain a cycle.

A structure that satisfies  $\neg\Phi$ :



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We denote the class of accepted instances by  $\llbracket \Pi \rrbracket$ .

## Datalog example

Datalog program  $\Pi^{\text{succ}}$  with EDB Succ and IDBs  $L$ ,  $S$ ,  $T$  and **false**:

$$S(x, y) : \neg \text{Succ}(x, y)$$

$$L(x, x) : \neg x$$

$$L(x', y') : \neg L(x, y), S(x, x'), S(y, y')$$

$$S(y, x') : \neg L(x, y), S(x, x')$$

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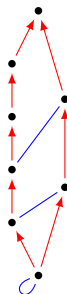
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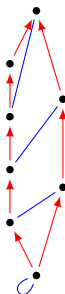
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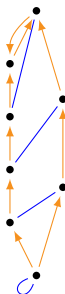
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$\Pi^{succ}$  accepts exactly the structures where for each two nodes all connecting paths have the same length.

## An observation about Datalog

Datalog program  $\Pi$  with EDB  $E$  and IDB  $R$ :

$$R(x, y) : \neg E(x, y)$$
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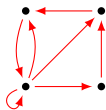
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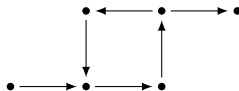
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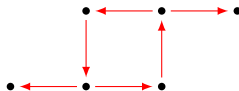
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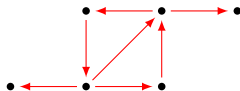
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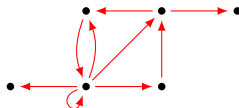
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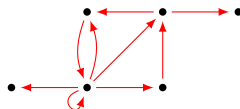
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## Observation

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be defined by a Datalog program. Let **A** and **B** be structures where **B** is in  $\mathcal{C}$  and **A** has a homomorphism to **B**. Then **A** is in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

We say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is **closed under inverse homomorphisms**.

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Let  $\Phi$  be a MSO sentence such that  $\llbracket \Phi \rrbracket$  is closed under inverse homomorphisms. Then  $\llbracket \Phi \rrbracket$  is a finite union of MSO definable **constraint satisfaction problems**.



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Let  $\mathbf{D}$  be a  $\tau$ -structure. The **constraint satisfaction problem of  $\mathbf{D}$**  is the class of all finite  $\tau$ -structures that have a homomorphism to  $\mathbf{D}$ . We denote it by  $\text{CSP}(\mathbf{D})$ .

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- $\text{CSP}(\mathbb{Z}; \text{Succ} = \{(x, y) \mid x + 1 = y\}) = \llbracket \Pi^{\text{succ}} \rrbracket$  is the class of all graphs where for each two nodes all connecting paths have the same length.

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## Proposition

A class of  $\tau$ -structures  $\mathcal{C}$  is a CSP for some structure iff it is closed under inverse homomorphisms and **closed under disjoint unions**., i.e. if  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{C}$ , then  $\mathbf{A} \uplus \mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{C}$ .

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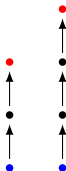
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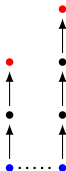
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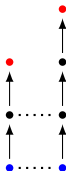
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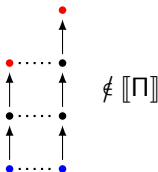
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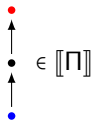
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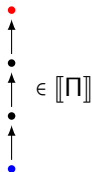
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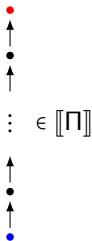
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→ By Result 1 and the observation about Datalog, the class  $\llbracket \Pi \rrbracket$  is not MSO definable.

## Result 2

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Let  $\Phi$  be a MSO sentence such that  $\llbracket \Phi \rrbracket$  is closed under inverse homomorphisms and disjoint unions. Then  $\llbracket \Phi \rrbracket$  is the CSP of an  $\omega$ -categorical structure.

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### Remark

Result 2 can be used to achieve a characterization of  $\text{MSO} \cap \text{Datalog}$  in terms of *existential pebble games*.

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## Result 3

Every problem in  $\text{MSO} \cap \text{Datalog}$  is the finite union of  $\omega$ -categorical CSPs.

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Thank you for your attention!



# Publications

- *Hardness of Network Satisfaction for Relation Algebras with Normal Representations*, Manuel Bodirsky and Simon Knäuer.  
In Proceedings of RAMICS 2020.
- *ASNP: A Tame Fragment of Existential Second-Order Logic*  
Manuel Bodirsky, Simon Knäuer and Florian Starke  
In Proceedings of CiE 2020.
- *Network satisfaction for symmetric relation algebras with a flexible atom*,  
Manuel Bodirsky and Simon Knäuer.  
Submitted.
- *Datalog-Expressibility for Monadic and Guarded Second-Order Logic*  
Manuel Bodirsky, Simon Knäuer and Sebastian Rudolph  
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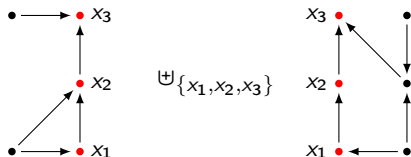
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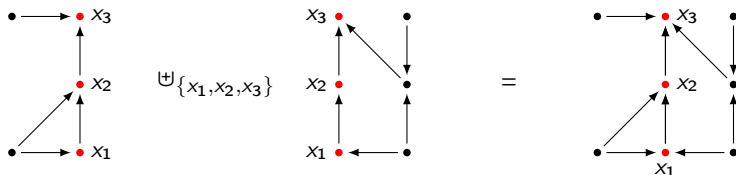
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Generalize the equivalence relation  $\sim$ :

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Use of the following theorem:

Theorem (Bodirsky, Hils, Martin)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be closed under inverse homomorphisms and disjoint unions. Then there exists an  $\omega$ -categorical structure  $\mathbf{B}$  such that  $\text{CSP}(\mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{C}$  if and only if  $\sim_n^{\mathcal{C}}$  has finitely many equivalence classes for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .