

# Fragments of monadic second-order theories of the chronological accessibility relation

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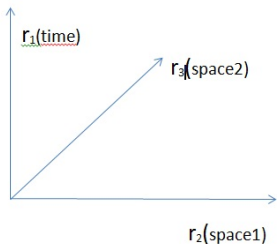
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## Outline

- 1 **Notions concerning spacetime**
- 2 **Earlier results**
- 3 **Monadic second-order theories**
- 4 **Temporal logic and monadic second-order logic**
- 5 **Results**

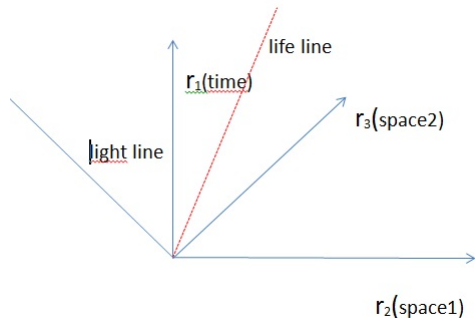
## Spacetime $\mathbb{F}^n (n \geq 2)$

$\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}\}$ . Elements of  $\mathbb{F}^n$  denoted by  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$ .



time dimension is 1  
space dimension is  $n - 1$

## Life line, light line, speed of light

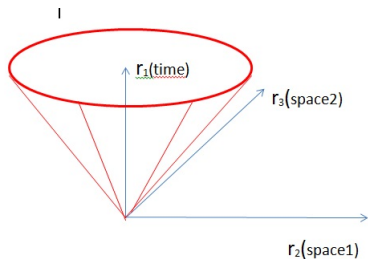


Life lines of pointlike bodies are straight lines of slope less than the speed of light( $c$ ). Assume  $c = 1$ .

case  $\mathbb{Q}$ :  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$

## Upper light cone

On  $\mathbb{F}^n$  ( $n > 1$ ),  $(r_1, \dots, r_n) \blacktriangleleft (q_1, \dots, q_n) :\Leftrightarrow$   
 $(r_1 - q_1)^2 > (r_2 - q_2)^2 + \dots + (r_n - q_n)^2 \wedge r_1 < q_1.$



$(q_1, \dots, q_n)$  is in the upper light-cone of  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$   
 $\blacktriangleleft$  is called chronological accessibility relation

## Other relations related to possible causality

$r \ll q$ : Robb's after,  $q$  is in or on the upper light cone of  $r$

$r = \blacktriangleleft q, r = \lll q$ : reflexive closure of  $\blacktriangleleft$  and  $\lll$ , resp.

## First-order theories of causality relations

Robb(1914)  $FOTH(\mathbb{R}^n, <<)$  is finitely axiomatizable  
*explicit axiomatization, far from transparent (source: Suppes (1973))*

Brett Mundy (1986)

James P. Ax (1978)

Rob Goldblatt (1988): spacetime geometry can be built up by explicit first-order definitions starting from Robb's binary relation  $<<$  (not like in Euclidean case)

## Higher-order axiomatizations – selection

Walker (1959)

Schutz (2002)

logical expressive power to follow a classical physics book  
word-by-word (real numbers, quantification over mappings)



## First-order axiomatization for the full playground

Andréka, Németi, Madarász . . .

not only for the geometry: axioms talk about bodies,  
coordinates, observers, world view functions

conceptual analysis

## The presented results support avoiding higher-order logic in the axiomatization process

Universal fragment of monadic second-order theory of  $(\mathbb{F}^n, \triangleleft)$  is rec. enumerable if and only if  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Q}$  and  $n = 2$ .

This case is too restricted to do relativity theory

## Monadic second-order theories

standard version of the monadic second-order theory of a structure  $(T, <)$

syntax:

variables  $(x, y, \dots)$  for individuals and for subsets  $(X, Y, \dots)$

$x < y, x \in X$

interpretation:

the *standard model*  $\mathcal{M}_n$  of this language on  $(\mathbb{Q}^n, \blacktriangleleft)$  ( $n > 1$ ) when the domain is  $\mathbb{Q}^n$  and the interpretation of  $<$  is  $\blacktriangleleft$ , further, the variables of the second sort range over *all* subsets of  $\mathbb{Q}^n$  and the interpretation of  $\in$  is the standard inclusion  
variable valuation, satisfaction is defined in the expected way

## Monadic second-order theories II.

The *monadic second-order theory* of  $(\mathbb{Q}^n, \triangleleft)$  is the set of true closed formulae of  $\mathcal{M}_n$ . Denoted by  $MSOTH(\mathbb{Q}^n, \triangleleft)$ .

We define its  $\forall\exists$ -fragment as the set of the formulae in this theory of form  $\forall V_1 \dots \forall V_n \exists W_1 \dots \exists W_m B$ , where  $n \geq 0$ ,  $m \geq 0$ ,  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  and  $W_1, \dots, W_m$  are subset variables and  $B$  itself is free from subset quantifiers, that is, one measure only the complexity of subset quantifications.  $MSOTH_{\forall\exists}(T, <)$ .

If  $m = 0$  we obtain the definition of the  $\forall$ -fragment.  $MSOTH_{\forall}(T, <)$ .

## Propositional temporal logic

model: time-dependent truth valuation of propositional variables

time-dependent truth value of formulae ( $M, t \models a$ )

logical operators to refer to truth values of formulae in another time points

For example, the rule for the evaluation of binary connective

*Until*:

$M, t \models \text{Until}(A, B) :\Leftrightarrow$

$\exists x(t < x \wedge M, x \models A \wedge \forall u(t < u < x \rightarrow M, u \models B))$

## Translation of temporal formulae into monadic second-order ones

$$\text{Until}(A, B)^{mso} = \forall A \forall B \exists x (t < x \wedge x \in A \wedge \forall u (t < u < x \rightarrow u \in B))$$

well known: a temporal formula  $\phi$  is temporal logical law over a time flow  $(T, <)$  if and only if  $\phi^{mso}$  is in  $MSOTH(T, <)$ .

not need to formalize more exactly here, mentioned only for motivation

Burgess and Gurevich (1985) have decided linear temporal logic by this translation

$MSOTH(\mathbb{Q}, <)$  decidable

$MSOTH(\mathbb{R}, <)$  undec. but  $MSOTH_{\forall}(\mathbb{R}, <)$  is dec.

## Theorems

For any  $n > 1$ ,  $MSOTH_{\forall\exists}(\mathbb{F}^n, \blacktriangleleft)$  is not rec. enumerable.

$MSOTH_{\forall}(\mathbb{Q}^n, \blacktriangleleft)$  is rec. enumerable iff  $n = 2$

$MSOTH_{\forall}(\mathbb{R}^n, \blacktriangleleft)$  is not rec. enumerable

will see what is the difference

## Spatio-temporal logics

temporal logic with time flow  $(\mathbb{F}^n, \blacktriangleleft)$  or other causality related relation

**C**

coined by A. Dragalin (source: V. Shehtman)

first axiomatizations: V. Shehtman, R. Goldblatt (S4.2) (1980)

Shapiro

Robin Hirsch and Mark Reynolds – at this conf.



## Proof for the only positive rec. enumerability result

Rather routine.

Johan van Benthem (1983):  $FOTH(\mathbb{Q}^2, \blacktriangleleft)$  is  $\omega$ -categorical and finitely axiomatized

My remark: if the first-order theory of a countably infinite structure  $(T, <)$  is  $\omega$ -categorical and rec. enumerable, then  $MSOTH_{\forall}(T, <)$  is also rec. enumerable.

Idea: to take the first-order theory as an axiom set in a signature for  $(T, <)$  extended by a finite number of unary predicate symbols.

## Proof for not rec. enum., $MSOTH_{\forall\exists}(\mathbb{Q}^n, \triangleleft)$

### Abbreviations

$$(x \triangleleft y) \Leftrightarrow \forall z (y \triangleleft z \rightarrow x \triangleleft z) \wedge \neg x \triangleleft y \wedge \neg x = y$$

$y$  is on the boundary of the upper light-cone of  $x$  (directed optical accessibility)

$$U(x, y; z) \Leftrightarrow (x \triangleleft z \wedge y \triangleleft z)$$

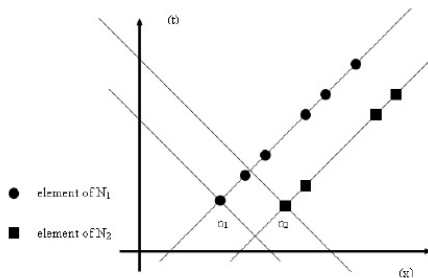
existence and uniqueness of this upper bound  $z$  for  $x$  and  $y$  is not guaranteed, except for the case  $n = 2$  – the intersection of light-cones of two rational points may not include rational points, if  $n > 2$

## $\nu_1$ is the monadic second-order formula expressing

For each  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ :

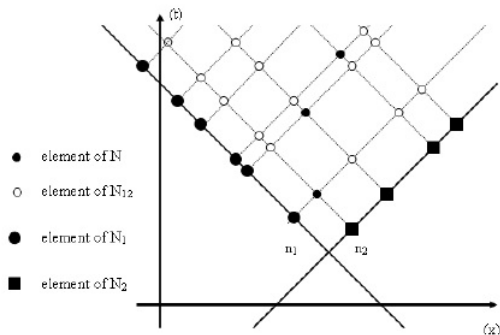
(i)  $N_i$  is discretely linear ordered by  $\triangleleft$ , minimum  $n_i$ , no maximum

(ii) Every lower Dedekind-cut  $Y$  (with respect to  $\triangleleft$ ) of the light-like line  $M$  through  $N_i$  has the following property: there exist two consecutive points  $x, y$  in  $N_i$  such that  $x \in Y \wedge y \notin Y$  holds.



$\nu_1$  makes  $(N_i, \triangleleft)$  isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{N}, <)$ .

## $\nu$ describes a situation similar to



Subset  $N_{12}$  is like a grid and subset  $N$  pairs the elements of  $N_1$  with the elements of  $N_2$

this is expressible in universal monadic second-order logic

## Universal fragment of dyadic second-order theory of $(\mathbb{N}, <)$

universally quantified variables for binary relations on  $\mathbb{N}$

not recursively enumerable

a recursive translation  $m$  is given from this language into our monadic second-order language

### Proved

for all closed dyadic formulae  $A$  and  $n > 1$ ,  $A$  is in the dyadic second-order theory of  $(\mathbb{N}, <)$  iff

$\forall N_1, N_2, N_{12}, N, n_1, n_2 (\nu \rightarrow A^m) \in MSOTH(\mathbb{Q}^n, \blacktriangleleft)$

## Case $n > 2$ : why the $\forall$ -fragment is also not rec. enumerable over $\mathbb{Q}$ ?

definable betweenness and equidistance also for rationals

Goldblatt's method did not work, new method was developed

**the new definition working also for rationals**

$$\beta_\sigma(x, z, y) \Leftrightarrow \sigma(x, y) \wedge \forall u (x \triangleleft u \wedge y \triangleleft u \rightarrow z \triangleleft u) \wedge \forall u (u \triangleleft x \wedge u \triangleleft y \rightarrow u \triangleleft z)$$

proof: elementary but lengthy

Dedekind-cut formula can be eliminated

## Implications

in  $FOTH(\mathbb{Q}^2, \blacktriangleleft)$  there is no definition for equidistance of betweenness

there exists an  $\omega$ -categorical structure whose  $MSOTH_{\forall\exists}$ -fragment monadic second-order theory is not rec. enumerable

$FOTH(\mathbb{Q}^n, \blacktriangleleft)$  is not  $\omega$ -categorical or is not rec. enumerable – the wet can prove

**Thank you for your attention.**