

## Lecture 7

# Translation Schemes: Main definitions and examples

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- The framework of translation schemes
  - The induced maps
  - The fundamental lemma
  - Reductions
- The Museum of examples

## Definition 1 (Translation Schemes $\Phi$ )

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- Let  $\tau$  and  $\sigma = \{R_1, \dots, R_m\}$  be two vocabularies with  $\rho(R_i)$  be the arity of  $R_i$ .
- Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a fragment of *SOL*, such as *FOOL*, *MSOL*,  $\exists$ *MSOL*, etc.
- Let  $\Phi = \langle \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_m \rangle$  be formulae of  $\mathcal{L}(\tau)$  such that  $\phi$  has exactly  $k$  distinct free first order variables and each  $\psi_i$  has  $k\rho(R_i)$  distinct free first order variables.  
We say that  $\Phi$  is  **$k$ -feasible (for  $\sigma$  over  $\tau$ )**.
- A  $k$ -feasible  $\Phi = \langle \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_m \rangle$  is called a  **$k$ - $\tau$ - $\sigma$ - $\mathcal{L}$ -translation scheme** or, in short, a **translation scheme**, if the parameters are clear in the context.

## Distinctions

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If  $k = 1$  we speak of **scalar** or **non-vectorized** translation schemes.

If  $k \geq 2$  we speak of **vectorized** translation schemes.

If  $\phi$  is such that  $\forall \bar{x} \phi(\bar{x})$  is a tautology (always true) the translation scheme is **not relativized** otherwise it is **relativized**.

A translation scheme is **simple** if it is neither relativized nor vectorized.

## Example 2 ( $\tau_{words_3}$ and $\tau_{graphs}$ )

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$\tau_{words_3}$  consists of  $\{R_{<}, P_0, P_1, P_2\}$  for three letters  $\{0, 1, 2\}$ .

$\tau_{graphs}$  consists of  $\{E\}$

Put  $k = 1$ ,

$\phi_1(x) = (P_0(x) \vee P_1(x))$  and

$\psi_E(x, y) = (P_0(x) \wedge P_1(y))$

$$\Phi_1 = \langle \phi_1(x), \psi_E(x, y) \rangle$$

is a **scalar** and **relativized** translation scheme in *FOL*.

If instead we look at  $\phi_2(x) = (x \approx x)$  then

$$\Phi_2 = \langle \phi_2(x), \psi_E(x, y) \rangle$$

is a **simple** translation scheme.

### Example 3 ( $\tau_{words_2}$ and $\tau_{grids}$ )

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$\tau_{words_2}$  consists of  $\{R_{<}, P_0, P_1\}$

$\tau_{grids}$  consists of  $\{E_{NS}, E_{EW}\}$

Put  $k = 2$ ,

$$\phi(x) = ((x \approx x) \wedge (y \approx y))$$

$$\psi_{E_{NS}}(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) = (R_{<}(x_1, x_2) \wedge y_1 \approx y_2)$$

$$\psi_{E_{EW}}(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) = (R_{<}(y_1, y_2) \wedge x_1 \approx x_2)$$

$$\Phi_3 =$$

$$\langle \phi(x, y), \psi_{E_{NS}}(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2), \psi_{E_{EW}}(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) \rangle$$

is a **vectorized** but **not** relativized translation scheme in FOL.

**Definition 4 (The induced transduction  $\Phi^*$ )**

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Given a translation scheme  $\Phi$

$$\Phi^* : Str(\tau) \rightarrow Str(\sigma)$$

is a (partial) function from  $\tau$ -structures to  $\sigma$ -structures defined by  $\Phi^*(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A}_\Phi$  and

1. the universe of  $\mathcal{A}_\Phi$  is the set

$$\mathcal{A}_\Phi = \{\bar{a} \in A^k : \mathcal{A} \models \phi(\bar{a})\};$$

2. the interpretation of  $R_i$  in  $\mathcal{A}_\Phi$  is the set

$$\mathcal{A}_\Phi(R_i) = \{\bar{a} \in A_\Phi^{\rho(R_i) \cdot k} : \mathcal{A} \models \psi_i(\bar{a})\}.$$

$\mathcal{A}_\Phi$  is a  $\sigma$ -structure of cardinality at most  $|A|^k$ .

As  $\Phi$  is  $k$ -feasible for  $\sigma$  over  $\tau$ ,  $\Phi^*(\mathcal{A})$  is defined iff  $\mathcal{A} \models \exists \bar{x}\phi$ .

## Example 5 (Words and graphs)

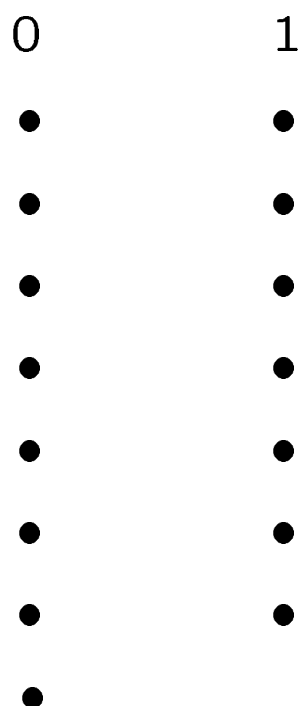
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Let us compute  $\Phi_1^*$ .

For the word

1001020102001022111

we get the graph



(1)

## Example 6 (Words and grids)

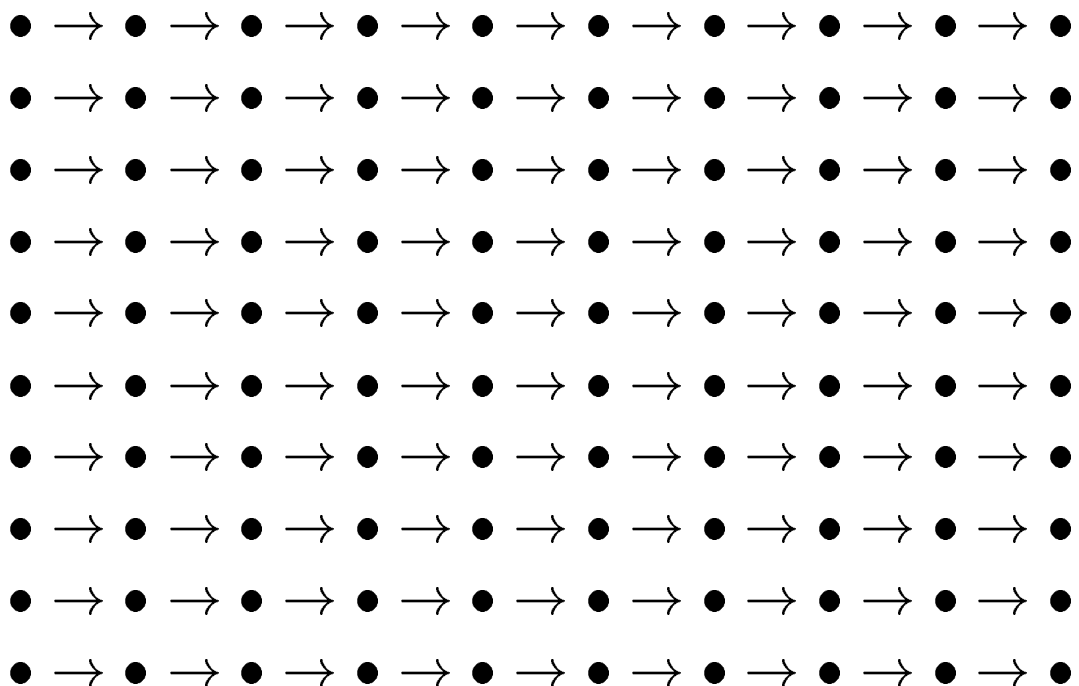
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Let us compute  $\Phi_3^*$ .

For a word

0110101001

we get



This is independent of the letters  $\{0, 1\}$ .



## Definition 7 (The induced translation $\Phi^\sharp$ )

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Given a translation scheme  $\Phi$  we define a function  $\Phi^\sharp : \mathcal{L}(\sigma) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\tau)$  from  $\mathcal{L}(\sigma)$ -formulae to  $\mathcal{L}(\tau)$ -formulae inductively as follows:

- For  $R_i \in \sigma$  and  $\theta = R_i(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  let  $x_{j,h}$  be new variables with  $i \leq m$  and  $h \leq k$  and denote by  $\bar{x}_i = \langle x_{i,1}, \dots, x_{i,k} \rangle$ . We put

$$\Phi^\sharp(\theta) = \left( \psi_i(\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_m) \wedge \bigwedge_i \phi(\bar{x}_i) \right)$$

- This also works for equality and relation variables  $U$  instead of relation symbols  $R$ .

**Definition 7** (Continued: booleans)

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For the boolean connectives, the translation distributes, i.e.

- if  $\theta = (\theta_1 \vee \theta_2)$  then

$$\Phi_{\#}(\theta) = (\Phi_{\#}(\theta_1) \vee \Phi_{\#}(\theta_2))$$

- if  $\theta = \neg\theta_1$  then

$$\Phi_{\#}(\theta) = \Phi_{\#}(\neg\theta_1)$$

- similarly for  $\wedge$  and  $\rightarrow$ .

## Definition 7 (Continued: quantification)

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- For the existential quantifier, we use relativization to  $\phi$ :

If  $\theta = \exists y \theta_1$ , let  $\bar{y} = \langle y_1, \dots, y_k \rangle$  be new variables. We put

$$\theta_\Phi = \exists \bar{y} (\phi(\bar{y}) \wedge (\theta_1)_\Phi).$$

This concludes the inductive definition for first order logic *FOL*.

- For second order quantification of variables  $U$  of arity  $\ell$  and  $\bar{a}$  a vector of length  $\ell$  of first order variables or constants, we translate  $U(\bar{a})$  by treating  $U$  as a relation symbol above and put

$$\theta_\Phi = \exists V (\forall \bar{v} (V(\bar{v}) \rightarrow (\phi(\bar{v}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \phi(\bar{v}_\ell) \wedge (\theta_1)_\Phi)))$$

## Example 8 (Computing $\Phi_1^\#$ )

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Recall

$$\Phi_1 = \langle \phi_1(x), \psi_E(x, y) \rangle$$

with  $k = 1$ ,

$$\phi_1(x) = (P_0(x) \vee P_1(x)) \text{ and}$$

$$\psi_E(x, y) = (P_0(x) \wedge P_1(y))$$

Let  $\theta_{conn}$  be the formula which says the graph is connected:

$$\neg (\exists U (\exists x \neg U(x) \wedge \forall x \forall y (U(x) \wedge E(x, y) \rightarrow U(y))))$$

## Example 8 (Continued)

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- $U(x)$  is replaced by

$$(\phi_1(x) \wedge U(x)) = ((P_0(x) \vee P_1(x)) \wedge U(x))$$

- $E(x, y)$  is replaced by

$$\begin{aligned} &(\phi_1(x) \wedge \phi_1(y) \wedge E(x, y)) = \\ &((P_0(x) \vee P_1(x)) \wedge (P_0(y) \vee P_1(y)) \wedge E(x, y)) \end{aligned}$$

- $(x \approx y)$  is replaced by

$$\begin{aligned} &(\phi_1(x) \wedge \phi_1(y) \wedge (x \approx y)) = \\ &((P_0(x) \vee P_1(x)) \wedge (P_0(y) \vee P_1(y)) \wedge (x \approx y)) \end{aligned}$$

- Then we proceed inductively.

$(x \approx y)$  does not occur in  $\theta_{conn}$ .

## Proposition 9 (Preservation of tautologies I)

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Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be First Order Logic *FOL*.

$$\Phi = \langle \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_m \rangle$$

be a  $k-(\tau - \sigma)$ - $\mathcal{L}$ -translation scheme, which is not relativizing, i.e.  $\forall \bar{x} \phi(\bar{x})$  is a tautology. Let  $\theta$  a  $\sigma$ -formula.

- If  $\theta$  is a tautology (not satisfiable), so is  $\Phi^\#(\theta)$ .
- If  $\phi$  is not a tautology, this is not true.
- There are formulas  $\theta$  which are not tautologies (are satisfiable), such that  $\Phi^\#(\theta)$  is a tautology (is not satisfiable).

## Proof of proposition 9

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### **Proof:**

For *FOL*, the first two parts are by straight induction using the completeness theorem. What we observe is that proof sequences translate properly using  $\Phi^\sharp$ .

Generalizing to other logics needs regularity conditions.

If  $\phi$  is not a tautology,  $\exists x(x = x)$  is a tautology, but  $\Phi^\sharp(\exists x(x = x)) = \exists x\phi(x) \wedge x = x$  is not a tautology.

Now let  $\Phi = \langle \psi_R, \psi_S \rangle$  be defined by

$$\psi_R(x) = P(x) \text{ and } \psi_S(x) = \neg P(x).$$

$\exists x\theta_1$  be  $R(x) \wedge S(x)$  and  $\exists x\theta_2$  be  $R(x) \vee S(x)$  are both satisfiable but not tautologies. But  $\Phi^\sharp(\theta_1)$  is not satisfiable and  $\Phi^\sharp(\theta_2)$  is a tautology. *Q.E.D.*

## Theorem 10 (Fundamental Property)

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Let  $\Phi = \langle \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_m \rangle$  be a  $k$ - $(\tau - \sigma)$ -translation scheme in a logic  $\mathcal{L}$ . Then the transduction  $\Phi^*$  and the translation  $\Phi^\#$  are linked in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

In other words, given

- $\mathcal{A}$  be a  $\tau$ -structure and
- $\theta$  be a  $\mathcal{L}(\sigma)$ -formula.

Then

$$\mathcal{A} \models \Phi^\#(\theta) \text{ iff } \Phi^*(\mathcal{A}) \models \theta$$



**Translation Scheme and  
its induced maps**  
in the Fundamental Property of  
theorem 10

Translation scheme $\Phi$		
$\tau$ -structure  $\mathcal{A}$	$\Phi^*$ $\longrightarrow$	$\sigma$ -structure  $\Phi^*(\mathcal{A})$
$\tau$ -formulae  $\Phi^\#(\theta)$	$\longleftarrow$ $\Phi^\#$	$\sigma$ -formulae  $\theta$
$\mathcal{A} \models \Phi^\#(\theta)$ iff $\Phi^*(\mathcal{A}) \models \theta$		

## Definition 11 ( $\mathcal{L}$ -Reductions)

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Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a regular logic and  $\Phi$  be a  $(\tau_1 - \tau_2)$  translation scheme. We are given

- two classes  $K_1, K_2$  of  $\tau_1(\tau_2)$ -structures closed under isomorphism

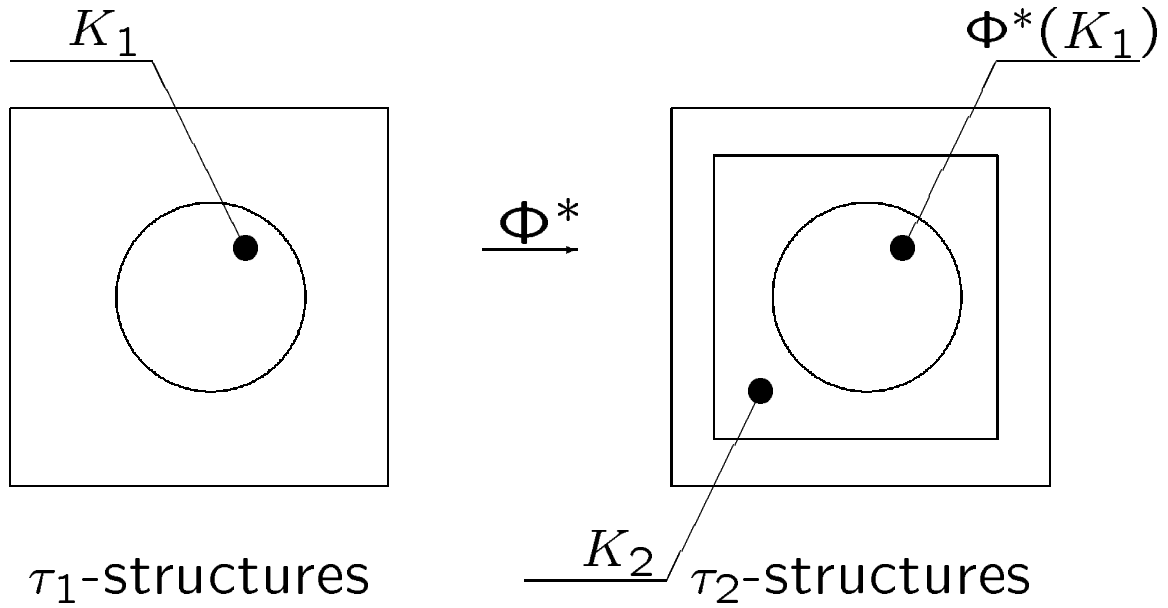
We say

1.  $\Phi^*$  is a *weak reduction* of  $K_1$  to  $K_2$  if for every  $\tau_1$ -structure  $\mathfrak{A}$  with  $\mathfrak{A} \in K_1$  we have  $\Phi^*(\mathfrak{A}) \in K_2$ .
2.  $\Phi^*$  is a *reduction* of  $K_1$  to  $K_2$  if for every  $\tau_1$ -structure  $\mathfrak{A}$ ,  $\mathfrak{A} \in K_1$  iff  $\Phi^*(\mathfrak{A}) \in K_2$ .

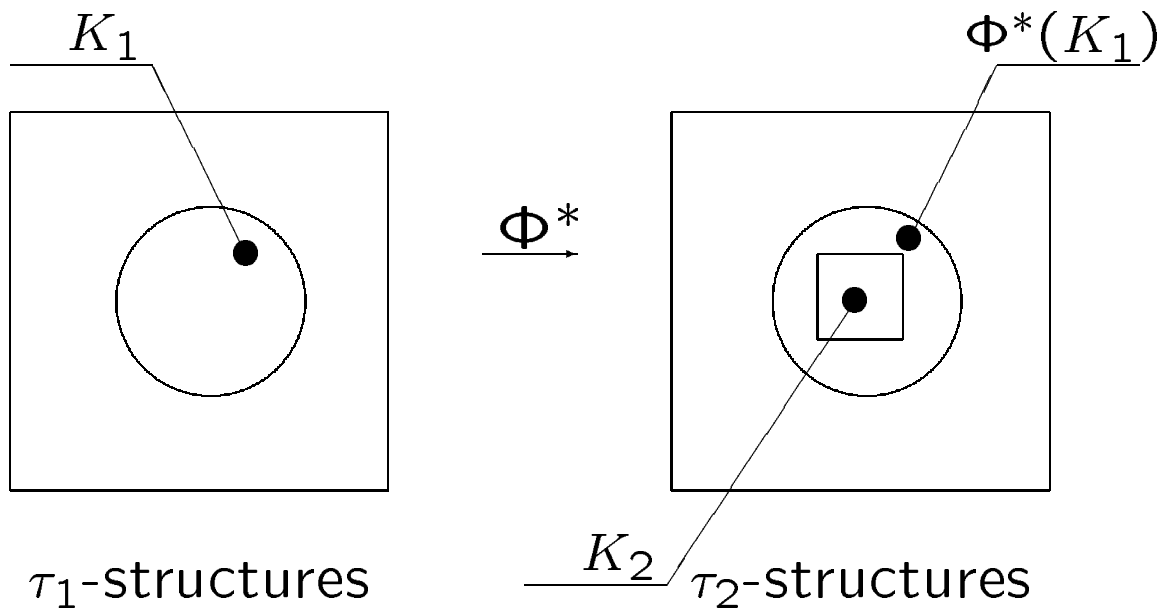
**Definition 11**(Continued)

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3.  $\Phi^*$  of  $K_1$  to  $K_2$  is *onto* if (additionally) for every  $\mathfrak{B} \in K_2$  there is an  $\mathfrak{A} \in K_1$  with  $\Phi^*(\mathfrak{A})$  isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{B}$ .
4. By abuse of language we say  $\Phi^*$  is a *translation of  $K_1$  onto  $K_2$*  also if  $\Phi^*$  is not a weak reduction but only  $K_2 \subseteq \Phi^*(K_1)$ .
5. We say that  $\Phi$  induces a reduction (a weak reduction) of  $K_1$  to  $K_2$ , if  $\Phi^*$  is a reduction (a weak reduction) of  $K_1$  to  $K_2$ . For simplicity, we also say  $\Phi$  is a reduction (a weak reduction) instead of saying that  $\Phi$  induces a reduction (a weak reduction).



Weak reduction



ONTO

## Definition 12 ( $\mathcal{L}$ -Reducibility)

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1. Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We say that  $K_1$  is  $\mathcal{L}$ - $k$ -reducible to  $K_2$  ( $K_1 \triangleleft_{\mathcal{L}-k} K_2$ ), if there is a  $\mathcal{L}$ - $k$ -translation scheme  $\Phi$  for  $\tau_2$  over  $\tau_1$ , such that  $\Phi^*$  is a reduction of  $K_1$  to  $K_2$ .

2. We say that  $K_1$  is  $\mathcal{L}$ -reducible to  $K_2$  ( $K_1 \triangleleft_{\mathcal{L}} K_2$ ), if  $K_1 \triangleleft_{\mathcal{L}-k} K_2$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

3. We say that  $K_1$  is  $\mathcal{L}$ -bi-reducible to  $K_2$  and write  $K_1 \bowtie_{\mathcal{L}} K_2$ , if  $K_1 \triangleleft_{\mathcal{L}-k} K_2$  and  $K_2 \triangleleft_{\mathcal{L}-k} K_1$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Clearly, bi-reducibility is a symmetric relation.

## Theorem 13 (Definability and Reducibility)

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Let  $\Phi^*$  be an  $\mathcal{L}$ -reduction of  $K_1$  to  $K_2$ .  
If  $K_2$  is  $\mathcal{L}$ -definable then  $K_1$  is  $\mathcal{L}$ -definable.

Recall that a class of  $\tau$ -structures  $K_2$  is  $\mathcal{L}$ -definable if there is a  $\mathcal{L}(\tau)$ -sentence  $\theta$  such that  $K_2 = \text{Mod}(\theta)$ .

### **Proof:**

We use the Fundamental Property of  $\Phi$ .

If  $K_2$  is defined by  $\theta$ , so  $K_1$  is defined by  $\Phi^\sharp(\theta)$ .

**Proposition 14**

*Hamiltonian graphs are not MSOL-definable (both in  $\tau_{graphs_1}$  and  $\tau_{graphs_2}$ ).*

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**Proof:**

We use  $\Phi_2$  from example 2.

$\Phi_2^*$  is a reduction from words  $0^n 1^m$  over  $\{0, 1\}$  to complete bipartite graphs  $K_{n,m}$ , which are MSOL-defined by  $\theta_{co-bi}$ .

$K_{n,m}$  is Hamiltonian iff  $n = m$ .

So, if  $\theta_{hamil}$  defined all Hamiltonian graphs,

$$\Phi_2^\#(\theta_{hamil} \wedge \theta_{co-bi})$$

defined the language  $\{0^n 1^n\}$ .

But  $\{0^n 1^n\}$  is not regular, and hence, by Büchi's theorem, not MSOL-definable.

Q.E.D.

**Proposition 15**

*Eulerian graphs are not MSOL-definable  
(both in  $\tau_{graphs_1}$  and  $\tau_{graphs_2}$ ).*

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**Proof:** Let  $SET$  be the class of finite sets and  $ODD \subseteq SET$  those of odd cardinality.

Let  $CLIQUEE$  be the class of complete graphs.  $CLIQUEE$  is  $FOL$ -definable by some  $\theta_{clique}$ .

Let the simple  $FOL$  translation scheme  $\Phi$  be given by

$$\phi(x) = (x \approx x) \text{ and } \psi_E(x, y) = (\neg x \approx y).$$

$\Phi^*$  is a reduction from  $SET$  to  $CLIQUEE$ .

Now assume that there is  $\theta_{euler} \in MSOL$ , with  $EULER = Mod(\theta_{euler})$ .

Put  $\theta = (\theta_{clique} \wedge \theta_{euler})$ .

$\Phi^\sharp(\theta)$  is equivalent to  $\theta_{odd} \in MSOL$ .

But this contradicts the fact that  $ODD$  ( $EVEB$ ) is not  $MSOL$ -definable.

Q.E.D.



## Proof of theorem 10

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We use induction over the construction of  $\theta$ .

- If all the formulas  $\phi, \psi_i$  of  $\Phi$  and  $\theta$  are atomic,  
both  $\Phi^*(\mathfrak{A}) = \mathfrak{A}$  and  
 $\Phi^\#(\theta) = \theta$ .

- Next we keep  $\theta$  atomic and assume

$$\Phi = \langle \phi(\bar{x}), \psi_{S_1}(\bar{x}), \dots, \psi_{S_m}(\bar{x}) \rangle$$

$$\Phi^*(\mathfrak{A}) \models S_i(\bar{a}) \text{ iff } \mathfrak{A} \models \psi_{S_i}(\bar{a})$$

by definition of  $\Phi^*$ .

- Now the induction on  $\theta$  uses that  $\Phi^\#$  commutes with the logical constructs.

Q.E.D.

## Proposition 16 (Preservation of tautologies II)

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Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be First Order Logic *FOL*.

$$\Phi = \langle \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_m \rangle$$

be a  $k-(\tau - \sigma)$ - $\mathcal{L}$ -translation scheme. Let  $\theta$  a  $\sigma$ -formula.

Assume that  $\Phi^*$  is onto all  $\sigma$ -structures, i.e. for every  $\sigma$ -structure  $\mathfrak{B}$  there is a  $\tau$ -structure  $\mathfrak{A}$  such that  $\Phi^*(\mathfrak{A}) = \text{cong}\mathfrak{B}$

- If  $\theta$  is a tautology, so is  $\Phi^\sharp(\theta)$ .
- If additionally  $\exists \bar{x}\phi(\bar{x})$  is a tautology and  $\Phi^\sharp(\theta)$  is a tautology then  $\theta$  is a tautology.

### Proof:

Use the fundamental property. *Q.E.D.*

Note that here the proof is semantical.

## Example 17 (Renaming)

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One of the simplest translations encountered in logic is the renaming of basic relations.

Let  $\tau_1 = \{R_i : i \leq k\}$  and  $\tau_2 = \{S_i : i \leq k\}$ , where  $R_i$  and  $S_i$  are of the same arity, respectively.

Let  $\Phi$  be the  $(\tau_1, \tau_2)$  translation scheme given by  $\Phi = \langle x = x, R_1(\bar{u}), \dots, R_k(\bar{v}) \rangle$ .

Such a translation scheme and as well as its induced maps  $\Phi^*$  and  $\Phi^\sharp$  are called **renaming**.

## Example 18 (Cartesian Product)

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Let us consider one example of vectorized translation scheme that defines Cartesian Product.

For simplicity, we assume that  $k = 2$ .

Let  $\tau_1 = \{R_1(x_1, x_2)\}$  with  $R_1$  binary and  $\tau_2 = \{R_2(x_1, x_2)\}$  with  $R_2$  binary.

$$\Phi = \langle (x_1 = x_1 \vee x_2 = x_2), \\ (R_1(x_1, x_2) \wedge R_2(x_3, x_4)) \rangle$$

It is easy to see that  $\Phi^*(\mathcal{A})$  is isomorphic to the Cartesian product  $\mathcal{A}^2$ .

The  $n$ -hold Cartesian product is defined in the same way.

## Example 19 (Graphs)

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$Graphs_1$  is the class of structures of the form  $\langle V, E \rangle$  where  $E$  is a binary irreflexiv relation on the set of vertices  $V$ .

$Graphs_2$  is the class of structures of the form  $\langle V \sqcup E; Src(v, e), Tgt(v, e) \rangle$  with the universe consisting of **disjoint** sets of vertices and edges and  $Src(v, e)$  ( $Tgt(v, e)$ ) indicates that  $v$  is the source (target) of the directed edge  $e$ .

For a graph  $G$  we denote its representations by  $G_i$  for  $G_i \in Graphs_i$  respectively.

We define a scalar translation scheme  $\Phi = \langle \phi, \psi_E \rangle$  from  $Graphs_2$  to  $Graphs_1$  by

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(v) &= (\exists e (Src(v, e) \vee eTgt(v, e)) \vee \\ &\quad (v = v \wedge \neg \exists x (Src(x, v) \vee Tgt(x, v))) \\ \phi_E(x, y) &= \exists e ((Src(x, e) \wedge Tgt(y, e))\end{aligned}$$

Clearly, for every graph  $G$  we have

$$\Phi^*(G_2) \cong G_1$$

**Theorem 20 (Complexity of transductions)**

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If  $\Phi$  is in *FOL* (or  $\exists$ *HornSOL*)  
then  $\Phi^*$  is computable in polynomial time.

**Proof:**

We test all  $k$ -tuples  $\bar{a}$  in  $\mathfrak{A}$  of size  $n$  for

$$\mathfrak{A} \models \phi(\bar{a})$$

This takes  $n^k \cdot \text{TIME}(\mathfrak{A}, \phi)$  time.

But we know that  $\text{TIME}(\mathfrak{A}, \phi)$  is a polynomial  
in  $n$ .

For the  $\psi_{S_i}$  this is the same.

Q.E.D.

By a theorem of Grädel, this also holds for  
*HornSOL*, cf. the project page.