

# On Approximate Polynomial Identity Testing and Real Root Finding

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# Outline

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- 1 Rank of Symbolic Matrices and Matrix Spaces
- 2 Computing Real Roots of Sparse Polynomials
- 3 Complexity of Symmetric Polynomials

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- 1 Rank of Symbolic Matrices and Matrix Spaces
  - 1.1 Introduction and Motivation
  - 1.2 Previous Work
  - 1.3 Our Contributions
- 2 Computing Real Roots of Sparse Polynomials
  - 2.1 Introduction
  - 2.2 Previous Work
  - 2.3 Our Contribution
  - 2.4 Overview of the Algorithm
- 3 Complexity of Symmetric Polynomials
  - 3.1 Introduction and Motivation
  - 3.2 Main Results

## Based on

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- ▶ Joint work with Prof. Dr. Markus Bläser and Anurag Pandey.
- ▶ Publications:
  - ▶ *Greedy Strikes Again: A Deterministic PTAS for Commutative Rank of Matrix Spaces* Bläser, Markus, Jindal, Gorav, and Pandey, Anurag **In 32nd Computational Complexity Conference (CCC 2017)**.
  - ▶ *A Deterministic PTAS for the Commutative Rank of Matrix Spaces* Bläser, Markus, Jindal, Gorav, and Pandey, Anurag **In Theory of Computing 2018**.

# Matrix Spaces

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## Definition (Matrix Space)

A vector space  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$  is called a *matrix space*:

$$\mathcal{B} = \langle B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m \rangle.$$

- ▶ Here  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m$  linearly generate  $\mathcal{B}$ .

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### Definition (Commutative rank)

For a matrix space  $\mathcal{B}$ , maximum rank of any matrix in  $\mathcal{B}$  is the *commutative rank* of  $\mathcal{B}$ , use  $\text{crk}(\mathcal{B})$  to denote it.

# Symbolic Matrices

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## Definition (Symbolic Matrix)

A matrix  $B \in (\mathbb{F}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m])^{n \times n}$  whose entries are homogeneous linear forms is called a *symbolic matrix*.

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- ▶ Use  $\text{rank}(B)$  to denote the rank of  $B$  over  $\mathbb{F}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$ .
- ▶ Matrix space  $\mathcal{B} = \langle B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m \rangle$ , associate a symbolic matrix  $B$  with  $\mathcal{B}$  by:

$$B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i B_i.$$



# Rank Connection of Symbolic Matrices and Matrix Spaces

## Theorem (Folklore)

$\mathcal{B} = \langle B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m \rangle \leq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$  a matrix space and

$$B(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i B_i$$

the corresponding symbolic matrix, then

$$\text{rank}(B) = \text{crk}(\mathcal{B}).$$

(Assuming  $|\mathbb{F}| > n$ ).

## Maximum Matching to Commutative rank

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- ▶ Tutte matrix  $A_G$  of a simple undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with  $V = [n]$  is an  $n \times n$  symbolic matrix defined as:

▶

$$(A_G)_{i,j} = \begin{cases} x_{ij} & \text{If } (i, j) \in E \text{ and } i < j \\ -x_{ji} & \text{If } (i, j) \in E \text{ and } i > j \\ 0 & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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### Theorem (Lovász 1979)

*If  $r$  is the size of maximum matching in  $G$  then  $\text{rank}(A_G) = 2r$ .*

# Polynomial Identity Testing (PIT) Using Commutative rank

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## Problem

(FORMULA PIT) A formula  $F$  computing  $f \in \mathbb{F}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m]$ , is  $f = 0$ ?

## Polynomial Identity Testing (PIT) Using Commutative rank

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### Theorem (Valiant 1979)

*If  $f \in \mathbb{F}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m]$  is computed by a formula of size  $s$  then one can compute (in deterministic  $\text{poly}(m, s)$  time) an affine **symbolic matrix**  $F$  of size  $(s + 2) \times (s + 2)$  such that  $\det(F) = f$ .*

- ▶ Checking the non-zerosness of  $f$  reduces to checking if the symbolic matrix  $F$  has full rank.

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## Computing the Commutative Rank

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- ▶ To compute the commutative rank exactly, an easy randomized algorithm exists.
  - ▷ Substitute random field scalars for  $x_i$ 's and compute the rank of the resulting scalar matrix.

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- ▶ To compute the commutative rank exactly, an easy randomized algorithm exists.
  - ▷ Substitute random field scalars for  $x_i$ 's and compute the rank of the resulting scalar matrix.
- ▶ Deterministically computing the commutative rank leads to deterministic PIT.
- ▶ Approximating the commutative rank deterministically?

## Approximating the Commutative Rank

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- ▶ A related notion of the non-commutative rank  $\text{ncrk}(\mathcal{B})$  of a matrix space  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$ .

### Theorem (Fortin, Reutenauer 2004)

*If  $\mathbb{F}$  is an infinite field then:*

$$\text{crk}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \text{ncrk}(\mathcal{B}) \leq 2 \cdot \text{crk}(\mathcal{B}).$$

- ▶ Above inequalities are tight.

## Approximating the Commutative Rank

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Theorem (GGOW 2015, Ivanyos et al., 2015 )

*There is a deterministic polynomial time algorithm to compute the  $\text{ncrk}(\mathcal{B})$  for any matrix space  $\mathcal{B} \leq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$ .*

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- ▶ Implies a deterministic polynomial time algorithm computing a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -approximation of the commutative rank.
- ▶ Improve the approximation ratio?

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## Main Contribution

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### Theorem

*For any Matrix space  $\mathcal{B} \leq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$ , a deterministic polynomial time algorithm which outputs a matrix  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  with:*

$$\text{rank}(A) \geq (1 - \epsilon) \text{crk}(\mathcal{B}).$$

*Algorithm runs in time  $n^{O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})}$ .*



## Main Idea

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- ▶ Define the notion of **Wong Index**  $w(A, \mathcal{B})$  for any  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ .
- ▶ If  $w(A, \mathcal{B})$  is “high” then  $\text{rank}(A)$  is already a good approximation of  $\text{crk}(\mathcal{B})$ .
  - ▶ In fact, we showed this connection even for the non-commutative rank.

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- ▶ If  $w(A, \mathcal{B})$  is “high” then  $\text{rank}(A)$  is already a good approximation of  $\text{crk}(\mathcal{B})$ .
  - ▶ In fact, we showed this connection even for the non-commutative rank.
- ▶ If  $w(A, \mathcal{B})$  is “low” then in deterministic  $n^{O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})}$  time, find a matrix  $A' \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $\text{rank}(A') > \text{rank}(A)$ .

## A min-max characterization of ranks

### Theorem

For all matrix spaces  $\mathcal{A} = \langle A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m \rangle \leq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$ , we have:

$$\text{ncrk}(\mathcal{A}) = \min_{B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\} \text{ basis of } \mathbb{F}^n} \max_{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n \in \mathcal{A}} \text{rank}([C_i b_i]).$$

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$$\text{crk}(\mathcal{A}) = \max_{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n \in \mathcal{A}} \min_{B=\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\} \text{ basis of } \mathbb{F}^n} \text{rank}([C_i b_i]).$$

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- ▶ Joint work with Prof. Dr. Michael Sagraloff.
- ▶ Publications:
  - ▶ *Efficiently Computing Real Roots of Sparse Polynomials* Jindal, Gorav, and Sagraloff, Michael **In Proceedings of the 2017 ACM on International Symposium on Symbolic and Algebraic Computation 2017.**

# Roots of Polynomials

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- ▶ We have a degree  $n$  (real) polynomial:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n f_i x^i.$$

- ▶ Want to compute its (real) roots.
- ▶ In practice, the polynomial  $f$  is often “sparse”.

# Sparse Polynomials

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## Sparse Polynomials

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### Definition ( $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomial)

A real polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$  is an  $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomial if:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k f_i x^{e_i}.$$

Here  $0 \leq e_1 < e_2 < \dots < e_k \leq n$  and  $2^{-\tau} \leq |f_i| \leq 2^{\tau}$ .

## Sparse Polynomials Real Roots

---

- ▶ If  $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k f_i x^{e_i}$ , then:

$\text{var}(f) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Number of signs changes in the sequence } (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k).$

$N_+(f) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Number of positive real roots of } f.$

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### Theorem (Descartes's rule of signs)

*For all  $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ ,  $\text{var}(f) - N_+(f)$  is a non-negative even integer.*

## Computing Real Roots of Sparse Polynomials

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- ▶ Descartes's rule of signs implies that any  $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomial has at most  $2k - 1$  real roots.
- ▶ For integer  $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomials, the input size is  $O(k(\tau + \log n))$ .

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- ▶ We want to “compute” all the real roots of  $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomials in time  $\text{poly}(k, \tau, \log n)$  ( $\#$  bit operations).

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- ▶ We want to “compute” all the real roots of  $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomials in time  $\text{poly}(k, \tau, \log n)$  ( $\neq$  bit operations).
- ▶ “Compute” means to find disjoint and (small) real intervals such that each interval contains exactly one real root (isolating the real roots).

# Mignotte Polynomials

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- ▶ Mignotte polynomial  $f(x) = x^n - (2^{2\tau}x^2 - 1)^2$  is a  $(n, 4, 4\tau)$ -nomial.

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- ▶ It can be shown that  $f$  has two real roots in  $(a - r, a + r)$  for  $a = 2^{-\tau}$  and  $r = (2^{1-\tau})^{\frac{n}{2}}$ .
  - ▶ Two very close real roots and hence hard to isolate them for any efficient algorithm.



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### Theorem

*Any algorithm which isolates the real roots of  $f(x) = x^n - (2^{2\tau}x^2 - 1)^2$  requires  $\Omega(n\tau)$  bit operations.*

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  - ▶ Pan (2001), Sagraloff, Mehlhorn (2015), Eigenwillig (2006) and many others.

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  - ▷ Pan (2001), Sagraloff, Mehlhorn (2015), Eigenwillig (2006) and many others.
- ▶ Integer  $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomials.
  - ▷ Poly time algorithms for isolating integer and rational roots (Cucker et.al, Lenstra, 99).
  - ▷ Algorithm to isolate real roots using  $\text{poly}(k \cdot (\log n + \tau))$  arithmetic operations. Bit operations still  $\tilde{O}(n\tau)$  (Sagraloff (2014)).

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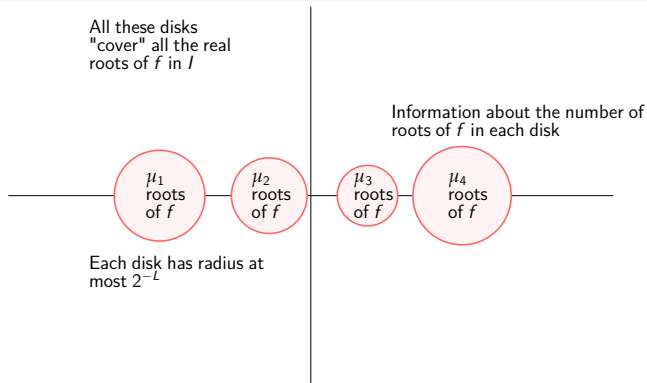
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## Covering

### Definition (( $L, I$ )-covering)

$$f \in \mathbb{R}[x], L \in \mathbb{N}, I \subseteq \mathbb{R}.$$



## Main Result

---

### Theorem

*For any  $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomial, we can compute an  $L$ -covering  $\mathcal{L}$  of size at most  $2k$  in time  $\tilde{O}(\text{poly}(k, \log n) \cdot (\tau + L))$ .*

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### Corollary

*If  $f$  is an  $(n, k, \tau)$ -nomial with only simple real roots, and  $\sigma$  is the minimal distance between any two (complex) distinct roots of  $f$ , then we can “compute” all the real roots of  $f$  in  $\tilde{O}(\text{poly}(k, \log n)(\tau + \overline{\log}(\frac{1}{\sigma})))$  bit operations.*



## Trinomial Root Separation

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Theorem (Also proved independently by Koiran)

$f(x) = a_1x^{e_1} + a_2x^{e_2} + a_3$  an integer trinomial with:  
 $\log \max(e_1, e_2, |a_1|, |a_2|, |a_3|) \leq \tau$ . If  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  are two distinct roots of  $f(x)$  then  $|z_1 - z_2| \geq 2^{-c\tau^3}$  for some  $c < 2^{68}$ .

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Corollary

We can isolate all the real roots of trinomials in  $\tilde{O}(\text{poly}(k, \log n) \cdot \tau^3)$  bit operations.

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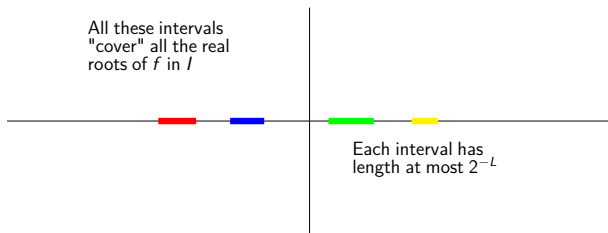
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## Weak Covering

### Definition

A *weak*  $(L, I)$ -covering for  $f$  is a list  $(I_1, I_2, \dots, I_t)$  of disjoint and sorted real intervals:



## $T_\ell$ -Test

---

Polynomial  $F \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ , a disk  $\Delta = \Delta_r(m) \subset \mathbb{C}$ , and  $K \geq 1$ , define

$T_\ell$ -Test:

$$T_\ell(\Delta, K, F) : \left| \frac{F^{(\ell)}(m)r^\ell}{\ell!} \right| - K \cdot \sum_{i \neq \ell} \left| \frac{F^{(i)}(m)r^i}{i!} \right| > 0.$$

If  $T_\ell$ -Test succeeds for any  $K \geq 1$ , then  $\Delta$  contains exactly  $\ell$  roots of  $F$  counted with multiplicity.

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### Theorem (Becker, Sagraloff, Sharma, Yap 2018)

*If both  $\Delta$  and  $\Delta'$  contain  $\ell$  roots with  $\Delta \subseteq \Delta'$  and  $\Delta'$  being sufficiently large, then  $T_\ell$ -Test succeeds on some disk  $D$  with  $\Delta \subseteq D \subseteq \Delta'$ .*

## Main Algorithm

---

- 1: Compute a weak  $(L', [0, 1])$ -covering  $\mathcal{L}$  for  $f$  that is “well-separated”.
- 2: **for** each interval  $I \in \mathcal{L}$  **do**
- 3:      $\Delta \leftarrow$  Disk whose diameter is  $I$

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- 2: **for** each interval  $I \in \mathcal{L}$  **do**
- 3:      $\Delta \leftarrow$  Disk whose diameter is  $I$
- 4:     Using  $T_\ell$ -Test, count number of roots  $\mu_{\Delta'}$  in a super disk  $\Delta'$  of  $\Delta$ .
- 5:     Output  $(\Delta', \mu_{\Delta'})$ .
- 6: **end for**



## Computing a Weak Covering

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- ▶ Suppose we already have a covering  $W'$  for  $f'$ .
- 1: **for** each consecutive intervals  $(a, b)$  and  $(c, d)$  in  $W'$  **do**
  - 2:     Compute signs of  $f(b)$  and  $f(c)$ .
  - 3:     **if**  $f(b)f(c) < 0$  **then**

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- 2:     Compute signs of  $f(b)$  and  $f(c)$ .
- 3:     **if**  $f(b)f(c) < 0$  **then**
- 4:         Refine the isolating interval  $(b, c)$  to a new interval  $(b', c')$  of desired length.
- 5:         Add  $(b', c')$
- 6:     **end if**
- 7: **end for**
- 8: Also add intervals of  $W'$ .

## Challenges

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- ▶ Computing the sign of  $f$  at end points.

## Challenges

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- ▶ Computing the sign of  $f$  at end points.
- ▶ Refining an interval to a small length.
- ▶  $T_\ell$ -Test
  - ▷ How to make sure it succeeds?
  - ▷ Adapting it to the sparse case.

## Based on

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- ▶ Joint work with Prof. Dr. Markus Bläser.
- ▶ Publications:
  - ▶ *On the Complexity of Symmetric Polynomials* Bläser, Markus, and Jindal, Gorav In **10th Innovations in Theoretical Computer Science Conference (ITCS)** 2019.

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  - 3.2 Main Results

# Symmetric Polynomial Complexity

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- ▶ Any symmetric Boolean function  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is “easy” to compute.

# Symmetric Polynomial Complexity

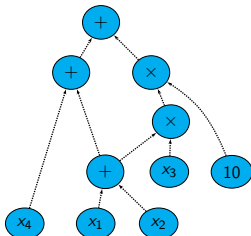
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- ▶ Any symmetric Boolean function  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is “easy” to compute.
- ▶ Lipton and Regan (Gödel’s Lost Letter and P = NP, 2009) ask:
  - ▶ Are symmetric polynomials (families) also “easy” to compute?



## Polynomials and Arithmetic Circuits

- ▶ Every arithmetic circuit computes a polynomial and vice versa.



- ▶ Above circuit computes the polynomial  $F \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]$  where  $F = 10x_3(x_1 + x_2) + x_1 + x_2 + x_4$ .
  - ▶ Size and depth have same definitions as in the Boolean case.

# Arithmetic Complexity

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## Definition

The arithmetic complexity  $L(f)$  of a polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  is defined as the minimum size of any arithmetic circuit computing  $F$ .

- ▶ Thus  $L(F) \leq 10$ , where  $F = 10x_3(x_1 + x_2) + x_1 + x_2 + x_4$ .

## Fundamental Theorem

### Theorem (Fundamental Theorem of Symmetric Polynomials)

*If  $g \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  is a symmetric polynomial, then there is a unique  $f \in \mathbb{C}[y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n]$  such that  $g = f(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)$ . Here  $e_i$ 's elementary symmetric polynomials.*

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- ▶ Write symmetric polynomials always with  $f_{\text{Sym}}$ . Hence the bijection  $f(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) = f_{\text{Sym}}$ :

$$f \iff f_{\text{Sym}}.$$

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- ▶ Write symmetric polynomials always with  $f_{\text{Sym}}$ . Hence the bijection  $f(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) = f_{\text{Sym}}$ :

$$f \iff f_{\text{Sym}}.$$

### Idea

Study the connection between  $L(f)$  and  $L(f_{\text{Sym}})$ .

## Relation between $L(f)$ and $L(f_{\text{Sym}})$

### Lemma

For all  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $L(f_{\text{Sym}}) \leq L(f) + O(n^2)$ .

### Proof.

Replace  $x_i$  by  $e_i$ ,  $e_i$ 's can be computed a circuit of size  $O(n^2)$ .

## Relation between $L(f)$ and $L(f_{\text{Sym}})$

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### Proof.

Replace  $x_i$  by  $e_i$ ,  $e_i$ 's can be computed a circuit of size  $O(n^2)$ . □

- ▶ Can we also bound  $L(f)$  polynomially in terms of  $L(f_{\text{Sym}})$ ?
  - ▶ Lipton and Regan (Gödel's Lost Letter and P = NP, 2009) ask this question.

# Outline

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- 1 Rank of Symbolic Matrices and Matrix Spaces
  - 1.1 Introduction and Motivation
  - 1.2 Previous Work
  - 1.3 Our Contributions
- 2 Computing Real Roots of Sparse Polynomials
  - 2.1 Introduction
  - 2.2 Previous Work
  - 2.3 Our Contribution
  - 2.4 Overview of the Algorithm
- 3 Complexity of Symmetric Polynomials
  - 3.1 Introduction and Motivation
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# Main Theorem

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## Theorem

For any polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  of degree  $d$ ,  
 $L(f) \leq \tilde{O}(d^2 L(f_{\text{Sym}}) + d^2 n^2)$ .

- ▶ Previous best bound:  $L(f) \leq 4^n (n!)^2 (L(f_{\text{Sym}}) + 2)$ .

## Main Theorem

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- ▶ Previous best bound:  $L(f) \leq 4^n (n!)^2 (L(f_{\text{Sym}}) + 2)$ .

### Corollary

Assuming  $\text{VP} \neq \text{VNP}$ , symmetric polynomial family  $(q_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  defined by  $q_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\text{per}_n)_{\text{Sym}}$  has super polynomial arithmetic complexity.

## Checking Symmetries

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### Theorem

*Checking if a given Boolean function is symmetric is as hard as CSAT.*

## Checking Symmetries

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### Theorem

*Checking if a given Boolean function is symmetric is as hard as CSAT.*

### Theorem

*Checking if a given polynomial is symmetric is as hard as PIT.*

# Thanks

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*Thank you for your attention!*

## Additional Material

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- ▶ Non-commutative rank definition
- ▶ Alternative Proof of PTAS

# Additional Material

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- ▶ Rouché's Theorem
- ▶ Pellet's Theorem

# Additional Material

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- ▶ Symmetric Boolean functions
- ▶ Algebraic Complexity Theory
- ▶ Symmetric and elementary symmetric polynomials
- ▶ Idea for proof of  $L(f) \leq \tilde{O}(d^2 L(f_{\text{sym}}) + d^2 n^2)$



## Non-commutative rank

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- ▶ ( $c$ -shrunk subspace)  $V \leq \mathbb{F}^n$  is a  $c$ -shrunk subspace of  $\mathcal{B} \leq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$ , if  $\dim(\mathcal{B}V) \leq \dim(V) - c$ .

### Definition (Non-commutative rank)

For any matrix space  $\mathcal{B} \leq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$ , if  $r = \max\{c \mid \exists c\text{-shrunk subspace of } \mathcal{B}\}$  then

Non-commutative rank of  $\mathcal{B} = \text{ncrk}(\mathcal{B}) = n - r$ . [Go Back](#)

# Outline

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## 4 Appendix

### 4.1 Alternative Proof of PTAS

### 4.2 Complex Analysis

### 4.3 Complexity of Symmetric Polynomials

### 4.4 Symmetric Polynomials

## Main Idea

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- ▶  $\mathcal{B} = \langle B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m \rangle \leq \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$ .
  - ▶  $B = x_1 B_1 + x_2 B_2 + \dots + x_m B_m$  over the field  $\mathbb{F}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$ .
- ▶ We have some  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  with some rank  $r$ .
  - ▶ Want to find  $A' \in \mathcal{B}$  with  $\text{rank}(A') > r$ .

▶ WLOG assume  $A = \begin{bmatrix} I_r & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- ▶ Consider the matrix  $A + B \in \mathbb{F}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)^{n \times n}$ . [Go Back](#)

## Main idea (Continued)

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- ▶  $A + B = \begin{bmatrix} I_r + B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ .
- ▶ Suppose  $B_{22} = 0$  then  $\text{rank}(A + B) = \text{rank}(B) \leq 2r$ .
  - ▶  $\text{rank}(A)$  is already  $\frac{1}{2}$ -approximation of  $\text{rank}(B)$ .
- ▶ Otherwise  $B_{22} \neq 0$ ,  $c(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$  be a non-zero entry of  $B_{22}$ . [Go Back](#)

## Main idea (Continued)

- ▶ Consider the Minor  $M$  of  $A + B$  which has  $c(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$  as the last entry.

$$\triangleright M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \ell_{11} & \ell_{12} & \dots & a_1 \\ \ell_{21} & 1 + \ell_{22} & \dots & a_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_1 & b_2 & \dots & c(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) \end{bmatrix}_{(r+1) \times (r+1)}$$

- ▶  $\det(M(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)) = c(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) + \text{terms of degree at least 2.}$ 
  - ▶ Thus easy PIT for  $\det(M(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m))$  and hence rank increase. [Go Back](#)

# Outline

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## 4 Appendix

4.1 Alternative Proof of PTAS

4.2 **Complex Analysis**

4.3 Complexity of Symmetric Polynomials

4.4 Symmetric Polynomials

# Rouché's Theorem

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## Theorem (Rouché's Theorem)

*Let  $f$  and  $g$  be holomorphic inside some region  $\Delta$  with boundary  $\partial\Delta$ . If  $|f(z)| > |f(z) - g(z)|$  on  $\partial\Delta$ , then  $f$  and  $g$  have the same number of zeros inside  $\Delta$ .* [Go Back](#)

## Pellet's Theorem

### Theorem (Pellet's Theorem)

Given the polynomial

$$f(z) = f_0 + f_1x + \cdots + f_px^p + \cdots + f_nx^n \quad \text{with } f_p \neq 0.$$

If the polynomial  $F_p(x)$  defined by

$$F_p(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |f_0| + |f_1|x + \cdots + |f_{p-1}|x^{p-1} \\ - |f_p|x^p + |f_{p+1}|x^p + \cdots + |f_n|x^n$$

has two positive zeros  $r$  and  $R$ ,  $r < R$ , then  $f(x)$  has exactly  $p$  zeros in or on the circle  $|x| < r$  and no zeros in the ring  $r < |x| < R$ . [Go Back](#)



# Outline

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## 4 Appendix

4.1 Alternative Proof of PTAS

4.2 Complex Analysis

4.3 **Complexity of Symmetric Polynomials**

4.4 Symmetric Polynomials

# Symmetric Boolean Functions

## Definition

A Boolean function  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is said to be symmetric if it is invariant under any permutation of its inputs.

- ▶ Can a symmetric Boolean function be hard to compute?

## Fact

*A symmetric Boolean function only depends on the number of 1's in the input and thus can be computed by constant depth threshold circuits (complexity class  $TC^0$ ). Therefore "easy" to compute.* [Go Back](#)

## Hard Polynomial families

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### Goal

Find polynomial families  $\{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n, \dots\}$  such that  $L(f_n)$  is a super polynomial function of  $n$ .

- ▶ The permanent family defined by  $\text{per}_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_n} \prod_{i=1}^n x_{i, \pi(i)}$  is believed to be “hard”.
  - ▶ Known as VP vs VNP conjecture. [Go Back](#)

# Outline

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## 4 Appendix

4.1 Alternative Proof of PTAS

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4.4 Symmetric Polynomials

# Symmetric Polynomials

## Definition

A polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  is said to be symmetric if it is invariant under any permutation of its inputs.

## Example

$x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_1x_2 \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2]$  is symmetric whereas  $x_1^2 + x_2$  is not.

## Question

Lipton and Regan (Gödel's Lost Letter and P = NP, 2009) ask whether we can find hard (families of) symmetric polynomials?

Go Back

## Elementary Symmetric Polynomials

### Definition

The  $i^{\text{th}}$  elementary symmetric polynomial  $e_i$  in  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is defined as:

$$e_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_i \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdot x_{j_2} \cdot \dots \cdot x_{j_i}.$$

- ▶  $e_i$ 's are obviously symmetric.
- ▶ Sum and product of symmetric polynomials is also symmetric.
- ▶ Thus the polynomials in the algebra generated by  $e_i$ 's are also symmetric. Lipton and Regan (Gödel's Lost Letter and P = NP, 2009) ask whether we can find hard (families of) symmetric polynomials? [Go Back](#)

## Main idea

### Example

Suppose  $f_{\text{Sym}} = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_1x_2 = e_1^2 - e_2$ . Given an arithmetic circuit for  $f_{\text{Sym}}$ , we want to get a circuit for  $f = e_1^2 - e_2$ .

### Idea

$x_1, x_2$  are the roots of polynomial:

$B(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} y^2 - (x_1 + x_2)y + x_1x_2 = y^2 - e_1y + e_2$ . Thus:

$$x_1 = \frac{e_1 + \sqrt{e_1^2 - 4e_2}}{2}. \quad (1)$$

$$x_2 = \frac{e_1 - \sqrt{e_1^2 - 4e_2}}{2}. \quad (2)$$

## Main idea (Continued)

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- ▶ If we substitute:

$$x_1 = \frac{e_1 + \sqrt{e_1^2 - 4e_2}}{2}. \quad (3)$$

$$x_2 = \frac{e_1 - \sqrt{e_1^2 - 4e_2}}{2}. \quad (4)$$

in the circuit for  $f_{\text{Sym}}$ , we obtain a circuit for  $f$ . How to compute the above radical expressions?

- ▶ These are not even polynomials. [Go Back](#)



## Main idea (Continued)

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- ▶ Use the substitution  $e_2 \leftarrow e_2 - 1$  and then substitute  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in  $f_{\text{Sym}}(x_1, x_2)$  to obtain  $f(e_1, e_2 - 1)$ .
  - ▶ But even after this  $e_2 \leftarrow e_2 - 1$ , radical expressions for  $x_1, x_2$  are not polynomials.
- ▶ But they are power series (use Taylor expansion).
  - ▶ We can not compute power series using arithmetic circuits.

### Idea

Only need to compute degree two truncations of these power series, because  $f$  is of degree two. [Go Back](#)