

**EFFECTIVE MODEL  
COMPLETENESS OF THE THEORY  
OF RESTRICTED PFAFFIAN  
FUNCTIONS**

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(joint work with A. Gabrielov)

First order theory of reals admits quantifier elimination (Tarski-Seidenberg theorem).

## **Geometric language:**

**Definition 1.** A set  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is called *semialgebraic* if  $X$  is representable in a form  $X = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid F(\mathbf{x})\}$ , where  $F(\mathbf{x})$  is a quantifier-free (Boolean) formula with atoms of the kind  $f > 0$ , where  $f \in \mathbb{R}[\mathbf{x}]$ .

*Quantifier elimination*  $\Leftrightarrow$

**Theorem 2.** A projection of a semialgebraic set  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  on any coordinate subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a semialgebraic set.

We wish to expand the language by analytic functions different from polynomials, in particular, by elementary transcendental functions.

## First important difference: *open domains*

Common domain for all functions that occur in the theory.

**Definition 3.** A set  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is called *semianalytic* if  $X$  is representable in a form  $X = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid F(\mathbf{x})\}$ , where  $F(\mathbf{x})$  is a quantifier-free (Boolean) formula with atoms of the kind  $f > 0$ , where  $f$ s are real analytic functions defined in a common domain  $G \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .

## Second important difference:

A projection of a semianalytic set may not be semianalytic.

**Example** (Osgood, 1916).

$$Y := \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \exists u \in [0, 1] \\ (y = xu \wedge z = xe^u)\}.$$

Set  $Y$  is two-dimensional and any real analytic function vanishing on  $Y$  in the neighbourhood of the origin is  $\equiv 0$ .

**Corollary 4.** *Quantifier elimination is not possible in a theory involving  $e^u$ .*

This motivates

**Definition 5.** A set  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is called *subanalytic* in an open domain  $G \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  if it is an image of a semianalytic set under a projection into a subspace.

We will consider only

**“Restricted” case:**

**Definition 6.** A semianalytic set  $X$  is *restricted* in the domain  $G$  if its topological closure lies in  $G$ .

**Definition 7.** Consider the closed cube  $[-1, 1]^{m+n}$  in an open domain  $G \subset \mathbb{R}^{m+n}$  and the projection map  $\pi : \mathbb{R}^{m+n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ . A subset  $Y \subset [-1, 1]^n$  is called *restricted subanalytic* if  $Y = \pi(X)$  for a restricted semianalytic set  $X \subset [-1, 1]^{m+n}$ .

**Obvious:** Finite unions and intersections of arbitrary subanalytic sets are subanalytic.

**Hard (Gabrielov, Wilkie):** For a wide class of *restricted* subanalytic sets, the complement of a set is also subanalytic from this class.

$\Rightarrow$  This class is a Boolean algebra.

**Logic:** The first order theory of the reals expanded by real analytic functions from a “wide class” is *model complete*:

projection  $\Leftrightarrow \exists$

complement  $\Leftrightarrow \neg$

$\forall \Leftrightarrow \neg \exists \neg$

*Any first order formula in a prenex form is equivalent to a formula in a prenex form with only  $\exists$ .*

Important particular case:

## **Pfaffian functions**

- Natural notion of the *format* of a formula describing the subanalytic set.
- Explicit upper bound on the format of a formula describing the complement via the format of the original set.
- An algorithm (with *oracle*) for computing the complement.  
(*Oracle*: Decides whether or not a system of analytic equations and inequalities is consistent.)

The rest of this talk will be just a more detailed explanation of these items.

**Pfaffian functions** (Khovanskii, 1970s) are analytic functions satisfying triangular systems of first order partial differential equations with polynomial coefficients.

More precisely:

**Definition 8.** A *Pfaffian chain* of the order  $r \geq 0$  and degree  $\alpha \geq 1$  in an open domain  $G \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a sequence of analytic functions  $f_1, \dots, f_r$  in  $G$  satisfying differential equations

$$\frac{df_j}{dx_i}(\mathbf{x}) = g_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, f_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_j(\mathbf{x}))$$

for  $1 \leq j \leq r$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Here  $g_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, y_1, \dots, y_j)$  are polynomials in  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $y_1, \dots, y_j$  of degrees not exceeding  $\alpha$ . A function  $f(\mathbf{x}) = P(\mathbf{x}, f_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_r(\mathbf{x}))$ , where  $P(\mathbf{x}, y_1, \dots, y_r)$  is a polynomial of a degree not exceeding  $\beta \geq 1$ , is called a *Pfaffian function* of order  $r$  and degree  $(\alpha, \beta)$ .



## Examples.

- (a) Pfaffian functions of order 0 and degree  $(1, \beta)$  are polynomials of degrees not exceeding  $\beta$ .
- (b)  $f(x) = e^{ax}$  is a Pfaffian function of order 1 and degree  $(1, 1)$  in  $G = \mathbb{R}$  because  $df(x)/dx = af(x)$ .
- (c)  $f(x) = 1/x$  is Pfaffian of order 1 and degree  $(2, 1)$  in  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq 0\}$  because  $df(x)/dx = -f^2(x)$ .
- (d)  $f(x) = \ln(|x|)$  is Pfaffian of order 2 and degree  $(2, 1)$  in  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq 0\}$  because  $df(x)/dx = g(x)$  and  $dg(x)/dx = -g^2(x)$ , where  $g(x) = 1/x$ .
- (e) Fewnomials.

**Exercise.** Show that  $f(x) = \cos(x)$  is Pfaffian of order 2 and degree  $(2, 1)$  in  $\bigcap_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq (2k + 1)\pi\}$ .

We will see that  $\cos(x)$  is *not* Pfaffian in the whole  $\mathbb{R}$ .

We'll assume that  $G$  is “simple”, like  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\{\mathbf{x} \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 < 1\}$ , or  $(-1, 1)^n$ .

**Theorem 9.** (Khovanskii) *Consider*

$$f_1 = \cdots = f_n = 0,$$

*where  $f_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  are Pfaffian functions in a domain  $G \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , having a common Pfaffian chain of order  $r$  and degrees  $(\alpha, \beta_i)$  respectively. Then the number of non-degenerate solutions of this system does not exceed*

$$2^{r(r-1)/2} \beta_1 \cdots \beta_n.$$

$$\cdot (\min\{n, r\} \alpha + \beta_1 + \cdots + \beta_n - n + 1)^r.$$

Semi- and subanalytic sets defined by formulae with Pfaffian functions are called *semi- and sub-Pfaffian* sets respectively.

**Aim:** to give an “effective” proof of the *complement theorem* for restricted sub-Pfaffian sets  $\Leftrightarrow$  effective model completeness of the theory of restricted Pfaffian functions.

Gabrielov (1968, 1996): geometric proof  
Wilkie (1995, 1999): model-theoretic proof  
Gabrielov-Vorobjov (2001): effective proof  
Pericleous-Vorobjov (2003): alternative effective proof

The complement theorem immediately follows from the existence of a *cylindrical cell decomposition* (CCD) of the ambient space compatible with a given subanalytic set.

CCD compatible with  $X$  is a partition of the space into disjoint simple subanalytic subsets, called *cells*, such that for any cell  $C$  either  $C \subset X$  or  $C \cap X = \emptyset$ .

**Definition 10.** *Cylindrical cell* is defined by induction as follows.

1. Cylindrical 0-cell in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is an isolated point. Cylindrical 1-cell in  $\mathbb{R}$  is an open interval  $(a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$ .
2. For  $n \geq 2$  and  $0 \leq k < n$  a cylindrical  $(k+1)$ -cell  $B$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is either a graph of a continuous bounded function  $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $C$  is a cylindrical  $k$ -cell in  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ , or else a set of the form

$$\{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in C$$

and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) < x_n < g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})\}$ ,

where  $C$  is a cylindrical  $k$ -cell in  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ , and  $f, g : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous bounded functions such that

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) < g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$$

for all points  $(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in C$ .

**Definition 11.** *Cylindrical cell decomposition*  $\mathcal{D}$  of a subset  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is defined by induction as follows.

1. If  $n = 1$ , then  $\mathcal{D}$  is a finite family of pairwise disjoint cylindrical cells (i.e., isolated points and intervals) whose union is  $A$ .
2. If  $n \geq 2$ , then  $\mathcal{D}$  is a finite family of pairwise disjoint cylindrical cells in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  whose union is  $A$  and there is a cylindrical cell decomposition  $\mathcal{D}'$  of  $\pi(A)$  such that  $\pi(C)$  is its cell for each  $C \in \mathcal{D}$ , where  $\pi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  is the projection map onto the coordinate subspace of  $x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{D}'$  is *induced* by  $\mathcal{D}$ .

**Definition 12.** Let  $B \subset A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  be a CCD of  $A$ . Then  $\mathcal{D}$  is *compatible* with  $B$  if for any  $C \in \mathcal{D}$  we have either  $C \subset B$  or  $C \cap B = \emptyset$  (i.e., some subset  $\mathcal{D}' \subset \mathcal{D}$  is a CCD of  $B$ ).

## MAIN RESULT

**Given:**

A semi-Pfaffian set

$$X := \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq M} \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{m+n} \mid f_{i1} = \dots = f_{iI_i} = 0,$$

$$g_{i1} > 0, \dots, g_{iJ_i} > 0\} \subset (-1, 1)^{m+n},$$

where  $f_{ij}, g_{ij}$  are Pfaffian functions with a common Pfaffian chain in an open domain  $G \subset \mathbb{R}^{m+n}$  and  $[-1, 1]^{m+n} \subset G$ .

The projection map  $\pi : \mathbb{R}^{m+n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$Y := \pi(X).$$

**Then:**

There is an algorithm (with oracle) producing a cylindrical cell decomposition  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $(-1, 1)^n$  compatible with  $Y$  (modulo a linear coordinate change).

## Output:

Each cell in  $\mathcal{D}$  is described as a projection of a semi-Pfaffian set in DNF:

$$\pi' \left( \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq M} \bigcap_{1 \leq j \leq M_i} \{h_{ij} *_{ij} 0\} \right),$$

where  $h_{ij}$  are Pfaffian functions in  $n' \geq m + n$  variables,  $\pi' : \mathbb{R}^{n'} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is the projection map,  $*_{ij} \in \{=, >\}$ , and  $M, M_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, M$ ) are certain integers.



## Complexity:

Let there be  $N$  Pfaffian functions in the input formula, having order  $r$  and degrees  $(\alpha, \beta)$ . Let  $\dim(Y) = d$ .

Then

- The number of cells in the CCD  $\mathcal{D}$  is

$$N^{(r+m+2n)^{2d}} (\alpha + \beta)^{r^{O(d(m+dn))}}.$$

- Integers  $n', M, M_i$  do not exceed the same bound.

- Order of  $h_{ij}$  is  $r$ , degrees are

$$(\alpha + \beta)^{r^{O(d(m+dn))}}.$$

- The complexity of the algorithm is

$$N^{(r+m+n)^{O(d)}} (\alpha + \beta)^{(r+m+n)^{O(d(m+dn))}}.$$

Relaxing and simplifying:

All parameters of the output and the complexity are bounded from above by

$$(N(\alpha + \beta))^{(r+m+n)O(n^3)}.$$

**Corollary 13.** *The complement*

$\tilde{Y} := (-1, 1)^n \setminus Y$  *is a sub-Pfaffian set.*

*There is an algorithm (with oracle) for computing  $\tilde{Y}$  having the same complexity as above.*

*The complement  $\tilde{Y}$  is represented by the algorithm as a union of some cells of the CCD  $\mathcal{D}$ .*

## How the CCD algorithm works.

### Subroutines:

- Computing frontier and closure of a semi-Pfaffian set  $X$ .

The *closure* of  $X$  in  $G$  is

$$\bar{X} := \{\mathbf{x} \in G \mid \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \mathbf{y} \in X (|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| < \varepsilon)\}.$$

The *frontier* of  $X$  in  $G$  is

$$\partial X := \bar{X} \setminus X.$$

Both  $\bar{X}$  and  $\partial X$  are *semi-Pfaffian*.

- Computing smooth (weak) stratification of a semi-Pfaffian set  $X$ .

Partition of  $X$  into a disjoint union of non-singular, not necessarily connected, possibly empty, semi-Pfaffian sets called *strata*.

### EXAMPLE:

$$X = \{(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) = (x_1, x_2, x_3) |$$
$$f := x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 - 1/2 = 0\},$$

$$Y = \{\mathbf{y} = (x_1, x_2) | x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 1/2\}.$$

$$n = d = 2, \quad m = 1.$$

Two recursive procedures: *down* and *up*.

*DOWN*:

FIRST STEP:

$X$  is non-singular (else we would use a subroutine to stratify  $X$ ).

$$X' := \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in X \mid \partial f / \partial x_3 \neq 0\}$$

set of all regular values of the restriction of  $\pi : (x_1, x_2, x_3) \mapsto (x_1, x_2)$  on  $X$ .

$$X_2 := \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in X \mid \partial f / \partial x_3 = 0\} =$$

$$= \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in X \mid x_3 = 0, x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1/2 = 0\}$$

set of all critical values of the restriction of  $\pi : (x_1, x_2, x_3) \mapsto (x_1, x_2)$  on  $X$ .

$$Y_2 := \pi(X_2), \quad d_2 := \dim(Y_2) = 1$$

END OF THE FIRST STEP OF *DOWN*.

## SECOND STEP:

$X_2, Y_2$  play the role of  $X, Y$  respectively.

All points of  $X_2$  are regular for  $\pi|_{X_2}$ .

A new feature:  $d_2 < n$ .

Projection map  $\rho_2 : (x_1, x_2) \mapsto x_1$ .

$S_2 := \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x_1^2 = 1/2, x_2 = x_3 = 0\}$   
the set of all critical points of  $\rho_2\pi|_{X_2}$ ,

$Z_2 := \rho_2\pi(X_3)$ .

Let  $X_3 := S_2$ ,  $Y_3 := Y_2 \cap \rho_2^{-1}(Z_2) = \pi(X_3)$ ,  
 $d_3 := \dim(Y_3) = 0$ .

END OF THE SECOND STEP OF *DOWN*.

LAST (DEGENERATE) STEP:

All points of  $X_3$  are regular for  $\pi|_{X_3}$ .

Similar to the second step,  $d_3 < n$ .

Projection map  $\rho_3 : (x_1, x_2) \mapsto 0$ .

The set  $S_3$  of all critical points of  $\rho_3\pi|_{X_3}$  is empty, thus  $Z_3 := \rho_3\pi(S_3) = \emptyset$ .

*DOWN IS COMPLETED.*

*UP:*

Recursion.

On each step consider the pair  $Y_i, Z_i$  starting from the largest  $i$ , in our case,  $Y_3, Z_3$ .

FIRST STEP:

Since  $Y_3$  consists of just two points,  $(1/\sqrt{2}, 0)$  and  $(-1/\sqrt{2}, 0)$ , the CCD  $\mathcal{D}_3$  of  $(-1, 1)^2$  compatible with  $Y_3$  is trivial.

SECOND STEP:

Consider  $Y_2, Z_2$ .

The CCD  $\mathcal{D}_3$  induces the CCD  $\mathcal{D}'_3$  of  $(-1, 1)$  into five cells compatible with  $Z_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &:= \{x_1 \mid -1 < x_1 < -1/\sqrt{2}\}, \\ C_2 &:= \{x_1 \mid x_1 = -1/\sqrt{2}\}, \\ C_3 &:= \{x_1 \mid -1/\sqrt{2} < x_1 < 1/\sqrt{2}\}, \\ C_4 &:= \{x_1 \mid x_1 = 1/\sqrt{2}\}, \\ C_5 &:= \{x_1 \mid 1/\sqrt{2} < x_1 < 1\}. \end{aligned}$$



By the choice of  $Z_2$ , for any  $z \in C_3$  the cardinality of  $\rho_2^{-1}(z) \cap Y_2$  is constant ( $=2$ ).

Moreover, the following cells form CCD of  $\rho_2^{-1}(C_3) \cap (-1, 1)^2$  compatible with  $\rho_2^{-1}(C_3) \cap Y$ :

- $\{(x_1, x_2) \in \rho_2^{-1}(C_3) \cap (-1, 1)^2 \mid \exists (y_1, y_2) \in Y_2 \exists (y'_1, y'_2) \in Y_2 (y_1 = y'_1, y_2 < y'_2 < x_2)\}$
- $\{(x_1, x_2) \in \rho_2^{-1}(C_3) \cap (-1, 1)^2 \mid \exists (y_1, y_2) \in Y_2 \exists (y'_1, y'_2) \in Y_2 (y_1 = y'_1, y_2 < y'_2 = x_2)\}$
- $\{(x_1, x_2) \in \rho_2^{-1}(C_3) \cap (-1, 1)^2 \mid \exists (y_1, y_2) \in Y_2 \exists (y'_1, y'_2) \in Y_2 (y_1 = y'_1, y_2 < x_2 < y'_2)\}$
- $\{(x_1, x_2) \in \rho_2^{-1}(C_3) \cap (-1, 1)^2 \mid \exists (y_1, y_2) \in Y_2 \exists (y'_1, y'_2) \in Y_2 (y_1 = y'_1, y_2 = x_2 < y'_2)\}$
- $\{(x_1, x_2) \in \rho_2^{-1}(C_3) \cap (-1, 1)^2 \mid \exists (y_1, y_2) \in Y_2 \exists (y'_1, y'_2) \in Y_2 (y_1 = y'_1, x_2 < y_2 < y'_2)\}$ .

Similar CCD of  $\rho_2^{-1}(C_i) \cap (-1, 1)^2$  can be constructed for all other cells  $C_i$ .

Combining all CCD for  $\rho_2^{-1}(C_i) \cap (-1, 1)^2$  with  $\mathcal{D}_3$ , we get a CCD of  $(-1, 1)^2$  compatible with  $Y$ .

END OF *UP*

## O-minimal structures involving Pfaffian functions

Charbonnel, Wilkie: “closure at infinity” operation.

Main theorem: sets constructed from semi-Pfaffian sets by a finite sequence of projections on subspaces and closures at infinity form an o-minimal structure.

Gabrielov: “relative closure” operation for a one-parameter family of semi-Pfaffian sets and “limit set” (a finite union of relative closures of semi-Pfaffian families).

Main theorem: limit sets form an o-minimal structure.

**Problem:** find upper bounds on the formats of the results of Boolean and projection operations in these o-minimal structures.

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