Finitely based finite algebras

Kearnes, Szendrei, Willard



The laws (or identities) defining groups are (1) x(yz) = (xy)z, x1 = x, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The laws (or identities) defining groups are (1) x(yz) = (xy)z, x1 = x, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The laws (or identities) defining groups are (1) x(yz) = (xy)z, x1 = x, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2) $x^6 = 1$ and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

The laws (or identities) defining groups are (1) x(yz) = (xy)z, x1 = x, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2) $x^6 = 1$ and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z, x1 = x, \text{ and } xx^{-1} = 1.$$

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based.

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based. Every

algebra with only 2 elements is finitely based.

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based. Every

algebra with only 2 elements is finitely based.



The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based. Every

algebra with only 2 elements is finitely based.



An algebra A is finitely based iff the variety it generates, $\mathcal{V}(A) = \mathsf{HSP}(A) = \mathsf{Mod}(\mathsf{Th}_{\mathsf{Eq}}(A)) \text{ is finitely first-order axiomatizable.}$

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based. Every

algebra with only 2 elements is finitely based.



An algebra A is finitely based iff the variety it generates, $\mathcal{V}(A) = \mathsf{HSP}(A) = \mathsf{Mod}(\mathsf{Th}_{\mathsf{Eq}}(A))$ is finitely first-order axiomatizable. Words to know:

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based. Every

algebra with only 2 elements is finitely based.



An algebra **A** is finitely based iff the variety it generates, $\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{HSP}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{Mod}(\mathsf{Th}_{\mathsf{Eq}}(\mathbf{A}))$ is finitely first-order axiomatizable. Words to know: algebra,

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based. Every

algebra with only 2 elements is finitely based.



An algebra **A** is finitely based iff the variety it generates, $\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{HSP}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{Mod}(\mathsf{Th}_{\mathsf{Eq}}(\mathbf{A}))$ is finitely first-order axiomatizable. Words to know: algebra, identity,

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based. Every

algebra with only 2 elements is finitely based.



An algebra **A** is finitely based iff the variety it generates, $\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{HSP}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{Mod}(\mathsf{Th}_{\mathsf{Eq}}(\mathbf{A}))$ is finitely first-order axiomatizable.

Words to know: algebra, identity, basis,

The laws (or identities) defining groups are

(1)
$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$
, $x1 = x$, and $xx^{-1} = 1$.

The symmetric group S_3 satisfies the additional identities

(2)
$$x^6 = 1$$
 and $x^2y^2 = y^2x^2$.

All identities true in S_3 are consequences of those in (1) and (2), so S_3 is *finitely based*.

In fact, every finite group, ring, Lie algebra, or lattice is finitely based. Every

algebra with only 2 elements is finitely based.



An algebra A is finitely based iff the variety it generates, $\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{HSP}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{Mod}(\mathsf{Th}_{\mathsf{Eq}}(\mathbf{A}))$ is finitely first-order axiomatizable.

Words to know: algebra, identity, basis, variety.

Lyndon's groupoid, Murskii's groupoid

Lyndon's groupoid, Murskii's groupoid

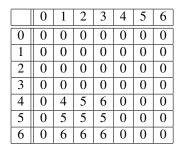
Here is an groupoid that is not finitely based.

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	4	5	6	0	0	0
5	0	5	5	5	0	0	0
6	0	6	6	6	0	0	0

Lyndon, 1954

Lyndon's groupoid, Murskii's groupoid

Here is an groupoid that is not finitely based.



Lyndon, 1954

Here is another.



Murskii, 1965

Murskii's groupoid is *inherently nonfinitely based*, which means that it belongs to no finitely based locally finite variety.

Murskii's groupoid is *inherently nonfinitely based*, which means that it belongs to no finitely based locally finite variety.

Lyndon's groupoid is not finitely based, but not INFB.

Murskii's groupoid is *inherently nonfinitely based*, which means that it belongs to no finitely based locally finite variety.

Lyndon's groupoid is not finitely based, but not INFB.

There exist finite abelian algebras that are not finitely based, but there do not exist exist finite abelian algebras that are INFB.

Murskii's groupoid is *inherently nonfinitely based*, which means that it belongs to no finitely based locally finite variety.

Lyndon's groupoid is not finitely based, but not INFB.

There exist finite abelian algebras that are not finitely based, but there do not exist exist finite abelian algebras that are INFB.

Although nonfinitely based/INFB algebras are fairly rare in a probabilistic sense, some occur naturally:

Murskii's groupoid is *inherently nonfinitely based*, which means that it belongs to no finitely based locally finite variety.

Lyndon's groupoid is not finitely based, but not INFB.

There exist finite abelian algebras that are not finitely based, but there do not exist exist finite abelian algebras that are INFB.

Although nonfinitely based/INFB algebras are fairly rare in a probabilistic sense, some occur naturally:

Thm. (Sapir) The multiplicative semigroup $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ is INFB if n > 1.

Murskii's groupoid is *inherently nonfinitely based*, which means that it belongs to no finitely based locally finite variety.

Lyndon's groupoid is not finitely based, but not INFB.

There exist finite abelian algebras that are not finitely based, but there do not exist exist finite abelian algebras that are INFB.

Although nonfinitely based/INFB algebras are fairly rare in a probabilistic sense, some occur naturally:

Thm. (Sapir) The multiplicative semigroup $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ is INFB if n > 1.

Thm. (Dolinka) The semiring of all binary relations on a set satisfying $1 < |X| < \infty$ is INFB.

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$, such that

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $A(\mathcal{T})$, such that

(1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $A(\mathcal{T})$, such that

(1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$, such that

- (1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while
- (2) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is INFB if \mathcal{T} does not halt.

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$, such that

- (1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while
- (2) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is INFB if \mathcal{T} does not halt.

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $A(\mathcal{T})$, such that

- (1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while
- (2) $A(\mathcal{T})$ is INFB if \mathcal{T} does not halt.

Hence there is no algorithm to determine whether a finite algebra is finitely based or is INFB.

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $A(\mathcal{T})$, such that

- (1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while
- (2) $A(\mathcal{T})$ is INFB if \mathcal{T} does not halt.

Hence there is no algorithm to determine whether a finite algebra is finitely based or is INFB.

Interestingly, the variety generated by $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based iff it has a finite *residual bound*, which means: a finite bound on the size of its subdirectly irreducible members.

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $A(\mathcal{T})$, such that

- (1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while
- (2) $A(\mathcal{T})$ is INFB if \mathcal{T} does not halt.

Hence there is no algorithm to determine whether a finite algebra is finitely based or is INFB.

Interestingly, the variety generated by $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based iff it has a finite *residual bound*, which means: a finite bound on the size of its subdirectly irreducible members.

Words to know:

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $A(\mathcal{T})$, such that

- (1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while
- (2) $A(\mathcal{T})$ is INFB if \mathcal{T} does not halt.

Hence there is no algorithm to determine whether a finite algebra is finitely based or is INFB.

Interestingly, the variety generated by $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based iff it has a finite *residual bound*, which means: a finite bound on the size of its subdirectly irreducible members.

Words to know: subdirectly irreducible algebra,

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $A(\mathcal{T})$, such that

- (1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while
- (2) $A(\mathcal{T})$ is INFB if \mathcal{T} does not halt.

Hence there is no algorithm to determine whether a finite algebra is finitely based or is INFB.

Interestingly, the variety generated by $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based iff it has a finite *residual bound*, which means: a finite bound on the size of its subdirectly irreducible members.

Words to know: subdirectly irreducible algebra, congruence,

Tarski asked whether there is an algorithm to determine if a finite algebra is finitely based.

McKenzie answered the question negatively by constructing, from a Turing machine \mathcal{T} , a finite algebra $A(\mathcal{T})$, such that

- (1) $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based if \mathcal{T} halts, while
- (2) $A(\mathcal{T})$ is INFB if \mathcal{T} does not halt.

Hence there is no algorithm to determine whether a finite algebra is finitely based or is INFB.

Interestingly, the variety generated by $\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{T})$ is finitely based iff it has a finite *residual bound*, which means: a finite bound on the size of its subdirectly irreducible members.

Words to know: subdirectly irreducible algebra, congruence, covering pair/atom/monolith.

Park's Conjecture

Park's Conjecture

Park's Conjecture. Every variety with a finite residual bound is finitely based.

Park's Conjecture

Park's Conjecture. Every variety with a finite residual bound is finitely based.

Robert Park was a student of Kirby Baker.

Park's Conjecture. Every variety with a finite residual bound is finitely based.

Robert Park was a student of Kirby Baker. He made this conjecture in his 1976 PhD thesis. **Park's Conjecture.** Every variety with a finite residual bound is finitely based.

Robert Park was a student of Kirby Baker.

He made this conjecture in his 1976 PhD thesis.

It is likely that Park was motivated by Baker's Theorem, which proves that the statement of Park's Conjecture is true for any variety whose members have distributive congruence lattices.

Tame congruence theory was invented by David Hobby and Ralph McKenzie in the mid-1980's.

Tame congruence theory was invented by David Hobby and Ralph McKenzie in the mid-1980's.

The theory explains how to assign an algebra invariant to each congruence covering of a finite algebra, which reflects its "local polynomial behavior".

Tame congruence theory was invented by David Hobby and Ralph McKenzie in the mid-1980's.

The theory explains how to assign an algebra invariant to each congruence covering of a finite algebra, which reflects its "local polynomial behavior".

The invariant algebras have been assigned numbers, which have nearly no significance:

1 = a simple *G*-set

Tame congruence theory was invented by David Hobby and Ralph McKenzie in the mid-1980's.

The theory explains how to assign an algebra invariant to each congruence covering of a finite algebra, which reflects its "local polynomial behavior".

- 1 = a simple G -set
- 2 = a 1-dimensional vector space

Tame congruence theory was invented by David Hobby and Ralph McKenzie in the mid-1980's.

The theory explains how to assign an algebra invariant to each congruence covering of a finite algebra, which reflects its "local polynomial behavior".

- 1 = a simple G -set
- 2 = a 1-dimensional vector space
- **3** = 2-element Boolean algebra (or a 2-element field)

Tame congruence theory was invented by David Hobby and Ralph McKenzie in the mid-1980's.

The theory explains how to assign an algebra invariant to each congruence covering of a finite algebra, which reflects its "local polynomial behavior".

- 1 = a simple G -set
- 2 = a 1-dimensional vector space
- **3** = 2-element Boolean algebra (or a 2-element field)
- **4** = 2-element lattice

Tame congruence theory was invented by David Hobby and Ralph McKenzie in the mid-1980's.

The theory explains how to assign an algebra invariant to each congruence covering of a finite algebra, which reflects its "local polynomial behavior".

- 1 = a simple G -set
- 2 = a 1-dimensional vector space
- **3** = 2-element Boolean algebra (or a 2-element field)
- **4** = 2-element lattice
- **5** = 2-element semilattice

Thm. (Baker, 1977) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{3, 4\}$.

Thm. (Baker, 1977) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{3, 4\}$.



Thm. (Baker, 1977) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{3, 4\}$.



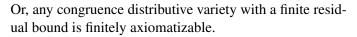
Or, any congruence distributive variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.



Or, any congruence distributive variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

Thm. (McKenzie, 1987) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4\}$.

Thm. (Baker, 1977) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{3, 4\}$.



Thm. (McKenzie, 1987) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4\}$.





Or, any congruence distributive variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

Thm. (McKenzie, 1987) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4\}$.

Or, any congruence modular variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.





Or, any congruence distributive variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

Thm. (McKenzie, 1987) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4\}$.

Or, any congruence modular variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

Thm. (Willard, 2000) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{3, 4, 5\}$.





Or, any congruence distributive variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

Thm. (McKenzie, 1987) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4\}$.

Or, any congruence modular variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

Thm. (Willard, 2000) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{3, 4, 5\}$.





Or, any congruence distributive variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

Thm. (McKenzie, 1987) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4\}$.

Or, any congruence modular variety with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

Thm. (Willard, 2000) Park's Conjecture is true for varieties whose types are in the set $\{3, 4, 5\}$.

Or, any variety omitting nontrivial abelian congruences, which has a finite residual bound, is finitely axiomatizable.







Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.

Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".



Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".



End Choose finitely many identities Σ_1 of \mathcal{V} that prove the enforcing sentence.

Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".



End Choose finitely many identities Σ_1 of \mathcal{V} that prove the enforcing sentence.

Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".



End Choose finitely many identities Σ_1 of \mathcal{V} that prove the enforcing sentence. Axiomatize \mathcal{K} with Σ_1 and $\Omega(a, b, c, d) \rightarrow (a = b \text{ or } c = d)$.

Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".



End Choose finitely many identities Σ_1 of \mathcal{V} that prove the enforcing sentence. Axiomatize \mathcal{K} with Σ_1 and $\Omega(a, b, c, d) \rightarrow (a = b \text{ or } c = d)$. $\mathcal{K} \cap \mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_{FSI}$

Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".



End Choose finitely many identities Σ_1 of \mathcal{V} that prove the enforcing sentence. Axiomatize \mathcal{K} with Σ_1 and $\Omega(a, b, c, d) \rightarrow (a = b \text{ or } c = d)$. $\mathcal{K} \cap \mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_{FSI} = \mathcal{V}_{SI}$.

Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".



End Choose finitely many identities Σ_1 of \mathcal{V} that prove the enforcing sentence. Axiomatize \mathcal{K} with Σ_1 and $\Omega(a, b, c, d) \rightarrow (a = b \text{ or } c = d)$. $\mathcal{K} \cap \mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_{FSI} = \mathcal{V}_{SI}$. Choose finitely many identities Σ_2 of \mathcal{V} that prove $\mathcal{K} \cap \mathcal{V}$ is the class of SI's of \mathcal{V} .

Let's start with Baker's Theorem that a congruence distributive (CD) variety \mathcal{V} with a finite residual bound is finitely axiomatizable.

- 1 Find a Maltsev characterization of the class of varieties being considered.
- 2 Use it to show that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} , say by $\Omega(a, b, c, d)$.
- 3 Show that there is an "enforcing" sentence that asserts " Ω works".



End Choose finitely many identities Σ_1 of \mathcal{V} that prove the enforcing sentence. Axiomatize \mathcal{K} with Σ_1 and $\Omega(a, b, c, d) \rightarrow (a = b \text{ or } c = d)$. $\mathcal{K} \cap \mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_{FSI} = \mathcal{V}_{SI}$. Choose finitely many identities Σ_2 of \mathcal{V} that prove $\mathcal{K} \cap \mathcal{V}$ is the class of SI's of \mathcal{V} . $\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2$ axiomatizes \mathcal{V} .

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

1 Willard reframed the known Maltsev condition for the class of varieties with types in {3, 4, 5} in a really new and useful way.

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

1 Willard reframed the known Maltsev condition for the class of varieties with types in {3, 4, 5} in a really new and useful way.

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

- 1 Willard reframed the known Maltsev condition for the class of varieties with types in {3, 4, 5} in a really new and useful way.
- 2 The rest of his argument is like Baker's, but proving that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} is harder.

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

- 1 Willard reframed the known Maltsev condition for the class of varieties with types in {3, 4, 5} in a really new and useful way.
- 2 The rest of his argument is like Baker's, but proving that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} is harder.

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

- 1 Willard reframed the known Maltsev condition for the class of varieties with types in {3, 4, 5} in a really new and useful way.
- 2 The rest of his argument is like Baker's, but proving that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} is harder.

McKenzie's Theorem: starts out in a similar way, but the bulk of the proof is based on an entirely new and rich set of ideas.

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

- 1 Willard reframed the known Maltsev condition for the class of varieties with types in {3, 4, 5} in a really new and useful way.
- 2 The rest of his argument is like Baker's, but proving that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} is harder.

McKenzie's Theorem: starts out in a similar way, but the bulk of the proof is based on an entirely new and rich set of ideas. The problem that forces a change of strategy is that $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is not uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} .

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

- 1 Willard reframed the known Maltsev condition for the class of varieties with types in {3, 4, 5} in a really new and useful way.
- 2 The rest of his argument is like Baker's, but proving that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} is harder.

McKenzie's Theorem: starts out in a similar way, but the bulk of the proof is based on an entirely new and rich set of ideas. The problem that forces a change of strategy is that $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is not uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} . Rather, an analogous relation [Cg(a, b), Cg(c, d)] = 0 is uniformly definable, but this fact is not strong enough on its own to follow the template set out by Baker.

Willard's Theorem: proved the same way. The key innovations are:

- 1 Willard reframed the known Maltsev condition for the class of varieties with types in {3, 4, 5} in a really new and useful way.
- 2 The rest of his argument is like Baker's, but proving that the relation $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} is harder.

McKenzie's Theorem: starts out in a similar way, but the bulk of the proof is based on an entirely new and rich set of ideas. The problem that forces a change of strategy is that $Cg(a, b) \cap Cg(c, d) = 0$ is not uniformly definable throughout \mathcal{V} . Rather, an analogous relation [Cg(a, b), Cg(c, d)] = 0 is uniformly definable, but this fact is not strong enough on its own to follow the template set out by Baker. (For example, if \mathcal{V} is generated by a finite solvable group, then the class \mathcal{K} axiomatized by Σ_1 and $[Cg(a, b), Cg(c, d)] = 0 \rightarrow (a = b \text{ or } c = d)$ is trivial, so can't help prove the finite axiomatizability of \mathcal{V} .)

Of course, one should try to prove Park's conjecture for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ next.

Of course, one should try to prove Park's conjecture for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ next. These varieties are exactly those that have a *weak difference term*, which is a term d(x, y, z) such that, whenever $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{V}$ and Cg(a, b) is abelian, then d(a, b, b) = a and d(a, a, b) = b hold.

Of course, one should try to prove Park's conjecture for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ next. These varieties are exactly those that have a *weak difference term*, which is a term d(x, y, z) such that, whenever $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{V}$ and Cg(a, b) is abelian, then d(a, b, b) = a and d(a, a, b) = b hold. Necessarily d(x, y, z) = x - y + z on the classes of any abelian congruence of a member of \mathcal{V} .

Of course, one should try to prove Park's conjecture for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ next. These varieties are exactly those that have a *weak difference term*, which is a term d(x, y, z) such that, whenever $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{V}$ and Cg(a, b) is abelian, then d(a, b, b) = a and d(a, a, b) = b hold. Necessarily d(x, y, z) = x - y + z on the classes of any abelian congruence of a member of \mathcal{V} .

There is a slightly more restrictive (but natural) condition: a term d(x, y, z) is a *difference term* for \mathcal{V} if d(x, x, y) = y holds throughout \mathcal{V} and d(a, b, b) = a holds when Cg(a, b) is abelian.

Of course, one should try to prove Park's conjecture for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ next. These varieties are exactly those that have a *weak difference term*, which is a term d(x, y, z) such that, whenever $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{V}$ and Cg(a, b) is abelian, then d(a, b, b) = a and d(a, a, b) = b hold. Necessarily d(x, y, z) = x - y + z on the classes of any abelian congruence of a member of \mathcal{V} .

There is a slightly more restrictive (but natural) condition: a term d(x, y, z) is a *difference term* for \mathcal{V} if d(x, x, y) = y holds throughout \mathcal{V} and d(a, b, b) = a holds when Cg(a, b) is abelian. In the language of TCT, \mathcal{V} has a difference term iff its types are in $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ *and* type-2 minimal sets have empty tail.

Of course, one should try to prove Park's conjecture for varieties whose types are in the set $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ next. These varieties are exactly those that have a *weak difference term*, which is a term d(x, y, z) such that, whenever $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{V}$ and Cg(a, b) is abelian, then d(a, b, b) = a and d(a, a, b) = b hold. Necessarily d(x, y, z) = x - y + z on the classes of any abelian congruence of a member of \mathcal{V} .

There is a slightly more restrictive (but natural) condition: a term d(x, y, z) is a *difference term* for \mathcal{V} if d(x, x, y) = y holds throughout \mathcal{V} and d(a, b, b) = a holds when Cg(a, b) is abelian. In the language of TCT, \mathcal{V} has a difference term iff its types are in $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ *and* type-2 minimal sets have empty tail. This class of varieties includes all of the varieties covered by McKenzie's and Willard's Theorems, but is nicer than the class of varieties with a weak difference term because $[\alpha, \beta] = [\beta, \alpha]$ for any congruences α and β on an algebra in this kind of variety.

Thm. (K, Szendrei, Willard) If \mathcal{V} is a variety with a difference term and \mathcal{V} has a finite residual bound, then \mathcal{V} is not INFB.

Thm. (K, Szendrei, Willard) If \mathcal{V} is a variety with a difference term and \mathcal{V} has a finite residual bound, then \mathcal{V} is not INFB.

The structure of the proof is similar to the proof of McKenzie's Theorem. The main new ingredient is a proof that [Cg(a, b), Cg(c, d)] = 0 is uniformly definable in varieties with a difference term and a finite residual bound.

Thm. (K, Szendrei, Willard) If \mathcal{V} is a variety with a difference term and \mathcal{V} has a finite residual bound, then \mathcal{V} is not INFB.

The structure of the proof is similar to the proof of McKenzie's Theorem. The main new ingredient is a proof that [Cg(a, b), Cg(c, d)] = 0 is uniformly definable in varieties with a difference term and a finite residual bound.

We actually prove something stronger than the above theorem, but we do not prove that \mathcal{V} is finitely based.

Thm. (K, Szendrei, Willard) If \mathcal{V} is a variety with a difference term and \mathcal{V} has a finite residual bound, then \mathcal{V} is not INFB.

The structure of the proof is similar to the proof of McKenzie's Theorem. The main new ingredient is a proof that [Cg(a, b), Cg(c, d)] = 0 is uniformly definable in varieties with a difference term and a finite residual bound.

We actually prove something stronger than the above theorem, but we do not prove that \mathcal{V} is finitely based. We have found an obstacle to proving this, which does not appear if type **2** is missing (as in Willard's Theorem) or if atomic congruences are uniformly definable (as in McKenzie's Theorem).

Kearnes, Szendrei, Willard Finitely based algebras

A variety with a finite residual bound is not INFB.

A variety with a finite residual bound is not INFB.

A recent result of Kate Owens lends support to this statement:

A variety with a finite residual bound is not INFB.

A recent result of Kate Owens lends support to this statement:

Thm. A variety that can be shown to be INFB using the shift automorphism method must contain an infinite subdirectly irreducible algebra.