

Random Models and Guarded Logic

Oskar Fiuk

University of Wrocław

Grenoble, March 2026

From Hilbert's Program to Decidable Fragments

From Hilbert's Program to Decidable Fragments

- Satisfiability problem: *Given φ , does it have a model?*

From Hilbert's Program to Decidable Fragments

- Satisfiability problem: *Given φ , does it have a model?*
- Church–Turing: satisfiability for FO is **undecidable**

From Hilbert's Program to Decidable Fragments

- Satisfiability problem: *Given φ , does it have a model?*
- Church–Turing: satisfiability for FO is **undecidable**
- Major research direction: identify **decidable fragments** of FO

From Hilbert's Program to Decidable Fragments

- Satisfiability problem: *Given φ , does it have a model?*
- Church–Turing: satisfiability for FO is **undecidable**
- Major research direction: identify **decidable fragments** of FO
 - Monadic Fragment

From Hilbert's Program to Decidable Fragments

- Satisfiability problem: *Given φ , does it have a model?*
- Church–Turing: satisfiability for FO is **undecidable**
- Major research direction: identify **decidable fragments** of FO
 - Monadic Fragment
 - Prenex classes

From Hilbert's Program to Decidable Fragments

- Satisfiability problem: *Given φ , does it have a model?*
- Church–Turing: satisfiability for FO is **undecidable**
- Major research direction: identify **decidable fragments** of FO
 - Monadic Fragment
 - Prenex classes
 - Two-Variable Fragment (FO²)

From Hilbert's Program to Decidable Fragments

- Satisfiability problem: *Given φ , does it have a model?*
- Church–Turing: satisfiability for FO is **undecidable**
- Major research direction: identify **decidable fragments** of FO
 - Monadic Fragment
 - Prenex classes
 - Two-Variable Fragment (FO²)
 - **Guarded Fragment** (GF)

What is Guarded Fragment?

What is Guarded Fragment?

In the **Guarded Fragment** (GF), quantifiers must be **guarded**:

What is Guarded Fragment?

In the **Guarded Fragment** (GF), quantifiers must be **guarded**:

$$\exists \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \wedge \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}))$$

What is Guarded Fragment?

In the **Guarded Fragment** (GF), quantifiers must be **guarded**:

$$\exists \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \wedge \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})) \quad \forall \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \rightarrow \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}))$$

What is Guarded Fragment?

In the **Guarded Fragment** (GF), quantifiers must be **guarded**:

$$\exists \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \wedge \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})) \quad \forall \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \rightarrow \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}))$$

$\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ is a **guard** = an **atomic** formula mentioning **all variables** in \bar{x} and \bar{y}

What is Guarded Fragment?

In the **Guarded Fragment** (GF), quantifiers must be **guarded**:

$$\exists \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \wedge \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})) \quad \forall \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \rightarrow \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}))$$

$\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ is a **guard** = an **atomic** formula mentioning **all variables** in \bar{x} and \bar{y}

$$\forall p, s (\text{supervises}(p, s) \rightarrow \exists t (\text{prepares}(s, t) \wedge \text{thesis}(t)))$$

What is Guarded Fragment?

In the **Guarded Fragment** (GF), quantifiers must be **guarded**:

$$\exists \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \wedge \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})) \quad \forall \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \rightarrow \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}))$$

$\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ is a **guard** = an **atomic** formula mentioning **all variables** in \bar{x} and \bar{y}

$$\forall p, s (\text{supervises}(p, s) \rightarrow \exists t (\text{prepares}(s, t) \wedge \text{thesis}(t)))$$

$$\forall d, d' (\underbrace{(\text{dean}(d) \wedge \text{dean}(d'))}_{\text{not atomic}}) \rightarrow d = d')$$

What is Guarded Fragment?

In the **Guarded Fragment** (GF), quantifiers must be **guarded**:

$$\exists \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \wedge \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})) \quad \forall \bar{x} (\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \rightarrow \psi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}))$$

$\alpha(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ is a **guard** = an **atomic** formula mentioning **all variables** in \bar{x} and \bar{y}

$$\forall p, s (\text{supervises}(p, s) \rightarrow \exists t (\text{prepares}(s, t) \wedge \text{thesis}(t)))$$

$$\forall d, d' (\underbrace{(\text{dean}(d) \wedge \text{dean}(d'))}_{\text{not atomic}} \rightarrow d = d')$$

$$\forall d (\text{dean}(d) \rightarrow \forall d' (\underbrace{\text{dean}(d')}_{\substack{d \text{ is not} \\ \text{mentioned}}} \rightarrow d = d'))$$

About Guarded Fragment

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of modal logic

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of modal logic
 - Talks about possibility (\diamond) and necessity (\square)

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of modal logic
 - Talks about possibility (\diamond) and necessity (\square)
 - Semantics: set of states S with an accessibility relation $R \subseteq S \times S$

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of modal logic
 - Talks about possibility (\diamond) and necessity (\square)
 - Semantics: set of states S with an accessibility relation $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (standard translation):

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of modal logic
 - Talks about possibility (\diamond) and necessity (\square)
 - Semantics: set of states S with an accessibility relation $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (standard translation):

$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y))$$

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of **modal logic**
 - Talks about **possibility** (\diamond) and **necessity** (\square)
 - Semantics: set of **states** S with an **accessibility relation** $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (**standard translation**):

$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of modal logic
 - Talks about possibility (\diamond) and necessity (\square)
 - Semantics: set of states S with an accessibility relation $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (standard translation):
$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$
 - GF generalises modal logic: accessibility relation \rightsquigarrow guards

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of **modal logic**
 - Talks about **possibility** (\diamond) and **necessity** (\square)
 - Semantics: set of **states** S with an **accessibility relation** $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (**standard translation**):
$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$
 - GF generalises modal logic: **accessibility relation** \rightsquigarrow **guards**
- Satisfiability for GF:

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of modal logic
 - Talks about possibility (\diamond) and necessity (\square)
 - Semantics: set of states S with an accessibility relation $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (standard translation):
$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$
 - GF generalises modal logic: accessibility relation \rightsquigarrow guards
- Satisfiability for GF:
 - Decidable

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of **modal logic**
 - Talks about **possibility** (\diamond) and **necessity** (\square)
 - Semantics: set of **states** S with an **accessibility relation** $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (**standard translation**):
$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$
 - GF generalises modal logic: **accessibility relation** \rightsquigarrow **guards**
- Satisfiability for GF:
 - Decidable and 2-EXPTIME-complete (Gr adel)

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of **modal logic**
 - Talks about **possibility** (\diamond) and **necessity** (\square)
 - Semantics: set of **states** S with an **accessibility relation** $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (**standard translation**):
$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$
 - GF generalises modal logic: **accessibility relation** \rightsquigarrow **guards**
- Satisfiability for GF:
 - Decidable and 2-EXPTIME-complete (Gr adel)
 - Robust: fixed points, conjunctive queries

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of **modal logic**
 - Talks about **possibility** (\diamond) and **necessity** (\square)
 - Semantics: set of **states** S with an **accessibility relation** $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (**standard translation**):

$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$

- GF generalises modal logic: **accessibility relation** \rightsquigarrow **guards**
- Satisfiability for GF:
 - Decidable and 2-EXPTIME-complete (Gr adel)
 - Robust: fixed points, conjunctive queries
- GF is naturally connected to:

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of **modal logic**
 - Talks about **possibility** (\diamond) and **necessity** (\square)
 - Semantics: set of **states** S with an **accessibility relation** $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (**standard translation**):

$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$

- GF generalises modal logic: **accessibility relation** \rightsquigarrow **guards**
- Satisfiability for GF:
 - Decidable and 2-EXPTIME-complete (Gr adel)
 - Robust: fixed points, conjunctive queries
- GF is naturally connected to:
 - Formal verification (temporal logics)

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of **modal logic**
 - Talks about **possibility** (\diamond) and **necessity** (\square)
 - Semantics: set of **states** S with an **accessibility relation** $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (**standard translation**):

$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$

- GF generalises modal logic: **accessibility relation** \rightsquigarrow **guards**
- Satisfiability for GF:
 - Decidable and 2-EXPTIME-complete (Gr adel)
 - Robust: fixed points, conjunctive queries
- GF is naturally connected to:
 - Formal verification (temporal logics)
 - Knowledge representation (description logics)

About Guarded Fragment

- Introduced by Andr eka, van Benthem, N emeti
- Motivation: explain the key properties of **modal logic**
 - Talks about **possibility** (\diamond) and **necessity** (\square)
 - Semantics: set of **states** S with an **accessibility relation** $R \subseteq S \times S$
 - Viewed as a fragment of FO (**standard translation**):

$$\diamond\psi \rightsquigarrow \exists y (R(x, y) \wedge \psi(y)) \quad \square\psi \rightsquigarrow \forall y (R(x, y) \rightarrow \psi(y))$$

- GF generalises modal logic: **accessibility relation** \rightsquigarrow **guards**
- Satisfiability for GF:
 - Decidable and 2-EXPTIME-complete (Gr adel)
 - Robust: fixed points, conjunctive queries
- GF is naturally connected to:
 - Formal verification (temporal logics)
 - Knowledge representation (description logics)
 - Database theory

Finite Model Property

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a **finite** model

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a **finite** model

Related question: *How large must such a model be?*

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a **finite** model

Related question: *How large must such a model be?*

- Grädel: **triplly exponential upper bound**

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a **finite** model

Related question: *How large must such a model be?*

- Grädel: **triplly exponential upper bound**
 - Elegant but relies on a black box: Herwig's theorem

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$$\varphi \in \text{GF} \text{ satisfiable} \implies \varphi \text{ has a finite model}$$

Related question: *How large must such a model be?*

- Grädel: **triply exponential upper bound**
 - Elegant but relies on a black box: Herwig's theorem
- Bárány, Gottlob, Otto: **optimal doubly exponential bound**

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a **finite** model

Related question: *How large must such a model be?*

- Grädel: **triply exponential upper bound**
 - Elegant but relies on a black box: Herwig's theorem
- Bárány, Gottlob, Otto: **optimal doubly exponential bound**
 - Allows for conjunctive queries: $\varphi \wedge \neg\text{CQ}$

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$$\varphi \in \text{GF} \text{ satisfiable} \implies \varphi \text{ has a finite model}$$

Related question: *How large must such a model be?*

- Grädel: **triply exponential upper bound**
 - Elegant but relies on a black box: Herwig's theorem
- Bárány, Gottlob, Otto: **optimal doubly exponential bound**
 - Allows for conjunctive queries: $\varphi \wedge \neg\text{CQ}$
 - Technically challenging: generalises Rosati's finite chase

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$$\varphi \in \text{GF} \text{ satisfiable} \implies \varphi \text{ has a finite model}$$

Related question: *How large must such a model be?*

- Grädel: **triply exponential upper bound**
 - Elegant but relies on a black box: Herwig's theorem
- Bárány, Gottlob, Otto: **optimal doubly exponential bound**
 - Allows for conjunctive queries: $\varphi \wedge \neg\text{CQ}$
 - Technically challenging: generalises Rosati's finite chase

Can we obtain the finite model property for GF in a simpler way?

Finite Model Property

The Guarded Fragment enjoys the **finite model property**:

$$\varphi \in \text{GF} \text{ satisfiable} \implies \varphi \text{ has a finite model}$$

Related question: *How large must such a model be?*

- Grädel: **triply exponential upper bound**
 - Elegant but relies on a black box: Herwig's theorem
- Bárány, Gottlob, Otto: **optimal doubly exponential bound**
 - Allows for conjunctive queries: $\varphi \wedge \neg\text{CQ}$
 - Technically challenging: generalises Rosati's finite chase

Can we obtain the finite model property for GF in a simpler way?

Probabilistic Method

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic
 - φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model
- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \exists \dots \exists \psi$$

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \exists \dots \exists \psi$ is satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \exists \dots \exists \psi$ is satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Idea of the probabilistic proof:

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \exists \dots \exists \psi$ is satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Idea of the probabilistic proof: φ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \forall \dots \exists \psi$ is satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Idea of the probabilistic proof: φ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- 1 Start with an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \exists \dots \exists \psi$ is satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Idea of the probabilistic proof: φ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- 1 Start with an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$
- 2 Define a **randomised construction** that

given \mathcal{A} and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, builds a structure \mathcal{B}_n on n elements

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \exists \dots \exists \psi$ is satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Idea of the probabilistic proof: φ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- 1 Start with an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$
- 2 Define a **randomised construction** that

given \mathcal{A} and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, builds a structure \mathcal{B}_n on n elements

- 3 Show that there exists a **threshold** t_φ such that

n exceeds $t_\varphi \implies \mathbb{P}[\mathcal{B}_n \models \varphi] > 0$

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \exists \dots \exists \psi$ is satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Idea of the probabilistic proof: φ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- 1 Start with an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$
- 2 Define a **randomised construction** that

given \mathcal{A} and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, builds a structure \mathcal{B}_n on n elements

- 3 Show that there exists a **threshold** t_φ such that

n exceeds $t_\varphi \implies \mathbb{P}[\mathcal{B}_n \models \varphi] > 0$

- 4 Hence, some \mathcal{B}_n is a **finite model** of φ

Probabilistic Methods in Logic

- Early: Fagin's proof of the 0–1 law for first-order logic

φ is true in the infinite random graph $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- Inspiration: Gurevich and Shelah's approach for the Gödel class

$\varphi = \exists \dots \exists \forall \exists \dots \exists \psi$ is satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

Idea of the probabilistic proof: φ satisfiable $\implies \varphi$ has a finite model

- 1 Start with an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$
- 2 Define a **randomised construction** that

given \mathcal{A} and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, builds a structure \mathcal{B}_n on n elements

- 3 Show that there exists a **threshold** t_φ such that

n exceeds $t_\varphi \implies \mathbb{P}[\mathcal{B}_n \models \varphi] > 0$

- 4 Hence, some \mathcal{B}_n is a **finite model** of φ
- 5 The threshold t_φ yields the **size bound**

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

where each α_t is a guard and each ψ_t is quantifier-free

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

where each α_t is a guard and each ψ_t is quantifier-free

- Fix an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$.

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

where each α_t is a guard and each ψ_t is quantifier-free

- Fix an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$\tau_k^{\mathcal{A}} = \{ \text{(atomic) } k\text{-types realised in } \mathcal{A} \}$$

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

where each α_t is a guard and each ψ_t is quantifier-free

- Fix an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$\tau_k^{\mathcal{A}} = \{ \text{(atomic) } k\text{-types realised in } \mathcal{A} \}$$

k -type = complete description of all atomic facts on a k -tuple

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

where each α_t is a guard and each ψ_t is quantifier-free

- Fix an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$\tau_k^{\mathcal{A}} = \{ \text{(atomic) } k\text{-types realised in } \mathcal{A} \}$$

k -type = complete description of all atomic facts on a k -tuple

- Naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n on n elements:

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

where each α_t is a guard and each ψ_t is quantifier-free

- Fix an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$\tau_k^{\mathcal{A}} = \{ \text{(atomic) } k\text{-types realised in } \mathcal{A} \}$$

k -type = complete description of all atomic facts on a k -tuple

- Naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n on n elements:
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 make \bar{b} realise τ ;

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

where each α_t is a guard and each ψ_t is quantifier-free

- Fix an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$\tau_k^{\mathcal{A}} = \{ \text{(atomic) } k\text{-types realised in } \mathcal{A} \}$$

k -type = complete description of all atomic facts on a k -tuple

- Naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n on n elements:
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 make \bar{b} realise τ ;
- Problem**: overlapping tuples may impose inconsistent facts

Random Models for Guarded Sentences

- Let $\varphi \in \text{GF}$ be satisfiable in **normal form**:

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$$

where each α_t is a guard and each ψ_t is quantifier-free

- Fix an infinite model $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$\tau_k^{\mathcal{A}} = \{ \text{(atomic) } k\text{-types realised in } \mathcal{A} \}$$

k -type = complete description of all atomic facts on a k -tuple

- Naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n on n elements:

- 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
- 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} **do**
- 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
- 4 make \bar{b} realise τ ;

- Problem**: overlapping tuples may impose inconsistent facts
- Example: (b_1, b_2, b_3) and (b_1, b_2, b'_3) may disagree on $R(b_1, b_2)$

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^A$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^A$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;
- $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is a **local** event: dependent only on subtuples of \bar{b}

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;
- $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is a **local** event: dependent only on subtuples of \bar{b}
- Every **guarded** tuple in \mathcal{B}_n looks like a tuple from \mathcal{A} :

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;
- $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is a **local** event: dependent only on subtuples of \bar{b}
- Every **guarded** tuple in \mathcal{B}_n looks like a tuple from \mathcal{A} :

$$\mathcal{B}_n \models \alpha(\bar{b}) \implies \bar{b} \text{ isomorphic to some } \bar{a}$$

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;
- $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is a **local** event: dependent only on subtuples of \bar{b}
- Every **guarded** tuple in \mathcal{B}_n looks like a tuple from \mathcal{A} :

$$\mathcal{B}_n \models \alpha(\bar{b}) \implies \bar{b} \text{ isomorphic to some } \bar{a}$$

- For large n , every **local extension** that appears in \mathcal{A} is realised in \mathcal{B}_n :

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;

- $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is a **local** event: dependent only on subtuples of \bar{b}
- Every **guarded** tuple in \mathcal{B}_n looks like a tuple from \mathcal{A} :

$$\mathcal{B}_n \models \alpha(\bar{b}) \implies \bar{b} \text{ isomorphic to some } \bar{a}$$

- For large n , every **local extension** that appears in \mathcal{A} is realised in \mathcal{B}_n :

$$\mathcal{A} \models \exists y \tau(\bar{a}, y) \implies \mathcal{B}_n \models \exists y \tau(\bar{b}, y)$$

where $\tau(\bar{x}, y) =$ the tuple $\bar{x}y$ realises the k -type τ

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;

- $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is a **local** event: dependent only on subtuples of \bar{b}
- Every **guarded** tuple in \mathcal{B}_n looks like a tuple from \mathcal{A} :

$$\mathcal{B}_n \models \alpha(\bar{b}) \implies \bar{b} \text{ isomorphic to some } \bar{a}$$

- For large n , every **local extension** that appears in \mathcal{A} is realised in \mathcal{B}_n :

$$\mathcal{A} \models \exists y \tau(\bar{a}, y) \implies \mathcal{B}_n \models \exists y \tau(\bar{b}, y)$$

where $\tau(\bar{x}, y) =$ the tuple $\bar{x}y$ realises the k -type τ

- Failure probability $\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{B}_n \not\models \exists y \tau(\bar{b}, y)]$ decays exponentially with n

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;

- $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is a **local** event: dependent only on subtuples of \bar{b}
- Every **guarded** tuple in \mathcal{B}_n looks like a tuple from \mathcal{A} :

$$\mathcal{B}_n \models \alpha(\bar{b}) \implies \bar{b} \text{ isomorphic to some } \bar{a}$$

- For large n , every **local extension** that appears in \mathcal{A} is realised in \mathcal{B}_n :

$$\mathcal{A} \models \exists y \tau(\bar{a}, y) \implies \mathcal{B}_n \models \exists y \tau(\bar{b}, y)$$

where $\tau(\bar{x}, y) =$ the tuple $\bar{x}y$ realises the k -type τ

- Failure probability $\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{B}_n \not\models \exists y \tau(\bar{b}, y)]$ decays exponentially with n
- Take the union bound: there are only $\text{poly}(n)$ choices for \bar{b}

- We repair the naïve construction of \mathcal{B}_n :
 - 1 initialise \mathcal{B}_n as the empty structure on $\{1, \dots, n\}$;
 - 2 **foreach** tuple \bar{b} , in *non-decreasing size* **do**
 - 3 choose a k -type $\tau \in \tau_k^{\mathcal{A}}$ uniformly at random ($k = |\bar{b}|$);
 - 4 **if** $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is *consistent* with previously fixed facts **then**
 - 5 make \bar{b} realise τ ;

- $\{ \bar{b} \text{ realises } \tau \}$ is a **local** event: dependent only on subtuples of \bar{b}
- Every **guarded** tuple in \mathcal{B}_n looks like a tuple from \mathcal{A} :

$$\mathcal{B}_n \models \alpha(\bar{b}) \implies \bar{b} \text{ isomorphic to some } \bar{a}$$

- For large n , every **local extension** that appears in \mathcal{A} is realised in \mathcal{B}_n :

$$\mathcal{A} \models \exists y \tau(\bar{a}, y) \implies \mathcal{B}_n \models \exists y \tau(\bar{b}, y)$$

where $\tau(\bar{x}, y)$ = the tuple $\bar{x}y$ realises the k -type τ

- Failure probability $\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{B}_n \not\models \exists y \tau(\bar{b}, y)]$ decays exponentially with n
- Take the union bound: there are only $\text{poly}(n)$ choices for \bar{b}
- Recall the normal form: $\varphi = \bigwedge_t \forall \bar{x} (\alpha_t(\bar{x}) \rightarrow \exists y \psi_t(\bar{x}, y))$

Theorem (Probabilistic Proof)

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ *satisfiable* $\implies \varphi$ *has a finite model*

Theorem (Probabilistic Proof)

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ *satisfiable* $\implies \varphi$ *has a finite model of doubly exponential size*

Theorem (Probabilistic Proof)

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ *satisfiable* $\implies \varphi$ *has a finite model of doubly exponential size*

Further results in the paper:

Theorem (Probabilistic Proof)

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ *satisfiable* $\implies \varphi$ *has a finite model of doubly exponential size*

Further results in the paper:

- Precise analysis of the bound: $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(|\varphi| \log |\varphi|)}}$

Theorem (Probabilistic Proof)

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ *satisfiable* $\implies \varphi$ *has a finite model of doubly exponential size*

Further results in the paper:

- Precise analysis of the bound: $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(|\varphi| \log |\varphi|)}}$
- Sentences that enforce models of tightly matching size

Theorem (Probabilistic Proof)

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ *satisfiable* $\implies \varphi$ *has a finite model of doubly exponential size*

Further results in the paper:

- Precise analysis of the bound: $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(|\varphi| \log |\varphi|)}}$
- Sentences that enforce models of tightly matching size
- Extension to the Triguarded Fragment ($\text{GF} + \text{FO}^2$)

Theorem (Probabilistic Proof)

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ *satisfiable* $\implies \varphi$ *has a finite model of doubly exponential size*

Further results in the paper:

- Precise analysis of the bound: $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(|\varphi| \log |\varphi|)}}$
- Sentences that enforce models of tightly matching size
- Extension to the Triguarded Fragment ($\text{GF} + \text{FO}^2$)
- Derandomisation via hashing

Theorem (Probabilistic Proof)

$\varphi \in \text{GF}$ *satisfiable* $\implies \varphi$ *has a finite model of doubly exponential size*

Further results in the paper:

- Precise analysis of the bound: $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(|\varphi| \log |\varphi|)}}$
- Sentences that enforce models of tightly matching size
- Extension to the Triguarded Fragment ($\text{GF} + \text{FO}^2$)
- Derandomisation via hashing

Thank you!