

# Computation theory with atoms

- I. Sets with atoms
- II. Computation models with atoms

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FoPSS School 2019: Nominal Techniques

# I. Sets with atoms

- sets with atoms
  - orbit-finite sets
  - definable sets
- } recap
- representation theorem
  - homogeneous atoms

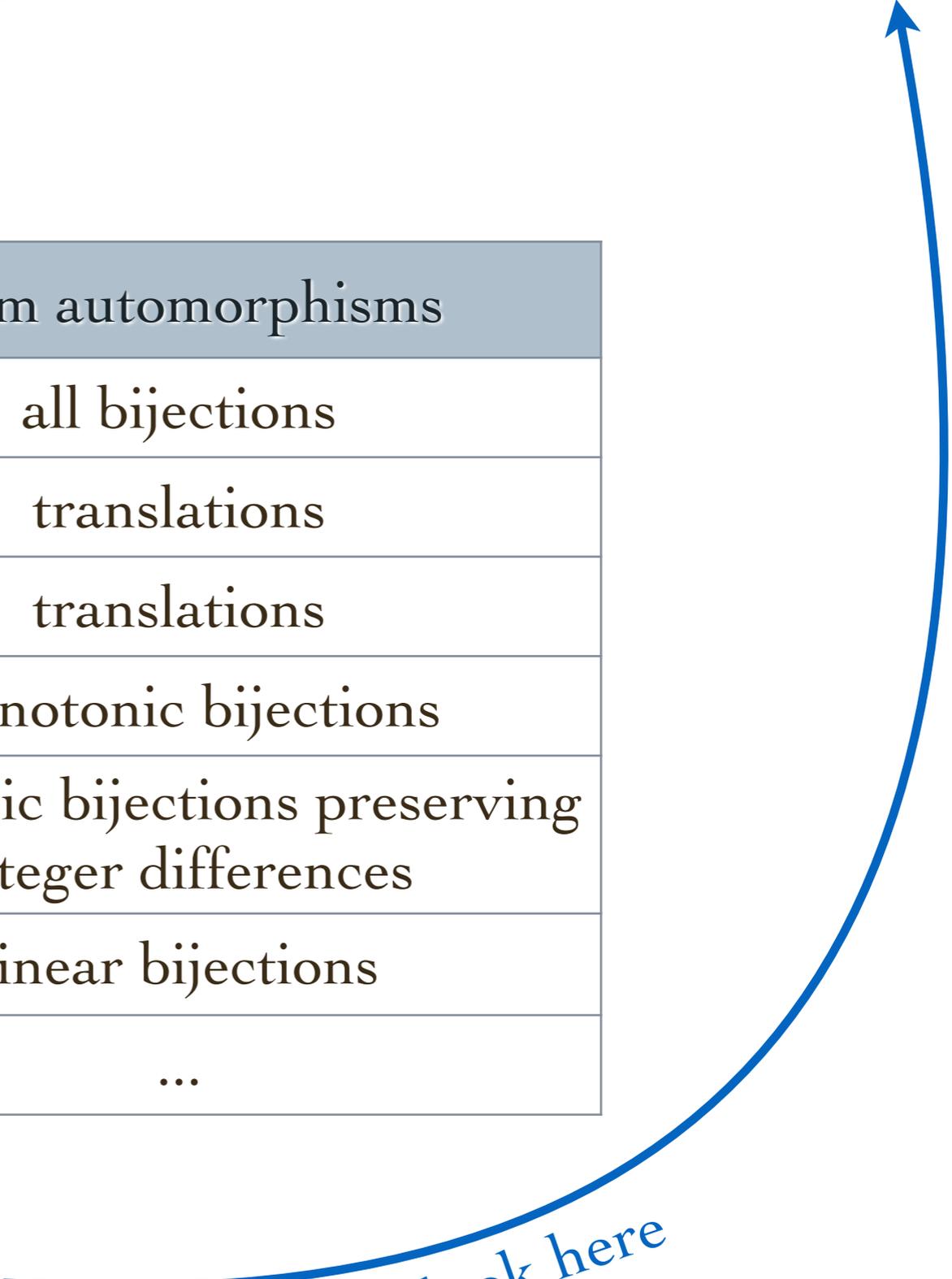
# Atoms

Atoms are a fixed logical structure

atoms	atom automorphisms
equality atoms $(\mathbb{N}, =)$	all bijections
integer atoms $(\mathbb{Z}, <)$	translations
integers with successor $(\mathbb{Z}, +1)$	translations
total order atoms $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$	monotonic bijections
timed atoms $(\mathbb{Q}, <, +1)$	monotonic bijections preserving integer differences
vector space $(\mathbb{Q}^n, +, q \cdot -)$	linear bijections
...	...

Atoms are a parameter in the following

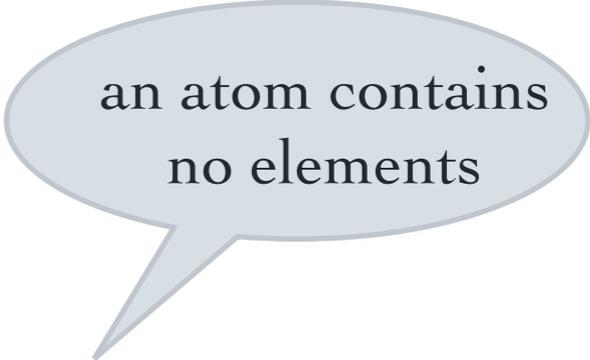
*look here*



# Sets with atoms

Classical sets are built using  $\emptyset$  and  $\{ \}$

e.g.  $\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\{\emptyset\}\}, \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}\}$



an atom contains  
no elements

Sets with atoms are built using  $\emptyset$  and  $\{ \}$  and **atoms**

## Examples:

- $\emptyset$
- three atoms  $\{a, b, c\}$ ,
- a pair  $(a, b)$  of atoms, encoded eg. as  $\{a, \{a, b\}\}$
- $\text{atoms} \setminus \{a, b, c\}$
- ordered pairs of atoms
- finite words over atoms
- finite subsets of atoms
- ~~all subsets of atoms~~
- .... **illegal for  $(N, =)$**

legality depends on  
atom automorphisms

# Support

Extend atom automorphisms  $\pi$  to all sets element-wise, e.g.

$$\pi(\{a, b, c\}) = \{\pi(a), \pi(b), \pi(c)\}$$

$$\pi(\text{atoms} \setminus \{a, b, c\}) = \text{atoms} \setminus \{\pi(a), \pi(b), \pi(c)\}$$

$$\pi(\{\{a\}, \{a, b\}\}) = \{\{\pi(a)\}, \{\pi(a), \pi(b)\}\}$$

A set  $X$  is **supported** by a finite set  $S$  of atoms, if every atom  $S$ -automorphism (= identity on  $S$ ) preserves  $X$ :

$$(\pi(a) = a \text{ for all } a \in S) \implies \pi(X) = X$$

A set  $X$  is **legal** if it is **hereditarily finitely supported**:

- $X$  is finitely supported,
- its elements are finitely supported,
- and so on...

Most often we work with equivariant sets

Sets supported by  $\emptyset$  are called **equivariant**

# Support

equality atoms ( $\mathbb{N}, =$ )

## Examples:

- $\emptyset$
- three atoms  $\{1, 3, 6\}$
- a pair  $(3, 7)$  of atoms
- atoms  $\setminus \{2, 5, 1\}$
- ordered pairs of atoms
- finite words over atoms
- finite subsets of atoms
- **all subsets of atoms**

$\emptyset$   
 $\{1, 3, 6\},$   
 $\{3, 7\},$   
 $\{2, 5, 1\}$   
 $\emptyset$   
 $\emptyset$   
 $\emptyset$   
 $\emptyset$

support = atoms that you use in order to "define" a set

# Legal sets with atoms

possibly illegal sets with atoms

hereditarily finitely supported  
sets with atoms

?

classical (atomless) sets

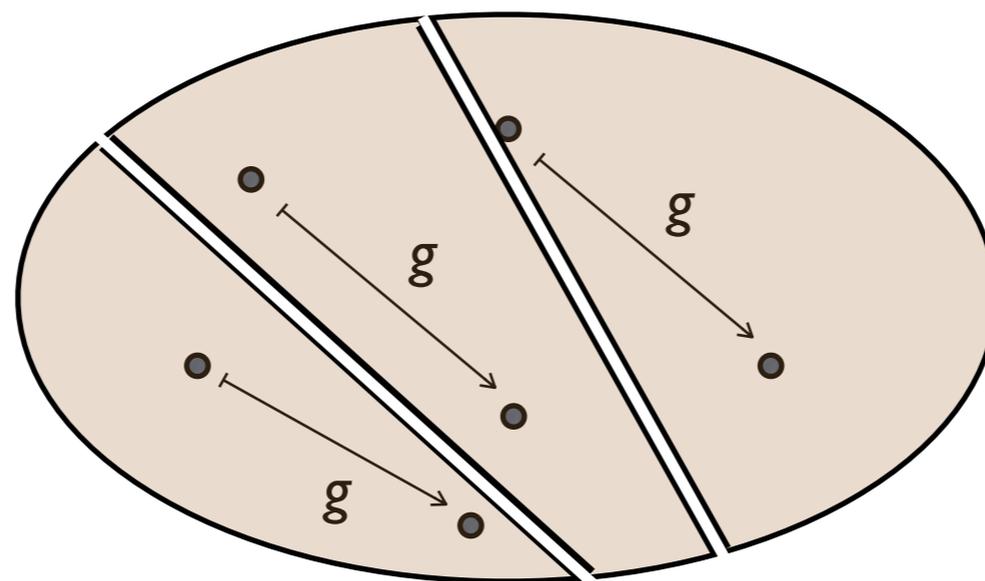
finite sets

# Orbits

$x, y$  are in the same **S-orbit**

if

$\pi(x) = y$  for an **S-automorphism**  $\pi$



$\emptyset$ -orbits we call orbits

# Oligomorphic atoms

a structure  $\mathcal{A}$  is **oligomorphic**

if

$\mathcal{A}^{(n)}$  split into finitely many  $\emptyset$ -orbits for every  $n$ .

**Example:** for atoms  $(\mathbb{Q}, \leq)$ ,  $\text{atoms}^{(n)}$  has  $n!$  orbits

**Example:** for atoms  $(\mathbb{Q}, \leq, +1)$ ,  $\text{atoms}^{(2)}$  has infinitely many orbits

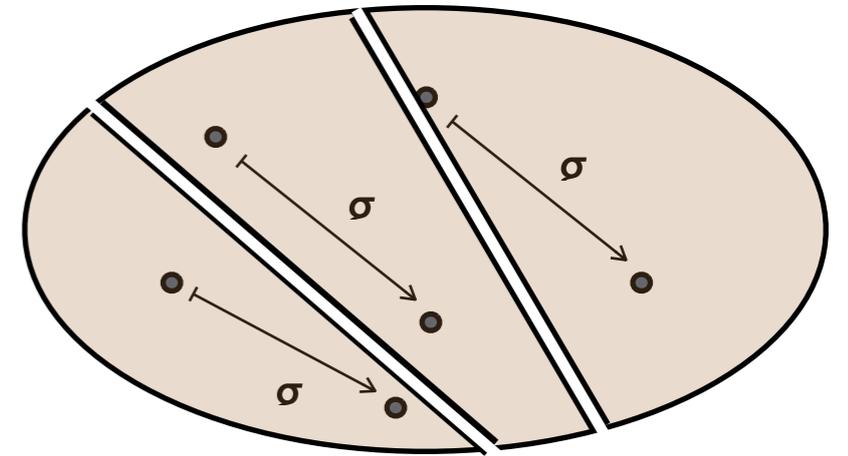
$(7, 6\frac{1}{3})$     $(7, 7\frac{1}{3})$     $(7, 8)$     $(7, 8\frac{1}{3})$    ...

# Orbit-finite sets

$x, y$  are in the same  $S$ -orbit if  $\pi(x) = y$  for an  $S$ -automorphism  $\pi$

A set is **orbit-finite** if its partition into orbits is finite

If atoms are oligomorphic,  
orbit-finiteness does not depend on  $S$



## Examples:

- $\emptyset$
  - three atoms  $\{1, 3, 6\}$
  - a pair  $(3, 7)$  of atoms
  - atoms  $\setminus \{2, 5, 1\}$
  - ordered pairs of atoms
  - finite words over atoms
  - finite subsets of atoms
  - **all subsets of atoms**
- } finite
- } orbit-finite for oligomorphic atoms
- } orbit-infinite

# Hereditarily orbit-finite sets

possibly illegal sets with atoms



# Hereditarily orbit-finite = definable

possibly illegal sets with atoms

hereditarily finitely supported sets with atoms

classical (atomless) sets

orbit-finite sets

hereditarily orbit-finite sets

finite sets

We will confuse these two classes

# Definable sets

equality atoms  $(\mathbb{N}, =)$   
total order atoms  $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$

## Examples:

- $\emptyset$   $\emptyset$
  - three atoms  $\{1, 3, 6\}$   $\{1, 3, 6\}$ ,
  - a pair  $(3, 7)$  of atoms  $\{\{3\}, \{3,7\}\} = 3\ 7$
  - $\text{atoms} \setminus \{2, 5, 1\}$   $\{d : d \text{ atom}, d \neq 2, d \neq 5, d \neq 1\}$
  - ordered pairs of atoms  $\{ab : a, b \text{ atoms}, a \neq b\}$
  - finite words over atoms
  - finite subsets of atoms
  - **all subsets of atoms**
- } **orbit-infinite**
- atoms<sup>(3)</sup> modulo cyclic shift
- $\{\{abc, bca, cab\} : a, b, c \text{ atoms}, a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq a\}$
  - $\{\{ab, cd\} : a, b, c, d \text{ atoms}, \text{pairwise different}\}$
  - $\{a\ 1 : a \text{ in atoms}, a \neq 2\}$
  - $\{a : a \text{ in atoms}, 4.5 < a < 6.1\}$

# $\emptyset$ -definable ?

equality atoms  $(\mathbb{N}, =)$   
total order atoms  $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$

$\emptyset$ -definable	$\emptyset$
$\{1,3,6\}$ -definable	$\{1, 3, 6\}$ ,
$\{3,7\}$ -definable	$\{\{3\}, \{3,7\}\} = 3 \ 7$
$\{2,5,1\}$ -definable	$\{ d : d \text{ atom}, d \neq 2, d \neq 5, d \neq 1 \}$
$\emptyset$ -definable	$\{ ab : a,b \text{ atoms}, a \neq b \}$

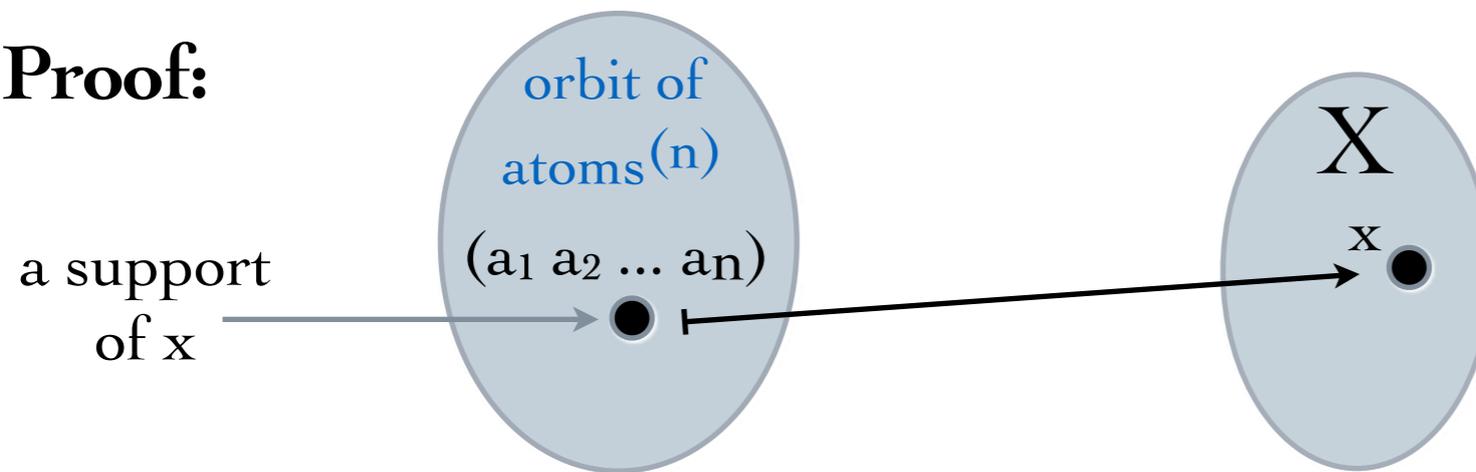
$\emptyset$ -definable	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{ \{abc, bca, cab\} : a,b,c \text{ atoms}, a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq a \} \\ \{ \{ab, cd\} : a,b,c,d \text{ atoms}, \text{pairwise different} \} \end{array} \right.$
$\{1,2\}$ -definable	
$\{4.5, 6.1\}$ -definable	$\{ a : a \text{ in atoms}, 4.5 < a < 6.1 \}$

- sets with atoms
  - orbit-finite sets
  - definable sets
- } recap
- **representation theorem**
  - homogeneous atoms

# Representation theorem

**Theorem:** Every equivariant orbit admits a surjective equivariant function from an orbit of  $\text{atoms}^{(n)}$ , for some  $n$ .

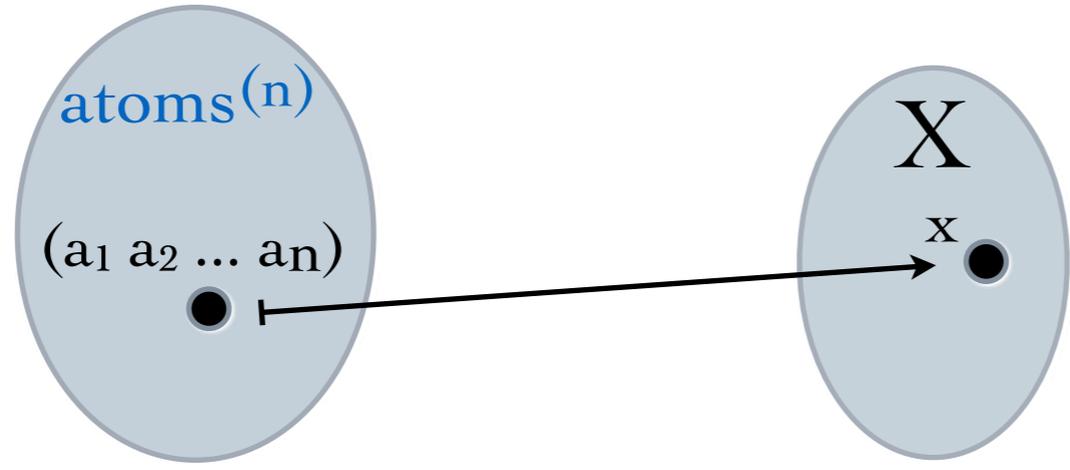
**Proof:**



Surjective function = the orbit of the pair  $((a_1 a_2 \dots a_n), x)$

# Representation theorem

**Theorem:** Every equivariant orbit admits a surjective equivariant function from  $\text{atoms}^{(n)}$ , for some  $n$ , s.t.  $f(a_1 a_2 \dots a_n) = f(b_1 b_2 \dots b_n) \implies \{a_1 a_2 \dots a_n\} = \{b_1 b_2 \dots b_n\}$ .



$n$  defines **dimension** of an orbit

**Theorem:** Every equivariant orbit is isomorphic to  $\text{atoms}^{(n)}$  modulo  $G$ , for some  $n$  and  $G$  a group of permutations of  $\{1 \dots n\}$ .

equivariant bijection

**Examples:**  $\text{atoms}^{(2)} / (1\ 2) = P_2(\text{atoms})$   
 $\text{atoms}^{(3)} / (1\ 2\ 3) = \text{atoms}^{(3)}$  modulo cyclic shift  
 $\text{atoms}^{(5)} / (1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)$

**Straight sets:** every orbit isomorphic to  $\text{atoms}^{(n)}$  for some  $n$

# Least support

**Theorem:** Every equivariant orbit is isomorphic to  $\text{atoms}^{(n)}$  modulo  $G$ , for some  $n$  and  $G$  a group of permutations of  $\{1 \dots n\}$ .

**Examples:**  $\text{atoms}^{(2)} /_{(1\ 2)} = P_2(\text{atoms})$   
 $\text{atoms}^{(3)} /_{(1\ 2\ 3)} = \text{atoms}^{(3)}$  modulo cyclic shift  
 $\text{atoms}^{(5)} /_{(1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)}$

**Straight sets:** every orbit isomorphic to  $\text{atoms}^{(n)}$  for some  $n$

**Corollary:** Every set (element)  $x$  has the least support  $\text{supp}(x)$ , i.e., support included in every support of  $x$ .

$$\text{supp}( (3, 6, 7, 2) /_{(1\ 2\ 3)} ) = \{3, 6, 7, 2\}$$

- sets with atoms
  - orbit-finite sets
  - definable sets
- } recap
- representation theorem
  - **homogeneous atoms**

# Oligomorphic atoms

a structure  $\mathcal{A}$  is oligomorphic  
if  
 $\mathcal{A}^{(n)}$  is orbit-finite for every  $n$ .

**Theorem:** orbit-finite sets are stable under Caertesian products and subsets

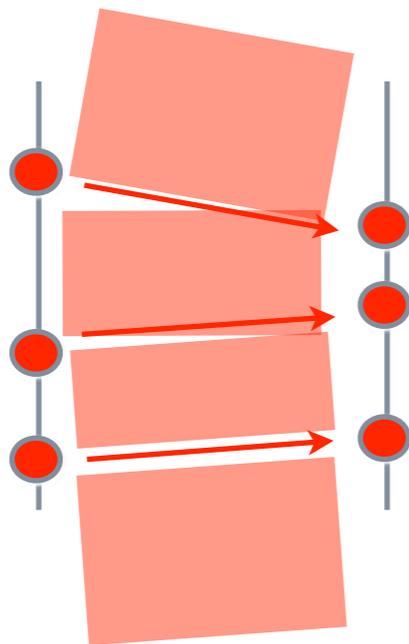
# Homogeneous atoms (relational case)

a relational structure  $\mathcal{A}$  is homogeneous  
if

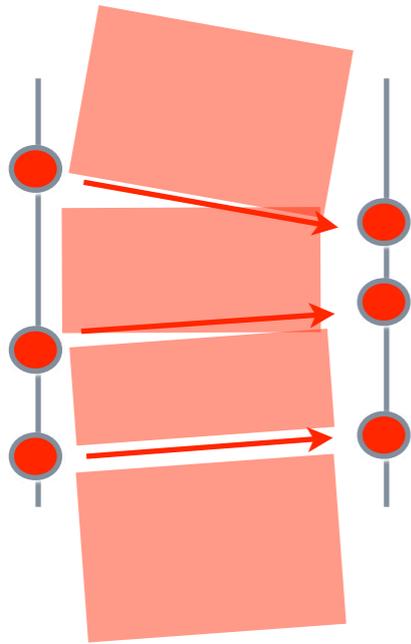
every isomorphism of **finite substructures** of  $\mathcal{A}$  extends  
to an automorphism of the whole structure

induced substructures

**Example:**  $(\mathbb{Q}, \leq)$



# Homogeneous atoms (relational case)

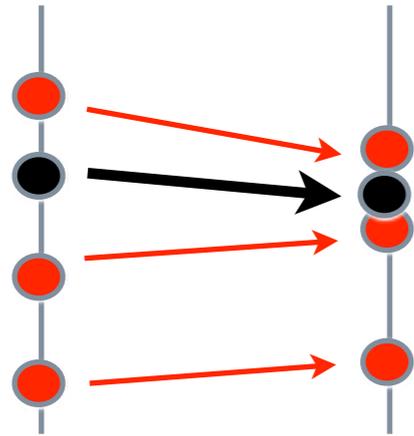


## Examples:

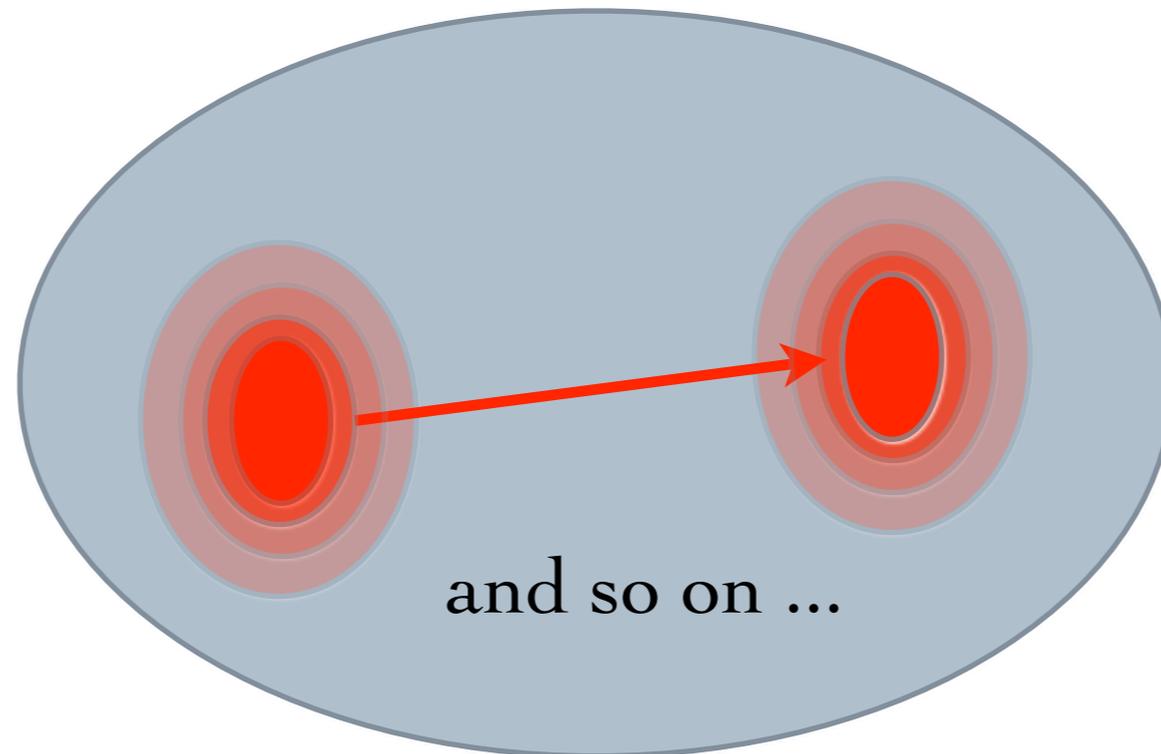
total order atoms $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$
<del>integer atoms <math>(\mathbb{Z}, &lt;)</math></del>
<del><math>(\mathbb{Q}, &lt;, +1)</math></del>
equality atoms $(\mathbb{N}, =)$
<b>random graph</b>
...

**random graph** = countable infinite graph yielded almost surely if every pair of nodes is connected by an edge with independent probability  $\frac{1}{3}$

# Homogeneous atoms (relational case)



extension property



# Homogeneous atoms (general case)

a structure  $\mathcal{A}$  is homogeneous

if

every isomorphism of **finitely generated substructures** of  $\mathcal{A}$  extends to an automorphism of the whole structure

**Example:** bit vectors  $(V, +)$

$V$  = infinite-dimensional linear space over  $Z_2$  =  
infinite sequences over  $\{0,1\}$  with finitely many 1's

0101001101000011101110000000 ...  
└──────────────────────────────────┘

substructure generated by  $\{01010\dots, 01100\dots\} =$

$\{01010\dots, 01100\dots, 00110\dots, 00000\dots\}$

substructure generated by  $X = ?$  **subspace spanned by  $X$**

**Example:**  $(Z, +1)$

substructure generated by  $\{7\} = \{7, 8, \dots\}$

# Least support?

bit-vector atoms  $(V, +)$

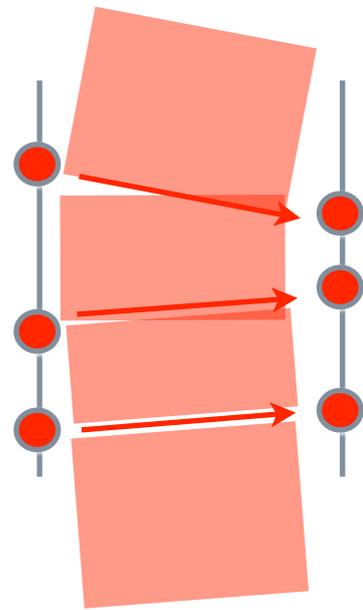
010100110100001110111000 ...  


$$\text{supp}( (01010\dots, 01100\dots) ) = ?$$

**Theorem:** Every set  $x$  has the least **closed** support  $\text{supp}(x)$ , i.e., closed support included in every closed support of  $x$ .

$$\text{supp}( (01010\dots, 01100\dots) ) = \{01010\dots, 01100\dots, 00110\dots, 00000\dots\}$$

# Quantifier elimination



**Observation:** When atoms are homogeneous

two tuples in  $\text{atoms}^{(n)}$   
are in the same orbit

iff

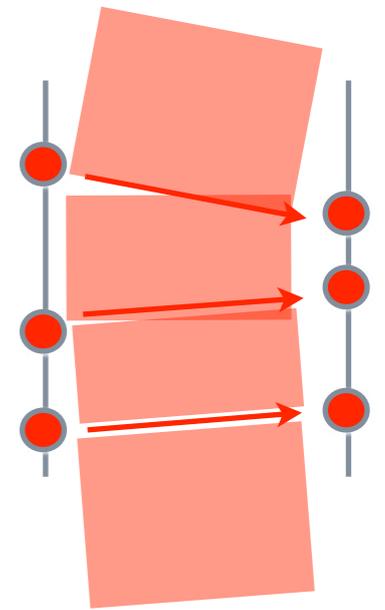
the tuples generate  
isomorphic substructures

there is a function  $\mathbf{b}$  such that substructures  
generated by  $n$  atoms have size bounded by  $\mathbf{b}(n)$

**Corollary:** When atoms are homogeneous, have finite vocabulary and bounded substructures,

- atoms are oligomorphic
- legal subsets of  $\text{atoms}^n = \mathbf{quantifier-free}$  definable subsets of  $\text{atoms}^n$

**Example:** For bit-vector atoms  $(V, =)$ , what is  $\mathbf{b}(n)$ ?  $\mathbf{b}(n) = 2^n$   
Integer atoms  $(Z, +1)$  ?



In the sequel, atoms are **well-behaved**:

- have finite vocabulary
- are homogeneous
- have bounded substructures
- are effective

hence oligomorphic and  
FO = quantifier free logic

hence quantifier-free  
logic decidable

orbits of atoms( $n$ ) = substructures  
generated by  $n$  atoms

there is a function  $\mathbf{b}$  such that  
substructures generated by  $n$  atoms  
have size bounded by  $\mathbf{b}(n)$

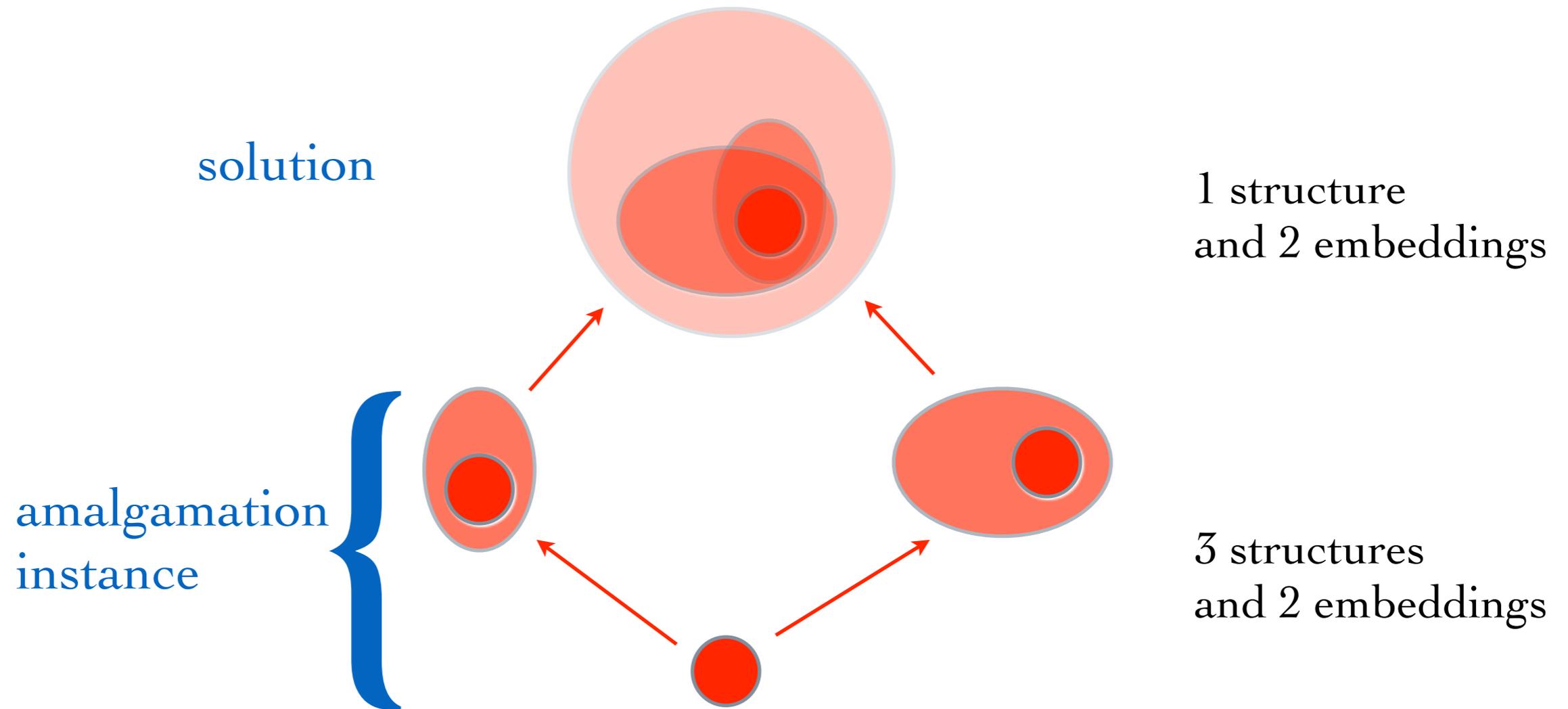
finitely generated substructures  
of atoms are computable

# *Age* = finitely generated substructures

atoms	finitely generated substructures
equality atoms $(\mathbb{N}, =)$	finite pure sets
integer atoms $(\mathbb{Z}, <)$	finite total orders
total order atoms $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$	finite total orders
vector space $(\mathbb{Q}^n, +, \cdot)$	vector spaces over $\mathbb{Q}$ of $\dim \leq n$
bit vectors $(V, +)$	finite vector spaces over $\mathbb{Z}_2$
?	<b>finite graphs</b>
?	finite trees
?	finite partial orders

} amalgamation classes

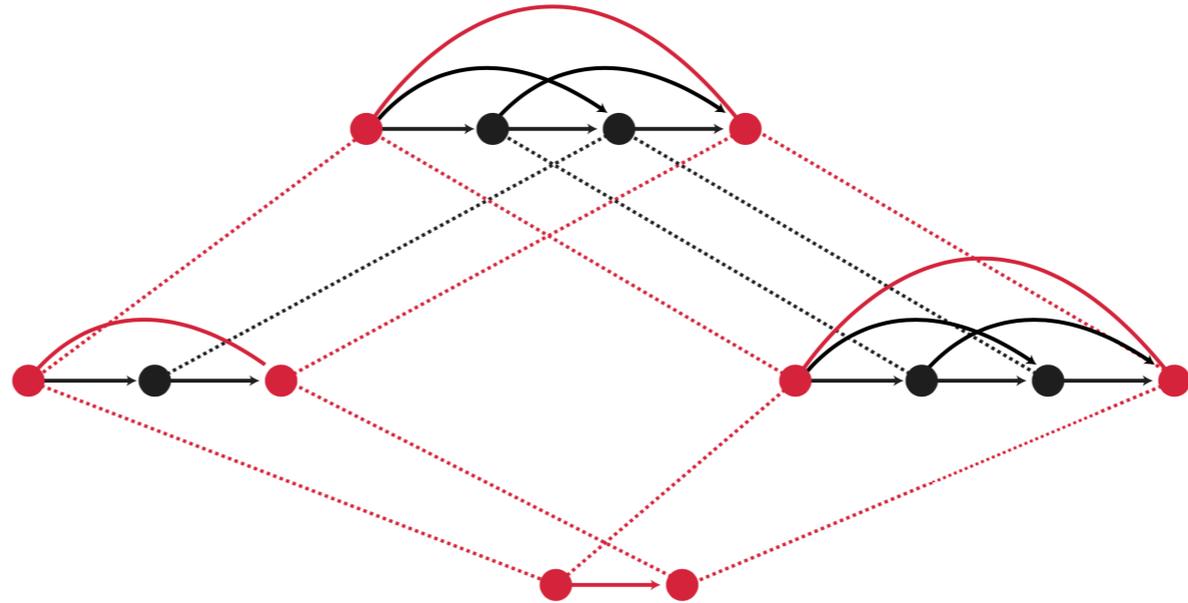
# Amalgamation class



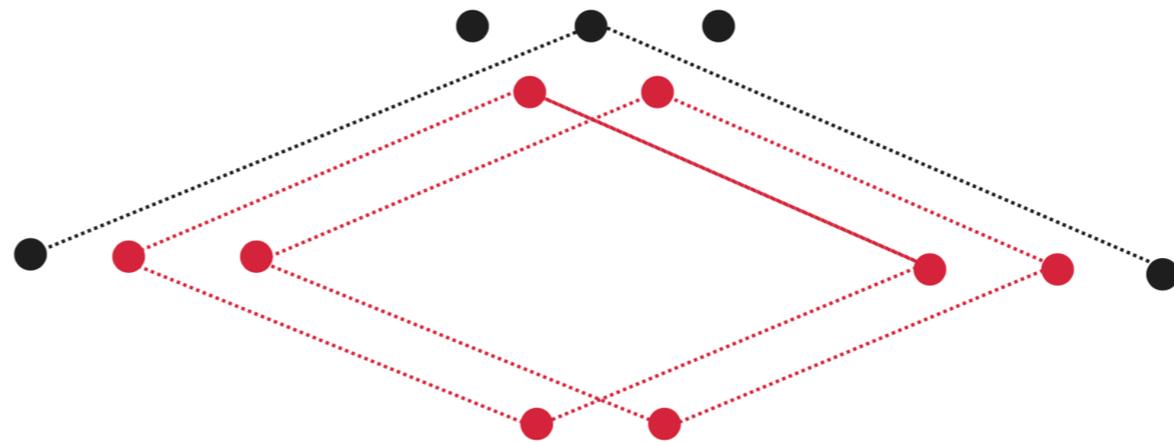
- class is closed under amalgamation if every instance has a solution
- amalgamation class = class of finitely generated structures closed under iso, substructures and amalgamation

# Amalgamation classes

- finite total orders

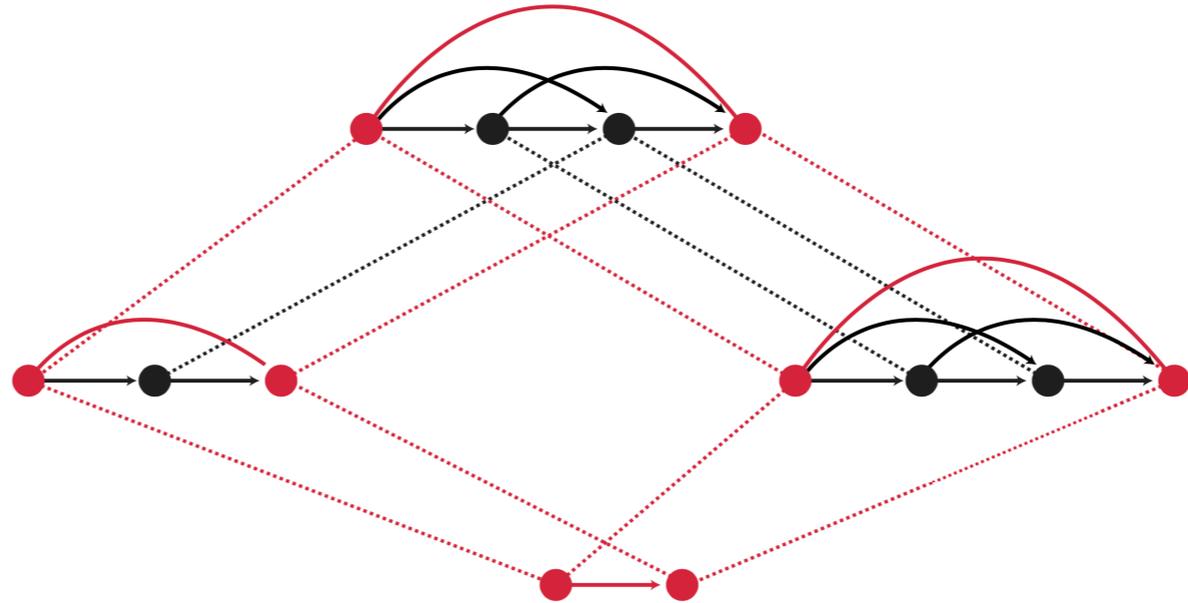


- finite pure sets

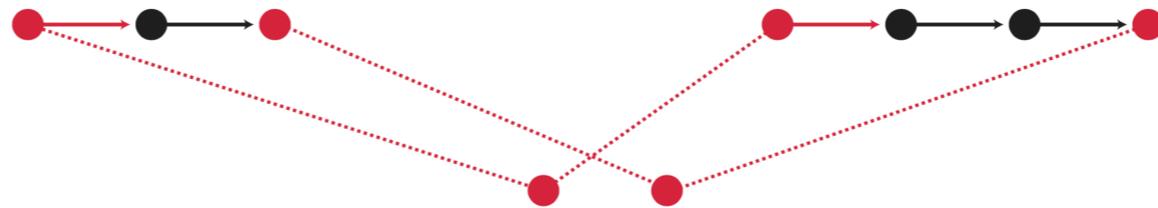


# Amalgamation classes

- finite total orders

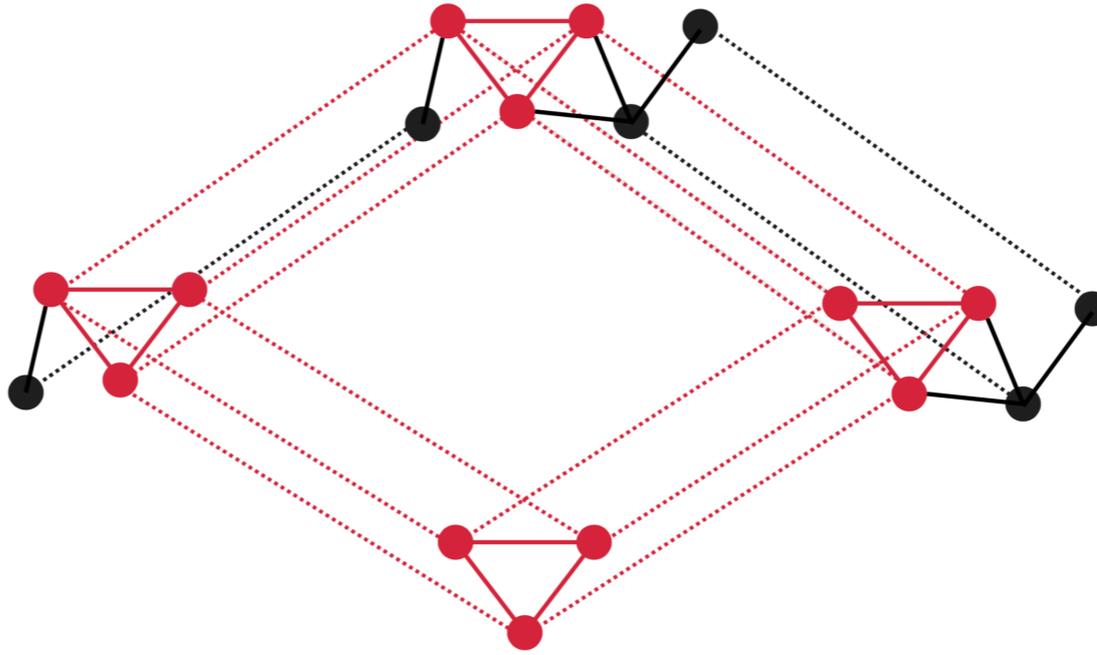


- paths?

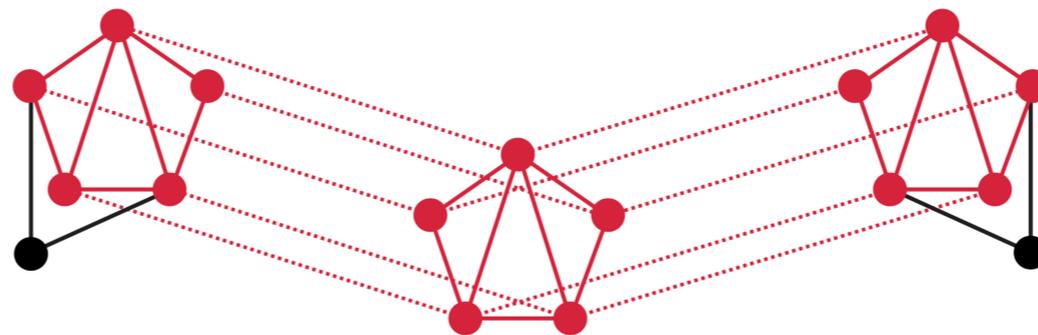


# Amalgamation classes

- finite graphs

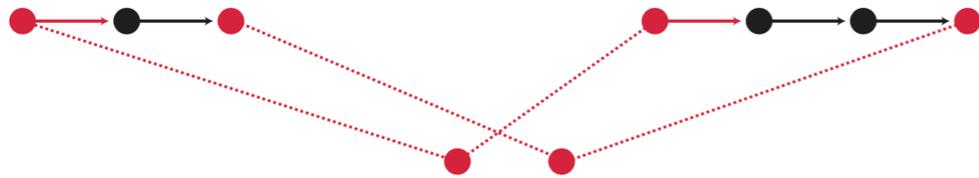


- finite planar graphs?

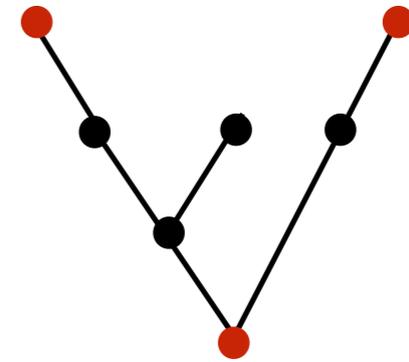


# Amalgamation classes

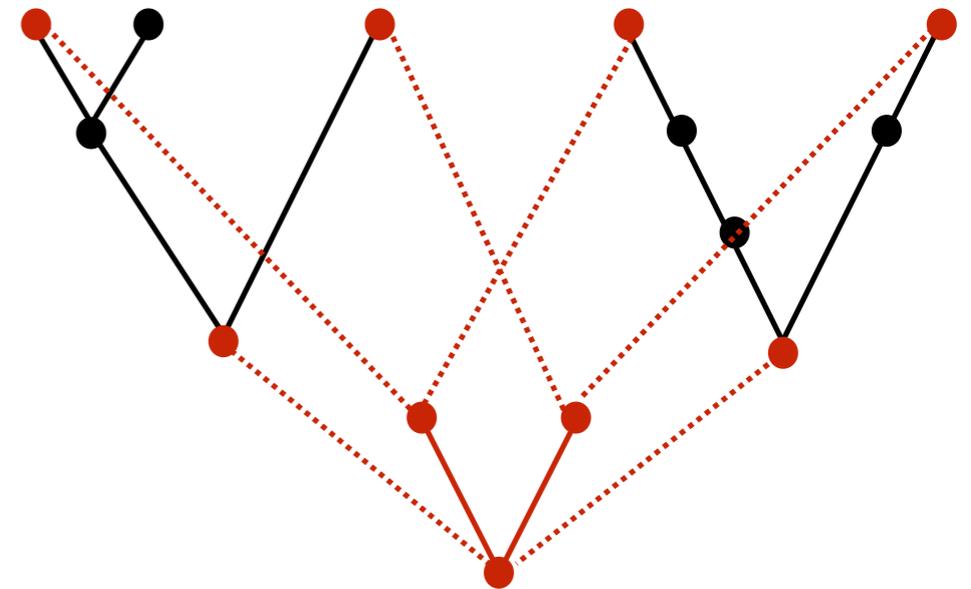
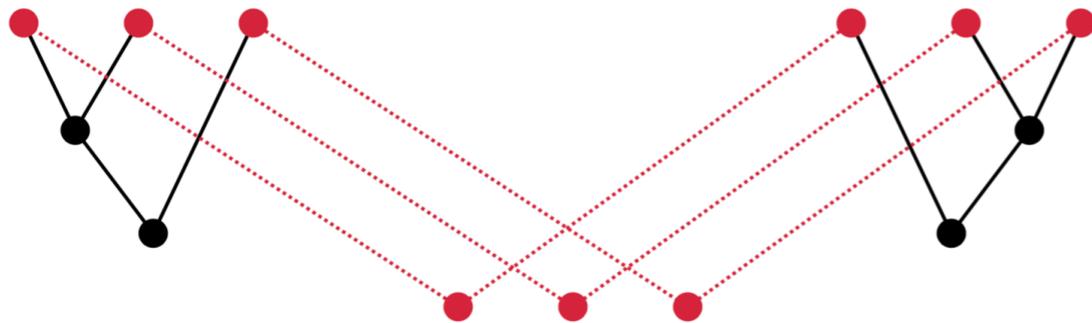
- finite trees (child relation)?



- finite trees (lca function)



- finite trees (descendant relation)?



# Homogeneity vs amalgamation

**Theorem (Freissé):**

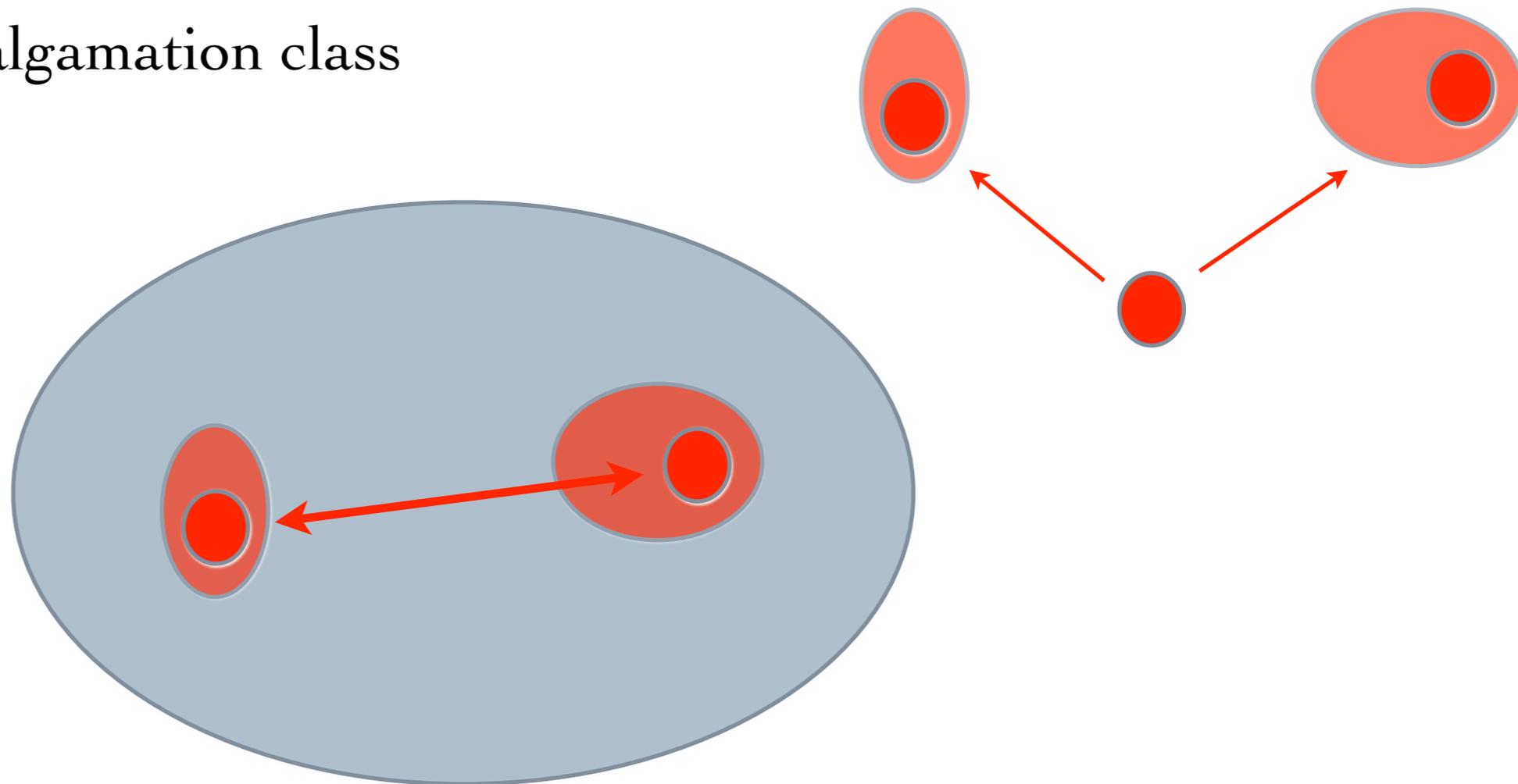
homogeneous  
structures

$Age =$   
finitely generated  
substructures



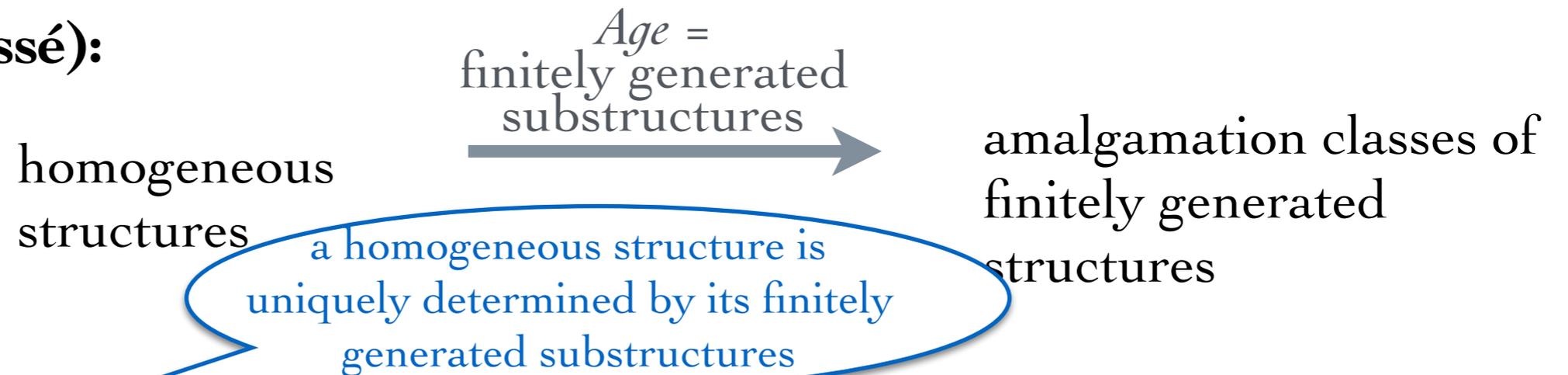
amalgamation classes of  
finitely generated  
structures

- $Age$  yields an amalgamation class

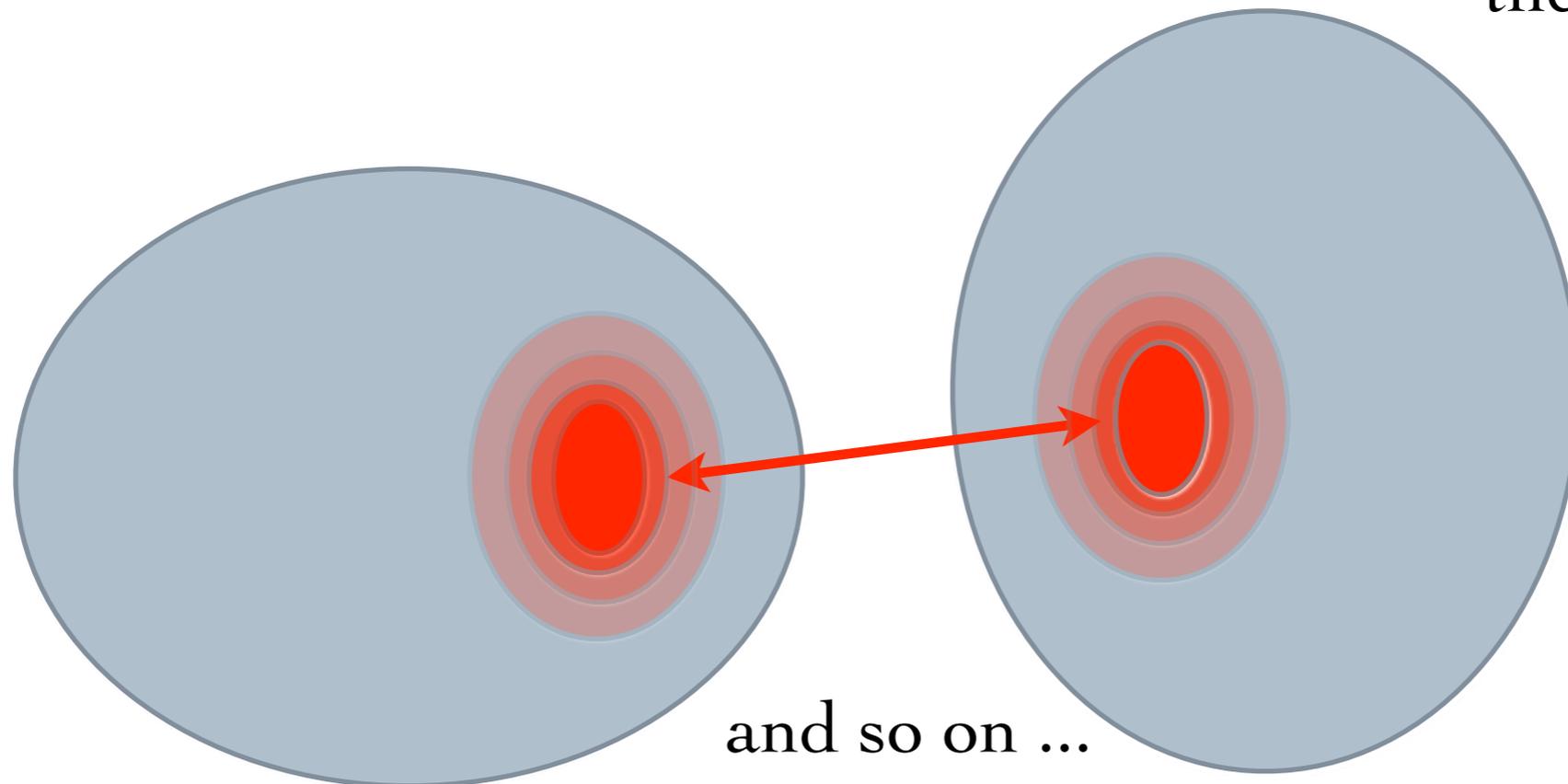


# Homogeneity vs amalgamation

## Theorem (Freïssé):



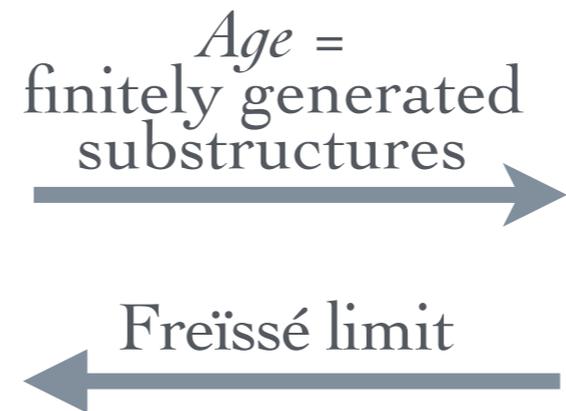
- *Age* is injective (up to iso): consider 2 homogeneous structures with the same age



# Homogeneity vs amalgamation

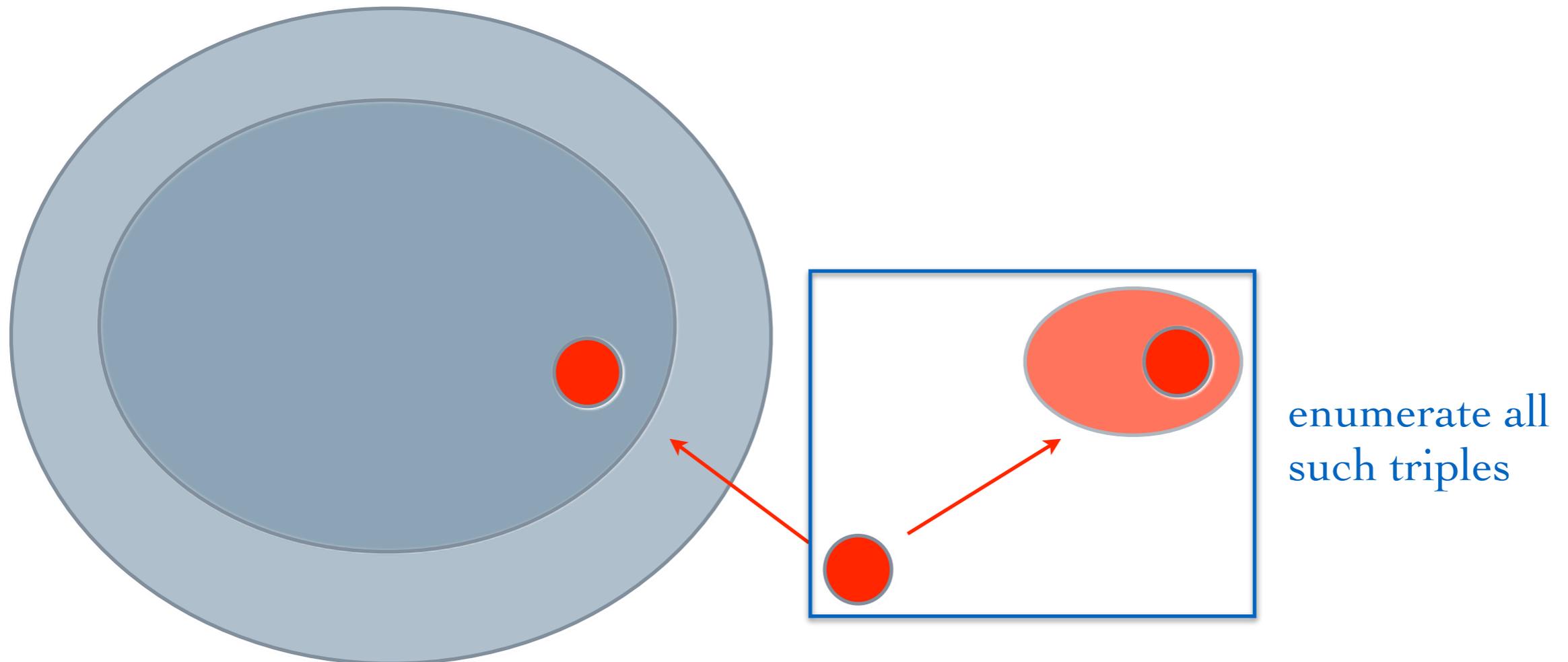
## Theorem (Freissé):

homogeneous  
structures



amalgamation classes of  
finitely generated  
structures

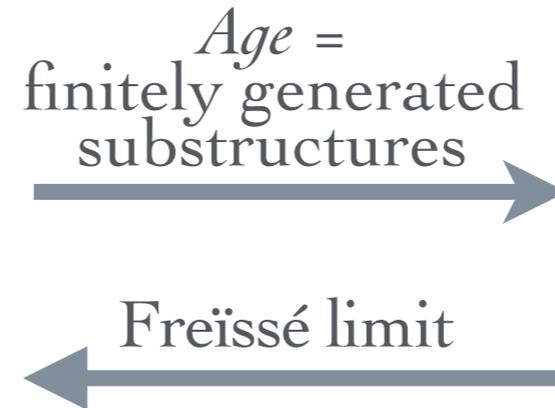
- $Age$  is surjective:



# Homogeneity vs amalgamation

## Theorem (Freïssé):

homogeneous  
structures



amalgamation classes of  
finitely generated  
structures

atoms	amalgamation class
equality atoms $(\mathbb{N}, =)$	finite pure sets
<del>integer atoms <math>(\mathbb{Z}, &lt;)</math></del>	finite total orders
total order atoms $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$	finite total orders
bit vectors $(V, +)$	finite vector spaces over $Z_2$
<b>random (universal) graph</b>	<b>finite graphs</b>
universal tree	finite trees
universal partial order	finite partial orders
...	...

# classification challenge

**Theorem:** [[Lachlan, Woodrow'80](#)] Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an infinite countable homogeneous graph. Then either  $\mathbb{A}$  or its complement is isomorphic to one of:

- universal (random) graph
- universal graph excluding  $n$ -clique, for some  $n$
- disjoint union of cliques of the same (finite or infinite) size

An analogous (but more complex) classification exists for directed graphs [[Cherlin'98](#)].

A classification of all homogeneous structures remains a great challenge.

## WQO solvable problems:

- emptiness of 1-dim alternating automata
- coverability of Petri nets

## WQO Dichotomy Conjecture:

For a homogeneous structure  $A$ , exactly one of the following conditions holds:

- $\text{Age}(A)$ , ordered by embeddings, is a WQO
- WQO solvable problems are undecidable.

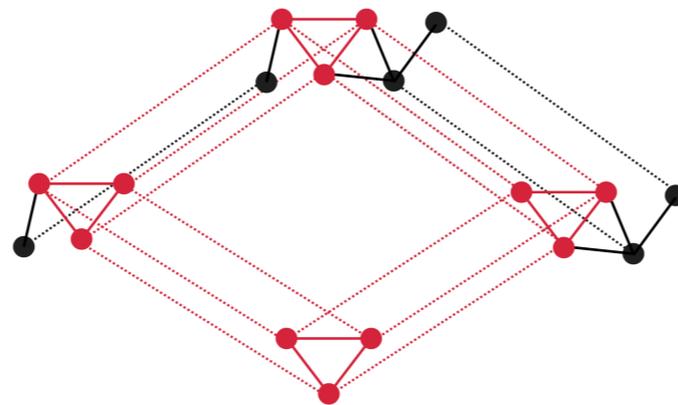
The conjecture confirmed for:

- graphs
- directed graphs
- 2-colored graphs
- 5-colored finitely bounded graphs
- when all relations are equivalences
- ...



Random graph = universal graph?

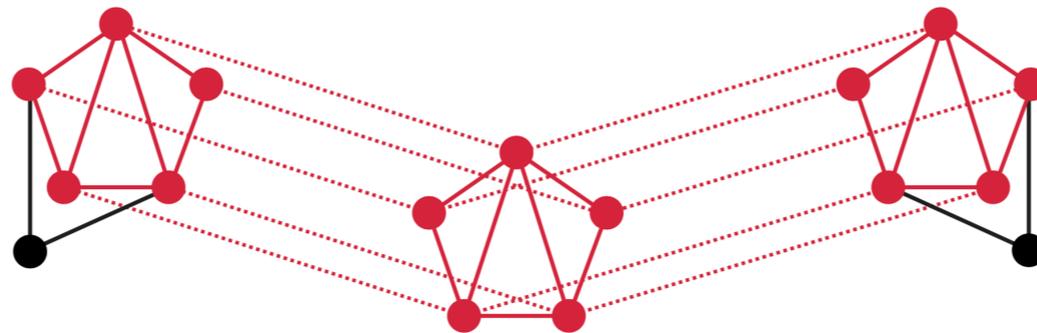
**Question:** Why  $Age(\text{the random graph}) = \text{all finite graphs}$ ?  
Why is the random graph homogeneous?



?

Assume atoms to be a relational structure.

**Question:** Closure under singleton amalgamation implies closure under (arbitrary) amalgamation?





Consider  $Age(\text{atoms})$  ordered by embeddings.

**Question:** In which case below  $Age(\text{atoms})$  is a WQO?  
What about **colored**  $Age(\text{atoms})$ ?

- equality atoms ( $\mathbb{N}, =$ )
- total order atoms ( $\mathbb{Q}, <$ )
- universal graph atoms
- universal partial order atoms