A tetrachotomy for positive first-order logic without equality

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Model Checking problem

We are interested in the parameterisation of the model checking problem by the model. Fix a logic $\mathscr L$ and fix $\mathcal D$.

The problem " $\mathscr{L}(\mathcal{D})$ " has

▶ Input: a sentence φ of \mathscr{L} .

• Question: does $\mathcal{D} \models \varphi$?

We consider syntactic fragments \mathscr{L} of FO and structures \mathcal{D} that are relational and finite.

Complexity of Model Checking

Fragment	Dual	Classification?	
$ \begin{cases} \exists, \lor \} \\ \exists, \lor, = \end{cases} $		Logspace	
$ \begin{cases} \exists, \land, \lor \} \\ \exists, \land, \lor, = \end{cases} $	$ \begin{cases} \forall, \land, \lor \} \\ \{\forall, \land, \lor, \neq \} \end{cases} $	Logspace if there is some element a s.t. all relations are a-vali	
$ \begin{cases} \exists, \land \} \\ \exists, \land, = \end{cases} $	$ \begin{cases} \forall, \lor \} \\ \{\forall, \lor, \neq \} \end{cases} $	CSP dichotomy conjecture: P or NP-complete	
$\{\exists, \land, \neq\}$	$\{\forall,\vee,=\}$	NP-complete for $ \mathcal{D} \geq 3$, reduces to Schaefer classes otherwise.	
	$ \{\exists, \forall, \vee\} $ $ \{\exists, \forall, \vee, \neq\} $	QCSP polychotomy: P, NP-complete, or Pspace-complete ?	
$\{\exists, \forall, \land, \neq\}$	$\{\exists, \forall, \vee, =\}$	Pspace-complete for $ \mathcal{D} \geq 3$, reduces to Schaefer classes for Quantified Sat otherwise.	
$\{\forall,\exists,\wedge,\vee\}$		Positive equality free: the rest of this talk	
		P when $ \mathcal{D} \leq 1$, Pspace-complete otherwise	
$\{\neg,\exists,\forall,\wedge,\vee\}$		P when ${\cal D}$ contains only empty or full relations, Pspace-complete otherwise	

► See B. Martin's paper on this for more details (CiE'08)

Tetrachotomy for $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO

When $|\mathcal{D}| \leq$ 4, we obtained a tetrachotomy between Pspace-complete

NP-complete co-NP-complete

Logspace

Our approach was algebraic but direct : i.e. direct complexity classification in suitable finite lattices [LICS'09, CSL'10].

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▶ It turns out that we knew the "tractable" cases.

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Logspace

Our approach was algebraic but direct: i.e. direct complexity classification in suitable finite lattices [LICS'09, CSL'10].

- ▶ It turns out that we knew the "tractable" cases.
- ► We complete the classification by proving that all other cases are Pspace-complete.

Some Ingredients of our approach

- Galois Connection
- "Tractability" via relativisation of quantifiers

Ferdinand Börner's tips for Galois Connections

relation closed under	preserved by "operation"
absence of \exists	partial
presence of \forall	"surjective"
presence of ∨	unary
presence of =	functions
absence of $=$	hyperfunctions
presence of \neq	injective
presence of atomic ¬	full

For $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO, we will need to consider the surjective hyper endomorphisms of the structure \mathcal{D} .

Surjective hyper endomorphisms

A surjective hyper-operation (shop) on a set D is a function

$$f:D\to \mathcal{P}(D)$$

that satisfies

- ▶ for all $x \in D$, $f(x) \neq \emptyset$ (totality).
- ▶ for all $y \in D$, there exists $x \in D$ s.t. $y \in f(x)$ (surjectivity).

A surjective hyper-endomorphism (she) of \mathcal{D} is a surjective hyper-operation f on D that preserves all extensional relations R of \mathcal{D} ,

▶ if $R(x_1,...,x_i) \in \mathcal{D}$ then, for all $y_1 \in f(x_1),...,y_i \in f(x_i)$, $R(y_1,...,y_i) \in \mathcal{D}$.

preserves

$$\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & \{0\} \\ \hline 1 & \{1\} \\ \hline 2 & \{1,2\} \end{array}$$

does not preserve

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
0 & \{0\} \\
\hline
1 & \{1,2\} \\
\hline
2 & \{1,2\}
\end{array}$$

preserves

0	{0}		
1	{1}		
2	{1,2}		

does not preserve
$$\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & \{0\} \\ \hline 1 & \{1,2\} \\ \hline 2 & \{1,2\} \end{array}$$

preserves

0	{0}	
1	{1 }	
2	{1, <mark>2</mark> }	

does not preserve
$$\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & \{0\} \\ \hline 1 & \{1,2\} \\ \hline 2 & \{1,2\} \end{array}$$

preserves

$$\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & \{0\} \\ \hline 1 & \{1\} \\ \hline 2 & \{1,2\} \\ \end{array}$$

0 2

does not preserve

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
0 & \{0\} \\
\hline
1 & \{1,2\} \\
\hline
2 & \{1,2\}
\end{array}$$

preserves

0	{0}		
1	{1}		
2	{1,2}		

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \text{does not preserve} & \begin{array}{c|c} 0 & \{0\} \\ \hline 1 & \{1,2\} \\ \hline 2 & \{1,2\} \end{array} \end{array}$$

preserves

0	{0}		
1	{1}		
2	{1,2}		

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \text{does not preserve} & \begin{array}{c|c} 0 & \{0\} \\ \hline 1 & \{1,2\} \\ \hline 2 & \{1,2\} \end{array} \end{array}$$

Monoid



has the following set of surjective hyper endomorphisms:

$$\{\frac{\frac{0}{1}\frac{0}{1}}{\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}}, \frac{\frac{0}{1}\frac{0}{1}}{\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{12}}, \frac{\frac{0}{1}\frac{01}{1}}{\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}}, \frac{\frac{0}{1}\frac{01}{1}}{\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{12}}\}$$

which forms in fact a monoid:

$$\left\langle \frac{\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & 01 \\ \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 12 \end{array} \right\rangle$$
.

Monoid



has the following set of surjective hyper endomorphisms:

$$\mathsf{shE}(\mathcal{D}) \!\!=\!\! \{ \tfrac{\frac{0}{1} \frac{0}{1}}{\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}}, \tfrac{\frac{0}{1} \frac{0}{1}}{\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{12}}, \tfrac{\frac{0}{1} \frac{01}{1}}{\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{12}}, \tfrac{\frac{0}{1} \frac{01}{1}}{\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{12}} \}$$

which forms in fact a monoid:

$$\mathsf{shE}(\mathcal{D}) = \langle \frac{0 \mid 01}{\frac{1}{2} \mid 12} \rangle.$$

A set of shops on D is a down-shop-monoid, if it contains id_D , and is closed under composition and sub-shops.

► A set of shops on *D* is a down-shop-monoid, if it contains *id_D*, and is closed under composition and sub-shops.

The *identity* shop id_S is defined by $x \mapsto \{x\}$.

A set of shops on D is a down-shop-monoid, if it contains id_D , and is closed under composition and sub-shops.

Given shops f and g, define the *composition* $g \circ f$ by

$$x \mapsto \{z : \exists y \ z \in g(y) \land y \in f(x)\}.$$

A set of shops on D is a down-shop-monoid, if it contains id_D , and is closed under composition and sub-shops.

A shop f is a *sub-shop* of g if $f(x) \subseteq g(x)$, for all x.

- A set of shops on D is a down-shop-monoid, if it contains id_D , and is closed under composition and sub-shops.
- ▶ We write $\langle F \rangle$ for the down-shop-monoid generated by a set of surjective hyper-operations F.

Theorem (Madelaine, Martin '09)

A relation is $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO-expressible in a finite structure \mathcal{D} , if and only if, it is invariant under the surjective hyper endomorphisms of \mathcal{D} .

Let $\mathsf{shE}(\mathcal{D})$ be the set of surjective hyper-endomorphisms of a structure \mathcal{D} .

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For finite \mathcal{D} and \mathcal{D}' (s.t. D = D'),

\mathsf{shE}(\mathcal{D}) \subseteq \mathsf{shE}(\mathcal{D}') \Rightarrow

\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}\text{-FO}(\mathcal{D}') \leq_{\mathsf{Logspace}} \{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}\text{-FO}(\mathcal{D}).
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```

Motto. surjective hyper-endomorphisms control expressive power and complexity.

Let $\mathsf{shE}(\mathcal{D})$ be the set of surjective hyper-endomorphisms of a structure \mathcal{D} .

If F is a set of surjective hyper-operations then Inv(F) is the set of relations of which F are surjective hyper-endomorphisms.

Theorem (Madelaine, Martin '10)

For a finite structure $\mathcal D$ and a set of shops F, the following holds,

- $\blacktriangleright \langle \mathcal{D} \rangle_{\{\exists,\forall,\wedge,\vee\}\text{-FO}} = \mathsf{Inv}(\mathsf{shE}(\mathcal{D})); \ \textit{and},$

Surjective hyper operations of special interest

Let D be a finite set with elements c,d. We define the following types of surjective hyper operations.

$$A_c(x) := \begin{cases} D & \text{if } x = c \\ \{?\} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad \text{e.g.} \quad \frac{\frac{0}{1} \frac{0}{3}}{\frac{2}{3} \frac{0123}{12}} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad A_c(c) = D \end{cases}$$

$$E_c(x) := \{?, c\} \quad \text{e.g.} \quad \frac{\frac{0}{1} \frac{012}{3}}{\frac{1}{1} \frac{1}{1}} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad E_c^{-1}(c) = D$$

$$\forall \exists_{c,d}(x) := \begin{cases} D & \text{if } x = c \\ \{d\} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad \text{e.g.} \quad \frac{\frac{0}{1} \frac{0123}{2}}{\frac{2}{2} \frac{1}{2}}$$

Quantifier Elimination

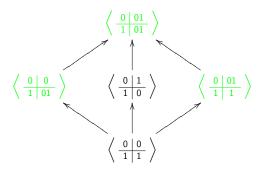
$$A_c(c) = D$$
 $E_d^{-1}(d) = D$
 $\forall \exists_{c,d}(c) = D$ $\forall \exists_{c,d}^{-1}(d) = D$

presence of	complexity drops to	"algorithm"
A_c	NP	evaluate all \forall to c
E_d	co-NP	evaluate all \exists to d
$\forall \exists_{c,d}$	Logspace	simultaneously do both

- ► We shall see that these special surjective hyper operations characterise fully the complexity.
- ▶ For example, if a relational structure \mathcal{D} is preserved by an A-shop but no $\forall \exists$ -shop, the model checking problem $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO(\mathcal{D}) is NP-complete

Warm-up: the boolean case

There are five monoids in this case.



Theorem

If $shE(\mathcal{D})$ is green above, then $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}\text{-FO}(\mathcal{D})$ is in Logspace; otherwise it is Pspace-complete.

The three-element case

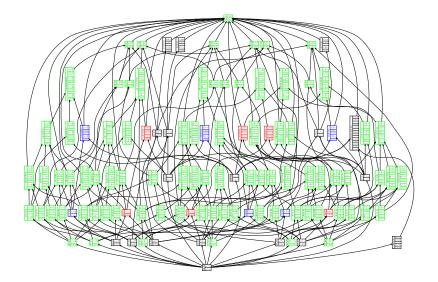
The lattice is considerably richer. The problem class $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO(\mathcal{D}) displays tetrachotomy, between

Logspace

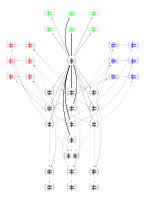
NP-complete co-NP-complete

Pspace-complete

lattice in the 3 element case



Most of these are green "L" cases. The bottom of the lattice is

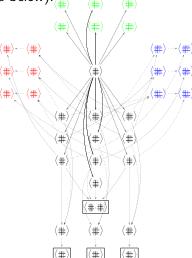


Theorem (Madelaine & Martin 2009)

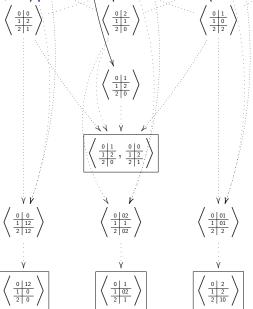
If $shE(\mathcal{D})$ is green, blue or red, above, then $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}\text{-FO}(\mathcal{D})$ is in L, is NP-complete or is co-NP-complete, respectively; otherwise it is Pspace-complete.

Maximal Pspace-complete monoids

There are four maximal Pspace-complete monoids in the 3 element case (drawn boxed below).



Maximal Pspace-complete monoids



Maximal Pspace-complete monoids

There are 20 maximal Pspace-complete monoids in the 4 element case.

Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V
$\langle \frac{0 \mid 1}{1 \mid 0}, \frac{0 \mid 0}{1 \mid 1} \rangle$	$\left\langle \begin{array}{c c} 0 & 23 \\ \hline 1 & 23 \\ \hline 2 & 01 \end{array} \right\rangle$	$\left\langle \begin{array}{c c} 0 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & 3 \end{array} \right\rangle$	$\langle \frac{0 \mid 2}{1 \mid 2}, \frac{0 \mid 01}{1 \mid 01} \rangle$	$\langle \frac{0 \mid 1}{1 \mid 0}, \frac{0 \mid 0}{1 \mid 2}, \frac{0 \mid 0}{1 \mid 1} \rangle$
3 013 3 012 0 2 0 0 / 1 012 1 023	3 01 0 13 / 1 02	3 012 0 2 / 1 2	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3 3 3 3 2
$\frac{2}{3} \frac{0}{023}$, $\frac{2}{3} \frac{2}{012}$	3 02	3 2	$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{02}{3} \end{pmatrix}$	
$\left\langle \frac{0 \ 3}{1 \ 013}, \frac{0 \ 0}{1 \ 023} \right\rangle$	$\left\langle \begin{array}{c c} 0 & 12 \\ \hline 1 & 03 \\ \hline 2 & 03 \end{array} \right\rangle$	$\left\langle \begin{array}{c c} 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 023 \\ \hline 2 & 1 \end{array} \right\rangle$	$\langle \frac{0 \ 1}{1 \ 03}, \frac{0 \ 03}{1 \ 2} \rangle$	
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3 12	3 1 0 123 / 1 0 \	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	
$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ \hline 3 & 123 \\ 0 & 013 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 012 \\ 0 & 123 \end{pmatrix}$		$\frac{2}{3} \frac{0}{0}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 12 \\ 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ 0 13 0 2	
$\langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{3}{123}, \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{013} \rangle$			$\langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{0}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \frac{13}{0} \rangle$	
/ 0 023 0 123 / 1 123 1 023 \			$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 23 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	
$\frac{2}{3} \frac{3}{2} , \frac{2}{3} \frac{2}{3} $			$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 23 \\ 3 & 23 \end{pmatrix}$	

The hard part is in proving there are no others.



Limitation of the "classification by lattice" method

Domain	Classification	Method	Maximally hard monoids
2	done	by hand	1
3	done	by hand,	4
		computer	
		checked	
4	done	by computer	20
5	failed attempt	by computer	161

Stuck. We need to move away from the lattice.

Tetrachotomy for all finite domains

Theorem (Madelaine & Martin 2011)

Let \mathcal{D} be any finite structure.

- I. If $shE(\mathcal{D})$ contains both an A-shop and an E-shop, then $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}\text{-FO}(\mathcal{D})$ is in Logspace.
- II. If $shE(\mathcal{D})$ contains an A-shop but no E-shop, then $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}\text{-FO}(\mathcal{D})$ is NP-complete.
- III. If $shE(\mathcal{D})$ contains an E-shop but no A-shop, then $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}\text{-FO}(\mathcal{D})$ is co-NP-complete.
- IV. If $shE(\mathcal{D})$ contains neither an A-shop nor an E-shop, then $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}\text{-FO}(\mathcal{D})$ is in Pspace-complete.

Proved for domain size 2,3,4 (using the lattice).

Settled for larger domains (without the lattice).



Ingredients of our approach

Previous ingredients:

- Galois Connection
- "Tractability" via relativisation of quantifiers

New ingredients:

- ▶ A suitable notion of core for $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO
- ightharpoonup Normal form for the monoid associated with the core of a structure $\mathcal D$
- ► Generic hardness proof

Core

For CSP there is the well-established notion of core. The core of a structure \mathcal{D} is a minimal induced substructure $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ all of whose endomorphisms are automorphisms.



It is well-known that \mathcal{X} is unique and $CSP(\mathcal{D}) = CSP(\mathcal{X})$.

Core and relativisation

Another way to define the core is as a minimal subset $X \subseteq D$ such that for all positive conjunctive $\phi(\overline{x})$:

$$\mathcal{D} \models \exists \overline{x} \ \phi(\overline{x}) \ \text{iff} \ \mathcal{D} \models \exists \overline{x} \in X \ \phi(\overline{x}).$$

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Does there exist a "core"-like notion for $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO?

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Does there exist a "core"-like notion for $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO?

Yes.

But we need 2 relativising sets U (universal) and X (existential).

U-X-core

Theorem (Madelaine & Martin, 2011)

The following are equivalent

- 1. There is $f \in \text{shE}(\mathcal{D})$ s.t. f(U) = D and $f^{-1}(X) = D$
- 2. for all positive equality-free ϕ , $\mathcal{D} \models \phi \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{D} \models \phi_{[\forall/U,\exists/X]}$.

U-X-core

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The following are equivalent

- 1. There is $f \in \text{shE}(\mathcal{D})$ s.t. f(U) = D and $f^{-1}(X) = D$
- 2. for all positive equality-free ϕ , $\mathcal{D} \models \phi \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{D} \models \phi_{[\forall/U,\exists/X]}$.

We may minimise X and U, then maximise their intersection to obtain a monoid we call reduced.

The substructure of $\mathcal D$ induced by $U \cup X$ satisfies the same sentences of $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO as $\mathcal D$. We call it the U - X-core (as it is unique up to isomorphism).

Example of a reduced monoid

Consider the domain 5 maximal monoid $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{0}{1} & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0.024$

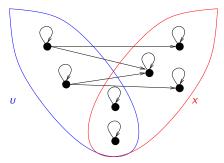
Thus we are equivalent to the reduced monoid

Tractable cases

Case	Complexity	A-shop	E-shop	<i>U-X</i> -core	Relativises into	Dual
I	Logspace	yes	yes	U =1, X =1	$\{\land,\lor\}$ -FO	I
П	NP-complete	yes	no	$ U =1, X \geq 2$	$\{\exists, \land, \lor\}$ -FO	Ш
Ш	co-NP-complete	no	yes	$ U \geq 2$, $ X = 1$	$\{\forall, \vee, \wedge\}$ -FO	Ш

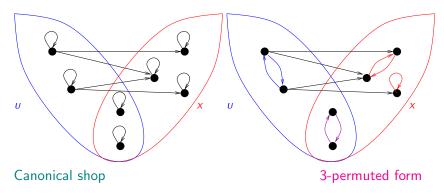
Remaining case. when both $|U| \ge 2$ and $|X| \ge 2$.

Canonical shop and normal form of the reduced monoid



Canonical shop

Canonical shop and normal form of the reduced monoid



All shops in the reduced monoid are in a similar form up to permutation of $U \cap X$, $X \setminus U$ and $U \setminus X$, or sub-shops thereof.

U and X have both size at least 2.

We consider three cases:

ightharpoonup U = X.

▶ $U \neq X$ and $U \cap X \neq \emptyset$.

 $V \cap X = \emptyset.$

U and X have both size at least 2.

We consider three cases:

- ightharpoonup U = X.
 - shops are necessarily "permutations".
 - We know from previous results that this case is Pspace-complete.
- $\blacktriangleright U \neq X$ and $U \cap X \neq \emptyset$.

 $V \cap X = \emptyset.$

U and X have both size at least 2.

We consider three cases:

ightharpoonup U = X.

- ▶ $U \neq X$ and $U \cap X \neq \emptyset$.
 - one set can not be included in another.
 - ▶ We complete the monoid by adding more shops to blur $U \cap X$ to a single element and $U \triangle X$ to a single element.
 - ► This amounts to consider a Pspace-hard monoid from the 2-element case.
- $V \cap X = \emptyset.$

U and X have both size at least 2.

We consider three cases:

ightharpoonup U = X.

 $\blacktriangleright U \neq X$ and $U \cap X \neq \emptyset$.

- $V \cap X = \emptyset$.
 - we are unable to exhibit such a simple proof.
 - we complete the monoid by adding all shops in the 3-permuted form.
 - thanks to the relative simplicity of this completed monoid, we can provide a generic hardness proof inspired from the 4

Tetrachotomy for all domains

	Tetrachotomy for $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO(\mathcal{D})					
Case	Complexity	A-shop	E-shop	<i>U-X</i> -core	Relativises into	Dual
I	Logspace	yes	yes	U =1, X =1	$\{\land,\lor\}$ -FO	I
П	NP-complete	yes	no	$ U =1, X \geq 2$	$\{\exists, \land, \lor\}$ -FO	Ш
Ш	co-NP-complete	no	yes	$ U \ge 2$, $ X = 1$	$\{\forall, \vee, \wedge\}$ -FO	П
IV	Pspace-complete	no	no	$ U \ge 2$, $ X \ge 2$	$\{\exists, \forall, \vee, \wedge\}$ -FO	IV

Bonus. A notion of core for quantified constraints.

The meta problem is NP-complete.

The $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO(σ) meta-problem takes as input a finite σ -structure \mathcal{D} and answers L, NP-complete, co-NP-complete or Pspace-complete, according to the complexity of $\{\exists, \forall, \land, \lor\}$ -FO(\mathcal{D}). It is NP-hard even for some fixed and finite signature σ_0 .

Conclusion

Fragment	Dual	Classification?
$ \begin{cases} \exists, \land \} \\ \exists, \land, = \end{cases} $	$ \begin{cases} \{\forall, \lor\} \\ \{\forall, \lor, \neq\} \end{cases} $	CSP Dichotomy conjecture (P or NP-complete). solved for (undirected) graphs (Hell & Nešetřil), in the boolean case (Schaefer), the 3 element case (Bulatov) and the conservative case (Bulatov, Barto).
$ \{\exists, \forall, \land\} \\ \{\exists, \forall, \land, =\} $	{∃,∀,∨} {∃,∀,∨,≠}	P/Pspace-complete dichotomy in the boolean case (Schaefer). In general, no precise conjecture. Partial results exhibit P, NP-complete, and Pspace-complete complexities: via the algebraic approach by Chen et. al. or a combinatorial approach for graphs and digraphs (Madelaine & Martin). Even the case of (undirected) graphs remains open.
$\{\forall,\exists,\wedge,\vee\}$		Tetrachotomy