

# A Composition Theorem for Parity Kill Number

Yu Zhao

Carnegie Mellon University

Joint with

Ryan O'Donnell(CMU), Xiaorui Sun(Columbia),  
Li-Yang Tan(Columbia) and John Wright(CMU)

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Definition:  $\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]$

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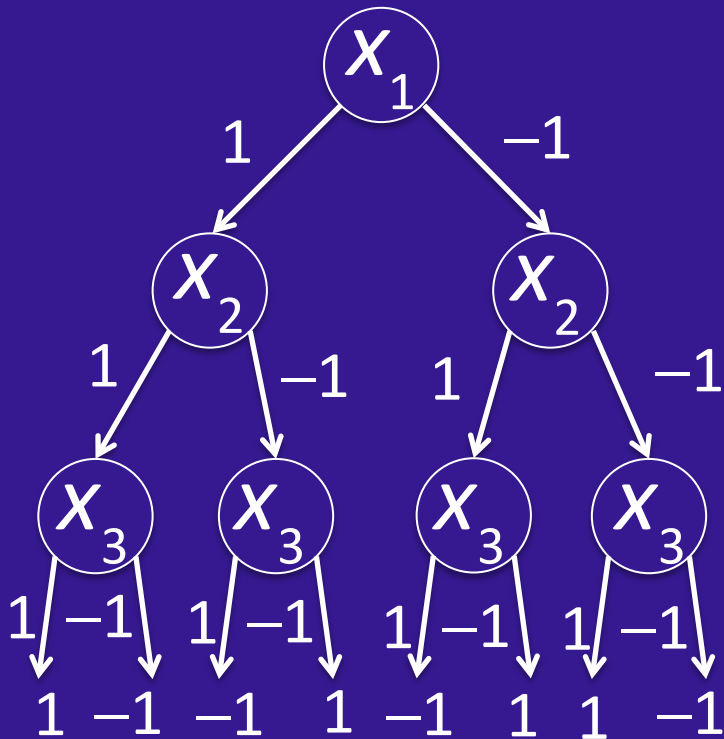
- Parity  $f(x) = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n$   $\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}] = 1$

- Sort

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x_1x_2 + \frac{1}{2}x_2x_3 + \frac{1}{2}x_3x_4 - \frac{1}{2}x_1x_4 \quad \text{sparsity}[\hat{f}] = 4$$

# Decision Tree

PARITY<sub>3</sub>  $f(x) = x_1 x_2 x_3$



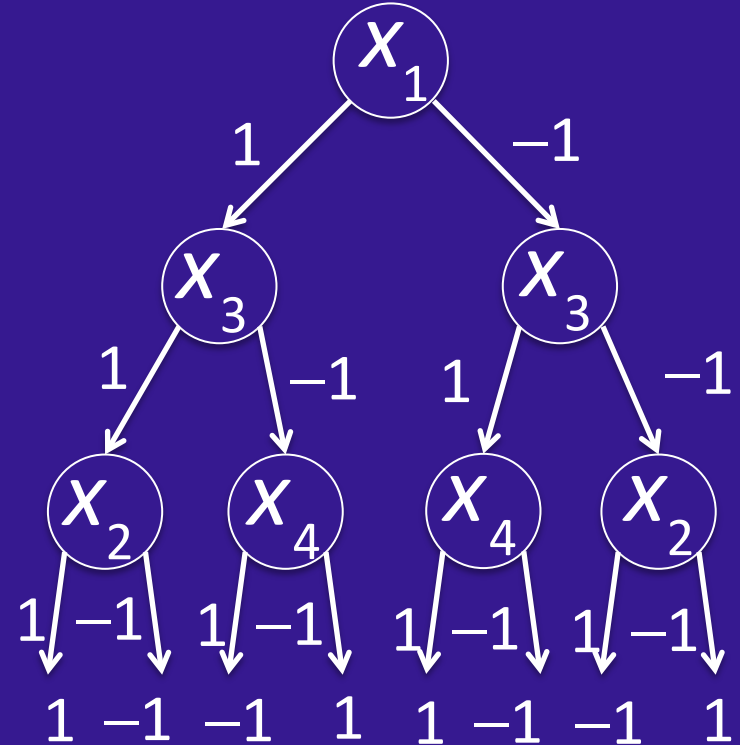
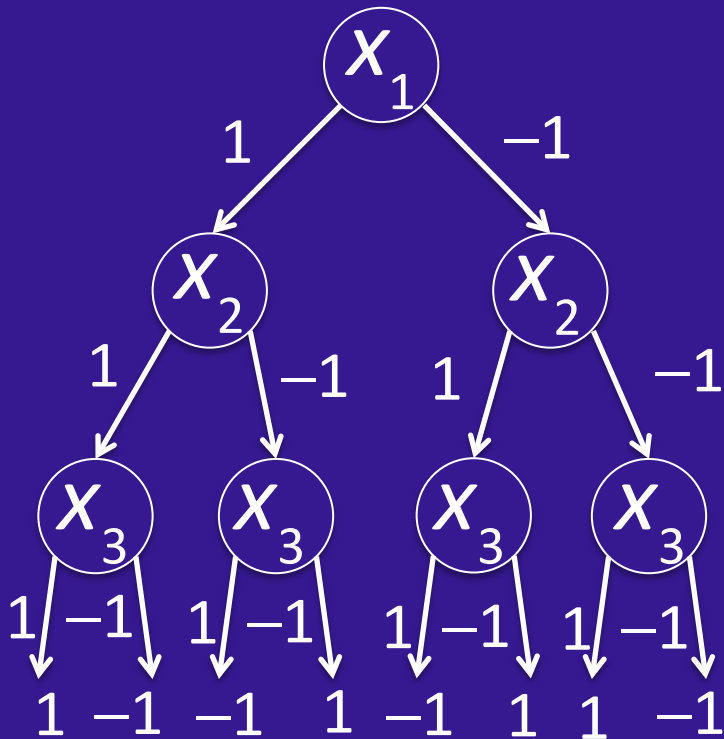
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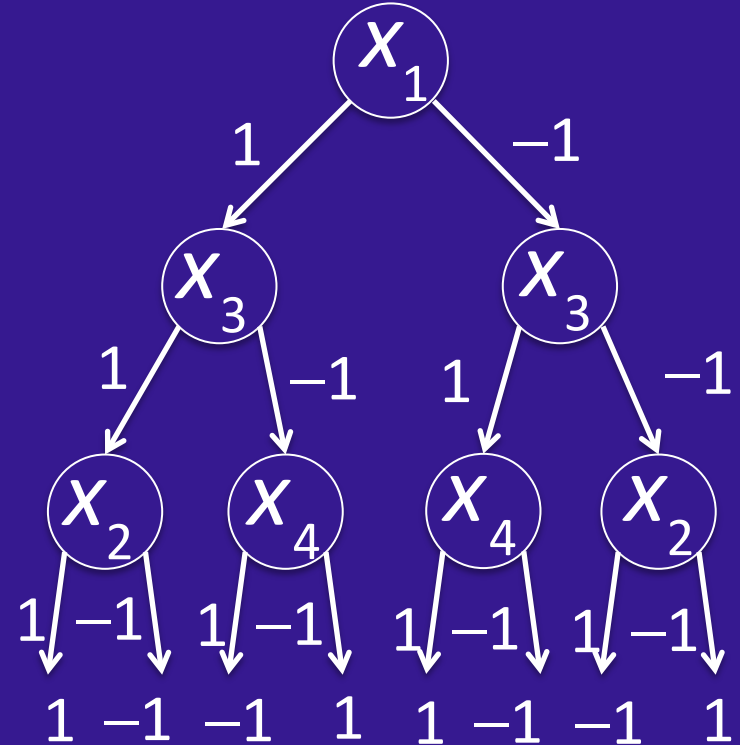
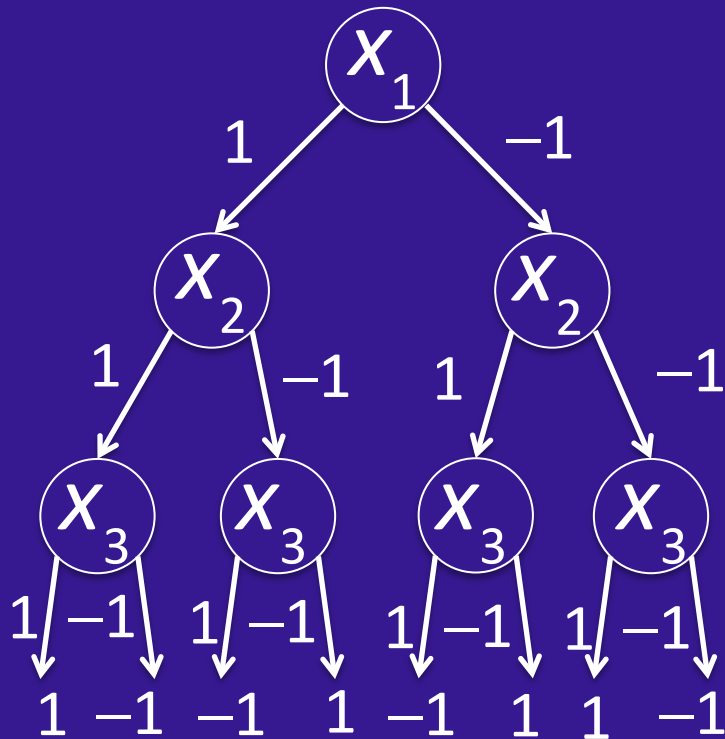
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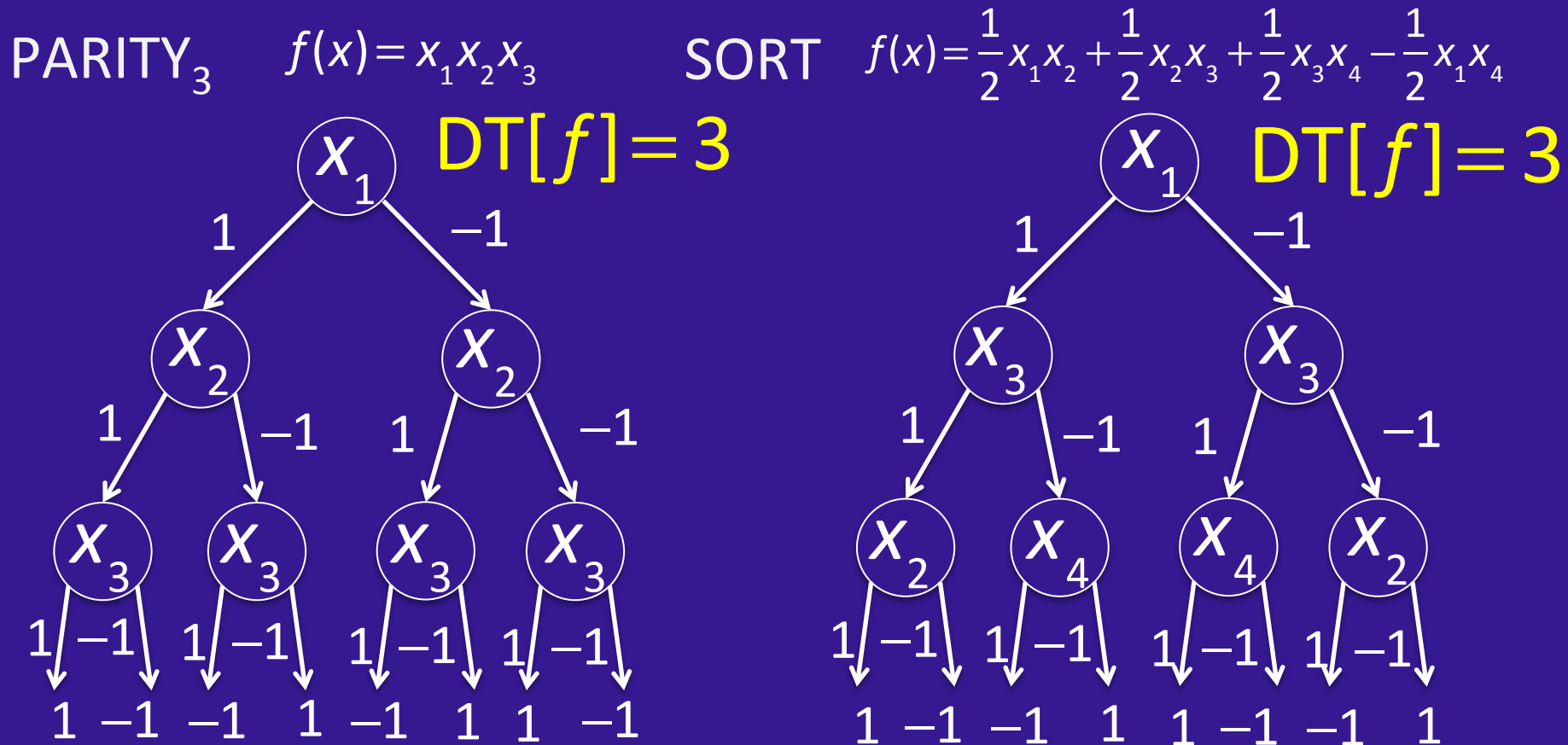
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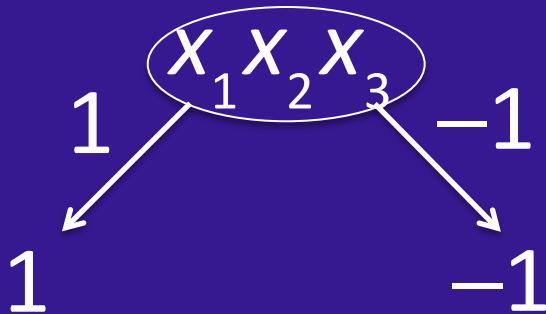
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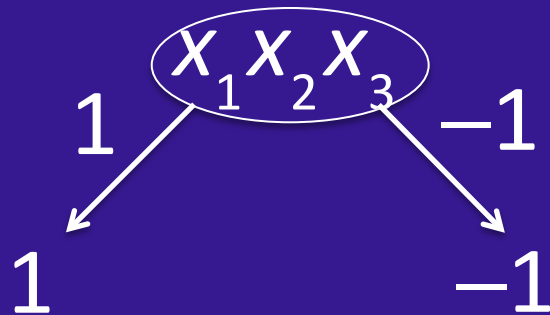


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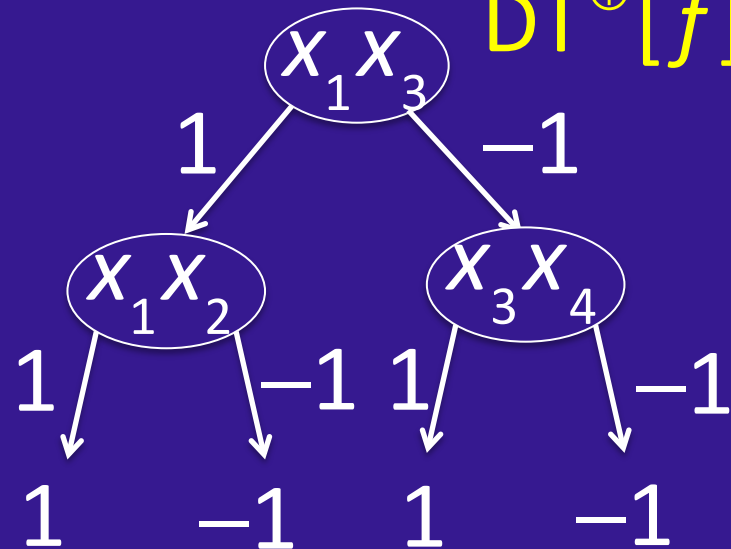
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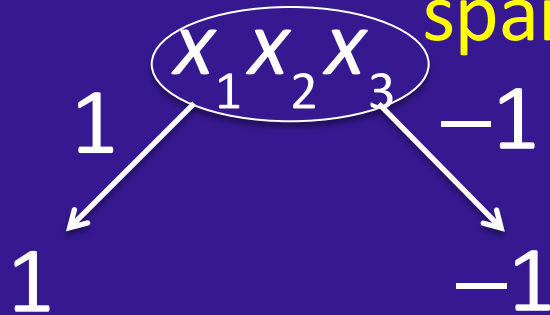


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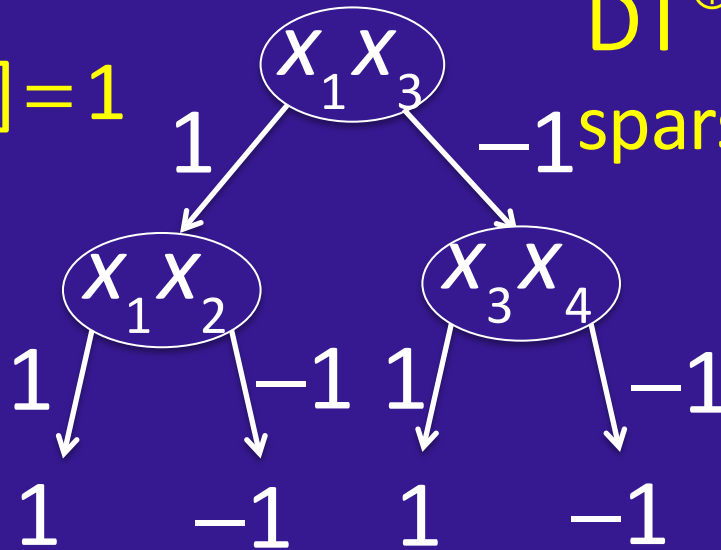
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$DT^\oplus[f] = 1$   
 $sparsity[\hat{f}] = 1$



$DT^\oplus[f] = 2$   
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These two quantities ( $DT^{\oplus}$  and  $\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]$ ) were linked in the paper of [MO09] and [ZS10], both of which posed the following question:

*Given a sparse Boolean function, must it have a short parity decision tree?*

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$$DT^\oplus[f] = O(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]^c)?$$

$$DT^\oplus[f] = O(\log^c(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]))?$$

# Log rank conjecture on XOR function

- Log rank conjecture:  $D[g] = O(\log^c(\text{rank}[M_g]))$ ?

Deterministic communication complexity



Input matrix



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$$D[g] \leq 2DT^\oplus[f]$$

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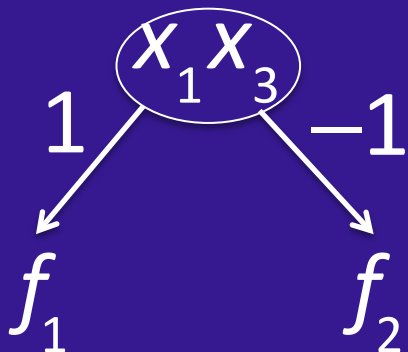
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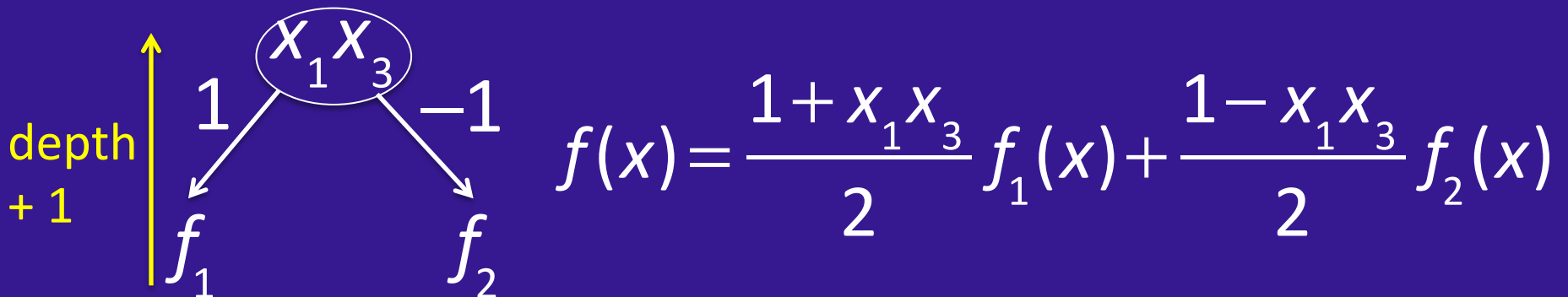
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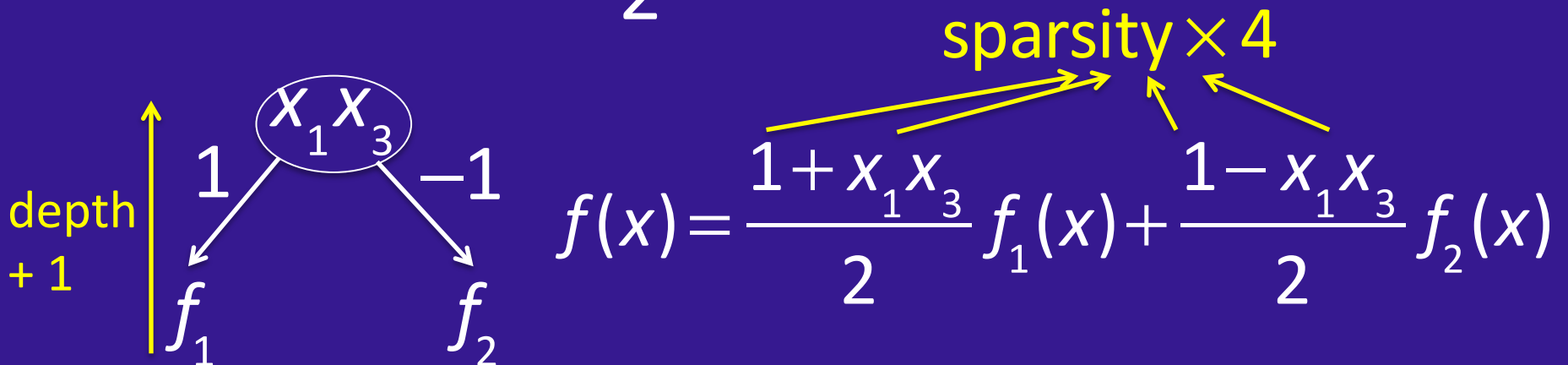
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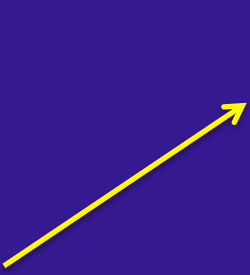
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# Previous work on upper bound

$$\text{DT}^{\oplus}[f] \leq O(\|\hat{f}\|_1 \cdot \log(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]))$$

$$\sum_s |\hat{f}(s)|$$

[TWXZ13]

# Previous work on upper bound

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DT}^\oplus[f] &\leq O(\|\hat{f}\|_1 \cdot \log(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}])) \\ &\leq O(\sqrt{\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]} \cdot \log(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}])) \end{aligned}$$

[TWXZ13]



# Our result on lower bound

For infinitely many  $n$ , there exist a Boolean function  $f: \{-1, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  satisfying

$$\text{DT}^{\oplus}[f] \geq \Omega(\log^{\log_3 6}(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]))$$

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(Using **parity kill number** and **composition of HI function**)

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Certificate complexity  $C_{\min}[f]$ :

The **minimum number** of input bits one has to fix to force the function to **be a constant**.

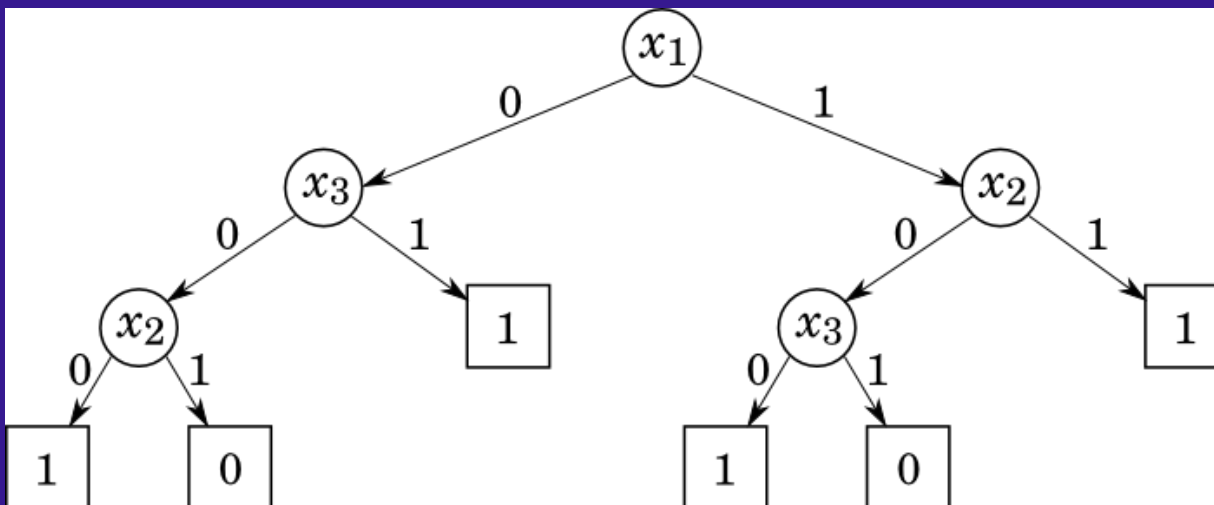
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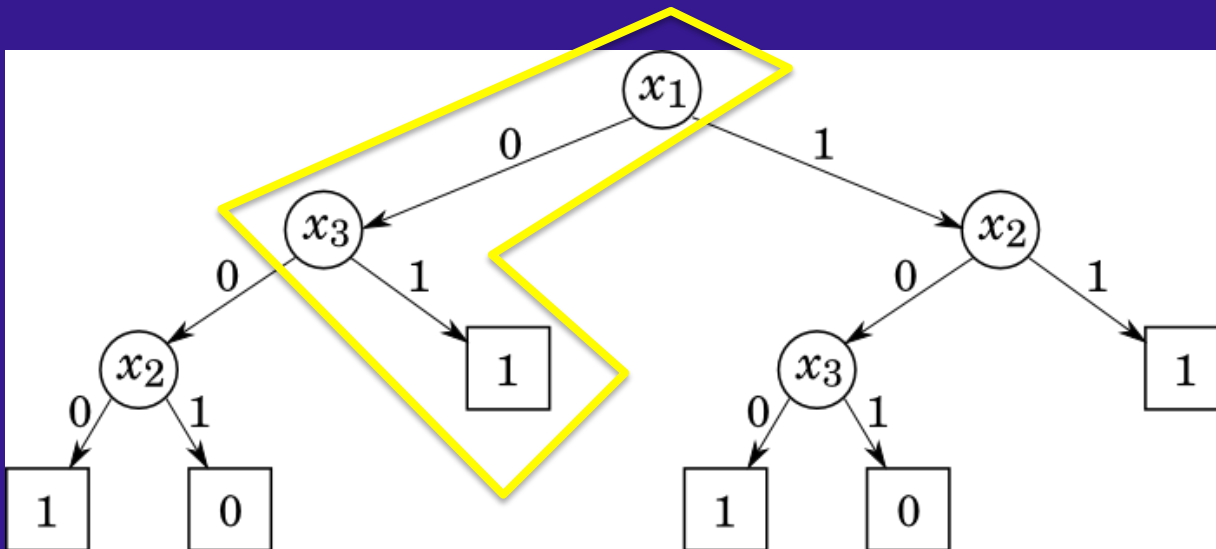
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$$DT[f] = 3$$

$$C_{\min}[f] = 2$$

$$C_{\min}[f] \leq DT[f]$$

# Parity kill number

**Parity Kill Number** (Parity Certificate complexity)  $C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f]$

The minimum number of **parity on input variables** one has to fix to force the function to be a constant.

The length of shortest path in any **parity** decision tree of the function

$$C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f] \leq DT^{\oplus}[f]$$

# Composition of Boolean function

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$$f \circ g(y) = f(g(y^{(1)}), g(y^{(2)}), \dots, g(y^{(n)}))$$

$$y^{(i)} \in \{-1, 1\}^m$$



# Composition of Boolean function

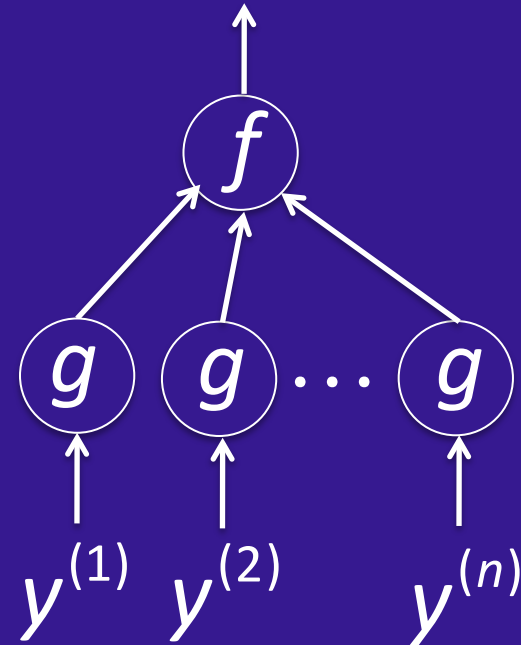
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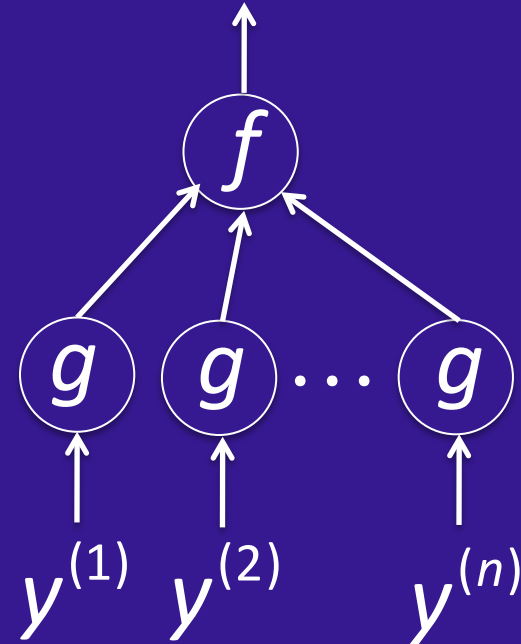
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$$f^{\circ k} = \underbrace{f \circ f \circ \dots \circ f}_k$$

# Properties of Boolean function Composition by previous work

$$\deg[f \circ g] = \deg[f] \cdot \deg[g]$$

$$DT[f \circ g] = DT[f] \cdot DT[g]$$

$$C_{\min}[f \circ g] \geq C_{\min}[f] \cdot C_{\min}[g]$$

[Tal13]

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What about  $DT^{\oplus}$  and  $C_{\min}^{\oplus}$  ?

# Composition theorem for parity kill number

Thm:

$$C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f \circ g] \geq C_{\min}[f] + C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f] \quad \text{when} \quad C_{\min}^{\oplus}[g] \geq 2$$

# Illustration of main theorem

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# Composition theorem for parity kill number

$$C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}] = C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f^{\circ(k-1)} \circ f]$$

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$$(C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f] \geq 2)$$

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$$(C_{\min}[f^{\circ k}] \geq C_{\min}[f]^k)$$

$$(C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f] \geq 2)$$

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$$C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}] = \Omega(C_{\min}[f]^{(k-2)}) \quad (C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f] = 1 \text{ and not a parity})$$

# Composition theorem for parity kill number

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when  $f$  is not a parity

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( $c = \log_{\deg[f]} C_{\min}[f]$ ) when  $f$  is not a parity

Sort function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 \leq x_2 \leq x_3 \leq x_4 \text{ or } x_1 \geq x_2 \geq x_3 \geq x_4 \\ -1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x_1x_2 + \frac{1}{2}x_2x_3 + \frac{1}{2}x_3x_4 - \frac{1}{2}x_1x_4$$



# Application

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$$\deg[f] = 2, C_{\min}[f] = 3, c = \log_2 3$$

# Application

$$\text{DT}^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}] \geq C^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}, 1^{n^k}] \geq \Omega(\log^c(\widehat{\text{sparsity}}[f^{\circ k}]))$$

( $c = \log_{\deg[f]} C[f, 1^n]$ ) when  $f$  is not a parity and  $f(1^n) = 1$

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The **minimum number** of input bits one has to fix which **contains  $1^n$**  and force the function to **be a constant**.

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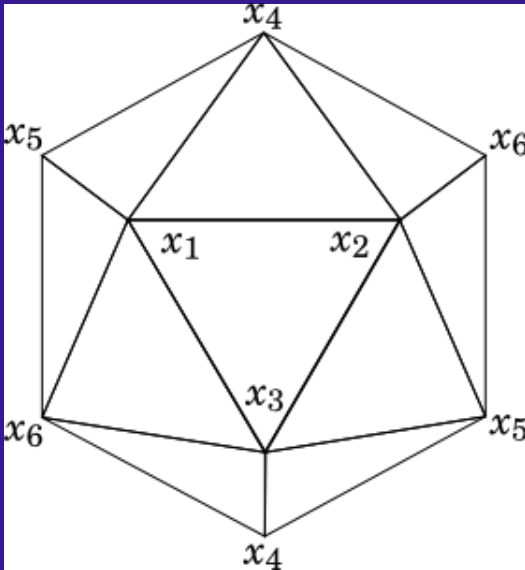
The minimum number of **parity on input variables** one has to fix which **contains  $1^n$**  and force the function to be a constant.

# Application

$$DT^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}] \geq C^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}, 1^{n^k}] \geq \Omega(\log^c(\widehat{\text{sparsity}}[f^{\circ k}]))$$

( $c = \log_{\deg[f]} C[f, 1^n]$ ) when  $f$  is not a parity and  $f(1^n) = 1$

## HI function



The number of 1's in input is 1, 2 or 6  
Output 1

The number of 1's in input is 0, 4 or 5  
Output -1

The number of 1's in input is 3

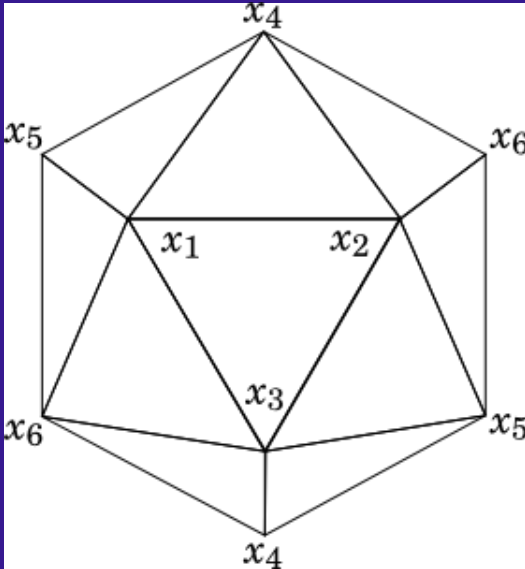


# Application

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( $c = \log_{\deg[f]} C[f, 1^n]$ ) when  $f$  is not a parity and  $f(1^n) = 1$

## HI function



$$\begin{aligned} \text{HI}(x) = & \frac{1}{4} \left( - \sum_i x_i + x_1 x_2 x_3 + x_1 x_2 x_4 + x_1 x_3 x_6 \right. \\ & + x_1 x_4 x_5 + x_1 x_5 x_6 + x_2 x_3 x_5 + x_2 x_4 x_6 \\ & \left. + x_2 x_5 x_6 + x_3 x_4 x_5 + x_3 x_4 x_6 \right) \end{aligned}$$

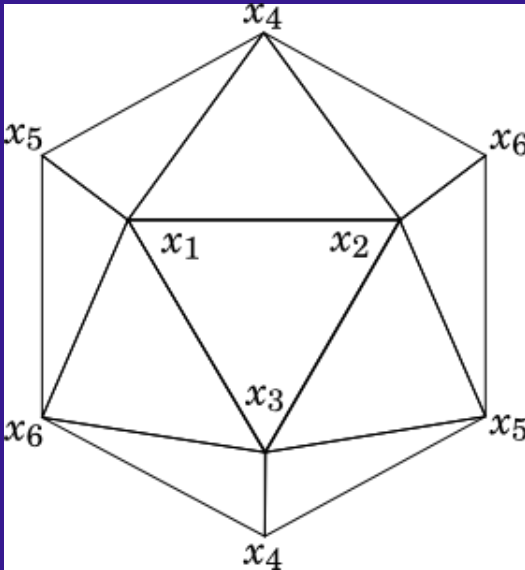
[NW95]

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$$\deg[\text{HI}] = 3, C[\text{HI}, 1^6] = 6, c = \log_3 6$$

# Future Direction

$$\Omega(\log^{\log_3 6}(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}])) \leq C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f] \leq O(\sqrt{\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]})$$

$$\Omega(\log^{\log_3 6}(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}])) \leq \text{DT}^{\oplus}[f] \leq O(\sqrt{\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]} \cdot \log(\text{sparsity}[\hat{f}]))$$



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Can we do better?

# Future Direction

$$C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}] \geq \Omega[C_{\min}[f]^k] \quad (C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f] \geq 2)$$

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$$C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}] \geq \Omega[C_{\min}[f]^k] \quad (C_{\min}^{\oplus}[f] \geq 2)$$

What about  $DT^{\oplus}[f^{\circ k}]$  and  $DT[f]$ ?



# Analysis of Boolean Functions

Thank you

**RYAN O'DONNELL**