

# Knapsack and the power word problem in solvable Baumslag-Solitar groups

Markus Lohrey, Georg Zetsche

October 15, 2020

## Baumslag-Solitar groups

For  $p, q \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$  let  $BS(p, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}a^p t = a^q \rangle$ .

## Baumslag-Solitar groups

For  $p, q \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$  let  $BS(p, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}a^p t = a^q \rangle$ .

Weiß 2015

The word problem for  $BS(p, q)$  can be solved on a deterministic Turing machine whose work tape has length  $\log(\text{input length})$ , i.e., it belongs to the complexity class **logarithmic space**.

## Baumslag-Solitar groups

For  $p, q \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$  let  $BS(p, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}a^p t = a^q \rangle$ .

Weiß 2015

The word problem for  $BS(p, q)$  can be solved on a deterministic Turing machine whose work tape has length  $\log(\text{input length})$ , i.e., it belongs to the complexity class **logarithmic space**.

$BS(1, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}at = a^q \rangle$  is solvable and linear.

## Baumslag-Solitar groups

For  $p, q \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$  let  $BS(p, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}a^p t = a^q \rangle$ .

### Weiß 2015

The word problem for  $BS(p, q)$  can be solved on a deterministic Turing machine whose work tape has length  $\log(\text{input length})$ , i.e., it belongs to the complexity class **logarithmic space**.

$BS(1, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}at = a^q \rangle$  is solvable and linear.

$BS(1, q)$  is the subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{Q})$  generated by the two matrices

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad t = \begin{pmatrix} q & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Baumslag-Solitar groups

For  $p, q \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$  let  $BS(p, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}a^p t = a^q \rangle$ .

### Weiß 2015

The word problem for  $BS(p, q)$  can be solved on a deterministic Turing machine whose work tape has length  $\log(\text{input length})$ , i.e., it belongs to the complexity class **logarithmic space**.

$BS(1, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}at = a^q \rangle$  is solvable and linear.

$BS(1, q)$  is the subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{Q})$  generated by the two matrices

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad t = \begin{pmatrix} q & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

### Corollary

The word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in **TC<sup>0</sup>**.

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,



## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,
- ▶  $C_n$  consists of AND-gates, OR-gates, NOT-gates and **majority gates**,

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,
- ▶  $C_n$  consists of AND-gates, OR-gates, NOT-gates and majority gates,
- ▶ the fan-in of the gates is not restricted,

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,
- ▶  $C_n$  consists of AND-gates, OR-gates, NOT-gates and majority gates,
- ▶ the fan-in of the gates is not restricted,
- ▶ the number of gates of  $C_n$  is of size  $\text{poly}(n)$ ,

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,
- ▶  $C_n$  consists of AND-gates, OR-gates, NOT-gates and majority gates,
- ▶ the fan-in of the gates is not restricted,
- ▶ the number of gates of  $C_n$  is of size  $\text{poly}(n)$ ,
- ▶ the depth of the circuit is bounded by a constant.

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,
- ▶  $C_n$  consists of AND-gates, OR-gates, NOT-gates and majority gates,
- ▶ the fan-in of the gates is not restricted,
- ▶ the number of gates of  $C_n$  is of size  $\text{poly}(n)$ ,
- ▶ the depth of the circuit is bounded by a constant.

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,
- ▶  $C_n$  consists of AND-gates, OR-gates, NOT-gates and majority gates,
- ▶ the fan-in of the gates is not restricted,
- ▶ the number of gates of  $C_n$  is of size  $\text{poly}(n)$ ,
- ▶ the depth of the circuit is bounded by a constant.

Uniformity: given  $n$  it should be “very easy” to construct  $C_n$ .

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,
- ▶  $C_n$  consists of AND-gates, OR-gates, NOT-gates and **majority gates**,
- ▶ the fan-in of the gates is not restricted,
- ▶ the number of gates of  $C_n$  is of size  $\text{poly}(n)$ ,
- ▶ the depth of the circuit is bounded by a constant.

Uniformity: given  $n$  it should be “very easy” to construct  $C_n$ .

Details are quite technical! Implicitly we work with the strongest reasonable uniformity assumption (DLOGTIME-uniformity).

## Excuse to $TC^0$

### Formal definition of $TC^0$

A language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  belongs to  $TC^0$  if for every  $n \geq 0$  there is a Boolean circuit  $C_n$  such that:

- ▶  $C_n$  accepts  $L \cap \{0,1\}^n$ ,
- ▶  $C_n$  consists of AND-gates, OR-gates, NOT-gates and **majority gates**,
- ▶ the fan-in of the gates is not restricted,
- ▶ the number of gates of  $C_n$  is of size  $\text{poly}(n)$ ,
- ▶ the depth of the circuit is bounded by a constant.

Uniformity: given  $n$  it should be “very easy” to construct  $C_n$ .

Details are quite technical! Implicitly we work with the strongest reasonable uniformity assumption (DLOGTIME-uniformity).

$TC^0$  is the smallest complexity class that allows to do arithmetic.



# Excuse to $TC^0$

## Problems in $TC^0$

- computing sum, product, or integer quotient of two binary encoded integers (Hesse, Allender, Barrington 2002)

# Excuse to $TC^0$

## Problems in $TC^0$

- ▶ computing sum, product, or integer quotient of two binary encoded integers (Hesse, Allender, Barrington 2002)
- ▶ word problem for finitely generated solvable linear groups (L, König 2018)

# Excuse to $TC^0$

## Problems in $TC^0$

- ▶ computing sum, product, or integer quotient of two binary encoded integers (Hesse, Allender, Barrington 2002)
- ▶ word problem for finitely generated solvable linear groups (L, König 2018)
- ▶ conjugacy problem for free solvable groups and iterated wreath products of abelian groups (Miasnikov, Vassileva, Weiß 2017)

# Excuse to $TC^0$

## Problems in $TC^0$

- ▶ computing sum, product, or integer quotient of two binary encoded integers (Hesse, Allender, Barrington 2002)
- ▶ word problem for finitely generated solvable linear groups (L, König 2018)
- ▶ conjugacy problem for free solvable groups and iterated wreath products of abelian groups (Miasnikov, Vassileva, Weiß2017)
- ▶ Subgroup membership for finitely generated nilpotent groups (Miasnikov, Weiß2017)

## Power word problem

$G$  a finitely generated group with finite generating set  $\Sigma$ .

## Power word problem

$G$  a finitely generated group with finite generating set  $\Sigma$ .

### Power word problem of $G$

INPUT: Words  $w_1, \dots, w_k \in (\Sigma \cup \Sigma^{-1})^*$ , **binary encoded**  $n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

QUESTION:  $w_1^{n_1} \cdots w_k^{n_k} = 1$  in  $G$ ?

## Power word problem

$G$  a finitely generated group with finite generating set  $\Sigma$ .

### Power word problem of $G$

INPUT: Words  $w_1, \dots, w_k \in (\Sigma \cup \Sigma^{-1})^*$ , **binary encoded**  $n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

QUESTION:  $w_1^{n_1} \cdots w_k^{n_k} = 1$  in  $G$ ?

Special case of the so-called compressed word problem for  $G$ .

# Power word problem

$G$  a finitely generated group with finite generating set  $\Sigma$ .

## Power word problem of $G$

INPUT: Words  $w_1, \dots, w_k \in (\Sigma \cup \Sigma^{-1})^*$ , **binary encoded**  $n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

QUESTION:  $w_1^{n_1} \cdots w_k^{n_k} = 1$  in  $G$ ?

Special case of the so-called compressed word problem for  $G$ .

## Ge 1993

For given algebraic numbers  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k$  and binary encoded  $n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$  one can check in polynomial time whether  $\alpha_1^{n_1} \cdots \alpha_k^{n_k} = 1$  holds.



# Power word problems for groups

Some complexity results for power word problems:

---

computational complexity of  
power word problem

# Power word problems for groups

Some complexity results for power word problems:

	computational complexity of power word problem
f.g. nilpotent groups free solvable groups	$TC^0$ (L, Weiß 2019, Figelius, Ganardi, L, Zetsche 2020)

# Power word problems for groups

Some complexity results for power word problems:

	computational complexity of power word problem
f.g. nilpotent groups free solvable groups	$TC^0$ (L, Weiß 2019, Figelius, Ganardi, L, Zetsche 2020)
f.g. free groups Grigorchuk group	logspace (L, Weiß 2019)

# Power word problems for groups

Some complexity results for power word problems:

	computational complexity of power word problem
f.g. nilpotent groups free solvable groups	$TC^0$ (L, Weiß 2019, Figelius, Ganardi, L, Zetsche 2020)
f.g. free groups Grigorchuk group	logspace (L, Weiß 2019)
Thompson's group $F$	coNP-complete (Figelius, Ganardi, L, Zetsche 2020)

# Power word problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem 1

The power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in  $TC^0$ .

# Power word problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem 1

The power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in  $TC^0$ .

### Proof strategy:

- ▶ Main step: Reduce the power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  to the following problem:

# Power word problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem 1

The power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in  $TC^0$ .

### Proof strategy:

- ▶ Main step: Reduce the power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  to the following problem:

INPUT: Polynomial  $P(x) = a_1x^{e_1} + \dots + a_kx^{e_k} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  represented by the list of **binary encoded** numbers  $a_1, e_1, \dots, a_k, e_k$ .

# Power word problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem 1

The power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in  $TC^0$ .

### Proof strategy:

- ▶ Main step: Reduce the power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  to the following problem:

INPUT: Polynomial  $P(x) = a_1x^{e_1} + \dots + a_kx^{e_k} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  represented by the list of **binary encoded** numbers  $a_1, e_1, \dots, a_k, e_k$ .  
(so-called **super-sparse** or **lacunary** representation).



# Power word problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem 1

The power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in  $TC^0$ .

### Proof strategy:

- ▶ Main step: Reduce the power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  to the following problem:

INPUT: Polynomial  $P(x) = a_1x^{e_1} + \dots + a_kx^{e_k} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  represented by the list of **binary encoded** numbers  $a_1, e_1, \dots, a_k, e_k$ .  
(so-called **super-sparse** or **lacunary** representation).

QUESTION: Does  $P(q) = 0$  hold?

# Power word problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem 1

The power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in  $TC^0$ .

### Proof strategy:

- ▶ Main step: Reduce the power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  to the following problem:

INPUT: Polynomial  $P(x) = a_1x^{e_1} + \dots + a_kx^{e_k} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  represented by the list of **binary encoded** numbers  $a_1, e_1, \dots, a_k, e_k$ .  
(so-called **super-sparse** or **lacunary** representation).

QUESTION: Does  $P(q) = 0$  hold?

- ▶ H.W. Lenstra Jr. 1999: The above problem is in polynomial time.

# Power word problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem 1

The power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in  $TC^0$ .

### Proof strategy:

- ▶ Main step: Reduce the power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  to the following problem:

INPUT: Polynomial  $P(x) = a_1x^{e_1} + \dots + a_kx^{e_k} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  represented by the list of **binary encoded** numbers  $a_1, e_1, \dots, a_k, e_k$ .  
(so-called **super-sparse** or **lacunary** representation).

QUESTION: Does  $P(q) = 0$  hold?

- ▶ H.W. Lenstra Jr. 1999: The above problem is in polynomial time.  
(for every algebraic number in the place of  $q$ ).

# Power word problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem 1

The power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is in  $TC^0$ .

### Proof strategy:

- ▶ Main step: Reduce the power word problem for  $BS(1, q)$  to the following problem:

INPUT: Polynomial  $P(x) = a_1x^{e_1} + \dots + a_kx^{e_k} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  represented by the list of **binary encoded** numbers  $a_1, e_1, \dots, a_k, e_k$ .  
(so-called **super-sparse** or **lacunary** representation).

QUESTION: Does  $P(q) = 0$  hold?

- ▶ H.W. Lenstra Jr. 1999: The above problem is in polynomial time.  
(for every algebraic number in the place of  $q$ ).
- ▶ Lenstra's algorithm can be implemented in  $TC^0$ .

# Power word problems for some matrix groups

Hence, we get:

## Theorem 2

For every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  the power word problem for the subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{C})$  generated by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

belongs to DLOGTIME-uniform  $TC^0$ .

# Power word problems for some matrix groups

Hence, we get:

## Theorem 2

For every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  the power word problem for the subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{C})$  generated by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

belongs to DLOGTIME-uniform  $TC^0$ .

For  $\alpha$  transcendental, the above group is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z} \wr \mathbb{Z}$ , for which the power word problem is in  $TC^0$  (L, Weiß 2019).

# The knapsack problem for groups

# The knapsack problem for groups

Knapsack problem for group  $G = \langle \Sigma \rangle$  (Miasnikov, Nikolaev, Ushakov 2014)

INPUT: Words  $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_k \in (\Sigma \cup \Sigma^{-1})^*$

QUESTION: Are there  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $w_1^{x_1} \dots w_k^{x_k} = w_0$  in  $G$ ?



# The knapsack problem for groups

Knapsack problem for group  $G = \langle \Sigma \rangle$  (Miasnikov, Nikolaev, Ushakov 2014)

INPUT: Words  $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_k \in (\Sigma \cup \Sigma^{-1})^*$

QUESTION: Are there  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $w_1^{x_1} \dots w_k^{x_k} = w_0$  in  $G$ ?

Note: knapsack = rational subset membership for sets  $w_1^* w_2^* \dots w_k^*$ .

## The knapsack problem for groups

Knapsack problem for group  $G = \langle \Sigma \rangle$  (Miasnikov, Nikolaev, Ushakov 2014)

INPUT: Words  $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_k \in (\Sigma \cup \Sigma^{-1})^*$

QUESTION: Are there  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $w_1^{x_1} \dots w_k^{x_k} = w_0$  in  $G$ ?

Note: knapsack = rational subset membership for sets  $w_1^* w_2^* \dots w_k^*$ .

Babai, Beals, Cai, Ivanyos, Luks 1996

The following problem can be solved in polynomial time:

INPUT: Non-singular commuting matrixes  $A_1, \dots, A_k, B$  over an algebraic number field.

QUESTION: Are there  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $A_1^{x_1} \dots A_k^{x_k} = B$ ?

Problem becomes NP-complete if  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{N}$

# Knapsack problems

---

knapsack problem

## Knapsack problems

	knapsack problem
f.g. 2-step nilpotent groups	undecidable in general (L 2014, Mishchenko, Treyer 2016)

## Knapsack problems

	knapsack problem
f.g. 2-step nilpotent groups	undecidable in general (L 2014, Mishchenko, Treyer 2016)
Heisenberg group	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)

## Knapsack problems

	knapsack problem
f.g. 2-step nilpotent groups	undecidable in general (L 2014, Mishchenko, Treyer 2016)
Heisenberg group	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)
co-context-free groups	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)

## Knapsack problems

	knapsack problem
f.g. 2-step nilpotent groups	undecidable in general (L 2014, Mishchenko, Treyer 2016)
Heisenberg group	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)
co-context-free groups	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)
hyperbolic groups	in $P$ (Miasnikov, Nikolaev, Ushakov 2014)

# Knapsack problems

	knapsack problem
f.g. 2-step nilpotent groups	undecidable in general (L 2014, Mishchenko, Treyer 2016)
Heisenberg group	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)
co-context-free groups	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)
hyperbolic groups	in $P$ (Miasnikov, Nikolaev, Ushakov 2014)
virtually special groups	in $NP$ (L, Zetsche 2015)



# Knapsack problems

	knapsack problem
f.g. 2-step nilpotent groups	undecidable in general (L 2014, Mishchenko, Treyer 2016)
Heisenberg group	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)
co-context-free groups	decidable (König, L, Zetsche 2015)
hyperbolic groups	in $P$ (Miasnikov, Nikolaev, Ushakov 2014)
virtually special groups	in $NP$ (L, Zetsche 2015)
free solvable groups	in $NP$ (Figelius, Ganardi, L, Zetsche 2020)

## Knapsack for $BS(1, q)$

### Theorem

The knapsack problem for  $BS(1, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}at = a^q \rangle$  is NP-complete.

# Knapsack for $BS(1, q)$

## Theorem

The knapsack problem for  $BS(1, q) = \langle a, t \mid t^{-1}at = a^q \rangle$  is NP-complete.

Unusual:

- ▶ Solution sets not semilinear!

Solution set of  $(t^{-x}at^y = a^z) = \{(k, k, q^k) \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\}$

- ▶ Minimal solutions can be doubly exponential for  $BS(1, 2)$  !

Hence, one cannot guess a solution with binary encoded exponents and then reduce to power word problem.

## Previous result on knapsack for $BS(1, q)$

Recall:  $BS(1, q) \cong \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} q^d & z \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid d \in \mathbb{Z}, z \in \mathbb{Z}[1/q] \right\}$

## Previous result on knapsack for $BS(1, q)$

Recall:  $BS(1, q) \cong \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} q^d & z \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid d \in \mathbb{Z}, z \in \mathbb{Z}[1/q] \right\}$

### Dudkin & Treyer 2018

Decidability for instances  $g_1^{x_1} \dots g_k^{x_k} = h$  where every  $g_i = \begin{pmatrix} q^{d_i} & z_i \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  satisfies  $d_i \neq 0$ .

## Previous result on knapsack for $BS(1, q)$

Recall:  $BS(1, q) \cong \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} q^d & z \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid d \in \mathbb{Z}, z \in \mathbb{Z}[1/q] \right\}$

Dudkin & Treyer 2018

Decidability for instances  $g_1^{x_1} \dots g_k^{x_k} = h$  where every  $g_i = \begin{pmatrix} q^{d_i} & z_i \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  satisfies  $d_i \neq 0$ .

Used decidability of  $FO(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, n \mapsto q^n)$  (Semënov 1979)

## Previous result on knapsack for $BS(1, q)$

Recall:  $BS(1, q) \cong \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} q^d & z \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid d \in \mathbb{Z}, z \in \mathbb{Z}[1/q] \right\}$

### Dudkin & Treyer 2018

Decidability for instances  $g_1^{x_1} \dots g_k^{x_k} = h$  where every  $g_i = \begin{pmatrix} q^{d_i} & z_i \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  satisfies  $d_i \neq 0$ .

Used decidability of  $FO(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, n \mapsto q^n)$  (Semënov 1979)

### Cadilhac, Chistikov, Zetsche 2020

Rational subset membership problem for  $BS(1, q)$  is PSPACE-complete.

# Knapsack problem for BS(1, $q$ )

## Büchi arithmetic

First-order logic over  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, V_q)$  with  $V_q(n) = \max\{q^k : q^k \mid n\}$ .



# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Büchi arithmetic

First-order logic over  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, V_q)$  with  $V_q(n) = \max\{q^k : q^k \mid n\}$ .

## Theorem (Guépin, Haase, Worrell 2019)

The existential fragment of Büchi arithmetic is NP-complete.

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Büchi arithmetic

First-order logic over  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, V_q)$  with  $V_q(n) = \max\{q^k : q^k \mid n\}$ .

## Theorem (Guépin, Haase, Worrell 2019)

The existential fragment of Büchi arithmetic is NP-complete.

Fix a knapsack equation  $g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_k^{x_k} = g_0$  over  $BS(1, q)$ .

# Knapsack problem for BS(1, q)

## Büchi arithmetic

First-order logic over  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, V_q)$  with  $V_q(n) = \max\{q^k : q^k \mid n\}$ .

## Theorem (Guépin, Haase, Worrell 2019)

The existential fragment of Büchi arithmetic is NP-complete.

Fix a knapsack equation  $g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_k^{x_k} = g_0$  over BS(1, q).

Key trick: Do not introduce variables in the logic for  $x_1, \dots, x_k$

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Büchi arithmetic

First-order logic over  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, V_q)$  with  $V_q(n) = \max\{q^k : q^k \mid n\}$ .

## Theorem (Guépin, Haase, Worrell 2019)

The existential fragment of Büchi arithmetic is NP-complete.

Fix a knapsack equation  $g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_k^{x_k} = g_0$  over  $BS(1, q)$ .

Key trick: Do not introduce variables in the logic for  $x_1, \dots, x_k$

Instead: Variables for entries of matrices  $g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_i^{x_i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Büchi arithmetic

First-order logic over  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, V_q)$  with  $V_q(n) = \max\{q^k : q^k \mid n\}$ .

## Theorem (Guépin, Haase, Worrell 2019)

The existential fragment of Büchi arithmetic is NP-complete.

Fix a knapsack equation  $g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_k^{x_k} = g_0$  over  $BS(1, q)$ .

Key trick: Do not introduce variables in the logic for  $x_1, \dots, x_k$

Instead: Variables for entries of matrices  $g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_i^{x_i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

Let  $BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} q^d & z \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid d \in \mathbb{N}, z \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \subseteq BS(1, q)$ .

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Büchi arithmetic

First-order logic over  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \geq, V_q)$  with  $V_q(n) = \max\{q^k : q^k \mid n\}$ .

## Theorem (Guépin, Haase, Worrell 2019)

The existential fragment of Büchi arithmetic is NP-complete.

Fix a knapsack equation  $g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_k^{x_k} = g_0$  over  $BS(1, q)$ .

Key trick: Do not introduce variables in the logic for  $x_1, \dots, x_k$

Instead: Variables for entries of matrices  $g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_i^{x_i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

Let  $BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} q^d & z \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid d \in \mathbb{N}, z \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \subseteq BS(1, q)$ .

Represent elements of  $BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$  in the logic by two integer variables.

# Knapsack problem for BS(1, $q$ )

## Step 1

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Step 1

From  $g \in BS(1, q)$  we construct small formulae that express



# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Step 1

From  $g \in BS(1, q)$  we construct small formulae that express

- ▶  $X \cdot g = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Step 1

From  $g \in BS(1, q)$  we construct small formulae that express

- ▶  $X \cdot g = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$
- ▶  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Step 1

From  $g \in BS(1, q)$  we construct small formulae that express

- ▶  $X \cdot g = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$
- ▶  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$

The following are equivalent

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Step 1

From  $g \in BS(1, q)$  we construct small formulae that express

- ▶  $X \cdot g = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$
- ▶  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$

The following are equivalent

- ▶  $\exists x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{N} : g_1^{x_1} \dots g_k^{x_k} = g_0$

# Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

## Step 1

From  $g \in BS(1, q)$  we construct small formulae that express

- ▶  $X \cdot g = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$
- ▶  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  for variables  $X, Y \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q)$

The following are equivalent

- ▶  $\exists x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{N} : g_1^{x_1} \dots g_k^{x_k} = g_0$
- ▶  $\exists X_0, \dots, X_k \in BS_{\mathbb{Z}}(1, q) : \bigwedge_{i=0}^{d-1} X_i \cdot g_i^* = X_{i+1} \wedge X_0 \cdot g_0 = X_k$

## Knapsack problem for BS(1, q)

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

## Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 2.** Express  $X \cdot g = Y$  and  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  in existential Presburger +  $S_d$ .

## Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 2.** Express  $X \cdot g = Y$  and  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  in existential Presburger +  $S_d$ .

$X \cdot g = Y$ : can be expressed in existential Presburger logic.



## Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 2.** Express  $X \cdot g = Y$  and  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  in existential Presburger +  $S_d$ .

$X \cdot g = Y$ : can be expressed in existential Presburger logic.

$\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ : let  $g = \begin{pmatrix} q^d & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}[1/q]$ .

## Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 2.** Express  $X \cdot g = Y$  and  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  in existential Presburger +  $S_d$ .

$X \cdot g = Y$ : can be expressed in existential Presburger logic.

$\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ : let  $g = \begin{pmatrix} q^d & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}[1/q]$ .

**Case 1.**  $d \neq 0$ : Simple computation transforms  $\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  into

$$\exists s \in \mathbb{N} \exists z \in \mathbb{Z} : x = q^{d \cdot s} \cdot u \wedge a \cdot z + v = y \wedge (q^d - 1) \cdot z = x - u$$

## Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 2.** Express  $X \cdot g = Y$  and  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  in existential Presburger +  $S_d$ .

$X \cdot g = Y$ : can be expressed in existential Presburger logic.

$\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ : let  $g = \begin{pmatrix} q^d & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}[1/q]$ .

**Case 1.**  $d \neq 0$ : Simple computation transforms  $\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  into

$$\exists s \in \mathbb{N} \exists z \in \mathbb{Z} : x = q^{d \cdot s} \cdot u \wedge a \cdot z + v = y \wedge (q^d - 1) \cdot z = x - u$$

**Case 2.**  $d = 0$ , i.e.,  $g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is equivalent to

$$u = x \wedge \exists s \in \mathbb{N} : y = v + a \cdot s \cdot u$$

## Knapsack problem for $BS(1, q)$

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 2.** Express  $X \cdot g = Y$  and  $X \cdot g^* = Y$  in existential Presburger +  $S_d$ .

$X \cdot g = Y$ : can be expressed in existential Presburger logic.

$\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ : let  $g = \begin{pmatrix} q^d & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}[1/q]$ .

**Case 1.**  $d \neq 0$ : Simple computation transforms  $\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  into

$$\exists s \in \mathbb{N} \exists z \in \mathbb{Z} : x = q^{d \cdot s} \cdot u \wedge a \cdot z + v = y \wedge (q^d - 1) \cdot z = x - u$$

**Case 2.**  $d = 0$ , i.e.,  $g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $\begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot g^* = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is equivalent to

$$u = x \wedge \exists s \in \mathbb{N} : y = v + a \cdot s \cdot u$$

Moreover,  $\exists s \in \mathbb{N} : y = v + a \cdot s \cdot u$  can be expressed as

$$\exists w \in \mathbb{N} : y = v + a \cdot w \wedge V_q(w) \geq u$$

## Knapsack problem for BS(1, q)

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 3.** For  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $V_q$ :

For  $m, x \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $P_m(x) \iff x$  is a power of  $m$ .

## Knapsack problem for BS(1, q)

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 3.** For  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $V_q$ :

For  $m, x \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $P_m(x) \iff x$  is a power of  $m$ .

- ▶  $P_q(x) \iff V_q(x) = x$

## Knapsack problem for BS(1, q)

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 3.** For  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $V_q$ :

For  $m, x \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $P_m(x) \iff x$  is a power of  $m$ .

- ▶  $P_q(x) \iff V_q(x) = x$
- ▶  $P_{q^d}(x) \iff P_q(x) \wedge q^d - 1$  divides  $x - 1$

## Knapsack problem for BS(1, q)

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 3.** For  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $V_q$ :

For  $m, x \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $P_m(x) \iff x$  is a power of  $m$ .

- ▶  $P_q(x) \iff V_q(x) = x$
- ▶  $P_{q^d}(x) \iff P_q(x) \wedge q^d - 1$  divides  $x - 1$

Express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $P_{q^d}$



## Knapsack problem for BS(1, q)

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 3.** For  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $V_q$ :

For  $m, x \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $P_m(x) \iff x$  is a power of  $m$ .

- ▶  $P_q(x) \iff V_q(x) = x$
- ▶  $P_{q^d}(x) \iff P_q(x) \wedge q^d - 1$  divides  $x - 1$

Express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $P_{q^d}$

- ▶  $x S_d y \iff y \geq x \wedge \bigvee_{i=0}^{d-1} P_{q^d}(q^i \cdot x) \wedge P_{q^d}(q^i \cdot y)$

## Knapsack problem for BS(1, q)

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  let:  $x S_d y \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{N} : x = q^r \wedge y = q^{d \cdot s} x$ .

**Step 3.** For  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $V_q$ :

For  $m, x \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $P_m(x) \iff x$  is a power of  $m$ .

- ▶  $P_q(x) \iff V_q(x) = x$
- ▶  $P_{q^d}(x) \iff P_q(x) \wedge q^d - 1$  divides  $x - 1$

Express  $S_d$  and  $S_{-d}$  using  $P_{q^d}$

- ▶  $x S_d y \iff y \geq x \wedge \bigvee_{i=0}^{d-1} P_{q^d}(q^i \cdot x) \wedge P_{q^d}(q^i \cdot y)$
- ▶  $x S_{-d} y \iff y S_d x$

# Open Problems

Power word problem

# Open Problems

## Power word problem

- ▶  $BS(1, q)$  is a f.g. solvable linear group.

# Open Problems

## Power word problem

- ▶  $BS(1, q)$  is a f.g. solvable linear group.
  - ▶ Is power word problem in  $TC^0$  for every f.g. solvable linear group?

# Open Problems

## Power word problem

- ▶  $BS(1, q)$  is a f.g. solvable linear group.
  - ▶ Is power word problem in  $TC^0$  for every f.g. solvable linear group?
  - ▶ The word problem is! (König & L 2018)

# Open Problems

## Power word problem

- ▶  $BS(1, q)$  is a f.g. solvable linear group.
  - ▶ Is power word problem in  $TC^0$  for every f.g. solvable linear group?
  - ▶ The word problem is! (König & L 2018)
- ▶ The **compressed word problem** is the word problem for a given straight-line program (CFG that generates a single word).  
Best known upper bound for  $BS(1, q)$ : coRP.

# Open Problems

## Power word problem

- ▶  $BS(1, q)$  is a f.g. solvable linear group.
  - ▶ Is power word problem in  $TC^0$  for every f.g. solvable linear group?
  - ▶ The word problem is! (König & L 2018)
- ▶ The **compressed word problem** is the word problem for a given straight-line program (CFG that generates a single word).  
Best known upper bound for  $BS(1, q)$ : coRP.

## Knapsack problem



# Open Problems

## Power word problem

- ▶  $BS(1, q)$  is a f.g. solvable linear group.
  - ▶ Is power word problem in  $TC^0$  for every f.g. solvable linear group?
  - ▶ The word problem is! (König & L 2018)
- ▶ The **compressed word problem** is the word problem for a given straight-line program (CFG that generates a single word).  
Best known upper bound for  $BS(1, q)$ : coRP.

## Knapsack problem

- ▶ The general case  $BS(p, q) = \langle a, t \mid ta^p t^{-1} = a^q \rangle$ :

# Open Problems

## Power word problem

- ▶  $BS(1, q)$  is a f.g. solvable linear group.
  - ▶ Is power word problem in  $TC^0$  for every f.g. solvable linear group?
  - ▶ The word problem is! (König & L 2018)
- ▶ The **compressed word problem** is the word problem for a given straight-line program (CFG that generates a single word).  
Best known upper bound for  $BS(1, q)$ : coRP.

## Knapsack problem

- ▶ The general case  $BS(p, q) = \langle a, t \mid ta^p t^{-1} = a^q \rangle$ :
  - ▶ Knapsack known decidable for  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$  (Dudkin & Treyer 2018)  
But: the case  $\gcd(p, q) > 1$  is still open.

# Open Problems

## Power word problem

- ▶  $BS(1, q)$  is a f.g. solvable linear group.
  - ▶ Is power word problem in  $TC^0$  for every f.g. solvable linear group?
  - ▶ The word problem is! (König & L 2018)
- ▶ The **compressed word problem** is the word problem for a given straight-line program (CFG that generates a single word).  
Best known upper bound for  $BS(1, q)$ : coRP.

## Knapsack problem

- ▶ The general case  $BS(p, q) = \langle a, t \mid ta^p t^{-1} = a^q \rangle$ :
  - ▶ Knapsack known decidable for  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$  (Dudkin & Treyer 2018)  
But: the case  $\gcd(p, q) > 1$  is still open.
- ▶ Is knapsack decidable for  $GL(2, \mathbb{Q})$ ?