

# Duplicator Spoiler Games

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We will call SPOIL S and DUP D to fit on slides.

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**Bill plays a student**  $(L_3, L_4, 2), (L_3, L_4, 3)$

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2. D beats S in the  $(L_a, L_b, k - 1)$  game.

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3. GENERALLY: Who wins  $(L_a, L_b, k)$ .

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**Play a student  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  with 1 move, 2 moves**

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Let  $L$  and  $L'$  be two linear orderings.

**Def** If D wins the  $k$ -round DS-game on  $L, L'$  then  $L, L'$  are  **$k$ -game equivalent** (denoted  $L \equiv_k^G L'$ ).

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1.  $\mathbb{Q} \models \phi$
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**Upshot** We need to define qd rigorously.

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**Def**  $L$  and  $L'$  are  **$k$ -truth-equiv** ( $L \equiv_k^T L'$ )

$$(\forall \phi, \text{qd}(\phi) \leq k)[L \models \phi \text{ iff } L' \models \phi.]$$

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3. Upshot: Questions about expressability become questions about games.
4. Complexity: As Computer Scientists we think of complexity in terms of time or space (e.g., sorting  $n$  elements can be done in roughly  $n \log n$  comparisons). But how do you measure complexity for concepts where time and space do not apply? One measure is quantifier depth. These games help us prove LOWER BOUNDS on quantifier depth!

# Proving DUP Wins Rigorously

# Notation

The game where the orders are  $L$  and  $L'$ , and its for  $n$  moves, will be denoted

$$(L, L'; n)$$

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Since  $x \leq 2^{n-1}$  and  $a, b \geq 2^n$ ,  $a - x - 1 \geq 2^{n-1}$  and  $b - x - 1 \geq 2^{n-1}$ .

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**IS** We do 1 case: SP makes move  $x \leq 2^{n-1}$  in  $L_a$ .

DUP respond with  $x$  in  $L_b$ . DUP views game as 2 GAMES:

**Key** The game is now 2 games.

- ▶  $< x$  in both orders:  $(L_{x-1}, L_{x-1}; n-1)$ . SP will never play here.
- ▶  $> x$  in both orders:  $(L_{a-x}, L_{b-x}; n-1)$ .

Since  $x \leq 2^{n-1}$  and  $a, b \geq 2^n$ ,  $a - x - 1 \geq 2^{n-1}$  and  $b - x - 1 \geq 2^{n-1}$ .

By IH DUP wins  $(L_{a-x}, L_{b-x}; n-1)$ .

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3. Might not need induction on the smaller boards if they are orderings we already proved things about.

## $\mathbb{N} + \mathbb{N}^*$ and $L_a$

**Thm** For all  $n$ , if  $a \geq 2^n$ , DUP wins  $(\mathbb{N} + \mathbb{N}^*, L_a; n)$ .

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Might make this a HW.

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$(\mathbb{N} + \mathbb{N}^*, L_{2^n}; n - 1)$  and  $(\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{N}; n - 1)$ .

SP won't play on 2nd board. DUP wins 1st board by prior thm.