

Progress and Problems in Restricted Misere Play

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Combinatorial games

Progress and Problems
in Misere Play

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General misere play

Restricted misere play

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The conjugate property

Future directions

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 - Everything is awful!

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Normal → Misère ↓	P	L	R	N
P				
L				
R				
N				

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Normal outcomes:

$+$	\mathcal{L}	\mathcal{R}	\mathcal{N}	\mathcal{P}
\mathcal{L}	\mathcal{L}	$?$	$\mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{N}$	\mathcal{L}
\mathcal{R}	$?$	\mathcal{R}	$\mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{N}$	\mathcal{R}
\mathcal{N}	$\mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{N}$	$\mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{N}$	$?$	\mathcal{N}
\mathcal{P}	\mathcal{L}	\mathcal{R}	\mathcal{N}	\mathcal{P}

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\mathcal{L}	?	?	?	?
\mathcal{R}	?	?	?	?
\mathcal{N}	?	?	?	?
\mathcal{P}	?	?	?	?

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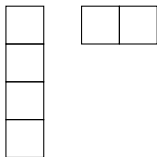
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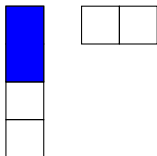
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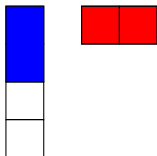
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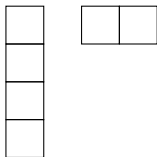
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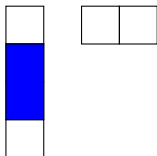
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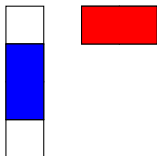
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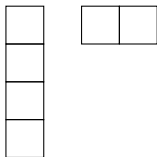
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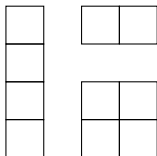
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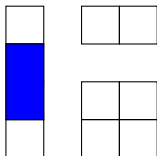
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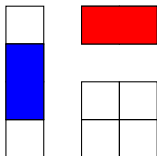
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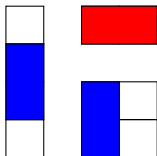
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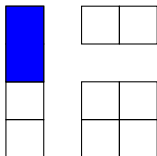
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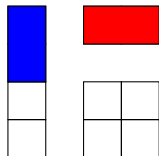
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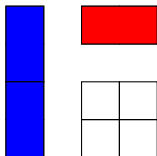
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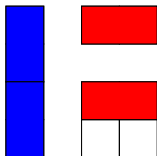
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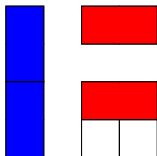
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e.g., 0 and $1 = \{0 | \cdot\}$ are incomparable.



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 - A position may have algebraic structure *modulo* \mathcal{U} that it doesn't have in general (e.g., invertibility, simplification).

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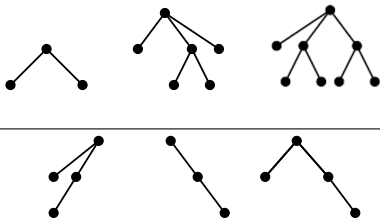
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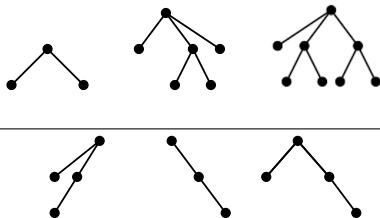
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\hookrightarrow Domineering, Hackenbush, NoGo, Snort $\subset \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{E}$.

Invertibility results

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Theorem (Milley 2013)

Let \mathcal{U} be any universe and let $S \subset \mathcal{U}$ be closed under followers. If Left wins playing first on $G + \overline{G} + Y$ for all $G \in S$ and left ends $Y \in \mathcal{U}$, then $G + \overline{G} \equiv_{\mathcal{U}} 0$.

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Recall: In general, to show $G \geq_{\mathcal{U}} H$, we must show

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Subordinate comparison (L,M,N,R,S)

Theorem (Subordinate Comparison in \mathcal{D})

Let $G, H \in \mathcal{D}$. Then $G \geq_{\mathcal{D}} H$ if and only if

- 1 $o(G) \geq o(H)$;
- 2 $\forall H^L \in H^{\mathcal{L}}$, either $\exists G^L \in G^{\mathcal{L}}: G^L \geq_{\mathcal{D}} H^L$ or $\exists H^{LR} \in H^{LR}$: $G \geq_{\mathcal{D}} H^{LR}$;
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Theorem (Subordinate Comparison in \mathcal{E})

Let $G, H \in \mathcal{E}$. Then $G \geq_{\mathcal{E}} H$ if and only if

- 1 $\hat{o}(G) \geq \hat{o}(H)$;
- 2 For all $H^L \in H^{\mathcal{L}}$, either $\exists G^L \in G^{\mathcal{L}}: G^L \geq_{\mathcal{E}} H^L$ or $\exists H^{LR} \in H^{LR}: G \geq_{\mathcal{E}} H^{LR}$;
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Strong outcome

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Strong outcome

Definition

Let $G \in \mathcal{E}$. The *strong left outcome* and *strong right outcome* of G are defined as

$$\hat{o}_L(G) = \underbrace{\min}_{\text{left end } X \in \mathcal{E}} \{o_L(G + X)\};$$
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Definition

Let $G \in \mathcal{E}$. We define the *strong outcome* of G as

$$\hat{o}(G) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{L}, & \text{if } (\hat{o}_L(G), \hat{o}_R(G)) = (L, L); \\ \mathcal{N}, & \text{if } (\hat{o}_L(G), \hat{o}_R(G)) = (L, R); \\ \mathcal{P}, & \text{if } (\hat{o}_L(G), \hat{o}_R(G)) = (R, L); \\ \mathcal{R}, & \text{if } (\hat{o}_L(G), \hat{o}_R(G)) = (R, R). \end{cases}$$

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Domination & reversibility

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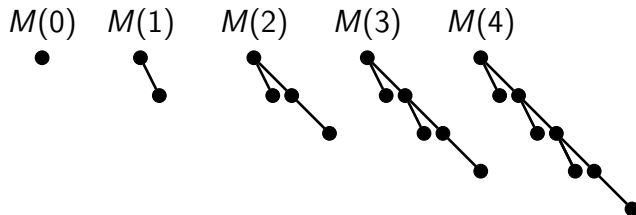
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End-reversible reductions

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End-reversible reductions

In any universe:

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End-reversible reductions

In any universe:

1. Remove dominated options.

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5. Replace other end-reversible options by $\{\cdot \mid M(n)\}$ for left options or $\{-M(n) \mid \cdot\}$ for right.

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Unique canonical form

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- Larsson et al: dicotic and dead-ending universes have the conjugate property.

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 - Conjugate property?
- Apply results for dead-ending universe to specific rule sets within \mathcal{E} , such as domineering, in order to solve such games under misère play.

Grad school in Canada?

Grenfell Campus, Memorial University of Newfoundland



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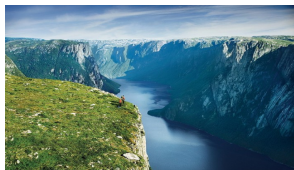
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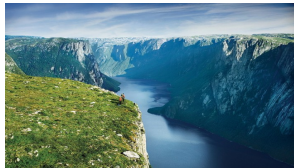
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