

# Probabilistic Models of First Order Theories: A Symmetry Axiom to Rule Them All

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**Abstract**

## 1 Introduction

Let  $L$  be a first order language,  $SL$  the set of sentences of  $L$  and  $\mathcal{T} \subset SL$  a finite consistent set of sentences. We are interested in the extent to which such a set of sentences  $\mathcal{T}$  can characterise a model over  $L$ . To be more precise we ask

Given a finite consistent set of sentences  $\mathcal{T}$  of first order axioms, what should we take as the default or most normal model of  $\mathcal{T}$ ?

The first thing to clarify before one can answer this question is how to interpret the *most normal* condition. There are indeed different ways that one can understand this. In a model theoretic view, for example, one can expect the most normal model to be the smallest and canonical model, thus interpreting the most normal model as a prime model (see for example [8, p96], [15, p336]). Or one might require some closure conditions from such models and require them to be existentially closed. Another approach is to understand the most normal as the ‘average’ model and investigate this question by looking at the distribution of models (see for example [1], [2], [11], [12] and [13]). Here we take a different approach and rephrase the question as

Given a finite (consistent) set  $\mathcal{T}$  of first order axioms, from a language  $L$  and a structure  $\mathcal{M}$  with domain  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots\}$  over  $L$  which we only know to be a model of  $\mathcal{T}$ , what probability should we assign to a sentence  $\theta(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  being true in  $\mathcal{M}$ ?

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In other words we are interested how a set of first order axioms can probabilistically characterise a random model in the *most normal* or natural way. In this sense  $\mathcal{T}$  imposes a probability assignment on the set of sentences,  $SL$ , assigning probability 1 to each  $\phi \in \mathcal{T}$ . WE will call such probability assignments, *Probabilistic Models* of  $\mathcal{T}$ . The probability assigned to each sentence  $\psi$  is understood as the probability that a random model of  $\mathcal{T}$  will satisfy  $\psi$ . Notice that the only constraint imposed here is that  $\mathcal{M}$  is a model for  $\mathcal{T}$ , which ensures that the probability assignment should give probability 1 to all sentences in  $\mathcal{T}$ . This leaves a lot of freedom for choosing the assignment of probabilities to other sentences and different ways of making this choice will capture different structural properties that one imposes on the way that  $\mathcal{T}$  should characterise  $\mathcal{M}$  or in other words how one interprets the *normality* requirement for  $\mathcal{M}$ . For example one such property that has attracted a lot of attention in the literature is to require  $\mathcal{T}$  to impose the least informative of such probability assignments, called the Maximum Entropy model of  $\mathcal{T}$ . This probability assignment is understood as a probabilistic description of  $\mathcal{M}$  to the extent that it is characterised by  $\mathcal{T}$  while remaining maximally unconstrained beyond that. In this case then the condition of normality is interpreted as being minimally constrained. Other approaches to make this assignment of probabilities will capture different notions of normality such as *averageness* or *typicality*<sup>1</sup>, etc. A mapping that assigns to each finite consistent set of sentences one such probability assignment over sentences of the language is called an *Inference Process*. Inference processes are of interest in many areas and a wide range of them have been proposed and studied in the literature. The most extensively studied amongst which is arguably the Maximum Entropy mentioned above which is of interest in several disciplines; from statistics [16, 17], physics [20], statistical mechanics and thermo-dynamics [22] to economics and finance [18, 36], and more recently from computer science [9, 10, 7] to formal epistemology, Bayesian inference [19, 14, 23] and belief formation [26, 27, 33, 35], see [21] for an extensive list of examples of Maximum Entropy application in science and engineering. This is, however, by no means the only one that is of interest in the literature. Many other example such as Centre of Mass, Minimum Distance as well as a spectrum of other such assignments given by generalised Renyi Entropies have been extensively studied and employed in different contexts.

The major part of the literature is, however, concerned with the study of these inference processes and probabilistic characterisation of models on a propositional language. There has been relatively recent studies in generalising these to first order languages for specific inference processes, in particular the Maximum Entropy see for example [6], [25], [29], [30], [34], [35]. In this paper we give a survey of these results, some of which we have previously only hinted at without proofs or full analysis. We will not be dealing with any specific inference process, however.

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<sup>1</sup>Centre of Mass or Minimal Distance models for example which we shall refer to later on.

Instead we will investigate generalisation of a class of inference processes, characterised by some structural property, referred to as the Renaming Principle, which we shall make precise in the next section, to first order languages. The Renaming Principle is a symmetry condition that is satisfied not only by the Maximum Entropy inference process but also by large range of inference processes studied in the literature, including Centre of Mass, Minimum Distance and the spectrum of inference processes based generalised Levyi Entropies. In this sense our survey here will put our previous results in a more general light. Indeed the Renaming Principle seems a very natural condition to impose on inference processes. Although we will not deal with justification of this principle in this paper, it will become clear immediately that, at least in the context of the question we asked above, violation of RP is much more in need of justification than its satisfaction. We will also point out how in certain cases, namely for unary first order languages, the symmetry requirement imposed by the RP will capture some model theoretic interpretation of normality such as existentially closeness. Our results which we will review, and give full detail of, in this paper settle all but one case for the set of first order axioms  $\mathcal{T}$  as above. The main goal of this survey is to put these results and the detail of their analysis together in the hope that it will facilitate the search for an answer to the only case that still remains open.

## 2 Preliminaries and Notation

Throughout this paper, we will work with a first order language  $L$  with finitely many relation symbols, no function symbols and countably many constant symbols  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots$ . Furthermore we assume that these individuals exhaust the universe. Let  $RL$ ,  $SL$  and  $TL$  denote the sets of relation symbols, sentences and the term models for  $L$  respectively, where a *term model* is a structure  $M$  for the language  $L$  with domain  $M = \{a_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots\}$  where every constant symbol is interpreted as itself.

**Definition 1.** A probability function on  $SL$  is a function  $w : SL \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that for every  $\theta, \phi, \exists x\psi(x) \in SL$ ,

- P1. If  $\models \theta$  then  $w(\theta) = 1$ .
- P2.  $w(\theta \vee \phi) = w(\theta) + w(\phi) - w(\theta \wedge \phi)$ .
- P3.  $w(\exists x\psi(x)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} w(\bigvee_{i=1}^n \psi(a_i))$ .

Let us first briefly consider a propositional language  $\mathcal{L}$  in order to lay the grounds for the first order case.

**Definition 2.** Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a propositional language with propositional variables  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ .

By *atoms* of  $\mathcal{L}$  we mean the set of sentences  $\{\alpha_i \mid i = 1, \dots, J\}$ ,  $J = 2^n$  of the form

$$\pm p_1 \wedge \pm p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \pm p_n.$$

For every sentence  $\phi \in S\mathcal{L}$  there is unique set  $\Gamma_\phi \subseteq \{\alpha_i \mid i = 1, \dots, J\}$  such that,  $\models \phi \leftrightarrow \bigvee_{\alpha_i \in \Gamma_\phi} \alpha_i$ . It is easy to check that  $\Gamma_\phi = \{\alpha_j \mid \alpha_j \models \phi\}$ . Since the  $\alpha_i$ 's are mutually inconsistent, for every probability function  $w$

$$w(\phi) = w\left(\bigvee_{\alpha_i \models \phi} \alpha_i\right) = \sum_{\alpha_i \models \phi} w(\alpha_i).$$

On the other hand since  $\models \bigvee_{i=1}^J \alpha_i$ , we have  $\sum_{i=1}^J w(\alpha_i) = 1$ . So the probability function  $w$  will be uniquely determined by its values on the  $\alpha_i$ 's, that is by the vector  $\vec{w} = (w(\alpha_1), \dots, w(\alpha_J)) \in \mathbb{D}^{\mathcal{L}}$  where  $\mathbb{D}^{\mathcal{L}} = \{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^J \mid \vec{x} \geq 0, \sum_{i=1}^J x_i = 1\}$ . Conversely if  $\vec{d} \in \mathbb{D}^{\mathcal{L}}$ , we can define a probability function  $w : S\mathcal{L} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that  $(w(\alpha_1), \dots, w(\alpha_J)) \geq \vec{d}$  by setting  $w(\phi) = \sum_{\alpha_i \models \phi} d_i$ . This gives a one to one correspondence between the probability functions on  $S\mathcal{L}$  and the points in  $\mathbb{D}^{\mathcal{L}}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{T} = \{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\} \subseteq S\mathcal{L}$  be a consistent set of sentences. We are interested in the probabilistic assignments on the set of sentences of the language induced by  $\mathcal{T}$ , i.e. the probability functions on  $S\mathcal{L}$  that assign probability 1 to each sentence  $\phi \in \mathcal{T}$ . In this sense, each such  $\mathcal{T}$  imposes a constraint set  $C_{\mathcal{T}} = \{w(\phi_1) = 1, \dots, w(\phi_n) = 1\}$  and we are interested in probability functions  $w$  on  $S\mathcal{L}$  that satisfy  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ . We shall call these probability assignments *probabilistic models of  $\mathcal{T}$* . We are, in particular, interested in investigating systematic ways of picking one such assignment in a way that captures a (possibly context dependent) notion of *normality*.

Replacing each  $w(\phi_j)$  in  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$  with  $\sum_{\alpha_i \models \phi_j} w(\alpha_i)$  and adding the equation  $\sum_{i=1}^J w(\alpha_i) = 1$  we will get a system of linear equations  $(w(\alpha_1), \dots, w(\alpha_J))A_{\mathcal{T}} = \vec{b}_{\mathcal{T}}$ . If the probability function  $w$  satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ , the vector  $(w(\alpha_1), \dots, w(\alpha_J))$  will be a solution for the equation  $\vec{x}A_{\mathcal{T}} = \vec{b}_{\mathcal{T}}$ . We will denote the set of non-negative solutions to this equation by

$$V^{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{T}) = \{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^J \mid \vec{x} \geq 0, \vec{x}A_{\mathcal{T}} = \vec{b}_{\mathcal{T}}\} \subseteq \mathbb{D}^{\mathcal{L}}.$$

Thus the set of probabilistic models of  $\mathcal{T}$  will be in a one to one correspondence with the set  $V^{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{T})$ .

Having set this up, we can now return our focus to first order languages. Although one does not have the notion of atoms for a first language  $L$  (as they will require infinite conjunctions), the *state descriptions* for finite sub-languages will play a similar role to that of atoms in the propositional case.

**Definition 3.** Let  $L$  be a first order language with the set of relation symbols  $RL$  and let  $L^{(k)}$  be the sub-language of  $L$  with only constant symbols  $a_1, \dots, a_k$ . The state descriptions of  $L^{(k)}$  are defined as the sentences  $\Theta_1^{(k)}, \dots, \Theta_{n_k}^{(k)}$  of the form

$$\bigwedge_{\substack{i_1, \dots, i_j \leq k \\ R \text{ } j\text{-ary} \\ R \in RL, j \in \mathbb{N}^+}} \pm R(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_j}).$$

For a quantifier free sentence  $\theta \in SL$  let  $k$  be an upper bound on the  $i$  such that  $a_i$  appears in  $\theta$ . Then  $\theta$  can be thought of as being from the propositional language  $\mathcal{L}^k$  with propositional variables  $R(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_j})$  for  $i_1, \dots, i_j \leq k$ ,  $R \in RL$  and  $R$   $j$ -ary. To be more precise for  $r \geq k$  define  $(-)^r : SL \rightarrow S\mathcal{L}^r$  as

$$\begin{aligned} (R_j(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}))^r &= R_j(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}) \\ (-\phi)^r &= \neg(\phi)^r \\ (\phi \vee \psi)^r &= (\phi)^r \vee (\psi)^r \\ (\phi \wedge \psi)^r &= (\phi)^r \wedge (\psi)^r \\ (\exists x \phi(x))^r &= \bigvee_{i=1}^r (\phi(a_i))^r. \end{aligned}$$

For a set of sentences  $\mathcal{T} \subset SL$ , let  $\mathcal{T}^r = \{\theta^r \mid \theta \in \mathcal{T}\}$  and  $C_T^r$  the set of constraints imposed by  $\mathcal{T}^r$ . The sentences  $\Theta_i^k$  will be the atoms of  $\mathcal{L}^k$  and as before  $\vDash \theta \leftrightarrow \bigvee_{\Theta_i^k \vDash \theta} \Theta_i^k$  and since  $\Theta_i^k$ 's are mutually inconsistent, for every probability function  $w$  on  $SL$ ,  $w(\theta) = w(\bigvee_{\Theta_i^k \vDash \theta} \Theta_i^k) = \sum_{\Theta_i^k \vDash \theta} w(\Theta_i^k)$ . Thus to determine  $w$  on quantifier free sentences we only need to determine the values  $w(\Theta_i^k)$  (for all  $k$ ) and to require

$$(1) \quad w(\Theta_i^k) \geq 0 \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^{n_k} w(\Theta_i^k) = 1 \quad (1)$$

$$(2) \quad w(\Theta_i^k) = \sum_{\Theta_j^{k+1} \vDash \Theta_i^k} w(\Theta_j^{k+1}) \quad (2)$$

to ensure that  $w$  satisfies P1 and P2. The following theorem due to Gaifman [?] ensures that this is indeed enough to determine  $w$  on all sentences. Let  $QFSL$  be the set of quantifier free sentences of  $L$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let  $v : QFSL \rightarrow [0, 1]$  satisfy P1 and P2 for  $\theta, \phi \in QFSL$ . Then  $v$  has a unique extension  $w : SL \rightarrow [0, 1]$  that satisfies P1, P2 and P3. In particular

if  $w : SL \rightarrow [0, 1]$  satisfies P1, P2 and P3, then  $w$  is uniquely determined by its restriction to  $QFSL$ .

Just as a probability function on the set of sentences of a propositional language is determined by its values on the atoms, a probability function on the set of sentences of a first order language is determined by its values on the state descriptions. Although dealing with state descriptions is more complicated than working with atoms (one has to consider state descriptions of  $L^k$  for all  $k$ ), they play a crucial and indispensable role in the analysis that will follow. Note that the set of state descriptions of  $L^k$  is the same as the set of term models over  $L^k$ .

**Definition 4.** Let  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \subset \{a_1, a_2, \dots\}$ . By state descriptions of  $L$  over  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \subset \{a_1, a_2, \dots\}$  we mean sentences  $\Psi(b_1, \dots, b_n)$  of the form

$$\bigwedge_{\substack{a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_j} \subset \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \\ R \in RL, R \text{ } j\text{-ary}}} \pm R(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_j}).$$

If  $\Theta^r$  is a state description of  $L^r$  with  $r > n$  such that  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \subseteq \{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$ , we say  $\Psi(b_1, \dots, b_n)$  is *determined* by  $\Theta^{(r)}$  if and only if for all  $R \in RL$  and all  $t_1, \dots, t_j \in \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ ,  $\Psi(b_1, \dots, b_n) \models R(t_1, \dots, t_j) \iff \Theta^{(r)} \models R(t_1, \dots, t_j)$ . That is when  $\Theta^r$  agrees with  $\Psi$  when restricted to  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ .

We talked of a systematic way to pick for each  $\mathcal{T}$  a probability function that satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ . This is made precise in the notion of an *Inference Process*. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a propositional language.

**Definition 5.** Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be the set of probability functions on  $S\mathcal{L}$  and  $C\mathcal{L}$  be the set of linear constraints of the form  $\{\sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij}w(\phi_j) = b_i\}$ . An inference process is a function  $N : C\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$  that for every set of linear constraints  $C_i \in C\mathcal{L}$  picks a probability function  $w_i \in \mathbb{P}$  that satisfies  $C_i$ .

Put simply, an inference process is a mapping,  $N$  that assigns to each set of constraints  $C$  a model  $N(C)$  that is a probability function that satisfies the constraints given in  $C$ . Notice that constraints set imposed by a set of sentences  $\mathcal{T}$  is a set of linear constraints.

**Example 1.** Let  $w$  be a probability function on  $S\mathcal{L}$ . The Shannon Entropy and the Centre of Mass of  $w$  are defined as

$$E(w) = - \sum_{i=1}^J w(\alpha_i) \log(w(\alpha_i)) = - \sum_{i=1}^J w_i \log(w_i), \text{ and}$$

$$CM(w) = \sum_{i=1}^J \log(w(\alpha_i)) = \sum_{i=1}^J \log(w_i).$$

Let  $\mathcal{T} \subset S\mathcal{L}$  be finite set of sentences.

- The Maximum Entropy inference process, assigns to each the Maximum Entropy model of  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $ME(\mathcal{T})$  that is the probability function that satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$  and for which  $E(w)$  is maximal.
- The Centre of Mass inference process, assigns to each  $\mathcal{T} \subset S\mathcal{L}$  (or more precisely to each  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ ) the Centre of Mass model of  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $CM(\mathcal{T})$  that is the probability function that satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$  and for which  $CM(w)$  is maximal.

Shannon's entropy is the most commonly accepted measure for the informational content of a probability function. To be precise the informational content of a probability function is inversely proportional to its Shannon entropy. That is, the higher the entropy of a probability function, the lower its informational content. The probability function that assigns the full probability mass (of 1) to a single atom, say  $\alpha_1$  for example, is maximally informative and has the lowest entropy, while the probability function that gives equal probability to all atoms is minimally informative and has the highest entropy. So the Maximum Entropy model of  $\mathcal{T}$  is the most uninformative probability function that assigns probability 1 to sentences in  $\mathcal{T}$ . Notice that a probability function over the set of sentences  $S\mathcal{L}$  imposes a unique probability function over the set of models. These are exactly the atoms of  $\mathcal{L}$ . In this sense the Maximum Entropy model of  $\mathcal{T}$  can be regarded as the most equivocal characterisation of a random model by  $\mathcal{T}$ : it assigns probability 1 to the set of models satisfying  $\mathcal{T}$  and beyond that remains completely equivocal amongst them. In a similar way the Centre of Mass captures the notion *typicality* thus the Centre of Mass model of  $\mathcal{T}$  is the probabilistic characterisation of the most typical (or average) model by  $\mathcal{T}$ . There are many other inference processes that are proposed and studied in the literature for different purposes proposed and studied in the literature for different purposes, each capturing a different notion of normality. Notice however that our definition of an inference process as well the

examples given above are defined for propositional languages. Indeed to calculate  $E(w)$  or  $CM(w)$  we make reference to atoms of the language, which we cannot do if we move to first order languages.

## 2.1 Inference Processes on First Order Languages

There has been extensive work on extending inference processes to first order languages, especially for the Maximum Entropy inference process, which is of interest in many different areas. This literature, however, is mostly concerned with some particular inference process and the generalisations to first order language is usually specific to the to that inference process and takes advantage of its particular properties. See for example [34] for Williamson’s generalisation of Maximum Entropy to first order languages and [30] for a detailed analysis. One such proposal, given in [6] for an alternative generalisation of Maximum Entropy to unary first order languages, and employed in [24] to generalise Centre of Mass and Minimum Distance inference process also to unary first order languages and in [29] and [25] to investigate ME on polyadic languages, has a more general flavour that can be adopted for any inference process defined on propositional languages. This approach which we shall discuss in detail will be the focus of this paper.

Let  $N$  be an inference process defined for propositional languages. The idea here follows from the observation that the finite sub-languages  $L^k$  can essentially be treated as propositional languages for which  $N$  is assumed to be well defined. The proposal is then to define  $N$  on a set of first order sentences  $\mathcal{T}$  (or more precisely the constraint set imposed by it) as the limit of application of  $N$  to restrictions of  $\mathcal{T}$  to finite sub-languages  $L^k$  as  $k$  grows. To be more precise let  $L$  be a first order language and  $\mathcal{T} \subset SL$ , the proposal is to define

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\psi) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\psi^r)$$

if the limit exists and undefined otherwise. It is clear that if the limit exists then it satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$  since  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\phi^r) = 1$  for all  $\phi \in \mathcal{T}$  and all  $r$ . The main question when working with this proposal is thus to investigate the conditions under which the limit exist. In this paper we will investigate the existence of this limit in terms of the quantifier complexity of the sentences in  $T$  and some structural property of  $N$ .

For the Maximum Entropy inference process, in particular, the existence of this limit for any set of sentences  $T$  from a *unary* first order languages as well as for sets of  $\Sigma_1$  or  $\Pi_1$  sentences on arbitrary polyadic languages has been investigated by Barnett and Paris [6] and Rafiee Rad [29] and Paris and Rafiee Rad [25]. In what follows we will survey these results put in a more general light. Indeed the main property used in the above mentioned analysis for the Maximum Entropy inference process is a symmetry condition referred to as the Renaming Principle.



**Definition 6.** (Renaming Principle) An inference process  $N$  satisfies *Renaming Principle* if for two sets of linear constraints  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  of the form

$$C_1 = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^J a_{ji} w(\gamma_j) = b_i \mid i = 1, \dots, m \right\}$$

$$C_2 = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^J a_{ji} w(\delta_j) = b_i \mid i = 1, \dots, m \right\}$$

where  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_J$  and  $\delta_1, \dots, \delta_J$  are permutations of atoms of  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_J$ ,

$$N(C_1)(\gamma_j) = N(C_2)(\delta_j).$$

The renaming Principle is satisfied not only by the Maximum Entropy inference process but also by a wide range of other inference processes proposed and studied in the literature. The results in this paper thus covers not only the Maximum Entropy inference process but also other well studied instances such the Centre of Mass, Minimum Distance, and more generally the spectrum of inference processes based on generalised Levyi Entropies, as they all satisfy the Renaming Principle. Although there are inference processes that violate the Renaming Principle, it does seem as a minimally demanding condition that is very natural to impose on an inference process, at least in the context that is relevant to us. Remember the goal here is to define the most normal models for a theory, or to be more precise, to give a probabilistic characterisation of models to the extent that is specified by a set of axioms  $\mathcal{T}$ . As such it is natural to expect that renaming the structures that satisfy  $\mathcal{T}$  should have no bearing on this probabilistic characterisation.

**Proposition 1.** Let  $N$  be an inference process defined on propositional languages that satisfies Renaming Principle and set

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^{(r)})$$

if the limit exists then it assigns equal probability to all state descriptions of  $L^{(m)}$  that are consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$  for all  $m > k$ .

**Proof.** As was discussed above the finite sub-languages  $L^{(m)}$  can be treated as propositional languages and so  $N$  is defined and satisfies Renaming Principle on this languages. Notice that the constraint imposed by  $C_{\mathcal{T}}^{(r)}$  is of the form

$$w(\Theta_{i_1}^{(r)}) + \dots + w(\Theta_{i_n}^{(r)}) = 1$$

where  $S = \{\Theta_{i_1}^{(r)}, \dots, \Theta_{i_n}^{(r)}\}$  is the set of all state descriptions of  $L^{(r)}$  that are consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$ . Let  $\sigma$  be *any* permutation of state descriptions of  $L^{(r)}$  such that  $\sigma(\Theta_i^{(r)}) \in S$  for all  $\Theta_i^{(r)} \in S$ . Let  $C_{\mathcal{T}} = \{w(\Theta_{i_1}^{(r)}) + \dots + w(\Theta_{i_n}^{(r)}) = 1\}$  and  $C'_{\mathcal{T}} = \{w(\sigma(\Theta_{i_1}^{(r)})) + \dots + w(\sigma(\Theta_{i_n}^{(r)})) = 1\}$ . By Renaming Principle we have

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\Theta_i^{(r)}) = N(C'_{\mathcal{T}})(\sigma(\Theta_i^{(r)})).$$

But the sum in  $C'_{\mathcal{T}}$  is just a rearranging of the sum in  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$  (by the way  $\sigma$  was defined), we have  $C_{\mathcal{T}} = C'_{\mathcal{T}}$  and so  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\phi) = N(C'_{\mathcal{T}})(\phi)$  and so we have

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\Theta_i^{(r)}) = N(C'_{\mathcal{T}})(\sigma(\Theta_i^{(r)})) = N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\sigma(\Theta_i^{(r)})).$$

Since  $\sigma$  is any permutation that respects the consistency with  $\mathcal{T}$ , this completes the proof. ■

**Corollary 1.** For a state description  $\Theta_i^{(n)}$  of  $L^{(n)}$  if  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})$  is defined, then

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\Theta_i^{(n)}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{\Theta^{(r)} \mid \begin{array}{l} \Theta^{(r)} \text{ extends } \Theta_i^{(n)} \\ \Theta^{(r)} \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \end{array}\}|}{|\{\Theta^{(r)} \mid \Theta^{(r)} \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T}\}|} \quad (3)$$

**Proof.** By equation 2,

$$w(\Theta_i^{(k)}) = \sum_{\Theta_j^{(k+1)} \models \Theta_i^{(k)}} w(\Theta_j^{(k+1)}).$$

Thus, the probability of a state description  $\Theta_i^{(r)}$  of  $L^{(r)}$  is the sum of the probabilities of the state descriptions of  $L^{(m)}$  that extend  $\Theta_i^{(r)}$  of  $L^{(r)}$  for  $m > r$ . Since all state descriptions consistent with  $T^{(r)}$  have the same probability, the probability of a state description that is consistent with  $T^{(r)}$  and extends  $\Theta_i^{(r)}$  is just the given ratio. ■

**Definition 7.** Define the equivocator,  $P_{=}$ , as the probability function that for each  $k$ , assigns equal probability to  $\Theta_i^{(k)}$ 's (the state descriptions of  $L^{(k)}$ ), i.e. the most non-committal probability function.

In Sections 3 and 4 we will look at unary first order languages and sets of  $\Sigma_1$  sentences from any polyadic language. In Section 5 we will focus on sets of  $\Pi_1$  sentences and will show the existence of the limit for any set  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $\Pi_1$  sentences from a unary language with equality as well as for any set  $\mathcal{T}$  containing only what we shall call *slow*  $\Pi_1$  sentences from arbitrary polyadic languages  $\mathcal{L}$ . Finally in Section 6 we will show that the limit does not necessarily exist in general.

### 3 Probabilistic Models of First Order Theories: unary languages

We start by looking at the simplest case where the language contains only finitely many unary predicates. We will show that in this simple case the proposal for generalising an inference process  $N$ , that satisfies RP, as the limit of its application on constraints restricted to finite sublanguages is well defined. Indeed we will prove something much stronger: that for this simple case *any* inference process that satisfies RP will yield the same answer. That is, for a set of first axioms  $\mathcal{T}$  all notions of normality (captured by some inference process) that satisfy RP will agree on probabilistic characterisation of a random model of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Let  $L$  be a first order language with finitely many predicates  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  and domain  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots\}$  and let  $Q_1, \dots, Q_J$  enumerate all the formulas of the form

$$\pm P_1(x) \wedge \pm P_2(x) \wedge \dots \wedge \pm P_n(x).$$

With some abuse of notation we will call these atoms of  $L$ . Remember that  $L^k$  is the language  $L$  with domain restricted to  $\{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$  and for  $k < r$ , let  $()^r : SL^k \rightarrow S\mathcal{L}^r$  be the translation from  $SL^k$  to the propositional language  $\mathcal{L}^r$  from the previous section. Let  $\Theta_i^k, i = 1, \dots, J^k$  enumerate the state descriptions of  $L^k$ , that is, the exhaustive and exclusive set of sentences of the form

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^k Q_{m_i}(a_i).$$

**Lemma 2.** Any sentence  $\theta \in SL$  is equivalent to a disjunction of consistent sentences  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}$  of the form

$$\Theta_i \wedge \bigwedge_{j=1}^J (\exists x Q_j(x))^{\epsilon_j}$$

where  $\epsilon_j \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $\theta^0 = \neg\theta, \theta^1 = \theta, \vec{\epsilon} = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_J)$  is a sequence of 0's and 1's and  $\vDash \neg(\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \wedge \phi_{j,\vec{\delta}})$  when  $(i, \vec{\epsilon}) \neq (j, \vec{\delta})$ .

*Proof.* The proof is a straightforward adoption of the proof of Theorem 3.5 in [11]. □

Then let

$$A_i = \{m_j \mid j = 1, \dots, k\}, P_{\vec{\epsilon}} = \{j \mid \epsilon_j = 1\}, P_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} = \{j \mid j \in P_{\vec{\epsilon}} \text{ and } j \notin A_i\}$$

so

$$\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}^r = \Theta_i \wedge \bigwedge_{j=1}^J \left( \bigvee_{i=1}^r Q_j(a_i) \right)^{\epsilon_j} \equiv \bigvee_{\substack{m_j \in P_{\vec{\epsilon}} \text{ for } j=k+1, \dots, r \\ P_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \subseteq \{m_j \mid k+1 \leq j \leq r\}}} (\Theta_i \wedge \bigwedge_{j=k+1}^r Q_{m_j}(a_j)) \quad (4)$$

Set  $p_{\vec{\epsilon}} = |P_{\vec{\epsilon}}|$ , and  $p_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} = |P_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}|$ . The number of disjuncts in 4, i.e. the number of state descriptions of  $L^r$  that logically imply  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}$  will be  $n_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}^r = \sum_{j=0}^{p_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}} (-1)^j \binom{p_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}{j} (p_{\vec{\epsilon}} - j)^{r-k}$ .

As pointed out above, a probability function  $w$  on  $SL^r$  can be identified with the vector  $\vec{w} = (w(\Theta_1), \dots, Bel(\Theta_{J^r}))$  where the  $\Theta_j$  are the state descriptions of  $L^r$ . This is so because any sentence of the language can be written as a disjunction of a subset of these mutually inconsistent sentences. By Lemma 2 the same holds for the sentences  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}$ . Thus the same argument allows us to identify a probability function  $w$  on  $SL^r$  by its value on  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}$ 's or equivalently by the vector

$$\vec{w} = (w(\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}))_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}.$$

The advantage of identifying  $w$  with  $(w(\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}))_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}$  rather than  $(w(\Theta_1), \dots, w(\Theta_{J^r}))$  is that the number of state descriptions of  $L^r$  depends on  $r$  and thus the vectors identifying  $w$  on  $L^r$  and  $L^{r+1}$  will have different dimensions. While the number of sentences  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}^r$  is independent of  $r$ . Notice that as we move from  $L^r$  to  $L^{r+1}$  what changes is the number of state descriptions that satisfy each  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}^r$  but the number of these sentences remain the same for all  $r$  eventually. This allows us to identify the probability function on  $SL^r$  and  $L^{r+1}$  with vectors of the same dimension. This is the main motivation for defining these sentences and using them rather than the actual state descriptions. Thus for the rest of this section, unless indicated otherwise, the vector  $\vec{w}$  identifying a probability function is taken to be constructed on the basis of the the sentences  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}^r$  and not the actual state description.

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a consistent finite set of first order axioms and Let  $C_{\mathcal{T}} = \{w(\phi) = 1 \mid \phi \in \mathcal{T}\}$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $N$  be an inference process defined on propositional languages that satisfies the Renaming Principle. If  $\vec{\epsilon}_1, \dots, \vec{\epsilon}_s$  are all those vectors  $\vec{\epsilon}$  for which  $\bigwedge_{j=1}^J (\exists x Q_j(x))^{\epsilon_j}$  is consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$  and for which  $p_{\vec{\epsilon}}$  takes its largest possible value, then for all  $\theta(a_1, \dots, a_k) \in SL$ ,

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\theta(a_1, \dots, a_k)) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r) \theta^r(a_1, \dots, a_k) = |H|/|L|,$$

where  $L = \{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \mid \phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \text{ is consistent with } \bigwedge \mathcal{T}, 1 \leq i \leq J^k, 1 \leq t \leq s\}$  and

$$H = \{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \mid \phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \text{ is consistent with } \theta(a_1, \dots, a_k) \wedge \bigwedge \mathcal{T}, 1 \leq i \leq J^k, 1 \leq t \leq s\}.$$

*Proof.* Let

$$L' = \{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \mid \phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \text{ is consistent with } \bigwedge \mathcal{T}\}, \text{ and}$$

$$H' = \{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \mid \phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \text{ is consistent with } \theta(a_1, \dots, a_k) \wedge \bigwedge \mathcal{T}\}.$$

Let  $\Theta_i^r$  run through the state descriptions of  $L^r$  and let  $\Gamma_{C_{\mathcal{T}}}^r$  be the set of state descriptions of  $L^r$  that are consistent with  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ . By the Renaming Principle all the state descriptions of in  $\Gamma_{C_{\mathcal{T}}}^r$  will get the same probability, namely  $\frac{1}{|\Gamma_{C_{\mathcal{T}}}^r|}$ , by  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)$ .

Let  $n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r = \sum_{j=0}^{p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}} (-1)^j \binom{p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}{j} (p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} - j)^{r-k}$  be the number of state descriptions of  $L^r$  that logically imply  $\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}$ , as above, and notice that  $(1 - \frac{j}{p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}})^{r-k} \rightarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  for  $0 < j < p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}$ , so  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=0}^{p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}} (-1)^j \binom{p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}{j} (p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} - j)^{r-k} \rightarrow 1$ , and thus we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r}{(p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}})^{r-k}} = 1. \quad (5)$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\theta^r(a_1, \dots, a_k)) &= \sum_{\Theta_j^r = \theta} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\Theta_j^r) = \sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H'} \sum_{\Theta_j^r = \phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\Theta_j^r) \\ &= \sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H'} \frac{n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r}{|\Gamma_{C_{\mathcal{T}}}^r|} = \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H'} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L'} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r} \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality uses the fact that  $|\Gamma_{C_{\mathcal{T}}}^r| = \sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L'} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r$  which holds as both sides count the number of state descriptions of  $L^r$  that are consistent with  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ .

Let  $c_1 > c_2 > \dots > c_t$  be the distinct values for  $p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}$  for the sentences in  $L'$ , so we have  $p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} = c_1$  for all  $\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L$  (and thus for  $\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H$ ) and for all  $\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \notin L$ ,  $p_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \leq c_2$ .

Then we will have

$$\begin{aligned} N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\theta) &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\theta^r) = \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H'} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L'} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r + \sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H' \setminus H} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r + \sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L' \setminus L} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r} = \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r + \sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L' \setminus L} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r} + \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in H' \setminus H} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r + \sum_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}} \in L' \setminus L} n_{\phi_{i,\bar{\epsilon}}}^r}. \end{aligned}$$

Next notice that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r + \sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L' \setminus L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r} \geq \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_1^{r-k} |L|}{c_1^{r-k} |L| + c_2^{r-k} |L' \setminus L|} = 1$$

To see this notice that by (5)  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r}{(p_{\vec{\epsilon}})^{r-k}} = 1$  and that  $p_{\vec{\epsilon}} = c_1$  for all  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L$  and  $p_{\vec{\epsilon}} < c_2$  for all  $\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L' \setminus L$ . Thus

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r + \sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L' \setminus L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r} = 1. \quad (6)$$

From (6) we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in H' \setminus H} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r + \sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L' \setminus L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in H' \setminus H} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r} \leq \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_2^{r-k} |H' \setminus H|}{c_1^{r-k} |L|} = 0,$$

since  $c_2 < c_1$ . In consequence we get

$$\begin{aligned} N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\theta) &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\theta^r) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in H} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r + \sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L' \setminus L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r} \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in H} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r}{\sum_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}} \in L} n_{\phi_{i,\vec{\epsilon}}}^r} = \frac{c_1^{r-k} |H|}{c_1^{r-k} |L|} = \frac{|H|}{|L|}. \end{aligned}$$

□

In particular then  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})$  assigns probability 1 to  $\bigvee_{i=1}^s \bigwedge_{j=1}^J (\exists x Q_j(x))^{\epsilon_j^i}$  (and  $1/s$  to each conjunct), thus exclusively favouring those structures  $\mathcal{M}$  that model  $\mathcal{T}$  in which as many of the  $Q_j$  as possible are satisfied, that is existentially closed models of  $\mathcal{T}$ . To see this remember that  $\vec{\epsilon}_1, \dots, \vec{\epsilon}_s$  were taken to be those for which  $\bigwedge_{j=1}^J (\exists x Q_j(x))^{\epsilon_j^i}$  is consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $p_{\vec{\epsilon}_i}$  is maximal, that is those  $\vec{\epsilon}$  which has maximal number of  $j$  with  $\epsilon_j = 1$ .

This shows that an inference process  $N$  satisfying the RP can be correctly generalised to a first order language as the limit of its application on finite sublanguages. What is more, for this simple case of unary languages, the Renaming Principle is enough to ensure  $N$  implies *existential closeness*, independent of the notion of *normality* captured by  $N$ . That is,  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})$  only assigns positive probability to those structures  $\mathcal{M}$  that are a model of  $\mathcal{T}$  and are existentially closed.

## 4 Probabilistic Models of $\Sigma_1$ sentences

The next case concerns a polyadic language  $L$ , and the case when the set of axioms  $\mathcal{T}$  includes only existential sentences. We will show that for any inference process  $N$  any such set  $\mathcal{T}$   $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)$  converge and the limit satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ . Indeed we show something stronger: we will show that for such  $N$  and  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})$  is always obtained by an appropriate conditionalisation of the equivocator  $P_{=}$ .

**Theorem 4.** Let  $N$  be an inference process defined for propositional logic that satisfies Renaming Principle,  $\phi$  be the satisfiable  $\Sigma_1$  sentence  $\exists x_1, \dots, x_l \theta(\vec{a}, x_1, \dots, x_l)$  and  $C = \{w(\phi) = 1\}$ . Then for  $\psi \in SL$ , then

$$N(C)(\psi) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C^r)(\psi^r) = P_{=}(\psi \mid \bigvee \Gamma_{\phi}^l)$$

where  $l$  be the largest that  $a_l$  appears in  $\phi$ ,  $\Gamma_{\phi}^l$  is the set of state descriptions of  $L^l$  that are consistent with  $\phi$ .

The proof follows exactly as for the proof for Maximum Entropy inference process given in [29] as the only property of the Maximum Entropy used in that proof was the Renaming Principle. We will summarize the proof here for the sake of completeness. Let  $\phi$  be as above and  $l$  be largest such that  $a_l$  appears in  $\phi$ . There can be state descriptions of  $L^l$  that are inconsistent with  $\phi$ . These state descriptions will obviously have no extensions to  $r > l$  that would be consistent with  $\phi$ . The main idea of the proof is that for those state descriptions of  $L^l$  that *are* consistent with  $\phi$ , almost all their extensions will also be consistent with it. The result will then follow by noticing that first, each state description of  $L^l$  will have the same number of extensions to  $L^r$ ,  $r > l$  and second, by renaming principle all these extensions will have the same probability. Lemma 5 makes the main observation precise, but first we introduce some short hand notations: let  $\Gamma^r$  be the set of state descriptions of  $L^r$  and  $\Gamma_C^r$  be the subset of  $\Gamma^r$  that are consistent with  $\phi^r$ . For  $\Theta_i^k \in \Gamma^k$  and  $r > k$  let  $\Gamma_{k,i}^r = \{\Psi_j^r \in \Gamma^r \mid \Psi_j^r \vDash \Theta_i^k\}$  be the set of state description of  $L^r$  that extend the state description  $\Theta_i^k$  of  $L^k$  and  ${}^C\Gamma_{k,i}^r \subseteq \Gamma_{k,i}^r$  those of which that satisfy  $C^r$ , that is  ${}^C\Gamma_{k,i}^r = \Gamma_C^r \cap \Gamma_{k,i}^r$ . State descriptions of  $L^k$  will all have the same number of extensions to state descriptions of  $L^{k+1}$  thus  $|\Gamma_{k,i}^r| = |\Gamma_{k,j}^r|$  for  $\Theta_i^k, \Theta_j^k \in \Gamma^k$ . Take  $\Gamma_{\phi}^l$  as the set of state descriptions of  $L^l$  that are consistent with  $\phi$ , and let  $\Gamma_{\neg\phi}^l = \Gamma^l - \Gamma_{\phi}^l$ .

**Lemma 5.** If  $\Theta_i^k$  is a state description of  $L^k$  that extends some state description in

$\Gamma_\phi^l$  then

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|C\Gamma_{k,i}^r|}{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|} = 1.$$

In other words, if  $\Theta_i^k$  extends a state description of  $L^l$  that is consistent with  $\phi$  then almost all its extensions to a state description of  $L^r$  will also be consistent with  $\phi$ .

*Proof.* Notice that  $|\frac{C\Gamma_{k,i}^r}{\Gamma_{k,i}^r}|$  is the probability that a random extension of the state description  $\Theta_i^k \in \Gamma^k$  to  $L^r$  will satisfy  $C^r$ .<sup>2</sup> Remember that  $\Theta_i^k$  extends description in  $\Gamma_\phi^l$ , say  $\Psi^l$ . We can now calculate this probability. Take  $\Theta_i^k \in \Gamma^k$  and let's consider its extensions to state descriptions of  $L^{k+t}$ . Let  $L^{a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}}$  be language  $L$  with only constant symbols  $a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}$  and let  $\Delta_j, j = 1, \dots, M$  enumerate the state descriptions of  $L^{\{a_1, \dots, a_l\} \cup \{a_{k+1}, \dots, a_{k+t}\}}$  that extend  $\Psi^l$  (thus they agree with  $\Theta_i^k$  when restricted to  $a_1, \dots, a_l$ ). Then state descriptions of  $L^{k+t}$  that are extension of  $\Theta_i^k$  can be written in the form  $\Theta_{i,m}^{k+t} \equiv \Theta_i^k \wedge \Delta_j \wedge V_h(a_1, \dots, a_{k+t})$ ,<sup>3</sup> with  $m = 1, \dots, |\Gamma_{k,i}^{k+t}|, j = 1, \dots, M$ , and  $h = 1, \dots, \frac{|\Gamma_{k,i}^{k+t}|}{M}$ . At least one of the  $\Delta_j$ 's satisfies  $\theta(\vec{a}, a_{k+1}, \dots, a_{k+t})$  and will hence satisfy  $C^{k+t}$ . The probability that an arbitrary  $\Theta_{i,m}^{k+t}$  satisfies  $C^{k+t}$  will be the number of  $\Theta_{i,m}^{k+t}$ 's that satisfies  $C^{k+t}$  divided by the total number of  $\Theta_{i,m}^{k+t}$ 's that is *at least*,  $\frac{|\Gamma_{k,i}^{k+t}|}{M} \cdot \frac{1}{|\Gamma_{k,i}^{k+t}|} = \frac{1}{M}$ , and so the probability that a random  $\Theta_{i,m}^{k+t}$  does not satisfy  $C^{k+t}$  will be *at most*  $1 - \frac{1}{M}$ . Now consider the extension of  $\Theta_i^k$  to a state description of  $L^{k+pt}$ ,

$$\Theta_{i,m}^{k+pt} \equiv \Theta_i^k \wedge \Delta_{j_1}^1 \wedge \Delta_{j_2}^2 \wedge \dots \wedge \Delta_{j_p}^p \wedge V'_h(a_1, \dots, a_{k+pt})$$

with  $m = 1, \dots, |\Gamma_{k,i}^{k+pt}|, j_1, \dots, j_p = 1, \dots, M, h = 1, \dots, \frac{|\Gamma_{k,i}^{k+pt}|}{M^p}$  and where  $\Delta_j^s$  enumerate the state description of  $L^{\{a_1, \dots, a_l\} \cup \{a_{k+(s-1)t+1}, \dots, a_{k+st}\}}$  that extend  $\Psi^l$ . The probability that  $\Theta_{i,m}^{k+pt}$  does not satisfy  $C^{k+pt}$  is *at most* as high as the probability that  $\Delta_j^1 \not\equiv \theta(\vec{a}, a_{k+1}, \dots, a_{k+t}), \dots, \Delta_j^p \not\equiv \theta(\vec{a}, a_{k+(p-1)t+1}, \dots, a_{k+pt})$  so  $0 \leq 1 - \frac{|\Gamma_{k,i}^{k+pt}|}{|\Gamma_{k,i}^{k+pt}|} \leq (1 - \frac{1}{M})^p$ .

<sup>2</sup>The denominator is the total number of extensions of  $\Theta_i^k \in \Gamma^k$  to a state description of  $L^r$  and the nominator is the number of those extensions of  $\Theta_i^k \in \Gamma^k$  to a state description of  $L^r$  that satisfy  $C^r$ .

<sup>3</sup> $V_h(a_1, \dots, a_{k+t})$  enumerate sentence of the form  $\bigwedge_{\substack{i_1, \dots, i_j \leq k+t \\ R \in RLj\text{-arey}}} R_i(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_j})^{\varepsilon_{i_1, \dots, i_j}}$  where  $\{a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_j}\}$  intersects both  $\{a_{l+1}, \dots, a_k\}$  and  $\{a_{k+1}, \dots, a_{k+t}\}$ .



Let  $p \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $0 \leq \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|}{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|} \leq \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} (1 - \frac{1}{M})^p = 0$ . Hence, we have  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|}{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|} = 0$  and  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|}{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|} = 1$  as required.  $\square$

The proof of Theorem 4 now follows using Lemma 5.

*Proof.* Let  $\Lambda = \bigvee \Gamma_\phi^l$ . We will show that  $N(C)(\psi) = P_=(\psi | \Lambda)$  for quantifier free  $\psi$  and the result follows then by Theorem 1. But as we have seen before for a quantifier free  $\psi$ , if  $k$  is the largest that  $a_k$  appear in  $\psi$  then  $\psi$  can be written as a disjunction of some state descriptions of  $L^k$ . Thus it is enough to show this for arbitrary state descriptions  $\Theta^k$ .

By definition  $N(C^r)$  satisfies  $C^r$  thus  $N(C^r)(\phi^r) = 1$  and so for  $\Theta^r \in \Gamma^r \setminus \Gamma_C^r$  (i.e. those state descriptions of  $L^r$  that are inconsistent with  $\phi^r$ )  $N(C^r)(\Theta^r) = 0$ . And by Renaming Principle  $N(C^r)$  assigns equal probability to state descriptions in  $\Gamma_C^r$ , i.e. those consistent with  $\phi^r$ . Thus for  $\Theta^r \in \Gamma_C^r$ ,  $N(C^r)(\Theta^r) = \frac{1}{|\Gamma_C^r|}$

Thus for an arbitrary state description  $\Theta_i^k$ ,  $k \geq l$ ,

$$N(C^r)(\Theta_i^k) = \sum_{\substack{\Theta^r \in \Gamma^r \\ \Theta^r = \Theta_i^k}} N(C^r)(\Theta^r) = \sum_{\substack{\Theta^r \in \Gamma_C^r \\ \Theta^r = \Theta_i^k}} N(C^r)(\Theta^r) = \frac{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|}{|\Gamma_C^r|}. \quad (7)$$

Then since state descriptions in  $\Gamma_{-\phi}^l$  are inconsistent with  $\phi$ ,  $\Gamma_C^r$  only includes extensions of state descriptions in  $\Gamma_\phi^l$ , so  $\Gamma_C^r = \bigcup_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} \Gamma_{l,j}^r$  and since for  $i \neq j$ ,  $\Gamma_{l,i}^r$  and  $\Gamma_{l,j}^r$  include extensions of different state description of  $L^l$  and are thus disjoint,

$$|\Gamma_C^r| = \sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} |\Gamma_{l,j}^r|. \quad (8)$$

To show  $N(C)(\psi) = P_=(\psi | \Lambda)$  for quantifier free  $\psi$ , it is enough to show that for each  $k$  and each state description  $\Theta_i^k \in \Gamma^k$ ,  $N(C)(\Theta_i^k) = P_=(\Theta_i^k | \Lambda)$ . By definition, this is

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C^r)(\Theta_i^k) = P_=(\Theta_i^k | \Lambda). \quad (9)$$

For  $k \geq l$ , the state descriptions of  $L^k$  are extensions of either a state description in  $\Gamma_\phi^l$  or a state description in  $\Gamma_{-\phi}^l$  and  $P_{=}( - | \Lambda )$  assigns equal probabilities to all state descriptions of  $L^k$  that are consistent with  $\Lambda = \vee \Gamma_\phi^l$  and zero to those that are not. So for The state description in  $\Gamma_{-\phi}^l$  (thus inconsistent with  $\phi$ )

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C^{(r)})(\Theta_i^k) = 0 = P_{=}(\Theta_i^k | \Lambda)$$

as required and for those  $\Theta_i^k$  that extend a state description in  $\Gamma_\phi^l$ , we have to show that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|C\Gamma_{k,i}^r|}{|\Gamma_C^r|} = \frac{1}{\sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} |\Gamma_{l,j}^k|}. \quad (10)$$

Notice that the left hand side comes from (7) and the denominator on the right hand side is the number of state descriptions of  $L^r$  that are consistent with (i.e. extend) an state description in  $\Gamma_\phi^l$ . Since  $|\Gamma_{l,j}^k|$  is the same for all  $\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l$ , using (8), (10) will be equivalent to

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|C\Gamma_{k,i}^r| \sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} |\Gamma_{l,j}^k|}{\sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} |C\Gamma_{l,j}^r|} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|C\Gamma_{k,i}^r| |\Gamma_\phi^l| |\Gamma_{l,j}^k|}{\sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} |C\Gamma_{l,j}^r|} = 1. \quad (11)$$

To show (11) remember that  $|\Gamma_{k,i}^r| = |\Gamma_{k,j}^r|$  for  $\Theta_i^k, \Theta_j^k \in \Gamma^k$  and  $|\Gamma_{l,j}^r|$  is the same for all  $\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l$ , thus  $|\Gamma_{l,j}^k| |\Gamma_{k,i}^r| = |\Gamma_{l,j}^r|$ .<sup>4</sup> So,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} |C\Gamma_{l,j}^r|}{|\Gamma_{l,j}^k| |\Gamma_{k,i}^r|} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} \frac{|C\Gamma_{l,j}^r|}{|\Gamma_{l,j}^r|} = \sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|C\Gamma_{l,j}^r|}{|\Gamma_{l,j}^r|} = |\Gamma_\phi^l|$$

where the last equality follows from Lemma 5 (as every limit in the summation is 1). Then

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|C\Gamma_{k,i}^r| |\Gamma_\phi^l| |\Gamma_{l,j}^k|}{\sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} |C\Gamma_{l,j}^r|} = |\Gamma_\phi^l| \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|C\Gamma_{k,i}^r|}{|\Gamma_{k,i}^r|} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\Gamma_{l,j}^k| |\Gamma_{k,i}^r|}{\sum_{\Theta_j^l \in \Gamma_\phi^l} |C\Gamma_{l,j}^r|} = 1$$

---

<sup>4</sup>This says that the number of ways to extend a state description  $\Theta_i^l$  of  $L^l$  to a state description of  $L^r$  is the number of ways it can be extended to a state description of  $L^k$  times the number of ways an state description of  $L^k$  can be extended to  $L^r$ .

and this establishes 11 as required.

□

in particular if  $k$  is the largest that  $a_k$  appears in  $\mathcal{T}$  and all state descriptions of  $L^k$  are consistent with  $\bigwedge \mathcal{T}$  then  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}) = P_{=}$  and this is so for *any* such  $\mathcal{T}$ . We will now move to the more problematic case of  $\Pi_1$  theories.

## 5 Probabilistic Models of $\Pi_1$ sentences

The next case is for sets of sentences  $\mathcal{T}$  consisting of  $\Pi_1$  sentences. Following as in the previous sections we ask whether  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)$  converges correctly as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  for a set of sentences  $\mathcal{T}$  consisting of  $\Pi_1$  sentences. We have already seen that this would hold if  $L$  is a unary language as our result for that case does not depend on the quantifier complexity of sentences in  $\mathcal{T}$ . We conjecture that this is the case for any finite predicate language  $L$ , without function symbols and whose only constant symbols are  $a_1, a_2, \dots$ , though our results to date fall short of proving that. This is the only case of this analysis that still remains open. Nevertheless we will show this for two special cases below: first we will show this for a unary languages *with equality*. It should be noted that the approach of Section 3 can be directly adopted to this case but we will give an alternative proof here which we shall also use for the second special case we will consider. That is for a polyadic language  $L$  when  $\mathcal{T}$  consists only of what we shall call *slow*  $\Pi_1$  sentences. Here will give the full detail of the analysis given briefly in [25]. To make clear what ‘equality’ means in this context we require that our probability functions give probability 1 to the axioms of equality and probability 0 to  $a_i = a_j$  for  $i \neq j$ .

### 5.1 $\Pi_1$ sentences from Unary Languages with Equality

Let  $\mathcal{T} = \{\forall x_1, \dots, x_q \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)\}$  and  $L$  be a unary first order language with equality and with predicate symbols  $P_1, \dots, P_n$ . Let  $Q_1, \dots, Q_J$  enumerate formulas of the form

$$\pm P_1(x) \wedge \pm P_2(x) \wedge \dots \wedge P_n(x)$$

which as before we shall call the atoms of  $L$  *with equality removed*. Let  $n \gg k \geq q$ . Given a state description  $\Theta^n$  of  $L^n$ , let  $M_{\Theta}$  be the unique structure for  $L$  with universe  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  specified by  $\Theta^n$ . Say that  $\Theta^n$  is of *type*  $\kappa$ , where  $\kappa : \{1, \dots, J\} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$ , if for  $1 \leq i \leq J$ ,

$$\kappa(i) = \min\{|\{j \mid \Theta^n \models Q_i(a_j)\}|, q\}.$$

**Lemma 6.** Suppose that  $\phi(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is quantifier free and  $\Theta_1^n, \Theta_2^n$  are state descriptions with the same type. Then

$$M_{\Theta_1} \models \forall x_1, \dots, x_k \phi(x_1, \dots, x_k) \iff M_{\Theta_2} \models \forall x_1, \dots, x_k \phi(x_1, \dots, x_k).$$

**Proof.** Suppose  $M_{\Theta_1} \models \forall x_1, \dots, x_k \phi(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  but  $M_{\Theta_2} \not\models \forall x_1, \dots, x_k \phi(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ . This means that there are  $a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_k}$  such that  $M_{\Theta_2} \models \neg\phi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_k})$  and suppose that

$$M_{\Theta_2} \models Q_{i_j}(a_{i_j}).$$

Since  $\Theta_1(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  and  $\Theta_2(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  are state descriptions with the same type we should have  $a_{t_1}, \dots, a_{t_k}$  such that

$$M_{\Theta_1} \models Q_{i_j}(a_{t_j}).$$

Thus  $M_{\Theta_1} \models \neg\phi(a_{t_1}, \dots, a_{t_k})$  and so  $M_{\Theta_1} \not\models \forall x_1, \dots, x_k \phi(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  that is a contradiction. The other direction of the proof will be similar. ■

**Theorem 7.** Let  $L$  be a unary first order language with equality and  $\mathcal{T}$  a set of  $\Pi_1$  sentences in  $L$ . If  $N$  is an inference process defined on propositional languages that satisfies the Renaming Principle then

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^{(r)})$$

exists and satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ .

*Proof.* It is clear that if  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}$  exists then it satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ . Let  $\Theta_1^n, \dots, \Theta_R^n$  be all the state descriptions of  $L^n$  consistent with  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)$ . Let  $\kappa_1, \dots, \kappa_R$  be the *distinct* types appearing where the ordering has been chosen so that if  $\kappa_i(m) \leq \kappa_j(m)$  for all  $1 \leq m \leq J$  then  $j \leq i$ .<sup>5</sup>

Given a state description  $\Theta^n$  consistent with  $\forall x_1, \dots, x_q \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)$  and of type  $\kappa_g$  let  $b_{gh}$  be the number of state descriptions  $\Theta^{n+1}$  of type  $\kappa_h$  extending  $\Theta^n$  and consistent with  $\forall x_1, \dots, x_q \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)$ .<sup>6</sup> These  $\langle b_{gh} \rangle$  form a lower triangular matrix  $B$  and if we start from a state description  $\Theta^n$  of type  $\kappa_i$  the number of state

<sup>5</sup>Notice the reverse of the inequalities here.

<sup>6</sup>Notice that provided  $n$  is large this number does not depend on  $n$ .

descriptions  $\Theta^{n+k}$  of type  $\kappa_1, \kappa_2, \dots, \kappa_R$  is given by  $B^{kT} \vec{e}_i$  where  $\vec{e}_i$  is the column vector with 1 in  $i$ -th place and zero elsewhere and  $B^{kT}$  is the transpose of the matrix  $B^k$ .

For  $\Theta^n$  a state description of type  $\kappa_i$  consistent  $\forall x_1, \dots, x_q \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)$  the number of state descriptions  $\Theta^{n+r}$  extending it and still consistent with  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)$  is

$$\langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle (B)^r \vec{e}_i.$$

Similarly the total number of state descriptions  $\Theta^{n+r}$  consistent with  $\forall x_1, \dots, x_q \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)$  is

$$\sum_{j=1}^R N_j \langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle (B)^r \vec{e}_j$$

where  $N_j$  is the number of state description of type  $\kappa_j$ .

By Renaming Principle  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^{n+r})$  will give each of these the same probability, namely

$$\left( \sum_{j=1}^R N_j \langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle (B)^r \vec{e}_j \right)^{-1}$$

thus

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^{n+r})(\Theta^n) = \frac{\langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle (B)^r \vec{e}_i}{\sum_{j=1}^R N_j \langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle (B)^r \vec{e}_j}$$

and

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\Theta^n) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\Theta^n) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle (B)^r \vec{e}_i}{\sum_{j=1}^R N_j \langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle (B)^r \vec{e}_j} \quad (12)$$

Thus to complete the proof it is enough to show that the limit in the RHS of (12) exists.

**Claim 1.**

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle B^{kT} \vec{e}_i}{\langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle B^{kT} (\vec{e}_i + \vec{e}_h)}, \quad \text{exists}$$

*Proof.* See Appendix □

This shows that  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})$  is well defined on all state descriptions  $\Theta^n$  for all  $n$  and thus on all quantifier free sentences of  $L$  thus by Theorem 1 on all  $SL$ .

□

## 5.2 Probabilistic models of slow $\Pi_1$ sentences

We will now look at a general polyadic language  $L$  and will show existence of the limit  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)$  for  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq SL$  consists of only those  $\Pi_1$  sentences whose model of each finite size are bounded exponentially. As before let

$$\mathcal{T} = \{\forall x_1, \dots, x_q \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)\}$$

and  $C_{\mathcal{T}} = \{w(\forall x_1, \dots, x_q \theta(x_1, \dots, x_q)) = 1\}$  the corresponding constraints set and  $k$  be an upper bound on  $i$  such that  $a_i$  appears in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

**Definition 8.** For  $\Theta(b_1, \dots, b_r)$ , a state description in  $L$  over  $b_1, \dots, b_r$ , we say  $b_i, b_j$  are *in-distinguishable* mode  $\Theta(\vec{b})$ , denoted  $b_i \sim_{\Theta(\vec{b})} b_j$ , if

$$\Theta(b_1, \dots, b_r) \wedge b_i = b_j$$

is consistent with the axioms of equality for the language  $L$  plus  $=$ . The relation  $\sim_{\Theta(\vec{b})}$  is an equivalence relation. The *spectrum* of  $\Theta(\vec{b})$  is the multi-set of sizes of the equivalence classes of  $\sim_{\Theta(\vec{b})}$  and the *length* of its spectrum, denoted  $\|\Theta(\vec{b})\|$ , is the number of non-empty equivalence classes.

**Definition 9.** We say that a quantifier free formula  $\theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is *slow* if there are some constants  $c, d$  such that for all  $r$  the number of term models with domain  $\{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$  that satisfy  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(\vec{x})$  is at most  $dc^r$ .

**Theorem 8.** Let  $p$  be the largest arity of any relation symbol in  $L$ . If  $\theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is slow with bound  $dk^r$ , then there is a finite set  $S$  of state descriptions  $\Theta^{k+p}$  (of  $L^{k+p}$ ), of spectrum length at most  $k$  such that

$$\bigwedge_{i_1, \dots, i_n=1}^{k+p} \theta(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}) \equiv \bigvee_{\Theta^{k+p} \in S} \Theta^{k+p}. \quad (13)$$

**Proof.** Since the LHS is a sentence of  $L^{k+p}$ , there is a finite set of state descriptions of  $L^{k+p}$  that gives the above equivalence. We should prove that any state description consistent with  $\bigwedge_{i_1, \dots, i_n=1}^{k+p} \theta(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n})$  has spectrum length at most  $k$ . Suppose that there is a state description  $\Theta^{k+p}$  consistent with  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  with

$$\|\Theta^{k+p}\| > k.$$

We can extend this state description to an state description on,  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q, q > k + p$  by making the new elements clones of existing elements. In other words, we just add the new elements to the equivalence classes of existing elements. Furthermore, we can do this in  $\|\Theta^{k+p}\|^{q-k-p}$  ways. Thus, we will have at least  $\|\Theta^{k+p}\|^{q-k-p}$  many models of  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of size  $q$ . But this clearly exceeds  $dk^q$  for sufficiently large  $q$ , and this is a contradiction. Thus if  $\theta(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is slow with bound  $dk^r$ , then for large  $r$  each state descriptions  $L^r$  that is consistent with  $\forall x_1, \dots, x_n \theta(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  has at most  $k$  distinguishable elements. ■

**Theorem 9.** Let  $L$  be a first order language and let  $\mathcal{T} = \{\forall \vec{x} \theta(\vec{x})\}$  where  $\theta(\vec{x})$  is slow. Let

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)$$

then  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})$  exists and satisfies  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$ .

The idea of the proof is as follows. Remember fom Proposition 1 that since  $N$  satisfies renmaing,

$$N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\Theta_i^{(n)}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{\Theta^{(r)} \mid \begin{array}{l} \Theta^{(r)} \text{ extends } \Theta_i^{(n)} \\ \Theta^{(r)} \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \end{array}\}|}{|\{\Theta^{(r)} \mid \Theta^{(r)} \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T}\}|} \quad (14)$$

We will show that for a slow formula  $\theta(\vec{x})$  and large  $r$ , almost all models of  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(x)$  of size  $r$  will have as many mutually distinguishable constants as possible. By Theorem 8 the maximum number of mutually distinguishable constants is bounded by  $k$  where  $dk^r$  is the bound for  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(\vec{x})$ . So the asymptotic number of models of size  $r$  is the same as models of size  $r$  with  $k$  equivalence classes of constants. This will give an expression for the denominator of (14). Next, we shall use the same intuitions to find an expression for the nominator of 14. To do this, we will find the number of models of  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(x)$  that extend some given state description by looking at the number of possible extensions for each spectrum length, of which there are at most  $k$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(\vec{x})$  be slow with bound  $dk^r$ . By Theorem 1, to show that for all  $\psi$ ,  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\psi) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)(\psi^r)$  exists we only need to show it for quantifier

free sentences  $\psi$  and thus it would be enough to show this for state descriptions only since any quantifier free sentences is equivalent to a finite disjunction of state descriptions and thus, its probability is equal to a sum of probabilities of those state descriptions. Thus, using Corollary 1, to show Theorem 9, it is enough to show that for any state description  $\Theta^n$ , the limit

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\Theta^n) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{\Phi^r \mid \frac{\Phi^r \text{ extends } \Theta^n}{\Phi^r \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T}}\}|}{|\{\Phi^r \mid \Phi^r \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T}\}|} \quad (15)$$

exists.

Let  $\Phi^r$  be a state description consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$  with equivalence classes  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_q$  ordered such that if  $i_t$  is minimal with  $a_{i_t} \in S_t$ , then  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_q$ . This means that the equivalence classes are ordered by the minimum index of their constants. Notice that by Theorem 8,  $q \leq k$ . Take the constants  $a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q}$  from  $S_1, \dots, S_q$  respectively and let us consider the state description  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$  on  $a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q}$  logically implied by  $\Phi^r$ . So,  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$  is a sentence of the form

$$\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q}) = \bigwedge_{b_1, \dots, b_{i_R} \in \{a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q}\}} \pm R(b_1, \dots, b_{i_R})$$

and  $\Phi^r \models \Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$ . Then  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$  has spectrum  $\{1, \dots, 1\}$  with length  $q \leq k$ . This means  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$  divides  $a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q}$  into  $q$  equivalence classes, i.e.,  $a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q}$  are mutually distinguishable mod  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$ . To see this, notice that any two  $a_{i_s}, a_{i_t}$  among these are distinguishable mod  $\Phi^r$  because they are from different equivalence classes of  $\sim_{\Phi^r}$ . This means that there is some  $\vec{a}$ , and  $R$  such that  $\Phi^r \models R(a_{i_s}, \vec{a}) \wedge \neg R(a_{i_t}, \vec{a})$  or  $\Phi^r \models \neg R(a_{i_s}, \vec{a}) \wedge R(a_{i_t}, \vec{a})$ , etc. But since  $\Phi^r$  divides  $\{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$  into equivalence classes  $S_1, \dots, S_q$ , for each  $a_u$  appearing in  $\vec{a}$  we should have  $a_u \sim_{\Phi^r} b_u$  for some  $b_u \in \{a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q}\}$ . Let  $\vec{b} = (b_u)_{a_u \in \vec{a}}$ . Then  $a_{i_s}$  and  $a_{i_t}$  can be distinguished by  $\vec{b}$  and so they will be distinguishable by  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$ . Since every two  $a_{i_s}, a_{i_t} \in \{a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q}\}$  are thus distinguishable for  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$ , it has spectrum  $\{1, 1, \dots, 1\}$  of size  $q$ . Next, we should note that we can recover  $\Phi^r$  from  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$  and  $S_1, \dots, S_q$ . So, the number of state descriptions  $\Phi^r$  is the number of choices of  $\Psi(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_q})$  and the choices of  $S_1, \dots, S_q$ . Let  $d_q$  be the number of state descriptions  $\Psi^q$  (state descriptions on  $q$  constants) consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$  that have spectrum length  $q$ .

The only condition on the equivalence classes is that they should be non-empty and form a partition of  $\{1, 2, \dots, r\}$ ,<sup>7</sup> so the number of choices of  $S_1, \dots, S_q$  will be the Stirling number of second kind,  $S_r^q = \left\{ \begin{matrix} r \\ q \end{matrix} \right\}$ . So, the number of choices for the  $\Phi^r$

<sup>7</sup>Technically, they should form a partition of  $\{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$



above will be

$$d_q \cdot S_r^q = \frac{d_q}{q!} \sum_{j=0}^q (-1)^{q-j} \binom{q}{j} j^r.$$

This is the number of state descriptions  $\Phi^r$  that are consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$  and have spectrum length  $q$ .

It now follows that the number of state descriptions of  $L^r$  consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$  is

$$\sum_{i=1}^s \frac{d_{q_i}}{q_i!} \sum_{j=0}^{q_i} (-1)^{q_i-j} \binom{q_i}{j} j^r$$

where  $q_s < q_{s-1} < \dots < q_1 \leq k$  are the distinct possible spectrum lengths of the state descriptions on  $L^r$  consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$ . The proportion of state descriptions with spectrum length  $q_1$ , as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , will be

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{i=1}^s \frac{d_{q_i}}{q_i!} \sum_{j=0}^{q_i} (-1)^{q_i-j} \binom{q_i}{j} j^r \right) \left( \frac{d_{q_1}}{q_1!} (q_1^r - \dots + (-1)^{q_1}) \right)^{-1} =$$

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{d_{q_1}}{q_1!} (q_1^r - \dots + (-1)^{q_1}) + \dots + \frac{d_{q_s}}{q_s!} (q_s^r - \dots + (-1)^{q_s}) \right) \left( \frac{d_{q_1}}{q_1!} q_1^r \right)^{-1} = 1. \quad (16)$$

What the equation (16) says is that for large enough  $r$ , the number of models of  $\mathcal{T}$  with domain  $\{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$  and maximum spectrum length ( $q_1$ ) is the same as the number of all models with domain  $\{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$ . This means that for large  $r$ , almost all models of  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(\vec{x})$  with domain  $\{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$  have as many mutually distinct constants as possible. Thus, as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  the number of state descriptions of  $L^r$  consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$  will be asymptotically

$$\frac{d_{q_1}}{q_1!} q_1^r. \quad (17)$$

So (17) gives an expression for the denominator of (15). We will next try to find an expression for the nominator.

Fix a state description  $\Theta^n$ . We are interested in the number of models of  $\forall \vec{x} \theta(\vec{x})$  that extend this state description. Let  $\Phi^r$  be as such, that is, a state description on  $L^r$  that extends  $\Theta^n$  and is consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$ . By Theorem 8,  $\Phi^r$  will have spectrum of length at most  $k$ , say with equivalence classes  $S_1, \dots, S_{q'}$ ,  $q' \leq k$ , again ordered as before, by the lowest indices appearing in them so that if  $i_t$  is minimal such that  $a_{i_t} \in S_t$ , then  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{q'}$ . Let  $h$  be maximal such that  $i_h \leq n$ . So, for  $l \leq h$ ,

every  $S_l$  includes some of  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  and for  $h < k$ ,  $S_k \cap \{a_1, \dots, a_n\} = \emptyset$ . We now take the constant with minimum index from  $S_{h+1}, \dots, S_{q'}$ , that is  $a_{i_{h+1}}, a_{i_{h+2}}, \dots, a_{i_{q'}}$  respectively such that for all  $a_j \in S_t$ ,  $i_t \leq j$  for  $t = h+1, \dots, q'$ .

Let  $\Psi(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{i_{h+1}}, a_{i_{h+2}}, \dots, a_{i_{q'}})$  be the state description on  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{i_{h+1}}, \dots, a_{i_{q'}}$  determined by  $\Phi^r$  (Definition 4). By the discussion above, and same as before,  $\Phi^r$  can be recovered from  $\Psi$  and the equivalence classes  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{q'}$ . To see this, notice that the constants appearing in  $\Psi$  cover all equivalence classes of  $\sim_{\Phi^{(r)}}$ ,  $S_1, \dots, S_{q'}$ , because it explicitly includes elements from  $S_{h+1}, \dots, S_{q'}$  and all  $S_1, \dots, S_h$  include some of  $\{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$  by definition. So, every other constant in  $a_1, \dots, a_r$  not appearing in  $\Psi$  is indistinguishable for  $\Phi^r$  from one of  $a_1, \dots, a_n, a_{i_{h+1}}, \dots, a_{i_{q'}}$ . The difference now from our analysis for the denominator is that there we looked at all state descriptions as opposed to those extending  $\Theta^n$ . So, we no longer have a free choice of partition  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{q'}$  because the non-empty members of

$$S_1 \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, S_2 \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, \dots, S_{q'} \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \quad (18)$$

should form a refinement of the partition of the equivalence classes  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_q$  of  $\Theta^n$ . These non-empty intersections will be a refinement of  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_q$  because those constants from  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  that were distinguishable by  $\Theta^n$  will remain so by  $\Phi^r$  and also by  $\Psi$  as they extend  $\Theta^n$ , but some of the constants that were indistinguishable by  $\Theta^n$  (and therefore were in the same equivalence class  $T_i$ ) might now be distinguishable for  $\Phi^r$  and  $\Psi$  by means of new constants  $a_{n+1}, \dots, a_r$ .

Notice that there are finitely many of such possible  $\Psi$ 's for each possible spectrum lengths. Let  $\Psi_1, \dots, \Psi_s$  enumerate them, then all the state descriptions in the nominator of (15) will be recovered from one of these  $\Psi$ 's. Hence to show that the limit in (15) exists, it will be enough to show that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{ \Phi^r \mid \begin{array}{l} \Phi^r \text{ extends } \Theta_i^n \\ \Phi^r \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \\ \Phi^r \text{ recovered from } \Psi_j \end{array} \}|}{|\{ \Phi^r \mid \Phi^r \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \}|} \quad (19)$$

exists for  $j = 1, \dots, s$  because

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{ \Phi^r \mid \begin{array}{l} \Phi^r \text{ extends } \Theta_i^n \\ \Phi^r \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \end{array} \}|}{|\{ \Phi^r \mid \Phi^{(r)} \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \}|} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=1}^s \frac{|\{ \Phi^r \mid \begin{array}{l} \Phi^r \text{ extends } \Theta_i^n \\ \Phi^r \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \\ \Phi^r \text{ recovered from } \Psi_j \end{array} \}|}{|\{ \Phi^r \mid \Phi^r \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \}|}.$$

For a fixed  $\Psi$  let  $q'$  be the spectrum length and  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_p$  denote the refinement as in (18). For this particular refinement the number of choices of  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{q'}$

for which the non-empty members of (18) are  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_p$  is

$$\sum_{\substack{U \subseteq \{n+1, \dots, r\} \\ |U| \geq q' - p}} p^{r-n-|U|} \left\{ \begin{matrix} |U| \\ q' - p \end{matrix} \right\}. \quad (20)$$

To see this, notice that the number of possible  $S_1, \dots, S_{q'}$  is the number of ways one can distribute  $a_{n+1}, \dots, a_r$  into  $q'$  equivalence classes,  $p$  of them given by  $R_1, \dots, R_p$  (which already include  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ ). That is the number of ways one can take a subset  $U$  of  $a_{n+1}, \dots, a_r$  and distribute it between  $q' - p$  equivalence classes with at least one for each class (to make sure we end up with right number of equivalence classes) that is  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} |U| \\ q' - p \end{matrix} \right\}$  times the number of ways to distribute the remaining  $r - n - |U|$  between  $R_1, \dots, R_p$  which are already non-empty and that is  $p^{r-n-|U|}$ .

Thus, the number of state descriptions corresponding to this  $\Psi$  that extend  $\Theta^n$ , are consistent with  $\mathcal{T}$ , and have spectrum length  $q'$ , will be given by (20). If we expand this, we get

$$\sum_{z=q'-p}^{r-n} \frac{p^{r-n-z}}{(q'-p)!} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{q'-p} (-1)^{q'-p-j} \binom{q'-p}{j} j^z \right) \binom{r-n}{z}$$

and inserting this in (19) we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{ \Phi^{(r)} \mid \begin{matrix} \Phi^{(r)} \text{ extends } \Theta^{(n)} \\ \Phi^{(r)} \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \\ \Phi^{(r)} \text{ recovered from } \Psi_j \end{matrix} \}|}{|\{ \Phi^{(r)} \mid \Phi^{(r)} \text{ consistent with } \mathcal{T} \}|} = \\ & \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{(q'-p)!} \sum_{z=q'-p}^{r-n} p^{r-n-z} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{q'-p} (-1)^{q'-p-j} \binom{q'-p}{j} j^z \right) \binom{r-n}{z}}{\frac{d_{q_1}}{q_1!} q_1^r} = \\ & \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{(q'-p)!} \sum_{j=0}^{q'-p} (-1)^{q'-p-j} \binom{q'-p}{j} \sum_{z=q'-p}^{r-n} p^{r-n-z} j^z \binom{r-n}{z}}{\frac{d_{q_1}}{q_1!} q_1^r}. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Again, notice that there are finitely many  $j$  in the nominator of (21). Thus to show that the limit in (21) exists, it will be enough to show that it exists for each particular  $j$ . Since  $\sum_{z=q'-p}^{r-n} p^{r-n-z} j^z \binom{r-n}{z}$  is asymptotic with  $\sum_{z=0}^{r-n} p^{r-n-z} j^z \binom{r-n}{z} = (p+j)^{r-n}$ , it is enough to show that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^{q'-p-j} \binom{q'-p}{j} (p+j)^{r-n}}{\frac{d_{q_1}}{q_1!} q_1^r}$$

exists for  $j = 0, \dots, q' - p$ . But since  $p + j \leq q' \leq q_1$ , this is clearly zero unless  $p + j = q' = q_1$ , in which case it exists. Hence the limit in (19) exists for each  $j$  and as a result, the the limit in (15) exists. Since all  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^r)((\forall \vec{x}\theta(\vec{x}))^r) = 1$  we have  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\forall \vec{x}\theta(\vec{x})) = 1$ . This proves Theorem 9. ■

## 6 Probabilistic Models of arbitrary sets of sentences

We will end with a negative result. Giving the full detail of the result mentioned in [25], we will show, by means of an example, that extending an inference process  $N$ , defined over propositional languages, to a first order language by taking the limit of its application on finite sublanguages is not always well defined.

**Example** Assume a predicate language  $L$  with a ternary relation symbol  $G$  and a binary relation symbol  $R$  and a unary predicate  $P$  and let  $\mathcal{E}$  be the conjunction of:

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall x, y, z(x =_G y \rightarrow (R(x, z) \rightarrow R(y, z))) \\ & \forall x, y(R(x, y) \leftrightarrow R(y, x)) \\ & \forall x, y, z((R(x, y) \wedge R(x, z)) \rightarrow (x =_G y \vee x =_G z \vee y =_G z)) \\ & \forall x \exists y(x \neq_G y \wedge R(x, y)) \\ & \forall x \neg R(x, x) \end{aligned}$$

and  $\mathcal{O}$  be the conjunction of:

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall x, y, z(x =_G y \rightarrow (R(x, z) \rightarrow R(y, z))) \\ & \forall x, y(R(x, y) \leftrightarrow R(y, x)) \\ & \forall x, y, z((R(x, y) \wedge R(x, z)) \rightarrow (y =_G z)) \\ & \forall x, y, z, t((R(x, y) \wedge R(z, t) \wedge (x =_G y) \wedge (z =_G t)) \rightarrow (x =_G z)) \\ & \forall x \exists y R(x, y) \\ & \exists x R(x, x) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$x =_G y \leftrightarrow \forall u, t(G(x, u, t) \leftrightarrow G(y, u, t)).$$

Let  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}^n$  denote the models of  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{O}$  of size  $n$  respectively <sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup>Notice that  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{O}$  are  $\Pi_2$

**Claim 2.** Let  $\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n$  be the number of models of  $\mathcal{E}$  of size  $n$ .

- If  $n$  is an even number,  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}}(\frac{n}{2})!} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n} \leq \#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n \leq \frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}}(\frac{n}{2})!} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n} + n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2}$ .
- If  $n$  is an odd number,  $\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n \leq n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-1}$ .

Comparing the upper bound calculated for models of size  $n$  for odd  $n$  with the lower bound of models of size  $n$  for even  $n$ , we can see that  $\mathcal{E}$  has significantly more models of even size than models of odd size. We will now follow the same way to find an estimation of the number of models of  $\mathcal{O}$ .

**Claim 3.** Let  $\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}^n$  be the number of models of  $\mathcal{O}$  of size  $n$ .

- If  $n$  is an even number,  $\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}^n \leq n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-1}$ .
- If  $n$  is an odd number,  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}(\frac{n-1}{2})!} \cdot n \cdot \binom{2^{n^2}}{n} \leq \#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}^n$ .

Thus for even  $n$ ,

$$\frac{\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}^n}{\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n} \leq \frac{n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-1}}{\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}}(\frac{n}{2})!} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n}} \leq \frac{n^{n+1} 2^{\frac{n}{2}} (\frac{n}{2})!}{n!(2^{n^2} - n + 1)} \leq \frac{n^{n+1} 2^{\frac{n}{2}}}{2^{n^2} - n + 1}$$

but we have  $n^{n+1} 2^{\frac{n}{2}} = 2^{(n+1) \log n + \frac{n}{2}}$  and  $2^{(n+1) \log n + \frac{n}{2}} \ll 2^{n^2}$  since for large enough  $n$ ,  $\log n + \frac{1}{2} \ll n$ . Thus  $\lim_{\substack{n \rightarrow \infty \\ n \text{ even}}} \frac{\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}^n}{\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n} = 0$ . Using the same pattern, for odd  $n$ ,

$$\frac{\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n}{\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}^n} \leq \frac{n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2}}{\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}(\frac{n-1}{2})!} n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n}} \leq \frac{n^n 2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}}{(2^{n^2} - n + 2)(2^{n^2} - n + 1)} \leq \frac{2^n \log n + \frac{n-1}{2}}{(2^{n^2} - n + 2)(2^{n^2} - n + 1)}$$

and so  $\lim_{\substack{n \rightarrow \infty \\ n \text{ odd}}} \frac{\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n}{\#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}^n} = 0$ . Now let  $\mathcal{T} = \{(\mathcal{E} \wedge \forall x P(x)) \vee (\mathcal{O} \wedge \forall x \neg P(x))\}$ . Then for a sentence like  $P(a_1)$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^n)(P(a_1))$$

does not exist. To see this notice that for very large  $n$ , if  $n$  is even almost all models of  $\mathcal{T}$  of size  $n$  should satisfy  $\mathcal{E} \wedge \forall x P(x)$  and thus  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^n)(P(a_1)) = 1$  while for odd  $n$ , almost all models of  $\mathcal{T}$  will satisfy  $\mathcal{O} \wedge \forall x \neg P(x)$  and thus  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^n)(P(a_1)) = 0$ . This example shows that even in the case of a  $\Pi_2$  knowledge base, we cannot in general define  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}})(\phi)$ , as the limiting case of probabilities assigned to it over the

finite sub languages  $L^n$ ,  $N(C_{\mathcal{T}}^{(n)})(\phi^n)$ , simply because the relevant asymptotic limit does not necessarily exist even when we drop the equality from language.<sup>9</sup>

## 7 Conclusion

Probabilistic characterisation of under-determined models specified by some finite consistent set of axioms is of interest in many areas and there is extensive literature studying this question for propositional languages and different approaches has been proposed and studied each promoting some notion normality for the way such probabilistic characterisation is carried out. The situation for first order languages, however, seem significantly different. One approach to answer this for the first order case is to attempt to define this probabilistic characterisation directly on the first order language. This, however, seems to depend strongly on the specific conditions that one assumes for the way that the characterisation has to be carried out. In our terminology, on how exactly the notion of normality for the probabilistic characterisation is formalised. However, even for specific cases, and indeed even for the most extensively studied notion of normality, i.e. the Maximum Entropy models, there is no proposal on how define this probabilistic models directly on the first order language in general, see [30]. A second approach is to try define the probabilistic models on first order languages as the limit of such models on finite sublanguages. These sublanguages can be essentially treated as propositional languages where the situation is much better understood. There are however at least two issues with this approach. First comes from dealing with sets of first order axioms that have no finite models where this approach fails immediately. But even assuming that the set fo axioms will have finite models of sufficiently large size, still this limit does not necessarily exists in general as we showed in the previous section. Nevertheless as we showed for *simple* sets of axioms, i.e those with quantifier complexity of at most  $\Pi_1$  the approach looks promising. We showed this any set of axioms from a unary first order language and for sets of axioms with quantifier complexity of  $\Sigma_1$  as well as for special cases of  $\Pi_1$  sets of axioms. We conjecture that this is also the case for all  $\Pi_1$  sets of axioms.

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<sup>9</sup>The idea of using a relation symbol, here  $G$ , to 'approximate' the equality via  $=_G$  is due to Grove, Halpern and Koller [13] to my knowledge.

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## 8 Appendix

### Proof of Claim 1

**Proof.** Let  $B = (b_{ij})$  be an  $R \times R$  lower triangular matrix with positive entries. Then the  $ij$  entry of  $B^n$ , for  $i \geq j$  is given by

$$\sum_{i=t_0 > t_1 > \dots > t_m = j} \sum_{r_1 + \dots + r_m = n - m} \prod_{s=0}^{m-1} b_{t_s t_{s+1}} \prod_{s=0}^m b_{t_s t_s}^{r_s}.$$

There are only a finite fixed number of possible  $t_0, \dots, t_m$  so it would be enough to show that for two particular choices (possibly at different  $i, j$ ) the limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{r_1 + \dots + r_m = n} \prod_{s=0}^m b_{t_s t_s}^{r_s}}{\sum_{u_1 + \dots + u_q = n} \prod_{s=0}^q b_{g_s g_s}^{u_s}} \quad (22)$$

either exists or is  $\infty$ . To show this we will first find a better expression for, say, the numerator. We will consider this in two cases.

**Case1** Assume that all the  $b_{t_s t_s}$  are different. The following rather technical lemmas will prove useful in what follows.

**Lemma 10.**

$$\sum_{i=0}^m \frac{1}{(b_{m+1} - b_i) \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_j)} = \frac{1}{\prod_{k=0}^m (b_{m+1} - b_k)}$$

**Proof.** we will show that :

$$\sum_{i=0}^m \frac{1}{(b_{m+1} - b_i) \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_j)} - \frac{1}{\prod_{k=0}^m (b_{m+1} - b_k)} = 0$$

To see this multiply both sides by  $\prod_{k=0}^m (b_{m+1} - b_k)$  and we will have :

$$\sum_{i=0}^m \frac{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m (b_{m+1} - b_k)}{\prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_j)} - 1 = 0$$

The left hand side is polynomial in  $b_{m+1}$  with degree  $m$  and  $m + 1$  distinct zeros, namely  $\{b_0, b_1, \dots, b_m\}$ , so it should be identical with zero. ■

**Lemma 11.**

$$\sum_{j=1}^m \left( \sum_{\substack{i=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m \frac{b_{m+1}^{n+j} b_i^{m-j}}{\prod_{k=0}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right) = 0$$

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^m \left( \sum_{\substack{i=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m \frac{b_{m+1}^{n+j} b_i^{m-j}}{\prod_{k=0}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right) &= b_{m+1}^{n+1} \left[ \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} b_{m+1}^j b_i^{m-1-j}}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right] = b_{m+1}^{n+1} \left[ \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{b_{m+1}^m - b_i^m}{(b_{m+1} - b_i) \prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right] \\ &= b_{m+1}^{n+1} \left[ \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{b_{m+1}^m}{(b_{m+1} - b_i) \prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{b_i^m}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$= b_{m+1}^{n+1} \left[ \frac{b_{m+1}^m}{\prod_{k=0}^m (b_{m+1} - b_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{b_i^m}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^{m+1} (b_i - b_k)} \right]$$

where the last equality is given by Lemma 10. Thus it would be enough to show that

$$\left[ \frac{b_{m+1}^m}{\prod_{k=0}^m (b_{m+1} - b_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{b_i^m}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^{m+1} (b_i - b_k)} \right] = 0$$

To see this multiply both sides by  $\prod_{k=0}^m (b_{m+1} - b_k)$  and we will have

$$b_{m+1}^m - \left( \frac{b_0^m (b_{m+1} - b_1) \dots (b_{m+1} - b_m)}{(b_0 - b_1) \dots (b_0 - b_m)} + \dots + \frac{b_m^m (b_{m+1} - b_0) \dots (b_{m+1} - b_{m-1})}{(b_m - b_0) \dots (b_m - b_{m-1})} \right)$$

the above expression is a polynomial of degree  $m$  with respect to  $b_{m+1}$  which has  $m + 1$  roots, namely  $\{b_0, \dots, b_m\}$  so it should be identical with zero. ■

**Claim 4.**

$$\sum_{r_0 + \dots + r_m = n} \prod_{s=0}^m b_{t_s t_s}^{r_s} = \sum_{s=0}^m b_{t_s t_s}^{n+m} \prod_{y \neq s} (b_{t_s t_s} - b_{t_y t_y})^{-1}.$$

**Proof.**

Proof by induction on  $m$ ; For the base case, where  $m = 0$  we have

$$b_{t_0 t_0}^n = b_{t_0 t_0}^n$$

which is clearly true. Suppose the result is true for  $m$  and we will prove it for  $m + 1$  to simplify the notation we will show  $b_{t_s t_s}$  by  $b_s$  etc.:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r_0 + \dots + r_m + r_{m+1} = n} \prod_{s=0}^{m+1} b_s^{r_s} &= \sum_{r_{m+1}=0}^n \left[ \sum_{r_0 + \dots + r_m = n - r_{m+1}} b_{m+1}^{r_{m+1}} \prod_{s=0}^m b_s^{r_s} \right] \\ &= \sum_{r_{m+1}=0}^n \left[ b_{m+1}^{r_{m+1}} \sum_{s=0}^m b_s^{n+m-r_{m+1}} \prod_{y \neq s} (b_s - b_y)^{-1} \right] = \sum_{j=0}^n \left( \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{b_{m+1}^j b_i^{n+m-j}}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

The equality before last is given by the induction hypothesis. We add to this the expression in Lemma (which is equal to zero),

So we will have

$$\sum_{r_0 + \dots + r_m + r_{m+1} = n} \prod_{s=0}^{m+1} b_s^{r_s} = \sum_{j=0}^n \left( \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{b_{m+1}^j b_i^{n+m-j}}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right) + \sum_{j=1}^m \left( \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{b_{m+1}^{n+j} b_i^{m-j}}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right) =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=0}^m \left( \sum_{\substack{j=0 \\ k \neq i}}^{n+m} \frac{b_{m+1}^j b_i^{n+m-j}}{\prod_{k=0}^m (b_i - b_k)} \right) &= \sum_{i=0}^m \left( \frac{b_i^{n+m+1} - b_{m+1}^{n+m+1}}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^{m+1} (b_i - b_k)} \right) \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^m \left( \frac{b_i^{n+m+1}}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^{m+1} (b_i - b_k)} \right) - \sum_{i=0}^m \left( \frac{b_{m+1}^{n+m+1}}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^{m+1} (b_i - b_k)} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

and using Lemma 10, we have

$$\sum_{r_0+\dots+r_m+r_{m+1}=n} \prod_{s=0}^{m+1} b_s^{r_s} = \sum_{i=0}^m \left( \frac{b_i^{n+m+1}}{\prod_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \neq i}}^{m+1} (b_i - b_k)} \right) + \frac{b_{m+1}^{n+m+1}}{\prod_{k=0}^m (b_{m+1} - b_k)} = \sum_{s=0}^{m+1} b_s^{n+m+1} \prod_{y \neq s} (b_s - b_y)^{-1}$$

and this completes the proof of Claim 4.  $\blacksquare$

Now using Claim 4 for the case when all  $b_{t_s t_s}$  are distinct, we can see that the limit in (22) clearly exists, if  $\max\{b_{t_s t_s}\} \leq \max\{b_{g_s g_s}\}$  and is  $\infty$  otherwise.

**Case 2** If not all the  $b_{t_s t_s}$  are distinct, suppose that the distinct values are  $a_0, \dots, a_p$  and let  $A_j = \{t \mid b_{tt} = a_j\}$ ,  $d_j = |A_j|$  and  $r'_j = \sum_{b_{t_i t_i} = a_j} r_i$  then

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{r_0+\dots+r_m=n} \prod_{s=0}^m b_{t_s t_s}^{r_s} &= \lim_{A_p \rightarrow a_p} \dots \lim_{A_0 \rightarrow a_0} \sum_{r_0+\dots+r_m=n} \prod_{s=0}^m z_{t_s t_s}^{r_s} \\
&= \lim_{A_p \rightarrow a_p} \dots \lim_{A_0 \rightarrow a_0} \sum_{s=0}^m z_{t_s t_s}^{n+m} \prod_{y \neq s} (z_{t_s t_s} - z_{t_y t_y})^{-1} = \\
&\lim_{A_p \rightarrow a_p} \dots \lim_{A_0 \rightarrow a_0} \sum_{t_s \in A_0} z_{t_s t_s}^{n+m} \prod_{y \neq s} (z_{t_s t_s} - z_{t_y t_y})^{-1} + \dots + \lim_{A_p \rightarrow a_p} \dots \lim_{A_0 \rightarrow a_0} \sum_{t_s \in A_p} z_{t_s t_s}^{n+m} \prod_{y \neq s} (z_{t_s t_s} - z_{t_y t_y})^{-1} \\
&= \lim_{A_0 \rightarrow a_0} \sum_{t_s \in A_0} \frac{z_{t_s t_s}^{n+m}}{\prod_{j=1}^p (z_{t_s t_s} - a_j)^{d_j}} \prod_{\substack{y \neq s \\ t_y \in A_0}} (z_{t_s t_s} - z_{t_y t_y})^{-1} + \dots + \lim_{A_p \rightarrow a_p} \sum_{t_s \in A_p} \frac{z_{t_s t_s}^{n+m}}{\prod_{j=0}^{p-1} (z_{t_s t_s} - a_j)^{d_j}} \prod_{\substack{y \neq s \\ t_y \in A_p}} (z_{t_s t_s} - z_{t_y t_y})^{-1}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $A_i \rightarrow a_i$  is intended as short for  $\lim_{z_{t_k t_k} \rightarrow a_i} \dots \lim_{z_{t_1 t_1} \rightarrow a_i}$  where  $A_i = \{t_1, \dots, t_k\}$ .

**Lemma 12.**

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow x} (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x^k} \left( \frac{f(x)}{x-z} - \frac{f(z)}{x-z} \right) = \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \frac{\partial^{k+1}}{\partial x^{k+1}} f(x)$$

**Proof.**

Using the infinite Taylor expansion

$$f(z) = f(x) + (z-x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x) + \frac{(z-x)^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} f(x) + \dots$$

for well behaved  $f(x)$  we have:

$$\frac{f(x)}{x-z} - \frac{f(z)}{x-z} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(z-x)^{n-1}}{n!} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} f(x)$$

and thus

$$\frac{1}{k!} \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \left( \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x^k} \left( \frac{f(x)}{x-z} - \frac{f(z)}{x-z} \right) \right) = \frac{1}{k!} \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \left( \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x^k} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(z-x)^{n-1}}{n!} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} f(x) \right) \right) \quad (23)$$

any term in the right hand side with  $n > k+1$  will include a positive power of  $(z-x)$  after  $k$  derivative and so will approach zero as  $z \rightarrow x$ . So from (23)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{k!} \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \left( \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x^k} \left( \frac{f(x)}{x-z} - \frac{f(z)}{x-z} \right) \right) &= \frac{1}{k!} \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \left( \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x^k} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{k+1} \frac{(z-x)^{n-1}}{n!} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} f(x) \right) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{k!} \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{k+1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i} \frac{\partial^i}{\partial x^i} \left( \frac{(z-x)^{n-1}}{n!} \right) \frac{\partial^{n+k-i}}{\partial x^{n+k-i}} f(x) \right) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Any terms in the inner sum of the rightmost expression with  $i \geq n$  is zero because  $\frac{\partial^i}{\partial x^i} \left( \frac{(z-x)^{n-1}}{n!} \right) = 0$  for  $i \geq n$  also for  $i < n-1$ ,  $\frac{\partial^i}{\partial x^i} \left( \frac{(z-x)^{n-1}}{n!} \right)$  will include a positive power of  $(z-x)$  and so for every term, say  $T$ , in the above expression with  $i < n-1$  we have

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow x} T = 0$$

so from 24 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{k!} \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \left( \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x^k} \left( \frac{f(x)}{x-z} - \frac{f(z)}{x-z} \right) \right) &= \frac{1}{k!} \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{k+1} \binom{k}{n-1} \frac{\partial^{n-1}}{\partial x^{n-1}} \left( \frac{(z-x)^{n-1}}{n!} \right) \frac{\partial^{k+1}}{\partial x^{k+1}} f(x) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{n=1}^{k+1} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} \binom{k}{n-1} \frac{\partial^{k+1}}{\partial x^{k+1}} f(x) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{n=1}^{k+1} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} \frac{k!}{(n-1)!(k+1-n)!} \frac{\partial^{k+1}}{\partial x^{k+1}} f(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \sum_{n=1}^{k+1} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{(k+1)!}{n!(k+1-n)!} \frac{\partial^{k+1}}{\partial x^{k+1}} f(x) = \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \sum_{n=1}^{k+1} (-1)^{n-1} \binom{k+1}{n} \frac{\partial^{k+1}}{\partial x^{k+1}} f(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \frac{\partial^{k+1}}{\partial x^{k+1}} f(x) \end{aligned}$$

■

**Lemma 13.** For well behaved  $g(x)$ :

$$\lim_{x_k \rightarrow x_1} \lim_{x_{k-1} \rightarrow x_1} \dots \lim_{x_2 \rightarrow x_1} \sum_{i=1}^k g(x_i) \prod_{i \neq j} (x_i - x_j)^{-1} = \left( (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} g(x) \right)_{x_1}$$

*Proof.* By induction on  $k$ . The result is obvious for  $k = 2$ . Suppose the lemma is true for  $k$  and we will show it for  $k + 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x_1} \lim_{x_k \rightarrow x_1} \dots \lim_{x_2 \rightarrow x_1} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} g(x_i) \prod_{i \neq j} (x_i - x_j)^{-1} &= \lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x_1} \left( \lim_{x_k \rightarrow x_1} \dots \lim_{x_2 \rightarrow x_1} \sum_{i=1}^k g(x_i) \prod_{i \neq j} (x_i - x_j)^{-1} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. \lim_{x_k \rightarrow x_1} \dots \lim_{x_2 \rightarrow x_1} g(x_{k+1}) \prod_{i \neq k+1} (x_{k+1} - x_i)^{-1} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that for well-behaved  $g$  we have

$$\left( (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} g(x) \right)_{x_1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_1} (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} g(x).$$

Now using the induction hypothesis for  $\frac{g(x)}{x - x_{k+1}}$  we will have

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x_1} \lim_{x_k \rightarrow x_1} \dots \lim_{x_2 \rightarrow x_1} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} g(x_i) \prod_{i \neq j} (x_i - x_j)^{-1} \\ &= \lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x_1} \left( \left( (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} \frac{g(x)}{(x - x_{k+1})} \right)_{x_1} - (-1)^k \frac{g(x_{k+1})}{(x_1 - x_{k+1})^{k-1}} \right) \\ &= \lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x_1} \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow x_1} \left( (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} \frac{g(x)}{(x - x_{k+1})} \right) - \lim_{x \rightarrow x_1} \left( (-1)^k \frac{g(x_{k+1})}{(x - x_{k+1})^{k-1}} \right) \right) \\ &= \lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x_1} \lim_{x \rightarrow x_1} \left( (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} \frac{g(x)}{(x - x_{k+1})} - (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} \frac{g(x_{k+1})}{(x - x_{k+1})} \right) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_1} \lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x} (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} \left( \frac{g(x)}{x - x_{k+1}} - \frac{g(x_{k+1})}{x - x_{k+1}} \right) \quad (25) \end{aligned}$$

(since all the functions involved are well-behaved). Using Lemma 12 from (25) we have:

$$\lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x_1} \lim_{x_k \rightarrow x_1} \dots \lim_{x_2 \rightarrow x_1} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} g(x_i) \prod_{i \neq j} (x_i - x_j)^{-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_1} \lim_{x_{k+1} \rightarrow x} (k!)^{-1} \frac{\partial^{k-1}}{\partial x^{k-1}} \left( \frac{g(x)}{x - x_{k+1}} - \frac{g(x_{k+1})}{x - x_{k+1}} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_1} \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \left( \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x^k} g(x) \right) = \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \left( \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x^k} g(x) \right)_{x_1}$$

as required and this completes the proof of Lemma 13.  $\square$

Using Lemma 12 the expressions in the numerator and denominator of (22) will be in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r_0 + \dots + r_m = n} \prod_{s=0}^m b_{t_s t_s}^{r_s} &= \sum_{i=0}^p \lim_{A_1 \rightarrow a_1} \sum_{t_s \in A_i} \frac{z_{t_s t_s}^{n+m}}{\prod_{j=1}^p (z_{t_s t_s} - a_j)^{d_j}} \prod_{\substack{y \neq s \\ t_y \in A_i}} (z_{t_s t_s} - z_{t_y t_y})^{-1} = \\ &= \sum \frac{1}{d_0!} \left( \frac{\partial^{d_0}}{\partial z_{t_s t_s}^{d_0}} \left( \frac{z_{t_s t_s}^{n+m}}{\prod_{j=1}^p (z_{t_s t_s} - a_j)^{d_j}} \right) \right)_{a_0} \\ &+ \dots + \frac{1}{d_p!} \left( \frac{\partial^{d_p}}{\partial z_{t_s t_s}^{d_p}} \left( \frac{z_{t_s t_s}^{n+m}}{\prod_{j=0}^{p-1} (z_{t_s t_s} - a_j)^{d_j}} \right) \right)_{a_p} \end{aligned}$$

Again in this case we can see that limit in 22 exists if  $\max\{b_{t_s t_s}\} \leq \max\{b_{g_s g_s}\}$  and is  $\infty$  otherwise.

Having established 22 we can see that for every two element in the matrix  $B^n$  either the limit of the ratio of these elements is finite or one of them grow much faster than the other. In other words there are some  $b_{i_1 j_1}^{(n)}, \dots, b_{i_q j_q}^{(n)}$  such that the ratio of any two of these tends to a finite non-zero limit whilst for any other  $b_{k_s}^{(n)}$  in  $B^n$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{k_s}^{(n)}}{b_{i_j}^{(n)}} = 0.$$

Thus if we consider

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle B^{kT} \vec{e}_i}{\langle 1, 1, \dots, 1 \rangle B^{kT} (\vec{e}_i + \vec{e}_h)}$$

the limit will be finite if the ratio of every two elements has a finite limit and if not all of them have a finite limit then the one that grows fastest will appear in the denominator and makes the overall limit zero or 1 and this completes the proof of Claim 1.  $\blacksquare$

**Proof of Claim 2 Proof.** Let  $n$  be an even number. Then there will be  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}} (\frac{n}{2})!} \binom{2n^2}{n}$  many models for which we have  $\mathcal{M} \models a_i \neq_G a_j$   $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . That is the number of models of  $\mathcal{E}$  where the  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are different with respect to  $=_G$  and there will be at most  $n^n \binom{2n^2}{n-2}$  many models where not all of  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are different. To see this

notice that  $\binom{2^{n^2}}{n}$  is the number of ways we can interpret  $G$  so that  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are all different according to  $=_G$ . Let  $P_1(x), \dots, P_{2^{n^2}}(x)$  denote the sentences of the form  $\bigwedge_{i=1}^n \bigwedge_{j=1}^n \pm G(x, a_i, a_j)$ . When  $G$  is interpreted on  $L^n$  each  $a_i$   $1 \leq i \leq n$  will satisfy one of the  $P_k(x)$   $1 \leq k \leq 2^{n^2}$ . The fact that  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are different according to  $G$  means that each  $P_k(x)$  is satisfied by at most one  $a_i$ . So the number of ways we can interpret  $G$  such that  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are all different in respect to  $=_G$  will be the number of ways we can choose  $P_{i_1}(x), \dots, P_{i_n}(x)$  all different among  $P_1(x), \dots, P_{2^{n^2}}(x)$  each being intended for a different  $a_i$  that will be  $\binom{2^{n^2}}{n}$ .

After  $G$  is interpreted and  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are all chosen to be different in respect to  $=_G$ ,  $R$  will put  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  into groups of 2. To see this notice that in  $\mathcal{E}$ , we have  $\forall x \exists y (x \neq_G y \wedge R(x, y))$ . So each element is paired with at least one element and it cannot be paired with more than one because if we have  $R(x, y) \wedge R(x, z)$  then we should have  $x =_G y$  or  $x =_G z$  or  $y =_G z$  but  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are chosen to be different according to  $=_G$ . So the number of different possibilities for  $R$  will be the number of ways we can put  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ , into groups of 2, that is  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}}}$  and this should be divided by  $(\frac{n}{2})!$  because the order in which these groups of 2 are chosen is not important and so the number of possibilities for  $R$  will be  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}}(\frac{n}{2})!}$ . Thus the number of models of size  $n$  for even

$n$  (where the  $a_i$ 's are mutually different in respect to  $=_G$ ) will be  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}}(\frac{n}{2})!} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n}$ . For models where not all of  $a_i$ 's are different according to  $=_G$  assume that  $n - 2k$  of them are different and then we will take the sum over  $k = 1, \dots, \frac{n}{2}$ . Notice that it is not possible to have an odd number of  $a_i$ 's mutually different with respect to  $=_G$  because  $R$  is dividing those elements of the model that are mutually different with respect to  $=_G$  into groups of 2 and this will not be possible if the number of these elements is odd. To see this notice that  $R$  will be grouping the elements of the model such that each group contains at least 2 different elements with respect to  $=_G$  (because of the conjunct  $\forall x \exists y (x \neq_G y \wedge R(x, y))$ ). On the other hand if a group contains more than 2 elements, say 3,  $\mathcal{E}$  will force the third element to be equal according to  $=_G$  with one of the other two. So when all the elements of the model are different with each other according to  $=_G$ , there cannot be any group with more than 2 elements hence  $R$  will be dividing the elements of the model into disjoint pairs. Then, the number of ways we can define  $G$  such that  $n - 2k$  of  $a_i$ 's are different will be  $\binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2k}$  and the number of ways we can put these  $n - 2k$  many  $a_i$ 's into groups of 2 will be  $\frac{(n-2k)!}{2^{\frac{n-2k}{2}}(\frac{n-2k}{2})!}$ , whilst each of the remaining  $2k$  elements, say  $a_{n-2k+1}, \dots, a_n$ , can be equal (with respect to  $=_G$ ) to any of the  $n - 2k$  elements,  $a_1, \dots, a_{n-2k}$ , and so will belong to corresponding group of 2. Hence each of these  $2k$  elements can belong to any of  $\frac{n-2k}{2}$  groups and there will be  $(\frac{n-2k}{2})^{2k}$  possibilities. Thus the number of models of size even  $n$  where  $n - 2k$  elements are



different according to  $=_G$  will be

$$\left(\frac{n-2k}{2}\right)^{2k} \frac{(n-2k)!}{2^{\frac{n-2k}{2}} \left(\frac{n-2k}{2}\right)!} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2k} \leq n^{n-1} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2} \quad (26)$$

and using (26) the total number of models of  $\mathcal{E}$  of size  $n$  where not all the  $a_i$ 's are different with respect to  $=_G$  will be  $\sum_{k=1}^{\frac{n}{2}} \left(\frac{n-2k}{2}\right)^{2k} \frac{(n-2k)!}{2^{\frac{n-2k}{2}} \left(\frac{n-2k}{2}\right)!} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2k} \leq \frac{n}{2} \cdot n^{n-1} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2} \leq n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2}$ . And this gives us an upper bound on the number of models in this case.

Hence for  $n$  even, we have  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}} \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)!} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n} \leq \#\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{E}}^n \leq \frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n}{2}} \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)!} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n} + n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2}$ .

If  $n = 2k + 1$  is an odd number, notice that there will be no model of  $\mathcal{E}$  where  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are mutually different with respect to  $=_G$ . To see this remember that  $R$  will be grouping the elements of the model into disjoint pairs and this is not possible when the number of elements is odd. Thus the only models of  $\mathcal{E}$  of size odd will be those in which some of the  $a_i$ 's are equal according to  $=_G$ . In exactly the same way as above we can show that the number of models of size  $n$  for odd  $n$ , will be at most

$$n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-1}$$

and this will be an upper bound on the number of models of  $\mathcal{E}$  of size  $n$  where  $n$  is odd. ■

### Proof of Claim 3 Proof.

Let  $n$  be even. According to  $\mathcal{O}$  there should exist at least one element  $a_i$  with  $R(a_i, a_i)$ . This means that  $\mathcal{O}$  cannot have models of size even where all the elements are different with respect to  $=_G$ . To see this assume that all the elements are different according to  $=_G$  and let  $a_i$  be such that  $R(a_i, a_i)$  holds. Then  $\neg R(a_i, a_j)$  for  $i \neq j$  because otherwise we will have  $R(a_i, a_i) \wedge R(a_i, a_j)$  and so  $a_i =_G a_j$  which is a contradiction. On the other hand  $a_i$  will be the only element with  $R(a_i, a_i)$  because if for  $k \neq i$ ,  $R(a_k, a_k)$  then  $a_i =_G a_k$  which again is a contradiction. So  $R$  will connect  $a_i$  only to itself and then will divide the rest of the elements into groups of two which is impossible as there will be an odd number of elements left. So there will be no model of size  $n$  where the elements are all different with respect to  $G$ .

For the number of models of size  $n$  where not all the elements are different with respect to  $=_G$  suppose first that there are  $n-2k$  distinguishable elements. There will be an element connected to itself through  $R$  which should be one of these  $n-2k$  elements but as above this cannot be the case because there can be at most one of them with this property and if there exists one such element in the domain there will be an odd number left and it will not be possible to interpret  $R$  in a way to put

them into groups of two. Hence there will be no model where  $n - 2k$  elements are different with respect to  $=_G$ . It remain the case where the models are of size even  $n$  and  $n - 2k + 1$  elements are different with respect to  $=_G$ . In this case exactly one of these  $n - 2k + 1$  elements will be connected to itself and to no other of the remaining  $n - 2k$  and the other  $n - 2k$  will again be divided into groups of two. For the rest of the domain ( $2k - 1$  elements) each can be connected through  $R$  to one element in one of these groups of two or can be connected to the one element that is connected to itself. Hence the number of possibilities will be

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \frac{(n-2k)!}{2^{\frac{n-2k}{2}} \left(\frac{n-2k}{2}\right)!} \binom{n-2k+1}{1} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2k+1} \left(\frac{n-2k+2}{2}\right)^{2k-1} &\leq \\ \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \frac{n^{n-2k-1}}{2^{\frac{n-2k}{2}} \left(\frac{n-2k}{2}\right)!} \binom{n^{2k-1}}{2^{2k-1}} (n-2k+1) \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-2k+1} &\leq \\ \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{n}{2}-1} n^{n-1} \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-1} &\leq n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the number of models of size even  $n$  will be **at most**  $n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-1}$ . This gives an upper bound on the number of models of  $\mathcal{O}$  of even size. For an odd number  $n$ ,  $\mathcal{O}$  has  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right)!} .n. \binom{2^{n^2}}{n}$  many models where all the elements are different with respect to  $=_G$ . This is because we can choose  $n$  different elements with respect to  $=_G$  in  $\binom{2^{n^2}}{n}$  many ways and among them exactly one should be connected only to itself for which there are  $n$  possibilities and then the remaining  $n - 1$  should be divided into groups of two for which there are  $\frac{(n-1)!}{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}}$  possibilities. And there are at most  $n^n \binom{2^{n^2}}{n-1}$  many models where not all the elements are different according to  $=_G$  in the same way that it is calculated above. Hence  $\frac{n!}{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right)!} .n. \binom{2^{n^2}}{n}$  gives a lower bound on the number of models of  $\mathcal{O}$  of odd size. ■