

Efficient Adversaries

JÁN PICH

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

joint work with

Erfan Khaniki

Oxford

Dmitry Sokolov

Montreal

$\exists f \in \text{NTIME}[2^n], f \notin \text{Circuit}[9n]?$

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Razborov '95: $S_2^2(\alpha) \nVdash f \notin \text{Circuit}[n^{O(1)}]$ (if $\exists \text{PRG}$) (natural proofs)
Raz '01: $\text{Res} \nVdash f \notin \text{DNF}[n^{O(1)}]$ (pseudo-width)
Razborov '03: $\text{Res}(\Omega(\log n)) \nVdash f \notin \text{Circuit}[n^{O(1)}]$ (pc generators)

$\exists f \in \text{NTIME}[2^n], f \notin \text{Circuit}[9n]?$



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Razborov's conjecture

$\text{P/poly hard for NC}^1 \Rightarrow \text{Frege} \not\vdash f \notin \text{Circuit}[n^{O(1)}]$

$\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP hard for P/poly} \Rightarrow \text{EF} \not\vdash f \notin \text{Rng}(\text{NW}_h)$

Razborov's conjecture

P/poly hard for $\text{NC}^1 \Rightarrow \text{Frege} \not\vdash f \notin \text{Circuit}[n^{O(1)}]$
NP $\cap$ coNP hard for P/poly $\Rightarrow \text{EF} \not\vdash f \notin \text{Rng}(\text{NW}_h)$

Krajicek's conjecture

PRG $\Rightarrow \text{EF} \not\vdash f \notin \text{Circuit}[2^{\Omega(n)}]$

proof complexity

$\neg \exists$ p-bounded pps $\Leftrightarrow$ NP $\neq$ coNP

Frege
AC⁰-Frege
Resolution



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$\neg \exists$ p-bounded pps $\Leftrightarrow$ NP $\neq$ coNP

Frege
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Resolution



lifting $\Rightarrow$ monotone P/poly lbs
IPS lb $\Rightarrow$ VP $\neq$ VNP
R lb $\Rightarrow$ P $\neq$ NP T_R -consistent

EF lower bounds $\overset{?}{\Rightarrow}$ P $\neq$ NP

Why is Razborov-Krajicek conjecture hard?
(Natural proofs in proof complexity?)

Goal

constructive proof complexity lower bounds



new algorithms

adversary for $P \not\vdash^s \phi$

$\forall$ s-size P-refutation π of $\neg\phi \exists A$,
 A doesn't lose when traversing π
from $\perp$ to an axiom, following 0s

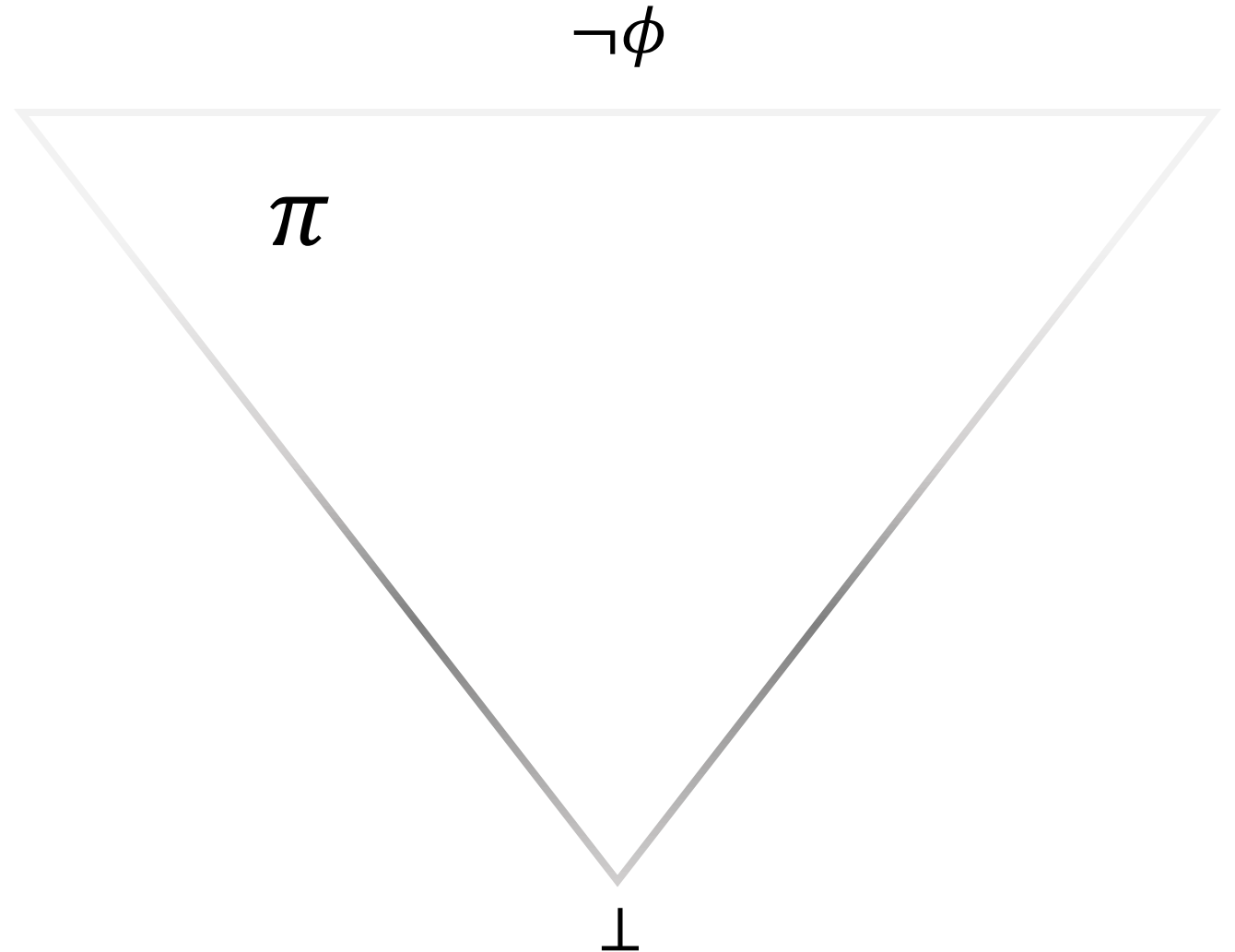
$$A(\neg\phi) = A(axiom) = 1$$

$$A(\perp) = 0$$

losing position

$$\frac{\begin{array}{cc} 1 & 1 \\ \psi_a & \psi_b \end{array}}{\psi_c}$$

0



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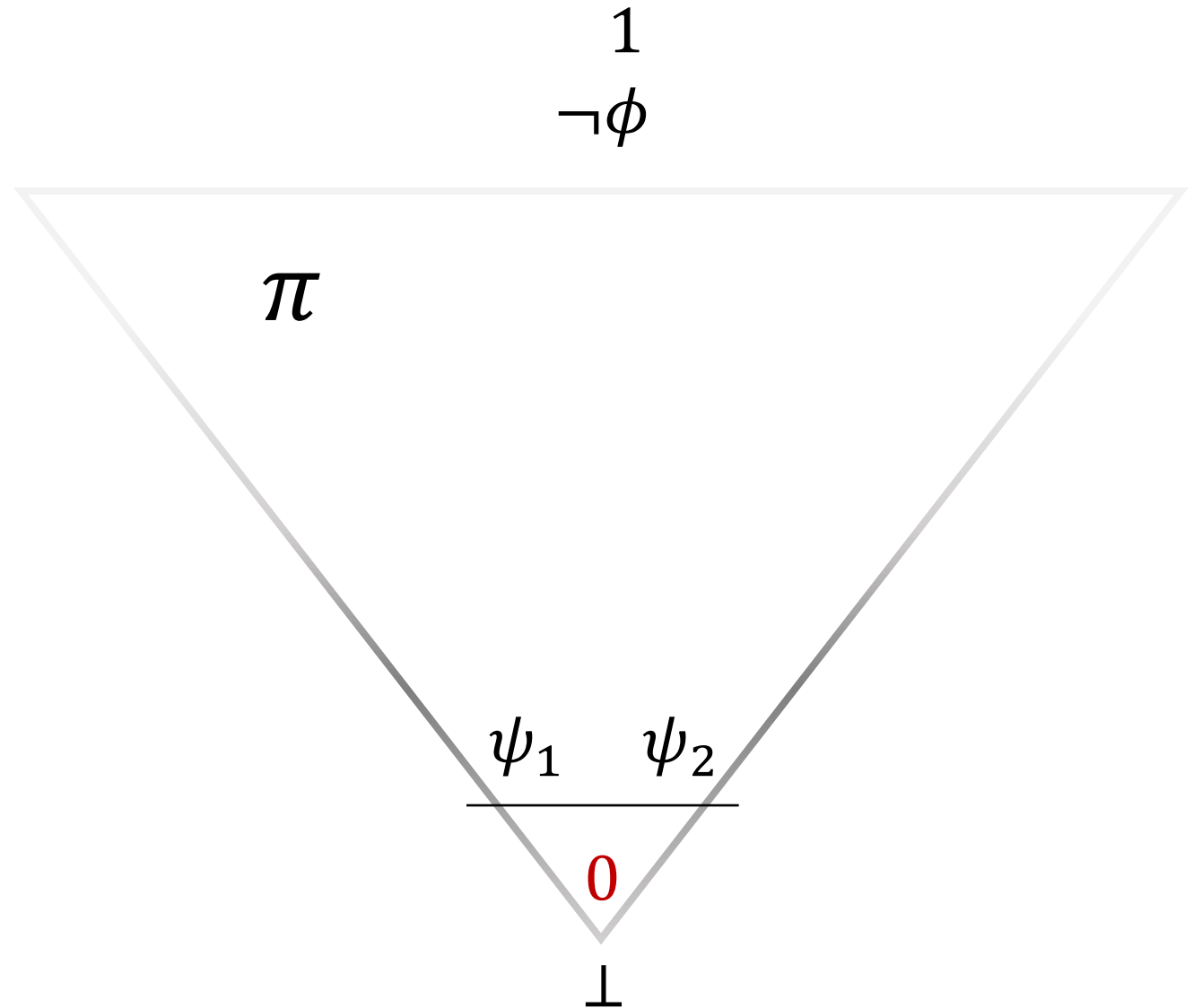
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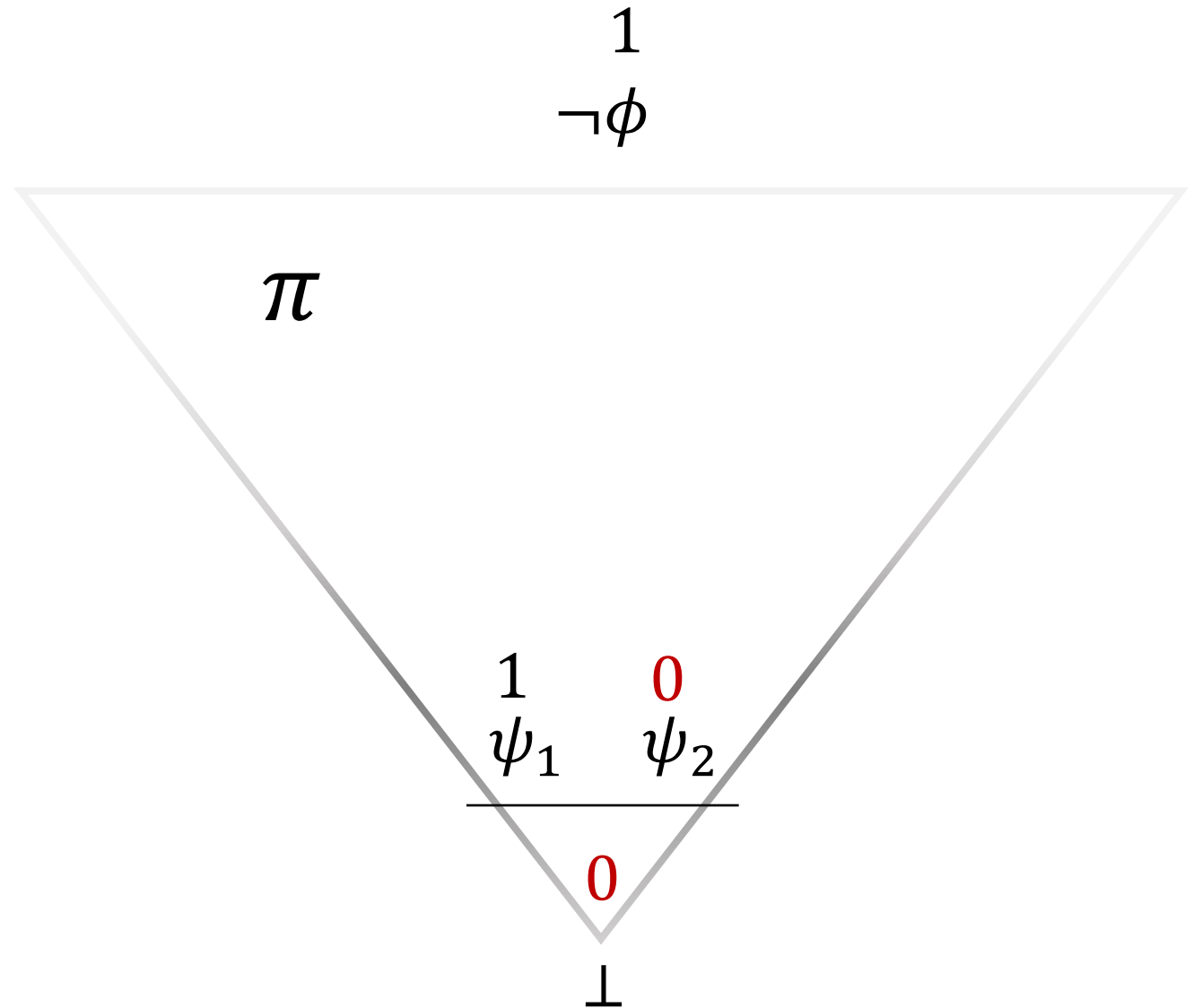
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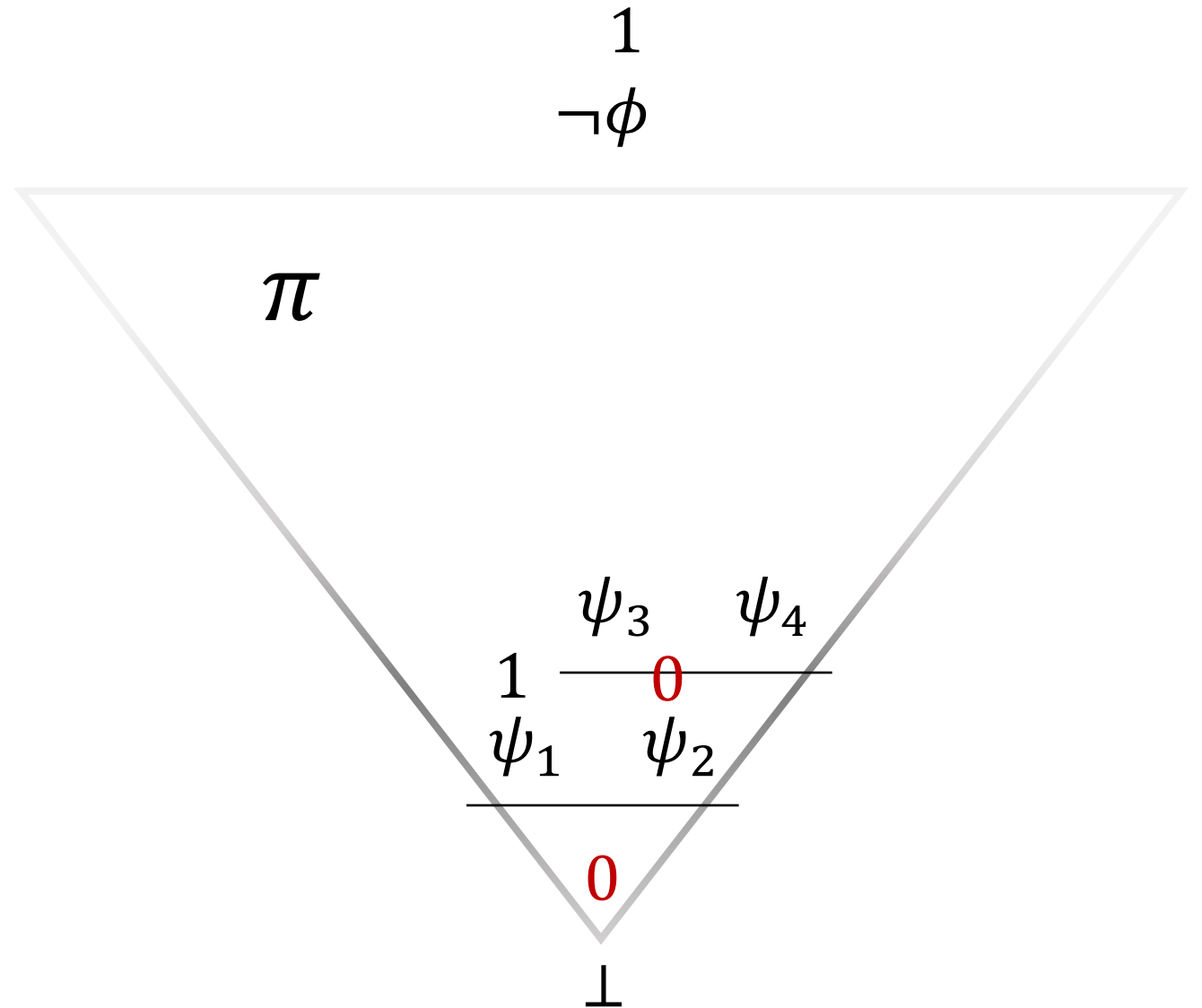
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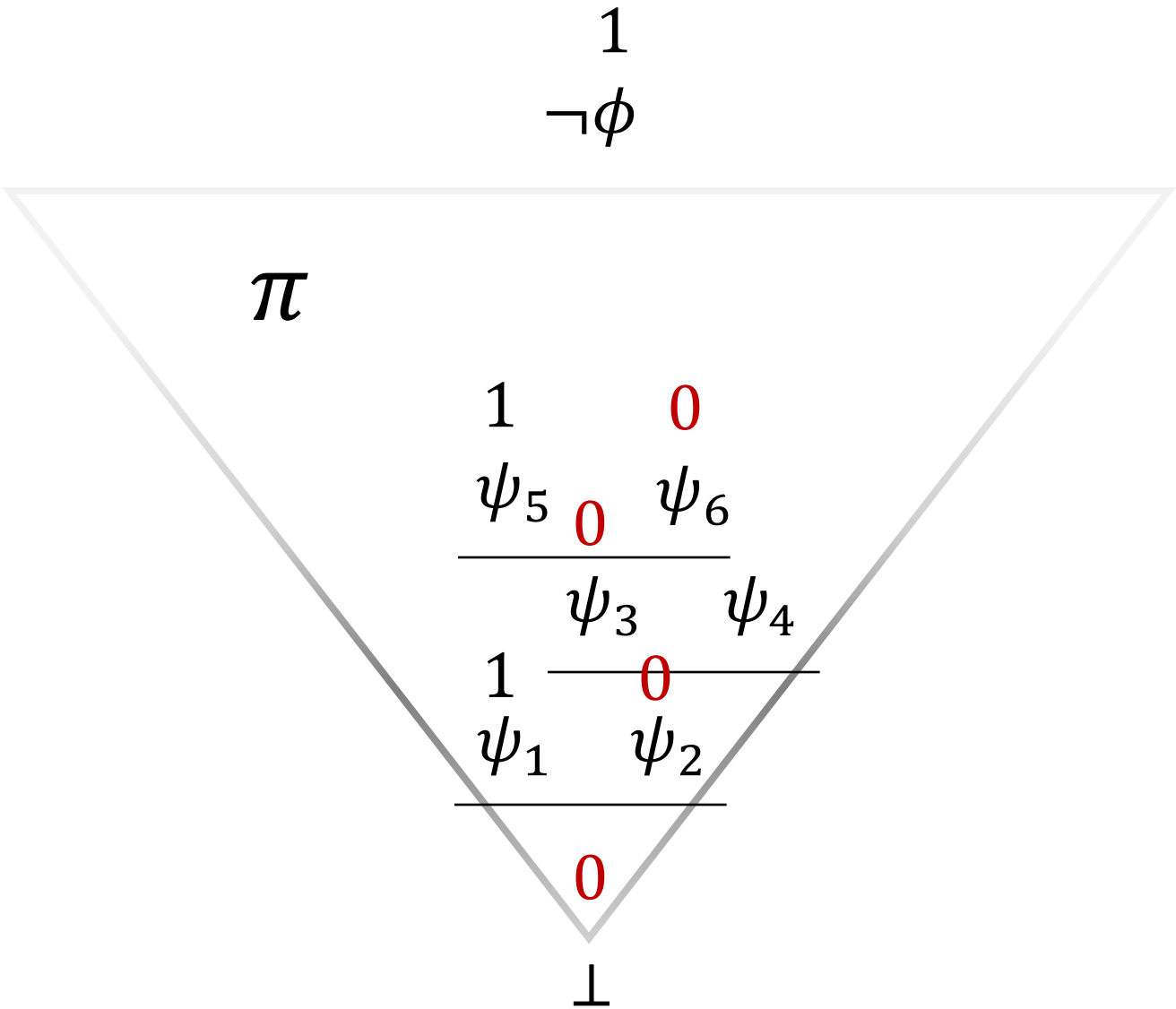
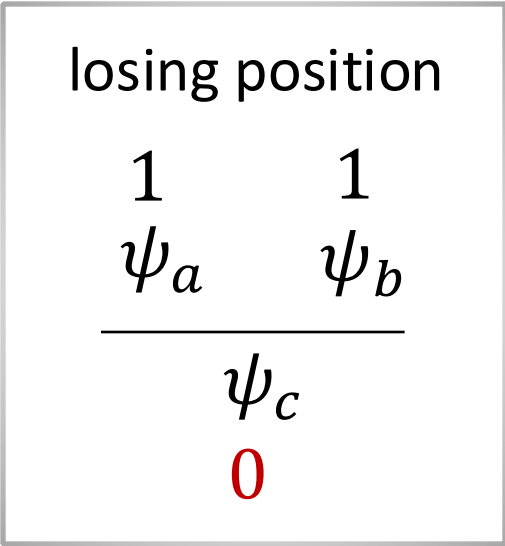


adversary for $P \not\vdash^s \phi$

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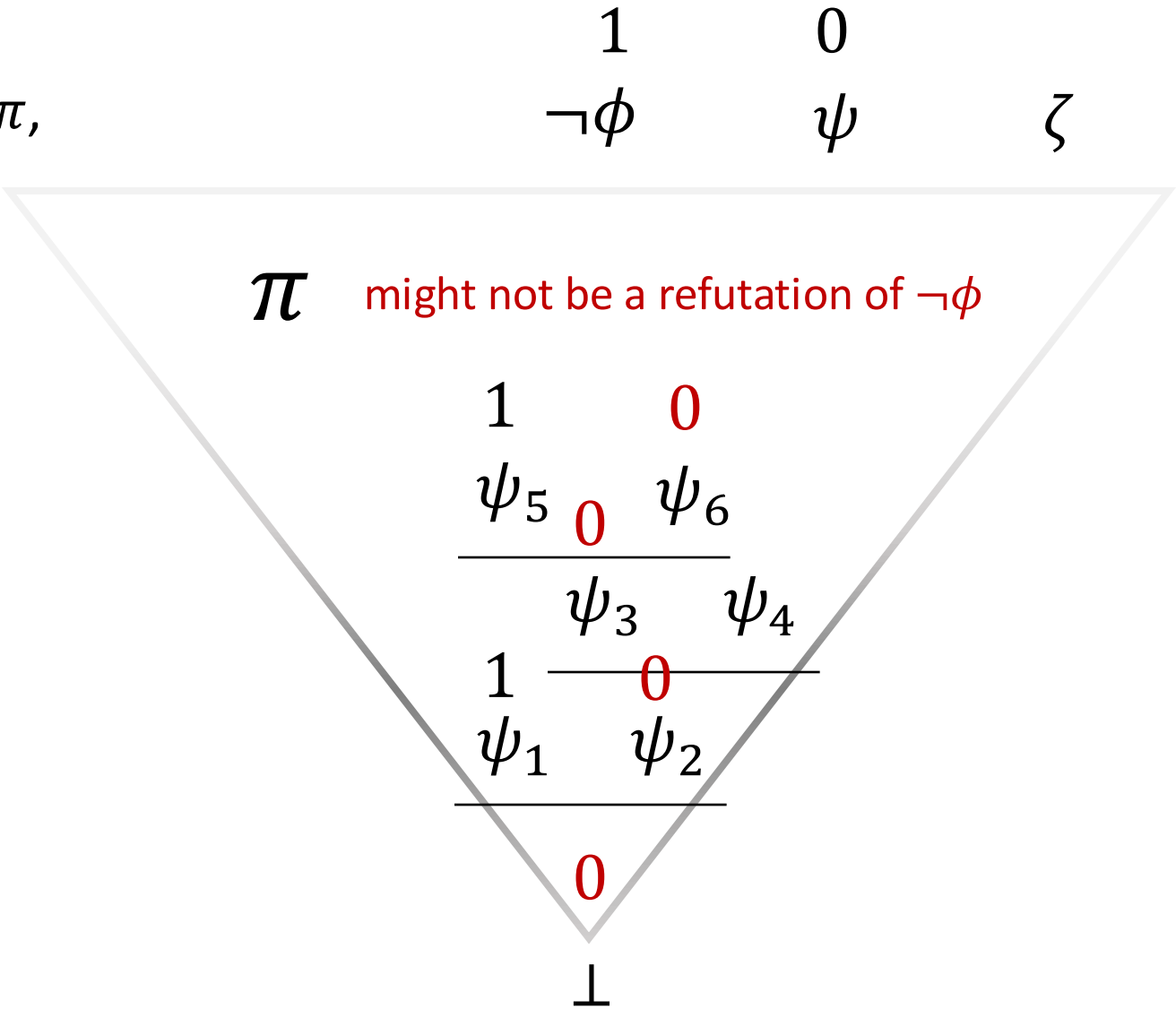
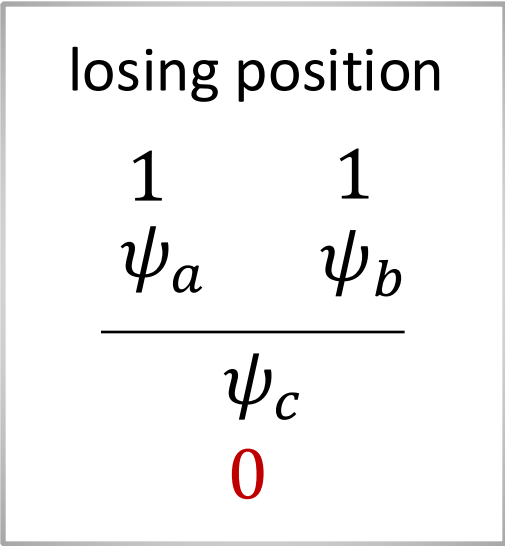


efficient adversary for $P \not\vdash^s \phi$

$\exists$ **ef alg A** s.t. $\forall$ s-size P-refutation π ,
A doesn't lose when traversing π
from $\perp$ to an axiom, following 0s

$$A(\neg\phi) = A(axiom) = 1$$

$$A(\perp) = 0$$



Theorem 1 (From adversaries to algorithms – Informal, cf. Theorem 6).

Assume 1 - 2:

1. (The canonical pair of EF is hard.) *For each $\text{poly}(n)$ -size circuit D with n inputs, there is z such that $D(z) = 0$ but z is a satisfiable formula or $D(z) = 1$ but there is a $\text{poly}(n)$ -size EF-refutation of z .*

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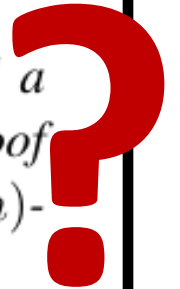
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2. (Provably constructive anticheckers.) *There is $A \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$, $|A| = \text{poly}(n)$, and a $\text{poly}(n)$ -size circuit F such that for each $z \in \{0, 1\}^n$ there is a $\text{poly}(n)$ -size EF-proof of the statement expressing that “if an n^2 -size circuit B solves SAT on A , then a $\text{poly}(n)$ -size circuit $F(B)$ solves SAT on z ”.*

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Then for each randomized $\text{poly}(n)$ -time EF-adversary claiming that $\neg \text{lb}_A(\text{SAT}, n^2)$ is satisfiable, there is a $\text{poly}(n)$ -size EF-refutation (not necessarily of $\neg \text{lb}_A(\text{SAT}, n^2)$) catching the adversary with probability $\geq 1/2 - 1/n$ over the randomness of the adversary.

$\neg \text{lb}_A(\text{SAT}, n^2) := n^2\text{-size circuit } B \text{ solves SAT on } A \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$

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- True if EF-provability not required
- True if $\text{EF} \vdash [\text{E is hard} \ \& \ (\text{OWF} \Leftarrow \text{SAT} \notin \text{P/poly})]$
- Implies $\text{NP} \notin \text{Size}[n^k]$

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Proof: adversary claims to have a ckt solving SAT on $A \Rightarrow$ force them to solve SAT □

Theorem 2 (Informal, cf. Theorem 6).

Assume that $\text{SAT} \notin \text{P/poly}$. Then for each randomized p -time EF-adversary claiming that $\neg\text{tt}(\text{SAT}, n^2)$ is satisfiable, there is a $2^{O(n)}$ -size EF-refutation catching the adversary with probability $\geq 1/2 - 1/n$ over the randomness of the adversary.

$$\neg\text{tt}(\text{SAT}, n^2) := \neg\text{lb}_{\{0,1\}^n}(\text{SAT}, n^2)$$

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- exploits that adversary is efficient w.r.t. the formula it receives

constructive proof complexity lower bounds

Theorem 3 (Constructive $\text{Res}(k)$ lower bound of Razborov – Informal, cf. Theorem 7).

For each sufficiently small $\delta > 0$, there is $\epsilon > 0$ and a $\text{poly}(t^{t^\delta})$ -size randomized $\text{Res}(k)$ -adversary C claiming that $\tau_W(A, b)$ is satisfiable, where $k = \epsilon \log t$ and $|W| = \text{poly}(t)$, such that for each $2^{t^{\Omega(\delta)}}$ -size $\text{Res}(k)$ -refutation π of any set of clauses, with probability $\geq 9/10$ over the randomness of C , π does not catch C .

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- doesn't work for $\neg\text{tt}(\text{SAT}, n^2)$
- in-depth analysis and twisting of the original proof

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There is a $\text{poly}(m)$ -size randomized Res-adversary C claiming that $\neg \text{PHP}_n^m$ with $m = 2^{n^{1/5}}$ is satisfiable such that for each $2^{\Omega(n^{1/4})}$ -size Res-refutation π of any set of clauses, with probability $\geq 9/10$ over the randomness of C , π does not catch C .

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- new proof of a pseudo-width lower bound

constructive proof complexity lower bounds

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Theorem 5 (Constructive AC^0 -Frege lower bound – Informal, cf. Theorem 9).

Let $\epsilon < 1/9^d$. There is a $\text{poly}(n^{n^\epsilon})$ -size randomized AC_d^0 -Frege-adversary C claiming that $\neg \text{PHP}_n$ is satisfiable such that for each 2^{n^ϵ} -size AC_d^0 -Frege-refutation π of any set of clauses, with probability $\geq 9/10$ over the randomness of C , π does not catch C .

constructive proof complexity lower bounds

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a lot of related work

open problems

- constructive Cutting Planes lower bounds
- avoid anticheckers in Thm 1