# Hypergraph Products 

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February 16, 2010

## Outline

1. Hypergraph Products
> - The Cartesian Product
> - The Direct Product
> - The Strong Product
2. Prime Factorization w.r.t. the Cartesian product

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- The Cartesian Product
- The Direct Product - The Strong Product


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## Hypergraphs

- A hypergraph is a pair $H=(V, \mathscr{E})$ with vertex set $V \neq \emptyset$ and a family of edges $\mathscr{E}$ where the edges are subsets of $V$.

- A hypergraph $H$ is simple, if no edge of $H$ is contained in any other edge and each edge consists of at least two elements.


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## Hypergraph Products

- For all products $H_{1} \star H_{2}$ :

$$
V\left(H_{1} \star H_{2}\right)=V\left(H_{1}\right) \times V\left(H_{2}\right)
$$

## 1. Restriction to graphs are the common graph products

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3. Commutativity
4. Distributivity w.r.t. the disjoint union
5. Products of simple hypergraphs are simple
6. The projections $p_{i}: V\left(H_{1} \star H_{2}\right) \rightarrow V\left(H_{i}\right)$ for $i \in\{1,2\}$ are at least weak homomorphisms
7. Unique prime factorization

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## The Cartesian Product

Edge set of the Cartesian Product $H_{1} \square H_{2}$ of two hypergraphs $H_{1}, H_{2}$

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\begin{aligned}
\mathscr{E}\left(H_{1} \square H_{2}\right)= & \left\{\{x\} \times F: x \in V\left(H_{1}\right), F \in \mathscr{E}\left(H_{2}\right)\right\} \\
& \cup\left\{E \times\{y\}: E \in \mathscr{E}\left(H_{1}\right), y \in V\left(H_{2}\right)\right\}
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## The Direct Product

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\left\{\left(x_{1}, y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(x_{r}, y_{r}\right)\right\} \in \mathscr{E}\left(H_{1} \times H_{2}\right) \quad \Longleftrightarrow
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Edge set of the direct product $H_{1} \times H_{2}$ of two hypergraphs $H_{1}, H_{2}$ :

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\begin{aligned}
& \mathscr{E}\left(H_{1} \times H_{2}\right):=\left\{E \subseteq V\left(H_{1}\right) \times V\left(H_{2}\right) \mid p_{1}(E) \in \mathscr{E}\left(H_{1}\right), p_{2}(E) \in \mathscr{E}\left(H_{2}\right)\right. \\
&\text { and } \left.|E|=\max \left(\left|p_{1}(E)\right|,\left|p_{2}(E)\right|\right)\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

## The Direct Product



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## Properties of the direct product:

- Restriction to graphs is the direct graph product
- Associativity
- Commutativity
- Distributivity w.r.t. the disjoint union
- Products of simple hypergraphs are simple
- The projections $p_{i}: V /\left(H_{i} \times H_{2}\right) \rightarrow V\left(H_{i}\right)$ for $i \in\{1,2\}$ are homomorphisms

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## The Strong Product

Edge set of the strong product $H_{1} \boxtimes H_{2}$ of two hypergraphs $H_{1}$ and $H_{2}$ :

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\mathscr{E}\left(H_{1} \boxtimes H_{2}\right)=\mathscr{E}\left(H_{1} \square H_{2}\right) \cup \mathscr{E}\left(H_{1} \times H_{2}\right)
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## The Strong Product

The strong product is a special case of the direct product:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { - } \mathcal{L} H:=(V(H), \mathscr{E}(H) \cup\{\{v\} \mid v \in V(H)\}), \\
& \text { - } \mathcal{N H}:=(V(H), \mathscr{E}(H) \backslash\{\{v\} \mid v \in V(H)\})
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$$
H_{1} \boxtimes H_{2}=\mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{L} H_{1} \times \mathcal{L} H_{2}\right)
$$

for simple hypergraphs $H_{1}, H_{2}$

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## Prime Factorization w.r.t the Cartesian Product

## The Grid-Property

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## The Relation $\delta$

"'starting"'-relation $\delta$ on $\mathscr{E}(H)$ :

- $E \delta F \Longleftrightarrow$
(i) $E$ and $F$ are opposite edges of a four-cycle
(ii) $E \cap F \neq \emptyset$ and $\nexists(|E| \times|F|)$-grid without diagonals containing them.
- $\delta^{*}$ suffices the grid property


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- We have: relation $\delta^{*}$ with
$E \delta^{*} F \Rightarrow E$ and $F$ belong to the same prime factor.
- We want: relation $\sigma$ with
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Theorem
Every connected Hypergraph has a unique prime factorization.

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The relation corresponding to the unique prime factorization of a connected hypergraph is the convex hull of the $\delta$-relation, $\sigma=\mathscr{C}(\delta)$

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## Infinite Hypergraphs

Cartesian product of arbitrarily many hypergraphs:

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\begin{aligned}
V\left(\square_{i \in I} H_{i}\right)= & \underset{i \in I}{\times} V\left(H_{i}\right) \\
\mathscr{E}\left(\square_{i \in I} H_{i}\right)= & \left\{E \subseteq \underset{i \in I}{\times} V\left(H_{i}\right) \mid p_{j}(E) \in \mathscr{E}\left(H_{j}\right) \text { for a } j \in I\right. \\
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- Cartesian product of infinitely many connected hypergraphs is not connected


## The Weak Cartesian Product

Weak Cartesian product $H=\square_{i \in 1}^{u} H_{i}$ of hypergraphs $H_{i}=\left(V_{i}, \mathscr{E}_{i}\right)$ :

- $H=\square_{i \in I}^{U} H_{i}$ is the connected component of $\square_{i \in I} H_{i}$ containing $u$


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# Theorem <br> Every connected Hypergraph has a unique representation as a weak Cartesian product. 

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Thank you for your attention!

