

# Equivalence test for the trace iterated matrix multiplication polynomial

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# Overview

- Introduction and Motivation
- Problem Statement
- Our Results
- Approach

# What are Equivalent polynomials?

**Definition** (Equivalent polynomials)

$$g(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2^2$$

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2 + x_2^2 .$$

If we replace the variables of  $g$  as follows, we obtain  $f$ .

$$x_1 \rightarrow x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_2 \rightarrow x_2 .$$

## What are Equivalent polynomials?

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$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2 + x_2^2 .$$

If we replace the variables of  $g$  as follows, we obtain  $f$ .

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_A \cdot \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}}_x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} ; \quad f(\mathbf{x}) = g(A\mathbf{x})$$

# What are Equivalent polynomials?

## Definition (Equivalent polynomials)

Two  $n$ -variate, degree  $d$  polynomials  $f$  and  $g$  (over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ ) are said to be **equivalent** if there exists an *invertible* matrix  $A \in \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$  such that  $f(\mathbf{x}) = g(A\mathbf{x})$ .

**The Equivalence Testing Problem:** Can we *efficiently* check if two polynomials  $f$  and  $g$  are equivalent?

# Complexity of Equivalence Testing

Depends on the underlying field.

- **over finite fields:**  $NP \cap co-AM$   
[Thierauf(1998), Saxena(2006)]
- **over  $\mathbb{Q}$ :** not even known if it is decidable or not!
- **over other fields:** reduces to solving system of polynomial equations (which could possibly be a harder problem).

## Relation to other Isomorphism problems

**Isomorphism problem:** Check if there is a **bijection** between two *structures* that **preserves some relation on the structure**.

**Examples:** Graph Isomorphism, Algebra Isomorphism, Tensor Isomorphism.

**Graph Isomorphism:** Two graphs are isomorphic if there is a **bijection** between the vertex sets which **preserves the edge relation**. Given two graphs, check if they are isomorphic.

# Algebra Isomorphism

$(\mathcal{A}, +, *)$  is a  $\mathbb{F}$ -**Algebra** if:

- $(\mathcal{A}, +)$  is a  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector space.
- $(\mathcal{A}, +, *)$  is a ring.
- the ring multiplication is compatible with the scalar multiplication of the field, i.e  $k(B * C) = (kB) * C = B * (kC)$  for all  $B, C \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{F}$ .

**Example** The set of all  $m \times m$  matrices  $(\mathcal{M}_m, +, *)$ .

**Algebra Isomorphism:** Given bases of two algebras (as structure table), check if there is a **bijection** that **preserves the  $+$  and  $*$  operations**.



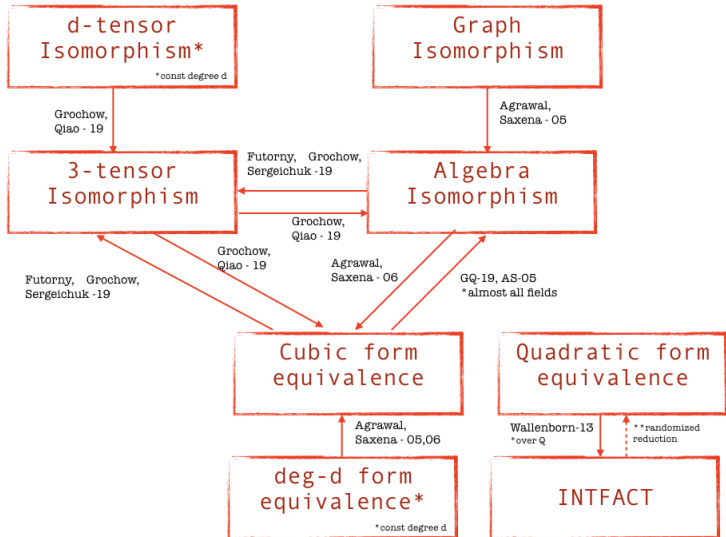
## *d*-tensor Isomorphism

Consider a partition of  $n$  variables into  $d$  sets. A ***d*-tensor** is a degree  $d$  homogeneous polynomial such that each monomial contains exactly one variable from each of the  $d$  variable sets.

**Example:**  $f = x_1x_4 + x_2x_4 + x_3x_6$  is a 2-tensor.

***d*-tensor Isomorphism:** Given two  $d$ -tensors  $f$  and  $g$ , check if there exists invertible matrices  $B_1, \dots, B_d$  such that  $f(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d) = g(B_1\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, B_d\mathbf{x}_d)$ .

# Connections between the isomorphism problems



# A natural variant of Equivalence Testing

**Equivalence test for special polynomial families:** Check if a polynomial  $f$  is equivalent to some  $g \in \mathcal{G}$  where  $\mathcal{G} = \{g_1, g_2, \dots\}$  is a polynomial family.

**Some popular polynomial families:** Permanent, Determinant, Power Symmetric polynomial, Sum of Products polynomial, Elementary Symmetric polynomial, Iterated Matrix Multiplication (IMM) polynomial, Trace Iterated Matrix Multiplication (Tr-IMM) polynomial, Design polynomials etc...

# Motivation from Geometric Complexity Theory

An  $n$ -variate, degree  $d$  homogeneous polynomial  $f$ : **A point in the vector space**  $\mathbb{C}^N$  (where  $N = \binom{n+d}{d}$ ).

**Orbit of  $f$ :**  $\mathcal{O}(f) = \{g : g(\mathbf{x}) = f(A\mathbf{x}), A \text{ is invertible}\}$ .

**Orbit Closure of  $f$ :**  $\widehat{\mathcal{O}(f)}$  - The Zariski closure of  $\mathcal{O}$ .

# Motivation from Geometric Complexity Theory

**Perm vs Det problem:** Show that padded permanent *is not* in the orbit closure of (poly-sized) determinant polynomial.

This question also makes sense for permanent vs any other polynomial family  $\mathcal{G}$  where  $\mathcal{G}$  is complete for some low complexity circuit class  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## Equivalence test for some well known polynomial families

[Kayal(2012)] gave efficient randomized algorithms for equivalence testing of the **Permanent polynomial** family , **Power Symmetric polynomial** family, **Sum of Product polynomial** family, **Elementary Symmetric polynomial** family *over any field*.

From now on we assume a stronger **search version** of the equivalence testing problem.

# Determinant Equivalence Testing

**The Determinant polynomial family:**  $\{\text{Det}(X_n)\}_{n \geq 1}$ , where  $\text{Det}(X_n)$  denotes the determinant of  $n \times n$  symbolic matrix  $X_n$ .

## Determinant Equivalence Testing (DET)

- An efficient randomized algorithm is known over :
  - ▶  $\mathbb{C}$  [Kayal(2012)]
  - ▶ finite fields of sufficiently large characteristic - Garg,Gupta,Kayal,Saha [GGKS19].
  - ▶ For fixed  $n$ , DET can be efficiently done given oracle access to INTFACT [GGKS19].
- But it is as hard as **Integer Factoring (INTFACT)** over  $\mathbb{Q}$  [GGKS19].

# IMM Equivalence Testing

## The Iterated Matrix Multiplication Polynomial Family

$\text{IMM}_{w,d} := (1,1)$ -th entry of  $(X_1 \cdot X_2 \dots X_d)$  where each  $X_i$  is a  $w \times w$  symbolic matrix.

An efficient randomized equivalence test for the **Iterated Matrix Multiplication polynomial** (IMM) over  $\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{C}$  and finite fields is known from Kayal, Nair, Saha, Tavenas [KNST17].



# IMM vs Determinant Equivalence testing

Both IMM and Determinant polynomial families are complete for the circuit class VBP, yet they can not have similar algorithmic complexity for the equivalence testing problem (over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ) unless INTFACT is easy.

# The Trace Iterated Matrix Multiplication Polynomial

**Definition** (The Trace Iterated Matrix Multiplication Polynomial)

$$Q_1 = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11}^{(1)} & x_{12}^{(1)} \\ x_{21}^{(1)} & x_{22}^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}; Q_2 = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11}^{(2)} & x_{12}^{(2)} \\ x_{21}^{(2)} & x_{22}^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}; Q_3 = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11}^{(3)} & x_{12}^{(3)} \\ x_{21}^{(3)} & x_{22}^{(3)} \end{bmatrix} .$$

$$w = 2, d = 3.$$

$$\text{Tr-IMM}_{2,3} = \text{tr}(Q_1 \cdot Q_2 \cdot Q_3) .$$

# The Trace Iterated Matrix Multiplication Polynomial

**Definition** (The Trace Iterated Matrix Multiplication Polynomial)

Let  $Q_1, \dots, Q_d$  be  $w \times w$  symbolic matrices whose entries are distinct (formal) variables. Then the **Trace Iterated Matrix Multiplication Polynomial** denoted as  $\text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}$  is defined as the trace of the product of these matrices.

$$\text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d} = \text{tr}(Q_1 \cdot Q_2 \dots Q_d) .$$

## Equivalence test for Tr-IMM (TRACE)

It is syntactically close to the IMM polynomial, which is the  $(1, 1)$ -th entry of the matrix product.

Is the complexity of TRACE similar to the equivalence test for IMM polynomial?

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Is the complexity of TRACE similar to the equivalence test for IMM polynomial?

Or does it resemble that of DET?

# Equivalence test for Tr-IMM (TRACE)

**Problem Statement** (Equivalence test for  $\text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}$  polynomial (TRACE))

Given *blackbox access* to an  $n$ -variate degree  $d$  polynomial  $f$ , check *efficiently* if  $f$  is **equivalent** to  $\text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}$ . If yes, then compute an invertible matrix  $A \in \mathbb{F}^{n \times n}$  such that  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}(A\mathbf{x})$

**Could there be some relation between special cases of the isomorphism problem and the special cases of equivalence testing?**

# Some special cases of the Isomorphism Problems

**Full Matrix Algebra Isomorphism (FMAI)** Given a basis of an algebra  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{M}_m$ , determine if  $\mathcal{A}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{M}_w$  where  $w^2 = \dim(\mathcal{A})$ . If yes, compute an isomorphism from  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_w$ .

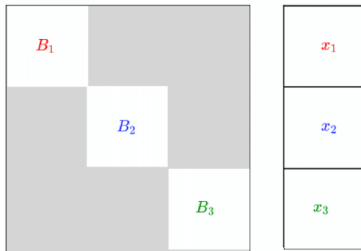


## Some special cases of the Isomorphism Problems

**Matrix Multiplication Tensor Isomorphism (MMTI)** Given a 3-tensor  $f$ , check if it is isomorphic to any tensor in the  $\text{Tr-IMM}_{w,3}$  family, i.e check if

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \text{Tr-IMM}_{w,3}(B_1\mathbf{x}_1, B_2\mathbf{x}_2, B_3\mathbf{x}_3) = \text{Tr-IMM}_{w,3}(B\mathbf{x})$$

and if yes, output  $B_1, B_2, B_3$ .

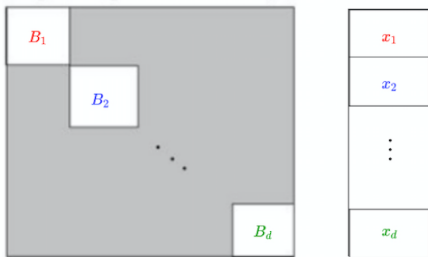


# Some special cases of the Isomorphism Problems

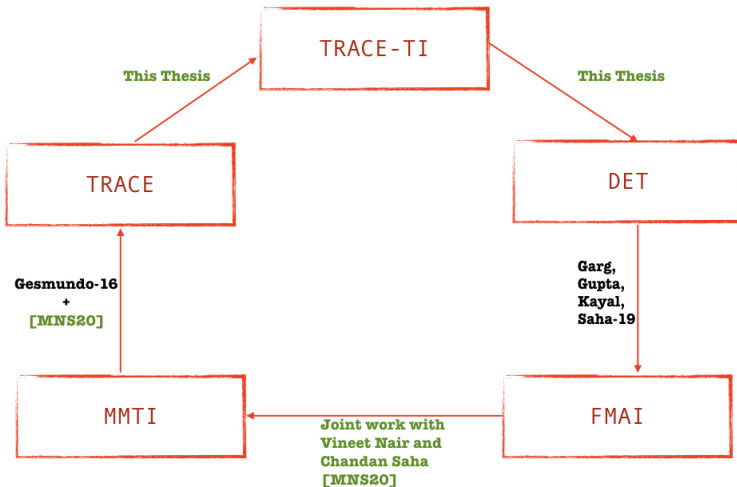
**Tensor Isomorphism for Tr-IMM (TRACE-TI)** Given a  $d$ -tensor  $f$ , check if it is isomorphic to any tensor in the  $\text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}$  family, i.e. check if

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}(B_1\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, B_d\mathbf{x}_d) = \text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}(B\mathbf{x}).$$

and if yes, output  $B_1, \dots, B_d$ .



# Results



# Results

Theorem 1 (**TRACE is randomized polynomial time Turing reducible to DET**)

*Given oracle access to DET over  $\mathbb{F}$ , TRACE can be solved in randomized, polynomial time*

**polynomial time:**  $\text{poly}(n, \beta)$  running time

**randomized:**  $1 - o(1)$  success probability.

# Approach

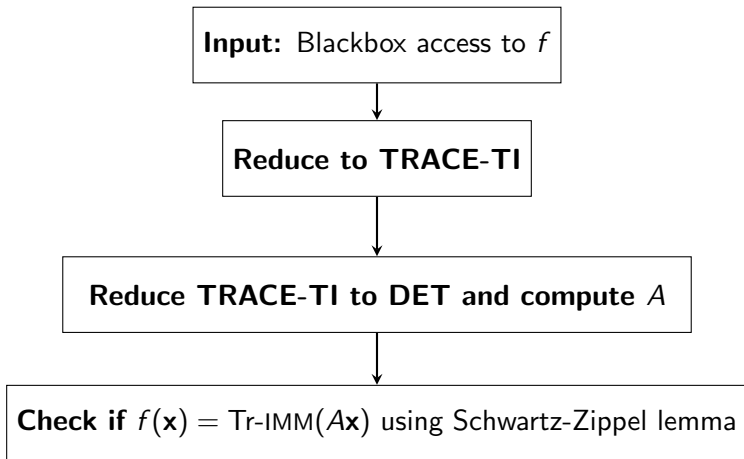


Figure: High level view of the Algorithm

## Part-I: Reduction to TRACE-TI

**TRACE:** Is  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}(A\mathbf{x})$  for some **invertible** matrix  $A$ ?

**TRACE-TI:** Is  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \text{Tr-IMM}_{w,d}(B\mathbf{x})$  for some **invertible, block-diagonal matrix**  $B$ ?

**Remark:** An efficient randomized algorithm for TRACE-TI over  $\mathbb{C}$  was given in [Grochow(2012)] which does not involve reduction to DET.

## Part-I: Reduction to TRACE-TI

$$\text{Tr-IMM}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{tr}(Q_1 \cdot Q_2 \dots Q_d)$$

$$f = \text{Tr-IMM}(A\mathbf{x}) = \text{tr}(X_1 \cdot X_2 \dots X_d)$$

For example,

$$Q_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_3 & x_4 \end{bmatrix}, X_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_6 & 2x_1 \\ x_1 + 2x_4 & x_4 - x_9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathcal{X}_i$  - space spanned by the linear forms in  $X_i$ . The **Layer Spaces** of  $f$  are  $\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_d$ .

## Part-I: Reduction to TRACE-TI

1. Compute a bases for the layer spaces  $\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_d$  of  $f$ .



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1. **Compute a bases for the layer spaces  $\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_d$  of  $f$ .**
2. **Compute a linear map  $\hat{A}$  which maps each basis vector to a distinct variable.**

## Part-I: Reduction to TRACE-TI

1. **Compute a bases for the layer spaces  $\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_d$  of  $f$ .**
2. **Compute a linear map  $\hat{A}$  which maps each basis vector to a distinct variable.**
3. **Define a new polynomial  $h(\mathbf{x}) = f(\hat{A}\mathbf{x})$ .** Since we mapped each basis vector to a distinct variable,  **$h$  is a  $d$ -tensor.**

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = f(\hat{A}\mathbf{x}) = \text{Tr-IMM}(A\hat{A}\mathbf{x})$$

We compute  $\hat{A}$  such that  $A\hat{A}$  is block-diagonal. **This is the TRACE-TI problem!**

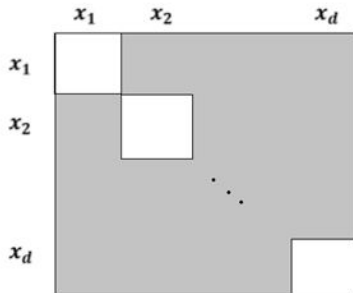
## Computing a basis for the layer spaces

Associated with any  $n$ -variate polynomial  $f$ , there is a vector space called the **Lie Algebra**  $\mathfrak{g}_f$  (of the group of symmetries) of  $f$  which consists of  $n \times n$  matrices  $E = (e_{ij})_{n \times n}$  satisfying

$$\sum_{i,j \in [n]} e_{ij} x_j \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = 0 .$$

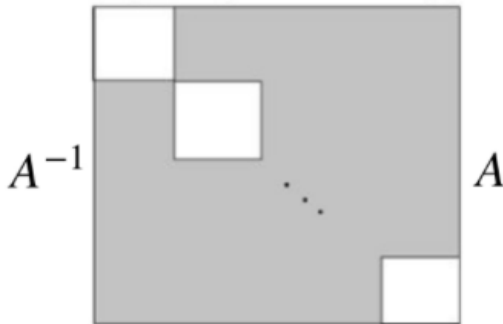
# Computing a basis for the layer spaces

The basis elements of the Lie Algebra of Tr-IMM are **block-diagonal** matrices [Gesmundo(2016)].



## Computing a basis for the layer spaces

The corresponding basis elements of the Lie Algebra of  $f \sim \text{Tr-IMM}$  looks like:



## Computing a basis for the layer spaces

We compute a bases of the Lie Algebra of  $f$ .

We exploit this relationship to compute a bases for the **irreducible invariant subspaces**  $\mathcal{V}_1, \dots, \mathcal{V}_d$  of  $\mathfrak{g}_f$ .

Given a bases of these irreducible invariant subspaces, we then compute a bases of the **layer spaces** of  $f$  and then **reorder them appropriately**.

## Part-II: Reduction from TRACE-TI to DET

$$f = \text{tr}(X_1 \cdot X_2 \dots X_{d-1} \cdot X_d)$$

## Part-II: Reduction from TRACE-TI to DET

$$f = \text{tr}(X_1 \cdot X_2 \dots X_{d-1} \cdot X_d) = Y_1 \cdot Y_2 \dots Y_{d-1} \cdot Y_d$$

where,

$$Y_1 = [X_1(1, *), \dots, X_1(w, *)]_{1 \times w^2}$$

$$Y_d = [X_d(*, 1)^T, \dots, X_d(*, w)^T]_{w^2 \times 1}$$

$$Y_i = \begin{bmatrix} X_i & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & X_i & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & X_i \end{bmatrix}_{w^2 \times w^2} \quad \text{for } i \in [2, d].$$



## Part-II: Reduction from TRACE-TI to DET

1. Using **set-multilinear ABP reconstruction** [Klivans, Shpilka(2003)], we compute  $Y'_1, \dots, Y'_d$  such that:

$$f = Y'_1 \cdot Y'_2 \cdots Y'_{d-1} \cdot Y'_d$$

$$Y'_i = T_{i-1}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} X_i & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & X_i & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & X_i \end{bmatrix} T_i \text{ for } i \in [2, d-1]$$

**Idea:** Block-diagonalize the matrices  $Y'_2, \dots, Y'_{d-1}$ .

## Part-II: Reduction from TRACE-TI to DET

2. For each intermediate matrix, compute blackbox access to circuit computing  $c_i \cdot \det(X_i)$  from  $Y_i'$ .
3. Use **DET** to compute  $\hat{X}_i$  that satisfies exactly one of the following:

$$X_i = A_i \cdot \hat{X}_i \cdot B_i$$

$$X_i = A_i \cdot \hat{X}_i^T \cdot B_i$$

## Part-II: Reduction from TRACE-TI to DET

$$Y'_i = T_{i-1}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} X_i & & & \\ & \dots & & \\ & & X_i & \\ & & & \dots \\ & & & & X_i \end{bmatrix} T_i$$

## Part-II: Reduction from TRACE-TI to DET

$$Y'_i = T_{i-1}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_i \hat{X}_i B_i & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & A_i \hat{X}_i B_i & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & A_i \hat{X}_i B_i \end{bmatrix} T_i$$

## Part-II: Reduction from TRACE-TI to DET

$$Y'_i = P_i \begin{bmatrix} \widehat{X}_i & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \widehat{X}_i & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & \widehat{X}_i \end{bmatrix} Q_i$$

4. Compute  $\widehat{P}_i, \widehat{Q}_i$  for all  $i \in [2, d - 1]$ .

(Ideally, we would want  $\widehat{P}_i^{-1} Y'_i \widehat{Q}_i^{-1}$  to be block-diagonal).

## Part-II: Reduction from TRACE-TI to DET

5. Using the  $\widehat{P}_i, \widehat{Q}_i, Y_i'$ 's, we compute  $X_2', \dots, X_{d-1}'$  such that:

$$X_2' \cdot X_3' \dots X_{d-1}' = \alpha \cdot A \cdot X_2 \cdot X_3 \dots X_{d-1} \cdot B$$

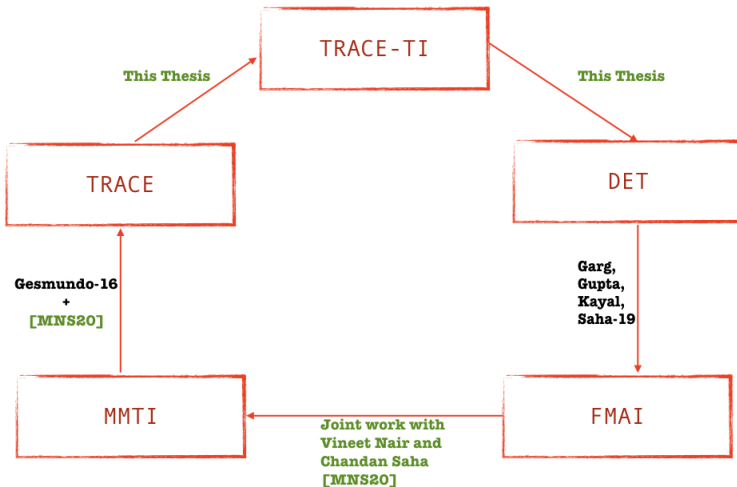
6. Compute  $X_1', X_d'$  (using ABP reconstruction techniques):

$$X_1' = \alpha^{-1} \cdot X_1 \cdot A^{-1} \text{ and } X_d' = B \cdot X_d$$

So,

$$X_1 \cdot X_2 \dots X_{d-1} \cdot X_d = X_1' \cdot X_2' \dots X_{d-1}' \cdot X_d'$$

# Conclusion



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