

# Derandomizing Polynomial Identity Testing for Multilinear Constant-Read Formulae

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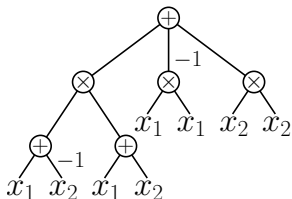
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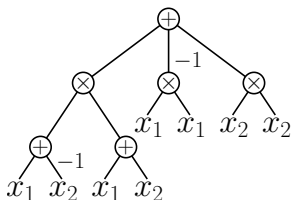


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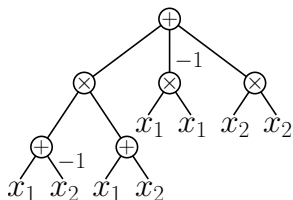
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Motivation: primality testing, circuit lower bounds, ...



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## Theorem (Main)

*There is a  $s^{O(1)} \cdot n^{k^{O(k)}}$  time deterministic algorithm for identity testing size- $s$   $n$ -variable multilinear read- $k$  formulae.*

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## Theorem (**Weakened Main**)

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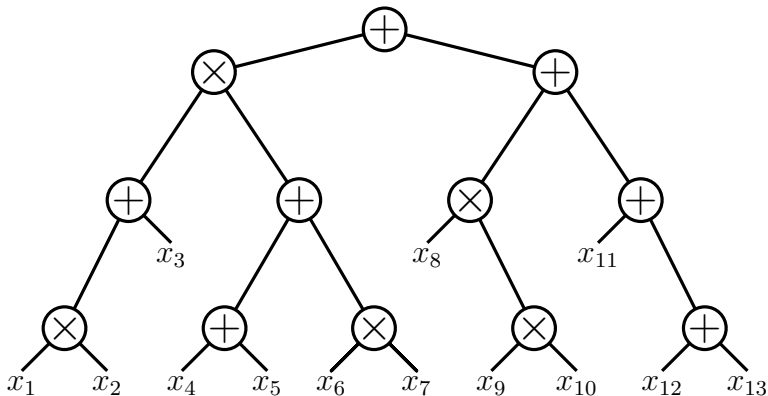
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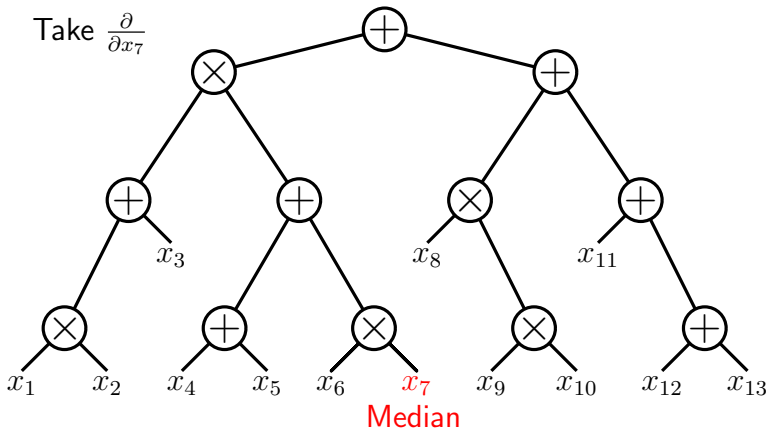
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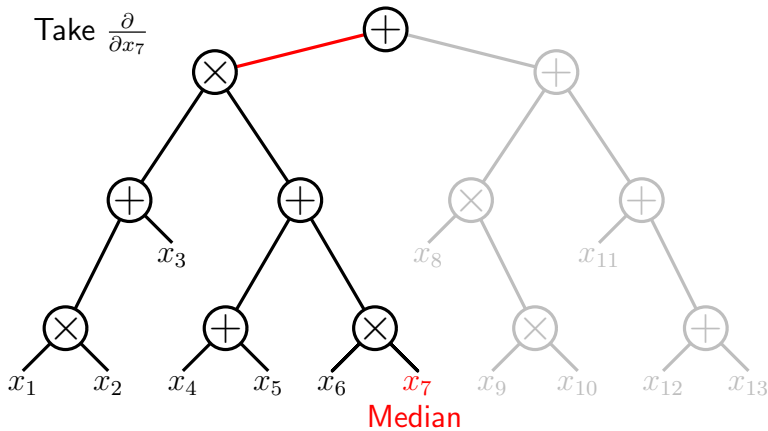
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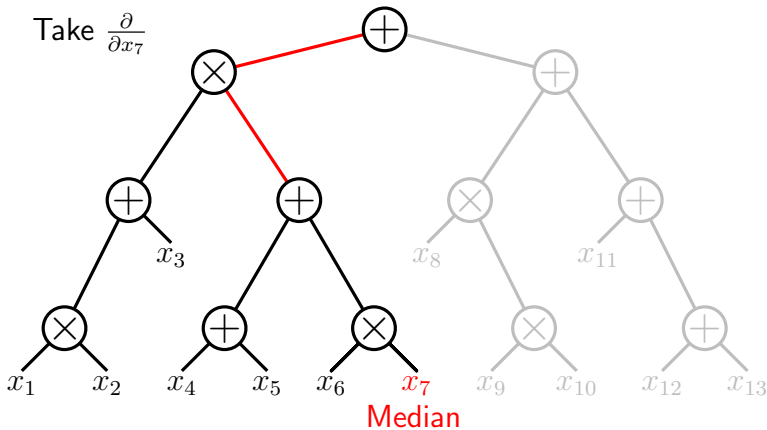
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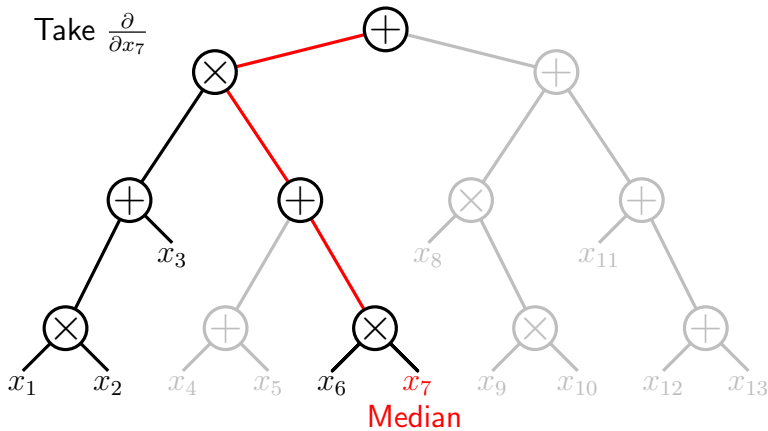
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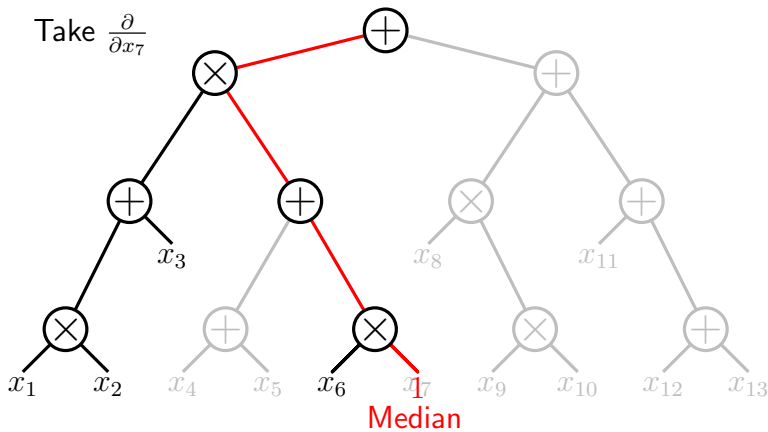
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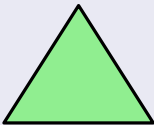
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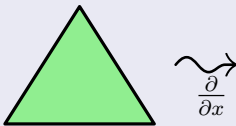
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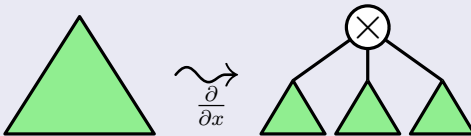
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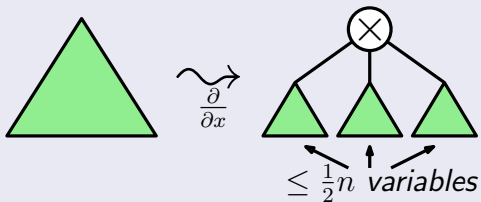
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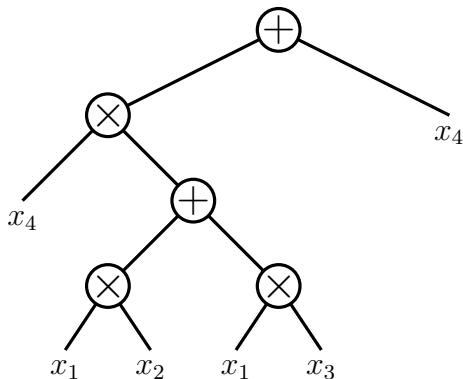
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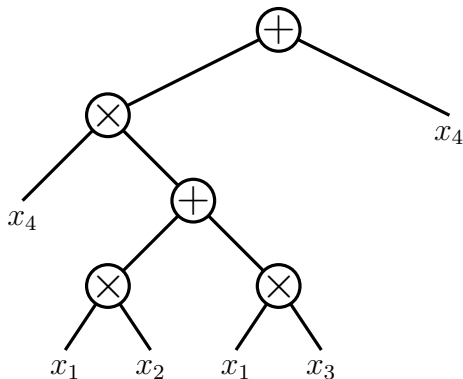
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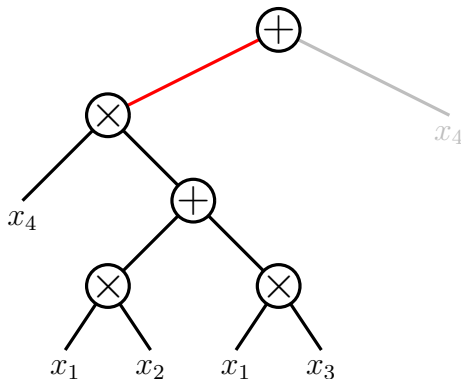
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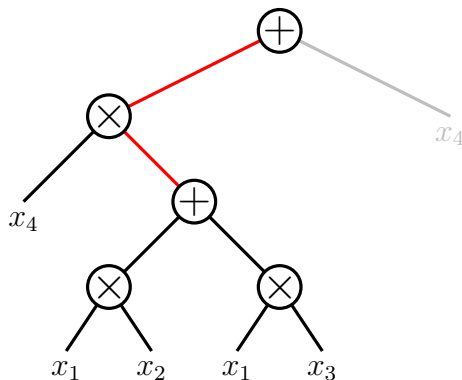


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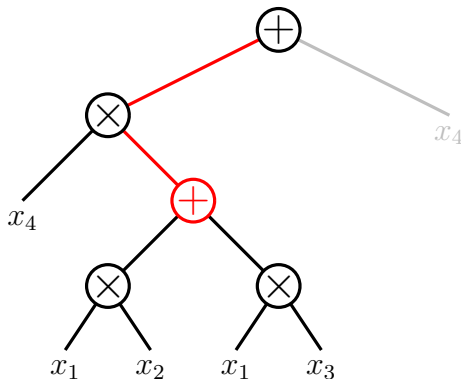
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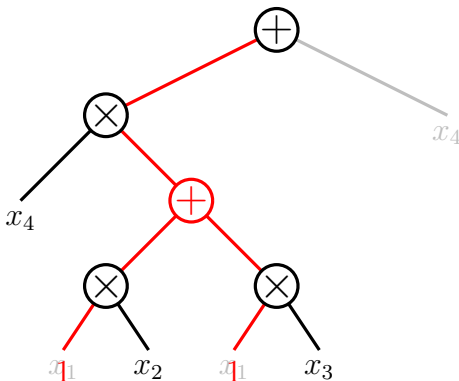
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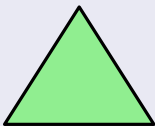
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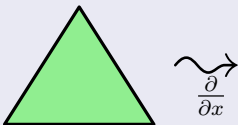
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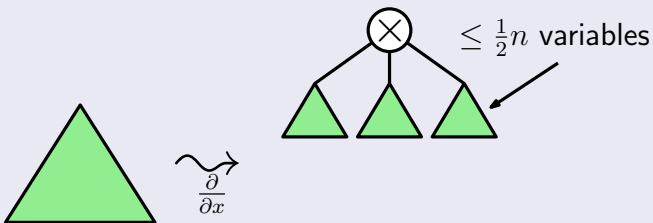
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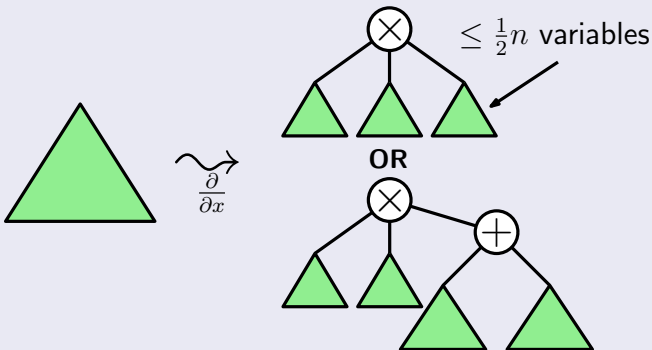
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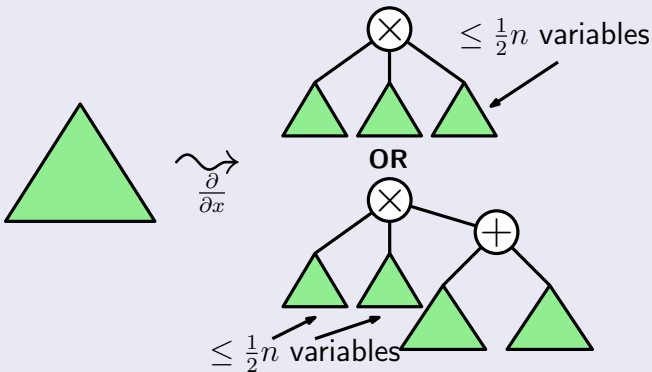




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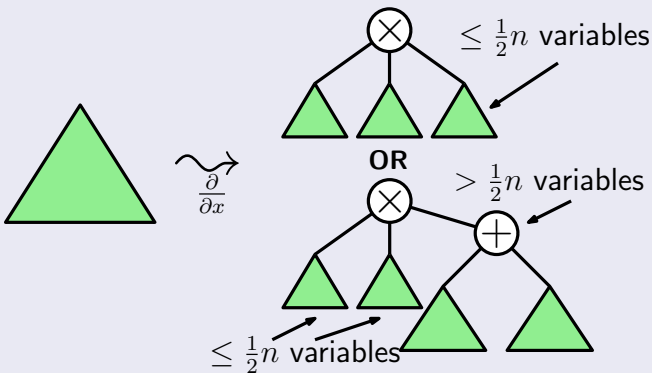
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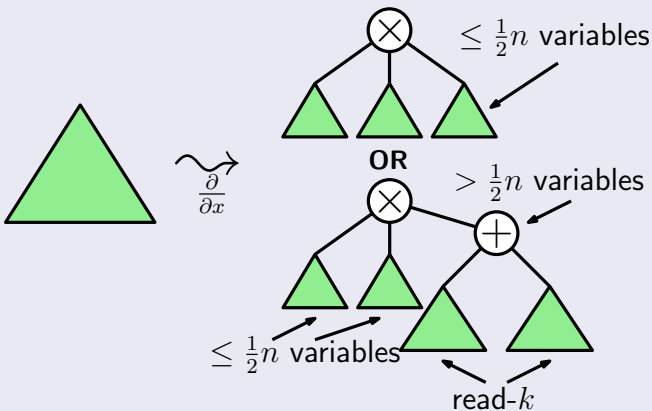
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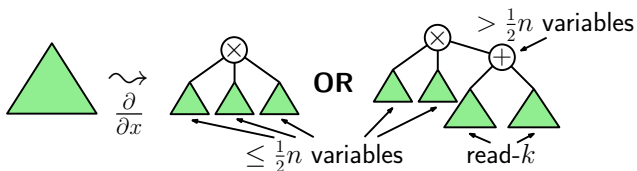
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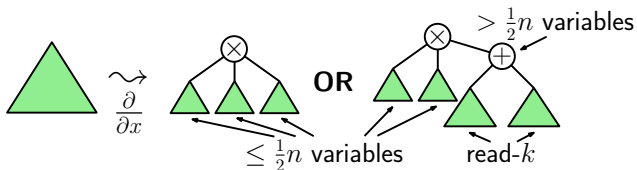
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*The set of binary strings  $H_w$  with Hamming weight at most  $w$  hits any class  $\mathcal{F}$  of multilinear polynomials that:*

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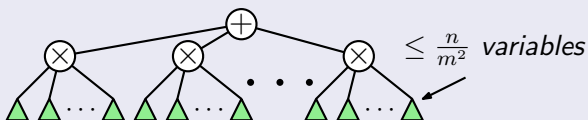
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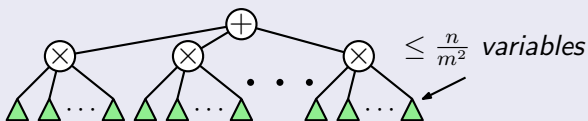


# A Structural Witness Lemma

## Lemma

Let  $F = \sum_{i=1}^m F_i$  be a multilinear formula on  $n$ -variables, where

1. no variable divides any  $F_i$ ,
2. the factors of each  $F_i$  depend on at most  $\frac{n}{m^2}$  variables:

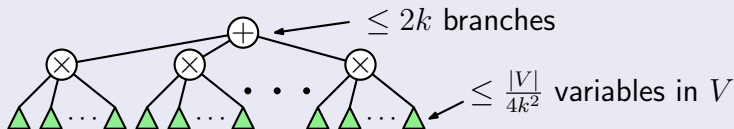


$\Rightarrow F$  does not compute a monomial of degree  $n$ .

# The Shattering Lemma

## Lemma (Shattering Lemma)

For any nonzero multilinear  $\sum^2$ -read- $k$  formula  $F$  on  $n$  variables, there exist disjoint sets of variables  $P$  and  $V$ , with  $|P| = \text{poly}(k)$  and  $|V| = \frac{n}{k^{O(k)}}$  such that  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial P}$  is nonzero and can be written as



where each small subformula is the partial derivative of some subformula of  $F$ .

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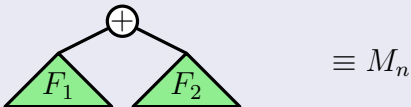
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$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \oplus \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \triangle_{F_1} \quad \triangle_{F_2} \end{array} \equiv M_n$$


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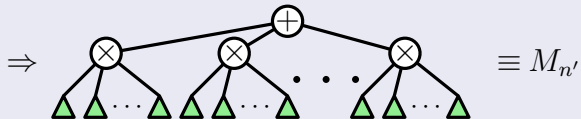
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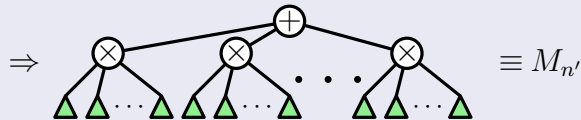


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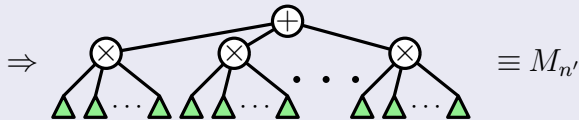
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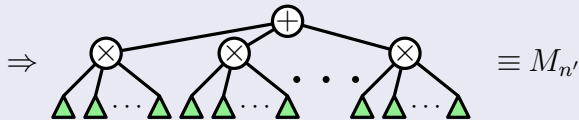
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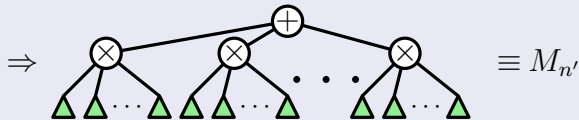
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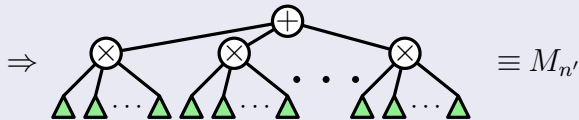
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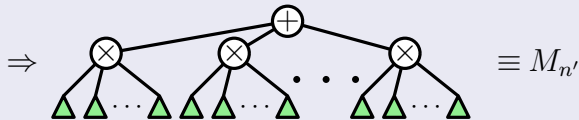
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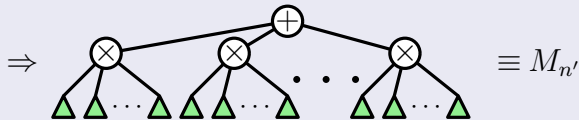
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Pick  $\bar{\sigma}$  to be a common nonzero of nonzero partial derivatives of all subformulae of the  $F_i$ .     **Contradiction!**

$F$  is  $\sum^2$ -read- $k$ , so  $\bar{\sigma}$  can be computed efficiently using a read- $k$  identity test.     ■

# Outline

Techniques:

1. **Fragmenting**

Reduces multilinear  $\text{read-}(k+1)$  to multilinear  $\sum^2\text{-read-}k$ .

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## Theorem (Weakened Main)

*There is a  $s^{O(1)} \cdot n^{k^{O(k)} + O(k \log n)}$  time deterministic algorithm for identity testing  $n$ -variable size- $s$  multilinear read- $k$  formulae.*

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### Corollary

*There is a polynomial-time deterministic algorithm for identity testing multilinear constant-read formulae.*

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1. Blackbox: quasi-poly-time.
  - Constant-depth formulae: poly-time.
2. Sparse substituted: quasi-poly-time.
  - Encompasses depth-four multilinear formulae [KMSV10], and pre-processed  $\Sigma^k$ -read-once formulae [SV09].

# Questions?

# Thanks!

The full version of our paper may be found on ECCC.