•  $1<sup>st</sup>$  order formula in language of rings. e.g.:

$$
\underbrace{\forall y \exists z \exists w}_{\text{bound variables}} \left( \left( \underbrace{x}_{\text{free variable}} z + 3 = y^2 \right) \vee \neg (z = x + w) \wedge (x = x + 1) \right)
$$

- $1<sup>st</sup>$  order sentence =  $1<sup>st</sup>$  order formula with no free variable
- positive existential formula: only  $\exists$ , +, 0, 1, =,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $($ ,  $)$ , variables
- diophantine formula:  $\exists x_1 \ldots \exists x_n$  poly=poly

Let  $R$  be a ring (commutative with 1)

• 1<sup>st</sup> order formula 
$$
\phi(x_1, ..., x_n) \rightsquigarrow \underbrace{\{\vec{x} \in R^n : \phi(\vec{x}) \text{ is true }\}}_{\text{definable sets}}
$$

- positive existential formulas  $\sim$  positive existential sets
- diophantine formulas  $\sim$  diophantine sets

**Claim** For any ring  $R$ :

{ positive existential sets } = { diophantine sets } <u>Proof Sketch for  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ </u>

- $f = g \rightsquigarrow f g = 0$
- $f = 0 \vee g = 0 \rightsquigarrow fg = 0$

• 
$$
f = 0 \land g = 0 \leadsto f^2 + g^2 = 0
$$

### Definitions:

• . . .

• 1<sup>st</sup> order theory of the ring R

 $=$  { 1<sup>st</sup> order sentences that are true for R }

- $\bullet\,$  positive existential theory of the ring  $R$ 
	- $= \{$  positive existential sentences that are true for R  $\}$

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## Definitions(cont.):

 $\bullet\,$  the theory is <u>decidable</u>  $\Longleftrightarrow$   $\exists$  an algorithm with:  $\bold{Input:} \;\, 1^{\text{st}} \;\, \text{order} \;\, \text{sentence}$ Output:

YES if true

NO otherwise

### H10 for Various Rings

### Definitions:

• H10/R asks whether  $\exists$  algorithm with:

**Input:**  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, x_n]$ 

Output:

**YES**  $\exists \vec{a} \in R^n$  such that  $f(\vec{a}) = 0$ 

NO otherwise

• H10/R with coefficients in S where S is encodable is the same except  $f \in S[x_1,\ldots,x_n]$ 



# $\mathrm{H}10/\mathbb{Q}$

Variety/ $\mathbb Q$  is assumed to be quasi-projective,  $\bar{\mathbb Q}$ -irreducible.

**Proposition:** H10/Q has a positive answer  $\iff \exists$  algorithm to decide whether a given variety/ $\mathbb Q$  has a rational point

 $(\text{most general}) \iff \dots \text{algebraic set}/\mathbb{Q} \dots$ 

(most special)  $\Longleftrightarrow \dots$  non-singular affine variety/ $\mathbb Q \dots$ 

### Proof:

- Suppose we have an algorithm for nonsingular affine varieties.
- We need to build an algorithm for algebraic sets.
- Let  $X$  be an algebraic set over  $\mathbb Q$ .
- The algorithm will be by induction on  $\dim X$ .

#### Step 1: WLOG X is irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}$ , otherwise decompose  $X$  into irreducible components  $\mathbb{Q}$  $\textbf{Example: } x^2 - 2y^2 = 0$  $\diagup$  $\diagup$  $\diagup$  $\searrow$  / ╲ ╲  $\searrow$  y =  $-$ ♣  $y =$ √  $2x$ √  $2x$

### Step 2:

- WLOG X is irreducible over  $\overline{Q}$  (X is a variety)
- otherwise  $\overline{Q}$  irreducible components  $Y_1, \ldots, Y_r$  are permuted transitively by  $\mathbf{Gal}\left(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}\right)$
- If  $p \in X(\mathbb{Q})$  is fixed by **Gal**  $(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ , then so if  $p \in \bigcap Y_i$
- $\bullet$   $\bigcap Y_i$  has lower dimension

### Step 3:

- WLOG X is non-singular variety, otherwise  $X = X^{\text{sing}} \cup X^{\text{non-sing}}$
- $X^{\text{sing}}$  has lower dimension

### Step 4:

Any non-singular variety is a finite union of affine varieties, which will be non-singular.

### Definition:

- *X* algebraic set/ $\mathbb{Q}$
- $S \subseteq X(\mathbb{Q})$
- Then  $S$  is diophantine  $\Longleftrightarrow \exists$  morphism of algebraic sets  $f: Y \longrightarrow X$  such that  $S = f(Y(\mathbb{Q}))$

### ${\bf Remark:}$  Suppose  $X={\mathbb A}^n_{\mathbb Q}$  $_{\mathbb{O}}^{n}$  and  $S \subseteq X(\mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}^{n}$

- 1. S is diophantine/ $\mathbb{Q}$
- 2.  $\iff$  S is diophantine/Q in the old sense
- 3.  $\iff$  S is positive existential

$$
2 \implies 1 \ S = \{\vec{a} \in \mathbb{Q}^n : \exists \vec{x} \in \mathbb{Q}^m \ p(\vec{a}, \vec{x}) = 0\}
$$
  

$$
p(\vec{a}, \vec{x}) \text{ defines an algebraic subset } Y \subseteq \mathbb{A}^{n+m}
$$
  

$$
f: \mathbb{A}^{n+m} \longrightarrow \mathbb{A}^n
$$
  

$$
S = f(Y(\mathbb{Q}))
$$

 $1 \implies 3$  OK