

# Index sets for Finite Normal Predicate Logic Programs

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## Abstract

Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a computable first order predicate language with infinitely many constant symbols and infinitely many  $n$ -ary predicate symbols and  $n$ -ary functions symbols for all  $n \geq 1$  and let  $Q_0, Q_1, \dots$  be an effective list all the finite normal predicate logic programs over  $\mathcal{L}$ . Given some property  $\mathcal{P}$  of finite normal predicate logic programs over  $\mathcal{L}$ , we define the index set  $I_{\mathcal{P}}$  to be the set of indices  $e$  such that  $Q_e$  has property  $\mathcal{P}$ . Let  $T_0, T_1, \dots$  be an effective list of all primitive recursive trees contained in  $\omega^{<\omega}$ . Then  $[T_0], [T_1], \dots$  is an effective list of all  $\Pi_1^0$  classes where for any tree  $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ ,  $[T]$  denotes the set of infinite paths through  $T$ . We modify constructions of Marek, Nerode, and Remmel [25] to construct recursive functions  $f$  and  $g$  such that for all  $e$ , (i) there is a one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between the set of stable models of  $Q_e$  and the set of infinite paths through  $T_{f(e)}$  and (ii) there is a one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between the set of infinite paths through  $T_e$  and the set of stable models  $Q_{g(e)}$ . We shall use these two recursive functions to reduce the problem of finding the complexity of the index

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set  $I_{\mathcal{P}}$  for various properties  $\mathcal{P}$  of normal finite predicate logic programs to the problem of computing index sets for primitive recursive trees for which there is a large variety of results [17, 18, 19, 16, 6, 8].

For example, we use our correspondences to determine the complexity of the index sets relative to all finite predicate logic programs and relative to certain special classes of finite predicate logic programs of properties such as (i) having no stable models, (ii) having at least one stable model, (iii) having exactly  $c$  stable models for any given positive integer  $c$ , (iv) having only finitely many stable models, or (vi) having infinitely many stable models.

## 1 Introduction

Past research demonstrated that logic programming with the stable model semantics and, more generally, with the answer-set semantics, is an expressive knowledge representation formalism. The availability of the non-classical negation operator  $\neg$  allows the user to model incomplete information, frame axioms, and default assumptions. Modeling these concepts in classical propositional logic is less direct and requires much larger representations. In this paper, we investigate the complexity of index sets of various properties of finite normal predicate logic programs associated with the stable model semantics as defined by Gelfond and Lifschitz [15]. There are several other semantics of logic programs that have been studied in the literature such as the well-founded semantics [37] and other 3-valued semantics [30]. An algebraic analysis of well-founded semantics in terms of four-valued logic and the four-valued van Emden-Kowalski operator has been done in [9], see also [10].

It is generally accepted that the stable models semantics is the correct semantics for logic programs. In particular a number of implementations of the stable semantics of logic programs (usually known as *Answer Set Programming*) are now available [29, 21, 14]. These implementations are, basically, limited to finite propositional programs or finite predicate programs not admitting function symbols. In addition, the well-founded semantics of fragments of first-order logic extended by inductive definitions has been implemented as well [11, 13].

The main goal of this paper is to study the the complexity of various properties finite predicate logic programs with respect to the stable model semantics. To be able to precisely state our results, we must briefly review the basic concepts of normal logic programs. We shall fix a recursive language  $\mathcal{L}$  which has infinitely many constant symbols  $c_0, c_1, \dots$ , infinitely many variables  $x_0, x_1, \dots$ , infinitely many propositional letters  $A_0, A_1, \dots$ , and for each  $n \geq 1$ , infinitely many  $n$ -ary relation symbols  $R_0^n, R_1^n, \dots$  and  $n$ -ary function symbols  $f_0^n, f_1^n, \dots$ . We note here that we shall generally use the terminology *recursive* rather than the equivalent term *computable* and likewise use *recursively enumerable* rather than *computably enumerable*. These terms have the same meaning, but the former are standard in the logic programming community which is an important audience for our paper.

A literal is an atomic formula or its negation. A ground literal is a literal

which has no free variables. The Herbrand base of  $\mathcal{L}$  is the set  $H_{\mathcal{L}}$  of all ground atoms (atomic statements) of the language.

A (normal) logic programming clause  $C$  is of the form

$$c \leftarrow a_1, \dots, a_n, \neg b_1, \dots, \neg b_m \quad (1)$$

where  $c, a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_m$  are atoms of  $\mathcal{L}$ . Here we allow either  $n$  or  $m$  to be zero. In such a situation, we call  $c$  the *conclusion* of  $C$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  the *premises* of  $C$ ,  $b_1, \dots, b_m$  the *constraints* of  $C$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_n, \neg b_1, \dots, \neg b_m$  the *body* of  $C$  and write  $\text{concl}(C) = c$ ,  $\text{prem}(C) = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ ,  $\text{constr}(C) = \{b_1, \dots, b_m\}$ . A ground clause is a clause with no free variables.  $C$  is called a Horn clause if  $\text{constr}(C) = \emptyset$ , i.e., if  $C$  has no negated atoms in its body.

A finite normal predicate logic program  $P$  is a finite set of clauses of the form (1).  $P$  is said to be a Horn program if all its clauses are Horn clauses. A ground instance of a clause  $C$  is a clause obtained by substituting ground terms (terms without free variables) for all the free variables in  $C$ . The set of all ground instances of the program  $P$  is called  $\text{ground}(P)$ . The Herbrand base of  $P$ ,  $H(P)$ , is the set of all ground atoms that are instances of atoms that appear in  $P$ . For any set  $S$ , we let  $2^S$  denote the set of all subsets of  $S$ .

Given a Horn program  $P$ , we let  $T_P : 2^{H(P)} \rightarrow 2^{H(P)}$  denote the usual one-step provability operator [22] associated with  $\text{ground}(P)$ . That is, for  $S \subseteq H(P)$ ,

$$T_P(S) = \{c : \exists C \in \text{ground}(P) ((C = c \leftarrow a_1, \dots, a_n) \wedge (a_1, \dots, a_n \in S))\}.$$

Then  $P$  has a least model Herbrand  $M = T_P \uparrow_{\omega} (\emptyset) = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} T_P^n(\emptyset)$  where for any  $S \subseteq H(P)$ ,  $T_P^0(S) = S$  and  $T_P^{n+1}(S) = T_P(T_P^n(S))$ . We denote the least model of a Horn program  $P$  by  $\text{lm}(P)$ .

Given a normal predicate logic program  $P$  and  $M \subseteq H(P)$ , we define the *Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct* of  $P$ ,  $P_M$ , via the following two step process. In Step 1, we eliminate all clauses  $C = p \leftarrow q_1, \dots, q_n, \neg r_1, \dots, \neg r_m$  of  $\text{ground}(P)$  such that there exists an atom  $r_i \in M$ . In Step 2, for each remaining clause  $C = p \leftarrow q_1, \dots, q_n, \neg r_1, \dots, \neg r_m$  of  $\text{ground}(P)$ , we replace  $C$  by the Horn clause  $C = p \leftarrow q_1, \dots, q_n$ . The resulting program  $P_M$  is a Horn propositional program and, hence, has a least model. If that least model of  $P_M$  coincides with  $M$ , then  $M$  is called a *stable model* for  $P$ .

Next we define the notion of  $P$ -proof scheme of a normal *propositional* logic program  $P$ . Given a normal propositional logic program  $P$ , a  $P$ -proof scheme is defined by induction on its length  $n$ . Specifically, the set of  $P$ -proof schemes is defined inductively by declaring that

- (I)  $\langle \langle C_1, p_1 \rangle, U \rangle$  is a  $P$ -proof scheme of length 1 if  $C_1 \in P$ ,  $p_1 = \text{concl}(C_1)$ ,  $\text{prem}(C_1) = \emptyset$ , and  $U = \text{constr}(C_1)$  and
- (II) for  $n > 1$ ,  $\langle \langle C_1, p_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle C_n, p_n \rangle, U \rangle$  is a  $P$ -proof scheme of length  $n$  if  $\langle \langle C_1, p_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle C_{n-1}, p_{n-1} \rangle, \bar{U} \rangle$  is a  $P$ -proof scheme of length  $n-1$  and  $C_n$  is a clause in  $P$  such that  $\text{concl}(C_n) = p_n$ ,  $\text{prem}(C_n) \subseteq \{p_1, \dots, p_{n-1}\}$  and  $U = \bar{U} \cup \text{constr}(C_n)$

If  $\mathbb{S} = \langle \langle C_1, p_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle C_n, p_n \rangle, U \rangle$  is a  $P$ -proof scheme of length  $n$ , then we let  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) = U$  and  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}) = p_n$ .

**Example 1.1.** Let  $P$  be the normal propositional logic program consisting of the following four clauses:

$C_1 = p \leftarrow$ ,  $C_2 = q \leftarrow p, \neg r$ ,  $C_3 = r \leftarrow \neg q$ , and  $C_4 = s \leftarrow \neg t$ .

Then we have the following useful examples of  $P$ -proof schemes:

- (a)  $\langle \langle C_1, p \rangle, \emptyset \rangle$  is a  $P$ -proof scheme of length 1 with conclusion  $p$  and empty support.
- (b)  $\langle \langle C_1, p \rangle, \langle C_2, q \rangle, \{r\} \rangle$  is a  $P$ -proof scheme of length 2 with conclusion  $q$  and support  $\{r\}$ .
- (c)  $\langle \langle C_1, p \rangle, \langle C_3, r \rangle, \{q\} \rangle$  is a  $P$ -proof scheme of length 2 with conclusion  $r$  and support  $\{q\}$ .
- (d)  $\langle \langle C_1, p \rangle, \langle C_2, q \rangle, \langle C_3, r \rangle, \{q, r\} \rangle$  is a  $P$ -proof scheme of length 3 with conclusion  $r$  and support  $\{q, r\}$ .

In this example we see that the proof scheme in (c) had an unnecessary item, the first term, while in (d) the proof scheme was supported by a set containing  $q$ , one of atoms that were proved on the way to  $r$ .  $\square$

A  $P$ -proof scheme differs from the usual Hilbert-style proofs in that it carries within itself its own applicability condition. In effect, a  $P$ -proof scheme is a *conditional* proof of its conclusion. It becomes applicable when all the constraints collected in the support are satisfied. Formally, for a set  $M$  of atoms, we say that a  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  is  *$M$ -applicable* or that  $M$  *admits*  $\mathbb{S}$  if  $M \cap \text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) = \emptyset$ . The fundamental connection between proof schemes and stable models is given by the following proposition.

**Proposition 1.1.** *For every normal propositional logic program  $P$  and every set  $M$  of atoms,  $M$  is a stable model of  $P$  if and only if*

- (i) *for every  $p \in M$ , there is a  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  with conclusion  $p$  such that  $M$  admits  $\mathbb{S}$  and*
- (ii) *for every  $p \notin M$ , there is no  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  with conclusion  $p$  such that  $M$  admits  $\mathbb{S}$ .*

A  $P$ -proof scheme may not need all its clauses to prove its conclusion. It may be possible to omit some clauses and still have a proof scheme with the same conclusion. Thus we define a pre-order on  $P$ -proof schemes  $\mathbb{S}, \mathbb{T}$  by declaring that  $\mathbb{S} \prec \mathbb{T}$  if

1.  $\mathbb{S}, \mathbb{T}$  have the same conclusion,
2. Every clause in  $\mathbb{S}$  is also a clause of  $\mathbb{T}$ .

The relation  $\prec$  is reflexive, transitive, and well-founded. Minimal elements of  $\prec$  are minimal proof schemes. A given atom may be the conclusion of no, one, finitely many, or infinitely many different minimal  $P$ -proof schemes. These differences are clearly computationally significant if one is searching for a justification of a conclusion.

If  $P$  is a finite normal predicate logic program, then we define a  $P$ -proof scheme to be a *ground*( $P$ )-proof scheme. Since we are considering finite normal programs over our fixed recursive language  $\mathcal{L}$ , we can use standard Gödel

numbering techniques to assign code numbers to atomic formulas, clauses, and proof schemes. That is, we can effectively assign a natural number to each symbol in  $\mathcal{L}$ . Strings may be coded by natural numbers in the usual fashion. Let  $\omega = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  denote the set of natural numbers and let  $[x, y]$  denote the standard pairing function  $\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + 2xy + y^2 + 3x + y)$  and, for  $n \geq 2$ , we let  $[x_0, \dots, x_n] = [[x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}], x_n]$ . Then a string  $\sigma = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(n-1))$  of length  $n$  may be coded by  $c(\sigma) = [n, [\sigma(0), \sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(n-1)]]$  and also  $c(\emptyset) = 0$ . We define the canonical index of any finite set  $X = \{x_1 < \dots < x_n\} \subseteq \omega$  by  $can(X) = 2^{x_1} + 2^{x_2} + \dots + 2^{x_n}$ . We define  $can(\emptyset) = 0$ . Then we can think of formulas of  $\mathcal{L}$  as sequences of natural numbers so that the code of a formula is just the code of the sequence of numbers associated with the symbols in the formula. Then a clause  $C$  as in (1) can be assigned the code of the triple  $(x, y, z)$  where  $x$  is the code of the conclusion of  $C$ ,  $y$  is the canonical index of the set of codes of  $prem(C)$ , and  $z$  is the canonical index of the set of codes of  $constr(C)$ . Finally the code of a proof scheme  $\mathbb{S} = \langle\langle C_1, p_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle C_n, p_n \rangle, U \rangle$  consists of the code of a pair  $(s, t)$  where  $s$  is the code of the sequence  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  where  $a_i$  is the code of the pair of codes for  $C_i$  and  $p_i$  and  $t$  is the canonical index of the set of codes for elements of  $U$ . It is then not difficult to verify that for any given finite normal predicate logic program  $P$ , the questions of whether a given  $n$  is the code of a ground atom, a ground instance of a clause in  $P$ , or a  $P$ -proof are primitive recursive predicates. The key observation to make is that since  $P$  is finite and the usual unification algorithm is effective, we can explicitly test whether a given number  $m$  is the code of a ground atom or a ground instance of a clause in  $P$  without doing any unbounded searches. It is then easy to see that, once we can determine if a number  $m$  is a code of ground instance of a clause of  $P$  in a primitive recursive fashion, then there is a primitive recursive algorithm which determines whether a given number  $n$  is the code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme.

If  $P$  is a finite normal predicate logic program over  $\mathcal{L}$ , we let  $N_k(P)$  be the set of all codes of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes  $\mathbb{S}$  such that all the atoms appearing in all the rules used in  $\mathbb{S}$  are smaller than  $k$ . Obviously  $N_k(P)$  is finite. Since the predicate “minimal  $P$ -proof scheme”, which holds only on codes of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes, is a primitive recursive predicate, it easily follows that we can uniformly construct a primitive recursive function  $h_P$  such that  $h_P(k)$  equals the canonical index for  $N_k(P)$ .

A finite normal predicate logic program  $Q$  over  $\mathcal{L}$  may be written out as a finite string over a finite alphabet and thus may be assigned a Gödel number  $e(Q)$  in the usual fashion. The set of Gödel numbers of well-formed programs is well-known to be primitive recursive (see Lloyd [22]). Thus we may let  $Q_e$  be the program with Gödel number  $e$  when this exists and let  $Q_e$  be the empty program otherwise. For any property  $\mathcal{P}$  of finite normal predicate logic programs, let  $I(\mathcal{P})$  be the set of indices  $e$  such that  $Q_e$  has property  $\mathcal{P}$ .

Next we define the notions of decidable normal logic programs and of normal logic programs which have the finite support property. Proposition 1.1 says that the presence and absence of the atom  $p$  in a stable model of a finite normal predicate logic program  $P$  depends *only* on the supports of its  $ground(P)$ -proof

schemes. This fact naturally leads to a characterization of stable models in terms of propositional satisfiability. Given  $p \in H(P)$ , the *defining equation* for  $p$  with respect to  $P$  is the following propositional formula:

$$p \Leftrightarrow (\neg U_1 \vee \neg U_2 \vee \dots) \quad (2)$$

where  $\langle U_1, U_2, \dots \rangle$  is the list of all supports of minimal  $ground(P)$ -proof schemes. Here for any finite set  $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$  of atoms,  $\neg S = \neg s_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \neg s_n$ . If  $U = \emptyset$ , then  $\neg U = \top$ . Up to a total ordering of the finite sets of atoms such a formula is unique. For example, suppose we fix a total order on  $H(P)$ ,  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots$ . Then given two sets of atoms,  $U = \{u_1 < \dots < u_m\}$  and  $V = \{v_1 < \dots < v_n\}$ , we say that  $U \prec V$ , if either (i)  $u_m < v_n$ , (ii)  $u_m = v_n$  and  $m < n$ , or (iii)  $u_m = v_n$ ,  $n = m$ , and  $(u_1, \dots, u_m)$  is lexicographically less than  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ . We also define  $\emptyset \prec U$  for any finite nonempty set  $U$ . We say that (2) is the *defining equation* for  $p$  relative to  $P$  if  $U_1 \prec U_2 \prec \dots$ . We will denote the defining equation for  $p$  with respect to  $P$  by  $Eq_p^P$ . When  $P$  is a Horn program, an atom  $p$  may have an empty support or no support at all. The first of these alternatives occurs when  $p$  belongs to the least model of  $P$ ,  $lm(P)$ . The second alternative occurs when  $p \notin lm(P)$ . The defining equations are  $p \Leftrightarrow \top$  when  $p \in lm(P)$  and  $p \Leftrightarrow \perp$  when  $p \notin lm(P)$ .

Let  $\Phi_P$  be the set  $\{Eq_p^P : p \in H(P)\}$ . We then have the following consequence of Proposition 1.1.

**Proposition 1.2.** *Let  $P$  be a normal propositional logic program. Then the stable models of  $P$  are precisely the propositional models of the theory  $\Phi_P$ .*

When  $P$  is *purely negative*, i.e. all clauses  $C$  of  $P$  have  $prem(C) = \emptyset$ , the stable and supported models of  $P$  coincide [12] and the defining equations reduce to Clark's completion [7] of  $P$ .

Let us observe that, in general, the propositional formulas on the right-hand-side of the defining equations may be infinitary.

**Example 1.2.** Let  $P$  be an infinite normal propositional logic program consisting of clauses  $p \leftarrow \neg p_i$ , for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then the defining equation for  $p$  in  $P$  is the infinitary propositional formula

$$p \Leftrightarrow (\neg p_1 \vee \neg p_2 \vee \neg p_3 \dots).$$

□

The following observation is quite useful. If  $U_1, U_2$  are two finite sets of propositional atoms, then

$$U_1 \subseteq U_2 \text{ if and only if } \neg U_2 \models \neg U_1$$

Here  $\models$  is the propositional consequence relation. The effect of this observation is that only the inclusion-minimal supports are important.

**Example 1.3.** Let  $P$  be an infinite normal propositional logic program consisting of clauses  $p \leftarrow \neg p_1, \dots, \neg p_i$ , for all  $i \in N$ . The defining equation for  $p$  in  $P$  is

$$p \Leftrightarrow [\neg p_1 \vee (\neg p_1 \wedge \neg p_2) \vee (\neg p_1 \wedge \neg p_2 \wedge \neg p_3) \dots]$$

which is infinitary. But our observation above implies that this formula is *equivalent* to the formula

$$p \Leftrightarrow \neg p_1.$$

□

Motivated by the Example 1.3, we define the *reduced defining equation* for  $p$  relative to  $P$  to be the formula

$$p \Leftrightarrow (\neg U_1 \vee \neg U_2 \vee \dots) \quad (3)$$

where  $U_i$  range over *inclusion-minimal* supports of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes for the atom  $p$  and  $U_1 < U_2 < \dots$ . We denote this formula as  $req_p^P$ , and define  $r\Phi_P$  to be the theory consisting of  $req_p^P$  for all  $p \in H(P)$ . We then have the following strengthening of Proposition 1.2.

**Proposition 1.3.** *Let  $P$  be a normal propositional program. Then stable models of  $P$  are precisely the propositional models of the theory  $r\Phi_P$ .*

In our example 1.3, the theory  $\Phi_P$  was infinitary, but the theory  $r\Phi_P$  was finitary.

Suppose that  $P$  is a normal propositional logic program  $P$  which consists of ground clauses from  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $a$  is an atom in  $H(P)$ . Then we say that  $a$  has the *finite support property relative of  $P$*  if the reduced defining equation for  $a$  is finite. We say that  $P$  has the *finite support (FS) property* if for all  $a \in H(P)$ , the reduced defining equation for  $a$  is a finite propositional formula. Equivalently, a program  $P$  has the finite support property if for every atom  $a \in H(P)$ , there are only finitely many inclusion-minimal supports of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes for  $a$ . We say that  $P$  has the *almost always finite support (a.a.FS) property* if for all but finitely many atoms  $a \in H(P)$ , there are only finitely many inclusion-minimal supports of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes for  $a$ . We say that  $P$  is *recursive* if the set of codes of clauses of  $P$  is recursive and the set of codes of atoms in  $H(P)$  is recursive. Note that for any finite normal predicate logic program  $Q$ ,  $ground(Q)$  will automatically be a recursive normal propositional logic program. We say that  $P$  has the *recursive finite support (rec.FS) property* if  $P$  is recursive, has the finite support property, and there is a uniform effective procedure which given any atom  $a \in H(P)$  produces the code of the set of the inclusion-minimal supports of  $P$ -proof schemes for  $a$ . We say that  $P$  has the *almost always recursive finite support (a.a.FS) property* if  $P$  is recursive, has the a.a.FS property, and there is a uniform effective procedure which for all but a finite set of atoms  $a \in H(P)$  produces the code of the set of the inclusion-minimal supports of  $P$ -proof schemes for  $a$ . We say that a finite normal predicate logic program has the *FS property* (*rec.FS property*, *a.a.FS property*, *a.a.rec.FS property*) if

$ground(P)$  has the *FS* property (*rec.FS* property, *a.a.FS* property, *a.a.rec.FS* property).

Next we define two additional properties of recursive normal propositional logic programs that have not been previously defined in the literature. Suppose that  $P$  is a recursive normal propositional logic program consisting of ground clauses in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $M$  is a stable model of  $P$ . Then for any atom  $p \in M$ , we say that a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  is the *smallest minimal  $P$ -proof for  $p$  relative to  $M$*  if  $concl(\mathbb{S}) = p$  and  $supp(\mathbb{S}) \cap M = \emptyset$  and there is no minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}'$  such that  $concl(\mathbb{S}') = p$  and  $supp(\mathbb{S}') \cap M = \emptyset$  and the Gödel number of  $\mathbb{S}'$  is less than the Gödel number of  $\mathbb{S}$ . We say that  $P$  is *decidable* if for any finite set of ground atoms  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \subseteq H(P)$  and any finite set of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes  $\{\mathbb{S}_1, \dots, \mathbb{S}_n\}$  such that  $concl(\mathbb{S}_i) = a_i$ , we can effectively decide whether there is a stable model of  $M$  of  $P$  such that

- (a)  $a_i \in M$  and  $\mathbb{S}_i$  is the smallest minimal  $P$ -proof scheme for  $a_i$  such that  $supp(\mathbb{S}_i) \cap M = \emptyset$  and
- (b) for any ground atom  $b \notin \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  such that the code of  $b$  is strictly less than the maximum of the codes of  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ ,  $b \notin M$ .

We now introduce and illustrate a technical concept that will be useful for our later considerations. At first glance, there are some obvious differences between stable models of normal propositional logic programs and models of sets of sentences in a propositional logic. For example, if  $T$  is a set of sentences in a propositional logic and  $S \subseteq T$ , then it is certainly the case that every model of  $T$  is a model of  $S$ . Thus a set of propositional sentences  $T$  has the property that if  $T$  has a model, then every subset of  $T$  has a model. This is certainly not true for normal propositional logic programs. That is, consider the following example.

**Example 1.4.** Let  $P$  consists of the following two clauses:

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= a \leftarrow \neg a, \neg b \text{ and} \\ C_2 &= b \leftarrow \end{aligned}$$

Then it is easy to see that  $\{b\}$  is a stable model of  $P$ . However the subprogram  $Q$  consisting of just clause  $C_1$  does not have a stable model. That is,  $b$  can not be in any stable model of  $Q$  since there is no clause in  $Q$  whose conclusion is  $b$ . Thus the only possible stable models of  $Q$  are  $M_1 = \emptyset$  and  $M_2 = \{a\}$ . But it is easy to see that both  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are not stable models of  $Q$ . That is, the Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct  $Q_\emptyset = a \leftarrow$  whose least model is  $\{a\}$  and the Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct  $Q_{\{a\}} = \emptyset$  whose least model is  $\emptyset$ .

Next we note that there is no analogue of the Compactness Theorem for stable models. That is, the Compactness Theorem for propositional logic says that if  $\Theta$  is a collection of sentences and every finite subset of  $\Theta$  has a model, then  $\Theta$  has a model. Marek and Remmel [27] proposed the following analogue of the Compactness Theorem for normal propositional logic programs.

(Comp) *If for any finite normal propositional logic program  $P' \subseteq P$ , there exist*



a finite program  $P''$  such that  $P' \subseteq P'' \subseteq P$  such that  $P''$  has a stable model, then  $P$  has a stable model.

However, Marek and Remmel [27] showed that *Comp* fails for normal propositional logic programs.

Finally, we observe that a normal propositional logic program  $P$  can fail to have a stable model for some trivial reasons. That is, suppose that  $P_0$  is a normal propositional logic program which has a stable model and  $a$  is atom which is not in the Herbrand base of  $P_0$ ,  $H(P_0)$ . Then if  $P$  is the normal propositional logic program consisting of  $P_0$  plus the clause  $C = a \leftarrow \neg a$ , then  $P$  automatically does not have a stable model. That is, consider a potential stable model  $M$  of  $P$ . If  $a \in M$ , then  $C$  does not contribute to  $P_M$  so that there will be no clause of  $P_M$  with  $a$  in the head. Hence,  $a$  is not in the least model of  $P_M$  so that  $M$  is not a stable model of  $P$ . On the other hand, if  $a \notin M$ , then  $C$  will contribute the clause  $a \leftarrow$  to  $P_M$  so that  $a$  must be in the least model of  $P_M$  and, again,  $M$  is not equal to the least model of  $P_M$ . For this reason, we say that a finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_e$  over  $\mathcal{L}$  has an *explicit initial blocking set* if there is an  $m$  such that

1. for every  $i \leq m$ , either  $i$  is not the code of an atom of  $\text{ground}(P)$  or the atom  $a$  coded by  $i$  has the finite support property relative to  $P$  and
2. for all  $S \subseteq \{0, \dots, m\}$ , either
  - (a) there exists an  $i \in S$  such that  $i$  is not the code of an atom in  $H(P)$ ,
  - (b) there is an  $i \notin S$  such that there exists a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $p$  such that  $\text{concl}(p) = a$  where  $a$  is the atom of  $H(P)$  with code  $i$  and  $\text{supp}(p) \subseteq \{0, \dots, m\} - S$ , or
  - (c) there is an  $i \in S$  such that every minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  of the atom  $a$  of  $H(P)$  with code  $i$  has  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ .

The definition of a finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_e$  over  $\mathcal{L}$  having an *initial blocking set* is the same as the definition of  $Q_e$  having an explicit initial blocking set except that we drop the condition that for every  $i \leq m$  which is the code of an atom  $a \in H(P)$ ,  $a$  must have the finite support property relative to  $P$ .

If  $\Sigma \subseteq \omega$ , then  $\Sigma^{<\omega}$  denotes the set of finite strings of letters from  $\Sigma$  and  $\Sigma^\omega$  denotes the set of infinite sequences of letters from  $\Sigma$ . For a string  $\sigma = (\sigma(0), \sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(n-1))$ , we let  $|\sigma|$  denote the length  $n$  of  $\sigma$ . The empty string has length 0 and will be denoted by  $\emptyset$ . A constant string  $\sigma$  of length  $n$  consisting entirely of  $k$ 's will be denoted by  $k^n$ . For  $m < |\sigma|$ ,  $\sigma \upharpoonright m$  is the string  $(\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(m-1))$ . We say  $\sigma$  is an *initial segment* of  $\tau$  (written  $\sigma \prec \tau$ ) if  $\sigma = \tau \upharpoonright m$  for some  $m < |\sigma|$ . The concatenation  $\sigma \hat{\ } \tau$  (or sometimes just  $\sigma\tau$ ) is defined by

$$\sigma \hat{\ } \tau = (\sigma(0), \sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(m-1), \tau(0), \tau(1), \dots, \tau(n-1))$$

where  $|\sigma| = m$  and  $|\tau| = n$ . We write  $\sigma \hat{\ } a$  for  $\sigma \hat{\ } (a)$  and  $a \hat{\ } \sigma$  for  $(a) \hat{\ } \sigma$ . For any  $x \in \Sigma^\omega$  and any finite  $n$ , the *initial segment*  $x \upharpoonright n$  of  $x$  is  $(x(0), \dots, x(n-1))$ . We write  $\sigma \prec x$  if  $\sigma = x \upharpoonright n$  for some  $n$ . For any  $\sigma \in \Sigma^n$  and any  $x \in \Sigma^\omega$ , we let  $\sigma \hat{\ } x = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(n-1), x(0), x(1), \dots)$ .

If  $\Sigma \subseteq \omega$ , a *tree*  $T$  over  $\Sigma^*$  is a set of finite strings from  $\Sigma^{<\omega}$  which contains the empty string  $\emptyset$  and which is closed under initial segments. We say that  $\tau \in T$  is an *immediate successor* of a string  $\sigma \in T$  if  $\tau = \sigma \hat{\ } a$  for some  $a \in \Sigma$ . We will identify  $T$  with the set of codes  $c(\sigma)$  for  $\sigma \in T$ . Thus we say that  $T$  is recursive, r.e., etc. if  $\{c(\sigma) : \sigma \in T\}$  is recursive, r.e., etc. If each node of  $T$  has finitely many immediate successors, then  $T$  is said to be *finitely branching*.

**Definition 1.1.** Suppose that  $g : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \omega$ . Then we say that

1.  $T$  is  *$g$ -bounded* if for all  $\sigma$  and all integers  $i$ ,  $\sigma \hat{\ } i \in T$  implies  $i \leq g(\sigma)$ ,
2.  $T$  is *almost always  $g$ -bounded* if there is a finite set  $F \subseteq T$  of strings such that for all strings  $\sigma \in T \setminus F$  and all integers  $i$ ,  $\sigma \hat{\ } i \in T$  implies  $i < g(\sigma)$ ,
3.  $T$  is *nearly  $g$ -bounded* if there is an  $n \geq 0$  such that for all strings  $\sigma \in T$  with  $|\sigma| \geq n$  and all integers  $i$ ,  $\sigma \hat{\ } i \in T$  implies  $i < g(\sigma)$ ,
4.  $T$  is *bounded* if it is  $g$ -bounded for some  $g : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \omega$ ,
5.  $T$  is *almost always bounded (a.a.b.)* if it is almost always  $g$ -bounded for some  $g : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \omega$ ,
6.  $T$  is *nearly bounded* if it is nearly  $g$ -bounded for some  $g : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \omega$ ,
7.  $T$  is *recursively bounded (r.b.)* if  $T$  is  $g$ -bounded for some recursive  $g : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \omega$ ,
8.  $T$  *almost recursively bounded (a.a.r.b.)* if it is almost always  $g$ -bounded for some recursive  $g : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \omega$ , and
9.  $T$  *nearly recursively bounded (nearly r.b.)* if it is nearly  $g$ -bounded for some recursive  $g : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \omega$ .

For any tree  $T$ , an *infinite path* through  $T$  is a sequence  $(x(0), x(1), \dots)$  such that  $x \upharpoonright n \in T$  for all  $n$ . Let  $[T]$  be the set of infinite paths through  $T$ . We let  $Ext(T)$  denote the set of all  $\sigma \in T$  such that  $\sigma \prec x$  for some  $x \in [T]$ . Thus  $Ext(T)$  is the set of all  $\sigma$  in  $T$  that lie on some infinite path through  $T$ . We say that  $T$  is *decidable* if  $T$  is recursive and  $Ext(T)$  is recursive.

The two main results of this paper are the following theorems.

**Theorem 1.1.** *There is a uniform effective procedure which given any recursive tree  $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$  produces a finite normal predicate logic program  $P_T$  such that the following hold.*

1. *There is an effective one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between the set of stable models of  $P_T$  and the set of infinite paths through  $T$ .*
2.  *$T$  is bounded if and only if  $P_T$  has the FS property.*
3.  *$T$  is recursively bounded if and only if  $P_T$  has the rec.FS property.*
4.  *$T$  is decidable and recursively bounded if and only if  $P_T$  is decidable and has the rec.FS property.*

**Theorem 1.2.** *There is a uniform recursive procedure which given any finite normal predicate logic program  $P$  produces a primitive recursive tree  $T_P$  such that the following hold.*

1. *There is an effective one-to-one degree-preserving correspondence between the set of stable models of  $P$  and the set of infinite paths through  $T_P$ .*
2.  *$P$  has the FS property or  $P$  has an explicit initial blocking set if and only if  $T_P$  is bounded.*

3. If  $P$  has a stable model, then  $P$  has the  $FS$  property if and only if  $T_P$  is bounded.
4.  $P$  has the  $rec.FS$  property or an explicit initial blocking set if and only if  $T_P$  is recursively bounded.
5. If  $P$  has a stable model, then  $P$  has the  $rec.FS$  property if and only if  $T_P$  is recursively bounded.
6.  $P$  has the  $a.a.FS$  property or  $P$  has an explicit initial blocking set if and only if  $T_P$  is nearly bounded.
7. If  $P$  has a stable model, then  $P$  has the  $a.a.FS$  property if and only if  $T_P$  is nearly bounded.
8.  $P$  has the  $a.a.rec.FS$  property or an explicit initial blocking set if and only if  $T_P$  is nearly recursively bounded.
9. If  $P$  has a stable model, then  $P$  has the  $a.a.rec.FS$  property if and only if  $T_P$  is nearly recursively bounded.
10. If  $P$  has a stable model, then  $P$  is decidable if and only if  $T_P$  is decidable.

The idea of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 is to show that index sets for certain properties of trees have the same complexity as corresponding index sets for various properties of finite normal predicate logic programs. For example, suppose that we want to find the complexity of

$$A = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property and has exactly 2 stable models}\}.$$

Let  $B = \{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } Card([T_e]) = 2\}$ . Then Theorem 1.1 allows us to prove that  $B$  is one-to-one reducible to  $A$  and Theorem 1.2 allows us to prove that  $A$  is one-to-one reducible to  $B$ . Now Cenzer and Remmel [4, 5] have proved a large number of results about the index sets for primitive recursive trees. In particular, they have shown that  $B$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. Thus  $A$  is also  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

The outline of this paper is as follows. In Section 2, we shall provide the basic background on  $\Pi_1^0$  classes and recursive trees that we shall need. In Section 3, we shall give the proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2. In Section 4, we shall use Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 to prove a variety of index set results relative to all finite normal predicate logic programs, to all finite normal predicate logic programs which have the  $FS$  property, and to all finite normal predicate logic programs which have the  $rec.FS$  property. In Section 5, we shall prove a variety of index set results relative to all finite normal predicate logic programs which have the  $a.a.FS$  property and to all finite normal predicate logic programs which have the  $a.a.rec.FS$  property. Section 6 contains conclusions and suggestions of further work.

A preliminary extended abstract of this paper [3] appeared in the proceedings of a workshop at the Federated Logic Conference FLOC'99 which were distributed at the conference.

## 2 $\Pi_1^0$ classes and trees

In this section, we shall review the basic background facts on the complexity of various properties of  $\Pi_1^0$  classes and primitive recursive trees that are relevant to classifying the index sets of the properties of finite normal predicate logic programs that will be of interest to us.

Let  $\phi_e$  denote the partial recursive function which is computed by the  $e$ -th Turing machine. Thus  $\phi_0, \phi_1, \dots$  is a list of all partial recursive functions. We let  $W_e$  be the set of all  $x \in \omega$  such  $\phi_e(x)$  converges. Thus  $W_0, W_1, \dots$  is a list of all recursively enumerable (r.e.) sets. More generally, a recursive functional  $\phi$  takes as inputs both numbers  $a \in \omega$  and functions  $x : \omega \rightarrow \omega$ . The function inputs are treated as “oracles” to be called on when needed. Thus a particular computation  $\phi(a_1, \dots, a_n; x_1, \dots, x_m)$  only uses a finite amount of information  $x_i \upharpoonright c$  about each function  $x_i$ . Thus we shall write  $\phi_e(a_1, \dots, a_n; x_1, \dots, x_m)$  for the recursive functional computed by the  $e$ -th oracle machine. In the special case where  $n = m = 1$  and  $x_1$  is a sequence of 0s and 1s and  $X = \{n : x_1(n) = 1\}$ , then we shall write  $\phi_e^X(a_1)$  or  $\{e\}^X(a_1)$  instead of  $\phi_e(a_1; x_1)$ . The jump of a set  $A \subseteq \omega$ , denoted  $A'$ , is the set of all  $e$  such that  $\phi_e^A(e)$  converges. We let  $0'$  denote the jump of the empty set. For  $A, B \subseteq \omega$ , we write  $A \leq_T B$  if  $A$  is Turing reducible to  $B$  and  $A \equiv_T B$  if  $A \leq_T B$  and  $B \leq_T A$ .

We shall assume the reader is familiar with the usual arithmetic hierarchy of  $\Sigma_n^0$  and  $\Pi_n^0$  subsets of  $\omega$  as well as  $\Sigma_1^1$  and  $\Pi_1^1$  sets, see Soare's book [36] for any unexplained notation. A subset  $A$  of  $\omega$  is said to be  $D_n^m$  if it is the difference of two  $\Sigma_n^m$  sets. A set  $A \subseteq \omega$  is said to be an *index set* if for any  $a, b$ ,  $a \in A$  and  $\phi_a = \phi_b$  imply that  $b \in A$ . For example,  $Fin = \{a : W_a \text{ is finite}\}$  is an index set. We are particularly interested in the complexity of such index sets. Recall that a subset  $A$  of  $\omega$  is said to be  $\Sigma_n^m$ -complete (respectively,  $\Pi_n^m$ -complete,  $D_n^m$ -complete) if  $A$  is  $\Sigma_n^m$  (respectively,  $\Pi_n^m$ ,  $D_n^m$ ) and any  $\Sigma_n^m$  (respectively,  $\Pi_n^m$ ,  $D_n^m$ ) set  $B$  is many-one reducible to  $A$ . For example, the set  $Fin = \{e : W_e \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_2^0$ -complete.

A recursive tree  $T$  is said to be *highly recursive* if  $T$  is finitely branching and there is a partial recursive function  $f$  such that, for any  $\sigma \in T$ ,  $f(\sigma)$  is the canonical index of the set of codes of all immediate successors in  $T$ . It is easy to show that  $T$  is highly recursive if and only if  $T$  is recursive and recursively bounded.

A set  $\mathcal{C}$  of functions  $f : N \rightarrow N$  is a  $\Pi_1^0$ -class if and only if

$$f \in \mathcal{C} \Leftrightarrow \forall n ([f(0), \dots, f(n)] \in R)$$

where  $R$  is some recursive predicate. It is well known that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\Pi_1^0$ -class if and only if  $X = [T]$  for some recursive tree  $T$ . In fact, the following lemma is true.

**Lemma 2.1.** *For any class  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \omega^\omega$ , the following are equivalent.*

1.  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some recursive tree  $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ .
2.  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some primitive recursive tree  $T$ .
3.  $\mathcal{C} = \{x : \omega \rightarrow \omega : (\forall n)R(n, [x \upharpoonright n])\}$ , for some recursive relation  $R$ .
4.  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some tree  $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$  which is  $\Pi_1^0$ .

We say that a  $\Pi_1^0$  class  $\mathcal{C}$  is

1. *bounded* if  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some recursive tree  $T$  which is bounded,
2. *almost always bounded (a.a.b.)* if  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some recursive tree  $T$  which is almost always bounded,
3. *nearly bounded (n.b.)* if  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some recursive tree  $T$  which is nearly bounded,
4. *recursively bounded (r.b.)* if  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some highly recursive tree  $T$ ,
5. *almost always recursively bounded (a.a.r.b.)* if  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some recursive tree  $T$  which is almost always recursively bounded,
6. *nearly recursively bounded (n.r.b.)* if  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some recursive tree  $T$  which is nearly recursively bounded, and
7. *decidable* if  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$  for some decidable tree  $T$ .

We now spell out the indexing for  $\Pi_1^0$  classes and primitive recursive trees that we will use in this paper. Let  $\pi_0, \pi_1, \dots$  be an effective enumeration of the primitive recursive functions from  $\omega$  to  $\{0, 1\}$  and let

$$T_e = \{\emptyset\} \cup \{\sigma : (\forall \tau \preceq \sigma) \pi_e(c(\tau)) = 1\}$$

where  $c(\tau)$  is the code of  $\tau$ . It is clear that each  $T_e$  is a primitive recursive tree. Observe also that if  $\{\sigma : \pi_e(c(\sigma)) = 1\}$  is a primitive recursive tree, then  $T_e$  will be that tree. Thus every primitive recursive tree occurs in our enumeration  $T_0, T_1, \dots$  (Note that, henceforth, we will generally identify a finite sequence  $\tau \in \omega^{<\omega}$  with its code.) Then we let  $\mathcal{C}_e = [T_e]$  be the  $e$ -th  $\Pi_1^0$  class. It follows from Lemma 2.1 that every  $\Pi_1^0$  class occurs in the enumeration  $\mathcal{C}_e$ .

There is a large literature on the complexity of elements in  $\Pi_1^0$  classes and index sets for primitive recursive trees. In the remainder of this section, we shall list the key results which will be needed for our applications to index sets associated with finite normal predicate logic programs.

**Theorem 2.1.** *For any recursive tree  $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ , the following hold.*

- (a)  *$Ext(T)$  is a  $\Sigma_1^1$  set.*
- (b) *If  $T$  is finitely branching, then  $Ext(T)$  is a  $\Pi_2^0$  set.*
- (c) *If  $T$  is highly recursive, then  $Ext(T)$  is a  $\Pi_1^0$  set.*

For any nonempty  $\Pi_1^0$  class  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$ , one can compute a member of  $\mathcal{C}$  from the tree  $Ext(T)$  by always taking the leftmost branch in  $Ext(T)$ .

The following theorem immediately follows from Theorem 2.1.

**Theorem 2.2.** *For any nonempty  $\Pi_1^0$  class  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ ,*

- (a)  *$\mathcal{C}$  has a member which is recursive in some  $\Sigma_1^1$  set.*
- (b) *If  $\mathcal{C}$  is bounded, nearly bounded, or almost always bounded, then  $\mathcal{C}$  has a member which is recursive in  $\mathbf{0}'$ ,*
- (c) *If  $\mathcal{C}$  is recursively bounded, nearly recursively bounded, or almost always recursively bounded, then  $\mathcal{C}$  has a member which is recursive in  $\mathbf{0}'$ , and*
- (d) *If  $\mathcal{C} = [T]$ , where  $T$  is decidable, then  $\mathcal{C}$  has a recursive member.*

If  $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$  is tree and  $f \in [T]$ , then we say that  $f$  is isolated, if there is  $k > 0$  such that  $f$  is the only element of  $[T]$  which extends  $(f(0), \dots, f(k))$ . The complexity of isolated paths in recursive trees was determined by Kreisel.

**Theorem 2.3.** [Kreisel 59] *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $\Pi_1^0$  class.*

- (a) *Any isolated member of  $\mathcal{C}$  is hyperarithmetical.*
- (b) *Suppose that  $\mathcal{C}$  is bounded, nearly bounded, or almost always bounded. Then any isolated member of  $\mathcal{C}$  is recursive in  $\mathbf{0}'$ .*
- (c) *Suppose  $\mathcal{C}$  is recursively bounded, nearly recursively bounded, or almost always recursively bounded. Then any isolated member of  $\mathcal{C}$  is recursive.*

A set  $A \subseteq \omega$  is *low* if  $A' = \mathbf{0}'$ . Jockusch and Soare [17, 18, 19] proved the following important results about recursively bounded  $\Pi_1^0$  classes.

**Theorem 2.4.** (a) (Low Basis Theorem) *Every nonempty r.b.  $\Pi_1^0$  class  $\mathcal{C}$  contains a member of low degree.*

- (b) *There is a low degree  $\mathbf{a}$  such that every nonempty r.b.  $\Pi_1^0$  class contains a member of degree  $\leq \mathbf{a}$ .*
- (c) *If  $\mathcal{C}$  is r.b., then  $P$  contains a member of r.e. degree.*
- (d) *Every r.b.  $\Pi_1^0$  class  $\mathcal{C}$  contains members  $a$  and  $b$  such that any function recursive in both  $a$  and  $b$  is recursive.*
- (e) *If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a bounded  $\Pi_1^0$  class, then  $\mathcal{C}$  contains a member of  $\Sigma_2^0$  degree.*
- (f) *Every bounded  $\Pi_1^0$  class contains a member  $a$  such that  $a' \leq_T \mathbf{0}''$ .*
- (g) *Every bounded  $\Pi_1^0$  class  $\mathcal{C}$  contains members  $a$  and  $b$  such that any function recursive in both  $a$  and  $b$  is recursive in  $\emptyset'$ .*

Cenzer and Remmel [4, 5] proved a large number of results about index sets for  $\Pi_1^0$  classes and primitive recursive trees. Below we list a sample of such results which will be important for us to establish corresponding results for index sets of finite normal predicate logic programs.

Our first results establish the complexity of determining whether a primitive recursive tree is recursively bounded, almost always recursively bounded, nearly recursively bounded, bounded, almost always bounded, nearly bounded, or decidable.

**Theorem 2.5.** (a)  *$\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.*

- (b)  *$\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.*
- (c)  *$\{e : T_e \text{ is n.r.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.*
- (d)  *$\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.*
- (e)  *$\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.*
- (f)  *$\{e : T_e \text{ is n.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.*
- (g)  *$\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and decidable}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.*

*Proof.* The only parts which are not proved by Cenzer and Remmel in [4] are parts (b) and (e). (In [4], Cenzer and Remmel used the term almost bounded for what we call nearly bounded.)

We shall show how to modify the proofs of (c) and (f) in [4] to prove (b) and (e), respectively. Similar modifications of the proofs in [4] for index sets relative to nearly bounded and nearly recursively bounded trees can be used to establish the remaining index set results which we list in this section.

The facts that  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$  and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$  are easily established by simply writing out the definitions.

To prove the  $\Sigma_3^0$ -completeness of  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b.}\}$ , we can use the same proof that was used by Cenzer and Remmel [4] to establish that  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. It is easy to see that a tree  $T$  is *r.b.* if and only if there is a recursive function  $g : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  such that if  $(a_0, \dots, a_n) \in T$ , then  $a_i < g(i)$  for all  $i \in T$ . Similarly, a tree  $T$  is *a.a.r.b.* if and only if there is a recursive function  $g : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  such that for all but finitely many  $(a_0, \dots, a_n) \in T$ ,  $a_i < g(i)$  for all  $i \in T$ . In each case, we shall call such a function  $g$  a *bounding function*.

Now,  $Rec = \{e : W_e \text{ is recursive}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete, see Soare's book [36]. We define a reduction  $f$  of  $Rec$  to  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b.}\}$ . This will be done so that  $[T_{f(e)}]$  is empty if  $W_e$  is finite and  $[T_{f(e)}]$  has a single element if  $W_e$  is infinite. The primitive recursive tree  $T_{f(e)}$  is defined so that we put  $\sigma = (s_0, s_1, \dots, s_{k-1}) \in T_{f(e)}$  if and only if  $s_0 < s_1 < \dots < s_{k-1}$  and there exists a sequence  $m_0 < m_1 < \dots < m_{k-1}$  such that, for each  $i < k$ ,  $m_i \in W_{e,s_i} \setminus W_{e,s_{i-1}}$  and  $m_i$  is the least element of  $W_{e,s_{k-1}} \setminus \{m_0, \dots, m_{i-1}\}$ . We observe that if  $W_e$  is finite, then  $T_{f(e)}$  is also finite and therefore recursively bounded. Now fix  $e$  and suppose that  $W_e$  is infinite. Then we define a canonical sequence  $n_0 < n_1 < \dots$  of elements of  $W_e$  and corresponding sequence of stages  $t_0 < t_1 < \dots$  such that, for each  $i$ ,  $n_i \in W_{e,t_i} \setminus W_{e,t_{i-1}}$  and  $(t_0, t_1, \dots, t_i) \in T_{f(e)}$  as follows. Let  $n_0$  be the least element of  $W_e$  and  $t_0$  is the least stage  $t$  such that  $n_0 \in W_{e,t}$ . Then for each  $k$ , let  $n_{k+1}$  be the least element of  $W_e \setminus W_{e,t_k}$  and  $t_{k+1}$  be the least stage  $t$  such that  $n_{k+1} \in W_{e,t}$ . Then for each  $k$ ,  $(t_0, \dots, t_k) \in T_{f(e)}$  and  $n_k \in W_{e,t_k}$ . Furthermore, we can prove by induction on  $k$  that

$$k \in W_e \rightarrow k \in W_{e,t_k}.$$

For  $k = 0$ , this is because  $n_0 = 0$  if  $0 \in W_e$ . Assuming the statement to be true for all  $i < k$ , we see that if  $k \in W_e$ , then either  $k \in W_{e,t_{k-1}}$ , or else  $n_k = k$ . In either case, we have  $k \in W_{e,t_k}$ .

The key fact to observe is that for any  $(s_0, \dots, s_k) \in T_{f(e)}$ ,  $s_k \leq t_k$ . To see this, let  $(s_0, \dots, s_k) \in T_{f(e)}$ , let  $(m_0, \dots, m_k)$  be the associated sequence of elements of  $W_e$ . Suppose by way of contradiction that  $s_k > t_k$ . It follows from the definitions of  $T_{f(e)}$  and of  $t_0, \dots, t_k$  that in fact  $s_i = t_i$  and  $m_i = n_i$  for all  $i \leq k$ . Thus if we let  $g(n) = t_n + 1$ , then  $g$  will be a bounding function for  $T_{f(e)}$ . Now, if  $W_e$  is recursive, then the sequence  $t_0 < t_1 < \dots$  is also recursive and thus  $T_{f(e)}$  is recursively bounded.

Now suppose that  $T_{f(e)}$  has a recursive bounding function  $h$ . Then we must have  $t_k < h(k)$  for each  $\sigma$  of length  $k$ . It then follows from the equation above that  $k \in W_e \iff k \in W_{e,h(k)}$ , so that  $W_e$  is recursive. Thus  $T_{f(e)}$  is *r.b.* if and only if  $W_e$  is recursive and, hence,  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b.}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. However, note that if  $h : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \omega$  is a function that witnesses that  $T_{f(e)}$  is almost always recursively bounded, then there will be a  $n$  such that  $t_k < h(k)$  for all  $k \geq n$ . In that case, for all  $k \geq n$ ,  $k \in W_e \iff k \in W_{e,h(k)}$  which still implies that  $W_e$  is recursive. Thus  $T_{f(e)}$  is *a.a.r.b.* if and only if  $W_e$  is recursive so that  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b.}\}$  is also  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

This argument is typical of the completeness arguments for the properties about cardinalities of  $[T]$  or the number of recursive elements of  $[T]$  that appear

in the rest of the theorems in this section. That is, the completeness argument for *r.b.* trees also works for *a.a.r.b.* trees.

For the completeness argument for (d), we shall use the fact that  $Cof = \{e : \omega \setminus W_e \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete set, see [36]. We let  $W_{e,s}$  denote the set of elements that are enumerated into  $W_e$  in  $s$  or fewer steps as in [36]. By definition, all  $x \in W_{e,s}$  are less than or equal to  $s$  and the question of whether  $x \in W_{e,s}$  is a primitive recursive predicate. Then we can define a primitive recursive function  $\phi(e, m, s) = (\text{least } n > m)(n \notin W_{e,s} \setminus \{0\})$ . For any given  $e$ , let  $U_e$  be the tree such that  $(m) \in U_e$  for all  $m \geq 0$  and  $(m, s+1) \in U_e$  if and only if  $m$  is the least element such that  $\phi(e, m, s+1) > \phi(e, m, s)$ . Note that when  $m \geq s+1$ , the least  $n$  such that  $n > m$  and  $n \notin W_{e,s}$  is just  $m+1$  since all elements of  $W_{e,s+1}$  are less than  $s+1$ . Thus the only candidates for  $(m, s+1)$  to be in  $U_e$  are  $m \leq s+1$ . Thus the tree  $U_e$  will be primitive recursive. Now if  $W_e \setminus \{0\}$  is not cofinite, then for each  $m$ , there is a minimal  $n > m$  such that  $n \notin W_e$ . It follows that  $\lim_s \phi(e, m, s) = n$ , so that  $\phi(e, m, s+1) > \phi(e, m, s)$  for only finitely many  $s$ , which will make  $U_e$  finitely branching. On the other hand, if  $W_e \setminus \{0\}$  is cofinite and we choose  $m$  so that  $n \in W_e \setminus \{0\}$  for all  $n > m$ , then it is clear that there will be infinitely many  $s$  such that  $\phi(e, m, s+1) > \phi(e, m, s)$ . It follows that if  $m$  is the largest element not in  $W_e \setminus \{0\}$ , then for infinitely many  $s$ ,  $(m, s+1)$  will be in  $U_e$  and for all  $p > m$ , there can be only finitely many  $s$  such that  $(p, s+1)$  is in  $U_e$ . Thus if  $W_e \setminus \{0\}$  is cofinite, then there will be exactly one node which has infinitely many successors. Clearly there is a recursive function  $f$  such that  $T_{f(e)} = U_e$ . But then

$$e \in \omega \setminus Cof \iff T_{f(e)} \text{ is bounded.}$$

Since  $\omega \setminus Cof$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete, it follows that  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.

Now, let  $S$  be an arbitrary  $\Sigma_4^0$  set and suppose that  $a \in S \iff (\exists k)R(a, k)$  where  $R$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ . By the usual quantifier methods, we may assume that  $R(a, k)$  implies that  $R(a, j)$  for all  $j > k$ . By our argument for the  $\Pi_3^0$ -completeness of  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded}\}$ , there is a recursive function  $h$  such that  $R(a, k)$  holds if and only if  $U_{h(a,k)}$  is bounded and such that  $U_{h(a,k)}$  is *a.a.b.* for every  $a$  and  $k$ . Now we can define a recursive function  $\phi$  so that

$$T_{\phi(a)} = \{(0)\} \cup \{(k+1)^\frown \sigma : \sigma \in U_{h(a,k)}\}.$$

If  $a \in S$ , then  $U_{h(a,k)}$  is bounded for all but finitely many  $k$  and is *a.a.b.* for the remaining  $k$ 's. Thus  $U_{\phi(a)}$  is *a.a.b.* If  $a \notin S$ , then, for every  $k$ ,  $U_{h(a,k)}$  is not bounded, so that  $U_{\phi(a)}$  is not *a.a.b.* Thus  $a \in S$  if and only if  $T_{\phi(a)}$  is *a.a.b.* and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.b. \}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.  $\square$

As it stands, it is clear that there are no infinite paths through  $T_{\phi(a)}$  since every node  $T_{\phi(a)}$  has length at most 3. The reason that we constructed the tree  $T_{\phi(a)}$  to contain the node (0) is for the remaining completeness arguments which follow in this section. That is, we are now free to modify the construction to add a tree above (0) which has a number of infinite paths. Now, completeness arguments to establish the complexity for various properties concerning the



number of infinite paths or infinite recursive paths through *r.b.* trees in [4] always produced bounded trees. Since the complexity results for *r.b.* trees were bounded by  $\Sigma_4^0$ , it follows that we can modify the construction by placing trees above (0) in  $T_{\phi(a)}$  to show that complexity for various properties concerning the number of infinite paths or infinite recursive paths through *a.a.b.* trees is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete. Thus we shall not give the details of such arguments.  $\square$

Next, we give several index set results concerning the size of  $[T]$  for primitive recursive trees  $T$  which have various properties. These results are either proved in [4] or follow by modifying the results in [4] as described in Theorem 2.5 to prove results about *a.a.b.* or *a.a.r.b.* trees. In fact, in all the results that follow, the index set results for properties relative to *a.a.b.* trees are exactly the same as the index set results for *n.b.* trees and the index set results for properties of *a.a.r.b.* trees are exactly the same as the index set results for *n.r.b.* trees. Thus we shall only state the results for *a.a.* and *a.a.r.b.* trees.

**Theorem 2.6.** (a)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b. \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is empty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_2^0$ -complete.

(b)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b. \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

(c)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is empty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_2^0$ -complete.

(d)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.

(e)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.r.b. \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty}\}$  and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.r.b. \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is empty}\}$  are  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

(f)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.b. \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty}\}$  and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.b. \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is empty}\}$  are  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.

(g)  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete and  
 $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is empty}\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete.

**Theorem 2.7.** For every positive integer  $c$ ,

(a)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b. \text{ and } \text{Card}([T_e]) > c\}$ ,  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b. \text{ and } \text{Card}([T_e]) \leq c\}$ , and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b. \text{ and } \text{Card}([T_e]) = c\}$  are all  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

(b)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.r.b. \text{ and } \text{Card}([T_e]) > c\}$ ,  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.r.b. \text{ and } \text{Card}([T_e]) \leq c\}$ , and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.r.b. \text{ and } \text{Card}([T_e]) = c\}$  are all  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

(c)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } \text{Card}([T_e]) \leq c\}$  and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } \text{Card}([T_e]) = 1\}$  are both  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete;

(d)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } \text{Card}([T_e]) > c\}$  and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } \text{Card}([T_e]) = c + 1\}$  are both  $D_3^0$ -complete.

(e)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a.b. \text{ and } \text{Card}([T_e]) > c\}$ ,  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a. \text{ bounded and } \text{Card}([T_e]) \leq c\}$ , and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } a.a. \text{ bounded and } \text{Card}([T_e]) = c\}$  are all  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.

(f)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b., \text{ dec. and } \text{Card}([T_e]) > c\}$ ,  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b., \text{ dec. and } \text{Card}([T_e]) \leq c\}$ , and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b., \text{ dec. and } \text{Card}([T_e]) = c\}$  are all  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

(g)  $\{e : \text{Card}([T_e]) > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete,  $\{e : \text{Card}([T_e]) \leq c\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete and  $\{e : \text{Card}([T_e]) = c\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete.

**Theorem 2.8.** (a)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b. \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b. \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

- (b)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.
- (c)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $\Pi_4^0$ -complete and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
- (d)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a. bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $D_4^0$ -complete and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a. bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
- (e)  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete and  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete.
- (f)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and dec. and } [T_e] \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and dec. and } [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

**Theorem 2.9.**  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is uncountable}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete,  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is countable}\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete, and  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is countably infinite}\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete. The same result holds for r.b., a.a.r.b., bounded, a.a.b. primitive recursive trees.

Next we give some index set results concerning the number of recursive elements in  $[T]$  where  $T$  is a primitive recursive tree. Here we say that  $[T]$  is *recursively empty* if  $[T]$  has no recursive elements and is *recursively nonempty* if  $[T]$  has at least one recursive element. Similarly, we say that  $[T]$  has *recursive cardinality equal to  $c$*  if  $[T]$  has exactly  $c$  recursive members.

- Theorem 2.10.** (a)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (b)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.
  - (c)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.
  - (d)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a. bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$ ,  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a. bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively empty}\}$ , and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a. bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$  are all  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
  - (e)  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete and  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete.

**Theorem 2.11.** Let  $c$  be a positive integer.

- (a)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (b)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.

- (c)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete,  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete,  
and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  is  
 $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (d)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.bounded and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$ ,  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.bounded and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$ , and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.bounded and } [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  are all  $\Sigma_4^0$ -  
complete.
- (e)  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  
 $\{e : [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete, and  
 $\{e : [T_e] \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.

**Theorem 2.12.**  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ has finite recursive cardinality}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete and  
 $\{e : [T_e] \text{ has infinite recursive cardinality}\}$  is  $\Pi_4^0$ -complete. The same result is  
true for r.b., a.a.r.b., bounded, and a.a.b. primitive recursive trees.

Given a primitive recursive tree  $[T]$ , we say that  $[T]$  is *perfect* if it has no  
isolated elements. Cenzer and Remmel also proved a number of index set results  
for primitive recursive trees  $T$  such that  $[T]$  is perfect. Here is one example.

- Theorem 2.13.** (a)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is perfect}\}$  and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and perfect}\}$  are  $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (b)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is perfect}\}$  and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and perfect}\}$  are  $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (c)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is perfect}\}$  and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and perfect}\}$  are  $\Pi_4^0$ -complete.
- (d)  $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is perfect}\}$  and  
 $\{e : T_e \text{ is a.a.bounded and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and perfect}\}$  are  $D_4^0$ -complete.
- (e)  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is perfect}\}$  and  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is nonempty and perfect}\}$  are  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete.

### 3 Proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2

The main goal of this section is prove Theorems 1.1 and 1.2.

Recall that  $\{e\}^B$  denotes the function computed by the  $e$ -th oracle machine  
with oracle  $B$ . If  $A \subseteq \omega$ , we write  $\{e\}^B = A$  if  $\{e\}^B$  is the characteristic func-  
tion of  $A$ . If  $f$  is a function  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$ , then we let  $gr(f) = \{\langle x, f(x) \rangle : x \in \omega\}$ .  
Given a finite normal predicate logic program  $P$  and a recursive tree  $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ ,  
we say that there is an effective one-to-one degree preserving correspondence  
between the set of stable models of  $P$  and the set of infinite paths through  $T_P$   
if there are indices  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  of oracle Turing machines such that

- (i)  $(\forall M \in Stab(P))(\{e_1\}^M = f_M \in [T])$ , and
- (ii)  $(\forall f \in [T])(\{e_2\}^{gr(f)} = M_f \in Stab(P))$ , and
- (iii)  $(\forall M \in Stab(P))(\forall f \in [T])(\{e_1\}^M = f \Leftrightarrow \{e_2\}^{gr(f)} = M)$ .

Condition (i) says that the stable models of  $P$  uniformly produce infinite paths  
through the tree  $T$  via an algorithm with index  $e_1$  and condition (ii) says that  
the infinite paths through the tree  $T$  uniformly produce stable models of  $P$  via

an algorithm with index  $e_2$ . Finally, condition (iii) asserts that our correspondence is one-to-one and if  $\{e_1\}^M = f$ , then  $f$  is Turing equivalent to  $M$ . In what follows, we will not explicitly construct the indices  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ , but our constructions will make it clear that such indices exist.

### 3.1 The proof of Theorem 1.1.

Suppose that  $T$  is a recursive tree contained in  $\omega^{<\omega}$ . Note that by definition, the empty sequence, whose code is 0, is in  $T$ .

A classical result, first explicit in [35] and [1], but known a long time earlier in equational form, is that every r.e. relation can be computed by a suitably chosen predicate over the least model of a finite predicate logic Horn program. An elegant method of proof due to Shepherdson (see [34] for references) uses the representation of recursive functions by means of finite register machines. When such machines are represented by Horn programs in the natural way, we get programs in which every atom can be proved in only finitely many ways; see also [28]. Thus we have the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $r(\cdot, \cdot)$  be a recursive relation. Then there is a finite predicate logic program  $P_r$  computing  $r(\cdot, \cdot)$  such that every atom in the least model  $M_r$  of  $P_r$  has only finitely many minimal proof schemes and there is a recursive procedure such that given an atom  $a$  in Herbrand base of  $P_r$  produces the code of the set of  $P_r$ -proof schemes for  $a$ . Moreover, the least model of  $P_r$  is recursive.  $\square$*

It follows that given a recursive tree  $T$  there exist the following three finite normal predicate logic programs such that the ground terms in their underlying language are all of the form 0 or  $s^n(0)$  for  $n \geq 1$  where 0 is a constant symbol and  $s$  is a unary function symbol. We shall use  $n$  as an abbreviation for the term  $s^n(0)$  for  $n \geq 1$ . In particular:

- (I) There exists a finite predicate logic Horn program  $P_{T,0}$  such that for a predicate  $tree(\cdot)$  of the language of  $P_{T,0}$ , the atom  $tree(n)$  belongs to the least Herbrand model of  $P_{T,0}$  if and only if  $n$  is a code for a finite sequence  $\sigma$  and  $\sigma \in T$ .
- (II) There is a finite predicate logic Horn program  $P_1$  such that for a predicate  $seq(\cdot)$  of the language of  $P_1$ , the atom  $seq(n)$  belongs to the least Herbrand model of  $P_1$  if and only if  $n$  is the code of a finite sequence  $\alpha \in \omega^{<\omega}$ .
- (III) There is a finite predicate logic Horn program  $P_2$  which correctly computes the following recursive predicates on codes of sequences.
  - (a)  $samelength(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if both arguments are the codes of sequences of the same length.
  - (b)  $diff(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the arguments are codes of sequences which are different.
  - (c)  $shorter(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if both arguments are codes of sequences and the first sequence is shorter than the second sequence.
  - (d)  $length(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds when the first argument is a code of a sequence and the second argument is the length of that sequence.

- (e) *notincluded*( $\cdot, \cdot$ ). This succeeds if and only if both arguments are codes of sequences and the first sequence is not an initial segment of the second sequence.
- (f) *num*( $\cdot$ ). This succeeds if and only if the argument is either 0 or  $s^n(0)$  for some  $n \geq 1$ .

Now let  $P_T^-$  be the finite predicate logic program which is the union of programs  $P_{T,0} \cup P_1 \cup P_2$ . We denote its language by  $\mathcal{L}^-$  and we let  $M^-$  be the least model of  $P_T^-$ . By Proposition 3.1, this program  $P_T^-$  is a Horn program,  $M^-$  is recursive, and for each ground atom  $a$  in the Herbrand base of  $P^-$ , we can explicitly construct the set of all  $P_T^-$ -proof schemes of  $a$ . In particular,  $tree(n) \in M^-$  if and only if  $n$  is the code of node in  $T$ .

Our final program  $P_T$  will consist of  $P_T^-$  plus clauses (1)-(7) given below. We assume no predicate that appears in the head of any of these clauses is in the language  $\mathcal{L}^-$ . However, we do allow predicates from the language of  $P_T^-$  to appear in the body of clauses (1) to (7). It follows that for any stable model of the extended program, its intersection with the set of ground atoms of  $\mathcal{L}^-$  will be  $M^-$ . In particular, the meaning of the predicates listed above will always be the same.

We are ready now to write the additional clauses which, together with the program  $P_T^-$ , will form the desired program  $P_T$ . First of all, we select the following three new unary predicates.

- (i) *path*( $\cdot$ ), whose intended interpretation in any given stable model  $M$  of  $P_T$  is that it holds only on the set of codes of sequences that lie on infinite path through  $T$ . This path will correspond to the path encoded by the stable model of  $M$ ;
- (ii) *notpath*( $\cdot$ ), whose intended interpretation in any stable model  $M$  of  $P_T$  is the set of all codes of sequences which are in  $T$  but do not satisfy *path*( $\cdot$ ).
- (iii) *control*( $\cdot$ ), which will be used to ensure that *path*( $\cdot$ ) always encodes an infinite path through  $T$ .

This given, the final 7 clauses of our program are the following.

- (1)  $path(X) \leftarrow tree(X), \neg notpath(X)$
- (2)  $notpath(X) \leftarrow tree(X), \neg path(X)$
- (3)  $path(0) \leftarrow$  /\* Recall 0 is the code of the empty sequence \*/
- (4)  $notpath(X) \leftarrow tree(X), path(Y), tree(Y), samelength(X, Y), diff(X, Y)$
- (5)  $notpath(X) \leftarrow tree(X), tree(Y), path(Y), shorter(Y, X), notincluded(Y, X)$
- (6)  $control(X) \leftarrow path(Y), length(Y, X)$
- (7)  $control(X) \leftarrow \neg control(X), num(X)$

Clearly,  $P_T = P_T^- \cup \{(1), \dots, (7)\}$  is a finite program.

We should note that technically, we must insure that all the predicates that we use in our finite normal predicate logic program  $P_T$  come from our fixed recursive language  $\mathcal{L}$ . The predicates we have used in  $P_T$  were picked mainly for mnemonic purposes, but since we are assuming that  $\mathcal{F}$  has infinitely many constant symbols and infinitely many  $n$ -ary relation symbols and  $n$ -ary functions symbols for each  $n$ , there is no problem to substitute our predicate names by

corresponding predicate names that appear in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Our goal is to prove the following.

- (A)  $T$  is a finitely branching recursive tree if and only if every element of  $H(P_T)$  has only finitely many minimal proof schemes. Thus,  $T$  is finitely branching if and only if  $P_T$  has the *FS* property.
- (B)  $T$  is highly recursive if and only if for every atom  $a$  in  $H(P_T)$ , we can effectively find the set of all minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of  $a$ .
- (C) There is a one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between  $[T]$  and  $Stab(P_T)$ .

First we prove (A) and (B). When we add clauses (1)-(7), we note that no atom of  $\mathcal{L}^-$  is in the head of any of these new clauses. This means that no ground instance of such a clause can be present in a minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme with conclusion being any atom of  $\mathcal{L}^-$ . This means that minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes with conclusion an atom  $p$  of  $\mathcal{L}^-$  can involve only clauses from  $P_T^-$ . Thus, for any ground atom  $a$  of  $\mathcal{L}^-$ ,  $a$  will have no minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme if  $a \notin M^-$  and we can effectively compute the finite set of  $P_T$ -proof schemes for  $a$  if  $a \in M^-$ . Next consider the atoms appearing in the heads of clauses (1)-(7). These are atoms of the following three forms:

- (i)  $path(t)$ ,
- (ii)  $notpath(t)$ , and
- (iii)  $control(t)$

The ground terms of our language are of form  $n$ , where  $n \in \omega$ , that is, of the form 0 or  $s^n(0)$  for  $n \geq 1$ . Note that all clauses that have  $path(X)$  or  $notpath(X)$  have in the body an occurrence of the atom  $tree(X)$ . Thus for atoms of the form  $path(t)$  and  $notpath(t)$ , the only ground terms which possess a  $P_T$ -proof scheme must be those for which  $t$  is a code of a sequence of natural numbers belonging to  $T$ . The reason for this is that predicates of the form  $tree(t)$  from  $\mathcal{L}^-$  fail if  $t$  is not the code of sequence in  $T$ . The only exception is clause (3) whose head is  $path(0)$  and 0 is the code of the empty sequence which is in every tree  $T$  by definition. This eliminates from our consideration ground atoms of the form  $path(t)$  and  $notpath(t)$  with  $t \notin T$ . Similarly, the only ground atoms of the form  $control(t)$  which possess a proof scheme are atoms of the form  $control(n)$  where  $n$  is a natural number.

Thus we are left with these cases:

- (a)  $path(c(\sigma))$  where  $\sigma \in T$ ,
- (b)  $control(n)$  where  $n \in \omega$ , and
- (c)  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  where  $\sigma \in T$ .

**Case (a).** Atoms of the form  $path(c(\sigma))$  where  $\sigma \in T$ .

There are only two type ground clauses  $C$  with  $path(\cdot)$  in the head, namely, those that are ground instances of clauses of type (1) and (3). Clause (3) is a Horn clause. This implies that a minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme which derives  $path(0)$  and uses (3) must be of the form  $\langle\langle path(0), (3) \rangle, \emptyset\rangle$ . Next consider a minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $path(c(\sigma))$  which contains clause (1). In such a case,  $\mathbb{S}$  will consist of the sequence of pairs of a minimal  $P_T^-$ -proof scheme of  $tree(c(\sigma))$  which will have empty support followed by the pair  $\langle path(c(\sigma)), (1)^* \rangle$  where  $(1)^*$

is the result of substituting  $c(\sigma)$  for  $X$  in clause (1). The support of  $\mathbb{S}$  will be  $\{\text{notpath}(c(\sigma))\}$ . Since we are assuming that  $\text{tree}(c(\sigma))$  has only finitely many  $P_T^-$ -proof schemes and we can effectively find them, it follows that  $\text{path}(c(\sigma))$  has only finitely many minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes and we can effectively find all of them.

**Case (b).** Atoms of the form  $\text{control}(n)$  where  $n \in \omega$ .

There are only two types of ground instances of clauses with the atom  $\text{control}(n)$  in the head, namely, ground instances of clauses (6) and (7). The only minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of  $\text{control}(n)$  that use a ground instance of clause (7) must consist of the sequence of pairs in a minimal  $P_T^-$ -proof scheme of  $\text{num}(n)$  followed by the pair  $\langle \text{control}(n), (7)^* \rangle$  where  $(7)^*$  is the result of substituting  $n$  for  $X$  in (7). Thus the support of such a minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme is  $\{\text{control}(n)\}$ . Since we are assuming that  $\text{num}(n)$  has only finitely many minimal  $P_T^-$ -proof schemes and we can effectively find them, we can effectively find all minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of  $\text{control}(n)$  that uses a ground instance of (7). If we have a minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  with conclusion  $\text{control}(n)$  that uses a ground instances of clause (6), then the last term of  $\mathbb{S}$  must be of the form

$$\langle \text{control}(n), \text{control}(n) \leftarrow \text{path}(c(\tau)), \text{length}(c(\tau), n) \rangle$$

where  $c(\tau)$  is the code of node in  $T$  of length  $n$ . Moreover, in  $\mathbb{S}$ , this triple must be preceded by some interweaving of the sequences of pairs in minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes for  $\text{path}(c(\tau))$  and  $\text{length}(c(\tau), n)$ . Now we effectively find the finite set of minimal  $P_T^-$ -proof schemes for  $\text{length}(c(\tau), n)$  and we can effectively find the set of all  $P_T$ -minimal proof schemes for  $\text{path}(c(\tau))$ . Moreover, it must be the case that support of  $\mathbb{S}$  is  $A$  the support of the minimal  $P_T$ -scheme of  $\text{path}(c(\tau))$  that was inter-weaved with one of the minimal proof schemes for  $\text{length}(c(\tau), n)$  to create  $\mathbb{S}$ . Since the support of any proof scheme for  $\text{path}(c(\tau))$  where  $|\tau| \geq 1$  is just  $\{\text{notpath}(c(\tau))\}$ , it follows that  $A = \{\text{notpath}(c(\tau))\}$  if  $|\tau| \geq 1$  and  $A = \emptyset$  if  $|\tau| = 0$ . Now, if  $T$  is finitely branching, there will only be finitely many choices for  $\tau$  since to derive  $\text{path}(c(\tau))$ ,  $\tau$  must be in  $T$ . Hence there will be only finitely many choices of  $\mathbb{S}$ . On the other hand, if  $T$  is not finitely branching, then there will be an  $n$  such that there are infinitely many nodes  $\tau \in T$  of length  $n$  for some  $n > 0$  so that there will be infinitely many different supports of minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes for  $\text{control}(n)$ . If  $T$  is highly recursive, then we can effectively find all  $\tau \in T$  of length  $n$  so that we can effectively find all such proof schemes  $\mathbb{S}$ . Similarly, if  $P_T$  has the rec. *FS* property, then for  $n > 0$ , we can read off all the nodes in  $T$  of length  $n$  from the supports of the minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of  $\text{control}(n)$  so that  $T$  will be highly recursive. Thus  $T$  is finitely branching if and only if there are finitely many minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes for  $\text{control}(n)$  for each  $n \geq 0$ . Similarly, if  $T$  is highly recursive, then we can effectively find all the minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes for  $\text{control}(n)$  for each  $n \geq 0$  and if  $P_T$  has the rec. *FS* property, then  $T$  is highly recursive.

**Case (c).** Atoms of the form  $\text{notpath}(c(\sigma))$ .

Here we have to take into account clauses (2), (4), and (5). First, consider a minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $\text{notpath}(c(\sigma))$  which contains a ground instance

of clause (2). In such a case, the sequence of pairs in  $\mathbb{S}$  will consist of the sequence of pairs a minimal  $P_T^-$ -proof scheme of  $tree(c(\sigma))$  which will have empty support followed by the pair

$$\langle notpath(c(\sigma)), (2)^* \rangle$$

where  $(2)^*$  is the result of substituting  $c(\sigma)$  for  $X$  in (2). The support of  $\mathbb{S}$  is  $\{path(c(\sigma))\}$ . Since we are assuming that  $tree(c(\sigma))$  has only finitely many minimal  $P_T^-$ -proof schemes and we can effectively find them, it follows that  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  has only finitely many minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes that use a ground instance of clause (2) and we can effectively find them.

Next, consider a  $P_T$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  with conclusion  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  which contains a ground instance of clause (4). Then there must exist a  $\tau \in T$  of length  $|\sigma|$  such that the last pair in the proof scheme is of the form

$$\langle c(\sigma), (4)^* \rangle \tag{4}$$

where  $(4)^*$  is the result of substituting  $c(\sigma)$  for  $X$  and  $c(\tau)$  for  $Y$  in (4). Then  $\mathbb{S}$  must consist of an interweaving of the sequences of pairs of the minimal  $P_T^-$ -proof schemes for  $tree(c(\sigma))$ ,  $tree(c(\tau))$ ,  $samelength(c(\sigma), c(\tau))$ , and  $diff(c(\sigma), c(\tau))$  and a minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme  $path(c(\tau))$  with support  $A$ . Then the support of  $\mathbb{S}$  will be  $A$ . In each case, there are only finitely many such minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of these atoms and we can effectively find them. Thus for each  $\tau \in T$  of length  $|\sigma|$ , we can effectively find all the minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  that end in a triple of the form of (4). Now if  $T$  is finitely branching, it follows that there will be only finitely many minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes that use a ground instance of clause (4) and, if  $T$  is highly recursive, then we can effectively find all  $\tau \in T$  of length  $|\sigma|$  so that we can effectively find all minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes that use a ground instance of clause (4).

Finally let us consider a  $P_T$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  with conclusion  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  which contains ground instance of clause (5). Then there must exist a  $\tau \in T$  whose length is less than the length of  $\sigma$  and which is not an initial segment of  $\sigma$  such that the last pair in the proof scheme is of the form

$$\langle c(\sigma), (5)^* \rangle \tag{5}$$

where  $(5)^*$  is the result of substituting  $c(\sigma)$  for  $X$  and  $c(\tau)$  for  $Y$  in (5). Then  $\mathbb{S}$  must consist of an interweaving of sequences of pairs in the minimal  $P_T^-$ -proof schemes for  $tree(c(\sigma))$ ,  $tree(c(\tau))$ ,  $shorter(c(\tau), c(\sigma))$ , and  $notincluded(c(\tau), c(\sigma))$  and a minimal  $P_T$ -proof scheme of  $path(\tau)$  with support  $A$ . Then the support of  $\mathbb{S}$  is  $A$ . In each case, there are only finitely many minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of these atoms and we can effectively find them. Thus for each  $\tau$  whose length is less than the length of  $\sigma$  and which is not an initial segment of  $\sigma$ , we can effectively find all the minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  that end in a pair of the form of (5). Now if  $T$  is finitely branching, it follows that there will be only finitely many minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes that use a ground instance of clause (5) and, if  $T$  is highly recursive, then we can effectively find all  $\tau \in T$  of



length  $|\sigma|$  so that we can effectively find all minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes that use a ground instance of clause (5).

Thus, we have proved that if  $T$  is finitely branching, then every ground atom possesses only finitely many minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes and if  $T$  is highly recursive, then for every ground atom  $a \in H(P_T)$ , we can effectively find the set of all minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes of  $a$ . Thus if  $T$  is finitely branching, then  $P_T$  has the *FS* property and if  $T$  is highly recursive, then  $T$  has the rec. *FS* property. On the other hand, we have shown by our analysis in (b) that if  $P_T$  has the *FS* property, then  $T$  must be finitely branching and if  $P_T$  has the rec. *FS* property, then  $T$  is highly recursive. This proves (A) and (B) and establishes parts (2) and (3) of Theorem 1.1.

To prove (C), we shall establish a “normal form” for the stable models of  $P_T$ . Each such model must contain  $M^-$ , the least model of  $P_T^-$ . In fact, the restriction of a stable model of  $P_T$  to  $H(P_T^-)$  is  $M^-$ . Given any  $\beta = (\beta(0), \beta(1), \dots) \in \omega^\omega$ , recall that  $\beta \upharpoonright n = (\beta(0), \beta(1), \dots, \beta(n-1))$ . Then we let

$$M_\beta = M^- \cup \{control(n) : n \in \omega\} \cup \{path(0)\} \cup \{path(c(\beta \upharpoonright n)) : n \in \omega\} \cup \{notpath(c(\sigma)) : \sigma \in T \text{ and } \sigma \neq \beta\}. \quad (6)$$

We claim that  $M$  is a stable model of  $P_T$  if and only if  $M = M_\beta$  for some  $\beta \in [T]$ .

First, assume that  $M$  is a stable model of  $P_T$ . Thus  $M$  is the least model of the Gelfond-Lifschitz transform  $(ground(P_T))_M$ . We know that the atoms of  $\mathcal{L}^-$  in  $M$  constitute  $M^-$ . Let us observe that since the clause (3) belongs to our program,  $path(0) \in M$ . Thus we can not use clause (2) to derive that  $notpath(0)$  is in  $M$ . Moreover, it is easy to see that we cannot use clauses of the form (4) or (5) to derive that  $notpath(0)$  is in  $M$  so that it must be the case that  $notpath(0) \notin M$ . Next, suppose that  $\sigma \in T$  and length of  $\sigma$  is greater than or equal to 1. It is easy to see from clauses (1) and (2) that it cannot be the case that neither  $path(c(\sigma))$  and  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  are in  $M$ . Since clauses of the form of (1) are the only clauses that we can use to derive that the atom  $path(c(\sigma))$  is in the least model of  $(ground(P_T))_M$  when  $|\sigma| \geq 1$ , it follows that it cannot be the case that both  $path(c(\sigma))$  and  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  are in  $M$ . Thus exactly one of  $path(c(\sigma))$  and  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  must be in  $M$  for all  $\sigma \in T$ . Next we claim that  $control(n) \in M$  for all  $n$ . That is, if  $control(n) \notin M$  for some  $n$ , then the Gelfond-Lifschitz transform of the ground clause  $control(n) \leftarrow \neg control(n), num(n)$  from (7) would be  $control(n) \leftarrow num(n)$  which would force  $control(n)$  to be in  $M$ . Since  $control(n) \in M$ , the only way that one could derive that  $control(n)$  is in the least model of  $(ground(P_T))_M$  is via a proof scheme that uses a ground instance of clause (6). This means that for each  $n \geq 0$ , there must be a  $\tau^{(n)} \in T$  of length  $n$  such that  $path(c(\tau^{(n)})) \in M$ . But then we can use clause (4) to show that if  $\sigma$  is a node in  $T$  of length  $n$  which is different from  $\tau^{(n)}$ , then  $notpath(c(\sigma)) \in M$ . But now the clauses of type (5) will force that it must be the case that if  $m < n$ , then  $\tau^{(m)}$  must be an initial segment of  $\tau^{(n)}$ . Thus the path  $\tau$  where  $\tau^{(n)} \sqsubseteq \tau$  for all  $n$  is an infinite path through  $T$  and  $M = M_\tau$ . Note that this shows that if  $[T]$  is empty, then  $P_T$  has no stable

model.

To complete the argument for (C), we have to prove that  $\beta \in [T]$  implies that  $M_\beta$  is a stable model of  $P_T$ . Let  $lm(M_\beta)$  be the least model of  $(ground(P_T))_{M_\beta}$ . The presence of clauses (1) and (2) in  $P_T$  implies that  $\{path(c(\beta \upharpoonright (n))) : n \in \omega\} \cup \{notpath(c(\sigma)) : \sigma \in T \setminus \{\beta \upharpoonright (n) : n \in \omega\}\} \subseteq lm(M_\beta)$ . Then clause (6) can be used to show that for all  $n$ ,  $control(n)$  also belongs to  $lm(M_\beta)$ . Since  $M^- \subseteq lm(M_\beta)$ , it follows that  $M_\beta \subseteq lm(M_\beta)$ .

Next we must prove that  $lm(M_\beta) \subseteq M_\beta$ . We know that since none of the heads of rules (1)-(7) involve predicates in  $H(P_T^-)$ , it must be the case that  $lm(M_\beta) \cap H(P_T^-) = M^-$ . The only ground clauses from (1) that are in  $(ground(P_T))_{M_\beta}$  are clauses of the form

$$path(c(\beta \upharpoonright n)) \leftarrow tree(c(\beta \upharpoonright n)).$$

These are the only clauses of  $(ground(P_T))_{M_\beta}$  which have  $path(c(\sigma))$  in the head for  $\sigma \in T$  so that  $\{path(c(\sigma)) : \sigma \in T\} \cap lm(M_\beta) \subseteq M_\beta$ . Since  $M_\beta$  contains all ground clauses of the form  $control(n)$ , the only clauses that we have to worry about are clauses with the ground atom  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  in the head for  $\sigma \in T$ . The only ground clause from (2) that are in  $(ground(P_T))_{M_\beta}$  are clauses of the form

$$notpath(c(\sigma)) \leftarrow tree(c(\sigma))$$

where  $\sigma \in T - \{\beta^{(n)} : n \geq 0\}$ . Thus the conclusion of all such clauses are in  $M_\beta$ . Thus we are reduced to considering ground clauses of the form (4) and (5). Since all such clauses must have an atom  $path(c(\tau))$  in the body, the only way we can use these clauses is to derive  $notpath(c(\sigma))$  in its head and this happens if  $\tau \in \{\beta^{(n)} : n \geq 0\}$ . But then it easy to see that this forces  $\sigma \notin \{\beta^{(n)} : n \geq 0\}$ . Thus the only atoms  $notpath(c(\sigma)) \in lm(M_\beta)$  are those with  $\sigma \in T - \{\beta^{(n)} : n \geq 0\}$ . Thus  $lm(M_\beta) \subseteq M_\beta$ . This proves part (1) of Theorem 1.1.

Finally, consider part (4) of Theorem 1.1. By part (3), we know that  $T$  is highly recursive if and only if  $P_T$  has the rec. *FS* property. We must show that if  $T$  is decidable and recursively bounded, then  $P_T$  is decidable. So suppose we are given a set of ground atoms  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  and corresponding minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes  $\mathbb{S}_i$  of  $a_i$ . For these atoms to belong to a stable model  $M$  of  $P_T$ , it must be the case that the ground atoms in the language of  $P_T^-$  must all be in  $M^-$  and there corresponding proof schemes must be the least minimal proofs schemes for  $P_T^-$ . This we can check recursively. The remaining atoms are of the form  $path(c(\sigma))$ ,  $notpath(c(\tau))$ , and  $control(n)$ . It must be the case that atoms of the form  $path(c(\sigma))$  and  $notpath(c(\tau))$  among  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  must be consistent with being the initial segment of the path through  $T$ . If that is not the case, then it is clear that  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is not contained in a stable model of  $P_T$ . If it is the case, let  $\alpha$  be the longest string  $\sigma$  such that  $path(c(\sigma)) \in \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ . Now if  $\alpha \notin Ext(T)$ , then again  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is not contained in a stable model of  $P_T$ . If it is, then let  $m$  be the maximum of all  $n$  such that  $control(n) \in \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  and  $|\tau|$  such that  $notpath(c(\tau)) \in \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ . Since  $T$  is recursively bounded, then we can effectively find all strings of length  $m$  which extend  $\alpha$ . Now if

there is a string  $\beta$  of length  $m$  such that  $\alpha \prec \beta$ ,  $\beta \in Ext(T)$ , and there is no initial segment  $\gamma$  of  $\beta$  such that  $notpath(c(\gamma)) \in \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ , then it will be the case that  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is contained in a stable model. For each such  $\beta$  and all  $\delta \in T$  of length less than or equal to  $m$ , the only minimal proof schemes of ground atoms of the form  $path(c(\delta))$ ,  $notpath(c(\delta))$ , and  $control(n)$  for  $n \leq m$  depend only on the ground atoms  $path(c(\gamma))$  for  $\gamma$  contained in  $\beta$ . Thus by our analysis of Cases **(a)**-**(c)** above, we can compute the appropriate minimal proofs schemes and then check if the corresponding minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes equals  $\{\mathbb{S}_1, \dots, \mathbb{S}_n\}$ . Thus  $P_T$  is decidable.

On the other hand, suppose that  $P_T$  has the rec. *FS* property and  $P_T$  is decidable. Then given a node  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n) \in T$ , it is easy to see that for any path  $\pi \in \omega^\omega$  which extends  $\beta$ , the elements of  $M_\pi$  which mention only  $\beta$ , nodes of length  $\leq |\beta|$ , and the elements  $0, s^1(0) \dots, s^{|\beta|}(0)$  are the same. Thus let

$$M_\beta = M^- \cup \{control(n) : n \leq |\beta|\} \cup \{path(0)\} \cup \{path(c(\alpha)) : \alpha \sqsubseteq \beta\} \cup \{notpath(c(\sigma)) : \sigma \in T, |\sigma| \leq |\beta|, \text{ and } \sigma \not\sqsubseteq \beta\}. \quad (7)$$

Then  $M_\beta$  is finite and our analysis shows that we can effectively find all the minimal  $P_T$ -proofs schemes  $\mathbb{S}_1, \dots, \mathbb{S}_r$  which mention only  $\beta$ , nodes of length  $\leq |\beta|$ , and the elements  $0, s^1(0) \dots, s^{|\beta|}(0)$  which have conclusions in  $M_\beta$ . By the decidability of  $P_T$ , we know whether there is a stable model which contains  $M_\beta$  and has  $\mathbb{S}_1, \dots, \mathbb{S}_r$  has the corresponding minimal  $P_T$ -proof schemes for elements in  $M_\beta$ . If there is such a stable model, then  $\beta$  must be an initial segment of some  $\pi \in [T]$  so that  $\beta \in Ext(T)$ . If there is no such stable model, then there is no infinite path  $\pi \in [T]$  such that  $\beta \sqsubseteq \pi$  so that  $\beta \notin Ext(T)$ . Thus if  $P_T$  is decidable and has the rec. *FS* property, then  $T$  is decidable and highly recursive. This completes the proof of Theorem 1.1.

### 3.2 Proof of Theorem 1.2

Suppose that we are given a finite normal predicate logic program  $P$ . Then by our remarks in the previous section, the Herbrand base  $H(P)$  will be primitive recursive,  $ground(P)$  will be a primitive recursive program and, for any atom  $a \in H(P)$ , the set of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes with conclusion  $a$  is primitive recursive. We should note, however, that it is not guaranteed that the  $Support(a)$  which is the set of  $can(X)$  such that  $X$  is the support of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme of  $a$  is recursive. However, it is the case that  $Support(a)$  is an r.e. set.

Our basic strategy is to encode a stable model  $M$  of  $ground(P)$  by a path  $f_M = (f_0, f_1, \dots)$  through the complete  $\omega$ -branching tree  $\omega^{<\omega}$  as follows.

- (1) First, for all  $i \geq 0$ ,  $f_{2i} = \chi_M(i)$ . That is, at the stage  $2i$ , we encode the information about whether or not the atom encoded by  $i$  belongs to  $M$ . Thus, in particular, if  $i$  is not the code of ground atom in  $H(P)$ , then  $f_{2i} = 0$ .
- (2) If  $f_{2i} = 0$ , then we set  $f_{2i+1} = 0$ . But if  $f_{2i} = 1$  so that  $i \in M$  and  $i$  is the code of a ground atom in  $H(P)$ , then we let  $f_{2i+1}$  equal  $q_M(i)$  where  $q_M(i)$  is the least code for a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  for  $i$  such that the support of

$\mathbb{S}$  is disjoint from  $M$ . That is, we select a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  for  $i$ , or to be precise for the atom encoded by  $i$ , such that  $\mathbb{S}$  has the smallest possible code of any minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{T}) \cap M = \emptyset$ . If  $M$  is a stable model, then, by Proposition 1.1, at least one such minimal  $P$ -proof scheme exists for  $i$ .

Clearly  $M \leq_T f_M$  since it is enough to look at the values of  $f_M$  at even places to read off  $M$ . Now, given an  $M$ -oracle, it should be clear that for each  $i \in M$ , we can use an  $M$ -oracle to find  $q_M(i)$  effectively. This means that  $f_M \leq_T M$ . Thus the correspondence  $M \mapsto f_M$  is an effective degree-preserving correspondence. It is trivially one-to-one.

Next we construct a primitive recursive tree  $T_P \subseteq \omega^\omega$  such that  $[T_P] = \{f_M : M \in \text{stab}(P)\}$ . Let  $N_k$  be the set of all codes of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes  $\mathbb{S}$  such that all the atoms appearing in all the rules used in  $\mathbb{S}$  are smaller than  $k$ . Obviously  $N_k$  is finite. It follows from our remarks in the previous section that since  $P$  is a finite normal predicate logic program, the predicate “minimal  $P$ -proof scheme” which holds only for codes of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes is a primitive recursive predicate. This means that there is a primitive recursive function  $h$  such that  $h(k)$  equals to the canonical index for  $N_k$ . Moreover, given the code of sequence  $\sigma = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(k)) \in \omega^{<\omega}$ , there is a primitive recursive function which will produce canonical indexes of the sets  $I_\sigma = \{i : 2i \leq k \wedge \sigma(2i) = 1\}$  and  $O_\sigma = \{i : 2i \leq k \wedge \sigma(2i) = 0\}$ .

For any given  $k \geq 2$ , we let  $\bar{k} = \max(\{2j + 1 : 2j + 1 < k\})$  and if  $\sigma = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(k))$  is an element of  $\omega^{<\omega}$ , then we let  $\bar{\sigma} = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(\bar{k}))$ . If  $k = 1$  and  $\sigma = (\sigma(0))$ , then we let  $\bar{k} = 0$  and  $\bar{\sigma} = \emptyset$ . In what follows, we shall identify each atom in  $H(P)$  with its code. Then we define  $T_P$  by putting a node  $\sigma = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(k))$  into  $T_P$  if and only if the following five conditions are met:

- (a) If  $2i + 1 \leq \bar{k}$  and  $\sigma(2i) = 0$  then  $\sigma(2i + 1) = 0$ ;
- (b) then  $\sigma(2i + 1) = q$ , where  $q$  is a code for a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}) = i$ ,  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap I_{\bar{\sigma}} = \emptyset$ , and there is no number  $j < \sigma(k)$  such that  $j$  is a code for a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  with conclusion  $i$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{T}) = \text{supp}(\mathbb{S})$ ;
- (c) If  $2i + 1 \leq \bar{k}$  and  $\sigma(2i) = 1$  then there is no code  $c \in N_{\lfloor k/2 \rfloor}$  of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}) = i$ ,  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \subseteq O_{\bar{\sigma}}$  and  $c < \sigma(2i + 1)$  (Here  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  is the number-theoretic “floor” function);
- (d) If  $2i + 1 \leq \bar{k}$  and  $\sigma(2i) = 0$  then there is no code  $c \in N_{\lfloor k/2 \rfloor}$  of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{T}) = i$  and  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{T}) \subseteq O_{\bar{\sigma}}$ ; and
- (e) If  $\bar{k} = 2i + 1$  and  $\sigma(2i) = 1$ , then  $\sigma(2i + 1) = q$  where  $q$  is a code for a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}) = i$  and there is no number  $j < \sigma(k)$  such that  $j$  is a code for a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  with conclusion  $i$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) = \text{supp}(\mathbb{T})$ .

The first thing to observe is that each of the conditions (a)-(e) requires that we check only a bounded number of facts about codes that have an explicit bound in terms of the code of  $\sigma$ . This implies that  $T_P$  has a primitive recursive definition. It is immediate from our conditions defining  $T_P$  that if  $\sigma \in T_P$  and  $\tau \prec \sigma$ , then  $\tau \in T_P$ . Thus  $T_P$  is a primitive recursive tree. Conditions (a) and (b) ensure that the set of all paths  $\pi$  through  $T_P$  meet the minimal conditions

to be of the form  $f_M$  for some stable model. That is, condition (a) ensures that if  $\pi(2i) = 0$ , then  $\pi(2i + 1) = 0$ . Condition (b) ensures that if  $\pi(2i) = 1$ , then  $\pi(2i + 1)$  is the code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme with conclusion  $i$  and there is no smaller code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme of  $i$  with the same support. Conditions (c), (d) and (e) are carefully designed to ensure that  $T_P$  has the properties that we want. First, condition (c) limits the possible infinite paths through  $T_P$ . We claim that if  $\pi$  is an infinite path through  $T_P$  and  $\pi(2i) = 1$ , then  $\pi(2i + 1) = r$  where  $r$  is smallest code of minimal  $P$ -proof scheme with conclusion  $i$  whose support does not intersect  $M_\pi = \{j : \pi(2j) = 1\}$ . That is, if  $\pi(2i + 1)$  is the code of minimal  $P$ -proof scheme with conclusion  $i$  whose support is disjoint from  $M_\pi$  which is greater than  $r$ , then there will be some  $k > 2i + 1$  such that  $c \in N_{\lfloor k/2 \rfloor}$  in which case condition (d) would not allow  $(\pi(0), \dots, \pi(k + 2))$  to be put into  $T_P$ . Similarly, if  $\pi(2i + 1)$  is the code of minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  with conclusion  $i$  whose support is not disjoint from  $M_\pi$ , then there will be some  $k > 2i + 1$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap I_{(\pi(0), \dots, \pi(k))} \neq \emptyset$  in which case condition (b) would not allow  $(\pi(0), \dots, \pi(k + 2))$  to be put into  $T_P$ . Likewise, condition (d) ensures that if  $\pi(2i) = 0$ , there can be no minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  with conclusion  $i$  whose support is disjoint from  $M_\pi$  since otherwise for large enough  $k$ , condition (e) would not allow  $(\pi(0), \dots, \pi(k))$  to be put into  $T_P$ . Finally, condition (e) is designed to ensure that  $T_P$  is finitely branching if and only if  $P$  has the *FS* property or has an explicit initial blocking set. We note that for a node  $(\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(2i), \sigma(2i+1))$  where  $\sigma(2i) = 1, \sigma(2i+1)$  can be the code of *any* minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  with conclusion  $i$  for which there is no smaller number which codes a proof scheme with the same conclusion and same support. For example, we do not require  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap I_\sigma = \emptyset$ . However, if  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap I_\sigma \neq \emptyset$ , then condition (b) will ensure that there are no extensions of  $\sigma$  in  $T$ .

Our next goal is to show that every  $f \in [T_P]$  is of the form  $f_M$  for a suitably chosen stable model  $M$  of  $P$ . It is clear that if  $M$  is stable model of  $P$ , then for all  $k$ ,  $(f_M(0), \dots, f_M(k))$  satisfies conditions (a)-(e) so that  $f_M \in [T_P]$ . Thus  $\{f_M : M \in \text{Stab}(P)\} \subseteq [T_P]$ .

Next, let us assume that  $\beta = (\beta(0), \beta(1), \dots)$  is an infinite path through  $T_P$  and  $M_\beta = \{i : \beta(2i) = 1\}$ . Then we must prove that

- (I)  $M_\beta$  is a stable model of  $P$  and
- (II)  $f_{(M_\beta)} = \beta$ .

For (I), suppose that  $M_\beta$  is not a stable model of  $P$ . Let  $lm(M_\beta)$  be the least model of Gelfond-Lifschitz transform  $\text{ground}(P)_{M_\beta}$  of  $\text{ground}(P)$  relative to  $M_\beta$ . Then by Proposition 1.1, it must be the case that either

- (i) there is  $j \in M_\beta \setminus lm(M_\beta)$ , or
- (ii) there is  $j \in lm(M_\beta) \setminus M_\beta$ .

If (i) holds, then let  $i$  be the least  $j \in M_\beta \setminus lm(M_\beta)$  and consider the string  $\beta \upharpoonright (2i + 3) = (\beta(0), \dots, \beta(2i + 3))$ . For  $\beta \upharpoonright (2i + 3)$  to be in  $T$ , it must be the case that  $\beta(2i + 1)$  is a code of a minimal proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}) = i$  and  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap I_{\beta \upharpoonright (2i+1)} = \emptyset$ . But since  $i \notin lm(M_\beta)$ , there must be some  $n$  belonging to  $M_\beta \cap \text{supp}(\mathbb{S})$ . Clearly, it must be the case that  $n > i$ . Choose such an  $n$ . Then  $\beta \upharpoonright 2n \notin T$  because  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap I_{\beta \upharpoonright 2n} \neq \emptyset$ , which contradicts our

assumption that  $\beta \in [T]$ . Thus **(i)** cannot hold.

If **(ii)** holds, then let  $i$  be the least  $j \in \text{lm}(M_\beta) \setminus M_\beta$  and consider again  $\beta \upharpoonright (2i+3)$ . Since  $i \in \text{lm}(M_\beta)$ , there must be a proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  such  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{T}) = j$  and  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{T}) \cap M_\beta = \emptyset$ . But then there is an  $n > 2i+1$  large enough so that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{T}) \subseteq O_{\beta \upharpoonright n}$ . But then  $\beta \upharpoonright n$  does not satisfy the condition (e) of our definition to be in the tree which again contradicts our assumption that  $\beta \in [T]$ . Thus **(ii)** also cannot hold so that  $M_\beta$  must be a stable model of  $P$ .

Thus we need only to verify claim (II), namely, that  $\beta = f_{(M_\beta)}$ . Now if  $\beta \neq f_{(M_\beta)}$ , then it must be that case that for some  $i \in M_\beta$ , there is a code  $c$  of a minimal proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}) = i$ ,  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap M_\beta = \emptyset$  and  $c < \beta(2i+1)$ . But then there is an  $n > 2i+1$  large enough so that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \subseteq O_{\beta \upharpoonright n}$  and hence  $\beta \upharpoonright n$  does not satisfy condition (d) of our definition to be in  $T$ . Hence, if  $\beta \neq f_{(M_\beta)}$ , then  $\beta \upharpoonright n \notin T_P$  for some  $n$  and so  $\beta \notin [T_P]$ . This completes the proof of (II) and hence part (1) of the theorem holds.

Next consider parts (2)-(10). Note that the tree  $T_P$  has the property that if  $\beta \in T$  where  $\beta$  has length  $n$ , then

(†) for every  $i$  such that  $2i \leq n$ ,  $\beta(2i) \in \{0, 1\}$  and

(‡) for every  $i$  such that  $2i+1 \leq n$ ,  $\beta(2i+1)$  is either 0 or it is a code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}) = i$  and no  $j < \beta(2i+1)$  is the code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme of  $i$  with the same conclusion and the same support.

Thus if  $P$  has a finite number of supports of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes for each  $i$ , then  $T_P$  will automatically be finitely branching. Next suppose that  $P$  has the additional property that there is a recursive function  $h$  whose value at  $i$  encode all the supports of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes for  $i$ . Say, the possible support of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes for  $i$  are  $S_1^i, \dots, S_{\ell_i}^i$ . Then for each  $1 \leq j \leq \ell_i$ , we can effectively find the smallest code  $c_j^i$  of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme for  $i$  with support  $S_j^i$ . Thus for each  $i$ , we can use  $h$  to compute  $c_1^i, \dots, c_{\ell_i}^i$ . But then we know that the possible values of  $\sigma(2i+1)$  for any  $\sigma \in T_P$  must come from  $0, c_1^i, \dots, c_{\ell_i}^i$  so that  $T_P$  is recursively bounded. Next observe that if  $P$  has the *a.a.* *FS* support property, then it will be the case that for all sufficiently large  $i$ , there will be only a finite number of supports of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes of  $i$  so that  $T_P$  will be nearly bounded. Similarly, if  $P$  has the *a.a.* *rec. FS* support property, then it will be the case that for all sufficiently large  $i$ , we can effectively find the supports of all minimal  $P$ -proof schemes of  $i$  so that as above, we can effectively find the possible values of  $\sigma(2i+1)$  and, hence,  $T_P$  will be nearly recursively bounded.

Next, suppose that  $P$  does not have the *FS* property. Let  $i$  be the least atom such that there exist infinitely many supports of  $P$ -proof schemes with conclusion  $i$ . Now suppose that there is a node  $\sigma = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(2i+1))$  of length  $2i+1$  in  $T_P$ . It is easy to check that it will also be the case that  $\sigma^* = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(2i-1), 1, r)$  is a node in  $T_P$  where  $r$  is any code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $i$  such that there is no smaller code  $q$  of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  of  $i$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) = \text{supp}(\mathbb{T})$ . Thus if  $T_P$  has a node of length  $2i+1$ , then  $T_P$  will not be infinitely branching. Let us note that if  $P$  has a

stable model, then  $T_P$  has a node of length  $2i+1$  so that  $T_P$  is finitely branching if and only if  $P$  has the *FS* property. If  $T_P$  does not have any node of length  $2i+1$ , then it is easy to check that our conditions ensure that  $\{0, \dots, i-1\}$  is an explicit initial blocking set for  $P$ . Thus  $T_P$  is finitely branching if and only if  $P$  has the *FS* property or  $P$  has an explicit initial blocking set.

Let us now suppose that  $P$  does not have the *a.a. FS* property. Then there will be infinitely many  $i$  which are codes of ground atoms of  $P$  such that there exist infinitely many supports of  $P$ -proof schemes with conclusion  $i$ . Now suppose that there is a node  $\sigma = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(2i+1))$  of length  $2i+1$  in  $T_P$ . Then again,  $\sigma^* = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(2i-1), 1, r)$  is a node in  $T_P$  where  $r$  is any code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $i$  such that there is no smaller code  $q$  of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  of  $i$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) = \text{supp}(\mathbb{T})$ . Thus if  $T_P$  has a node of length  $2i+1$ , then  $T_P$  will have a node of length  $2i$  which has infinitely many successors in  $T_P$ . Note that if  $P$  has a stable model, then  $T_P$  has a node of length  $2i+1$  for all  $i$  so that  $T_P$  is nearly bounded if and only if  $P$  has the *a.a. FS* property. If  $T_P$  does not have any node of length  $2i+1$ , then it is easy to check that our conditions ensure that  $\{0, \dots, i-1\}$  is an initial blocking set for  $P$ . Thus  $T_P$  is nearly bounded if and only if  $P$  has the *a.a. FS* property or  $P$  has an initial blocking set.

Next, assume that  $T_P$  is finitely branching. By König's lemma, either  $T_P$  is finite or  $T_P$  has an infinite path. If  $T_P$  has an infinite path, then there will be nodes of length  $2i+1$  in  $T_P$  for all  $i$ . Hence for each  $i$ , there will be nodes of the form  $\sigma^* = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(2i-1), 1, r)$  in  $T_P$  where  $r$  is any code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $i$  such that there is no smaller code  $q$  of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  of  $i$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) = \text{supp}(\mathbb{T})$ . Thus if  $T_P$  is highly recursive, then for all  $i$ , we can find all the codes  $r$  of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $i$  such that there is no smaller code  $q$  of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  of  $i$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) = \text{supp}(\mathbb{T})$  because we can compute the set of nodes of length  $2i+1$  as a function of  $i$ . Thus  $T_P$  is highly recursive if and only if  $P$  has the *rec. FS* property or  $P$  has an explicit initial blocking set. Similarly, if  $P$  has a stable model, then  $T_P$  must have an infinite path so that  $T_P$  is highly recursive if and only if  $P$  has the *rec. FS* property.

Next, assume that  $T_P$  is nearly bounded. Thus there is an  $m \geq 0$  such that each node of length greater than or equal to  $m$  has only finitely many successors in  $T_P$ . If  $T_P$  has nodes of length  $2i$  for all  $i \geq 0$ , there will be nodes of the form  $\sigma^* = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(2i-1), 1, r)$  in  $T_P$  where  $r$  is a code of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $i$  such that there is no smaller code  $q$  of a minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{T}$  of  $i$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) = \text{supp}(\mathbb{T})$ . Hence if  $2i \geq m$ , then it must be the case that there are only finitely many supports of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes of the atom  $a$  coded by  $i$ . Clearly, if  $T_P$  has an infinite path, then there will be nodes of length  $2i$  for all  $i$ , so that  $P$  must have the *a.a. FS* property. Similarly, if  $T_P$  is nearly recursively bounded and  $T_P$  has nodes of length  $2i$  for all  $i$ , then  $P$  will have the *a.a. rec. FS* property. Thus if  $T_P$  is nearly bounded, then either there will be some fixed  $n$  such that  $T_P$  has no nodes of length  $2n$  in which case  $T_P$  has an initial blocking set or  $T_P$  has nodes of length  $2n$  for all  $n \geq 0$  in which case  $P$  has the *a.a. FS* property. Similarly, if  $T_P$  is nearly recursively bounded,

then either there will be some fixed  $n$  such that  $T_P$  has no nodes of length  $2n$  in which case  $T_P$  has an initial blocking set or  $T_P$  has nodes of length  $2n$  for all  $n \geq 0$  in which case  $P$  has the *a.a. rec. FS* property. Thus  $T_P$  is nearly bounded (nearly recursively bounded) if and only if  $P$  has an initial blocking set or  $P$  has the *a.a. FS* property (*a.a. rec. FS* property). In particular, if  $P$  has a stable model, then  $T_P$  is nearly bounded (nearly recursively bounded) if and only if  $P$  has the *a.a. FS* property (*a.a. rec. FS* property). Thus parts (2)-(9) of the theorem hold.

For (10), note that if  $P$  is decidable, then for any finite set of ground atoms  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \subseteq H(P)$  and any finite set of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes  $\{\mathbb{S}_1, \dots, \mathbb{S}_n\}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}_i) = a_i$ , we can effectively decide whether there is a stable model of  $M$  of  $P$  such that

(A1)  $a_i \in M$  and  $\mathbb{S}_i$  is the smallest minimal  $P$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}$  for  $a_i$  such that  $\text{supp}(\mathbb{S}) \cap M = \emptyset$ ; and

(A2) for any ground atom  $b \notin \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  such that the code of  $b$  is strictly less than the maximum of the codes of  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ ,  $b \notin M$ .

But this is precisely what we need to decide to determine whether a given node in  $T_P$  can be extended to an infinite path through  $T_P$ . Thus if  $P$  is decidable, then  $T_P$  is decidable. On the other hand, suppose  $T_P$  is decidable and we are given a set of atoms  $\{a_1 < \dots < a_n\} \subseteq H(P)$  and any finite set of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes  $\{\mathbb{S}_1, \dots, \mathbb{S}_n\}$  such that  $\text{concl}(\mathbb{S}_i) = a_i$ . Then let  $\sigma = (\sigma(0), \dots, \sigma(2a_n + 3))$  be such that  $\sigma(2a_n + 2) = \sigma(2a_n + 3) = 0$  and for  $i \leq a_n$ ,  $\sigma(2i) = \sigma(2i + 1) = 0$  if  $i \notin \{a_1 < \dots < a_n\}$  and  $\sigma(2i) = 1$  and  $\sigma(2i + 1) = c(\mathbb{S}_i)$ . Then there is an infinite path of  $T_P$  that passes through  $\sigma$  if and only if there is a stable model of  $M$  of  $P$  such that the conditions (A1) and (A2) hold. Thus  $P$  is decidable if and only if  $T_P$  is decidable.

## 4 Complexity of index sets for finite normal predicate logic programs.

In this section, we shall prove our results on the complexity of index sets associated with various properties of finite normal predicate logic programs, finite normal predicate logic programs which have the *FS* property, and finite normal predicate logic programs which have the recursive *FS* property. We will sometimes call them FSP programs and rec. FSP programs, respectively.

**Theorem 4.1.** (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has an initial blocking set}\}$  and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has an explicit initial blocking set}\}$  are  $\Sigma_2^0$  complete.  
 (b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.  
 (c)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.  
 (d)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and is decidable}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

*Proof.* In each case, it is easy to see that the index set is of the required complexity by simply writing out the definition.

Let  $A = \{e : Q_e \text{ has an explicit initial blocking set}\}$  and  $Fin$  is the set  $\{e : W_e \text{ is finite}\}$ . We know that  $Fin$  is  $\Sigma_2^0$ -complete, [36]. Thus to show that



$A$  is  $\Sigma_2^0$ -complete, we need only to show that  $Fin$  is many-one reducible to  $A$ . Recall that  $W_{e,s}$  is the set of all elements  $x$  less than or equal to  $s$  such that  $\phi_e(x)$  converges  $s$  or fewer steps. It follows that for any  $e$ ,  $N_e = \{s : W_{e,s} - W_{e,s-1} \neq \emptyset\}$  and the set  $S_e$  of all codes of pairs  $(x, y)$  such that  $x, y \in N_e$ ,  $x < y$ , and there is no  $z \in N_e$  such that  $x < z < y$ , are recursive sets. Then by Proposition 3.1, we can uniformly construct a finite normal predicate logic Horn program  $P_e^-$  whose set of atoms is  $\{s^n(0) : n \geq 0\}$  and which contains two predicates  $N(x)$  and  $S(x, y)$  such that  $N(s^x(0))$  holds if and only if  $x \in N_e$  and  $S(s^x(0), s^y(0))$  holds if and only if  $[x, y] \in S_e$ . Let  $E$  be a unary predicate symbol that does not appear in  $P_e^-$ . Then we let  $P_e$  be the finite normal predicate logic program that consists of  $P_e^-$  and the following two predicate logic clauses:

- (a)  $E(x) \leftarrow N(x), \neg E(x)$  and
- (b)  $E(x) \leftarrow N(y), S(x, y)$ .

The clauses in (a) and (b) generate, when grounded, the following clauses in  $ground(P_e)$ :

- (A)  $E(s^n(0)) \leftarrow N(s^n(0)), \neg E(s^n(0))$  for all  $n \geq 0$ ; and
- (B)  $E(s^m(0)) \leftarrow N(s^n(0)), S(s^m(0), s^n(0))$  for all  $m, n \geq 0$ .

Now suppose that  $W_e$  is infinite and  $N_e = \{n_0 < n_1 < \dots\}$ . Then we claim that  $P_e$  has a stable model  $M_e$  which consists of the least model of  $P_e^-$  plus  $\{E(s^{n_i}(0)) : i \geq 0\}$ . That is, the presence of  $N(s^n(0))$  in the body of the clauses in (A) and the presence of  $N(s^n(0))$  and  $S(s^m(0), s^n(0))$  in the body of the clauses in (B) ensures that the only atoms of the form  $E(a)$  that can possibly be in any stable model of  $P_e$  are of the form  $E(s^n(0))$  where  $n \in N_e$ . But if  $W_e$  is infinite, then the Horn clauses of type (B) ensure that  $\{s^{n_i}(0) : i \geq 0\}$  will be in every stable model of  $P_e$ . This, in turn, means that none of the clauses of type (A) for  $n \in N_e$  will contribute to the Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct  $(P_e)_{M_e}$ . It follows that  $(P_e)_{M_e}$  consists of  $P_e^-$  plus all the clauses in (B) plus all the clauses of the form  $s^n(0) \leftarrow N(s^n(0))$  such that  $n \notin N_e$ . It is then easy to see that  $M_e$  is the least model of  $(P_e)_{M_e}$  so that  $M_e$  is a stable model of  $P_e$ . Thus if  $W_e$  is infinite, then  $P_e$  does not have an explicit initial blocking set.

Next, suppose that  $W_e$  is finite. Then  $N_e$  is finite, say  $N_e = \{n_0 < \dots < n_r\}$ . Then we will not be able to use a clause of type (B) to derive  $E(s^{n_r}(0))$ . Thus the only clause that could possibly derive  $E(s^{n_r}(0))$  would be the clause

$$C = E(s^{n_r}(0)) \leftarrow N(s^{n_r}(0)), \neg E(s^{n_r}(0)).$$

But then there can be no stable model  $M$  of  $P_e$ . That is, if  $s^{n_r}(0) \in M$ , then clause  $C$  will not be in  $(P_e)_M$  so that there will be no way to derive  $E(s^{n_r}(0))$  from  $(P_e)_M$ . On the other hand, if  $E(s^{n_r}(0)) \notin M$ , then clause  $C$  will contribute the clause  $E(s^{n_r}(0)) \leftarrow N(s^{n_r}(0))$  to  $(P_e)_M$  so that  $E(s^{n_r}(0))$  will be in the least model of  $(P_e)_M$ . It follows that  $\{E(0), E(s(0)), \dots, E(s^{n_r}(0))\}$  together with all that atoms of  $P_e^-$  whose code is less than the code of  $E(s^{n_r}(0))$  will be an explicit initial blocking set for  $P_e$ .

Thus we have shown that  $P_e$  has an explicit initial blocking set if and only if  $W_e$  is finite. Hence, the recursive function  $f$  such that  $Q_{f(e)} = P_e$  shows that  $Fin$  is many-one reducible to  $A$  and, hence,  $A$  is  $\Sigma_2^0$ -complete. The same proof will show that  $B = \{e : Q_e \text{ has an initial blocking set}\}$  is  $\Sigma_2^0$ -complete.

We claim that the completeness of the remaining parts of the theorem are all consequences of Theorem 1.1. That is, recall that  $T_0, T_1, \dots$  is an effective list of all primitive recursive trees. Then let  $g$  be the recursive function such that  $Q_{g(e)} = P_{T_e}$  where  $P_{T_e}$  is the finite normal predicate logic program constructed from  $T_e$  as in the proof of Theorem 1.1. Then  $g$  shows that

1.  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b.}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property}\}$ ;
2.  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property}\}$ ;
3.  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and decidable}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and is decidable}\}$ .

Hence the completeness results for parts (b), (c), and (d) immediately follow from our completeness results for  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b.}\}$ ,  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded}\}$ , and  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and decidable}\}$  given in Section 2.  $\square$

It is not always the case that the complexity results for finite normal predicate logic programs match the corresponding complexity for trees. For example, König's Lemma tells us that an infinite finitely branching tree must have an infinite path through it. It follows that  $[T] = \emptyset$  holds for a primitive recursive finitely branching tree  $T$  if and only if  $T$  is finite. This means the properties that  $T$  is bounded and empty and  $T$  is recursively bounded and empty are  $\Sigma_2^0$  properties since  $T$  being finite is a  $\Sigma_2^0$  predicate for primitive recursive trees. König's Lemma is a form of the Compactness Theorem for propositional logic which, we have observed, fails for normal propositional logic programs. Indeed, given any finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_e$ , we can simply take an atom  $a$  which does not occur in  $ground(Q_e)$  and add the clause  $C = a \leftarrow \neg a$ . Then the program  $Q_e \cup \{C\}$  does not have a stable model but will have the *FS* property if and only if  $Q_e$  has the *FS* property and will have the rec. *FS* property if and only if  $Q_e$  has the rec. *FS* property. Thus there is a recursive function  $h$  such that

1.  $Q_{h(e)}$  does not have stable model,
2.  $Q_e$  has the *FS* property if and only if  $Q_{h(e)}$  has the *FS* property, and
3.  $Q_e$  has the rec. *FS* property if and only if  $Q_{h(e)}$  has the rec. *FS* property.

It follows that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$  and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$ . Thus it follows from Theorem 2.5 that

1.  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete and
2.  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

To see that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ , we can appeal to Theorem 1.2 which constructs a finitely branching tree  $T_{Q_e}$  such that there is a one-to-one effective degree preserving correspondence between the stable models of  $Q_e$  and  $[T_{Q_e}]$ . It follows that  $Q_e$  has the *FS* property and no stable models if and only if  $Q_e$  has the *FS* property and  $T_{Q_e}$  is finite. This latter predicate is a  $\Pi_3^0$  predicate because  $Q_e$  having the *FS* property is  $\Pi_3^0$  predicate and  $T_{Q_e}$  being finite is a  $\Sigma_2^0$  predicate. Similarly,  $Q_e$  has the rec. *FS* property and has no stable models if and only if  $Q_e$  has the rec. *FS* property and  $T_{Q_e}$  is finite which is a  $\Sigma_3^0$  predicate because  $Q_e$  having the rec. *FS* property

is  $\Sigma_3^0$  predicate and  $T_{Q_e}$  being finite is a  $\Sigma_2^0$  predicate. Thus we have proved the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.2.** (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete; and  
(b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.

The method of proof for parts (b), (c), and (d) in Theorem 4.1 can be used to prove many results about properties of stable models of finite normal predicate logic programs  $Q_e$  where  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  is not empty. That is, one can prove that the desired index set is in the proper complexity class by simply writing out the definition or by using Theorem 1.2. For example, Theorem 2.6 (b) says that  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \neq \emptyset\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. We claim that this theorem immediately implies that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset\}$  is also  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. First we claim that the fact that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$  follows from Theorem 1.2. That is, by Theorem 1.2  $Q_e$  has the rec. FS property and  $\text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset$  if and only if  $T_{Q_e}$  is r.b. and  $[T_{Q_e}]$  is nonempty. But this latter question is  $\Sigma_3^0$  question so the former question is a  $\Sigma_3^0$  question. Thus Theorem 1.2 allows us to reduce complexity bounds about finite normal predicate logic programs  $P$  which have stable models to complexity bounds of their corresponding trees  $T_P$  where  $[T_P]$  is nonempty. Then we can then use Theorem 1.1 and the theorems on index sets for trees given in Section 2 to establish the necessary completeness results. For example, to show that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete, we use Theorem 1.1 and the fact that  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b. and } [T_e] \text{ is nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. That is, it follows from the proof of Theorem 1.1 that there is a recursive function  $f$  such that  $Q_{f(e)} = P_{T_e}$ . Hence

$$e \in \{h : T_h \text{ is r.b. and } [T_h] \text{ is nonempty}\} \iff f(e) \in \{g : Q_g \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_g) \neq \emptyset\}.$$

Thus  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

One can use the same techniques to prove that the following theorem follows from the corresponding index sets results on trees given in Section 2.

**Theorem 4.3.** (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.  
(b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.  
(c)  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete.

Since  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset\}$  is the complement of the  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete set  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$ , we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 4.1.**  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) = \emptyset\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete.

Next we want to consider the properties of  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  being infinite or finite.

**Theorem 4.4.** (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

- (b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $\Pi_4^0$ -complete and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
- (c)  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete.  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete.

*Proof.* To prove the upper bounds in each case, we do the following. Given a finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_e$ , let  $a$  and  $\bar{a}$  be two atoms which do not occur in  $\text{ground}(P)$ . Then let  $R_e$  be the finite normal predicate logic program which arises from  $Q_e$  by adding  $a$  to body of every clause in  $Q_e$  and adding the following two clauses:

$$C_1 = a \leftarrow \neg \bar{a} \text{ and}$$

$$C_2 = \bar{a} \leftarrow \neg a.$$

Then we claim that exactly one of  $a$  or  $\bar{a}$  must be in every stable model  $M$  of  $R_e$ . That is, if neither  $a$  or  $\bar{a}$  are in  $M$ , then  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  will contribute  $a \leftarrow$  and  $\bar{a} \leftarrow$  to  $(R_e)_M$  so that both  $a$  and  $\bar{a}$  will be in the least model of  $(R_e)_M$ . If both  $a$  and  $\bar{a}$  are in  $M$ , then  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  will contribute nothing to  $(R_e)_M$  so that neither  $a$  nor  $\bar{a}$  will be in the least model of  $(R_e)_M$  since then there will be no clauses of  $(R_e)_M$  with either  $a$  or  $\bar{a}$  in the head of the clause. It follows that  $R_e$  will have two types of stable models  $M$ , namely  $M = \{\bar{a}\}$  or  $M = M^* \cup \{a\}$  where  $M^*$  is stable model of  $Q_e$ . The modified program  $R_e$  is guaranteed to have a finite stable model, and in particular  $\text{Stab}(R_e) \neq \emptyset$ . Because of the form of stable models of  $R_e$ ,  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  is finite if and only if  $\text{Stab}(R_e)$  is finite. Clearly  $Q_e$  has the FS (rec. FS) property if and only if  $R_e$  has the FS (rec. FS) property. By Theorem 1.2, there is a recursive function  $g$  such that  $T_{g(e)} = T_{R_e}$  as constructed in the proof of Theorem 1.2. Then we know  $\text{Stab}(R_e)$  is finite if and only if  $[T_{g(e)}]$  is finite and  $R_e$  has the FS (rec. FS) property if and only if  $T_{g(e)}$  is recursively bounded. Then for example, it follows that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is finite}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b and } [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  which is  $\Sigma_3^0$ . In this way, the complexity bounds follows from the complexity bounds in Theorem 2.8.

To establish the completeness results in each case, we can proceed as follows. We can use the construction of Theorem 1.1 to construct a finite normal predicate logic program  $P_{T_e}$  such that  $[T_e]$  is finite if and only if  $\text{Stab}(P_{T_e})$  is finite and  $T_e$  is bounded (r.b.) if and only if  $P_{T_e}$  has the FS (rec. FS) property. Thus there is a recursive function  $f$  such that  $Q_{f(e)} = P_{T_e}$ . Then, for example, it follows that  $f$  shows that  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b and } [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is finite}\}$ . Thus  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete since  $\{e : T_e \text{ is r.b and } [T_e] \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. In this way, we can use completeness results of Theorem 2.8 to establish the completeness of each part of the theorem.  $\square$

By combining the completeness results of Theorem 2.9 with Theorems 1.1, and 1.2, we can use the same method of proof to prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.5.**  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is uncountable}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete and  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is countable}\}$  and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ is countable infinite}\}$  are  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete.

The same results hold for rec. FSP and FSP programs.

**Theorem 4.6.** For every positive integer  $c$ ,

- (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) > c\}$ ,  
 $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property, and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \leq c\}$ , and  
 $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c\}$  are all  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.
- (b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \leq c\}$  and  
 $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = 1\}$  are both  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.
- (c)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) > c\}$  and  
 $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c + 1\}$  are both  $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (d)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property, is decidable, and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) > c\}$ ,  
 $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property, is decidable, and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \leq c\}$ ,  
and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property, is decidable, and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c\}$  are all  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.
- (e)  $\{e : \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete, while  $\{e : \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \leq c\}$   
and  $\{e : \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c\}$  are both  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete.

*Proof.* The proofs for this theorem are divided into two cases. For the cases where we are trying to establish the complexity results for properties where  $\text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c$  or  $\text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \geq c$ , we can directly use Theorems 1.2 and 1.1. For example, Theorem 1.2 says that  $Q_e$  has  $c$  ( $> c$ ) stable models if and only if the tree  $T_{Q_e}$  constructed in the proof of Theorem 1.2 has  $c$  ( $> c$ ) infinite paths. Moreover,  $Q_e$  has the FS (rec. FS) property if and only if  $T_{Q_e}$  has the FS (rec. FS) property. Let  $f_1$  be recursive function such that  $T_{f_1(e)} = T_{Q_e}$ . Then, for example,  $f_1$  shows that

$$A = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and is decidable and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c\}$$

is many-one reducible to

$$B = \{h : T_h \text{ is r.b. and is decidable and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_h)) = c\}.$$

By Theorem 2.7, we know that  $B$  is in  $\Sigma_3^0$  so that  $A$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ . Thus we can reduce the problem of the complexity bounds for the properties involving  $\text{Stab}(Q_e) = c$ , and  $\text{Stab}(Q_e) > c$  to the corresponding properties of trees that  $[T_e] = c$  and  $[T_e] > c$  that appear in Theorem 2.7.

To establish completeness in each case, we can use Theorem 1.1. That is, there is a recursive function  $f_2$  such that  $Q_{f_2(e)} = P_{T_e}$  as constructed in Theorem 1.1. Then, for example,  $f_2$  shows that

$$C = \{e : P_e \text{ is r.b. and is decidable and } \text{Card}([T_e]) = c\}$$

is many-one reducible to

$$D = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and is decidable and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c\}.$$

We know by Theorem 2.7 that  $C$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete so that  $D$  is complete for  $\Sigma_3^0$  sets. Thus it follows that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and is decidable and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.

One has to be a bit more careful for the properties that involve the condition that  $\text{Stab}(Q_e) \leq c$ . In this case, we can use the techniques of the proof of Theorem 4.4 so we shall use the same notation and definitions as in the proof of Theorem 4.4. That is, it is easy to see that  $\text{Stab}(Q_e) \leq c$  if and only if  $\text{Stab}(R_e) \leq c + 1$  and that  $\text{Stab}(R_e) \leq c + 1$  if and only if  $[T_{R_e}] \leq c + 1$ . But since  $\text{Stab}(R_e) \neq \emptyset$  by construction, we see that  $Q_e$  has the FS (rec. FS) property if and only if  $R_e$  has the FS (rec. FS) property if and only if  $T_{R_e}$  is bounded (*r.b.*). Let  $g$  be the recursive function such that  $T_{g(e)} = T_{R_e}$ . Then, for example,  $g$  shows that

$$E = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \leq c\}$$

is many-one reducible to

$$F = \{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \leq c + 1\}$$

which is  $\Pi_3^0$  by Theorem 2.7. Thus,  $E$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ . All the other complexity bounds that involve the property  $\text{Stab}(Q_e) \leq c$  can be proved in a similar manner.

To establish the corresponding completeness results, we observe that  $[T_e] \leq c$  if and only if  $\text{Card}(\text{Stab}(P_{T_e})) \leq c$  and  $T_e$  is bounded (*r.b.*) if and only if  $P_{T_e}$  has the FS (rec. FS) property. Let  $h$  be the recursive function such that  $Q_{h(e)} = P_{T_e}$ . Then  $h$  shows that  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded and } [T_e] \leq c\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \leq c\}$ . Thus  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \leq c\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete. All the other completeness results that involve the property  $\text{Stab}(Q_e) \leq c$  can be proved in a similar manner.  $\square$

Next, we give some index set results concerning the number of recursive stable models of a finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_e$ . Here we say that  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  is *recursively empty* if  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  has no recursive elements and is *recursively nonempty* if  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  has at least one recursive element. Similarly, we say that a  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  has *recursive cardinality equal to c* if  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  has exactly  $c$  recursive members.

**Theorem 4.7.** (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.

(b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset \text{ and recursively empty}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete.

(c)  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete and  $\{e : \text{Stab}(Q_e) \neq \emptyset \text{ and recursively empty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete.

*Proof.* We say that a finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_e$  has an *isolated stable model*  $M$ , if there is a finite set of ground atoms  $a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_m$  such that  $a_i \in M$  for all  $i$  and  $b_j \notin M$  for all  $j$  and there is no other stable model  $M'$  such  $a_i \in M'$  for all  $i$  and  $b_j \notin M'$  for all  $j$ . Thus isolated stable models are determined by a finite amount of positive and negative information. We say that a finite predicate logic program  $Q_e$  is *perfect* if  $\text{Stab}(Q_e)$  is nonempty and it has no isolated elements.

To prove the upper bounds in each case, we do the following. Jockusch and Soare [18] constructed a recursively bounded primitive recursive tree such that  $[T] \neq \emptyset$  and  $[T_e]$  has no recursive elements. It then follows from Theorem 2.2 that  $[T]$  can have no isolated elements so that  $[T]$  is perfect. By Theorem 1.1, there is a finite normal predicate logic program  $U$  such that  $U$  has the rec. *FS* property and there is a one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between  $[T]$  and  $\text{Stab}(U)$ . Thus  $\text{Stab}(U)$  has no recursive or isolated elements. Now suppose that we are given a finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_e$ . Then make a copy  $V$  of the finite normal predicate logic program  $U$  such that  $V$  has no predicates which are in common with  $Q_e$ . Let  $a$  and  $\bar{a}$  be two atoms which do not appear in either  $V$  or  $Q_e$  and let  $S_e$  be the finite normal predicate logic program which arises from  $U$  and  $Q_e$  by adding  $a$  to the body of every clause in  $Q_e$ , adding  $\bar{a}$  to the body of every clause in  $V$ , and adding the following two clauses:

$$C_1 = a \leftarrow \neg \bar{a} \text{ and}$$

$$C_2 = \bar{a} \leftarrow \neg a.$$

Then, as before, we claim that exactly one of  $a$  or  $\bar{a}$  must be in every stable model  $M$  of  $S_e$ . That is, if neither  $a$  or  $\bar{a}$  are in  $M$ , then  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  will contribute  $a \leftarrow$  and  $\bar{a} \leftarrow$  to  $(S_e)_M$  so that both  $a$  and  $\bar{a}$  will be in the least model of  $(S_e)_M$ . If both  $a$  and  $\bar{a}$  are in  $M$ , then  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  will contribute nothing to  $(S_e)_M$  so that neither  $a$  nor  $\bar{a}$  will be in the least model of  $(S_e)_M$  since then there will be no clauses of  $(S_e)_M$  with either  $a$  or  $\bar{a}$  in the head of the clause. It follows that  $S_e$  will have two types of stable models  $M$ , namely  $M = M_1 \cup \{\bar{a}\}$  or  $M = M_2 \cup \{a\}$  where  $M_1$  is stable model of  $V$  and  $M_2$  is stable model of  $Q_e$ . Since  $V$  has the rec. *FS* property, is perfect, and has no recursive stable models, it follows that

1.  $Q_e$  has the rec. *FS* (*FS*) property if and only if  $S_e$  has the rec. *FS* (*FS*) property,
2.  $Q_e$  is perfect if and only if  $S_e$  is perfect, and
3. the only recursive stable models of  $S_e$  are of the form  $M \cup \{a\}$  where  $M$  is a recursive stable model of  $Q_e$ .

By Theorem 1.2, there is a recursive function  $k$  such that  $T_{k(e)} = T_{S_e}$  as constructed in the proof of Theorem 1.2 such that  $T_{k(e)}$  is bounded (*r.b.*) if and only if  $S_e$  has the *FS* (rec. *FS*) property and there is an effective one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between  $\text{Stab}(S_e)$  and  $[T_{k(e)}]$ . It follows that

$T_{k(e)}$  is bounded (*r.b.*) if and only if  $Q_e$  has the *FS* (rec. *FS*) property and there is an effective one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between the recursive elements of  $Stab(S_e)$  and the recursive elements of  $[T_{k(e)}]$ .

Then for example, it follows that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and is recursively empty}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : T_e \text{ is } r.b \text{ and } [T_e] \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  which is  $D_3^0$ . Thus

$$\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and is recursively empty}\}$$

is  $D_3^0$ . In this way, the upper bounds on the complexity of each index set in the theorem follow from the corresponding complexity bound of the corresponding property of trees in Theorem 2.10.

The completeness results for each part of the theorem follow from Theorem 1.1 and the corresponding completeness results in Theorem 2.10 as before.  $\square$

The same method of proof can be used to prove the following theorems.

**Theorem 4.8.** *Let  $c$  be a positive integer.*

- (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (c)  $\{e : Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.
- (d)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ is decidable and has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ is decidable and has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ is decidable and has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.

**Theorem 4.9.**  $\{e : Stab(Q_e) \text{ has finite recursive cardinality}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete and  $\{e : Stab(Q_e) \text{ has infinite recursive cardinality}\}$  is  $\Pi_4^0$ -complete. The same results are true for programs which have the rec. *FS* property and the *FS* property.

- Theorem 4.10.**
- (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is perfect}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.
  - (b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is perfect}\}$  is  $\Pi_4^0$ -complete.
  - (c)  $\{e : Stab(Q_e) \text{ is perfect}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete.



## 5 Index set results for *a.a.* FSP and *a.a. rec.* FSP programs.

In this section, we shall use our results from the previous section to prove results about index sets of *a.a.* FSP and *a.a. rec.* FSP programs. Recall Section 1, discussion after Proposition 1.3) that a finite predicate logic program  $P$  has the *almost always finite support (a.a.FS) property* if for all but finitely many atoms  $a \in H(P)$ , there are only finitely many inclusion-minimal supports of minimal  $P$ -proof schemes for  $a$ .

First we shall prove index set results for finite normal predicate logic programs which have the *a.a. rec. FS* property.

- Theorem 5.1.** (a)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.  
(b)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is nonempty}\}$  and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is empty}\}$  are  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.  
(c)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) > c\}$ ,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) \leq c\}$ , and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(Q_e)) = c\}$  are all  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.  
(d)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is infinite}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete.  
(e)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is uncountable}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is countable}\}$  and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is countably infinite}\}$  are  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete.  
(f)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is recursively nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is recursively empty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.  
(g)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FPS and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } > c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete, and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ has cardinality } = c\}$  is  $D_3^0$ -complete.  
(h)  $\{Q_e : \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ has } \{e : \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ has infinite recursive cardinality}\} \text{ is } \Pi_4^0$ -complete.  
(i)  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is perfect}\}$  are  $D_3^0$ -complete.

*Proof.* Let  $f$  be the recursive function such that  $T_{Q_e} = T_{f(e)}$  where  $T_{Q_e}$  is as constructed in the proof of Theorem 1.2. Then  $f$  shows that  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is nonempty}\}$  is many-one reducible to  $\{e : [T_e] \text{ is nearly r.b. and is nonempty}\}$  which is  $\Sigma_3^0$ . Thus  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } \text{Stab}(Q_e) \text{ is nonempty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ . In this way, we can establish the upper bound on the complexity of the index set for any

property of finite normal predicate *a.a.* FSP logic programs  $Q_e$  where the property is restricted to cases where  $Stab(Q_e) \neq \emptyset$  from the corresponding complexity of the corresponding property for nearly recursively bounded trees.

For the other upper bounds, first, it is easy to see that  $A = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ rec. } FS \text{ property}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$  by simply writing out the definition. To see that  $B = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ rec. } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is empty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ , note that  $e \in B$  if and only if  $e \in A$  and either (i)  $Q_e$  has an initial blocking set or (ii)  $Q_e$  does not have an initial blocking set and  $T_{Q_e}$  as constructed in the proof of Theorem 1.2 is nearly recursively bounded and  $[T_{Q_e}] = \emptyset$ . Since the predicate ' $Q_e$  has an initial blocking set' is  $\Sigma_2^0$  and the predicate ' $T_e$  is nearly recursively bounded and  $[T_e] = \emptyset$ ' is a  $\Sigma_3^0$  predicate, it follows that  $B$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ . To see that  $C = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ rec. } FS \text{ property and } Card(Stab(Q_e)) \leq c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$  for any  $c \geq 1$ , we can use the program  $R_e$  constructed in the proof of Theorem 4.6. That is,  $e \in C$  if and only if  $R_e$  has the *a.a. rec. FS* property and  $Card(S_e) \leq c + 1$ . Now by Theorem 1.2,  $R_e$  has the *a.a. FS* property and  $Card(S_e) \leq c + 1$  if and only if  $T_{R_e}$  is nearly recursively bounded and  $Card([T_{R_e}]) \leq c + 1$ . But  $\{e : T \text{ is nearly } r.b. \text{ and } Card([T_{R_e}]) \leq c + 1\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$  so that  $C$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ . A similar proof will show that  $D = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ rec. } FS \text{ property and is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$  and  $E = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ rec. } FS \text{ property and is countable}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ .

Finally, for the upper bounds on the complexity for the index sets in parts (g), (h), and (i), we can use the program  $S_e$  constructed from  $Q_e$  as in the proof of the Theorem 4.7. That is, it is easy to see that  $Q_e$  has the *a.a. rec. FS* property if and only if  $S_e$  has the *a.a. rec. FS* property and that the cardinality of the set of recursive stable models of  $Q_e$  equals the cardinality of the set of recursive stable models of  $S_e$ . Moreover,  $Stab(Q_e)$  is perfect if and only if  $Stab(S_e)$  is perfect. But  $S_e$  has the *a.a. FS* property if and only if the tree  $T_{S_e}$  as constructed in the proof of Theorem 1.2 is nearly recursively bounded. Let  $g$  be the recursive function such that  $T_{g(e)} = T_{S_e}$ . Then the question whether  $e$  lies in the desired index set in parts (g), (h), and (i), can be reduced to the problem of whether  $g(e)$  lies in the corresponding index set for nearly recursively bounded trees. Thus the upper bounds the complexity of these index sets follow from the complexity of the corresponding index sets for nearly recursively bounded trees in Section 2.

The completeness for each of the index sets in our theorem can be proved as follows. Given a finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_e$ , we construct a finite normal predicate logic program  $Y_e$  as follows. Let  $L_e$  denote the underlying language of  $Q_e$  and  $L_e^*$  be the language which contains 0,  $s$ , and a predicate  $R^*(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  for every predicate  $R(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and a predicate  $A^*(x)$  for every propositional atom  $A$  in  $L$  where none of  $R^*$ , and  $A^*$  occur in  $L_e$ . To ease notation, we shall let  $\bar{0} = 0$  and  $\bar{n} = s^n(0)$  for each  $n \geq 1$ . Then by Proposition 3.1, there is a finite normal predicate logic Horn program  $Q^-$  with a recursive least model  $M^-$  whose language contains the constant symbol 0 as well as all the constant symbols of  $L_e$  and the function symbol  $s$  and all the function symbols from  $L_e$  and whose set of predicate symbols are disjoint from the language  $L_e^*$  which includes the predicates  $num(\cdot)$ ,  $noteq(\cdot, \cdot)$ , and  $term(\cdot)$  such that for any

ground terms  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ :

1.  $num(t_1)$  holds in  $M^-$  if and only if  $t_1 = \bar{n}$  for some  $n \geq 0$ ,
2.  $noteq(t_1, t_2)$  holds in  $M^-$  if and only if there exist natural numbers  $n$  and  $m$  such that  $n \neq m$  and  $t_1 = \bar{n}$  and  $t_2 = \bar{m}$ , and
3.  $term(t_1)$  holds in model  $M^-$  if and only if  $t_1$  is a ground term in  $L_e$ .

Moreover, we can assume that  $Q^-$  has the rec. *FS* property. Then let  $Y_e$  be the program  $Q^-$  plus all clauses  $C^*(x)$  that arise from clauses  $C \in Q_e$  by adding the predicate  $num(x)$  to the body where  $x$  the first variable of the language that does not occur in  $C$ , adding the predicate  $term(t)$  to the body for each term that occurs in  $C$ , and by replacing each predicate  $R(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  that occurs in  $C$  by  $R^*(x, t_1, \dots, t_n)$  and each propositional atom  $A$  that occurs in  $C$  by  $A^*(x)$ . The idea is that as  $x$  varies over  $\{\bar{n} : n \geq 0\}$ , these clauses will produce infinitely many copies of the program  $Q_e$ . More precisely, we let  $Q_e^n$  denote the set of all clauses of the form  $C^*(\bar{n})$ .  $Q_e^n$  is essentially an exact copy of  $Q_e$  except that we have extended all predicates and propositional atoms to have an extra term corresponding to  $\bar{n}$  and each clause contains the predicate  $num(\bar{n})$  and  $term(t)$  in the body for each term in the original clause. Since none of the clauses  $C^*(x)$  have any predicates from  $Q^-$  in their heads, it will be the case that in every stable model  $M$  of  $Y_e$ ,  $M$  restricted to the ground atoms of  $Q^-$  will just be  $M^-$ . Thus, in particular,

1.  $num(t_1)$  holds in  $M$  if and only if  $t_1 = \bar{n}$  for some  $n \geq 0$ ,
2.  $noteq(t_1, t_2)$  holds in  $M$  if and only if there exist natural numbers  $n$  and  $m$  such that  $n \neq m$  and  $t_1 = \bar{n}$  and  $t_2 = \bar{m}$ , and
3.  $term(t_1)$  holds in  $M$  if and only if  $t_1$  is a ground term in  $L_e$ .

Now, if  $\mathbb{S}$  is any  $ground(Q_e)$ -proof scheme, then we let  $\mathbb{S}^n$  be the result of adding  $num(\bar{n})$  to each clause in  $\mathbb{S}$  and  $term(t)$  to each clause if  $t$  occurs in  $\mathbb{S}$  and replacing each predicate  $R(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  that occurs in  $\mathbb{S}$  by  $R^*(\bar{n}, t_1, \dots, t_n)$  and each propositional atom  $A$  that occurs in  $\mathbb{S}$  by  $A^*(\bar{n})$ . It is easy to see that the all minimal  $ground(Y_e)$ -proof schemes that derive atoms outside of  $ground(Q^-)$  must consist of an interweaving of the pairs from minimal  $ground(Q^-)$ -proof schemes of  $num(\bar{n})$  and  $term(t)$  for each term  $t$  in  $L_e$  that occurs in the proof scheme of the form  $\mathbb{S}^{\bar{n}}$  with the pairs for some  $ground(Q_e)$ -proof scheme  $\mathbb{S}^{\bar{n}}$ . It follows that if  $Q_e$  has the rec. *FS* (*FS*) property, then  $Y_e$  has the rec. *FS* (*FS*) property. However, if  $Q_e$  does not have the rec. *FS* property, then it cannot be that  $Y_e$  has the *a.a* rec. *FS* property since if we could effectively find all the inclusion-minimal supports of minimal  $Y_e$ -proof schemes for all but finitely many atoms, then there would be some  $n$  in which we could find all the inclusion-minimal supports of minimal  $Q_e^n$ -proof schemes for any atom which contains  $\bar{n}$ , which would allow us to effectively find all the inclusion-minimal supports of minimal  $Q_e$ -proof schemes for any ground atom of  $L$ . Similarly, if  $Q_e$  does not have the *FS* property, then the  $Y_e$  does not have the *a.a* *FS* property. Thus  $Q_e$  has the rec. *FS* (*FS*) property if and only if  $Y_e$  has the *a.a* rec. *FS* (*FS*) property.

Next we want to add a finite number of predicate clauses to  $Y_e$  to produce a finite normal predicate logic program  $Z_e$  which restricts the stable models to be essentially the same relative to the atoms of  $ground(Q_e^n)$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . To

this end, we let  $a$  be an atom that does not appear in  $Y_e$  and for each predicate  $R^*(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of  $Y_e$ , we add a clause

$$C_{R^*} = a \leftarrow R^*(y, x_1, \dots, x_n), \neg R^*(z, x_1, \dots, x_n), \text{noteq}(y, z), \\ \text{term}(x_1), \dots, \text{term}(x_n), \neg a$$

and for each propositional atom  $A$  of  $L_e$ , we add a clause

$$C_{A^*} = a \leftarrow A^*(y), \neg A^*(z), \text{noteq}(x, y), \neg a.$$

First, we observe that  $a$  cannot belong to any stable model of  $M$  of  $Z_e$ . That is, if  $a \in M$ , that none of the clauses  $C_{R^*}$  and  $C_{A^*}$  will contribute anything to  $\text{ground}(Z_e)_M$ . Thus no clauses with  $a$  in the head will be  $\text{ground}(Z_e)_M$  so that  $a$  will not be in the least model of  $M$  and  $M \neq \text{ground}(Z_e)_M$ .

Now suppose that  $M$  is a stable model of  $Z_e$  and  $a \notin M$ . Then it is easy to see from the form of our rules that for any predicate  $R(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of  $L_e$ ,  $M$  can only contain ground atoms of the form  $R^*(t_0, t_1, \dots, t_n)$  where  $t_0 = \bar{n}$  for some  $n \geq 0$  and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are ground terms of  $L_e$ . Similarly, for each propositional atom  $A$  of  $L_e$  and ground term  $t$ ,  $A(t)$  in  $M$  implies  $t = \bar{n}$  for some  $n \geq 0$ . We claim that for any predicate  $R(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and any ground terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  in  $L_e$ , either  $D_{R, t_1, \dots, t_n} = \{R^*(\bar{n}, t_1, \dots, t_n) : n \geq 0\}$  is contained in  $M$  or is entirely disjoint from  $M$ . That is, if there is an  $n \neq m$  such that  $R^*(\bar{n}, t_1, \dots, t_n) \in M$  but  $R^*(\bar{m}, t_1, \dots, t_n) \notin M$ , then the clause  $C_{R^*}$  will contribute the clause

$$\bar{C}_{R^*} = a \leftarrow R^*(\bar{n}, t_1, \dots, t_n), \text{noteq}(\bar{n}, \bar{m})$$

to  $\text{ground}(Z_e)_M$  so that  $a$  would be in  $M$  since  $M$  is a model of  $\text{ground}(Z_e)_M$  and, hence,  $M$  is not a stable model of  $Z_e$ . Similarly, for each propositional atom  $A$  in  $L_e$  either  $D_A = \{A^*(\bar{n}) : n \geq 0\}$  is contained in  $M$  or is entirely disjoint from  $M$ . That is, if there is an  $n \neq m$  such that  $A^*(\bar{n}) \in M$  but  $A^*(\bar{m}) \notin M$ , then the clause  $C_{A^*}$  will contribute the clause

$$\bar{C}_{A^*} = a \leftarrow A^*(\bar{n}), \text{noteq}(\bar{n}, \bar{m})$$

to  $\text{ground}(Z_e)_M$  so that  $a$  would be in  $M$  and  $M$  is not a stable model of  $Z_e$ . It follows that the stable models of  $Z_e$  are in one-to-one correspondence with the stable models of  $Q_e$ . That is, if  $U$  is a stable model of  $Q_e$ , then there is a stable model  $V(U)$  of  $Z_e$  such that

1.  $M^- \subseteq V(U)$ ;
2. for all predicate symbols  $R(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  in  $L_e$ , and ground terms  $t, t_1, \dots, t_n$  in  $L_e^*$ ,  $R^*(t, t_1, \dots, t_n) \in V(U)$  if and only if  $t = \bar{m}$  for some  $m \geq 0$ ,  $t_1, \dots, t_n \in L_e$ , and  $R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \in U$ ; and
3. for all propositional atoms  $A$  in  $L_e$  and ground terms  $t$  in  $L_e^*$ ,  $A^*(t) \in V(U)$  if and only if  $t = \bar{m}$  for some  $m \geq 0$  and  $A \in U$ .

In addition, it is easy to prove by induction on the length of proof schemes that every stable model of  $V$  of  $Z_e$  is of the form  $V(U)$  where

1. for all predicate symbols  $R(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and ground terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  in  $L_e$ ,  $R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \in U$  if and only if  $R(\bar{0}, t_1, \dots, t_n) \in V$ ; and

2. for all propositional atoms  $A$  in  $L_e$ ,  $A \in U$  if and only if  $A^*(\bar{0}) \in V$ .

It follows that there is an effective one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between the  $Stab(Q_e)$  and  $Stab(Z_e)$ . Now let  $\ell$  be a recursive function such that  $Q_{\ell(e)} = Z_e$ . We observe that our theorem states that the complexity of every property of finite normal predicate logic programs which have *a.a. rec. FS* property is the same as the corresponding complexity of the same property of finite normal predicate logic programs with just the *rec. FS* property. For example, in Section 3, we proved that for every positive integer  $c$ ,  $X = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the rec. FS property and } Card(Stab(Q_e)) = c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete while we want to prove that  $Y = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. rec. FS property and } Card(Stab(Q_e)) = c\}$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. Now  $\ell$  shows that  $X$  is many-one reducible to  $Y$  so that, since we have already shown that  $Y$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ , it must be the case that  $Y$  is  $\Sigma_3^0$ -complete. All the other completeness results follows from the corresponding completeness results in the same manner.  $\square$

- Theorem 5.2.**
- a.  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
  - b.  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is empty}\}$  and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is nonempty}\}$  are  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
  - c. For any positive integer  $c$ ,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Card(Stab(Q_e)) > c\}$ ,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Card(Stab(Q_e)) \leq c\}$ , and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Card(Stab(Q_e)) = c\}$  are  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
  - d.  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is finite}\}$  and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is infinite}\}$  are  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
  - e.  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is countable}\}$  and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is countably infinite}\}$  are  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is uncountable}\}$  are  $\Sigma_1^1$ -complete.
  - f.  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is recursively empty}\}$ ,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ recursively nonempty}\}$ , and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$  are  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.
  - g. For every positive integer  $c$ ,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } c\}$ ,  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } \leq c\}$ , and  $\{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ has recursive cardinality } = c\}$  are  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete.

*Proof.* To establish the upper bounds for each of the index sets described in the theorem, we can use the same strategy as we did in Theorem 5.1. That is, by Theorem 1.2,  $Q_e$  has the *a.a. FS* property and has a stable model if and only if  $T_{Q_e}$  is nearly bounded and  $[T_{Q_e}] \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $f$  be the recursive function such that  $T_{Q_e} = T_{f(e)}$ . Then  $f$  shows that

$$A = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the a.a. FS property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is nonempty}\}$$

is many-one reducible to

$$B = \{h : T_h \text{ is nearly bounded and } [T_h] \text{ is nonempty}\}$$

which is  $\Sigma_4^0$ . Thus  $A$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ . In this way, we can establish the upper bounded on the complexity of the index set for any property of finite normal predicate logic programs  $Q_e$  which have the *a.a. rec. FS* property where the property is restricted to cases such that  $Stab(Q_e) \neq \emptyset$  from the complexity of the corresponding property for nearly recursively bounded trees.

For the other upper bounds, first, it is easy to see that  $\bar{A} = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ FS property}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$  by simply writing out the definition. To see that  $\bar{B} = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ rec. FS property and } [T_{Q_e}] \text{ is empty}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ , note that  $e \in \bar{B}$  if and only if  $e \in \bar{A}$  and either (i)  $Q_e$  has an initial blocking set or (ii)  $Q_e$  does not have an initial blocking set and  $T_{Q_e}$  as constructed in Theorem 1.2 is nearly bounded and  $[T_{Q_e}] = \emptyset$ . Since the predicate ‘ $Q_e$  has an initial blocking set’ is  $\Sigma_2^0$  and the predicate ‘ $T_e$  is nearly bounded and  $[T_e] = \emptyset$ ’ is a  $\Sigma_4^0$  predicate, it follows that  $\bar{B}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ . To see that  $\bar{C} = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ FS property and } Card(Stab(Q_e)) \leq c\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$  for any  $c \geq 1$ , we can use the program  $R_e$  constructed in the proof of Theorem 4.6. That is,  $e \in \bar{C}$  if and only if  $R_e$  has the *a.a. FS* property and  $Card(Stab(R_e)) \leq c + 1$ . Now by Theorem 1.2,  $R_e$  has the *a.a. FS* property and  $Card(Stab(R_e)) \leq c + 1$  if and only if  $T_{R_e}$  is nearly bounded and  $Card([T_{R_e}]) \leq c + 1$ . But  $\{e : T \text{ is nearly bounded and } Card([T_{R_e}]) \leq c + 1\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$  so that  $\bar{C}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$ . A similar proof will show that  $\bar{D} = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ FS property and is finite}\}$  is  $\Sigma_4^0$  and  $\bar{E} = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ FS property and is countable}\}$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ .

Finally, for the upper bounds on the complexity for the index sets in parts (f) and (g), we can use the program  $S_e$  constructed from  $Q_e$  in the proof of Theorem 4.7. That is, it is easy to see that  $Q_e$  has the *a.a. FS* property if and only if  $S_e$  has the *a.a. FS* property and that the cardinality of the set of recursive stable models of  $Q_e$  equals the cardinality of the set of recursive stable models of  $S_e$ . Moreover, the set of stable models of  $Q_e$  is perfect if and only if the set of stable models of  $S_e$  is perfect. But  $S_e$  has the *a.a. FS* property if and only if the tree  $T_{S_e}$  as constructed in Theorem 1.2 is nearly recursively bounded. Let  $g$  be the recursive function such that  $T_{g(e)} = T_{S_e}$ . Then the question whether  $e$  lies in the desired index set in parts (f), (g), and (h) can be reduced to the problem of whether  $g(e)$  lies in the corresponding index set for nearly bounded trees. Thus the upper bounds for the complexity of these index sets follow from the complexity of the corresponding index sets for nearly bounded trees in Section 2.

For the completeness results in part (e) of the theorem, we can follow the same strategy as in the proof of Theorem 5.1. By Theorem 4.5, we know that  $X = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \text{ is uncountable}\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete while we want to prove that  $Y = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ FS property and } Card(Stab(Q_e)) \text{ is uncountable}\}$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete. Now the recursive function  $\ell$  such that  $Z_e = Q_{\ell(e)}$  constructed in the proof of Theorem 5.1 shows that  $X$  is many-one reducible to  $Y$  so that  $Y$  is  $\Pi_1^1$ -complete. All the other completeness results in part (e) of our theorem follow from the corresponding completeness results in Theorem 4.5 in the same manner.

Unfortunately, we cannot follow that same strategy as in Theorem 5.1 in the remaining parts of theorem because the completeness results for finite normal

predicate logic programs with the *FS* property do not match the completeness results for finite normal predicate logic programs with *a.a.* *FS* property. Instead we shall outline the modifications that are needed to prove an analogue of Theorem 1.1 that can be used to prove the completeness result for finite normal predicate logic programs which have the *a.a.* *FS* property from the corresponding completeness results for nearly bounded trees.

First, let us recall the construction of the trees that we used to prove part (d) of Theorem 2.5. We defined a primitive recursive function  $\phi(e, m, s) = (\text{least } n > m)(n \notin W_{e,s} \setminus \{0\})$ . For any given  $e$ , we let  $V_e$  be the tree such that  $(m), (m, 0), (m, 1) \in U_e$  for all  $m \geq 0$  and  $(m, s + 2) \in V_e$  if and only if  $m$  is the least element such that  $\phi(e, m, s + 1) > \phi(e, m, s)$ . This is only a slight modification of the tree  $U_e$  defined in that the proof of part (d) of Theorem 2.5 in that we have ensured that  $(m, 0), (m, 1) \in V_e$  are always in  $U_e$  and so that we are forced to shift the remaining nodes to right by one. It will still be that case that if  $W_e \setminus \{0\}$  is cofinite, then there is exactly one node in  $V_e$  that has infinitely many successors and  $V_e$  is bounded otherwise. Clearly there is a recursive function  $f$  such that  $T_{f(e)} = V_e$ . But then

$$e \in \omega \setminus \text{Cof} \iff T_{f(e)} \text{ is bounded.}$$

where  $\text{Cof} = \{e : \omega \setminus W_e \text{ is finite}\}$ .

Next let  $S$  be an arbitrary complete  $\Sigma_4^0$  set and suppose that  $a \in S \iff (\exists k)(R(a, k))$  where  $R$  is  $\Pi_3^0$ . By the usual quantifier methods, we may assume that  $R(a, k)$  implies that  $R(a, j)$  for all  $j > k$ . By the  $\Pi_3^0$ -completeness of the set  $\{e : T_e \text{ is bounded}\}$ , there is a recursive function  $h$  such that  $R(a, k)$  holds if and only if  $V_{h(a,k)}$  is bounded and such that  $V_{h(a,k)}$  is *a.a.* bounded for every  $a$  and  $k$ . Now we can define a recursive function  $\psi$  so that

$$T_{\psi(a,e)} = \{(0)\} \cup \{(k+1) \frown \sigma : \sigma \in V_{h(a,k)}\} \cup \{0 \frown \sigma : \sigma \in T_e\}.$$

Thus we have two parts of the tree  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$ . That is, above the node  $(0)$ , we have a copy of  $T_e$  and we shall call this part of the tree  $\text{First0}(T_{\psi(a,e)})$ . We shall refer to the remaining part of  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$  as  $\text{NotFirst0}(T_{\psi(a,e)})$ . Now if  $a \in S$ , then  $V_{h(a,k)}$  is bounded for all but finitely many  $k$  and is nearly bounded for the remainder. Thus  $\text{NotFirst0}(T_{\psi(a,e)})$  is nearly bounded. If  $a \notin S$ , then, for every  $k$ ,  $V_{h(a,k)}$  is not bounded, so that  $\text{NotFirst0}(T_{\psi(a,e)})$  is not nearly bounded. Thus  $a \in S$  if and only if  $\text{NotFirst0}(T_{\psi(a,e)})$  is nearly bounded. Hence if  $T_e$  is *r.b.* or bounded, then  $a \in S$  if and only if  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$  is nearly bounded.

Next we describe a finite normal predicate logic program  $Q_{a,e}$  such that there is a one-to-one effective correspondence between  $\text{Stab}(Q_{a,e})$  and  $[T_{\psi(a,e)}]$ . Our construction will just be a slight modification of the construction in Theorem 1.1. First we shall need some additional predicates on sequences. That is, we let the predicate  $\text{first0}(c(\sigma))$  be true if and only if  $\sigma$  is a sequence which starts with 0 and the predicate  $\text{notfirst0}(c(\sigma))$  be true if and only if  $\sigma$  is a nonempty sequence which does not start with 0. We let the predicate  $\text{third0}(c(\sigma))$  be true if and only if  $\sigma$  is a sequence of length  $\geq 3$  whose third element is 0 and we let the predicate  $\text{notthird0}(c(\sigma))$  be true if and only if  $\sigma$  is a sequence of length

$\geq 3$  whose third element is not 0. We shall also require a predicate  $length12(\cdot)$  which holds only on codes of sequences of length 1 or 2 and  $length3(\cdot)$  which holds only on codes of sequences of length 3. Finally, we shall need a predicate  $agree12(\cdot, \cdot)$  which holds only on pairs of codes  $(c(\sigma), c(\tau))$  where  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are of length 3 and  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  agree on their first two entries.

As in the proof of Theorem 1.1, there exists the following three finite normal predicate logic programs such that the set of ground terms in their underlying language are all of the form  $s^n(0)$  where 0 is a constant symbol and  $s$  is a unary function symbol. We shall use  $n$  as an abbreviation for the term  $s^n(0)$ .

- (I) A finite predicate logic Horn program  $P_0$  such that for a predicate  $tree(\cdot)$  of the language of  $P_0$ , the atom  $tree(n)$  belongs to the least Herbrand model of  $P_0$  if and only if  $n$  is a code for a finite sequence  $\sigma$  and  $\sigma \in T_{\psi(a,e)}$ .
- (II) A finite predicate logic Horn program  $P_1$  such that for a predicate  $seq(\cdot)$  of the language of  $P_1$ , the atom  $seq(n)$  belongs to the least Herbrand model of  $P_1$  if and only if  $n$  is the code of a finite sequence  $\alpha \in \omega^{<\omega}$ .
- (III) A finite predicate logic Horn program  $P_2$  which correctly computes the following recursive predicates on codes of sequences.
  - (a)  $samelength(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if both arguments are the codes of sequences of the same length.
  - (b)  $diff(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the arguments are codes of sequences which are different.
  - (c)  $shorter(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if both arguments are codes of sequences and the first sequence is shorter than the second sequence.
  - (d)  $length(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds when the first argument is a code of a sequence and the second argument is the length of that sequence.
  - (e)  $notincluded(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if both arguments are codes of sequences and the first sequence is not the initial segment of the second sequence.
  - (f)  $first0(\cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the argument is the code of a sequence which starts with 0.
  - (g)  $notfirst0(\cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the argument is the code of a nonempty sequence which does not start with 0.
  - (h)  $third0(\cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the argument is the code of a sequence of length  $\geq 3$  whose third element is 0.
  - (i)  $notthird0(\cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the argument is the code of a sequence of length  $\geq 3$  whose third element is not 0.
  - (j)  $agree12(\cdot, \cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the arguments are codes of sequences of length 3 which agree on the first two elements.
  - (k)  $length12(\cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the argument is a code of a sequence of length 1 or 2.
  - (l)  $length3(\cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the argument is a code of a sequence of length 3.
  - (m)  $num(\cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the argument is either 0 or  $s^n(0)$  for some  $n \geq 1$ .
  - (n)  $greater0(\cdot)$ . This succeeds if and only if the argument is  $s^n(0)$  for some  $n \geq 1$ .



Now let  $P^-$  be the finite normal predicate logic program which is the union of programs  $P_0 \cup P_1 \cup P_2$ . We denote its language by  $\mathcal{L}^-$  and we let  $M^-$  be the least model of  $P^-$ . By Proposition 3.1, we can assume that this program  $P^-$  is a Horn program and for each ground atom  $b$  in the Herbrand base of  $P^-$ , we can explicitly construct the set of all  $P^-$ -proof schemes of  $b$ . In particular,  $tree(n) \in M^-$  if and only if  $n$  is the code of node in  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$ .

Our final program  $P_T$  will consist of  $P^-$  plus clauses (1)-(12) given below. We assume that these additional clauses do not contain any of predicates of the language  $\mathcal{L}^-$  in the head. However, predicates from  $\mathcal{L}^-$  do appear in the bodies of clauses (1) to (12). Therefore, whatever stable model of the extended program we consider, its trace on the set of ground atoms of  $\mathcal{L}^-$  will be  $M^-$ . In particular, the meaning of the predicates of the language  $\mathcal{L}^-$  listed above will always be the same.

We are now ready to write the additional clauses which, together with the program  $P^-$ , will form the desired program  $Q_{a,e}$ . First of all, we select three new unary predicates:

- (i)  $path(\cdot)$ , whose intended interpretation in any given stable model  $M$  of  $Q_{a,e}$  is that it holds only on the set of codes of sequences that lie on an infinite path through  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$  that starts with 0. This path will correspond to the path encoded by the stable model of  $M$ ,
- (ii)  $notpath(\cdot)$ , whose intended interpretation in any stable model  $M$  of  $Q_{a,e}$  is the set of all codes of sequences which are in  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$  but do not satisfy  $path(\cdot)$ , and
- (iii)  $control(\cdot)$ , which will be used to ensure that  $path(\cdot)$  always encodes an infinite path through  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$ .

Next we include the same seven sets of clauses as we did in Theorem 1.1 to make sure that stable models  $Q_{a,e}$  code paths through the tree  $T_e$  which sit above the node 0. This requires that we modify those clauses so that we restrict ourselves to the sequences that satisfy  $first0(X)$ .

This given, the first seven clauses of our program are the following.

- (1)  $path(X) \leftarrow first0(X), tree(X), \neg notpath(X)$
- (2)  $notpath(X) \leftarrow first0(X), tree(X), \neg path(X)$
- (3)  $path(c(0)) \leftarrow$
- (4)  $notpath(X) \leftarrow first0(X), tree(X), path(Y),$   
 $first0(Y), tree(Y), sameLength(X, Y), diff(X, Y)$
- (5)  $notpath(X) \leftarrow first0(X), tree(X), first0(Y), tree(Y), path(Y),$   
 $shorter(Y, X), notincluded(Y, X)$
- (6)  $control(X) \leftarrow first0(Y), path(Y), length(Y, X)$
- (7)  $control(X) \leftarrow greater0(X), num(X), \neg control(X)$

Next we add the clauses involving an additional predicate  $in(X)$  which is used to ensure that the final program  $Q_{a,e}$  has the *a.a. FS* property if and only if the tree  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$  is nearly bounded.

- (8)  $path(0) \leftarrow$

- (9)  $\text{notpath}(X) \leftarrow \text{notfirst0}(X), \text{tree}(X)$
- (10)  $\text{in}(X) \leftarrow \text{notfirst0}(X), \text{tree}(X), \text{length12}(X)$
- (11)  $\text{in}(X) \leftarrow \text{notfirst0}(X), \text{tree}(X), \text{length3}(X), \text{third0}(X),$   
 $\text{notfirst0}(Y), \text{tree}(Y), \text{length3}(Y), \text{notthird0}(Y), \neg \text{in}(Y),$
- (12)  $\text{control}(0) \leftarrow$

Clearly,  $Q_{a,e} = P^- \cup \{(1), \dots, (12)\}$  is a finite predicate logic program.

As in the proof of Theorem 1.1, we can establish a “normal form” for the stable models of  $Q_{a,e}$ . Each such model must contain  $M^-$ , the least model of  $P^-$ . In fact, the restriction of a stable model of  $P_T$  to  $H(P^-)$  is  $M^-$ . Given any  $\beta = (0, \beta(1), \beta(2), \dots) \in \omega^\omega$ , we let

$$\begin{aligned}
M_\beta = \quad & M^- \cup \{\text{control}(n) : n \in \omega\} \cup \{\text{path}(0)\} \\
& \cup \{\text{path}(c((0, \beta(1), \dots, \beta(n)))) : n \geq 1\} \\
& \cup \{\text{notpath}(c(\sigma)) : \sigma \in T_{\psi(a,e)} \text{ and } \sigma \not\prec \beta\} \\
& \cup \{\text{in}(c((m, n))) : m > 0 \text{ and } n \geq 0\} \\
& \cup \{\text{in}(c((m, n, 0))) : m > 0 \text{ and } n \geq 0\}.
\end{aligned}$$

We claim that  $M$  is a stable model of  $Q_{a,e}$  if and only if  $M = M_\beta$  for some  $\beta \in [T_{\psi(a,e)}]$ .

First, let us consider the effect of the clauses (8)-(12). Clearly, clause (8) forces that  $\text{path}(0)$  must be in every stable model of  $Q_{a,e}$  and the clauses in (9) force that  $\text{notpath}(c(\sigma))$  is in every stable model of  $Q_{a,e}$  for all  $\sigma \in T_{\psi(a,e)}$  which do not start with 0. Since all the clauses (1)-(6) require  $\text{first0}(c(\sigma))$  to be true, the only minimal  $Q_{a,e}$ -proof schemes for  $\text{notpath}(c(\sigma))$  for  $\sigma \in T_{\psi(a,e)}$  which do not start with 0 must use the Horn clause of type (9). Thus the minimal  $Q_{a,e}$ -proof schemes with conclusion  $\text{notpath}(c(\sigma))$  where  $\sigma$  does not start with 0 consist of the set of pairs of a minimal  $P^-$ -proof schemes of  $\text{tree}(c(\sigma))$  followed by the tuple  $\langle c(\sigma), (9)^* \rangle$  where  $(9)^*$  is the ground instance of (9) where  $X$  is replaced by  $c(\sigma)$ . Thus support of such a proof-scheme is  $\emptyset$ . Thus all the minimal  $Q_{a,e}$ -proof schemes of  $\text{notpath}(c(\sigma))$ , where  $\sigma$  does not start with 0, have empty support. Similarly,  $\text{in}(c(\sigma))$  can be derived only using clause (10) if  $\sigma$  has length 1 or 2 so that all minimal  $Q_{a,e}$ -proof schemes of  $\text{in}(c(\sigma))$ , where  $\sigma$  has length 1 or 2, have empty support. Clause (12) is the only way to derive  $\text{control}(0)$  so that the only minimal  $Q_{a,e}$ -proof scheme of  $\text{control}(0)$  uses clause (12) and has empty support.

The only way to derive  $\text{in}(\sigma)$  for  $\sigma$  of length 3 is via an instance of clause (11). Such clauses will allow us to derive  $\text{in}(c((m, n, 0)))$  for any  $m > 0$  and  $n \geq 0$  with a proof scheme whose support is of the form  $\{\text{in}(c((m, n, p)))\}$  for some  $p > 0$  where  $(m, n, p) \in T_{\psi(a,e)}$ . Since we always put  $(m, n, 1) \in T_{\psi(a,e)}$ , there is at least one such proof scheme but there could be infinitely many of such proof schemes if  $(m, n, p) \in T_{\psi(a,e)}$  for infinitely many  $p > 0$ . It then follows from our definition of  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$  that there will be finitely many  $m > 0$  and  $n \geq 0$  such that  $\text{in}(c((m, n, 0)))$  has infinitely many proof schemes if and only if the tree  $\text{NotFirst0}(T_{\psi(a,e)})$  is nearly bounded, which occurs if and only if

$a \in S$ . Now, if  $T_e$  is bounded, then we can use the same argument that we used in Theorem 1.1 to show that there are only finitely many minimal  $Q_{a,e}$ -proofs schemes for the ground instances of predicates in the heads of such clauses for  $\sigma \in T_{a,e}$  that start with 0. It follows that if  $T_e$  is bounded, then  $a \in S$  if and only if  $Q_{a,e}$  has the *a.a.* *FS* property.

We can use the same arguments that we used in Theorem 1.1 to show that the clauses (1)-(7) force that the only stable models of  $Q_{a,e}$  are  $M_\beta$  where  $\beta = (0, \beta(1), \beta(2), \dots) \in \omega^\omega$  and  $(\beta(1), \beta(2), \dots) \in [T_e]$ . The only difference is that the clause (12) allows us to derive *control*(0) directly. Thus if  $T_e$  is bounded, then there will be an effective one-to-one degree preserving correspondence between  $Stab(Q_{a,e})$  and  $[T_{\psi(a,e)}]$  and  $Q_{a,e}$  has the *a.a.* *FS* property if and only if  $a \in S$ .

The  $\Sigma_4^0$ -completeness results for the remaining parts of theorem can all be proved by the following type argument. Suppose, for example, that we want to prove that

$$A = \{e : Q_e \text{ has the } a.a. \text{ } FS \text{ property and } Stab(Q_e) \\ \text{is nonempty and recursively empty}\}$$

is  $\Sigma_4^0$ -complete. Then we know that there exists a recursively bounded tree  $T$  which is nonempty but which has no recursive paths (Jockusch and Soare [18].) Thus let us fix  $e$  such that  $T_e$  is recursively bounded and  $[T_e]$  is nonempty and has no recursive elements. Then for our  $\Sigma_4^0$  predicate  $S$ , we have the property that  $a \in S$  if and only if  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$  is nearly bounded and  $[T_{\psi(a,e)}]$  is nonempty and has no recursive elements. But then  $T_{\psi(a,e)}$  is nearly bounded and  $[T_{\psi(a,e)}]$  is nonempty and has no recursive elements if and only if  $Q_{a,e}$  is *a.a.* bounded and  $Stab(Q_{a,e})$  is nonempty and has no recursive elements. Now if  $g$  is the recursive function such that  $Q_{g(a)} = Q_{a,e}$ , then  $a \in S$  if and only if  $g(a) \in A$ . Thus  $A$  is complete for  $\Sigma_4^0$  sets.  $\square$

## 6 Conclusions

In this paper, we have determined the complexity of various index sets associated with properties of the set of stable models of finite normal logic programs. In particular, we determined the complexity of the index sets associated with various properties on the cardinality or recursive cardinality of the set of stable models of a program relative to all finite normal predicate logic programs as well as to all finite predicate logic programs that have the *FS* (rec. *FS*, *a.a.* *FS*, *a.a.* rec. *FS*) property. The results of this paper refine and extend earlier results on index sets for finite predicate logic programs that appeared in [25].

In most cases, we showed that the problem of finding the complexity of such index sets can be reduced to problem of finding the corresponding complexity of an index set associated with the cardinality or recursive cardinality of the set of infinite paths through primitive recursive trees, bounded primitive recursive trees, and recursively bounded primitive recursive trees. However, due to the fact that there is no analogue of the compactness theorem for the stable model

semantics of logic programs, there are a few cases where there is a difference between the complexity of an index set associated with the property of logic programs which have no stable models and the corresponding index set associated with the property of primitive recursive trees which have no infinite paths.

Nevertheless, we have shown that there is a close connection with the problem of finding stable models of finite predicate logic programs and the problem of finding infinite paths through primitive recursive trees. In fact, our original definitions of the finite support property and recursive finite support property were motivated by trying to find the analogue in logic programs of bounded and recursively bounded trees. Moreover, in this paper, we defined the new concept of decidable logic programs based on finding an analogue of decidable trees. Thus while the computation of the stable model semantics of logic programs may, at the first glance, look different from the classical Turing-machine based computations, our results show once more the unity of underlying concepts and abstractions so beneficial to both Computer Science and Computability Theory.

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