

# Complexity Theory

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## ALGORITHMS AND PROBLEMS

①

Aim: understand what makes certain problems difficult to solve algorithmically - requires inordinate time and memory space.

### Sorting

$f = O(g)$  if  $\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ , const  $c$  st  $n > n_0, f(n) \leq cg(n)$

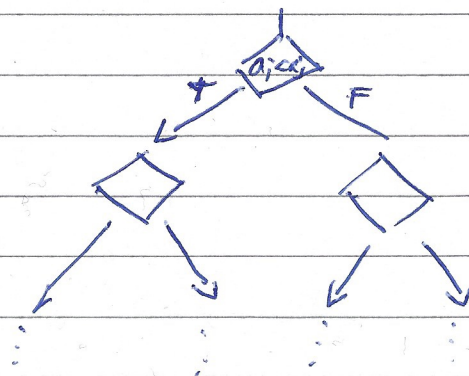
$f = \Omega(g)$  if  $\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ , const  $c$  st  $n > n_0, f(n) \geq cg(n)$

$f = \Theta(g)$  if  $f = O(g)$  and  $f = \Omega(g)$

Establishing lower bound:

↳ Assume numbers all distinct  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$

↳ At each branch point, boolean decision - can be represented by computation tree



↳  $n!$  different ways that initial collection presented.

Therefore,  $n!$  leaves

↳ binary tree with  $n!$  leaves has ordering  $\log_2(n!)$

$$\log(n!) = \log(n) + \log(n-1) + \dots + \log(1)$$

$$< \log(n) + \log(n) + \dots + \log(n) = n \log n = O(n \log n)$$

$$\text{AND } > \log(n/2) + \log(n/2) + \dots + \log(n/2) = n/2 \log(n/2) = \Omega(n \log n)$$

$$\therefore \log(n!) = \Theta(n \log n)$$

### Travelling Salesmen Problem

Given set  $V$  of vertices, along with cost matrix  $c: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , giving for each pair of vertices a positive integer cost, in order to minimise the total cost

②

$$c(v_n, v_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c(v_i, v_{i+1})$$

In same way as sorting, trying to find possible ordering  
 $\Rightarrow \Omega(n \log n)$ . However, best known upper bound is  $O(2^n n^2)$

### Turing Machines

$Q$  - finite state of states

$\Sigma$  - finite state of symbols (disjoint from  $Q$ ) - contains blank -  $\sqcup$  and left end marker  $\triangleright$

$s \in Q$  - initial state

$\delta: (Q \times \Sigma) \rightarrow Q \cup \{\text{acc, rej}\} \times \Sigma \times \{L, R, S\}$  - transition funct  
 left, right, stationary

$(q, w, v)$  - configuration = machine in state  $q$  ~~instating~~ with string  $wv$  on tape and head pointing to last symbol in  $w$ .

Computation: proceeding through series of configurations - specified by transition function  $\delta$ :

$$(q, w, v) \rightarrow_M (q', w', v')$$

if (1)  $w = va$ ; (2)  $\delta(q, a) = (q', b, D)$  and (3)  $D = L \wedge$

$w' = v, v' = bv$  OR  $D = S$  and  $w' = vb$  and  $v' = v$

OR  $D = R$  and  $w' = vbc$  and  $v' = x$  where  $v^* = cax$ . If

$v$  empty  $w' = vb \sqcup$  and  $v'$  empty

$\rightarrow_M^*$  is reflexive and transitive closure of  $\rightarrow_M$

Each machine  $M$  defines language  $L(M) \subseteq \Sigma^*$  which it accepts

$\hookrightarrow L(M) = \{x \mid (s, \triangleright, x) \rightarrow_M^* (\text{acc}, w, v) \text{ for some } w, v\}$

$\hookrightarrow$  strings excluded in  $L(M)$  include those which reach rej and those that lead to machine running forever.

③

① Recursively Enumerable:  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  is if it is  $L(M)$  for some  $M$ .

②  $\hookrightarrow$  also are semi-decidable - may not halt on strings not in language

② Decidable:  $L$  decidable if  $L(M)$  for some machine  $M$  which halts on every input

③ Computable: function  $f: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$  computable if machine  $M$  st  $\forall x (s, \triangleright, x) \rightarrow_m^* (acc, f(x), \epsilon)$

Example: Halting Problem is recursively enumerable but not decidable. If  $[M]$  denotes string representing machine  $M$ , then problem  $H$  is defined:

$$H = \{ [M], x \mid M \text{ halts on input } x \}$$

Can also have Turing Machines with multiple tapes

### Complexity

For machine  $M$ , running time of  $M$  is  $r: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  st  $r(n)$  is length of longest halting computation of  $M$  on input of length  $n$ .  $r(n) = 0$  if  $M$  does not halt on input of length  $n$ .

For function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , say that language  $L \in \text{TIME}(f(n))$  if  $\exists$  machine  $M$  st: (1)  $L = L(M)$ ; (2) Running time of  $M$  is  $O(f(n))$

$\text{SPACE}(f(n))$ : languages accepted by a machine which uses at most  $O(f(n))$  tape cells on inputs of length  $n$ .

$\hookrightarrow$  tape cells of the work tape

Can be shown <sup>(or 1 tape)</sup> two-tape (read-only and work) Turing Machine simulates all other forms of computation - at worst, polynomial factor increase in time and space complexity

Church-Turing thesis: Any two reasonable models of computation are polynomially equivalent

④

Decidability and Complexity: every decidable language has a time complexity

↳ Machine  $M$  of  $L = L(M)$  and  $M$  halts on all inputs and  $f$  is function mapping  $n$  to max number of steps taken by  $M$  on all possible strings of length  $n$ .

Can construct algorithm given  $n$  that simulates  $M$  on all possible ~~strings~~ strings of length  $n$ . - since  $M$  halts on all inputs, this terminates

But for semi-decidable language this is not true as  $f$  is not a computable function ( $\nexists$  computable function st  $f = O(g)$ )

↳ Say  $\exists f$  that is computable that  $\forall x \in L, |x| = n, M$  accepts  $x$  in at most  $f(n)$  steps. Can then construct machine  $M'$  that accepts  $L$  and always halts:  $M'$  (input  $x$ ) takes length  $n$  of  $x$  and computes  $f(n)$  - then simulates  $M$   $f(n)$  time - if acceptance,  $M'$  accepts. If not rejected. Hence  $M'$  halts for all inputs and accepts the same as  $M$  - therefore contradiction as  $L$  is not decidable

Non-determinism: If make  $\delta$  not a function but an arbitrary relation (multiple possible outputs) obtain non-deterministic Turing machine. (Can be pictured as a tree of successive configurations). A deterministic TM can simulate a non-deterministic TM by carrying out BFS on computation tree until accepting configuration is found. However, not clear that simulation can be carried out in polynomial time

↳ need to find that height of computation tree on input string  $x$  is bounded by polynomial  $p(|x|)$  - in actuality it is  $O(2^{c|x|})$  for some constant  $c$ .

### Complexity Classes

Collection of languages - specified by three things

↳ ① model of computation

↳ ② resource (time, space, etc)

↳ ③ set of bounds

⑤ If considering deterministic machines, if choose function to be broad enough languages included in complexity class does not depend on model of computation

↳ true for polynomial but not linear

$$P = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \text{TIME}(n^k) \rightarrow \text{problems decidable in polynomial time.}$$

Tractable = in P (for languages) - P is problems that are feasibly computable

### EXAMPLE PROBLEMS

Reachability: Given directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  and two nodes  $a, b \in V$  want to know if there is a path from  $a$  to  $b$  in  $G$ . Algorithm is as follows:

- ↳ ① mark node  $a$ , all other nodes unmarked and initialise set  $S$  to  $\{a\}$
- ↳ ② while  $S$  not empty: (1) choose node  $i$  in  $S$ , (2) remove  $i$  from  $S$  and (3)  $\forall j$  st  $\exists$  edge  $(i, j) \wedge j$  is unmarked, (4) mark  $j$  and (5) add  $j$  to  $S$
- ↳ ③ if  $b$  is marked, accept, else reject

Time: This is  $O(n^2)$  - each edge examined once  $\rightarrow$  in polynomial time. <sup>(P)</sup>  
Space: Only need two sets in workspace -  $S$  and marked vertices - each  $n$  bits therefore  $O(n)$   $\{ \text{SPACE}(n) \}$

### Euclid's Algorithm:

RelPrime =  $\{ (x, y) \mid \text{gcd}(x, y) = 1 \}$

Algorithm:

↳ Input  $(x, y)$

↳ ~~Repeat~~ while  $y \neq 0$ :

$x \leftarrow x \bmod y$

swap  $x$  and  $y$

↳ if  $x = 1$ , accept else reject

length of input  $\overset{\text{bits}}{=} \log x + \log y$

repeated  $2 \log x$  times  
 $\therefore$  in P  $\{ \text{it is polynomial in length of input} \}$

⑥

Prime Numbers: PRIME =  $\{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \text{ is bin representation of a prime number}\}$

There is a polynomial time algorithm for solving this (AK method): embeds problem of checking primality into that of factoring polynomials. If  $a$  and  $p$  are co-prime then:

$$(x-a)^p \equiv (x^p - a) \pmod{p} \Leftrightarrow p \in P \text{ (primes)}$$

To check this requires exponential time but AKJ showed it was suitable to check it modulo a polynomial  $x^r - 1$  for suitable small values of  $r$ .

Boolean Expressions: set of expressions formed from infinite set  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$  of variables and  $\{\text{true, false}\}$  by following rules:

- ① const or variable is an expression
- ②  $\phi$  is boolean expression  $\Leftrightarrow \neg \phi$
- ③ if  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  both both boolean expressions so are  $(\phi \wedge \psi)$  and  $(\phi \vee \psi)$

It contains variable, true or false for a given truth assignment  
each scan is  $O(n)$

Evaluation Algorithm: scan input looking for subexpressions that match LHS of set of rules and replace with what it maps to  $- O(n^2)$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  max of  $n$  times

Circuit Value Problem: directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  with  $V = \{1, \dots, n\}$  with labelling  $l: V \rightarrow \{\text{true, false}\}, \vee, \wedge, \neg$ , satisfying:

- ① If edge  $(i, j) \Rightarrow i < j$
- ② Every node in  $V$  has indegree at most 2
- ③ Node  $v$  has: indegree 0  $\Leftrightarrow l(v) \in \{\text{true, false}\}$   
indegree 1  $\Leftrightarrow l(v) = \neg$   
indegree 2  $\Leftrightarrow l(v) \in \{\wedge, \vee\}$

Can be used to represent arbitrary Boolean expressions. The problem (find val of result node) is solvable in polynomial time.

⑦ Satisfiability: is there a truth assignment that makes a Boolean expression true.

SAT: set of all satisfiable Boolean expressions - language has time complexity  $O(2^n n^2)$

$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
n of possible assignments see if resulting expression is true

VAL: set of valid expressions (all truth assignments make it true) -  $O(2^n n^2)$

Hamiltonian Graphs:  $G$  is Hamiltonian if it has a Hamiltonian cycle - path starting and ending at same vertex and every node appears on cycle exactly once - this is an NP problem.

Graph Isomorphism: Given two graphs  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ , they are isomorphic if  $\exists$  bijection  $\iota: V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  st  $\forall u, v \in V_1$ :  
 $(u, v) \in E_1 \iff (\iota(u), \iota(v)) \in E_2$

At a first glance - using naive method of trying all possible bijections, would take  $O(n!)$  where  $n$  is number of vertices in each graph

### NONDETERMINISTIC POLYNOMIAL TIME

Language  $L$  in NP is one that can be solved by algorithm in two steps: (1) Prover and (2) Verifier (Generate and Test)

deterministic algorithm st  
 $L = \{x \mid (x, c) \text{ accepted by } V \text{ for some } c\}$

If  $V$  runs in time polynomial in length of  $x$ ,  $L$  is polynomially verifiable.

$\text{NTIME}(f)$  denotes class of language  $L$  are accepted by nondeterministic TM  $M$  st  $\forall x \in L$  of length  $n$ ,  $\exists$  computation that is accepted of  $M$  on  $x$  of length  $> f(n)$

$$\text{NP} = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \text{NTIME}(n^k)$$
 equiv to  $L$  being polynomially verifiable



⑧

Nondeterministic algorithm that accepts language  $L$ .

① input  $x$  of length  $n$

② nondeterministically guess  $c$  (algorithm writes string of length  $p(n)$  on tape - nondeterministic choice at each step of which symbol to write on tape) of length  $\leq p(n)$

③ run  $N$  on  $(x, c)$

For every string  $c$  of length at most  $p(n)$   $\exists$  computation sequence that results in  $c$  being written on string

Suppose (1)  $M$  is nondeterministic machine that accepts  $L$  and runs in time  $p(n)$  and (2) in any configuration,  $\exists \leq k$  possible next configurations.

$\exists$  Deterministic algorithm  $V$  that takes input  $(x, c)$  and does the follows: at  $i^{\text{th}}$  nondeterministic choice point,  $V$  looks  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} c \text{ is string of length } p(n) \\ \text{over } k\text{-letter alphabet} \end{array} \right.$  at  $i^{\text{th}}$  character in  $c$  to decide which branch to follow. If  $M$  accepts, then  $V$  accepts, else it rejects.  $\therefore V$  is polynomial verifier for  $L$ .

Reductions (used to establish undecidability of languages)

Given two languages  $L_1 \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$  and  $L_2 \subseteq \Sigma_2^*$ , a reduction of  $L_1$  to  $L_2$  is function (computable)  $f: \Sigma_1^* \rightarrow \Sigma_2^*$  st  $\forall$  string  $x \in \Sigma_1^*$ ,  $f(x) \in L_2 \iff x \in L_1$

① If there is a reduction from  $L_1$  to  $L_2$  and  $L_2$  is decidable, then  $L_1$  is as well. / if  $L_2$  is undecidable, then  $L_1$  is also undecidable

Resource-Bounded Reductions: When concerned about polynomial time computability rather than be computed within bounded resources. If  $f$  is reduction from  $L_1$  to  $L_2$  and  $f$  is computable by algorithm running in polynomial time,  $L_1$  is polynomial time reducible to  $L_2$ :  
 $L_1 \leq_p L_2 \Rightarrow L_2$  is at least as hard as  $L_1$  ( $L_1 \leq_p L_2 \wedge L_2 \in P \Rightarrow L_1 \in P$ )

Can compose algorithm computing reduction with decision procedure for  $L_2$

④ to get a polynomial time decision procedure for  $L_1$ , string  $f(x)$  produced by reduction  $f$  on input  $x$  ~~bound~~ must be bounded in length by polynomial in length of  $x$  - hence  $L_2$  decision procedure runs <sup>on input  $f(x)$</sup>  runs in time polynomial in length of  $x$ .

### NP-Completeness

NP-Hard: language  $L$  is NP-hard if for every language  $A \in NP$ ,  $A \leq_p L$  [N.B.  $\leq_p$  is transitive]

NP-Complete: language  $L$  is NP-complete if in NP and is NP-hard

Showing SAT is NP-complete: RTP:  $\forall$  languages  $L \in NP$ ,  $\exists$  polynomial time reduction from  $L$  to SAT.

$L \notin NP$  so  $\exists$  machine  $M = (Q, \Sigma, s, \delta)$  and polynomial  $p$  st  $x$  is in  $L$  if accepted by  $M$  within  ~~$p(|x|)$~~  steps  $\equiv n^k$

Construct  $f(x)$  using following variables

STATE  $\hookrightarrow S_{i,q}$  for each  $i \leq n^k$  and  $q \in Q$ : true if machine at time  $i$  in state  $q$

TAPE  $\hookrightarrow T_{i,j,\sigma}$  for each  $i, j \leq n^k$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ : true if at time  $i$ , symbol at position  $j$  is  $\sigma$

HEAD  $\hookrightarrow H_{i,j}$  for each  $i, j \leq n^k$ : true if head pointing at  $j$  at time  $i$ .

$$\text{Total number of variables} = |Q|n^k + |\Sigma|n^{2k} + n^{2k}$$

$f(x)$  built as conjunction of

- ①  $S_{1,s} \wedge H_{1,1}$  (Start)
- ②  $\bigwedge_i \bigwedge_j (H_{i,j} \rightarrow \bigwedge_{j' \neq j} (\neg H_{i,j'}))$  (head never in two places)
- ③  $\bigwedge_i \bigwedge_j \bigwedge_{\sigma \neq \tau} (T_{i,j,\sigma} \rightarrow \bigwedge_{\sigma' \neq \sigma} (\neg T_{i,j,\sigma'}))$  (each tape cell ~~never in two~~ contains ~~at most~~ one symbol)
- ④  $\bigwedge_i \bigwedge_j \bigwedge_{q \neq r} (\neg S_{i,q} \rightarrow \bigwedge_{q' \neq q} (\neg S_{i,q'}))$  (never in two states)
- ⑤  $\bigwedge_{j \leq n} T_{1,j,x_j} \wedge \bigwedge_{n < j} T_{1,j,\epsilon}$  (at time 1, tape contains string  $x$  in first  $n$  cells and is blank after that)

(10)

$$\textcircled{6} \bigwedge_i \bigwedge_j \bigwedge_{j' \neq j} \bigwedge_{\sigma} (H_{i,j} \wedge T_{i,j',\sigma}) \rightarrow T_{i+1,j,\sigma}$$

(tape only changes under the head)

If head at time  $i$  is at position  $j$  and at the same position  $j'$  on the tape ( $j \neq j'$ ) contains  $\sigma$ , then  $j'$  still contains  $\sigma$  at time  $i+1$

gives all of these, can always

write Boolean expr

that is satisfiable iff  $\textcircled{7} \Delta = \text{set of triples } (q', \sigma', D) \text{ st } (q, \sigma), (q', \sigma', D) \in \delta$   
 any nondeterministic machine  $M$  accepts

$$\text{and } j' = \begin{cases} j & \text{if } D = S \\ j-1 & \text{if } D = L \\ j+1 & \text{if } D = R \end{cases}$$

scr in time

$$p(|x|) \quad \bigwedge_i \bigwedge_j \bigwedge_{\sigma} \bigwedge_q (H_{i,j} \wedge S_{i,q} \wedge T_{i,j,\sigma}) \rightarrow \bigvee_{\Delta} (H_{i+1,j'} \wedge$$

Therefore straight forward

to check that expr can

be constructed in time

polynomial in  $|x|$

$$S_{i+1,q'} \wedge T_{i+1,j,\sigma'})$$

asserts that change from time step  $i$  to  $i+1$  for each  $i$  according to transition relation  $\delta$ . If at time  $i$ , head position  $j$ , state  $q$  and symbol  $\sigma$  then state  $q'$  and head position  $j'$  at time  $i+1$  and symbol at  $j$  at time  $i+1$  is obtainable from one of transitions allowed by  $\delta$

$$\textcircled{8} \bigvee_i S_{i,acc} \quad (\text{at some point at time } i, \text{ accepting state is reached})$$

Conjunctive Normal Form is conjunction of set of clauses, each a disjunction of literals (variable or negation of variable). Each Boolean Expression is equivalent to CNF form (through repeated laws of distribution, ~~and~~ DeMorgan's Laws and law of double negation)

Algorithm for converting boolean expression to CNF is non-polynomial - because there are (as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ) expressions  $\phi$  of length  $n$  st the shortest CNF expression equivalent to  $\phi$  has length  $\Omega(2^n)$ . However, can use above reduction from any language in NP to SAT there is already a polynomial time algorithm to convert into CNF expressions - rewrite above rules in CNF and done.

(ii) Hence for every language in NP,  $\exists$  a polynomial time computable function  $f$  st  $f(x)$  is a CNF expression for all  $x$  and  $f(x)$  is satisfiable  $\Leftrightarrow x \in L$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  CNF-SAT is NP-complete

3CNF - in CNF and each clause is disjunction no more than 3 literals  
 $\forall$  CNF expression  $\phi$ ,  $\exists$  expression  $\phi'$  in 3CNF st  $\phi'$  is satisfiable iff  $\phi$  is (and  $\exists$  algorithm (in polynomial time) to convert  $\phi$  to  $\phi'$ )

Hence ~~3SAT~~ ~~CNF-SAT~~  $\leq_p$  3SAT  $\Rightarrow$  3SAT is NP-complete

### NP-Complete Problems

#### Graph Problems

IND = the set of pairs  $(G, K)$  where  $G$  is a graph and  $K$  is an integer st  $G$  contains an independent set with  $> K$  vertices - converted into problem by setting target size in input.

Independent set:  $X \subseteq V$  is independent set if no edges  $(u, v)$  in  $E$  for any  $u, v \in X$

This is in NP - nondeterministically generate an arbitrary subset of vertices and in polynomial time check (1)  $> K$  vertices and (2) independent set.

Can show NP-complete by finding reduction from 3SAT to IND: map Boolean expression  $\phi$  in 3CNF with  $m$  clauses to pair  $(G, m)$  where  $G$  is a graph and  $m$  is target size:

$\hookrightarrow G$  contains  $m$  triangles (one per clause) with each node representing one literal in clause - edge between two nodes of different triangles if they represent negated literals of one another

Need to show: (1) transformation with polynomial time algorithm, (2)  $G$  has independent set  $\Leftrightarrow \phi$  is satisfiable

(12)

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Assume  $\phi$  is satisfiable

Let  $t$  be satisfying truth assignment. For each clause in  $\phi$ , pick one literal satisfied by  $t$  with  $x$  being corresponding vertex. - this has no two edges in a triangle and nothing from  $a$  to  $\neg a$ .  $\therefore$  this is an independent set

( $\Rightarrow$ )  $G$  has independent set with  $m$  vertices. Let  $X$  be an independent set. Must contain exactly one vertex from each triangle. Generate truth assignment ~~reversing~~ using the vertices  $\&$   $\therefore$  done

Clique: subset  $X \subseteq V$  if  $\forall u, v \in X \quad (u, v) \in E$ . Can make this into a decision problem, called CLIQUE: set of pairs  $(G, K)$ ,  $G$  is a graph,  $K$  is an integer st  $G$  contains a clique with  $\geq K$  vertices

$\exists$  algorithm that takes  $(G, K)$  guesses subset  $X$  of vertices of  $G$  containing  $K$  elements and then verifies that it forms a clique

Can show  $IND \leq_p$  CLIQUE by reduction that maps  $(G, K)$  to  $(\bar{G}, K)$  - any clique is now an independent set.  $\therefore$  NP-complete.

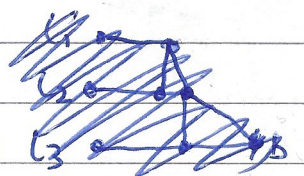
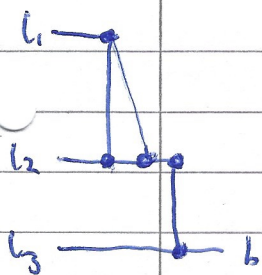
Graph Colourability: if  $G$  is  $k$ -colourable  $\exists$  function

$$X: V \rightarrow \{1, \dots, k\} \text{ st } \forall u, v \in E \\ \text{(no neighbouring edges are the same colour)} \quad X(u) \neq X(v)$$

Therefore, decision problem for each  $k$ : given  $G=(V, E)$ , is it  $k$ -colourable. For  $k > 2$ , this is NP-complete (for example 3-colourability is NP-complete) - checking is clearly polynomial while generation is nonpolynomial so is NP

Can show 3SAT  $\leq_p$  3-colourability 'map as follows':

- (1) 2 special vertices:  $a$  and  $b$
- (2) vertex for each  $x$  and  $\neg x$
- (3) triangle of edges between  $x, \neg x$  and  $a$  and  $b$  connected
- (4) For each clause, five new vertices as follows



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Hence, RTP  $G$  is 3-colourable  $\Leftrightarrow \phi$  is satisfiable

$\Rightarrow \hookrightarrow$   $a$  must be assigned a colour <sup>(say  $R$ )</sup>  $b$  is a different colour.  $x$  and  $\neg x$  are  $B$  and  $G$

$\hookrightarrow$  Valid truth assignment if  $x$  is  $B$  everywhere

$\Leftarrow \hookrightarrow$  can obtain valid 3-colouring by setting all vertices  $B$  if true and  $G$  if false.

$\hookrightarrow$  show by showing cases on the gadget on previous page

Hamiltonian Graphs: since verification is clearly polynomial - it is in NP

$3SAT \leq_p HAM$  - this can be shown by showing  $\phi \equiv$  Graph  $G$  st every satisfying assignment corresponds to a Hamiltonian cycle

TSP: first need to make this a decision problem by setting target for the cost of the tour - show it as NP hard by

$HAM \leq_p TSP$  through the following reduction:  
Maps graph  $G = (V, E) \rightarrow (V, c: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}, n)$  where  $n$  is number of vertices in  $V$  and cost matrix is:

$$c(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (u, v) \in E \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If total cost  $= n$  then within budget - hence can show Hamiltonian cycle and conversely if Hamiltonian cycle in graph  $G$ , clearly a way of touring with total cost  $n$ .

### SETS, NUMBERS AND SCHEDULING

3D-Matching: 3D extension of (bipartite matching problem): defined as problem of determining given two sets  $B$  and  $G$  of equal size and set  $M \subseteq B \times G$  of pairs whether  $\exists$  matching (subset  $M' \subseteq M$  st each element of  $B$  and  $G$  appear in a single pair) - solvable by polynomial time

(14)

3D matching defined by:

- ↳ Given three disjoint sets  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  and set of triple  $M \subseteq X \times Y \times Z$ , does  $M$  contain a matching - is there a subset  $M'$  st each element of  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  appears in one triplet of  $M'$

Can prove NP-~~complete~~<sup>hard</sup> by reduction from 3SAT

- ↳ Given  $\phi$  in 3CNF with  $m$  clauses and  $n$  variables.

- ↳ For each variable  $v$ , we include in the set  $X$ ,  $m$  distinct elements  $x_{v_1}, x_{v_2}, \dots, x_{v_m}$  and in  $Y$ ;  $y_{v_1}, \dots, y_{v_m}$ . Also, include in  $Z$   $2m$  elements for each variable  $v$ :  $z_{v_1}, \dots, z_{v_m}, \bar{z}_{v_1}, \dots, \bar{z}_{v_m}$

- ↳ Hence, triples in  $M$  are  $(x_{v_i}, y_{v_i}, z_{v_i})$  and  $(x_{v_i}, y_{v_i}, \bar{z}_{v_i})$  for  $i < m$  (and for  $i=m$   $y_{v_i}$  is set as  $y_v$ )

- ↳ For each clause  $c$  of  $\phi$ , we have elements  $x_c \in X$  and  $y_c \in Y$ .

- ↳ If for some variable  $v$ , the literal occurs in  $c$ , include the triple  $(x_c, y_c, z_{v_i})$  in  $M$

- ↳ If  $\neg v \in c$   $(x_c, y_c, \bar{z}_{v_i})$

- ↳ Add  $m(n-1)$  additional dummy elements to  $X$  and  $Y$  and include  $(x, y, z)$  in  $M$

RTP: matching  $\Leftrightarrow \phi$  is satisfiable

- $\Leftarrow \Rightarrow$  For matching  $\forall$  choose one of  $(x_{v_i}, y_{v_i}, z_{v_i})$  or  $(x_{v_i}, y_{v_i}, \bar{z}_{v_i})$  which constrain choice for all other  $x_{v_i}$  - only two ways of matching - use all  $z_{v_i}$  or  $\bar{z}_{v_i}$

- ↳ For variable set to true in satisfying truth assignment select all triplets of form  $(x_{v_i}, y_{v_i}, z_{v_i})$  and for false  $(x_{v_i}, y_{v_i}, \bar{z}_{v_i})$  (i) Hence if  $v$  true, element  $z_i$  can satisfy  $x_c$  and  $y_c$  for clauses where  $v$  is positive literal (2) If  $v$  false,  $\bar{z}_{v_i}$  available to satisfy  $\neg v \Rightarrow$  hence we have a matching

⑫  
Exact cover  
by 3-sets

Set Covering: Given set  $U$  with  $3n$  elements and collection  $S = \{S_1, \dots, S_m\}$  of three element subsets of  $U$  is there a ~~small~~ sub collection containing exactly  $n$  of these sets whose union is all of  $U$ .

Reduction from 3DM (matching), mapping instance of  $(X, Y, Z, M)$  of 3DM to pair  $(U, S)$  where  $U = X \cup Y \cup Z$  and  $S$  consists of three element sets  $\{x, y, z\}$  where  $(x, y, z) \in M$

Set Covering: Given set  $U$ , collection of  $S = \{S_1, \dots, S_m\}$  subset of  $U$  and integer budget  $B$  is there a collection of  $B$  sets in  $S$  whose union is  $U$

↳ solved by reduction from exact-cover by 3-sets, mapping  $(U, S)$  to  $(U, S, n)$  where  $3n$  is number of elements in  $U$

Knapsack: given  $n$  items each with positive integer <sup>(v<sub>i</sub>)</sup> value and weight  $w_i$ . Can we select subset of items whose weight does not exceed some max weight  $W$  and value  $>$  min value  $V$

Reduction from exact cover by 3-sets, mapping  $U = \{1, \dots, 3n\}$  and  $S = \{S_1, \dots, S_m\} \rightarrow m$  elements each corresponding to one  $S_i$  and having weight and value

$$\sum_{j \in S_i} (m+1)^{j-1}$$

and set target weight and value as

$$\sum_{j=0}^{3n-1} (m+1)^j$$

Represent subsets of  $U$  as strings of 0s and 1s of length  $3n$  - treat as representations of numbers in base  $m+1$ . Hence only way we can get target number (1 in all positions) is if union of the sets chosen is all of  $U$  and no element more than once - this is a specific instance of Knapsack where weight and val are equal - Subset Sum Problem



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Scheduling: Knapsack can be used to show scheduling problems are NP-complete

① Timetable Design

- ↳  $H$  is set of work periods
- ↳  $W$  is set of workers each with subset of  $H$
- ↳  $T$  is set of tasks and assignment  $r: W \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  of required work
- ↳ is there a mapping  $f: W \times T \times H \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  which completes all tasks

② Sequencing with Deadlines

- ↳  $T$  is set of tasks
- ↳ Length  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  for each task, release time  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  and a deadline  $d \in \mathbb{N}$
- ↳ is there a work schedule which completes task between release time and deadline
  - ↳ assignment to each task  $t \in T$  for which  $f(w, h, t) = 1$  and there is one only if  $w$  is available, a start time  $s(t)$  st  $s \geq r(t)$ , ~~and~~  $d(t) \geq s(t) + l(t)$  and st for any other  $t'$ ,  $s(t') \geq s(t) + l(t)$

③ Job Scheduling

- ↳ Given  $T$  is set of tasks + length ~~are~~  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  for each task
- ↳ number ( $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ) processors
- ↳ is there a multi-processor schedule which completes all tasks by the deadline

N.B. the following are no longer if only considering planar graphs (graphs with no intersecting edges): CLIQUE, 4-colourability (3-colourability is still NP-complete)

Approximation Algorithms: not guaranteed to be the best solution but will produce solution within known factor.

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Heuristics: Arise from limitations of application area and are used to cut down the search space

## CERTIFICATES, FUNCTION CLASSES & CRYPTOGRAPHY

Complexity classes defined in terms of nondeterministic machine models are not necessarily closed under complementation of languages (Eg  $\overline{VAL}$ )

Certificates: Language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  is NP iff expressed as  $L = \{x \mid \exists y R(x, y)\}$  where  $R$  is a relation on strings satisfying two conditions

↳ ①  $R$  is decidable in polynomial time by deterministic machine

↳ ②  $R$  is polynomially balanced -  $\exists$  polynomial  $p$  st  $R(x, y) \wedge \text{length}(x) = n \Rightarrow \text{length}(y) \leq p(n)$

If  $R(x, y)$  holds, say that  $y$  is a certificate of membership of  $x$  in  $L$  - if  $y$  is a solution to  $x$ .

Eg.  $L = SAT$  and  $x$  is a Boolean expression,  $y$  is assignment of truth values to variables of  $x$  and  $R(x, y)$  is relation that holds if  $y$  makes  $x$  true.

## co-NP

Defined as the complement of languages in NP - hence, if  $L$  is in co-NP,  $\exists$  relation  $S$  which is polynomial time decidable and polynomially balanced st  $\bar{L} = \{x \mid \exists y S(x, y)\} \equiv L = \{x \mid \forall y \neg S(x, y)\}$

Since  $P$  closed under complementation  $\neg S(x, y)$  is decidable in polynomial time  $\therefore$  co-NP is set of languages  $L$  for which  $\exists$  polynomial-time decidable relation  $R$  st:

$$L = \{x \mid \forall y |y| < p(|x|) \rightarrow R(x, y)\}$$

↳ co-NP is class of problem that is polynomially falsifiable

$$P \subseteq NP \cap \text{co-NP}$$

Language  $L$  is ~~not~~ co-NP-complete if  $L$  is in co-NP and for every language  $A \in \text{co-NP}$ ,  $A \leq_p L$

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↳ Complement of NP-complete language is co-NP-complete

↳ if  $f$  is reduction from  $L_1$  to  $L_2$ , then also the reduction of  $\bar{L}_1$  to  $\bar{L}_2$  as  $x \in \bar{L}_1 \Leftrightarrow x \notin L_1 \Leftrightarrow f(x) \notin L_2 \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in \bar{L}_2$

### Factorisation

Decision problem Factor consisting of pairs  $(x, k)$  st  $x$  has factor  $y$  with  $1 < y < k$ . If problem decidable in polynomial - implies we have an algorithm for constructing the prime factorisation of any number.

Factor is in  $NP \cap co-NP$ : a factor of  $x$  less than  $k$  is a certificate that  $(x, k)$  is a member of Factor. And in co-NP because succinct certificate of disqualification

### Graph Isomorphism

Easy to see if problem is in NP - since it is a succinct certificate. Has been shown as in quasi-polynomial time  ~~$O(n^{\log n})$~~   $O(n^{k \log n})$

### Function Classes

Have generally considered decision problems as just looking for the lower bound. However, useful to consider functions. While functions for deterministic machines are understood - harder for non-deterministic functions are harder since cannot determine the outputs string. Instead talk about complexity of the witness functions in NP

Witness Function for language  $L (= \{x \mid \exists y R(x, y)\})$

↳ Any function  $f$  st

↳  $\exists y x \in L \Rightarrow f(x) = y \wedge R(x, y)$

↳  $f(x) = \text{"no"}$  otherwise

FNP is collection of all witness functions for languages in NP. (If NP-complete problem had a polynomial time witness function, then  $P=NP$ ) Eg. Witness function for SAT would be one returns truth assignment or "no"

(19) Factorization function maps  $n$  to tuple  $(2, k_1; 3, k_2; \dots; p_m, k_m)$   
 where  $n = 2^{k_1} \cdot 3^{k_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_m^{k_m}$  - is in FNP since witness function  
 for trivial problem is NP-set of all positive integers

## CRYPTOGRAPHY

Aim: enable Alice to Bob to communicate without Eve being able to eavesdrop

private key system relies on keeping  $e$  and  $d$  secret.

- ↳  $e$  - encryption key;  $E(x, e)$  - encryption function
- ↳  $d$  - decryption key;  $D(y, d)$  - decryption function

Can say  $d=e$  and say  $D$  and  $E$  are  $\oplus$  functions - One Time Pad  
 - this is provably secure

Public Key Cryptography: key  $e$  is made public while  $d$  is kept secret.  $D$  and  $E$  must be computable in polynomial time. However function that maps  $E(x, e)$  to  $x$  without knowing  $d$  not computable in polynomial time. However, must be in FNP as witness function for  $\{y \mid \exists x E(x, e) = y\}$

Hence, not provably secure, relies on unproved hypothesis that  $\exists$  function is FNP not in FP

One Way Functions required for public-key cryptography, requires:

- ↳  $f$  is one-to-one - don't want two distinct plaintext to one encrypted
  - ↳ for each  $x$ ,  $|x|^{1/k} \leq |f(x)| \leq |x|^k$  for some  $k$
  - ↳  $f \in \text{FP}$
  - ↳  $f^{-1} \notin \text{FP}$
- } in order to have these two need to show  $P \neq \text{NP}$
- ↳ cannot result in more than polynomial increase in length of string

RSA: however, this function  $f(x, e, p, q) = (x^e \text{ mod } pq, pq, e)$   
 is good (public key =  $(pq, e)$ )

Unambiguous machine is one st for any input  $x$ , there is at most one accepting computation of the machine. UP is the class of

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languages accepted by unambiguous machines in polynomial time

$$UP = \{x \mid \exists y \underline{R(x,y)}\}$$

↳ ① polynomially time computable

↳ ② polynomially balanced

↳ ③  $\forall x \exists$  at most one  $y$  st  $R(x,y)$  ( $R$  is a partial function)

$P \subseteq UP \subseteq NP$  : is generally difficult to think of natural problems that are in  $UP$  but not in  $P$ . But, existence of one-way functions is equivalent to the statement that  $P \neq NP$   ~~$UP$~~

Proof : assume one-way function  $f$

$$L_f = \{x, y \mid \exists z (z \leq x \wedge f(z) = y)\}$$

$L_f$  is clearly in  $UP$  since  $f$  is one-to-one and there is a non-deterministic machine that recognizes it by guessing values for  $z$  then checking  $f(z) = y$

But, not in  $P$  as could then compute  $f^{-1}$  using binary search in  $P$  time

↳ given  $a, y$ ,  $\exists z$  st  $f(z) = y$  then  $z \leq 2^{k \log y}$  by  
② (polynomial length in  $x$ )

↳ So can find  $z$  using binary search making  $(\log y)^k$  calls - polynomial time

Can also show if language  $L$  in  $UP$  but not in  $P$ , <sup>and  $U$  is machine accepting</sup> ~~exists~~  $f$  function  $f_U$  : if  $x$  is string that encodes computation of  $U$ , then  $f_U(x) = 1y$  where  $y$  is input string accepted by this computation else  $f_U(x) = 0x$

↳  $f_U$  is one-to-one because machine is unambiguous

$\Rightarrow$  given  $y$  has one accepting combination

↳  $f_U$  is in  $FP$  and  $f_U^{-1} \in FP \Rightarrow L \in P$  hence  $f_U^{-1} \notin NP$

②

## SPACE COMPLEXITY

$SPACE(f(n))$ : languages accepted by machine which uses at most  $O(f(n))$  tape cells (of work tape)

$NSPACE(f(n))$ : class of languages accepted by nondeterministic machine that uses at most  $O(f(n))$  tape cells on inputs of length  $n$ .

### Inclusions

$L = SPACE(\log n)$	}	$L \subseteq NL \subseteq P \subseteq NP \subseteq PSPACE$
$NL = NSPACE(\log n)$		$\subseteq NPSPACE$
$PSPACE = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} SPACE(n^k)$	}	and since $L, P$ and $PSPACE$ ,
$NPSPACE = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} NSPACE(n^k)$		are all closed under complementation
		$L \subseteq NL \cap co-NL, P \subseteq NP \cap co-NP$
		and $PSPACE \subseteq NPSPACE \cap co-NPSPACE$

Constructible Functions: functions which can be used for bounds

Function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is constructible if.

↳ ①  $f$  is monotonically increasing

↳ ②  $\exists$  deterministic machine which on any input length  $n$  replaces input with string  $0^{f(n)}$  and runs in time  $O(n + f(n))$  and uses  $O(f(n))$  work space

$f$  should not require more resources than limit exposed by  $f$  itself - allows us to compose computation of  $f$  with any other computation taking  $O(f(n))$  time and space

If  $f$  and  $g$  are constructible, so are:  $f+g, f \circ g, 2^f$  and  $f \circ g$

### More Inclusions

①  $SPACE(f(n)) \subseteq NSPACE(f(n))$

②  $TIME(f(n)) \subseteq NTIME(f(n))$

③  $NTIME(f(n)) \subseteq SPACE(f(n))$

④  $NSPACE(f(n)) \subseteq TIME(k \log n + f(n))$  for constant  $k$

↳ Deterministic machine can simulate non-deterministic machine  $M$  by backtracking as well as keeping track of current config of  $M$  as well as choices for nondeterministic parts  
space reqd  $\leq$  constant multiple of length of computation - hence space  $\leq$  number of steps so far -  $O(f)$  where  $f$  is time bound on the machine

(22) (4) Reachability ( $\Rightarrow NL \subseteq P$ )

$\hookrightarrow$  as let  $f(n) = c \log n$

$$NSPACE(\log n) \subseteq TIME(k^{(c+1)\log n}) = TIME(n^{(c+1)\log k})$$

$\in P$

$\hookrightarrow$  Given directed graph  $G = (V, E)$

$\hookrightarrow$  two nodes  $a, b \in V$

$\hookrightarrow$  decide whether path from  $a$  to  $b$  in  $G$

Algorithm

① write index of node  $a$  in work space

② If  $i$  is index currently on work space

(a) if  $i = b$  then accept  $\rightarrow$  perform  $\log n$  steps each doing the nondeterministic choice of writing 0 or 1 on work tape and moving right  
else guess index  $j$  ( $\log n$  bits) and write on work space

(b) if  $(i, j)$  is not an edge reject  
else replace  $i$  by  $j$  and return to (a)

For every  $j$ , there is a computation path that results in  $j$  being written on the tape.

Stores two indices, each  $\log n$  bits -  $O(\log n)$  space. Hence, reachability is in  $NL$ . Can be used to show that all problems in  $NL$  are in  $P$ . In general, trying to show:  $NSPACE(f(n)) \subseteq TIME(k^{2^f(n)})$

$\hookrightarrow M$  is nondeterministic machine with workspace bounded by  $f(n)$  for input length  $n$

$\hookrightarrow$  For  $\alpha$  input (of length  $n$ ) there are finite fixed configurations of  $M$  that are possible.

$\hookrightarrow$  Finite state control can be in any of  $q$  states and work tape can have any of  $s^{f(n)}$  strings on it ( $s$  is number of distinct symbols)  
Head in one of  $f(n)$  positions

$\hookrightarrow$  Total distinct configurations =  $q n f(n) s^{f(n)} < c n c^{f(n)}$  for const  $c$

$\hookrightarrow$  Configuration graph is graph whose nodes are all possible configurations of  $M$  and work tape having at most  $f(n)$  and edge between  $i$  and  $j$  iff  $i \rightarrow_m j$

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↳ Hence,  $M$  accepts  $x$  iff path from starting config to accepts config - reachability -  $O(n^2) = O(g^2)$  where  $g$  is size of config graph

Hence time  $\leq c'(c n^{f(n)})^2$  for some  $c'$  which is  $k^{\log n + f(n)}$  for some  $k \leq c'c^2$

Hence,  $NL \subseteq P \} NSPACE \subseteq EXP$

### Savitch's Theorem

(Can show reachability solvable by deterministic algorithm in  $O((\log n)^2)$  space.

Algorithm for determining if path from  $a$  to  $b$  of length  $i$  unless  $i=1$  and  $a \neq b$  and no edge  $(a,b)$

then reject

else if edge  $(a,b)$  or  $a=b$

then accept

else for each vertex  $x$

if Path  $(a, x, \text{floor}(i/2))$  and Path  $(x, b, \text{ceil}(i/2))$  then accept

↳ Recursion can be implemented by keeping a stack of records, each a triple  $(a, b, i)$ . or can be implemented as a counter (using  $\log n$  bits)

↳ Each activation record on stack representing  $3 \log n$  bits ( $\log n$  for each of three components)

↳ Max depth of recursion is  $\log n$  since val of  $i$  halved at each nested recursive call - for each, at most two activation records placed on the stack  $\rightarrow$   $2 \log n$  records =  $6(\log n)^2$  bits =  $O((\log n)^2)$

↳

Hence, for any constructible function  $f$  st  $f(n) \geq \log n$ ,  $NSPACE(f(n)) \subseteq SPACE(f(n)^2) \rightarrow$  can solve config graph of nondeterministic machine which has  $O(f(n))$  having  $g = c^{\log n + f(n)}$  nodes



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hence reachability can be solved using space:

$$O((\log g)^2) = O((\log n + \underbrace{f(n)}_{\text{since } f(n) \geq \log n})^2) = O(f(n)^2)$$

However, must first produce configuration on tape. - has  $c^{\log n + f(n)}$  takes  $> f(n)^2$  space but fix by not storing config graph on tape but instead deck on the machine if configuration change is acceptable

Hence  $\text{NSPACE}(f(n)) \subseteq \text{SPACE}(f(n)^2)$

Hence, Savitch's Theorem:  $\text{PSPACE} = \text{NPSPACE}$

$\hookrightarrow \text{NPSPACE} = \text{co-NPSPACE}$  since  $\text{PSPACE}$  closed under complementation

Has also been proven that for constructible function  $f$  with  $f(n) \geq \log n$ ,  
 $\text{NSPACE}(f(n)) = \text{co-NPSPACE}(f(n))$

Provable Intractability: Proof of NP-completeness does not mean problem not in P unless we can prove  $P \neq \text{NP}$ , but can show problem is not in P for a specific problem.

Time Hierarchy Theorem

Can use diagonalisation to construct a language with a specific lower bound - hence by increasing bounds, can show that there are more languages.

For constructible function  $f$  with  $f(n) \geq n$ ,  $\text{TIME}(f(n))$  properly contained in  $\text{TIME}(f(2n+1)^2)$

$\hookrightarrow$  Halting Problem with time bound  $f$

$$H_f = \{ \langle M \rangle, x \mid M \text{ accepts } x \text{ in } f(|x|) \text{ steps} \}$$

$$\textcircled{1} H_f \in \text{TIME}(f(n)^2)$$

(first compute  $f(|x|)$  then have counter and simulate  $M$   $f(|x|)$  times)

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## ② $H_f \notin TIME(f(L_n/2))$

Proof: Assume true, construct machine  $N$  which accepts  $[M]$  iff  $[M], [M] \notin H_f$ . Machine copies  $[M]$ , inserting comma between two copies and then runs machine that accepts  $H_f$

Running time of  $N = f(L(2n+1)/2) = f(n)$ . Ask whether  $N$  accepts input  $[N]$  and get contradiction either way.

Consequences: ①  $\exists$  no fixed  $k$  s.t. all languages in  $P$  can be decided in  $O(n^k)$

②  $EXP = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} TIME(2^{n^k})$  is an extension of  $P$   
 $P \not\subseteq EXP$  ( $EXP \not\subseteq P$ )

## DESCRIPTIVE COMPLEXITY

Describe complexity of describing a problem.

① What kind of formal language can decision problems be formalised. For example, triangle problem (Given graph  $G=(V,E)$ , does it ~~contain~~ contain a triangle?) can be described in first-order logic, but reachability problem and 3-colourability cannot be.

First Order Predicate Logic:  $E(x,y) \mid \phi \wedge \psi \mid \phi \vee \psi \mid \neg \phi \mid \exists x \phi \mid \forall x \phi$

if  $\phi$  is sentence (no free variables),  $\phi$  defines a collection of graphs for which  $\phi$  is true.

Any property of graphs definable in this way is in  $L$ .

$G \models \phi \iff$  time  $O(l \cdot n^m)$  and  $O(m \log n)$  space where  $l$  is length of  $\phi$  and  $m$  is nesting depth of quantifiers and  $n$  is number of vertices

① if  $\phi$  is atomic  $G \models \phi$  by directly looking up edges

② if  $\phi$  is  $\exists x \wedge$  (ivketc)  $G_2$  do each mult separately then recombine

③ if  $\phi$  is  $\exists x \forall y \psi$  then  $\forall y \in G$   $G \models \psi[x/n]$

at most  $m$  nested for loops and 1 for each connective

at most  $m$  free variables and must store pointer for each =  $\log n$  bits

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To go beyond  $L$ , need to go beyond first-order logic and introduce second-order quantities

3-Colourability  $(R, G, B)$

$$\exists R \subseteq V \exists B \subseteq V \exists G \subseteq V$$

$$\forall x (R_x \vee B_x \vee G_x) \wedge$$

$$\forall x (\neg (R_x \wedge B_x) \wedge \neg (B_x \wedge G_x) \wedge \neg (R_x \wedge G_x)) \wedge$$

$$\forall x \forall y (E_{xy} \rightarrow (\neg (R_x \wedge R_y) \wedge \neg (B_x \wedge B_y) \wedge \neg (G_x \wedge G_y)))$$

Reachability

$$\forall S \subseteq V (a \in S \wedge \forall x \forall y ((x \in S \wedge E(x, y)) \rightarrow y \in S) \rightarrow b \in S)$$

Any set  $S$  of vertices which contains  $a$  and which is closed under the edge relation  $E$  (if contains  $x$ , will contain  $y$  if  $E(x, y)$  holds) must contain  $b$ .

Second-Order Logic = first-order logic + collection of second-order variables:  $X, Y, \dots$  where each variable has associated arity  $a$ . Two added rules

$\hookrightarrow$  ① Have atomic formulas  $X(t_1, \dots, t_a)$  where  $X$  is a second-order variable of arity  $a$  and  $t_1, \dots, t_a$  are first-order terms

$\hookrightarrow$  ② If  $\phi$  is formula, so is  $\exists X \phi$  and  $\forall X \phi$

Existential Second-Order Logic: formulas of form  $\exists X_1 \dots \exists X_k \phi$  where  $\phi$  is a first-order formula. 3-colourability is ESO, but reachability is not.

Fagin Theorem

$ESO \Leftrightarrow NP$  - hence NP has a natural characterisation not mentioning Turing machines, nondeterminism, polynomial or time

$\Rightarrow$  Can show for any ESO sentence  $\exists X_1 \dots \exists X_k \phi$  can define a nondeterministic machine which takes graphs and determines (in time polynomial) whether  $G \models \phi$

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↳ Nondeterministically guess interpretation for  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  and then checks whether  $\phi$  holds with this interpretation

↳ time =  $n^{a_1} + \dots + n^{a_k}$  where  $a_1, \dots, a_k$  are the exponents of variables  $x_1, \dots, x_k$

↳ bounded by polynomial in  $n$

Hence, total running time is bounded by a polynomial

⇐ this direction requires proof similar to Cook-Levin theorem - can show, given nondeterministic Turing machine  $M$  and polynomial  $p$  can write sentence  $\phi_M$  of ESO that is true in graph  $G$  iff accepting computation of  $M$  on  $G$  of length at most  $p(n)$

↑  
number of  
vertices in  
 $G$