

Computational Theory

Time Complexity

Curtis Larsen

Utah Tech University—Computing

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The Class P

Reading: Sipser §7.1.

Important Results

- ▶ Big-O
- ▶ Time Complexity Classes: $\text{TIME}(t(n))$
- ▶ Theorem 7.8 $t(n)$ multi-tape Turing machines have equivalent $O(t^2(n))$ single-tape Turing machines.
- ▶ Theorem 7.11 $t(n)$ non-deterministic Turing machines have equivalent $2^{O(t(n))}$ deterministic single-tape Turing machines.
- ▶ Polynomial time, $t(n) = O(n^k)$, is “easy”.
- ▶ Exponential time, $t(n) = O(k^n)$, is “hard”.

The Class P

Reading: Sipser §7.2.

Definition 7.12

P is the class of languages that are decidable in polynomial time on a deterministic single-tape Turing machine. In other words,

$$P = \bigcup_k \text{TIME}(n^k).$$

Graphs

A graph is a collection of vertices (or nodes) and edges. With each edge connecting connecting a pair of nodes.

In directed graphs, edges are directional, and represented as an ordered pair (a, b) . In undirected graphs, edges are bi-directional, and represented as an unordered pair $\{a, b\}$.

When analyzing the time complexity of graph algorithms, we often use the number of vertices as the size of the graph. If we want to be more detailed, we account for the size of the edges as well.

$G = (V, E)$, where V is the set of vertices (or nodes), and E is the set of edges. In a fully connected graph, $|E| = |V|^2$. In general, $|E| \leq |V|^2$. $|G| = O(|V| + |E|) = O(|V|^2)$.

PATH

A graph problem:

$$\text{PATH} = \{ \langle G, s, t \rangle \mid G \text{ is a directed graph that has a directed path from node } s \text{ to node } t \}$$

Theorem 7.14

PATH \in P

How could we prove this?

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How could we prove this?

1. Provide a decider for PATH, M_{PATH} .
2. Analyze the time complexity of M_{PATH} .
3. If M_{PATH} 's time complexity is $O(n^k)$, then $\text{PATH} \in \text{TIME}(n^k) \in \text{P}$.

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The loop will terminate after at most $|V||E| \leq |V|^3$ edge checks. M_{PATH} halts. If there is a path from s to t in G , M_{PATH} will accept. Otherwise, M_{PATH} will reject. M_{PATH} is a decider for PATH.

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Base k notation, with $k \geq 2$, is much more compact. (e.g. base 2, $\langle 5 \rangle = 101$). $|n| = \log_k(n)$. This is much better.

RELPRIME

Definition: Two numbers are *relatively prime* if 1 is the largest integer that evenly divides them both. (e.g. 10 and 21 are not prime, but are relatively prime.)

Another language definition:

$$\text{RELPRIME} = \{ \langle x, y \rangle \mid x \text{ and } y \text{ are relatively prime} \}.$$

Theorem 7.15

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1. Provide a decider for RELPRIME, M_{RELPRIME} .
2. Analyze the time complexity of M_{RELPRIME} .
3. If M_{RELPRIME} 's time complexity is $O(n^k)$, then RELPRIME \in TIME(n^k) \in P.

RELPRIME

Let $E =$ “On input $\langle x, y \rangle$:

1. Repeat until $y = 0$:
2. Assign $x \leftarrow x \bmod y$.
3. Exchange x and y .
4. Output x .”

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E is the Euclidean algorithm for computing the greatest common divisor of two natural numbers. We accept its correctness from numerous textbooks. The loop in E causes x to lose at least 1 bit, before swapping it with y . Every two iterations the loop will cause both of the numbers to lose at least one bit. The loop in E will terminate after at most $2 \min(\log_2(x), \log_2(y))$ repetitions.

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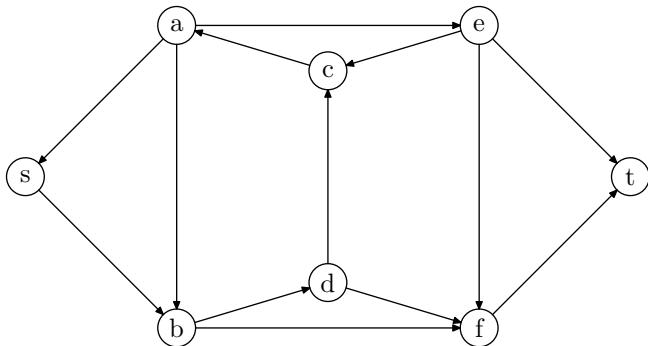
What is the time complexity class of RELPRIME? $\text{TIME}(n) \in \text{P}$

The Class NP

Reading: Sipser §7.3.

Hamiltonian Paths

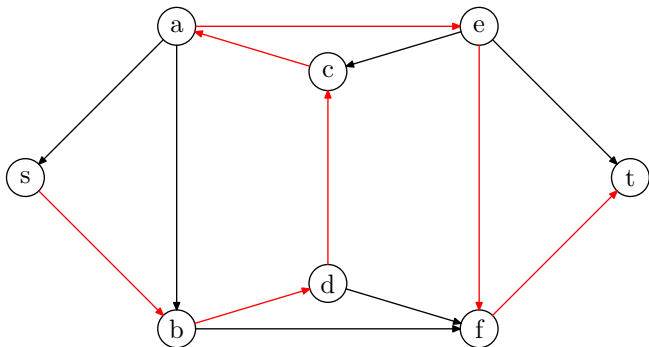
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HAMPATH

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We don't know if HAMPATH is in P. We can prove a weaker property of HAMPATH:

Given a path c , described as an ordered list of nodes, in G , we can verify if it is a Hamiltonian path in polynomial time. We provide a *verifier* that completes in polynomial time.

HAMPATH

Let $V_{\text{HAMPATH}} =$ “On input $\langle\langle G, s, t \rangle, c \rangle$:

1. Mark all nodes v in G as unvisited.
2. Let u be the first node in c .
3. If $u \neq s$, then *reject*.
4. Mark u as visited.
5. For each v in c , starting with the second node:
 6. If $(u, v) \notin E$, then *reject*.
 7. If v is visited, then *reject*.
 8. Mark v as visited.
 9. $u = v$.
10. If $u \neq t$, then *reject*.
11. If any node is not visited, then *reject*.
12. *accept*.

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Another number problem:

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Let $V_{\text{COMPOSITES}} =$ “On input $\langle\langle x \rangle, c\rangle$:

1. Let $p, q = c$.
2. Multiply p and q .
3. If the product is not x , then *reject*.
4. *accept*.

Definition 7.18

A **verifier** for a language A is an algorithm V , where

$$A = \{w \mid V \text{ accepts } \langle w, c \rangle \text{ for some string } c\}.$$

We measure the time of a verifier only in terms of the length of w , so a **polynomial time verifier** runs in polynomial time in the length of w . A language A is **polynomially verifiable** if it has a polynomial time verifier.

Definition 7.19

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Why is $P \subseteq NP$?

If a problem is solvable in polynomial time, then the verifier could solve the problem, and check if the certificate matches the solution, all in polynomial time.

Theorem 7.20

A language is in NP if and only if it is decided by some nondeterministic polynomial time Turing machine.

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Proof Idea: Convert a polynomial time verifier to an equivalent polynomial time Nondeterministic Turing Machine, and vice versa.

Theorem 7.20

Proof (part1): Let $A \in \text{NP}$, with V a polynomial time verifier for A , which exists because A is in NP. V runs in time $O(n^k)$.

Let $N =$ “On input w of length n :

1. Non-deterministically select string c of length at most n^k .
2. Run V on input $\langle w, c \rangle$.
3. If V accepts, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*.”

If A is in NP, then N is a polynomial time Nondeterministic decider.

Theorem 7.20

Proof (part2): Assume that A is decided by a polynomial time non-deterministic Turing machine, N . Construct the following verifier, V .

Let $V =$ “On input $\langle w, c \rangle$ where w and c are strings:

1. Simulate N on input w , treating each symbol of c as a description of the non-deterministic choice to make at each step.
2. If this branch of N 's computation accepts, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*.”

If A is in decided by a polynomial time Nondeterministic decider then V is a verifier for A .

Definition 7.21

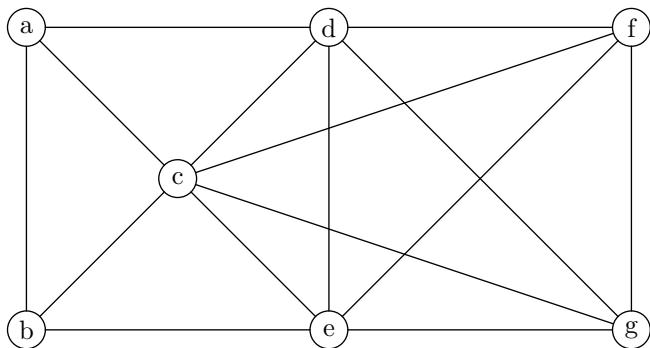
$\text{NTIME}(t(n)) = \{L \mid L \text{ is a language decided by a } O(t(n))$
time nondeterministic Turing machine $\}$.

Corollary 7.22

$$\text{NP} = \bigcup_k \text{NTIME}(n^k).$$

Cliques in Graphs

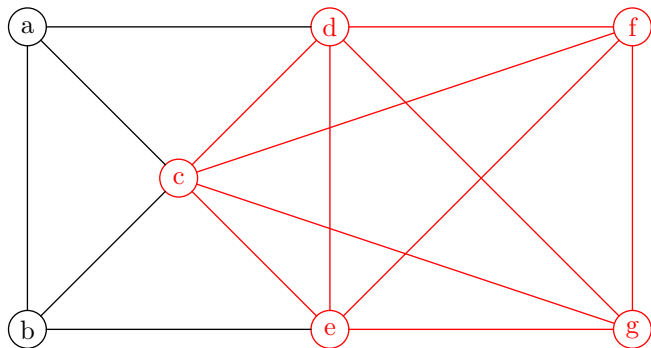
A clique in an undirected graph is a subgraph, where all pairs of nodes are connected by an edge.



What nodes are in the 5-clique?

Cliques in Graphs

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What nodes are in the 5-clique? $\{c, d, e, f, g\}$

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Is CLIQUE in NP?

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Proof:

Let $V =$ “On input $\langle\langle G, k \rangle c \rangle$:

1. Test whether $|c| = k$.
2. Test whether all nodes in c are in G .
3. Test whether all pairs of nodes in c have connecting edges in G .
4. If all tests pass, *accept*; otherwise *reject*.”

V runs in time polynomial in the size of G , and decides if c is a k -clique of G .

SUBSET-SUM

Consider this numeric problem:

Given: A set S of k numbers x_1, \dots, x_k and a number t .

Find: A subset y_1, \dots, y_m of S such that $\sum_i y_i = t$.

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SUBSET-SUM = $\{ \langle S, t \rangle \mid S = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ and for some

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Is SUBSET-SUM in NP?

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Proof:

Let $V =$ “On input $\langle\langle S, t \rangle c \rangle$:

1. Test whether the numbers in c add up to t .
2. Test whether all numbers in c are in S .
3. If all tests pass, *accept*; otherwise *reject*.”

V runs in time polynomial in the size of S , and decides if c is a subset of S that sums to t .

coNP

Are these languages in NP?

- ▶ $\overline{\text{HAMPATH}}$
- ▶ $\overline{\text{CLIQUE}}$
- ▶ $\overline{\text{SUBSET-SUM}}$

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Let coNP be the complexity class of languages that are complements of languages in NP.

P vs NP

P is the class of languages for which membership can be *decided* quickly.

NP is the class of languages for which membership can be *verified* quickly.

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The big question: $P = NP$ or $P \subset NP$?

The answer is not known.

NP-Completeness

Reading: Sipser §7.4.

Definition 7.28

A function $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ is a ***polynomial time computable function*** if some polynomial time Turing machine M exists that halts with just $f(w)$ on its tape, when started on any input w .

Definition 7.29

Language A is **polynomial time mapping reducible**, or **polynomial time reducible**, to language B , written $A \leq_P B$, if a polynomial time computable function $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ exists, where for every w ,

$$w \in A \Leftrightarrow f(w) \in B.$$

The function f is called the **polynomial time reduction** of A to B .

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If $A \leq_P B$ and $B \in P$, then $A \in P$.

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2. Run M on input $f(w)$ and output whatever M outputs.”

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Is N polynomial time?

Reduction proof outline

$$A \leq_P B$$

- ▶ Describe a generic instance of A.
- ▶ Describe a generic instance of B.
- ▶ Provide the polynomial time reduction function.
- ▶ Prove the function is polynomial time computable.
- ▶ Prove that *any* instance of A can be reduced to *some* instance of B.
- ▶ Prove that *any* non-instance of A can be reduced to *some* non-instance of B. **Alternatively:** Prove that *any* reachable instance of B can be only be reduced from *some* instance of A.
- ▶ Conclude that the conditions of polynomial time mapping reduction have been met.

3SAT

Given: Logic variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , disjunctive clauses c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m with 3 literals per clause, and ϕ the conjunction of all clauses. This is a “3 CNF-formula”.

Find: Whether there is an assignment of truth values for all variables that satisfies ϕ .

Sample: $\phi = (x_1 \vee x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_2} \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee x_2 \vee x_2)$
Satisfying assignment: $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 1$.

3SAT

A satisfiability problem:

$$3\text{SAT} = \{ \langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a satisfiable 3 CNF-formula} \}$$

Theorem 7.32

3SAT is polynomial time reducible to CLIQUE.

3SAT

$3SAT = \{\langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a satisfiable 3 cnf-formula}\}.$

A 3 cnf-formula is a conjunctive normal form formula with 3 literals per clause.

CLIQUE

$\text{CLIQUE} = \{ \langle G, k \rangle \mid G \text{ is an undirected graph with a } k\text{-clique} \}$.

A **clique** in an undirected graph is a subgraph, wherein every two nodes are connected by an edge. A ***k*-clique** is a clique that contains k nodes.

Example Polynomial Time Reduction

Reduction from 3SAT to CLIQUE.

Definition 7.34

A language B is ***NP-complete*** if it satisfies two conditions:

1. B is in NP, and
2. every A in NP is polynomial time reducible to B .

Definition 7.xx

A language B is ***NP-hard*** if all problems in NP are polynomial time reducible to it, even though it may not be in NP itself.

Definition 7.yy (Alternate Form of NP-Completeness)

A language B is ***NP-complete*** if it satisfies two conditions:

1. B is in NP, and
2. B is NP-HARD.

Theorem 7.35

If B is NP-complete and $B \in P$, then $P = NP$.

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Proof:

By definition 7.34, any problem in NP is polynomial time reducible to B . For any $A \in NP$, let R_{AB} be the reduction from A to B . Let M_B be the polynomial time decider for B , guaranteed to exist by definition 7.12.

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Let $M_A =$ “On input w_A , a possible member of A :

1. Run R_{AB} on w_A to compute w_B .
2. Run M_B on w_B . If M_B accepts, *accept*; otherwise *reject*.”

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1. Run R_{AB} on w_A to compute w_B .
2. Run M_B on w_B . If M_B accepts, *accept*; otherwise *reject*.”

Both steps are polynomial time. This machine can be used to solve any problem in NP in polynomial time. If B exists with the properties above, then $P = NP$.

Theorem 7.36

If B is NP-complete and $B \leq_P C$ for C in NP, then C is NP-complete.

Proof idea:

Theorem 7.36

If B is NP-complete and $B \leq_P C$ for C in NP, then C is NP-complete.

Proof idea:

C is in NP, so we only need to prove it is also NP-HARD. By definition 7.34, all of NP polynomial time reduces to B . By the conditions above, $B \leq_P C$. By serial application, we can polynomial time reduce any member of NP to C , making it NP-HARD.

NP-completeness Proof Process

To prove language B is NP-complete.

1. Prove $B \in \text{NP}$.

- ▶ Describe a certificate for B.
- ▶ Provide a polynomial time verifier for B. Must include arguments for correctness and time complexity of verifier.

2. Prove B is NP-HARD.

- ▶ Select a known NP-COMPLETE language, C.
- ▶ Provide a polynomial time reduction from C to B.
 - ▶ Instance descriptions for both C and B.
 - ▶ Reduction process $f(w)$.
- ▶ Prove reduction from C to B is polynomial.
- ▶ Prove $w \in C \Rightarrow f(w) \in B$.
- ▶ Prove $w \notin C \Rightarrow f(w) \notin B$ **or** $f(w) \in B \Rightarrow w \in C$.
- ▶ Conclude B is NP-HARD.

3. Conclude B is NP-COMPLETE.

Theorem 7.37

SAT is NP-complete.

Theorem 7.37

SAT is NP-complete.

Proof to come later.

DOMINATING-SET

DOMINATING-SET = $\{\langle G, k \rangle \mid G \text{ is an undirected graph that has a } k\text{-node dominating set}\}$.

A **dominating set** is a subset of nodes where every other node of G is adjacent to at least one of those nodes.

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What does a certificate for DOMINATING-SET look like?

NP-Complete Problems

Reading: Sipser §7.5.

VERTEX-COVER

VERTEX-COVER = $\{ \langle G, k \rangle \mid G \text{ is an undirected graph that has a } k\text{-node vertex cover} \}$.

A **vertex cover** is a subset of nodes where every edge of G touches one of those nodes.

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What does a certificate for VERTEX-COVER look like?

Theorem 7.44

VERTEX-COVER is NP-complete.

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Proof:

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Proof:

1. VERTEX-COVER is in NP.
How to prove?

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VERTEX-COVER is NP-complete.

Proof:

1. VERTEX-COVER is in NP.
How to prove? Provide a verifier.
2. VERTEX-COVER is NP-HARD.
How to prove? Reduction from 3SAT to VERTEX-COVER, using clause and variable gadgets.

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How to prove? Provide a verifier.

2. VERTEX-COVER is NP-HARD.

How to prove? Reduction from 3SAT to VERTEX-COVER, using clause and variable gadgets.

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_2} \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee x_2 \vee x_2)$$

HAMPATH

$\text{HAMPATH} = \{ \langle G, s, t \rangle \mid G \text{ is a directed graph with a Hamiltonian path from } s \text{ to } t \}$.

A ***Hamiltonian path*** is a directed path that goes through each node in G exactly once.

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How to prove? Reduction from 3SAT to HAMPATH, using diamond variable gadgets and clause nodes.

Theorem 7.44

HAMPATH is NP-complete.

Proof:

1. HAMPATH is in NP.
How to prove? Provide a verifier.
2. HAMPATH is NP-HARD.
How to prove? Reduction from 3SAT to HAMPATH, using diamond variable gadgets and clause nodes.
Diamond rows have 2 nodes per clause, with buffer node between, connected to clause node left-to-right loop, if positive literal in clause, right to left if negative literal in clause.

SAT is NP-hard

Reading: Sipser Theorem 7.37.

SAT Definition

$\text{SAT} = \{ \langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a satisfiable Boolean formula over variables } x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \}.$

$A \in NP$ Definition

Let $A \in NP$ be any language in NP. Let N_A be a non-deterministic Turing machine that decides A . In other words, on input w , N_A will accept if $w \in A$ and reject if $w \notin A$, in polynomial time n^k .

Reduction from A to SAT

$$A \leq_p \text{SAT}$$

Let $R =$ “On input $w, \langle N_A \rangle$:

1. Construct ϕ from w and N_A .
2. Output $\langle \phi \rangle$.”

Functionality of Non-deterministic Turing Machines

- ▶ All branches process simultaneously.
- ▶ Each node in tree represented by a configuration.
- ▶ If machine is polynomial, tallest branch is at most $O(n^k)$ high.
- ▶ If machine is polynomial, largest configuration is at most $O(n^k)$ long.
- ▶ Path from initial configuration to accepting configuration is a list of consistent configurations.

Tableau of Configurations

Show picture of tableau of configurations.

- ▶ How wide is the table?
- ▶ How tall is the table?
- ▶ What is the initial configuration placed in the first row?
- ▶ What is a window?

Variables of ϕ

Let $C = Q \cup \Gamma \cup \{\#\}$, be the set of possible values in any cell of the tableau.

Create one variable per possible value per cell. $X_{i,j,s}$ for $1 \leq i, j \leq n^k$ and $s \in C$.