

# Fundamental Computer Science

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February 10, 2020

# Summary of previous lecture

- ▶ Turing Machines
  - ▶ universal computational model
  - ▶ all variants of the model are equivalent w.r.t. *decidability*

# Complement

- ▶ Non-deterministic Turing Machines
  - ▶ *decide* the same languages as the deterministic
  - ▶ ... but not using the same number of steps

# Agenda

- ▶ Reduction
- ▶ Goal: to classify the problems in **complexity classes**
  - ▶ time complexity: number of steps w.r.t. the size of the input
  - ▶ space complexity

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  - ▶ **time complexity**: number of steps w.r.t. the size of the input
  - ▶ **space complexity**

Focus on *decidable* languages (*solvable* problems)

# Time complexity class

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$\text{TIME}(f(n)) = \{L \mid L \text{ is a language } \textit{decided} \text{ by a Turing Machine}$   
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1. Scan the tape and *reject* if a 0 is found on the right of a 1.
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# The class P

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P is the class of *polynomially decidable* languages.

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

## Recall: languages vs problems

- ▶ Decision problem: a problem with a yes/no answer
- ▶ example  
PATH: Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and two nodes  $s, t \in V$ , is there a path from  $s$  to  $t$ ?

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  - ▶ Yes (i.e., Breadth First Search in  $O(|V| + |E|)$ )

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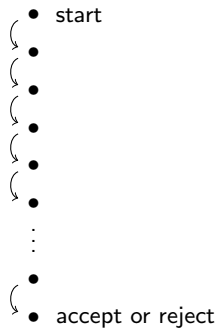
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▶ complexity:  $O(n) \Rightarrow L \in \text{TIME}(n^2) \Rightarrow L \in P$

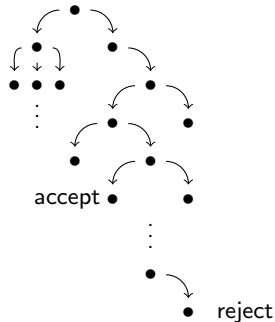
## Extension to space complexity



# Non-deterministic Turing Machines

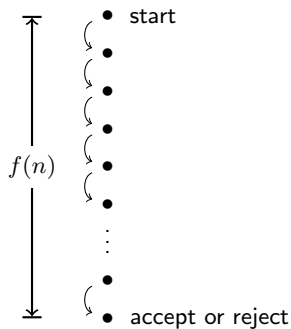


deterministic computation

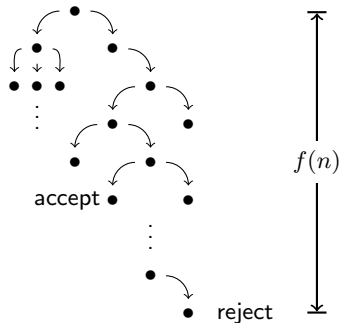


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# Non-deterministic Turing Machines



deterministic computation



non-deterministic computation

The **running time** of a non-deterministic Turing Machine which *decides* a language is a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , where  $f(n)$  is the **maximum** number of steps on any branch of the computation on any input of length  $n$ .

# Non-deterministic vs Deterministic Turing Machines

## Theorem

*Every  $f(n)$  time non-deterministic Turing Machine  $NDTM$  has an equivalent  $2^{O(f(n))}$  time deterministic Turing Machine  $DTM$ .*

Proof:

- ▶ Starting from  $NDTM$ , construct a 3-tapes  $DTM$ 
  - tape 1: input (never changes)
  - tape 2: simulation
  - tape 3: address

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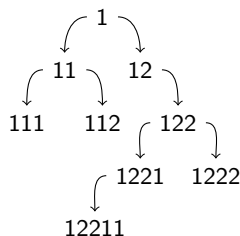
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▶ data on tape 3:

- ▶ each node of the computation tree of *NDTM* has at most  $c$  children:  $c \leq \Theta(|K|)$
- ▶ address of a node in  $\{1, 2, \dots, c\}^*$



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## Simulation:

1. Initialize tape 1 with the input  $w$  and tapes 2 & 3 to be empty.
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- ▶ in total  $O(f(n) \cdot c^{f(n)}) = c^{O(f(n))}$
- ▶ transformation to single tape:  $(c^{O(f(n))})^2 = c^{O(f(n))}$

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- ▶  $M$  decides COMPOSITES
  - ▶  $f(n) = O(n \cdot \log_2 n \cdot 2^{O(\log_2^* n)})$  (Fürer's algorithm for multiplication)

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▶  $M$  decides HPATH

▶  $f(n) = O(n^2) \Rightarrow \text{HPATH} \in \text{NTIME}(n^2)$



# Certificates and Verifiers

- ▶ “*non-deterministically generate*” a string
- ▶ check if the generated string has a certain property of the language
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- ▶ **Examples of certificates**
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- ▶ A **polynomial time verifier** runs in polynomial time with respect to the length of the input  $w$

# Equivalence of Verifiers and Non-deterministic TM

## Theorem

*A language  $L$  has a polynomial time verifier  $\mathcal{V}$  if and only if there is a polynomial time Non-deterministic Turing Machine  $NDTM$  which decides it.*

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$NDTM =$  "On input  $w$  of length  $n$ :

1. Non-deterministically generate a string  $c$  of length  $n^k$ .
2. Run  $\mathcal{V}$  on input  $\langle w, c \rangle$ .
3. If  $\mathcal{V}$  accepts, then *accept*, else *reject*."

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$\mathcal{V} =$  "On input  $\langle w, c \rangle$ :

1. Simulate  $NDTM$  on input  $w$  using each symbol of  $c$  as the non-deterministically choice in order to decide the next step.
2. If this branch of computation accepts, then *accept*, else *reject*."



# The class NP

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A language is called **non-deterministically polynomially decidable** if there is a polynomially bounded Turing Machine that *decides* it.

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equivalently

NP is the class of languages that have a polynomial time verifier.

# P versus NP

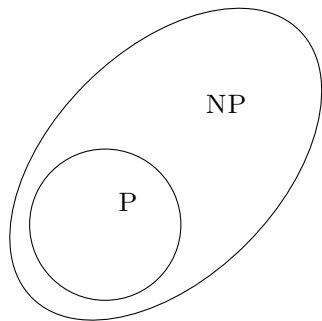
Be careful !!

NP means “non-deterministic polynomial” and not “non-polynomial”

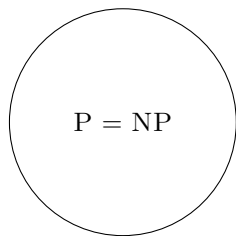
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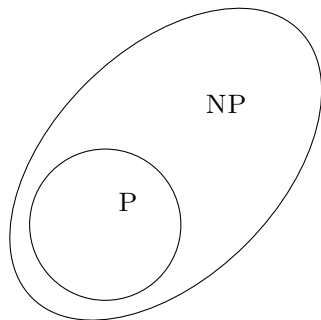
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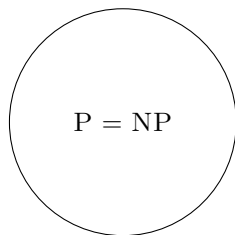
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What do we know?

$$\text{NP} \subseteq \text{EXPTIME} = \bigcup_k \text{TIME}(2^{n^k})$$

# Reductions

## Definition

A function  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$  is called **polynomial time computable** if there is a polynomially bounded Turing Machine that computes it.

# Reductions

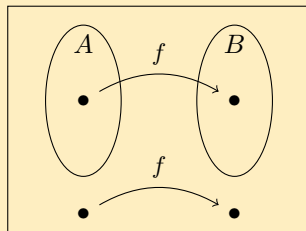
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A function  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$  is called **polynomial time computable** if there is a polynomially bounded Turing Machine that computes it.

A language  $A$  is **polynomial time reducible** to language  $B$ , denoted  $A \leq_P B$ , if there is a polynomial time computable function  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ , where for every input  $w$ , it holds that

$$w \in A \iff f(w) \in B$$

This function  $f$  is called a **polynomial time reduction** from  $A$  to  $B$ .





# Reductions

## Theorem

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

Proof:

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$N =$  "On input  $w$ :

1. Compute  $f(w)$ .
2. Run  $M$  on  $f(w)$  and output whatever  $M$  outputs."

## Example

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

$\text{HCYCLE} = \{\langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a graph with a Hamiltonian cycle}\}$

Show that HPATH is polynomial time reducible to HCYCLE.

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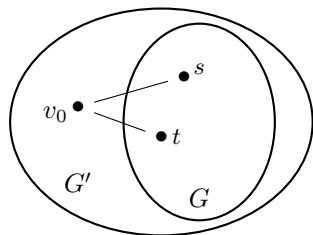
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- ▶ input of HPATH: a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and two vertices  $s, t \in V$
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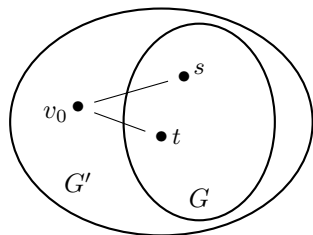
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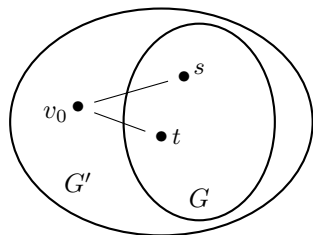
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We are not done!!!

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Solution (cont'd):

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- ▶ Hamiltonian Cycle in  $G'$ :  $t \rightarrow v_0 \rightarrow s \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow t$
- ▶ there is a Hamiltonian Path from  $s$  to  $t$  in  $G$





# Steps of a reduction

## Reduction from A to B

1. transform an instance  $I_A$  of A to an instance  $I_B$  of B
2. show that the reduction is of polynomial size
3. prove that:  
“there is a solution for the problem A on the instance  $I_A$   
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## Comments

- ▶ usually the one direction is trivial (due to the transformation)
- ▶  $|I_B|$  is polynomially bounded by  $|I_A|$

# List of problems

DIRHCYCLE =  $\{\langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a directed graph with a Hamiltonian cycle}\}$

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

VERTEX-COVER =  $\{\langle G, k \rangle \mid G \text{ is a graph with a set } A \subseteq V \text{ such that } |A| = k \text{ and every } e \in E \text{ is incident to a vertex in } A\}$

INDEPENDENT-SET =  $\{\langle G, k \rangle \mid G \text{ is a graph with a set } A \subseteq V \text{ such that } |A| = k \text{ and there is no edge between any pair of vertices in } A\}$

LONGEST-PATH =  $\{\langle G, s, t, k \rangle \mid G \text{ is a graph with a path from } s \text{ to } t \text{ of length at least } k\}$

# Exercises

- ▶ Show that HCYCLE is polynomial time reducible to HPATH.