

# CS 341: ALGORITHMS

Lecture 22: Intractability IV – poly transformations, NP completeness  
Readings: see website

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# POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATIONS

commonly used for NP-completeness and impossibility results

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## POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATIONS

For a decision problem  $\Pi$ , let  $\mathcal{I}(\Pi)$  denote the set of all instances of  $\Pi$ . Let  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi)$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{no}}(\Pi)$  denote the set of all yes-instances and no-instances (respectively) of  $\Pi$ .

Suppose that  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$  are decision problems. We say that there is a **polynomial transformation** from  $\Pi_1$  to  $\Pi_2$  (denoted  $\Pi_1 \leq_p \Pi_2$ ) if there exists a function  $f : \mathcal{I}(\Pi_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(\Pi_2)$  such that the following properties are satisfied:

- $f(I)$  is computable in polynomial time (as a function of  $\text{size}(I)$ , where  $I \in \mathcal{I}(\Pi_1)$ )
- if  $I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_1)$ , then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_2)$
- if  $I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{no}}(\Pi_1)$ , then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{no}}(\Pi_2)$

[Mechanics] to give a polynomial transformation, you must:

1. **specify**  $f(I)$ .
2. **show** it runs in poly-time, and
3. **show**  $I$  is a yes-instance of  $\Pi_1$  **IFF**  $f(I)$  is a yes-instance of  $\Pi_2$ .

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## POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATIONS (CONT.)

A polynomial transformation can be thought of as a (simple) special case of a polynomial-time Turing reduction, i.e., if  $\Pi_1 \leq_p \Pi_2$ , then  $\Pi_1 \leq_p^T \Pi_2$ .

Given a polynomial transformation  $f$  from  $\Pi_1$  to  $\Pi_2$ , the corresponding Turing reduction is as follows:

- Given  $I \in \mathcal{I}(\Pi_1)$ , construct  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}(\Pi_2)$ .
- Given an oracle for  $\Pi_2$ , say  $A$ , run  $A(f(I))$ .

We transform the instance, and then make a single call to the oracle.

Very important point: We do not know whether  $I$  is a yes-instance or a no-instance of  $\Pi_1$  when we transform it to an instance  $f(I)$  of  $\Pi_2$ .

To prove the implication "if  $I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{no}}(\Pi_1)$ , then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{no}}(\Pi_2)$ ", we usually prove the contrapositive statement "if  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_2)$ , then  $I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_1)$ ".

The contrapositive can help when it is hard to precisely characterize certificates for no-instances (or when such certificates don't prove much)

Also known as **Karp reductions** and **many-one reductions**

We saw one instance where a contrapositive was easier to prove when we discussed Hamiltonian cycles

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## SUMMARIZING

### THE MORE CONVENIENT DEFINITION

- Let  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$  be decision problems
- $\Pi_1 \leq_p \Pi_2$  **iff** there exists  $f : \mathcal{I}(\Pi_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(\Pi_2)$  such that:
  - $f(I)$  is computable in poly-time, for all  $I \in \mathcal{I}(\Pi_1)$
  - if  $I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_1)$  then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_2)$
  - if  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_2)$  then  $I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_1)$

Note: this is the same as saying  $(I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_1)) \Leftrightarrow (f(I) \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{yes}}(\Pi_2))$

This property justifies correctness for the following generic **poly-time Karp reduction**:

```

P1toP2KarpReduction(I)
  fI = f(I)
  return OracleForP2(fI)
            
```

This is the contrapositive. Was previously (2 slides ago):  
if  $I \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{no}}(\Pi_1)$  then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{no}}(\Pi_2)$

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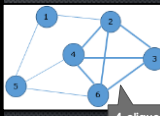
## EXAMPLE POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATION

**Problem 7.8**

**Clique**

**Instance:** An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  and an integer  $k$ , where  $1 \leq k \leq |V|$ .

**Question:** Does  $G$  contain a clique of size  $\geq k$ ? (A clique is a subset of vertices  $W \subseteq V$  such that  $uv \in E$  for all  $u, v \in W$ ,  $u \neq v$ .)




4-clique

**Problem 7.9**


**Vertex Cover**

**Instance:** An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  and an integer  $k$ , where  $1 \leq k \leq |V|$ .

**Question:** Does  $G$  contain a vertex cover of size  $\leq k$ ? (A vertex cover is a subset of vertices  $W \subseteq V$  such that  $\{u, v\} \cap W \neq \emptyset$  for all edges  $uv \in E$ .)



3-vertex cover



2-vertex cover

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### CLIQUE $\leq_p$ VERTEX-COVER

- Suppose  $I = (G, k)$  is an instance of Clique where  $G = (V, E), V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $1 \leq k \leq n$

Want to solve  $\text{Clique}(G, k)$



Claim: there is a  $k$ -clique in  $G$  iff there is an  $(n - k)$  Vertex-Cover in  $\bar{G}$

- Construct** instance  $f(I) = (\bar{G}, n - k)$  of Vertex-Cover, where  $H = (V, \bar{E})$  and  $v_i v_j \in \bar{E} \Leftrightarrow v_i v_j \notin E$

Idea: reduce to  $\text{VertexCover}(\bar{G}, n - k)$



Consider the **complement graph**  $\bar{G}$  of  $G$

Every edge of  $G$  is a non-edge of  $\bar{G}$ . Every non-edge of  $G$  is an edge of  $\bar{G}$ .

Given an adjacency matrix for  $G$ , get  $\bar{G}$  by **flipping 0's and 1's**.

### PROVING THIS IS A POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATION

- We denote Clique by  $CL$  and Vertex-Cover by  $VC$
- $CL \leq_p VC$  **iff** there exists  $f : \mathcal{I}(CL) \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(VC)$  such that:
  - $f(I)$  is **computable in poly-time**, for all  $I \in \mathcal{I}(CL)$
  - If  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(CL)$  then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(VC)$
  - If  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(VC)$  then  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(CL)$

First let's show this

### COMPLEXITY OF THE TRANSFORMATION

- Suppose  $I = (G, k)$  is an instance of Clique where  $G = (V, E), V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $1 \leq k \leq n$

Want to solve  $\text{Clique}(G, k)$



Assuming adjacency matrix,  $\text{Size}(I) = \theta(n^2 + \log_2 k)$

Time to compute  $f(I)$ ?

Constructing  $\bar{G}$  takes  $O(n^2)$  time, and computing  $n - k$  takes  $O(\log n)$  time.

So computing  $f(I)$  takes  $O(n^2)$  time, which is polynomial in  $\text{Size}(I)$ .

- Construct** instance  $f(I) = (\bar{G}, n - k)$  of Vertex-Cover, where  $\bar{G} = (V, \bar{E})$  and  $v_i v_j \in \bar{E} \Leftrightarrow v_i v_j \notin E$

Idea: reduce to  $\text{VertexCover}(\bar{G}, n - k)$



### PROVING THIS IS A POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATION

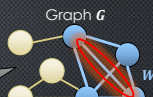
- We denote Clique by  $CL$  and Vertex-Cover by  $VC$
- $CL \leq_p VC$  **iff** there exists  $f : \mathcal{I}(CL) \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(VC)$  such that:
  - $f(I)$  is computable in poly-time, for all  $I \in \mathcal{I}(CL)$
  - If  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(CL)$  then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(VC)$**
  - If  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(VC)$  then  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(CL)$

Now let's show this, i.e., **if  $G$  contains a  $k$ -clique then  $\bar{G}$  contains an  $(n - k)$  vertex cover.**

### PROVING: $I \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(CL) \Rightarrow f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(VC)$

- Suppose  $I = (G, k)$  is a **yes**-instance of Clique
- Then there is a set  $W$  of  $k$  vertices in a clique (with **all-to-all** edges)
- Define  $\bar{W} = V \setminus W$ . Clearly  $|\bar{W}| = n - k$ .
- We **claim**  $\bar{W}$  is a vertex cover of  $\bar{G}$
- Consider any edge  $(u, v) \in \bar{G}$
- If either  $u$  or  $v$  is in  $\bar{W}$ , then we are done, so assume  $u, v \notin \bar{W}$  to obtain a contradiction
- Then  $u, v \in W$ , and  $W$  is a clique in  $G$ , so  $(u, v) \in G$
- But  $(u, v) \in \bar{G}$  implies  $(u, v) \notin G$ . Contradiction!

Example:  $\text{Clique}(G, 4)$



Graph  $\bar{G}$



### PROVING THIS IS A POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATION

- We denote Clique by  $CL$  and Vertex-Cover by  $VC$
- $CL \leq_p VC$  **iff** there exists  $f : \mathcal{I}(CL) \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(VC)$  such that:
  - $f(I)$  is computable in poly-time, for all  $I \in \mathcal{I}(CL)$
  - If  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(CL)$  then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(VC)$
  - If  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(VC)$  then  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{yes}(CL)$**

Now let's show this, i.e., **if  $\bar{G}$  contains an  $(n - k)$  vertex cover, then  $G$  contains a  $k$ -clique**

**PROVING:**  $f(I) \in J_{yes}(VC) \Rightarrow I \in J_{yes}(CL)$

- Suppose  $f(I) = (\bar{G}, n - k)$  is a **yes**-instance of VC
- Then there is a set of  $n - k$  vertices  $\bar{W}$  that is a vertex cover of  $\bar{G}$
- Define  $W = V \setminus \bar{W}$ . Clearly  $|W| = k$ .
- We **claim**  $W$  is a clique in  $G$
- Since  $\bar{W}$  is a vertex cover of  $\bar{G}$ , **every edge** in  $\bar{G}$  has at least one endpoint in  $\bar{W}$
- Therefore, **no edge** in  $\bar{G}$  has two endpoints in  $W$
- So, in  $G$ , there are edges between all pairs of nodes in  $W$ . So,  $W$  is a clique in  $G$ .

So, we have demonstrated a polynomial transformation from CLIQUE to VERTEX-COVER 13

## COMPLEXITY CLASS NP-COMPLETE

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### COMPLEXITY CLASS NP-COMPLETE (NPC)

The complexity class NPC denotes the set of all decision problems  $\Pi$  that satisfy the following two properties:

$\Pi \in NP$   
For all  $\Pi' \in NP$ ,  $\Pi' \leq_p \Pi$ .

**NPC** is an abbreviation for **NP-complete**.

Note that the definition does not imply that NP-complete problems exist!

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### Satisfiability and the Cook-Levin Theorem

Challenging and powerful result!  
How to prove **any NP problem** anyone will **ever** come up with is **solved** by a reduction to SAT?

**Problem 7.13** We will just call it the **SAT** problem

**CNF-Satisfiability** **Example:**  $(p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p \vee r) \wedge (\neg r \vee \neg p \vee s)$

**Instance:** A boolean formula  $F$  in  $n$  boolean variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , such that  $F$  is the conjunction (logical "and") of  $m$  clauses, where each clause is the disjunction (logical "or") of literals. (A literal is a boolean variable or its negation.)

**Question:** Is there a truth assignment such that  $F$  evaluates to true?

Variable:  $p, q$   
Literal:  $p, \neg q$   
Clause:  $(p \vee q)$

**Theorem 7.14 (Cook-Levin Theorem)** Real-world problem people care about!  
For example, used **extensively** to argue correctness for new processor designs.

**SAT**  $\in$  NPC.

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### Proving Problems NP-complete

Now that we **have one** NP-complete problem...

given any NP-complete problem, say  $\Pi_1$ , other problems in NP can be proven to be NP-complete via polynomial transformations from  $\Pi_1$ , as stated in the following theorem:

**Theorem 7.15**

Suppose that the following conditions are satisfied:

- $\Pi_1 \in NPC$ , Every  $\Pi \in NP$  can be polynomially transformed to  $\Pi_1$
- $\Pi_1 \leq_p \Pi_2$ , and And  $\Pi_1$  can be polynomially transformed to  $\Pi_2$
- $\Pi_2 \in NP$ . So, every  $\Pi \in NP$  can be polynomially transformed to  $\Pi_2$

Then  $\Pi_2 \in NPC$ . (Everything in NP can be poly-transformed to  $\Pi_2$ ) + ( $\Pi_2$  in NP) = definition of NPC

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### More Satisfiability Problems

**Problem 7.16** **Example:**  $(p \vee q \vee r) \wedge (\neg p \vee r \vee q) \wedge (\neg r \vee \neg p \vee s)$

**3-SAT**

**Instance:** A boolean formula  $F$  in  $n$  boolean variables, such that  $F$  is the conjunction of  $m$  clauses, where each clause is the disjunction of exactly three literals.

**Question:** Is there a truth assignment such that  $F$  evaluates to true?

**Problem 7.17** **Example:**  $(p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p \vee r) \wedge (\neg r \vee \neg p)$

**2-SAT** Satisfiable:  $p = 0, q = 1, r \in \{0,1\}$

**Instance:** A boolean formula  $F$  in  $n$  boolean variables, such that  $F$  is the conjunction of  $m$  clauses, where each clause is the disjunction of exactly two literals.

**Question:** Is there a truth assignment such that  $F$  evaluates to true?

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### IS SAT HARDER THAN 3-SAT? ONLY POLYNOMIALLY...

**Proving SAT  $\leq_p$  3SAT**

Suppose that  $(X, C)$  is an instance of **SAT**, where  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  and  $C = \{C_1, \dots, C_m\}$ . For each  $C_j$ , do the following:

- case 1** If  $|C_j| = 1$ , say  $C_j = \{z\}$ , construct four clauses  $\{z, a, b\}, \{z, a, \bar{b}\}, \{z, \bar{a}, b\}, \{z, \bar{a}, \bar{b}\}$ .   
 Some trick, but padding the clause with **two** new variables.   
 We add a **new variable c** as padding.
- case 2** If  $|C_j| = 2$ , say  $C_j = \{z_1, z_2\}$ , construct two clauses  $\{z_1, z_2, c\}, \{z_1, z_2, \bar{c}\}$ .   
 To satisfy **both** of these clauses, one of  $z_1, z_2$  must be true!   
 $(z_1 \vee z_2 \vee c) \wedge (z_1 \vee z_2 \vee \bar{c})$  is satisfiable **IFF**  $(z_1 \vee z_2)$  is satisfiable!
- case 3** If  $|C_j| = 3$ , then leave  $C_j$  unchanged.   
 So, the new clauses, together, are "equivalent" to the old one.
- case 4** If  $|C_j| \geq 4$ , say  $C_j = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k\}$ , then construct  $k-2$  new clauses  $\{z_1, z_2, d_1\}, \{\bar{d}_1, z_3, d_2\}, \{\bar{d}_2, z_4, d_3\}, \dots, \{\bar{d}_{k-4}, z_{k-2}, d_{k-3}\}, \{\bar{d}_{k-3}, z_{k-1}, z_k\}$ .   
 Here it gets trickier, because we aren't just "padding," but "**linking**" many clauses.

Key idea: satisfying all clauses is possible **IFF** some  $z_i = \text{true}$ .   
 Let's prove this is a **correct polynomial transformation**.

### CORRECTNESS

Sketch: let  $L$  be the number of **literals** in input  $I$ . In our transformed input, we construct at most  **$4L$  clauses**. Clearly this can be done in time  $\text{poly}(L)$ , which is in  $\text{poly}(\text{Size}(I))$ .

- Want to prove: **SAT  $\leq_p$  3SAT**
- I.e., our transformation function  $f$  satisfies:
  - $f(I)$  is computable in poly-time, for all  $I \in \mathcal{I}(\Pi_1)$
  - If  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{yes}}(\text{SAT})$  then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{yes}}(\text{3SAT})$    
 Let's do this direction
  - If  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{yes}}(\text{3SAT})$  then  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{yes}}(\text{SAT})$

### Correctness of the Transformation

Suppose  $I$  is a yes-instance of **SAT**. We show that  $f(I)$  is a yes-instance of **3-SAT**. Fix a truth assignment for  $X$  in which every clause contains a true literal. We consider each clause  $C_j$  of the instance  $I$ .

- If  $C_j = \{z\}$ , then  $z$  must be true. The corresponding four clauses in  $f(I)$  each contain  $z$ , so they are all satisfied.
- If  $C_j = \{z_1, z_2\}$ , then at least one of the  $z_1$  or  $z_2$  is true. The corresponding two clauses in  $f(I)$  each contain  $z_1, z_2$ , so they are both satisfied.
- If  $C_j = \{z_1, z_2, z_3\}$ , then  $C_j$  occurs unchanged in  $f(I)$ .

Suppose  $C_j = \{z_1, z_2, z_3, \dots, z_k\}$  where  $k > 3$  and suppose  $z_i \in C_j$  is a true literal. Define  $d_i = \text{true}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k-2$  and define  $d_i = \text{false}$  for  $k-1 \leq i \leq k$ . It is straightforward to verify that the  $k-2$  corresponding clauses in  $f(I)$  each contain a true literal.

### CORRECTNESS

- Want to prove: **SAT  $\leq_p$  3SAT**
- I.e., our transformation function  $f$  satisfies:
  - $f(I)$  is computable in poly-time, for all  $I \in \mathcal{I}(\Pi_1)$
  - If  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{yes}}(\text{SAT})$  then  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{yes}}(\text{3SAT})$    
 We just showed this
  - If  $f(I) \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{yes}}(\text{3SAT})$  then  $I \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{yes}}(\text{SAT})$    
 Now let's show this

Conversely, suppose  $f(I)$  is a yes-instance of **3-SAT**. We show that  $I$  is a yes-instance of **SAT**.

Consider each clause  $C$  in the SAT input  $I$ . We identify a corresponding set  $S$  of clauses in  $f(I)$ , and we show  $C$  must be satisfied because of the clauses in  $S$ .

- Four clauses in  $f(I)$  having the form  $\{z, a, b\}, \{z, a, \bar{b}\}, \{z, \bar{a}, b\}, \{z, \bar{a}, \bar{b}\}$  are all satisfied if and only if  $z = \text{true}$ . Then the corresponding clause  $\{z\}$  in  $I$  is satisfied.
- Two clauses in  $f(I)$  having the form  $\{z_1, z_2, c\}, \{z_1, z_2, \bar{c}\}$  are both satisfied if and only if at least one of  $z_1, z_2 = \text{true}$ . Then the corresponding clause  $\{z_1, z_2\}$  in  $I$  is satisfied.
- If  $C_j = \{z_1, z_2, z_3\}$  is a clause in  $f(I)$ , then  $C_j$  occurs unchanged in  $I$ .

### Correctness of the Transformation

(4) Finally, consider the  $k-2$  clauses in  $f(I)$  arising from a clause  $C_j = \{z_1, z_2, z_3, \dots, z_k\}$  in  $I$ , where  $k > 3$ . We show that at least one of  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k = \text{true}$  if all  $k-2$  of these clauses contain a true literal.

Assume all of  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k = \text{false}$ . In order for the first clause to contain a true literal,  $d_1 = \text{true}$ . Then, in order for the second clause to contain a true literal,  $d_2 = \text{true}$ . This pattern continues, and in order for the second last clause to contain a true literal,  $d_{k-3} = \text{true}$ .

But then the last clause contains no true literal, which is a contradiction. We have shown that at least one of  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k = \text{true}$ , which says that the clause  $\{z_1, z_2, z_3, \dots, z_k\}$  contains a true literal, as required.

So, we have given a correct polynomial transformation from SAT to 3SAT.   
 So, if a problem  $\Pi$  can be transformed into SAT in polytime, it can also be transformed into 3SAT in polytime.   
 But wait... SAT is NP-COMplete.

**Have we shown 3SAT is NP-COMplete?**   
 Still need to show 3SAT  $\in$  NPI   
 So every problem in NP can be transformed into 3SAT in polytime!

### PROVING 3SAT IS IN NP

1. Define desired YES-certificate
2. Design a poly-time  $verify(I, C)$  algorithm
3. Correctness proof

- **Case 1:** Let  $I$  be any yes-instance; Find  $C$  such that  $verify(I, C) = true$
- **Case 2:** Let  $I$  be any no-instance; and  $C$  be any certificate; Prove  $verify(I, C) = false$
- **Contrapositive of case 2:** Suppose  $verify(I, C) = true$ ; Prove  $I$  is a yes-instance

**3SAT input  $I = (Clauses[1..m], n)$ :**  
 a list of  $m$  clauses, and the number  $n$  of variables. Each clause contains literals. Each literal is a pair (var, neg): a variable  $\in \{1..n\}$  & a negation bit

YES-certificate  $C =$  array with one bit per variable in  $\{1..n\}$  representing a **satisfying assignment**

```

1 verify3SAT(I=(Clauses[1..m], n), C)
2 if C is not an array of n bits return false
3
4 numSat = 0
5 for each c in Clauses
6   for each literal (var, neg) in c
7     if (C[var] == neg or ! (C[var] == neg))
8       numSat++
9     break
10
11 return (numSat == m)
    
```

This takes  $O((|Clauses|) \cdot n)$  time, which is polynomial in  $Size(I)$

### MECHANICS OF SHOWING A PROBLEM IS IN NP

1. Define desired YES-certificate
2. Design a poly-time  $verify(I, C)$  algorithm
3. Correctness proof

- **Case 1:** Let  $I$  be any yes-instance; Find  $C$  such that  $verify(I, C) = true$
- **Case 2:** Let  $I$  be any no-instance; and  $C$  be any certificate; Prove  $verify(I, C) = false$
- **Contrapositive of case 2:** Suppose  $verify(I, C) = true$ ; Prove  $I$  is a yes-instance

Let  $I$  be a yes-instance of 3SAT. Then it has a satisfying assignment  $A$ . And,  $verify(I, A)$  will see that each clause contains a literal satisfied by this assignment, so  $verify$  will see  $numSat = |Clauses|$  and return true.

Suppose  $verify(I, C)$  returns true. Then  $numSat = |Clauses|$ , so  $numSat$  was incremented in each iteration of the loop over clauses, so each clause contains a satisfied literal, so the 3SAT formula in  $I$  is satisfied by  $C$ , so  $I$  is a yes-instance.

It follows that **3SAT is in NP**. Since we have already shown  $SAT \leq_p 3SAT$ , we now know that **3SAT is NP-COMPLETE**.

### RECAP

- To prove a problem  $\Pi$  is NP-COMPLETE
  - Show  $\Pi$  is **in NP**, **and**
  - Give a polynomial transformation **from** some NP-COMPLETE problem **to**  $\Pi$ 
    - This involves an IFF correctness argument, **and** a polytime complexity argument
- When showing a problem is in NP, **or** proving correctness for a polynomial transformation,
  - Instead of proving statements about **no-instances**, it is usually easier to prove the **contrapositive**

### IS 2-SAT ALSO HARD?

### 2-SAT EXAMPLES

- $(p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p \vee r) \wedge (\neg r \vee \neg p)$ 
  - Satisfiable:  $p = 0, q = 1, r \in \{0,1\}$
- $(p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p \vee r) \wedge (\neg r \vee \neg p) \wedge (p \vee \neg q)$

Logical refresher:  
 $p \Rightarrow q$  is **equivalent** to  $\neg p \vee q$ .

Therefore,  $p \vee q$  is **equivalent** to  $\neg p \Rightarrow q$  and **equivalent** to  $\neg q \Rightarrow p$

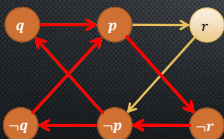
Edges (implications of clauses)...

$\neg p \Rightarrow q$	$p \Rightarrow r$	$r \Rightarrow \neg p$	$\neg p \Rightarrow \neg q$
$\neg q \Rightarrow p$	$\neg r \Rightarrow \neg p$	$p \Rightarrow \neg r$	$q \Rightarrow p$

$q \Rightarrow p \Rightarrow \neg r \Rightarrow \neg p \Rightarrow \neg q \dots$  so  $q$  cannot be true

$\neg q \Rightarrow p \Rightarrow \neg r \Rightarrow \neg p \Rightarrow \neg q \dots$  so  $q$  cannot be false

Therefore the formula **cannot** be satisfied!



**2-SAT** can be solved in polynomial time. Suppose we are given an instance  $I$  of **2-SAT** on a set of boolean variables  $X = \{1..|X|\}$

- (1) For every clause  $x \vee y$  (where  $x$  and  $y$  are literals), construct two directed edges  $\bar{x}y$  and  $\bar{y}x$ . We get a directed graph on vertex set  $X \cup \bar{X}$ .
- (2) Determine the strongly connected components of this directed graph.
- (3)  $I$  is a yes-instance if and only if there is no strongly connected component containing  $x$  and  $\bar{x}$ , for any  $x \in X$ .

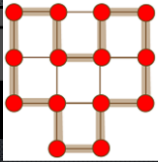
Suppose no variable  $x$  is in the same SCC as  $\bar{x}$ , then to get a satisfying assignment do the following:  
 For each  $x$ , if  $\exists$  path from  $x$  to  $\bar{x}$ , then set  $x = false$  else set  $x = true$ .

# HOMEWORK SLIDES

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## RETURNING TO ANOTHER FAMILIAR PROBLEM

**Problem 7.2**  
**Hamiltonian Cycle**  
**Instance:** An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ .  
**Question:** Does  $G$  contain a hamiltonian cycle?



A **hamiltonian cycle** is a cycle that passes through every vertex in  $V$  exactly once.

Turns out **Hamiltonian Cycle** is **NP complete** as well

Compare to **Euler tour/circuit**: a cycle that passes through each **edge** exactly once can be found in **polytime**!

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## THE P=NP QUESTION

**Theorem 7.12**  
 If  $P \cap NPC \neq \emptyset$ , then  $P = NP$ .

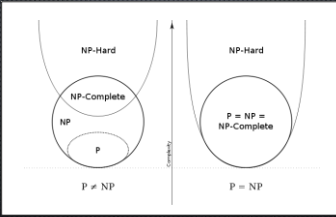
So, to win \$1,000,000 just need to find one problem in *NPC* that can be reduced to a problem in *P*

**Proof.**  
 We know that  $P \subseteq NP$ , so it suffices to show that  $NP \subseteq P$ . Suppose  $\Pi \in P \cap NPC$  and let  $\Pi' \in NP$ . We will show that  $\Pi' \in P$ .

- 1 Since  $\Pi' \in NP$  and  $\Pi \in NPC$ , it follows that  $\Pi' \leq_P \Pi$  (definition of NP-completeness).
- 2 Since  $\Pi' \leq_P \Pi$  and  $\Pi \in P$ , it follows that  $\Pi' \in P$  [see last lecture]

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## TWO POSSIBLE REALITIES...



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**Theorem 7.10**  
 If  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$  are decision problems,  $\Pi_1 \leq_P \Pi_2$  and  $\Pi_2 \in P$ , then  $\Pi_1 \in P$ .

**Proof.**  
 Suppose  $A$  is a poly-time algorithm for  $\Pi_2$ , having complexity  $O(m^k)$  on an instance of size  $m$ . Suppose  $f$  is a transformation from  $\Pi_1$  to  $\Pi_2$  having complexity  $O(n^k)$  on an instance of size  $n$ . We solve  $\Pi_1$  as follows:

- 1 Given  $I \in \mathcal{I}(\Pi_1)$ , construct  $f(I) \in \mathcal{I}(\Pi_2)$ .
- 2 Run  $A(f(I))$ .

It is clear that this yields the correct answer. We need to show that these two steps can be carried out in polynomial time as a function of  $n = \text{Size}(I)$ . Step (1) can be executed in time  $O(n^k)$  and it yields an instance  $f(I)$  having size  $m \in O(n^k)$ . Step (2) takes time  $O(m^k)$ . Since  $m \in O(n^k)$ , the time for step (2) is  $O(n^{k^2})$ , as is the total time to execute both steps.

**PROPERTIES OF POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATIONS**

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**Theorem 7.11**  
 Suppose that  $\Pi_1, \Pi_2$  and  $\Pi_3$  are decision problems. If  $\Pi_1 \leq_P \Pi_2$  and  $\Pi_2 \leq_P \Pi_3$ , then  $\Pi_1 \leq_P \Pi_3$ .

**Proof.**  
 We have a polynomial transformation  $f$  from  $\Pi_1$  to  $\Pi_2$ , and another polynomial transformation  $g$  from  $\Pi_2$  to  $\Pi_3$ . We define  $h = f \circ g$ , i.e.,  $h(I) = g(f(I))$  for all instances  $I$  of  $\Pi_1$ . (Exercise: fill in the details.)

**PROPERTIES OF POLYNOMIAL TRANSFORMATIONS**

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