

# Time Complexity

- We use a multitape Turing machine
- We count the number of steps until a string is accepted
- We use the  $O(k)$  notation

Example:  $L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$

Algorithm to accept a string  $w$  :

- Use a two-tape Turing machine
- Copy the  $a$  on the second tape
- Compare the  $a$  and  $b$

$$L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

Time needed:

• Copy the  $a$  on the second tape  $O(|w|)$

• Compare the  $a$  and  $b$   $O(|w|)$

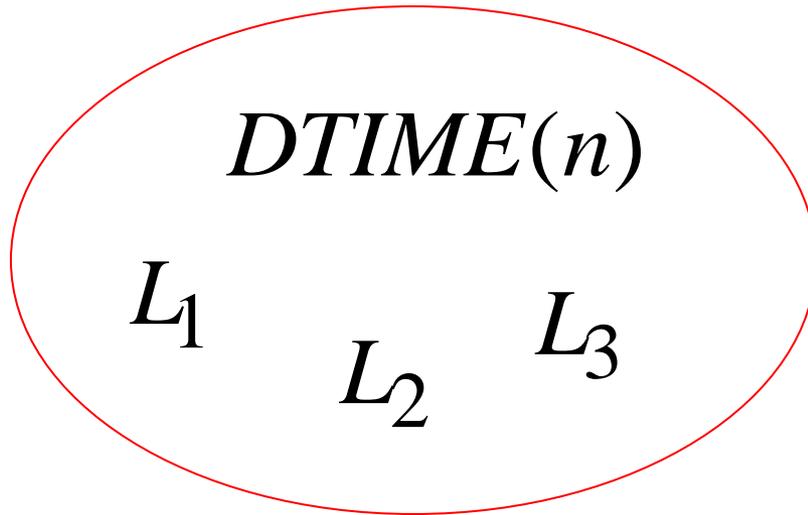
Total time:  $O(|w|)$

$$L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

For string of length  $n$

time needed for acceptance:  $O(n)$

Language class:  $DTIME(n)$



A Deterministic Turing Machine  
accepts each string of length  $n$   
in time  $O(n)$

*DTIME*( $n$ )

$\{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$

$\{ww\}$

In a similar way we define the class

$$DTIME(T(n))$$

for any time function:  $T(n)$

Examples:  $DTIME(n^2)$ ,  $DTIME(n^3)$ ,...

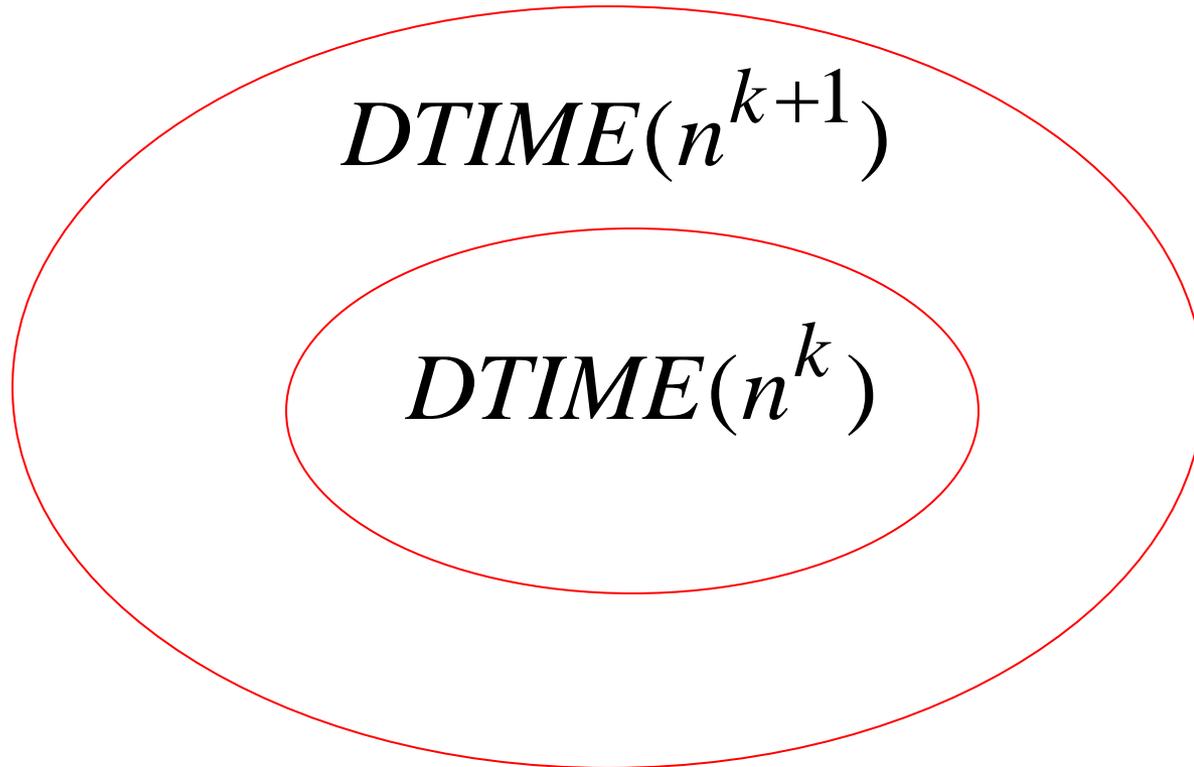
Example: The membership problem  
for context free languages

$L = \{w : w \text{ is generated by grammar } G\}$

$L \in DTIME(n^3)$

Polynomial time

**Theorem:**  $DTIME(n^{k+1}) \supset DTIME(n^k)$



Polynomial time algorithms:  $DTIME(n^k)$

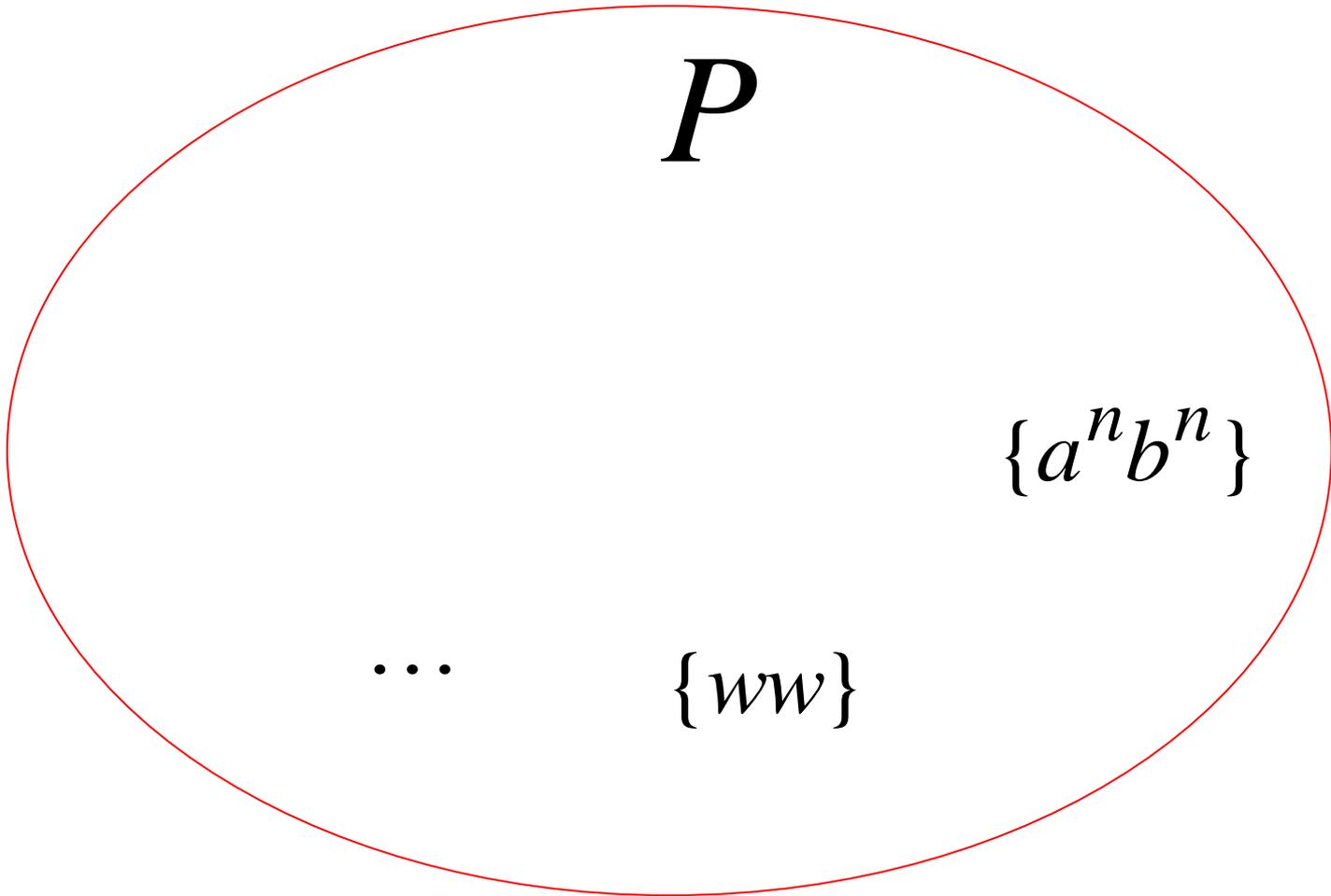
Represent tractable algorithms:

For small  $k$  we can compute the  
result fast

# The class $P$

$$P = \cup DTIME(n^k) \quad \text{for all } k$$

- Polynomial time
- All tractable problems



# Examples of problems in P

- 1,  $PATH = \{ \langle G, s, t \rangle \mid G \text{ is a directed graph that has a directed path from } s \text{ to } t \}$ 
  - The PATH problem: Is a path from  $s$  to  $t$ ?
- 2,  $REPRIME = \{ \langle x, y \rangle \mid x \text{ and } y \text{ are relatively prime} \}$ 
  - The REPRIME problem: Are  $x$  and  $y$  relative primes?

# PATH

A polynomial time algorithm  $M$  of PATH operates as follows.

$M =$  "On input  $\langle G, s, t \rangle$  where  $G$  is a directed graph with nodes  $s$  and  $t$ :

1. Place a mark on node  $s$ .
2. Repeat the following until no additional nodes are marked:

# PATH

3. Scan all the edges of  $G$ . If an edge  $(a, b)$  is found going from a marked node  $a$  to an unmarked node  $b$ , mark node  $b$ .
4. If  $t$  is marked, *accept*. Otherwise, *reject*."

# REPRIME

The Euclidean algorithm  $E$  is as follows.

$E =$  "On input  $\langle x, y \rangle$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  are natural numbers in binary:

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

# REPRIME

Algorithm **R** solves RELPRIME, using **E** as a subroutine.

**R** = "On input  $\langle x, y \rangle$ , where **x** and **y** are natural numbers in binary:

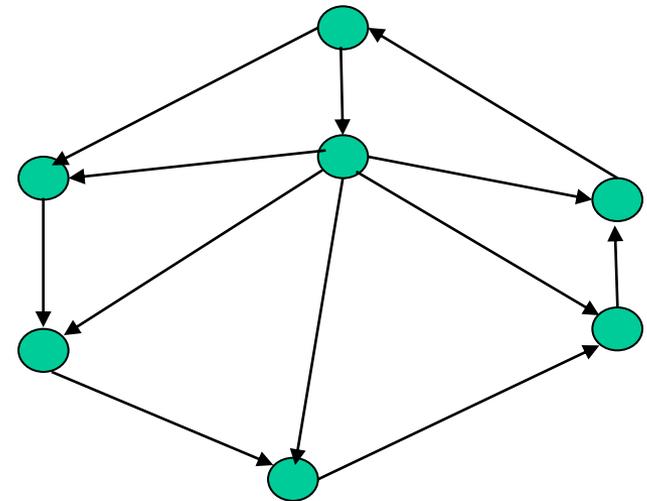
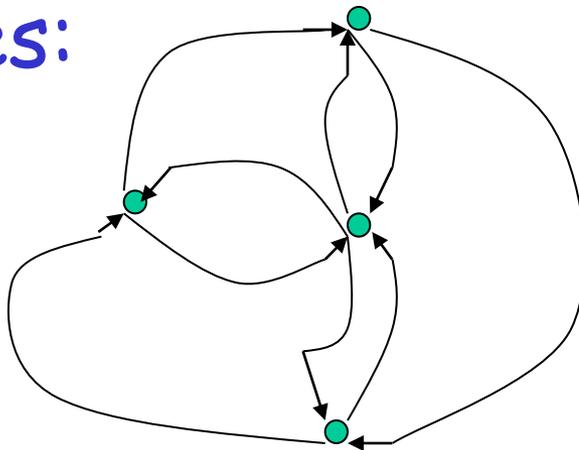
1. Run **E** on  $\langle x, y \rangle$ .

2. If the result is **1**, *accept*. Otherwise, *reject*."

# Eulerian Graphs

- **Euler Cycle Problem:** Given a graph  $G$ , is there a closed path in  $G$  that uses each edge exactly once?
- A graph that has a Euler cycle is called Eulerian.

Examples:



# Eulerian Graphs

Euler Cycle Problem is in  $P$ . That is,  
 $L = \{\text{Cycle}(G) \mid G \text{ is Eulerian}\}$  is in  $P$ .

**Proof.** By Euler Theorem:

Euler Theorem: A graph  $G$  is Eulerian iff the following two conditions are true:

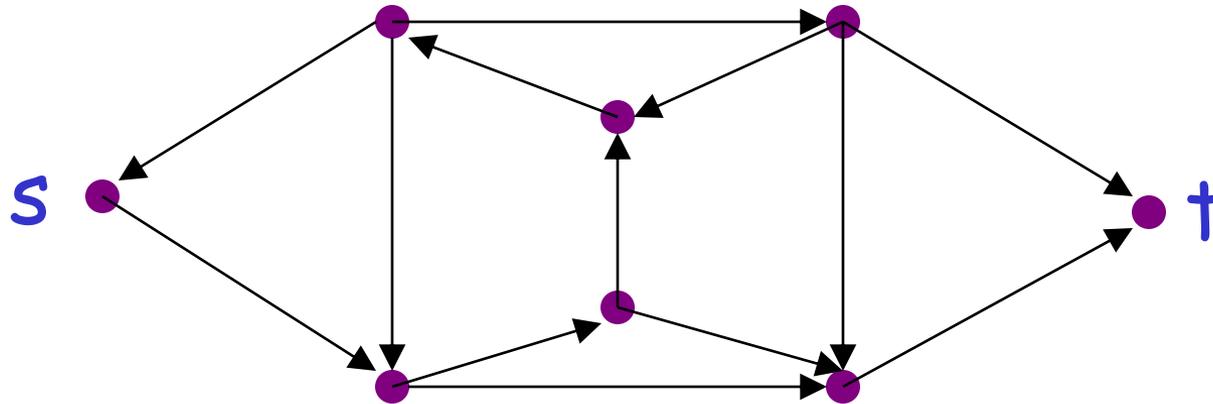
- For any pair of nodes  $u, v$  in  $G$ , there is a path from  $u$  to  $v$ .
- All nodes have equal numbers of incoming and outgoing edges

Exponential time algorithms:  $DTIME(2^n)$

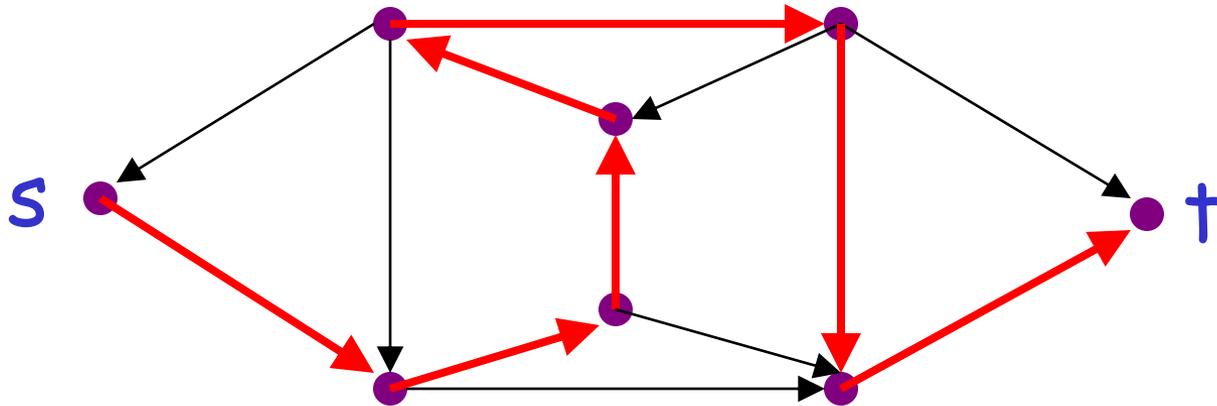
Represent intractable algorithms:

Some problem instances  
may take centuries to solve

# Example: the Hamiltonian Problem



Question: is there a Hamiltonian path from  $s$  to  $t$ ?



YES!

A solution: search exhaustively all paths

$L = \{ \langle G, s, t \rangle : \text{there is a Hamiltonian path in } G \text{ from } s \text{ to } t \}$

$$L \in DTIME(n!) \approx DTIME(2^n)$$

Sterling equation

Exponential time

Intractable problem

# Example: The Satisfiability Problem (SAT)

SAT = { $\langle \Phi \rangle$  |  $\Phi$  is a satisfiable Boolean formula.}

Boolean expressions in  
Conjunctive Normal Form:

$$t_1 \wedge t_2 \wedge t_3 \wedge \cdots \wedge t_k$$

$$t_i = x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_3 \vee \cdots \vee \bar{x}_p$$

Variables

Question: is expression satisfiable?

Example:  $(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_3)$

Satisfiable:  $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 1, x_3 = 1$

$$(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_3) = 1$$

Example:  $(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2$

Not satisfiable

$SAT = \{ \langle \Phi \rangle \mid \Phi \text{ is a satisfiable Boolean formula.} \}$

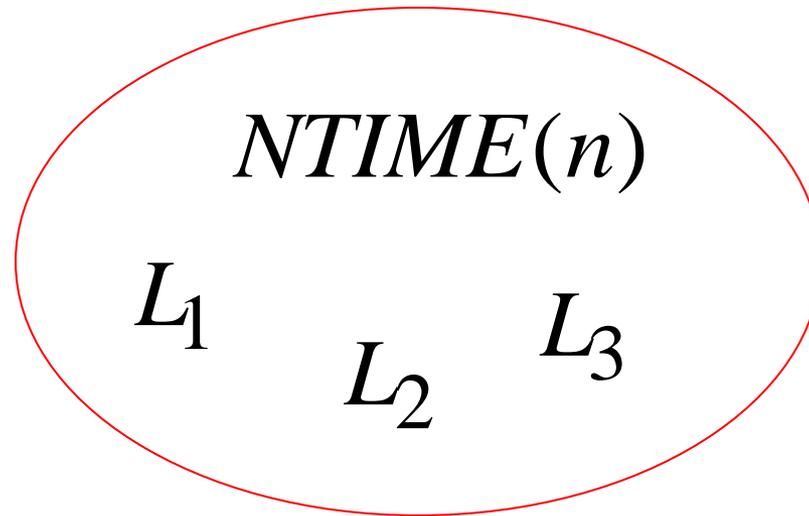
For  $n$  variables:  $L \in DTIME(2^n)$   
exponential

Algorithm:

search exhaustively all the possible  
binary values of the variables

# Non-Determinism

Language class:  $NTIME(n)$



A Non-Deterministic Turing Machine  
accepts each string of length  $n$   
in time  $O(n)$

Example:  $L = \{ww\}$

Non-Deterministic Algorithm

to accept a string  $ww$  :

- Use a two-tape Turing machine
- Guess the middle of the string and copy  $w$  on the second tape
- Compare the two tapes

$$L = \{ww\}$$

Time needed:

- Use a two-tape Turing machine

- Guess the middle of the string and copy  $w$  on the second tape

$$O(|w|)$$

- Compare the two tapes

$$O(|w|)$$

Total time:

$$O(|w|)$$

*NTIME*( $n$ )

$L = \{ww\}$

In a similar way we define the class

$$NTIME(T(n))$$

for any time function:  $T(n)$

Examples:  $NTIME(n^2)$ ,  $NTIME(n^3)$ ,...

# Non-Deterministic Polynomial time algorithms:

$$L \in NTIME(n^k)$$

# The class $NP$

$$NP = \cup NTIME(n^k) \quad \text{for all } k$$

Non-Deterministic Polynomial time

**Theorem 7.11** Let  $t(n)$  be a function, where  $t(n) \geq n$ . Then every  $t(n)$  time nondeterministic single-tape Turing machine has an equivalent  $2^{O(t(n))}$  time deterministic single-tape Turing machine.

$$\text{NTM}[O(t(n))] \Leftrightarrow \text{DTM}[O(2^{O(t(n))})]$$

## Example: The satisfiability problem

$SAT = \{ \langle \Phi \rangle \mid \Phi \text{ is a satisfiable Boolean formula.} \}$

### Non-Deterministic algorithm:

- Guess an assignment of the variables
- Check if this is a satisfying assignment

$SAT = \{ \langle \Phi \rangle \mid \Phi \text{ is a satisfiable Boolean formula.} \}$

Time for  $n$  variables:

- Guess an assignment of the variables  $O(n)$
- Check if this is a satisfying assignment  $O(n)$

Total time:  $O(n)$

$SAT = \{ \langle \Phi \rangle \mid \Phi \text{ is a satisfiable Boolean formula.} \}$

$$L \in NP$$

The satisfiability problem is an  $NP$ -Problem

# Observation:

$$P \subseteq NP$$

Deterministic  
Polynomial

Non-Deterministic  
Polynomial

Open Problem:

$$P = ? NP$$

**Example:** Does the Satisfiability problem have a polynomial time deterministic algorithm?

**WE DO NOT KNOW THE ANSWER**

# Cook-Levin Theorem

$SAT \in P$  iff  $P=NP$

The next is an NTM that decides the **HAMPATH PROBLEM** in nondeterministic polynomial time.

# HAMPATH PROBLEM

$N1 =$  "On input  $\langle G, s, t \rangle$ , where  $G$  is a directed graph with nodes  $s$  and  $t$ :

1. Write a list of  $m$  numbers,  $p_1, \dots, p_m$ , where  $m$  is the number of nodes in  $G$ . Each number in the list is nondeterministically selected to be between  $1$  and  $m$ .

# HAMPATH PROBLEM

2. Check for repetitions in the list. If any are found, reject.
3. Check whether  $s = p_1$  and  $t = p_m$ . If either fails, reject.
4. For each  $i$  between  $1$  and  $m-1$ , check whether  $(p_i, p_{i+1})$  is an edge of  $G$ . If any are not, reject. Otherwise, all tests have been passed, so accept."

# NP-completeness

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**.

# Examples for NP-completeness

- 1, SAT is NP-complete.
- 2, CLIQUE is NP-complete.
- 3, VERTEX-COVER is NP-complete.
- 4, HAMPATH is NP-complete.
- 5, UHAMPATH is NP-complete.
- 6, SUBSET-SUM is NP-complete.

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

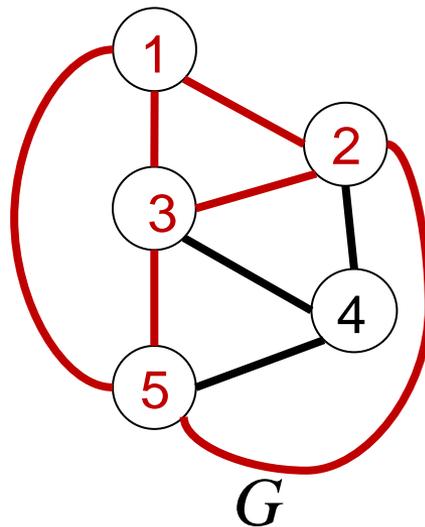
•  $SUBSET-SUM = \{ \langle S, t \rangle \mid S = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$   
and for some  $\{y_1, \dots, y_l\} \subseteq \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ ,  
we have  $\sum y_i = t$  }

# CLIQUE

Given an undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$  and an integer  $K \geq 2$ , is there a subset  $C$  of  $V$  with  $|C| \geq K$

such that for all  $u_i, v_j \in C$  there is an edge between  $u_i$  and  $v_j$

Examples:



$(G,3)?$

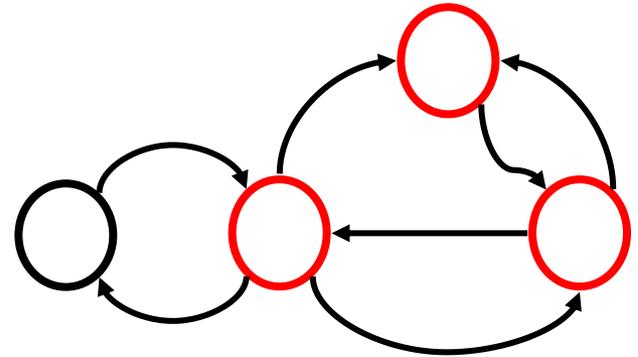
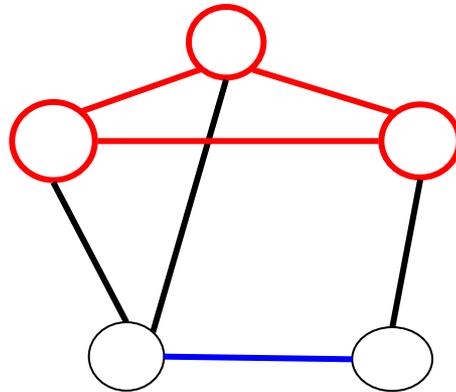
$(G,4)?$

$(G,5)?$

# VERTEX-COVER

Given an undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$  and an integer  $B \geq 2$ , is there a subset  $C$  of  $V$  with  $|C| \geq B$  such that  $C$  touches all edges of  $G$ ?

Examples:



# SUBSET SUM

- A set  $Q = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  of positive integers and a positive integer  $d$ .
- Is there a subset of  $Q$  that adds up to  $d$ ? That is,
  - Is there  $S \subseteq Q$  such that  $\sum_{a \in S} a = d$  ?

# Proving a Problem in NP

Two steps:

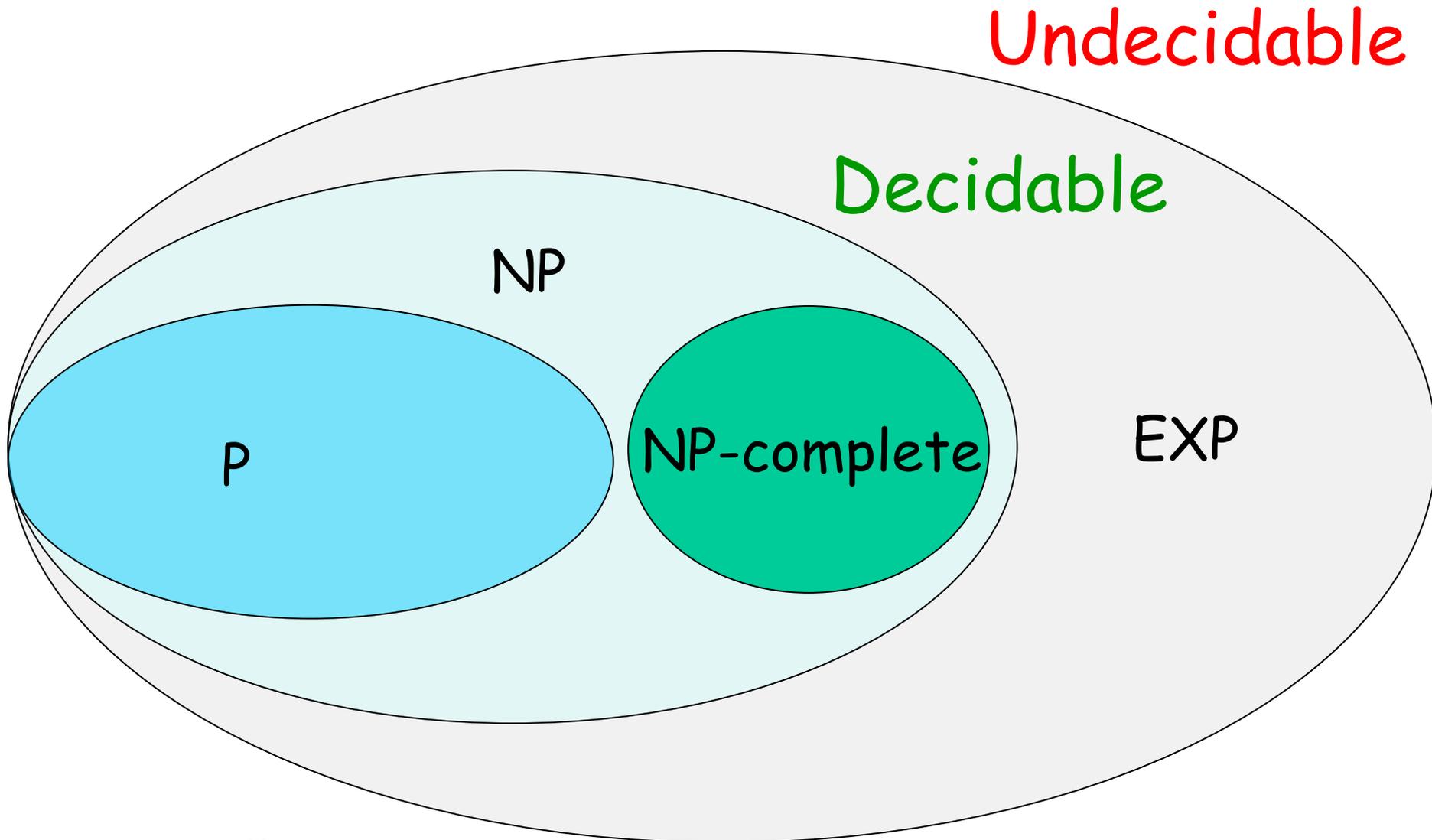
- Nondeterministically **guess** an answer in poly-time
- Deterministically **verify** the guessed answer is indeed an answer in poly-time

# The Class EXP

## Definition

The class EXP is the set of all problems that are decidable by **exponentially**-bounded TM's.

# Hierarchy and an open question



$NP = ? EXP$

# NP-hard problems

- If all problems in NP can be polynomially reduced to a problem **B**, then **B** is called NP-hard.
- The class of NP-hard problem itself is not necessarily in NP.

# NP-hard problems (Cont.)

- Informally NP-hard problems are at least as hard as or **harder** any problem in NP.
- if we can find an **algorithm A** that **solves** one of these **NP-hard** problems in polynomial time then we **can** construct a polynomial time algorithm for **every problem in NP**.

# Example for NP-hard

- **SUBSET-SUM** is an NP-hard problem.
  - For example: given a set of integers, does any non empty subset of them add up to zero?
  - That happens to be NP-complete.
- The **halting problem** is NP-hard.
  - Which is : given a program and its input, will it run forever?
  - It has been proved that the halting problem is NP-hard but not NP-complete.

## Example for NP-hard (Cont.)

- "is there a Hamiltonian cycle with length less than  $k$ " is NP-complete
  - it is easy to determine if a proposed certificate has length less than  $k$ .
- The optimization problem, "what is the shortest tour?", is NP-hard, since there is no easy way to determine if a certificate is the shortest.

# Verifiers

## Definition

- A decider machine  $V$  is called a verifier for a language  $L$  if

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

- The string  $c$  is called a certificate (or witness) for  $w$

# Certificates

- Every yes-instance of those problems has a short and easily checkable certificate
- **Satisfiability** — a satisfying assignment
- **Hamiltonian Circuit** — a Hamiltonian circuit
- In all cases one can easily prove a positive answer

# verifier of polynomial time

- A verifier is said to be **polynomial time** if
  - it is a polynomial time Turing Machine, and
  - there is a polynomial  $t(n)$  such that, for any  $w$  in  $L$ , there is a certificate  $c$  with  $|c|$  less than or equal to  $t(|w|)$

# The alternative definition for Class NP

## Definition

- The class of languages that **have polynomial time verifiers** is called the NP class
- i.e. all problems from NP class have a polynomial time verifier.

# Equivalence

## Theorem

The two definitions of NP are equivalent.

## Proof

If  $L \in NTIME[n^k]$ , then there is an NTM such that  $x \in L$  if and only if there is an accepting computation path in  $NTM(x)$ . Furthermore, the length of these paths is in  $O(|x|^k)$ .

## Proof (Cont.)

Using (some encoding of) these computation paths as the certificates.

We can construct a polynomial time verifier for  $L$  which simply checks that each step of the computation path is valid.

## Proof (Cont.)

- Conversely, if  $L$  has a polynomial-time verifier  $V$ , then we can construct a NTM that first “guesses” the value of the certificate by making a series of non-deterministic choices, and then simulates  $V$  with that certificate.
- Since the length of the certificate is polynomial in the length of the input, this machine is a nondeterministic polynomial-time decision procedure for  $L$ . (QED)

# Space complexity

$SPACE(f(n)) = \{ L \mid L \text{ is a language decided by a } O(f(n)) \text{ space deterministic Turing machine} \}$

$NSPACE(f(n)) = \{ L \mid L \text{ is a language decided by a } O(f(n)) \text{ space nondeterministic Turing machine} \}$

# Example: SAT

$M_1$  = "On input  $\langle \Phi \rangle$ , where  $\Phi$  is a Boolean formula:

1. For each truth assignment to the variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  of  $\Phi$ :
2. Evaluate  $\Phi$  on that truth assignment.
3. If  $\Phi$  ever evaluated to 1, *accept*; if not, *reject*."

Space complexity  $O(n)$

# PSPACE

**PSPACE** is the class of languages that are decidable in polynomial space on a deterministic Turing machine

$$PSPACE = \bigcup_k SPACE(n^k)$$

# Savitch's theorem

## Savitch's theorem

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

The relationship among the complexity classes defined so far

$$P \subseteq NP \subseteq \text{PSPACE} = \text{NPSPACE} \subseteq \text{EXPTIME}$$

Thank You