

# Chap. 10 Intractable Problems

*Efficient vs inefficient*

*polynomial vs exponential*

*tolerable vs intolerable amount of time*

*Cook's Theorem*

*satisfiability of boolean formula*

*can **not** be decided in polynomial time*

*Reduce this problem to other problems*

***polynomial** time reduction*

*Assumption  $P \neq NP$  controvertible*

*Nondeterministic polynomial time*

*?No deterministic polynomial time*

## 10.1 The Classes $P$ and $NP$

A TM(algorithm)  $M$  is said to be of **time complexity**  $T(n)$   
**running time**  $T(n)$

if  $M$  with input  $w$  of length  $n$ ,  $M$  halts after **at most**  $T(n)$  moves.

A problem  $P$  is in  $P$ , if there exist an **deterministic** algorithm(program)  
of **polynomial** time complexity.

Is there a **path** from  $s$  to  $t$  in a directed graph  $G$

1. place a mark on node  $s$
2. Repeat 3 until no additional nodes are marked
3. for edge  $(a, b)$  in  $G$   
if  $a$  is marked and  $b$  is unmarked then mark  $b$
4. If  $t$  marked **accept**, otherwise **reject**.

At most  $n$ (number of nodes) marks.

path problem is  $P$ .

A problem  $P$  is in  $NP$ , if there exist an **nondeterministic** algorithm of **polynomial** time complexity

$$P \subseteq NP$$

$$P = NP \text{ or } P \neq NP (P \subset NP)$$

$$? \exists P. \exists. P \in NP, P \notin P.$$

Is there a **hamiltonian path**(circuit in this text)

Travelling Salesman Problem: An  $NP$  Example

Verify **all** paths, if it is **hamiltonian**.

at most  $n!$  paths

Exponential

Verify  $n!$  paths in **parallel**

$O(n)$  in parallel,  $NP$

**Polynomial time reduction(PTR)**

**Reduce all instances of  $P_1$  to  $P_2$  in polynomial time ( $P_1 \leq_P P_2$ )**

*If  $P_2$  is  $P$ , then  $P_1$  is  $P$ .*

*If  $P_1$  is not  $P$ , then  $P_2$  is not  $P$*

*$P$  is NP-complete problems, if*

*1.  $P$  is NP.*

*2. For  $\forall P' \in NP$ ,  $\exists$  polynomial time reduction of  $P'$  to  $P$ . ( $P' \leq_P P$ ).*

*NP-complete is the hardest problems among NP.*

**Theorem 10.4** *If  $P_1$  is NP-complete, and  $P_1 \leq_P P_2$ ,  
then  $P_2$  is NP-complete.*

**proof** *Since  $P_1$  is NP-complete,  $\forall P' \in NP$ ,  $P' \leq_P P_1$ , and  $P_1 \leq_P P_2$ .*

*$\therefore \forall P' \in NP$ ,  $P' \leq_P P_2$ .  $\therefore P_2$  is NP-complete.*

**Theorem 10.5** If  $\exists P \in NP\text{-complete}$  and  $P \in P$ , then  $P = NP$ .

**proof** Since  $\forall P' \in NP$ ,  $P' \leq_P P$ .  $NP \subseteq P$ , and  $P = NP$ .

We don't resolve that  $P = NP$  neither  $P \neq NP$  but

$NP\text{-complete}$  problems are the **hardest** ones among  $NP$  to be  $P$ .

If  $P \in NP\text{-complete}$  and  $P$  is proven to be  $P$ , then  $P = NP$ .

Otherwise we don't know.(Now!!)

$P$  is  $NP\text{-hard}$ , if

2. For  $\forall P' \in NP$ ,  $P' \leq_P P$ .

We can say  $P = NP$ , if we found  $P \in NP\text{-hard}$  is  $P$ .

Furthermore  $P \in NP\text{-hard}$  is at least as hard as  $P' \in NP\text{-complete}$ .

## 10.2 An NP-complete Problem

$e \rightarrow e \vee e \mid e \wedge e \mid \neg e \mid v \mid T \mid F$

the value for variables( $v$ ) are either  $T$  or  $F$ .

Let  $E$  be a boolean expression.

**truth assignment** of  $E$ , denoted  $T$ ,

assigns either  $T$  or  $F$  for variable in  $E$

$x_1, \dots, x_n$  variable       $2^n$  assignments

$E(T)$       the result of the true assignment  $T$

$E$  is **satisfiable**, if  $\exists$  truth assignment  $T$  such that  $E(T) = T$ .

The **satisfiability(SAT) problem**

Given a boolean expression, is it **satisfiable**?

SAT is the **first NP-complete problem**(Cook's theorem)

i)  $SAT \in NP$ , ii)  $\forall P \in NP, P \leq_P SAT, \therefore SAT \in NP\text{-complete}$  (first).

If  $\exists P \in NP, SAT \leq_P P$  then  $P \in NP\text{-complete}$ .(Thm 10.5)

**Theorem 10.9 (Cook's Theorem)** *SAT is NP-complete.*

*proof 1) SAT is NP.*

*It is trivial.  $2^n$  assignments, we can determine the result of each assignment in polynomial time in NTM.  $\therefore \text{SAT} \in \text{NP}$ .*

*2) For  $\forall P \in \text{NP}$ ,  $\exists$  polynomial time reduction of  $P$  to SAT. ( $P' \leq_P P$ )*

*Since  $P \in \text{NP}$ , we assume polynomial  $p(n)$  moves in NTM.*

$$\alpha_0 \Rightarrow \alpha_1 \Rightarrow^* \dots \Rightarrow \alpha_{p(n)}.$$

*where  $\alpha_i \in \Gamma^* \times Q \times \Gamma^*$  and  $|\alpha_i| \leq p(n)$  for  $0 \leq \forall i \leq p(n)$ .*

*$\therefore$  We write  $\alpha_i = X_{i0} X_{i1} \dots X_{ip(n)}$ .*

*a) Assume  $X_{ij}$  two-dimensional array ( $0 \leq \forall i, \forall j \leq p(n)$ )*

*where  $X_{ij}$  is the symbol (in  $Q \cup \Gamma$ ) for  $j$ -th position of  $i$ -th ID.*

*$(p(n)+1)^2$  cells see fig 10.4(p443)*

*b) Consider a **boolean** variable  $y_{ijA}$  to denote the **proposition** that  $X_{ij} = A$ .*

c) Given  $M \in TM$  and  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , consider a **boolean expression**,

$$E_{M, w} = U \wedge S \wedge N \wedge F'.$$

1. **Unique**

$$\wedge_{i,j} \neg(y_{ijA} \wedge y_{ijB}) \text{ where } A \neq B \in Q \cup \Gamma$$

2. **Starts right:  $S$  initial configuration**

Assume  $w = a_1 \dots a_n$ .

$$S = y_{00q_0} \wedge y_{01a_1} \wedge y_{02a_2} \wedge \dots \wedge y_{0na_n} \wedge y_{0,n+1,B} \wedge \dots \wedge y_{0,p(n),B}.$$

4. **Finishes right:  $F'$  final configuration**

Assume final state in  $\alpha_{p(n)}$  and  $F = \{f_0, \dots, f_k\}$ .

Repeat accepting configuration until  $p(n)$

$$F' = F_0 \vee \dots \vee F_{p(n)} \quad \text{where } F_j \text{ means } X_{p(n),j} \in F.$$

$$0 \leq \forall j \leq p(n), F_j = y_{p(n),j,f_0} \vee \dots \vee y_{p(n),j,f_k}.$$



3. Next move is right:  $N$  legal moves in TM

$N = N_0 \wedge \dots \wedge N_{p(n)-1}$  where  $N_i$  assures that  $\alpha_i \Rightarrow \alpha_{i+1}$  and

$0 \leq \forall i \leq p(n) - 1, N_i = (A_{i0} \vee B_{i0}) \wedge \dots \wedge (A_{ip(n)} \vee B_{ip(n)})$ .

$0 \leq \forall j \leq p(n)$ , two cases (a)  $X_{i,j} \in Q(A_{ij})$  or (b)  $X_{i,j} \notin Q(\in \Gamma) (B_{ij})$ .

Window: 3 cells

(a) Assume  $X_{i,j-1}X_{i,j}X_{i,j+1} = DqA$  where  $q \in Q, D, A \in \Gamma$ .

1) Move left: If  $\delta(q, \underline{A}) = (\underline{p}, \underline{C}, \mathbf{R})$  then  $X_{i+1,j-1}X_{i+1,j}X_{i+1,j+1} = DCp$ .

$\dots Dq\underline{A} \dots \Rightarrow \dots \underline{DCp} \dots$

$A_{ij} = y_{i,j-1,D} \wedge y_{i,j,q} \wedge y_{i,j+1,A} \wedge y_{i+1,j-1,D} \wedge y_{i+1,j,C} \wedge y_{i+1,j+1,p}$

2) Move right: If  $\delta(q, \underline{A}) = (\underline{p}, \underline{C}, \mathbf{L})$  then  $X_{i+1,j-1}X_{i+1,j}X_{i+1,j+1} = pDC$ .

$\dots Dq\underline{A} \dots \Rightarrow \dots \underline{pDC} \dots$

$A_{ij} = y_{i,j-1,D} \wedge y_{i,j,q} \wedge y_{i,j+1,A} \wedge y_{i+1,j-1,p} \wedge y_{i+1,j,D} \wedge y_{i+1,j+1,C}$

(b) Assume  $Q = \{q_1, \dots, q_m\}$  and  $\Gamma = \{Z_1, \dots, Z_r\}$

State is at left( $i-1$ ) or at right( $i+1$ ) or not in the window.

$$\begin{aligned}
 B_{ij} &= (X_{i,j-1} \in Q) \vee (X_{i,j+1} \in Q) \vee (X_{i,j} \in \Gamma \wedge X_{i,j} = X_{i+1,j}) \\
 &= (y_{i,j-1,q_1} \vee \dots \vee y_{i,j-1,q_m}) && X_{i,j-1} \in Q, \\
 &\quad \vee (y_{i,j+1,q_1} \vee \dots \vee y_{i,j+1,q_m}) && X_{i,j+1} \in Q, \\
 &\quad \vee ((y_{i,j,Z_1} \vee \dots \vee y_{i,j,Z_r}) \wedge && X_{i,j} \in \Gamma, \\
 &\quad \quad ((y_{i,j,Z_1} \wedge y_{i+1,j,Z_1}) \vee \dots \vee (y_{i,j,Z_r} \wedge y_{i+1,j,Z_r}))) && X_{i,j} = X_{i+1,j}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$N = N_0 \wedge \dots \wedge N_{p(n)-1}$$

$A_{ij}$  and  $B_{ij}$  are large but independent of  $n$ , the length  $w$ .

The length of  $N_i$  is  $O(p(n))$  and the length of  $N$  is  $O(p^2(n))$ .

*Conclusion of Cook's theorem*

We can reduce **any** problem in NP to SAT in **polynomial** time.

If  $P \in NP$  and  $SAT \leq_P P$ , then  $P$  is also an **NP-complete** problem.

## 10.3 Restricted Satisfiability Problem

### 10.3.1 Conjunctive normal form

*literal* a variable or negated variable

$$x, \neg y = \bar{y}$$

*clause* OR(**conjunction**) of the literals

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee z$$

an boolean expression is **conjunctive normal form**  
if it is the AND(**disjunction**) of clauses

An expression is **k-conjunctive normal form(k-CNF)**, if **every** clause has **exactly k distinct variables**.

$$(x + \bar{y})(x + y + \bar{z}) \quad \text{CNF}$$

$$(x + \bar{y})(y + \bar{z})(z + \bar{x}) \quad \text{2-CNF}$$

$$(x + \bar{y} + z)(x + y + \bar{z}) \quad \text{3-CNF}$$

**CSAT**: satisfiability problem of CNF

**kSAT**: satisfiability problem of k-CNF

### 10.3.2 Converting Expression to CNF

1. Push all the  $\neg$  in the boolean expression down to the variable (**literal**)

$$\neg(E \wedge F) = \neg E \vee \neg F$$

$$\neg(E \vee F) = \neg E \wedge \neg F$$

$$\neg(\neg(E)) = E$$

Every literal has at most 1 negation.

2. Write an CNF by introducing **new variables and its complements**.

New expression  $F$  is **not equivalent** to the old one  $E$ , but

$F$  is **satisfiable if and only if**  $E$  is.

3.  $S$  is a **extension** of  $T$ , if

1)  $S$  assigns the same value as  $T$  for the old variables

2)  $S$  may assign a value to new variables that  $T$  does not mention.

A truth assignment  $T$  for  $E$  is true, if and only if,

the **extension**  $S$  of  $T$  for  $F$  is true.

**Theorem 10.12** Every boolean expression  $E$  is equivalent to an expression  $F$  in CNF. Moreover the length of  $F$  is linear in number of symbols of  $E$ ,  $F$  can be constructed in polynomial time.

**Proof** Induction on number of operators ( $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\neg$ )

**basis** If  $E$  has one operator ( $x \wedge y$ ,  $x \vee y$ ,  $\neg x$ ), it is trivial.

**induction**

$$1) E = E_1 \wedge E_2, E = E_1 \vee E_2.$$

$$2) E = \neg E_1.$$

$$2.1) E = \neg(\neg(E_2)) = E_2.$$

$$2.2) E = \neg(E_2 \vee E_3) = \neg(E_2) \wedge \neg(E_3)$$

$$2.3) E = \neg(E_2 \wedge E_3) = \neg(E_2) \vee \neg(E_3)$$

### 10.3.3 NP-Completeness of CSAT

**Theorem 10.13** *CSAT is NP-complete.*

**Proof** *Reduce SAT to CSAT*

*Assume  $E$  is a boolean expression of length  $n$ . Then*

- a)  $F$  is CNF of at most  $n$  clauses.*
- b)  $F$  is constructable from  $E$  in time at most  $c|E|^2$ .*
- c) A truth assignment  $T$  is true for  $E$   
iff  $\exists$  extension  $S$  of  $T$  that makes  $F$  true.*

**Basis** *If  $E$  consists of one or two symbols,  $E$  is CNF.*

**Induction** *Two cases*

*Case 1:  $E = E_1 \wedge E_2$ .*

*(If)*

*(Only if)*

*Case 2:  $E = E_1 \vee E_2$ .*

Assume  $F_1 = g_1 \wedge g_2 \wedge \dots \wedge g_p$  and  $F_2 = h_1 \wedge h_2 \wedge \dots \wedge h_q$ .

$F = (y+g_1) \wedge (y+g_2) \wedge \dots \wedge (y+g_p) \wedge (\bar{y}+h_1) \wedge (\bar{y}+h_2) \wedge \dots \wedge (\bar{y}+h_q)$ .

A truth assignment  $T$  for  $E$  satisfies  $E$ , if and only if,

$T$  can be extended to a truth assignment  $S$  for  $F$  that satisfies  $F$ .

(If)

(Only if) Assume the extension  $S$  satisfies  $F$ .

*Example 10.4*

$$E = x\bar{y} + \bar{x}(y+z)$$

$$F \Rightarrow x\bar{y} + \bar{x}(v+y)(\bar{v}+z)$$

$$\Rightarrow (u+x)(u+\bar{y})(\bar{u}+\bar{x})(\bar{u}+v+y)(\bar{u}+\bar{v}+z)$$

*introducing  $v$*

*introducing  $u$*

$T(x) = 0$ ,  $T(y) = 1$ , and  $T(z) = 1$ ,

Extend  $S(u) = 1$ ,  $S(v) = 0$  or  $S(v) = 1$ .

### 10.3.4 NP-Completeness of 3SAT

**Theorem 10.14** 3SAT is NP-complete.

**Proof Reducing CSAT to 3SAT**

Assume CNF  $E = e_1 \wedge e_2 \wedge \dots \wedge e_k$ .

$$(1) e_i = x \Rightarrow (x+u+v)(x+\bar{u}+v)(x+u+\bar{v})(x+\bar{u}+\bar{v})$$

$$(2) e_i = x+y \Rightarrow (x+y+z)(x+y+\bar{z})$$

$$(3) e_i = x+y+z \quad 3\text{-CNF}$$

$$(4) e_i = x_1 + \dots + x_m (m \geq 4) \text{ introduce } y_1, \dots, y_{m-3} \text{ variables}$$

$$\Rightarrow (x_1 + x_2 + y_1)(x_3 + \bar{y}_1 + y_2)(x_4 + \bar{y}_2 + y_3) \dots (x_j + \bar{y}_{j-2} + y_{j-1}) \dots \\ (x_{m-2} + \bar{y}_{m-4} + y_{m-3})(x_{m-1} + x_m + \bar{y}_{m-3})$$

A truth assignment  $T$  of  $E$  must make at least one literal of  $e_i$ .

If  $x_j$  is true, we make  $y_1, \dots, y_{j-1}$  are **false** and  $y_j, \dots, y_{m-3}$  are **true**.

If  $T$  makes all  $x$ 's false,



## 10.4 Additional NP-Completeness Problems

### 10.4.2 The problem of independent set (IS).

**Def.** Let  $G=(V, E)$  be a undirected graph.

$$I = \{a, b \in V \mid (a, b) \notin E\} \quad \text{independent set}$$

**Def.** An independent  $I$  set is **maximal**, if  $|I| \geq |J|$ ,  $J$  is independent.

**Theorem 10.18** IS is NP-complete.

**Proof**  $IS \in NP$ . guess  $k$  nodes and check they are independent.

**Reducing 3SAT to IS.**

Let  $E = e_1 e_2 \dots e_m$

$$= (x_{11} + x_{12} + x_{13})(x_{21} + x_{22} + x_{23}) \dots (x_{m1} + x_{m2} + x_{m3}) \text{ be a 3-CNF}$$

Construct a graph  $G = (V, F)$

$$V = \{[i, j] \mid 1 \leq i \leq m, j = 1, 2, 3\}$$

$$F = \{([i, 1], [i, 2]), ([i, 2], [i, 3]), ([i, 3], [i, 1]) \mid 1 \leq i \leq m\}$$

$$\cup \{([i, j], [k, l]) \mid x_{ij} = x, x_{kl} = \bar{x}\}$$

*E is satisfiable if and only if G has an independent set of size m.*

*(If) If  $[i, j], [k, l] \in I, i \neq k$ .*

*$([i, 1], [i, 2]), ([i, 2], [i, 3]), ([i, 3], [i, 1]) \in E$ .*

*$\therefore$  independent set of size m, exactly one node from each literal.*

*If  $[i, j] \in I$  and  $x_{ij} = x$ , then  $T(x) = 1$ ;*

*$x_{ij} = \bar{x}$ , then  $T(x) = 0$ . No contradiction!*

*If  $[i, j] \notin I$ , then pick  $T(x)$  arbitrary.*

*$\therefore E$  is satisfiable.*

*(Only if) Assume E is satisfiable by some truth assignment T.*

*$I = \{[i, j] \mid T(x_{ij}) = 1\}$*

*If  $|I| > m$ ,  $\exists [i, j], [i, j'] \in I$ , then remove  $[i, j']$  from I.*

*Then  $|I| = m$ .*

*I is the independent set.*

### 10.4.3 The node-cover problem

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph.

Edge cover set  $EC$  of a graph  $G$

$$V = \{b \mid (a, b) \in EC\}$$

Minimal edge cover

Node cover set  $NC$  of a graph  $G$

$$E = \{(a, b) \mid b \in NC\}$$

Minimal node cover

Minimal node cover set is the **complement** of maximal independent set.

$$NC = \neg I.$$

**Theorem 10.20** *IS is NP-complete.*

**Proof Reducing IS to NC**

*Let  $G = (N, E)$  be a graph with  $n$ -vertices ( $|N| = n$ ).*

*$G$  has an independent set of size  $k$ , if and only if,*

*$G$  has a node cover of size  $n - k$ .*

*(If) Let  $C$  be a node cover set of size  $n - k$ .*

*If  $v, w \in N - C$ , then  $(v, w) \in E$ .*

*Since  $v, w \notin C$ ,  $(v, w) \in E$  is not covered by the node cover  $C$ .*

*$\therefore N - C$  is an independent set of size  $k$ .*

*(Only if) Let  $I$  be an independent set of size  $k$ .*

*We claim  $N - I$  is a node cover by contradiction.*

*If  $\exists (v, w) \in E$ , not covered by  $N - I$ , but  $v, w \in I$ .*

*$\therefore I$  is a independent set by contradiction.*