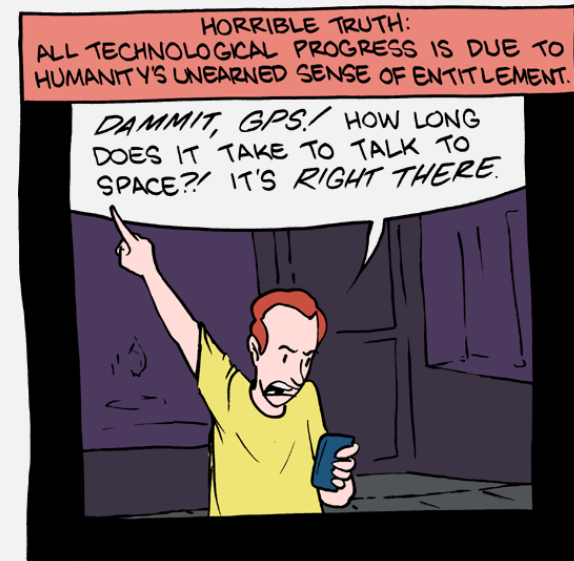


UMB CS622

PSPACE Completeness

Monday, November 29, 2021



Announcements

- HW 9 extended
 - Due Tues 11/30 11:59pm EST
- HW 10 released
 - Due Tues 12/7 11:59pm EST
- HW 11 will be last assignment
 - Due Tues 12/14 11:59pm EST

Flashback: Dynamic Programming Example

- Chomsky Grammar G :

- $S \rightarrow AB \mid BC$
- $A \rightarrow BA \mid a$
- $B \rightarrow CC \mid b$
- $C \rightarrow AB \mid a$

We are gaining time ...

... by spending more space!

- Example string: **baaba**

- Store every partial string and their generating variables in a table

Substring end char

| | b | a | a | b | a |
|---|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---|
| b | vars for "b" | vars for "ba" | vars for "baa" | ... | |
| a | | vars for "a" | vars for "aa" | vars for "aab" | |
| a | | | ... | | |
| b | | | | | |
| a | | | | | |

Substring start char

Space Complexity, Formally

TMs have a space complexity

DEFINITION

Let M be a deterministic Turing machine that halts on all inputs. The *space complexity* of M is the function $f: \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$, where $f(n)$ is the maximum number of tape cells that M scans on any input of length n . If the space complexity of M is $f(n)$, we also say that M runs in space $f(n)$.

If M is a nondeterministic Turing machine wherein all branches halt on all inputs, we define its space complexity $f(n)$ to be the maximum number of tape cells that M scans on any branch of its computation for any input of length n .

decider

Space Complexity Classes

Languages are in a space complexity class

DEFINITION

Let $f: \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^+$ be a function. The *space complexity classes*, $\text{SPACE}(f(n))$ and $\text{NSPACE}(f(n))$, are defined as follows.

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

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

Compare:

Let $t: \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^+$ be a function. Define the *time complexity class*, $\text{TIME}(t(n))$, to be the collection of all languages that are decidable by an $O(t(n))$ time Turing machine.

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

Example: SAT Space Usage

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

$2^{O(m)}$ exponential
time machine

$M_1 =$ “On input $\langle \phi \rangle$, where ϕ is a Boolean formula:

1. For each truth assignment to the variables x_1, \dots, x_m of ϕ :
2. Evaluate ϕ on that truth assignment.
3. If ϕ ever evaluated to 1, *accept*; if not, *reject*.”

Each loop iteration requires $O(m)$ space

But the space is re-used on each loop!
(nothing is stored from the prev loop)

So this machine runs in $O(m)$ space complexity!

Space is “**more powerful**” than time.

SAT is in $O(m)$ space complexity class!

Example: Nondeterministic Space Usage

$$ALL_{\text{NFA}} = \{ \langle A \rangle \mid A \text{ is an NFA and } L(A) = \Sigma^* \}$$

Nondeterministic decider for $\overline{ALL_{\text{NFA}}}$ (accepts NFAs that reject something)

$N =$ “On input $\langle M \rangle$, where M is an NFA:

1. Place a marker on the start state of the NFA.
2. Repeat 2^q times, where q is the number of states of M :

Machine tracks “current” state(s) of NFA

q states = 2^q possible combinations (so exponential time)

Nondeterministically select an input symbol and change the positions of the markers on M 's states to simulate reading that symbol.

But each loop uses only $O(q)$ space!

4. *Accept* if stages 2 and 3 reveal some string that M rejects; that is, if at some point none of the markers lie on accept states of M . Otherwise, *reject*.”

Additionally, need a counter to count to 2^q : this requires $\log(2^q) = q$ extra space

So the whole machine runs in (nondeterministic) linear $O(q)$ space!

Facts About Time vs Space (for Deciders)

TIME \rightarrow SPACE

- If a decider runs in time $t(n)$, then its maximum space usage is ...
- ... $t(n)$
- ... because it can add at most 1 tape cell per step

What about deterministic vs non-deterministic?

SPACE \rightarrow TIME

- If a decider runs in space $f(n)$, then its maximum time usage is ...
- ... $(|\Gamma| + |Q|)^{f(n)} = 2^{df(n)}$
- ... because that's the number of possible configurations
- (and a decider cannot repeat a configuration)

Flashback: Deterministic vs Non-Det. Time

- If a non-deterministic TM runs in: $t(n)$ time
- Then an equivalent deterministic TM runs in: $2^{O(t(n))}$
 - Exponentially slower

What about space?

Deterministic vs Non-Det. Space

THEOREM

Savitch's theorem For any function $f: \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^+$, where $f(n) \geq n$,
 $\text{NSPACE}(f(n)) \subseteq \text{SPACE}(f^2(n))$.

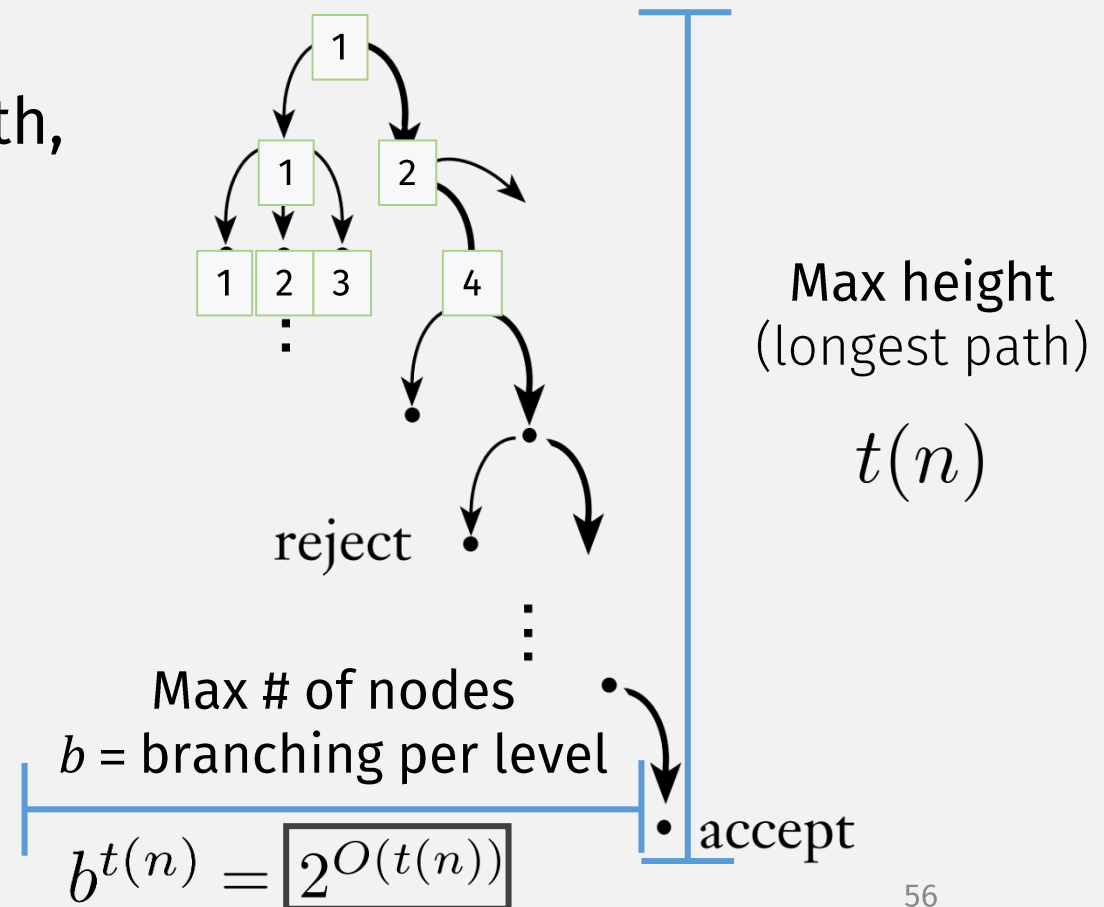
- If a non-deterministic TM runs in: $f(n)$ space
- Then an equivalent deterministic TM runs in: $f^2(n)$ space
 - ~~Exponentially~~ Only **Quadratically** slower!

Flashback: Nondet \rightarrow Deterministic TM: Time

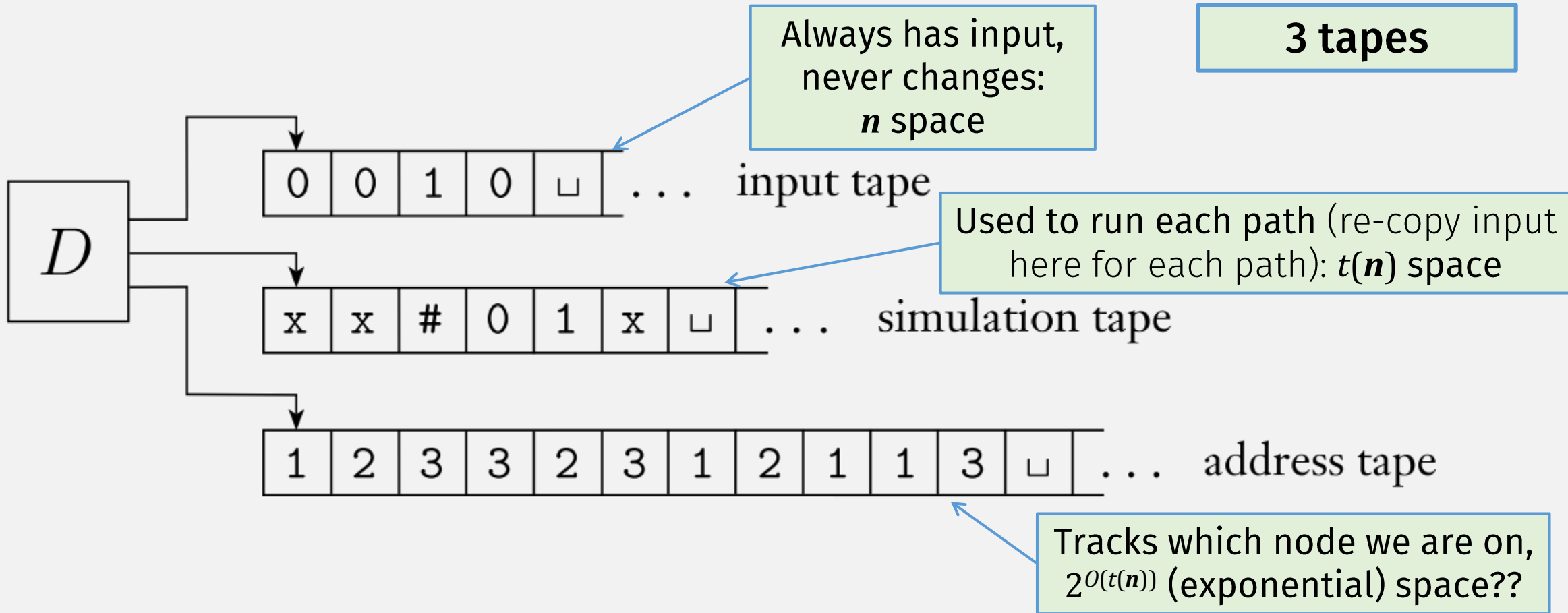
$t(n)$ time \rightarrow $2^{O(t(n))}$ time

- Simulate NTM with Det. TM:
 - Number the nodes at each step
 - Deterministically check every tree path, in breadth-first order
 - 1
 - 1-1
 - 1-2
 - 1-1-1

Nondeterministic computation



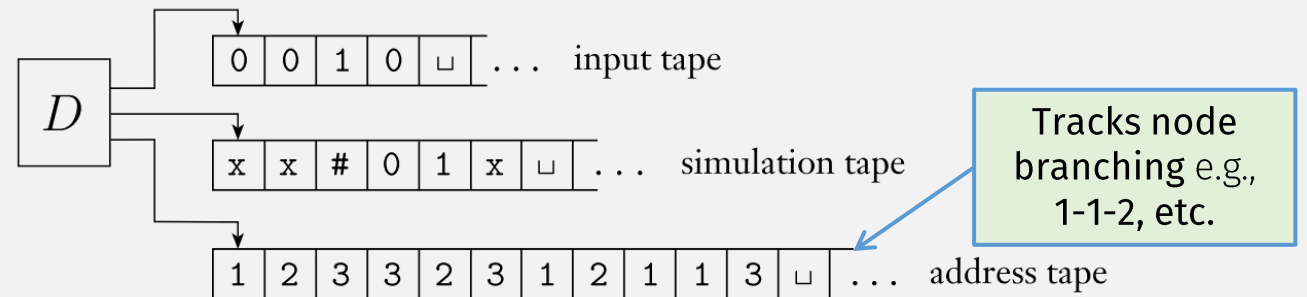
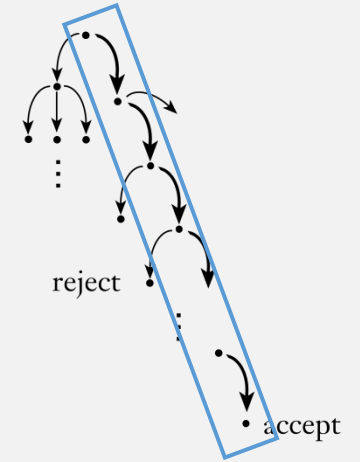
Flashback: Nondet \rightarrow Deterministic TM: Space



Nondet \rightarrow Deterministic TM: Space

Let N be an NTM deciding language A in space $f(n)$

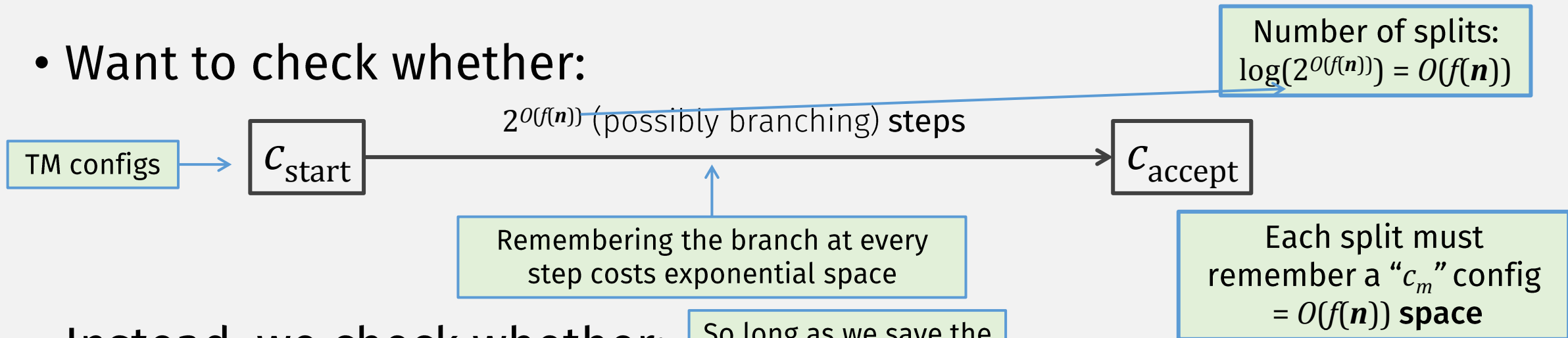
- This means a single path could use $f(n)$ space
- That path could take $2^{df(n)}$ steps
 - (That's the possible ways to fill the space)
 - Each step could be a non-deterministic branch that must be saved
- So naively tracking these branches requires $2^{df(n)}$ space!



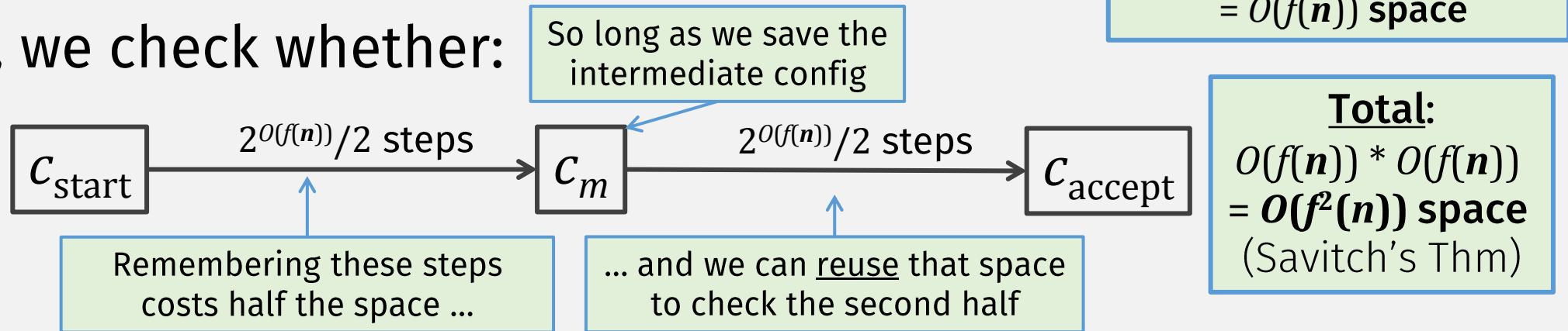
- Instead, let's “divide and conquer” to reduce space!

“Divide and Conquer” TM Config Sequences

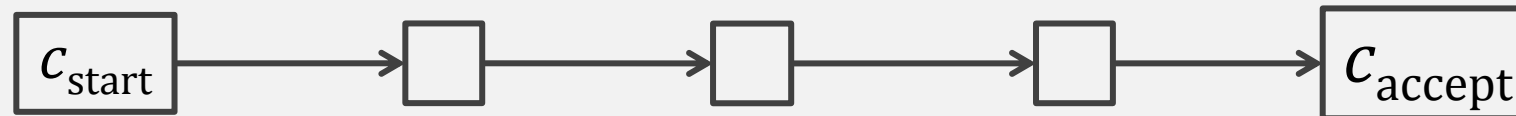
- Want to check whether:



- Instead, we check whether:



- Keep dividing ...



Formally: A “Yielding” Algorithm

Start config End config # steps

CANYIELD = “On input c_1 , c_2 , and t :

Base case

1. If $t = 1$, then test directly whether $c_1 = c_2$ or whether c_1 yields c_2 in one step according to the rules of N . *Accept* if either test succeeds; *reject* if both fail.
2. If $t > 1$, then for each configuration c_m of N using space $f(n)$:
3. Run CANYIELD($c_1, c_m, \frac{t}{2}$).
4. Run CANYIELD($c_m, c_2, \frac{t}{2}$).
5. If steps 3 and 4 both accept, then *accept*.
6. If haven't yet accepted, *reject*.”

“divide and conquer”

What's the middle config? Try them all (it doesn't use any more space, per loop)

Savitch's Theorem: Proof

- Let N be an NTM deciding language A in space $f(n)$
- Construct equivalent deterministic TM M using $O(f^2(n))$ space:

$M =$ “On input w :
1. Output the result of $\text{CANYIELD}(c_{\text{start}}, c_{\text{accept}}, 2^{df(n)})$.”

Extra d constant depends on size of tape alphabet

- c_{start} = start configuration of N
- c_{accept} = new accepting config where all N 's accepting configs go

PSPACE

DEFINITION

PSPACE is the class of languages that are decidable in polynomial space on a deterministic Turing machine. In other words,

$$\text{PSPACE} = \bigcup_k \text{SPACE}(n^k).$$

NPSPACE

Analogous to **P** and **NP** for time complexity

DEFINITION

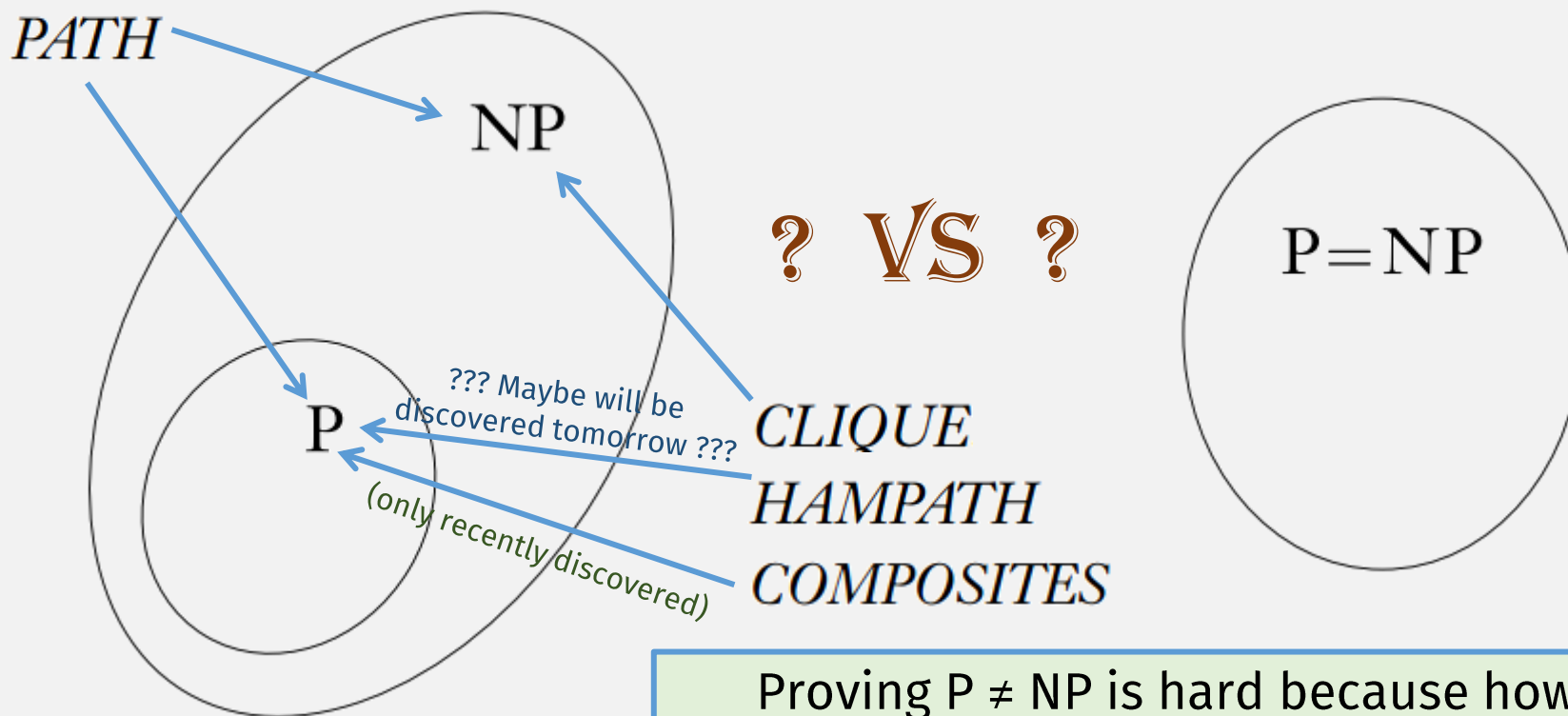
NPSPACE is the class of languages that are decidable in polynomial space on a *non*-deterministic Turing machine. In other words,

$$\mathbf{NPSPACE} = \bigcup_k \mathbf{NSPACE}(n^k).$$

But $\mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{PSPACE}$ and $\mathbf{NP} \subseteq \mathbf{NPSPACE}$

- Because each step can use at most one extra tape cell
- But space can be re-used

Flashback: Does $P = NP$?



Proving $P \neq NP$ is hard because how do you prove an algorithm doesn't have a poly time algorithm?
(in general it's hard to prove that something doesn't exist)

PSPACE = NPSPACE ?

- **PSPACE**: langs decidable in poly space on deterministic TM
- **NPSPACE**: langs decidable in poly space on nondeterministic TM

Theorem: **PSPACE = NPSPACE** !!!

Proof: By Savitch's Theorem!

THEOREM

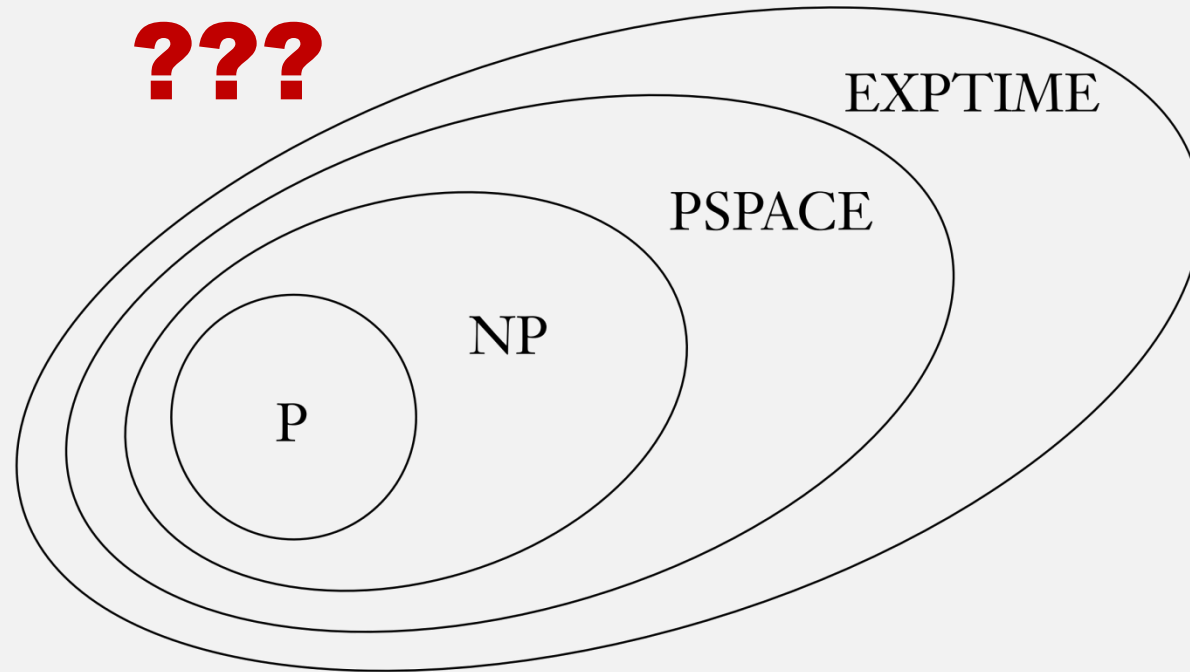
Savitch's theorem For any function $f: \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^+$, where $f(n) \geq n$,
 $\text{NPSPACE}(f(n)) \subseteq \text{SPACE}(f^2(n))$.

Space vs Time

- **$P \subseteq PSPACE$ and $NP \subseteq NPSPACE$**
 - Because each step can use at most one extra tape cell
 - And space can be re-used
- **$PSPACE \subseteq EXPTIME$**
 - Because an $f(n)$ space TM has $2^{O(f(n))}$ possible configurations
 - And a halting TM cannot repeat a configuration
- We already know $P \subseteq NP$ and $PSPACE = NPSPACE$... so:

$P \subseteq NP \subseteq PSPACE = NPSPACE \subseteq EXPTIME$

Space vs Time: Conjecture



Researchers believe these are all completely contained within each other

But this is an open conjecture!

The only progress so far is:
 $P \subset EXPTIME$
(we will prove next week)

$P \subset NP \subset PSPACE = NPSPACE \subset EXPTIME$

Review: NP-Completeness

DEFINITION

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 .

The reduction must be “easy”

These are the “hardest” problems (in NP) to solve

Potentially helps answer $P=NP?$ question

THEOREM

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

NP-Completeness vs NP-Hardness

DEFINITION

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

1. B is in NP, and

“NP-Hard”

→ 2. every A in NP is polynomial time reducible to B .

“NP-Complete” = in NP + “NP-Hard”

So a language can be NP-hard but not NP-complete!

The Halting Problem is **NP**-Hard

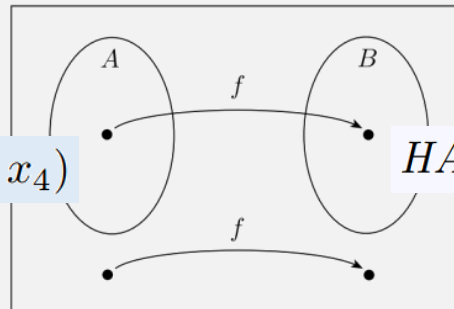
$$HALT_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ halts on input } w \}$$

Proof: Reduce *3SAT* to the Halting Problem

(Why does this prove that the Halting Problem is **NP**-hard?)

Because *3SAT* is **NP**-complete!
(so every **NP** problem is poly time reducible to *3SAT*)

$$(x_1 \vee \overline{x_2} \vee \overline{x_3}) \wedge (x_3 \vee \overline{x_5} \vee x_6) \wedge (x_3 \vee \overline{x_6} \vee x_4)$$



$$HALT_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ halts on input } w \}$$

The Halting Problem is **NP**-Hard

$$HALT_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ halts on input } w \}$$

Computable function, from $3SAT \rightarrow HALT_{TM}$:

On input ϕ , a formula in 3cnf:

- Construct TM M

$M =$ on input ϕ

- Try all assignments
 - If any satisfy ϕ , then accept
- When all assignments have been tried, start over

This loops when there is no satisfying assignment!

- Output $\langle M, \phi \rangle$

\Rightarrow If ϕ has a satisfying assignment, then M halts on ϕ
 \Leftarrow If ϕ has no satisfying assignment, then M loops on ϕ

Review:

DEFINITION

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 .

So a language can satisfy only condition #2

Review:

DEFINITION

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 .

So a language can satisfy only condition #2

Can a language satisfy only condition #1?

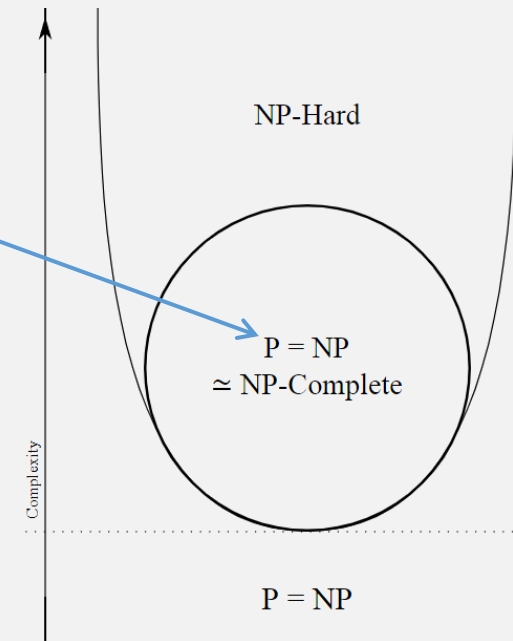
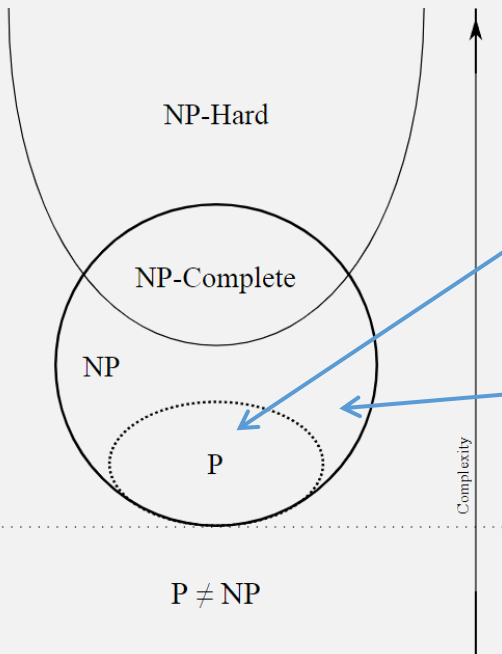
Yes, every language in P ...

(... unless $P = NP$)

Can a non- P language satisfy only condition #1?

Yes ...

... but that implies $P \neq NP$,
so it's not known for sure



PSPACE-Completeness

DEFINITION

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

1. B is in PSPACE, and

Condition #2 hard to prove the first time

→ 2. every A in PSPACE is polynomial time reducible to B .

If B merely satisfies condition 2, we say that it is *PSPACE-hard*.

The reduction must still be “easy”

Flashback: NP-Completeness

DEFINITION

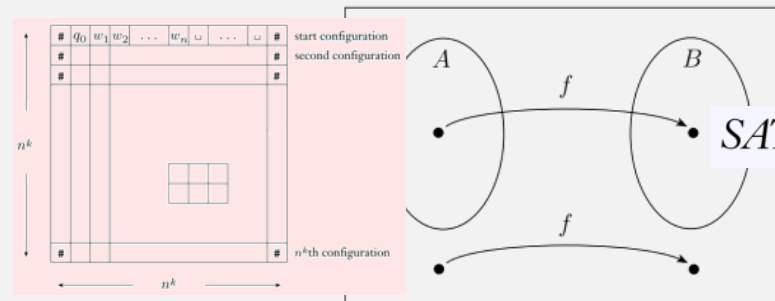
A language B is *NP-complete* if it satisfies two conditions:

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

The first NP-complete problem:

THEOREM

SAT is NP-complete.



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

PSPACE-Completeness

DEFINITION

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

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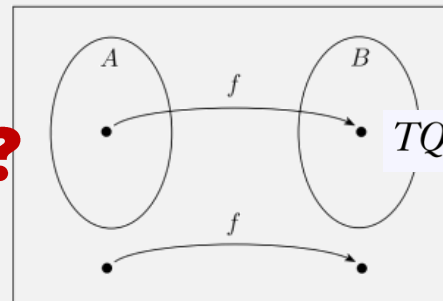
If B merely satisfies condition 2, we say that it is *PSPACE-hard*.

The first PSPACE-complete problem:

THEOREM

$TQBF$ is PSPACE-complete.

???



$TQBF = \{\langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula}\}$

TQBF

$TQBF = \{\langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula}\}$

Flashback: Boolean Formulas

| A Boolean _____ | Is ... | Example: |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--|
| Value | TRUE or FALSE (or 1 or 0) | TRUE, FALSE |
| Variable | Represents a Boolean value | x, y, z |
| Operation | Combines Boolean variables | AND, OR, NOT (\wedge, \vee , and \neg) |
| Formula ϕ | Combines vars and operations | $(\bar{x} \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge \bar{z})$ |
| Literal | A var or a negated var | x or \bar{x} . |
| Clause | Literals ORed together | $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee x_4)$ |

Flashback: The Language of Math Statements


1. $\forall q \exists p \forall x, y [p > q \wedge (x, y > 1 \rightarrow xy \neq p)]$,
2. $\forall a, b, c, n [(a, b, c > 0 \wedge n > 2) \rightarrow a^n + b^n \neq c^n]$, and
3. $\forall q \exists p \forall x, y [p > q \wedge (x, y > 1 \rightarrow (xy \neq p \wedge xy \neq p + 2))]$

Flashback: Mathematical Statements Alphabet

- Strings in the language are drawn from the following chars:

- \wedge, \vee, \neg Boolean operations

- $(,), [,]$ parentheses

- \forall, \exists quantifiers 

- x variables

- R_1, \dots, R_k Relation symbols

Flashback: Formulas and Sentences

- A mathematical statement is well-formed, i.e., a **formula**, if it's:

- an atomic formula: $R_i(x_1, \dots, x_k)$
- $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$
- $\phi_1 \vee \phi_2$
- $\neg\phi$
 - where ϕ , ϕ_1 , and ϕ_2 are formulas
- $\forall x [\phi]$
- $\exists x [\phi]$
 - where ϕ is a formula
 - x 's "scope" is in the following brackets
 - A free variable is a variable that is outside the scope of a quantifier

$$R_1(x_1) \wedge R_2(x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

$$\forall x_1 [R_1(x_1) \wedge R_2(x_1, x_2, x_3)]$$

$$\forall x_1 \exists x_2 \exists x_3 [R_1(x_1) \wedge R_2(x_1, x_2, x_3)]$$

- A **sentence** is a formula with no free variables

Flashback: Universes, Models, and Theories

- A **universe** is the set of values that variables can represent
 - E.g., the universe of the natural numbers
 - Boolean Formulas use values from the universe of {True, False}
- A **model** is:
 1. a universe, and
 2. an assignment of relations to relation symbols, e.g., AND, OR, NOT
- A **theory** is the set of all true sentences in a model's language

Quantified Boolean Formulas

| A Boolean _____ | Is ... | Example: |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Value | TRUE or FALSE (or 1 or 0) | TRUE, FALSE |
| Variable | Represents a Boolean value | x, y, z |
| Operation | Combines Boolean variables | AND, OR, NOT (\wedge, \vee , and \neg) |
| Formula ϕ | Combines vars and operations | $(\bar{x} \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge \bar{z})$ |
| Literal | A var or a negated var | x or \bar{x} . |
| Clause | Literals ORed together | $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee x_4)$ |
| Quantifiers | \exists or \forall | |
| Quantified Formula | Formula with quantifiers | $\phi = \forall x \exists y [(x \vee y) \wedge (\bar{x} \vee \bar{y})]$ |
| Fully Quantified Formula | Sentence, no free vars | |

THEOREM

$TQBF$ is PSPACE-complete.

$TQBF = \{\langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula}\}$

DEFINITION

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

- ➔ 1. B is in PSPACE, and
- 2. every A in PSPACE is polynomial time reducible to B .

If B merely satisfies condition 2, we say that it is *PSPACE-hard*.

$TQBF$ is in **PSPACE**

$TQBF = \{\langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula}\}$

Let $m = \#$ variables in formula

PROOF First, we give a polynomial space algorithm deciding $TQBF$.

$T =$ “On input $\langle \phi \rangle$, a fully quantified Boolean formula:

Base case: $O(m)$ space

Recursive calls:

- 2 for each variable
- each time, save 1 bool value

1. If ϕ contains no quantifiers, then it is an expression with only constants, so evaluate ϕ and *accept* if it is true; otherwise, *reject*.
2. If ϕ equals $\exists x \psi$, recursively call T on ψ , first with 0 substituted for x and then with 1 substituted for x . If either result is *accept*, then *accept*; otherwise, *reject*.
3. If ϕ equals $\forall x \psi$, recursively call T on ψ , first with 0 substituted for x and then with 1 substituted for x . If both results are *accept*, then *accept*; otherwise, *reject*.”

At most m recursive calls, so $O(m)$ space

THEOREM

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$TQBF = \{ \langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula} \}$

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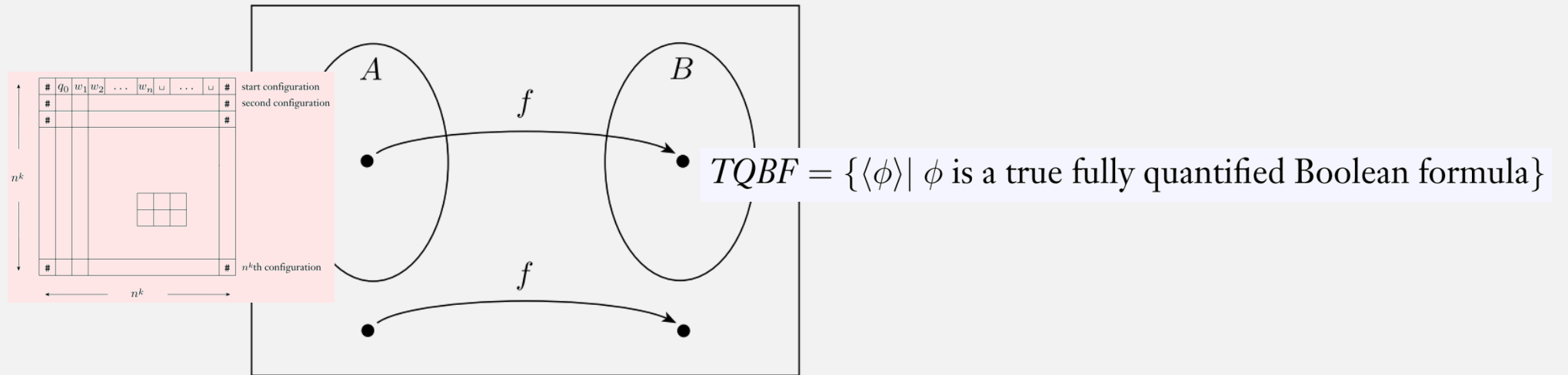
→ 2. every A in PSPACE is polynomial time reducible to B .

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$TQBF$ is **PSPACE**-Hard

$$TQBF = \{ \langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula} \}$$

Idea: Imitate Cook-Levin Theorem



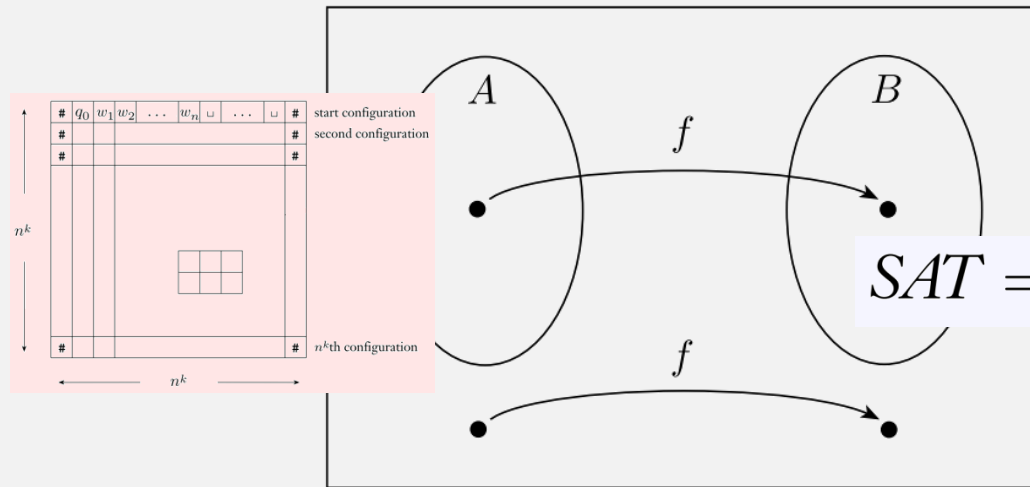
Flashback: SAT is NP-complete

- Proof idea:

- Give an algorithm that reduces accepting tableaux to satisfiable formulas

- Thus every string in the **NP** lang will be mapped to a sat. formula

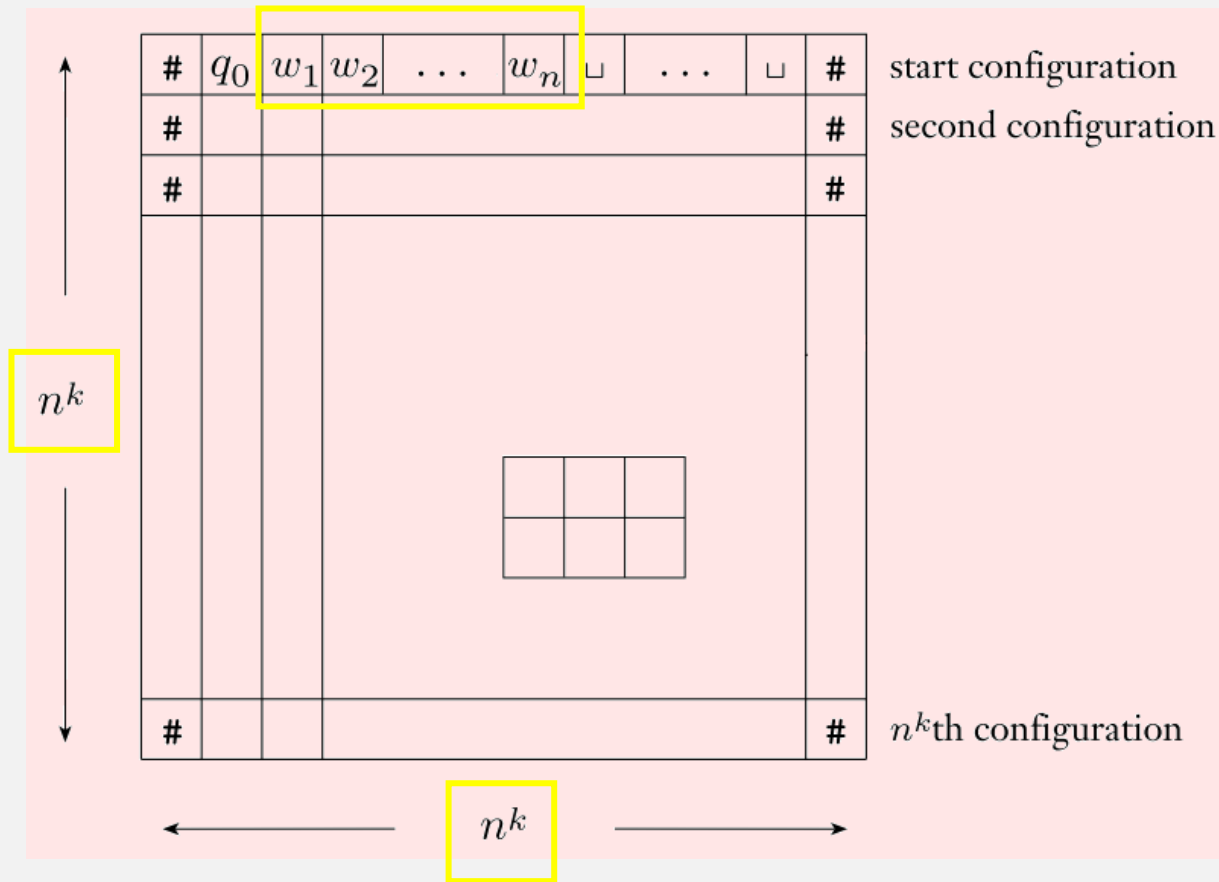
- and vice versa



Resulting formulas will have four components:
 $\phi_{\text{cell}} \wedge \phi_{\text{start}} \wedge \phi_{\text{move}} \wedge \phi_{\text{accept}}$

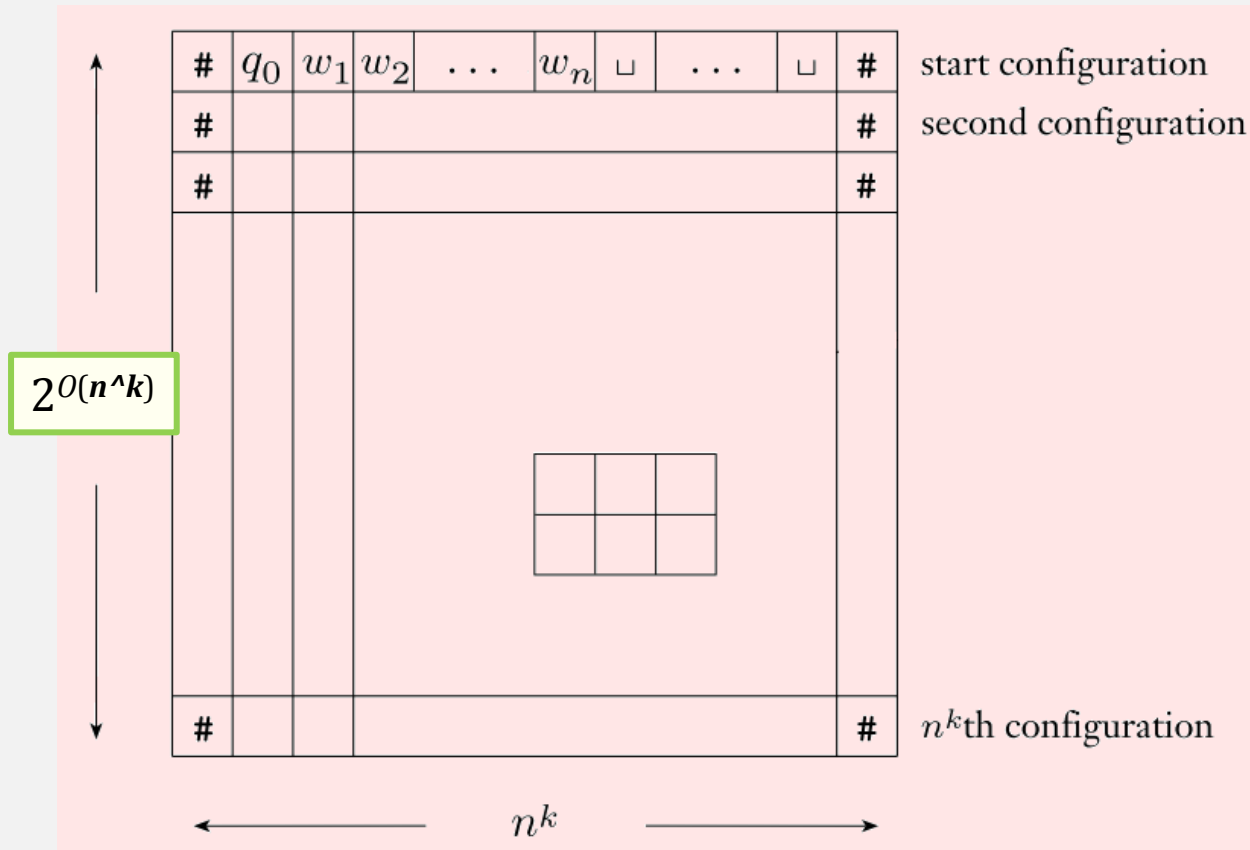
$$SAT = \{ \langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a satisfiable Boolean formula} \}$$

An NP “Tableau”



- input $w = w_1 \dots w_n$
- At most n^k configs
 - (why?)
- Each config has length n^k
 - (why?)

A PSPACE “Tableau”



- input $w = w_1 \dots w_n$

- At most $2^{O(n^k)}$ configs
 - (why?)

- Each config has length n^k
 - (why?)

$$\phi_{\text{cell}} \wedge \phi_{\text{start}} \wedge \phi_{\text{move}} \wedge \phi_{\text{accept}}$$

Converting this to a formula would take exponential space and time!

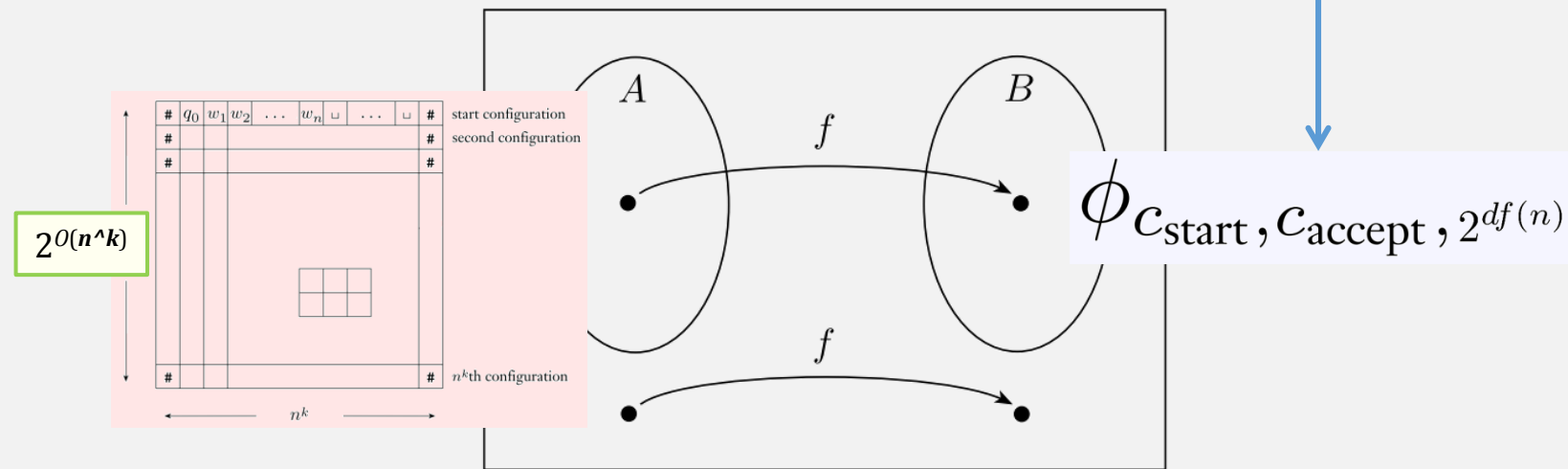
$TQBF$ is **PSPACE**-Hard

$$TQBF = \{ \langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula} \}$$


Another Idea: use quantifiers to “divide and conquer”

(like we did for Savitch’s Theorem)

Let $f(n) = n^k$ be the space usage of the TM



Recursively Defined Formulas: Try # 1


$$\phi_{c_1, c_2, t} = \exists m_1 \left[\phi_{c_1, m_1, \frac{t}{2}} \wedge \phi_{m_1, c_2, \frac{t}{2}} \right]$$

t halved, but formula doubles in size
(two subformulas)

Doesn't work! Still exponential!

Recursively Defined Formulas: Try # 2

~~$$\phi_{c_1, c_2, t} = \exists m_1 \left[\phi_{c_1, m_1, \frac{t}{2}} \wedge \phi_{m_1, c_2, \frac{t}{2}} \right]$$~~

$$\phi_{c_1, c_2, t} = \exists m_1 \forall (c_3, c_4) \in \{(c_1, m_1), (m_1, c_2)\} \left[\phi_{c_3, c_4, \frac{t}{2}} \right]$$

What's this?

Use \forall quantifier to consolidate formula size

$\forall x \in \{y, z\} [\dots]$ Shorthand for $\forall x [(x = y \vee x = z) \rightarrow \dots]$
 (And $=, \rightarrow$ can be converted to AND and OR)

$t = 2^{O(f(n))}$,
 so # halvings (subformulas) = $\log(2^{O(f(n))}) = O(f(n))$

t halved,
 only 1 subformula

What do the base case subformulas look like?

Recursively Defined Formulas: Base Case

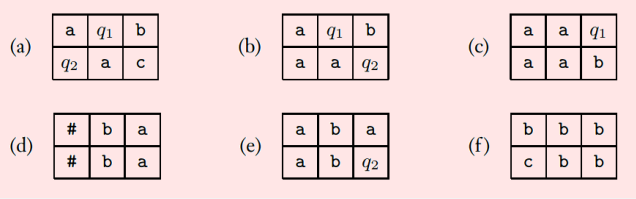
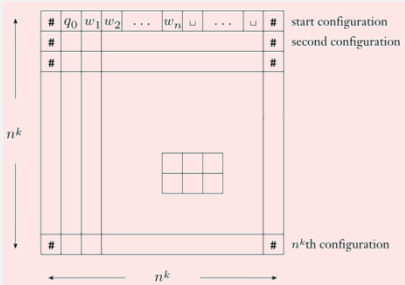
$$\phi_{c_1, c_2, t} \quad t=1$$

This formula must encode that $c_1 \rightarrow c_2$ is a valid TM step ...

... using the same encoding as Cook-Levin!

Size of this subformula = $O(f(n))$

Total size of all subformulas = $O(f(n)) * O(f(n)) = O(f^2(n))$



TQBF is PSPACE-Hard

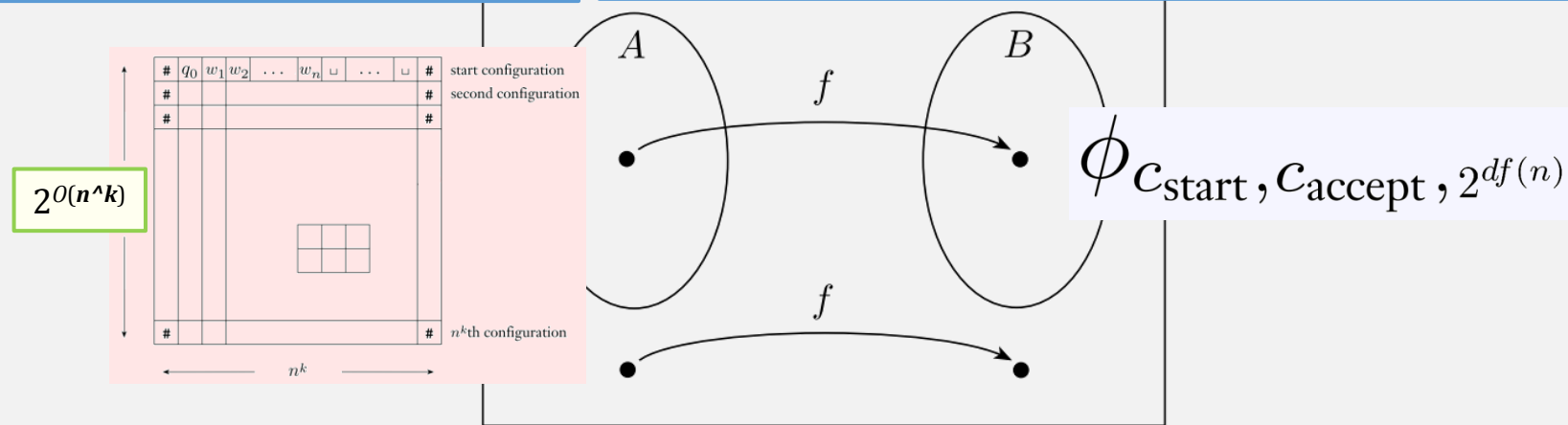
$$TQBF = \{ \langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula} \}$$

Another Idea: use quantifiers to “divide and conquer”

(like we did for Savitch’s Theorem)

Let $f(n) = n^k$ be the space usage of the TM M deciding some language A

- ⇒ If M accepts w , then the formula is TRUE
 - Because formula encodes accepting config seqs
- ⇐ If M rejects w , then the formula is FALSE
 - Because there’s no config seq reaching accept state



THEOREM

TQBF is PSPACE-complete.

$TQBF = \{\langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a true fully quantified Boolean formula}\}$

DEFINITION

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

- ✓ 1. B is in PSPACE, and
- ✓ 2. every A in PSPACE is polynomial time reducible to B .

If B merely satisfies condition 2, we say that it is *PSPACE-hard*.

i.e., the “hardest” problem in **PSPACE**

Check-in Quiz 11/29

On gradescope