

# The Cook-Levin Thm

Exposition by William Gasarch—U of MD

# BILL, RECORD LECTURE!!!!

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# Variants of SAT

1. SAT is the set of all boolean formulas that are satisfiable. That is,  $\phi(\vec{x}) \in SAT$  if there exists a vector  $\vec{b}$  such that  $\phi(\vec{b}) = TRUE$ .
2. CNFSAT is the set of all boolean formulas in SAT of the form  $C_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge C_m$  where each  $C_i$  is an  $\vee$  of literals.
3.  $k$ -SAT is the set of all boolean formulas in SAT of the form  $C_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge C_m$  where each  $C_i$  is an  $\vee$  of exactly  $k$  literals.
4. DNFSAT is the set of all boolean formulas in SAT of the form  $C_1 \vee \cdots \vee C_m$  where each  $C_i$  is an  $\wedge$  of literals.
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# Turing Machines Def

**Def** A *Turing Machine* is a tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, h)$  where

- ▶  $Q$  is a finite set of states. It has the state  $h$ .
- ▶  $\Sigma$  is a finite alphabet. It contains the symbol  $\#$ .
- ▶  $\delta : (Q - \{h\}) \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q \times \Sigma \cup \{R, L\}$
- ▶  $s \in Q$  is the start state,  $h$  is the halt state.

**Note** There are many variants of Turing Machines- more tapes, more heads. All equivalent.

# Conventions for our Turing Machines

1. Tape has a left endpoint; however, the tape goes off to infinity to the right.
2. The alphabet has symbols  $\{a, b, \#, \$, Y, N\}$ .
3.  $\#$  is the blank symbol.
4.  $\$$  is a separator symbol.
5.  $Y$  and  $N$  are only used when the machine goes into a halt state. They are YES and NO.
6. The input is written on the left. So the input  $abba\$bbaab$  would be on the tape as

$abba\$bbaab\#\#\#\dots$

7. Our inputs are ordered pairs of the form  $x\$y$ . The head is initially on the rightmost symbol of the  $x$ . So it he above it would be on the  $a$  just before the  $\#$  symbol.

# How to Represent any Computation

Let  $M$  be a Turing Machine and  $x \in \Sigma^*$ . We represent the computation  $M(x)$  as follows:

**Example** The tape has:

$$abba\#abca\#a\#\#\#\dots$$

If the machine is in state  $q$  and the head is looking at the  $c$  then we represent this by:

$$abba\#ab(c, q)ab\#a\#\#\#\dots$$

Convention—extend alphabet and allow symbols  $\Sigma \times Q$ . The symbol  $(c, q)$  means the symbol is  $c$ , the state is  $q$ , and that square is where the head of the machine is.

# Configurations

We need a term for strings like:

$$abba\#ab(c, q)a$$

**Def** Strings in  $\Sigma^*(\Sigma \times Q)\Sigma^*$  are **configuration**.

The Computation  $M(x)$  is represented by a sequence of configs.

**Key** A config is finite since what we don't see is  $\#$ .

## Example

If  $\delta(s, b) = (q, L)$  and  $\delta(q, b) = (p, a)$

$a$	$a$	$b$	$b$	$(b, s)$	$\#$
$a$	$a$	$b$	$(b, q)$	$b$	$\#$
$a$	$a$	$b$	$(a, p)$	$b$	$\#$

- ▶ The left endpoint is the end of the tape.
- ▶ The unseen symbols on the right are all  $\#$



# How to Represent an **NP** Computation

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Here is ALL that matters:

- ▶ Numb of steps  $M(x, y)$  takes is  $\leq t(|x|)$ . Hence  $\leq t(|x|)$  configs.
- ▶ Computation can only look at the first  $t(|x|)$  tapes squares on any config.

# New Convention

## Old Convention

#	$a$	$a$	$b$	$b$	$(s, b)$	#
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----------	---

means that off to the right there are an infinite number of #.

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#	a	a	b	b	(s, b)	#
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#	a	a	b	b	(s, b)	#	...	#
---	---	---	---	---	--------	---	-----	---

Tape is  $t(|x|)$  long so **know** when stops. Can include entire tape.

**Key** Config is finite since what we don't see is never used.

# Summary of What's Important

Let  $X \in \text{NP}$  via poly  $q$  and TM  $M$ , so

$$X = \{x : (\exists y)[|y| = q(|x|) \wedge M(x, y) = Y]\}$$



# Summary of What's Important

Let  $X \in \text{NP}$  via poly  $q$  and TM  $M$ , so

$$X = \{x : (\exists y)[|y| = q(|x|) \wedge M(x, y) = Y]\}$$

$x \in X$  implies  $(\exists y)[|y| = q(|x|) \wedge M(x, y) = Y]$  implies  
 $(\exists y, C_1, \dots, C_t)[C_1, \dots, C_t \text{ is an accepting comp of } M(x, y)]$

# Cook-Levin Thm

## Theorem

*SAT is NP-complete.*

We need to prove two things:

1.  $SAT \in NP$ .

$$SAT = \{\phi : (\exists \vec{y})[\phi(\vec{y}) = T]\}$$

Formally

$$B = \{(\phi, \vec{y}) : \phi(\vec{y}) = T\}$$

The satisfying assignment is the witness.

2. For all  $X \in NP$ ,  $X \leq SAT$ . This is the bulk of the proof.

$x \in X \rightarrow \dots$

If  $x \in X$  then there is a  $y$  of length  $p(|x|)$  such that  $M(x, y) = Y$ .

If  $x \in X$  then there is a  $y$  and a sequence of configurations

$C_1, C_2, \dots, C_t$  such that

- ▶  $C_1$  is the configuration that says 'input is  $x\$y$ , and I am in the starting state.'
- ▶ For all  $i$ ,  $C_{i+1}$  follows from  $C_i$  (note that  $M$  is deterministic) using  $\delta$ .
- ▶  $C_t$  is the configuration that is in state  $h$  and the output is  $Y$ .
- ▶  $t = q(|x| + p(|x|))$ .

How to make all of this into a formula?

# How to Represent Sequence of Configs as Fml

**KEY 1:** We have variables for every possible entry in every possible configuration. The variables are

$$\{z_{i,j,\sigma} : 1 \leq i, j \leq t, \sigma \in \Sigma \cup (Q \times \Sigma)\}$$

If there is an accepting sequence of configurations then  $z_{i,j,\sigma} = T$  iff the  $j$ th symbol in the  $i$ th configuration is  $\sigma$ .

# Making the $z_{i,j,\sigma}$ Make Sense

Need that for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq t$  there exists exactly one  $\sigma$  such that  $z_{ij\sigma}$  is TRUE.

$$\bigvee_{\sigma \in \Sigma \cup (\Sigma \times Q)} z_{i,j,\sigma}$$

for each  $\sigma \in \Sigma \cup (\Sigma \times Q)$

$$z_{i,j,\sigma} \rightarrow \bigwedge_{\tau \in \Sigma \cup (\Sigma \times Q) - \{\sigma\}} \neg z_{i,j,\tau}$$

# $C_1$ is Start Config

$C_1$  is the  $\bigwedge$  of the following:

$C_1$  starts with  $x$ . Let  $x = x_1 \cdots x_n$ .

$$z_{1,1,x_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge z_{1,n-1,x_{n-1}} \wedge z_{1,n,(x_n,s)} \wedge z_{1,n+1,\$}$$

$C_1$  then has  $q(|x|)$  symbols from  $\{a, b\}$ , so NOT the funny symbols.

$$\bigwedge_{j=n+2}^{n+q(|x|)+1} \bigvee_{\sigma \in \{a,b\}} z_{1,j,\sigma}$$

$C_1$  then has all blanks:

$$\bigwedge_{j=q(n)+n+3}^{t(n)} z_{1,j,\#}$$

## $C_1$ is Start Config: Example

$x = ab$ ,  $p(n) = n^2$ , and  $q(n) = 2n$

$|y| = 4$ . Input to  $M$  is of length  $2 + 4 + 1 = 7$ , so  $M(x, y)$  runs  $\leq 2 \times 7 = 14$  steps.

Formula saying  $C_1$  codes  $x$  as input is

$$z_{1,1,a} \wedge z_{1,2,(b,s)} \wedge z_{1,3,\$} \wedge$$

$$(z_{1,4,a} \vee z_{1,4,b}) \wedge (z_{1,5,a} \vee z_{1,5,b}) \wedge (z_{1,6,a} \vee z_{1,6,b}) \wedge (z_{1,7,a} \vee z_{1,7,b}) \wedge$$

$$z_{1,8,\#} \wedge \cdots \wedge z_{1,23,\#}$$

## $C_t$ is an Accept Config

**Convention**  $M(x, y)$  accepts means  $M(x, y)$  leaves a  $Y$  on the left most square and the head is on the left most square.

The state in  $C_t$  is  $h$ , the halt state,

$$Z_{t,1,(Y,h)}$$



## $C_i$ leads to $C_{i+1}$

Thought Experiment: What if  $\delta(q, a) = (p, b)$ . Then:

$\sigma_1$	$(a, q)$	$\sigma_2$
$\sigma_1$	$(b, p)$	$\sigma_2$

Formula is a  $\bigwedge$  over relevant  $i, j, \sigma_1, \sigma_2$  of:

$$(z_{ij\sigma_1} \wedge z_{i(j+1),(a,q)} \wedge z_{i,(j+2)\sigma_2}) \rightarrow$$

$$(z_{(i+1)j\sigma_1} \wedge z_{(i+1)(j+1),(b,p)} \wedge z_{(i+1),(j+2)\sigma_2})$$

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Thought Experiment: What if  $\delta(q, a) = (p, L)$ . Then:

$\sigma_1$	$(a, q)$	$\sigma_2$
$(\sigma_1, p)$	$a$	$\sigma_2$

One can make a formula out of this as well. (Leave for HW.)

## $C_i$ leads to $C_{i+1}$

Note that only the symbols at or near the head get changed.

Also need a formula saying that if the  $(i, j)$  spot is NOT near the head and  $z_{i,j,\sigma}$  then  $z_{i+1,j,\sigma}$ .

# Putting it All Together

On input  $x$  you output a formula  $\phi$  constructed as follows

1.  $t(|x|) = q(|x| + p(|x|))$ . We call this  $t$ .
2. Variables  $\{z_{i,j,\tau} : 1 \leq i, j \leq t, \tau \in \Sigma \cup (\Sigma \times Q)\}$ .
3. Formula saying:
  - 3.1 For all  $1 \leq i, j \leq t$ , exists ONE  $\sigma$  with  $z_{i,j,\sigma} = T$ .
  - 3.2  $C_1$  is the start config with  $x$ , then a  $\$$ , then SOME  $y \in \{a, b\}^*$  of the right length to be a witness, then all blanks.
  - 3.3  $C_t$  is the accept config.
  - 3.4 For each instruction of the TM have a formula saying  $C_i$  goes to  $C_{i+1}$  if that instruction is relevant.
  - 3.5 If head is not within 2 square of  $(i, j)$  and  $z_{ij\sigma}$  then  $z_{(i+1)j\sigma}$ .

# Important Upshot

- ▶ If  $\text{SAT} \in P$  then **every set in NP** is in  $P$ , so we would have  $P = NP$ .
- ▶ We will soon have more NP-complete problems.
- ▶ If **any** NP-complete problem is in  $P$  then  $P = NP$ .
- ▶ In the year 2000 the Clay Math Institute posted seven math problems and offered \$1,000,000 for the solution to any of them. Resolving  $P$  vs  $NP$  was one of them.

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**CNFSAT  $\rightarrow$  DNFSAT. Collect \$1,000,000**

**Idea** Given  $\phi$  in CNF form, convert to DNF form, solve DNF-SAT problem in Poly time, and now know if  $\phi$  is in SAT.

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**Bad News** I'd rather have the \$1,000,000 than be enlightened.

# Vote on CNF vs DNF

Vote on whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE:

*There is a **proof** that  $\text{CNFSAT} \leq \text{DNFSAT}$  is NOT true. That is, there is NO poly time algorithm that will transform  $\phi$  in CNF form to  $\psi$  in DNF form such that  $\phi \in \text{SAT}$  iff  $\psi \in \text{SAT}$ .*

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TRUE, we Do have a proof!. Hard to believe.

# Work with Neighbor

Convert the following into CNF form

1.  $(x_1 \vee y_1)$
2.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2)$
3.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2) \wedge (x_3 \vee y_3)$
4.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2) \wedge (x_3 \vee y_3) \wedge (x_4 \wedge y_4)$



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2.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2)$

$$(x_1 \wedge x_2) \vee (x_1 \wedge y_2) \vee (y_1 \wedge x_2) \vee (y_1 \wedge y_2).$$

3.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2) \wedge (x_3 \vee y_3)$

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$$(x_1 \wedge x_2) \vee (x_1 \wedge y_2) \vee (y_1 \wedge x_2) \vee (y_1 \vee y_2).$$

3.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2) \wedge (x_3 \vee y_3)$

$$(x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge y_3) \vee (x_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (x_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge y_3) \vee$$

$$(y_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (y_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge y_3) \vee (y_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (y_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge y_3)$$

4.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2) \wedge (x_3 \vee y_3) \wedge (x_4 \wedge y_4)$

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3.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2) \wedge (x_3 \vee y_3)$

$$(x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge y_3) \vee (x_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (x_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge y_3) \vee$$

$$(y_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (y_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge y_3) \vee (y_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (y_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge y_3)$$

4.  $(x_1 \vee y_1) \wedge (x_2 \vee y_2) \wedge (x_3 \vee y_3) \wedge (x_4 \wedge y_4)$

Not going to do it but it would take 16 clauses.