

BILL AND NATHAN, RECORD LECTURE!!!!

BILL RECORD LECTURE!!!

Factoring Is Probably Not NPC

BILL START RECORDING

Factoring: Some History

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I think it is unlikely that anyone aside from myself will ever know.

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We can now factor J easily. Was Jevons' comment stupid?

Discuss

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We know about the role of computers to speed up calculations, but it's reasonable it never dawned on him.

- ▶ **Conclusion**

- ▶ His arrogance: assumed the world would not change much.
- ▶ Our arrogance: knowing how much the world did change.

Factoring Algorithms

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- ▶ We measure the run time as a function of $\lg N$ which is the **length** of the input. We may use L for this.

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- ▶ SVP algorithm (2020): Unclear!

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This is an informal diff between Factoring and SAT.

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So our questions is: is FACT NPC?

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Note 3SAT, HAM, EUL, CLIQ are all in NP.

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We do not think TAUT \in NP.

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We show $\overline{\text{FACT}} \in \text{NP}$.

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1. Cryptographers think $\text{FACT} \notin \text{P}$.
2. Number Theorists think $\text{FACT} \in \text{P}$.
3. Quantum Computing People think quantum computers will factor very large numbers within 30 years. They are wrong.

Primality in NP

What we Know about Primality

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The next X slides have the proof that PRIMES is in NP. We omit them in our talk and you will not be responsible for it.

We need PRIMES in NP for our proof that $\overline{\text{FACT}} \in \text{NP}$.

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We abbreviate **certificate** by **cert**.

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- then n is prime.

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So need the cert to contain a cert that the claimed prime factors of $n - 1$ are prime.

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So it's a recursive cert.

Need to check that the cert is short, but this is not difficult.

Back to Factoring

$\overline{\text{FACT}} \in \text{NP}$

$$\text{FACT} = \{(n, a) : (\exists b \leq a)[b \text{ divides } n]\}$$

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Verifier has to check

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2. $a < p_1$.
3. Each p_i is prime.

Recap What We Know

We know $\overline{\text{FACT}} \in \text{NP}$

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Hence we do not think FACT is NPC.

So that's what I mean by **Factoring is probably not NPC**.

The Future of Factoring

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 - ▶ Nolasco, Isaac, and Felix have not worked on it yet.

BILL AND NATHAN STOP RECORDING