

# BILL, RECORD LECTURE!!!!

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# DTIME, P, EXP, and of Course NP

Exposition by William Gasarch—U of MD

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We first look at some problems of interest.



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To even ask these questions we need (1) a standard way to describe sets and a (2) model of computation.

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6. A **set of ordered pairs: Graphs and Numbers** ....

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**We Sometimes Cheat** We may take the length of a formula to be the number of vars. We may take the length of a graph to be the number of vertices. These notions of length are poly-related to the actual length and hence is fine for our purposes.

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1. Everything computable is computable by a Turing machine.
2. Turing machines compute with discrete steps so one can talk about how many steps a computation takes.

# Time Classes

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So what to do?

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- ▶ Define time classes where the model does not matter.

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**Fact** If  $A$  is in  $\text{DTIME}(T(n))$  on a Turing Machine then  $A$  can be computed by a generalized grammar in time  $\text{DTIME}((T(n))^5)$ . (I made that up, but something like it is true.)

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**Fact** For any two commonly used models of comp, they are equivalent within poly time.



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These definitions are model independent.

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3. If I came up with an  $n^{1000}$  algorithm then it's **NOT brute force**. I would have found something **very clever**. Not practical, but that cleverness can probably be exploited to get a practical algorithm.

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4. P is closed under composition: if  $f(n), g(n)$  are poly then  $f(g(n))$  is poly.

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If  $(v_1, \dots, v_k)$  is a **potential witness** then **verifying** that  $(v_1, \dots, v_k)$  is a witness is **fast**: time poly in the length of  $(G, k)$ .

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If  $(v_1, \dots, v_k)$  is a **potential witness** then **verifying** that  $(v_1, \dots, v_k)$  is a witness is **fast**: time poly in the length of  $(G, k)$ .

3SAT, HAM, EUL are similar.

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**Def**  $A$  is in NP if there exists a set  $B \in P$  and a polynomial  $p$  such that

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- ▶ If  $x \notin A$  then there is NO proof that  $x \in A$ .

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

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Call this algorithm **ALG**. On next slide we use **ALG** to show that  $IS \in P$  implies  $3SAT \in P$ .

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This is an algorithm for 3SAT that takes time

$$p(|\phi|) + r(q(|\phi|))$$

# How We Present **ALG**

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**Contrapositive** If  $X \leq Y$  and  $X \notin P$  then  $Y \notin P$ .

# Def of NP-Complete

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The condition:

for EVERY  $X \in \text{NP}$ ,  $X \leq Y$

seemed very hard to meet.

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3. Thousands of problems are NP-complete. If any are in P then they are all in P.
4. Most Computer Scientists and Mathematicians think  $P \neq \text{NP}$ .

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The theory of NP-completeness enabled mathematicians to **state** what they wanted rigorously ( $HAM \in P$ ) and also gave the basis for proving likely it **cannot** be done (since HAM is NP-Complete).



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4. HAM is NP-complete. Just take my word for it.

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4. We **believe**  $3\text{SAT} \notin P$ , hence we **believe**  $\text{CLIQ} \notin P$ .

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4.  $P \neq NP$  has great explanatory power. See next slide.



# Approximating Set Cover

**Set Cover** Given  $n$  and  $S_1, \dots, S_m \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$  find the least number of sets  $S_i$ 's that **cover**  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .

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3. These two proofs have nothing to do with each other yet give matching upper and lower bounds.

# Approximating Set Cover

**Set Cover** Given  $n$  and  $S_1, \dots, S_m \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$  find the least number of sets  $S_i$ 's that **cover**  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .

1. Chvatal in 1979 showed that there is a poly time approx algorithm for **Set Cover** that will return  $(\ln n) \times \text{OPTIMAL}$ .
2. Dinur and Steurer in 2013 showed that, assuming  $P \neq NP$ , for all  $\epsilon$  there is no  $(1 - \epsilon) \ln n \times \text{OPTIMAL}$  approx alg for **Set Cover**.
3. These two proofs have nothing to do with each other yet give matching upper and lower bounds.
4. There are many other approx problems where  $P \neq NP$  explains why they cannot be improved.

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- 1.1 IF  $P = NP$  that might be proven in the next decade.
  - 1.2 IF  $P \neq NP$  this will not be proven until the year 2525.
2.  $P \neq NP$ . In fact, SAT requires  $2^{\Omega(n)}$  time.

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	$P \neq NP$	$P = NP$	Ind	DK	other
2002	61 (61%)	9 (9%)	4 (4%)	22 (22%)	7 (7%) )
2012	126 (83%)	12 (9%)	5 (3%)	1 (0.66%)	8 (5.1%)
2019	109 (88%)	15 (12%)	0	0	0

**BILL, STOP RECORDING LECTURE!!!!**

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