

# CS21 Decidability and Tractability

Lecture 23  
March 3, 2008

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## Outline

- the class PSPACE
- a PSPACE-complete problem
- PSPACE and 2-player games

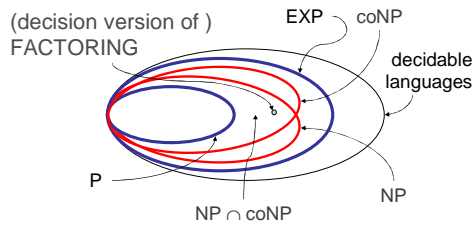
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## Summary

- Picture of the way we believe things are:



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## Space complexity

**Definition:** the space complexity of a TM  $M$  is a function

$$f: \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$$

where  $f(n)$  is the maximum number of tape cells  $M$  scans on any input of length  $n$ .

- “ $M$  uses space  $f(n)$ ,” “ $M$  is a  $f(n)$  space TM”

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## Space complexity

**Definition:**  $\text{SPACE}(t(n)) = \{L : \text{there exists a TM } M \text{ that decides } L \text{ in space } O(t(n))\}$

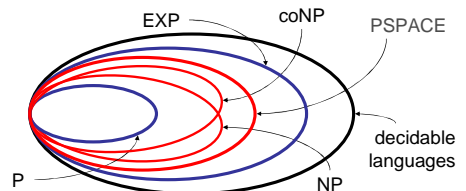
$$\text{PSPACE} = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} \text{SPACE}(n^k)$$

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## PSPACE



- $\text{NP} \subset \text{PSPACE}$ ,  $\text{coNP} \subset \text{PSPACE}$  (proof?)
- $\text{PSPACE} \subset \text{EXP}$  (proof?)
- containments believed to be proper

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## PSPACE

- A PSPACE-complete problem:
- Quantified Satisfiability:
 
$$\text{QSAT} = \{ \varphi : \varphi \text{ is a 3-CNF, and } \exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \forall x_4 \exists x_5 \dots \forall x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) \}$$
- example:  $\varphi = (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3)$   
 $\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \varphi?$   
 YES:  $x_1=T$ ; if  $x_2=T$ , set  $x_3=F$ ; if  $x_2=F$ , set  $x_3=T$

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## PSPACE

- A PSPACE-complete problem:
- Quantified Satisfiability:
 
$$\text{QSAT} = \{ \varphi : \varphi \text{ is a 3-CNF, and } \exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \forall x_4 \exists x_5 \dots \forall x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) \}$$
- example:  $\varphi = (x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_2)$   
 $\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \varphi?$   
 NO:  $x_1=T$ ; if  $x_2=T \dots$ ;  $x_1=F$ ; if  $x_2=T \dots$

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## QSAT is PSPACE-complete

**Theorem:** QSAT is PSPACE-complete.

- Proof:
  - in PSPACE:  $\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \dots Q x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)?$
  - “ $\exists x_1$ ”: for both  $x_1 = 0, x_1 = 1$ , recursively solve  $\forall x_2 \exists x_3 \dots Q x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)?$ 
    - if at least one “yes”, return “yes”; else return “no”
  - “ $\forall x_1$ ”: for both  $x_1 = 0, x_1 = 1$ , recursively solve  $\exists x_2 \forall x_3 \dots Q x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)?$ 
    - if at least one “no”, return “no”; else return “yes”
  - base case: evaluating a 3-CNF expression
  - poly(n) recursion depth
  - poly(n) bits of state at each level

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## QSAT is PSPACE-complete

- given TM M deciding  $L \in \text{PSPACE}$ ; input x
- $2^{n^k}$  possible configurations
- single START configuration
- assume single ACCEPT configuration

– define:

$\text{REACH}(X, Y, i) \Leftrightarrow$  configuration Y reachable from configuration X in at most  $2^i$  steps.

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## QSAT is PSPACE-complete

$\text{REACH}(X, Y, i) \Leftrightarrow$  configuration Y reachable from configuration X in at most  $2^i$  steps.

- Goal: produce 3-CNF  $\varphi(w_1, w_2, w_3, \dots, w_m)$  such that

$$\exists w_1 \forall w_2 \dots \exists w_m \varphi(w_1, \dots, w_m) \Leftrightarrow \text{REACH}(\text{START}, \text{ACCEPT}, n^k)$$

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## QSAT is PSPACE-complete

- for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n^k$  produce quantified Boolean expressions  $\psi_i(A, B, W)$ 

$$\exists w_1 \forall w_2 \dots \psi_i(A, B, W) \Leftrightarrow \text{REACH}(A, B, i)$$
- convert  $\psi_{n^k}$  to 3-CNF  $\varphi$ 
  - add variables V
- hardwire A = START, B = ACCEPT
 
$$\exists w_1 \forall w_2 \dots \exists V \varphi(W, V) \Leftrightarrow x \in L$$

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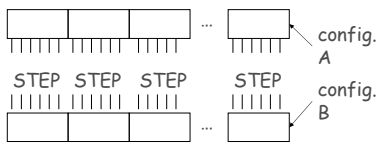
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## QSAT is PSPACE-complete

- $\psi_0(A, B) = \text{true}$  iff
  - $A = B$  or
  - $A$  yields  $B$  in one step of  $M$

Boolean expression of size  $O(n^k)$



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## QSAT is PSPACE-complete

- Key observation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{REACH}(A, B, i+1) \\ & \Leftrightarrow \\ & \exists Z [\text{REACH}(A, Z, i) \wedge \text{REACH}(Z, B, i)] \end{aligned}$$

- cannot define  $\psi_{i+1}(A; B; Z, W, W')$  to be
  - $\exists Z [\exists w_1 \forall w_2 \dots \psi_i(A, Z, W) \wedge \exists w'_1 \forall w'_2 \dots \psi_i(Z, B, W')]$
  - (why?)

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## QSAT is PSPACE-complete

- Key idea: use quantifiers
- couldn't do  $\psi_{i+1}(A; B; Z, W, W') = \exists Z [\exists w_1 \forall w_2 \dots \psi_i(A, Z, W) \wedge \exists w'_1 \forall w'_2 \dots \psi_i(Z, B, W')]$

- define  $\psi_{i+1}(A; B; Z, X, Y, W)$  to be
  - $\exists Z \forall X \forall Y [((X=A \wedge Y=Z) \vee (X=Z \wedge Y=B)) \Rightarrow \exists w_1 \forall w_2 \dots \psi_i(X, Y, W)]$

- $\psi_i(X, Y, W)$  is preceded by quantifiers
- move to front (they don't involve  $X, Y, Z, A, B$ )

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## QSAT is PSPACE-complete

- $\psi_0(A, B) = \text{true}$  iff  $A = B$  or  $A$  yields  $B$  in 1 step
- $\psi_{i+1}(A; B; Z, X, Y, W) = \exists Z \forall X \forall Y [((X=A \wedge Y=Z) \vee (X=Z \wedge Y=B)) \Rightarrow \exists w_1 \forall w_2 \dots \psi_i(X, Y, W)]$

- $|\psi_0| = O(n^k)$
- $|\psi_{i+1}| = O(n^k) + |\psi_i|$

- total size of  $\psi_{n,k}$  is  $O(n^k)^2 = \text{poly}(n)$
- reduction runs in polynomial time

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## PSPACE and games

$$\text{QSAT} = \{ \varphi : \varphi \text{ is a 3-CNF, and } \exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \forall x_4 \exists x_5 \dots \forall x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) \}$$

- Think of as 2-player game (player 1 trying to satisfy  $\varphi$ ; player 2 adversary):
  - player 1 picks truth value for  $x_1$
  - player 2 picks truth value for  $x_2$
  - player 1 picks truth value for  $x_3, \dots$
- $\varphi \in \text{QSAT}$  iff player 1 can win no matter what player 2 does.

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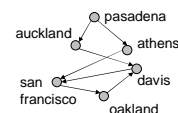
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## PSPACE and games

- General phenomenon: many 2-player games are PSPACE-complete.

- 2 players I, II
- alternate picking edges
- lose when no unvisited choice



- GEOGRAPHY =  $\{(G, s) : G \text{ is a directed graph and player I can win from node } s\}$

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## PSPACE

**Theorem:** GEOGRAPHY is PSPACE-complete.

**Proof:**

- in PSPACE (proof?)
- PSPACE-hard. reduction from QSAT.

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## GEOGRAPHY is PSPACE-complete

- We are reducing from the language:

$$\text{QSAT} = \{ \varphi : \varphi \text{ is a 3-CNF, and } \exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \forall x_4 \exists x_5 \dots \forall x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) \}$$

to the language:

$$\text{GEOGRAPHY} = \{ (G, s) : G \text{ is a directed graph and player I can win from node } s \}$$

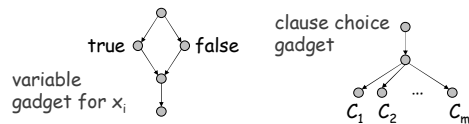
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## PSPACE

$$\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \dots \forall x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)?$$



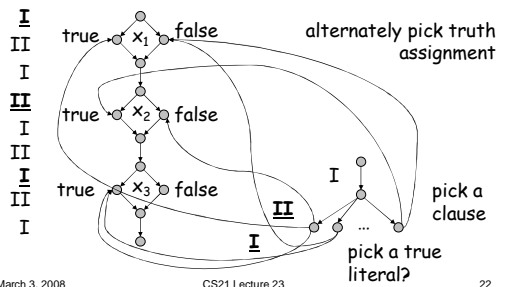
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## PSPACE

$$\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 \dots (\neg x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_3 \vee x_1) \wedge \dots \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_2)$$



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