

# NP-complete Languages

# Polynomial Time Reductions

Polynomial Computable function  $f$  :

There is a deterministic Turing machine  $M$   
such that for any string  $w$  computes  $f(w)$   
in polynomial time:  $O(|w|^k)$

## Observation:

the length of  $f(w)$  is bounded

$$|f(w)| = O(|w|^k)$$

since,  $M$  cannot use  
more than  $O(|w|^k)$  tape space  
in time  $O(|w|^k)$

## Definition:

Language  $A$

is polynomial time reducible to  
language  $B$

if there is a polynomial computable  
function  $f$  such that:

$$w \in A \iff f(w) \in B$$

## Theorem:

Suppose that  $A$  is polynomial reducible to  $B$ .  
If  $B \in P$  then  $A \in P$ .

## Proof:

Let  $M$  be the machine that decides  $B$   
in polynomial time

Machine  $M'$  to decide  $A$  in polynomial time:

On input string  $w$  :

1. Compute  $f(w)$
2. Run  $M$  on input  $f(w)$
3. If  $f(w) \in B$  accept  $w$

# Example of a polynomial-time reduction:

We will reduce the

3CNF-satisfiability problem  
to the

CLIQUE problem

3CNF formula:

$$(x_1 \vee \overline{x_2} \vee \overline{x_3}) \wedge \underbrace{(x_3 \vee \overline{x_5} \vee x_6)}_{\text{clause}} \wedge (x_3 \vee \overline{x_6} \vee x_4) \wedge (x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_6)$$

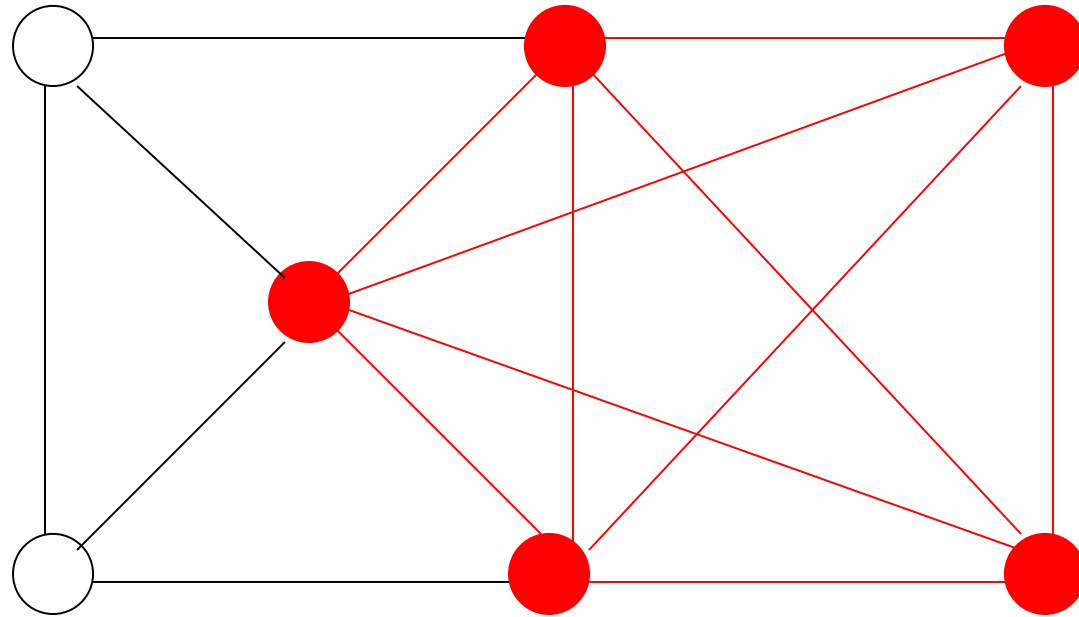
literal variable or its complement

Each clause has three literals

Language:

$3\text{CNF-SAT} = \{ w : w \text{ is a satisfiable } 3\text{CNF formula} \}$

## A 5-clique in graph $G$



Language:

$\text{CLIQUE} = \{ \langle G, k \rangle : \text{graph } G \text{ contains a } k\text{-clique} \}$



**Theorem:** 3CNF-SAT is polynomial time reducible to CLIQUE

**Proof:** give a polynomial time reduction of one problem to the other

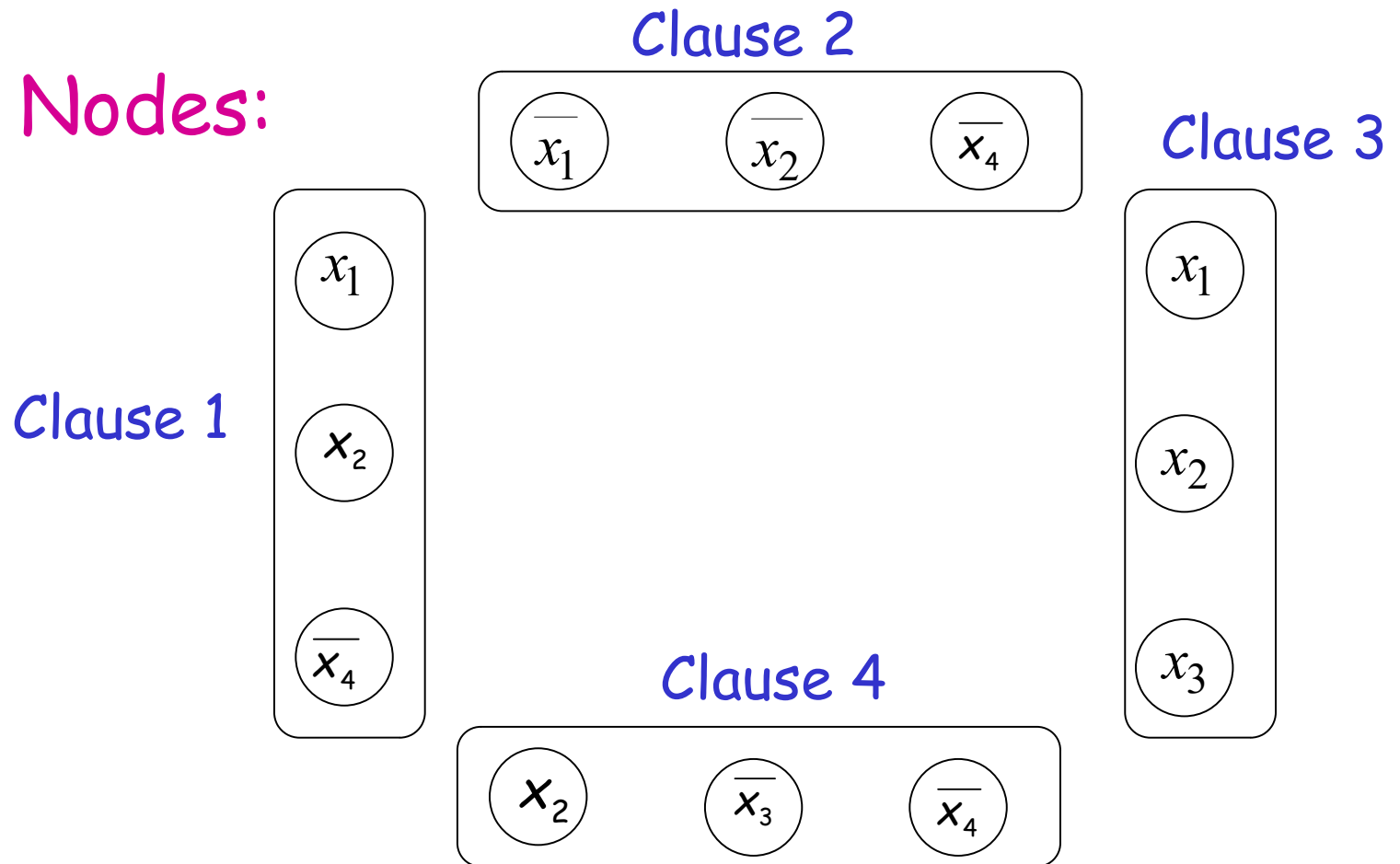
Transform formula to graph

# Transform formula to graph.

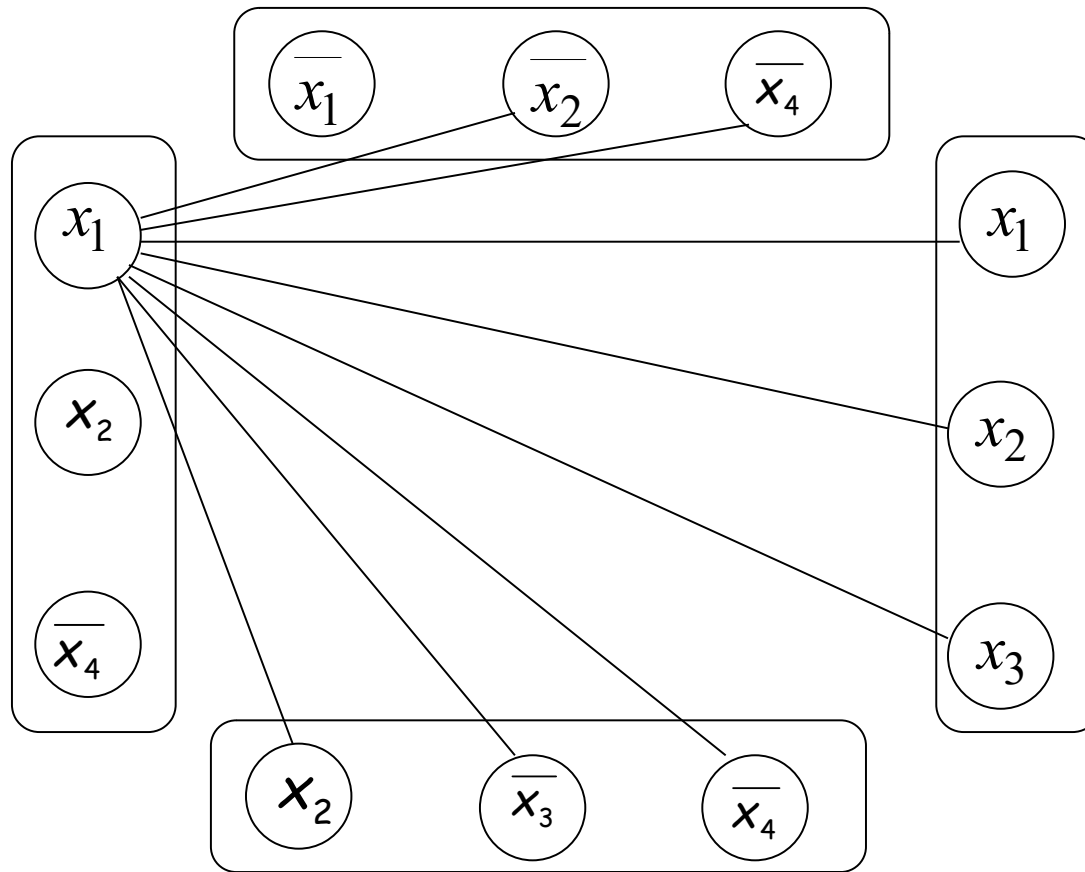
## Example:

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

Create Nodes:

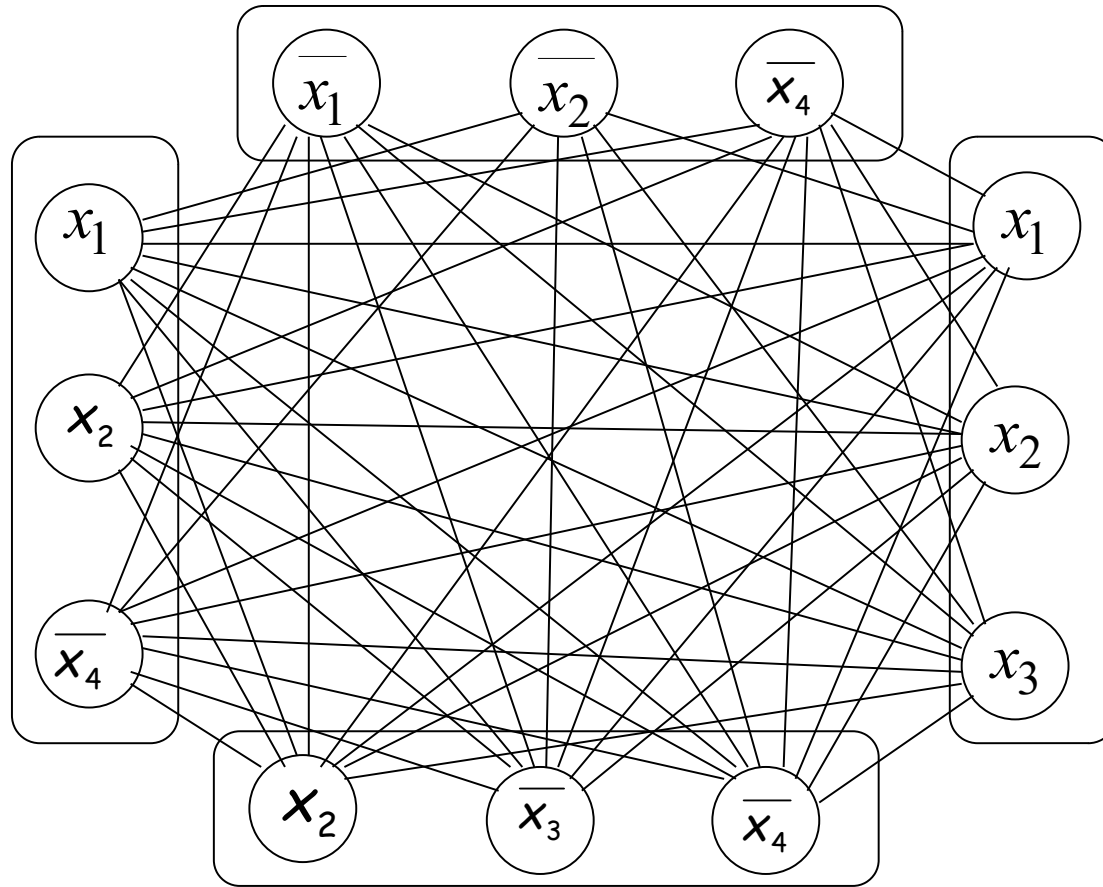


$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \overline{x_4}) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_2} \vee \overline{x_4}) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_2 \vee \overline{x_3} \vee \overline{x_4})$$



Add link from a literal  $\xi$  to a literal in every other clause, except the complement  $\overline{\xi}$

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



Resulting Graph

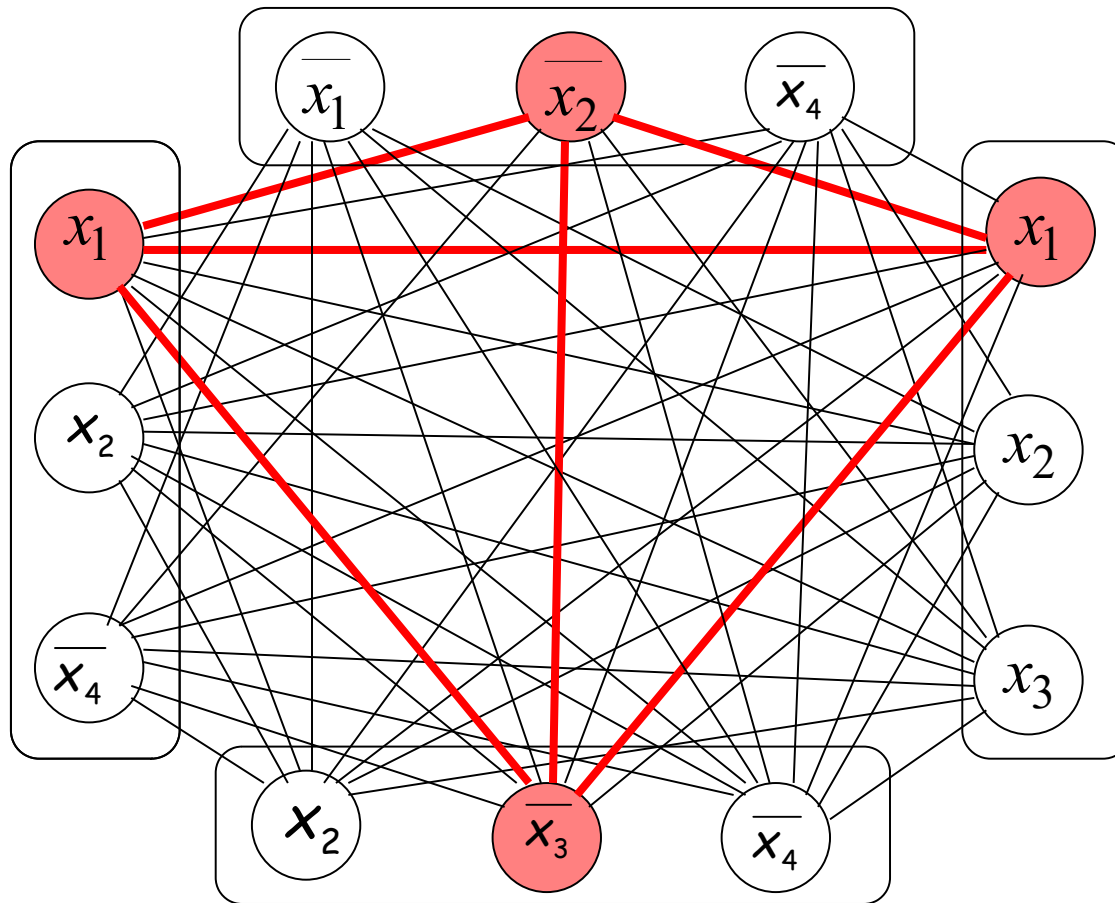
$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \overline{x_4}) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_2} \vee \overline{x_4}) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_2 \vee \overline{x_3} \vee \overline{x_4}) = 1$$

$$x_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 0$$

$$x_3 = 0$$

$$x_4 = 1$$

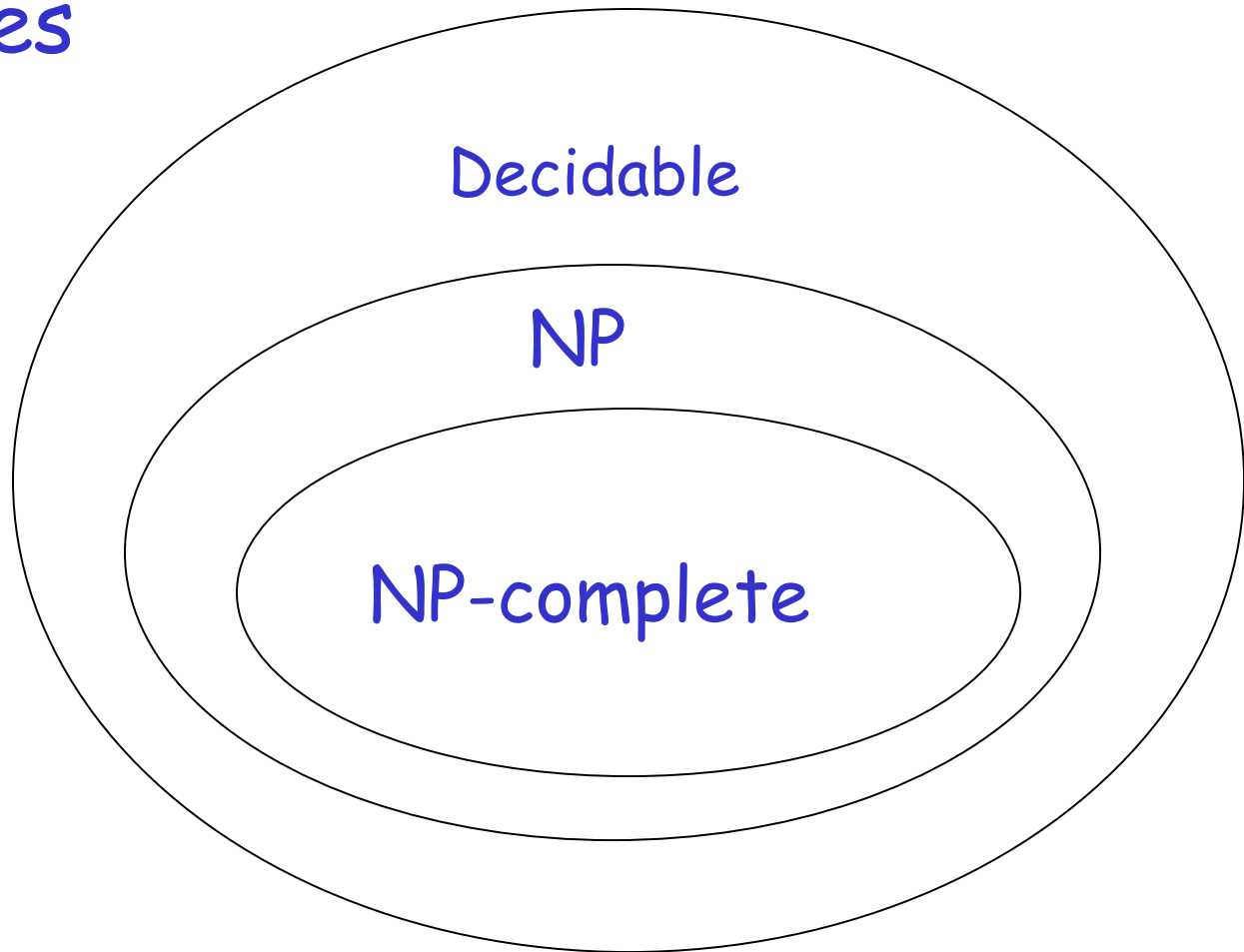


The formula is satisfied if and only if  
the Graph has a 4-clique

End of Proof

# NP-complete Languages

We define the class of NP-complete languages



A language  $L$  is NP-complete if:

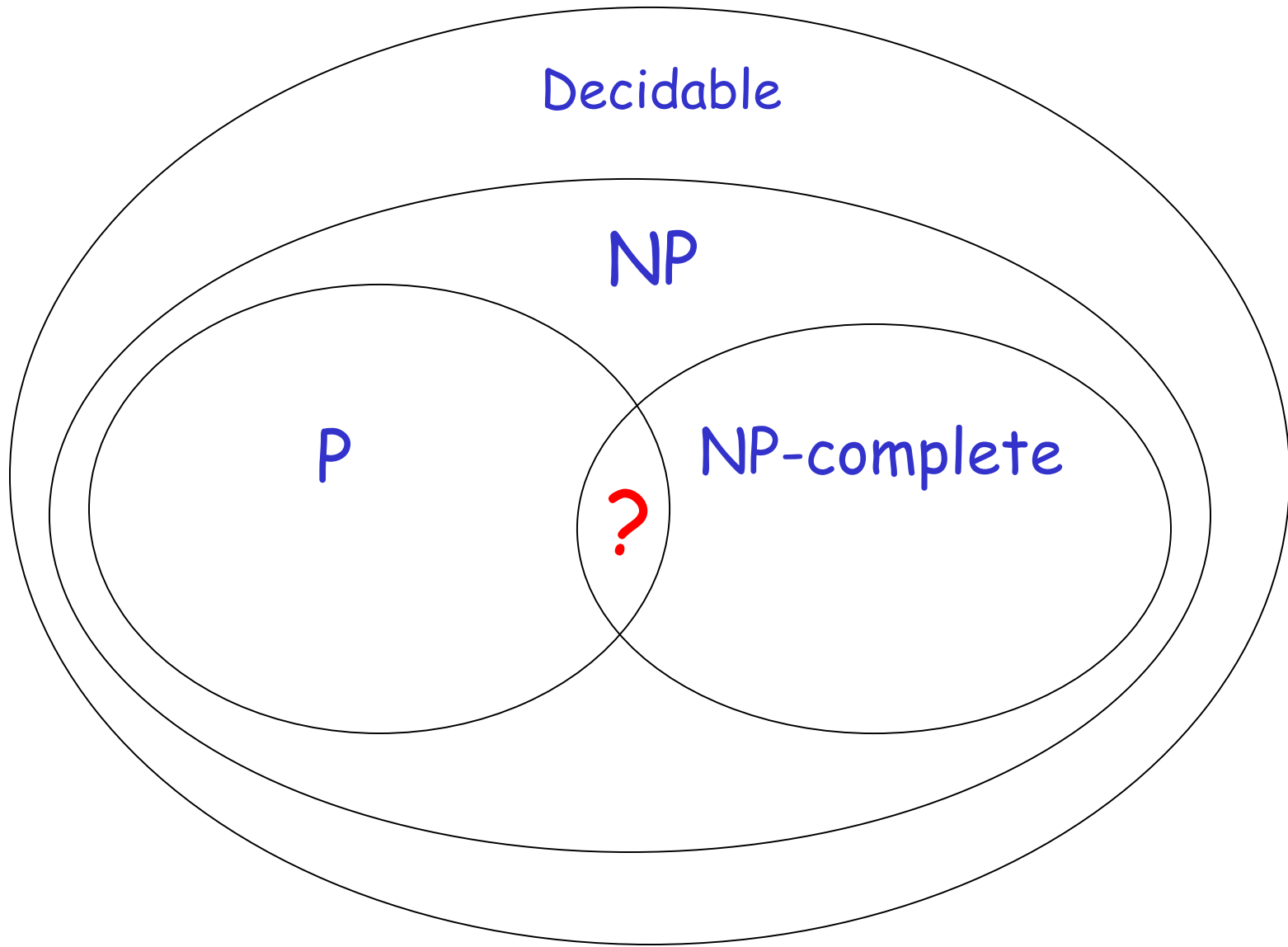
- $L$  is in NP, and
- Every language in NP is reduced to  $L$  in polynomial time

## Observation:

If a NP-complete language  
is proven to be in P then:

$$P = NP$$





# An NP-complete Language

## Cook-Levin Theorem:

Language SAT (satisfiability problem)  
is NP-complete

## Proof:

Part1: SAT is in NP

(we have proven this in previous class)

Part2: reduce all NP languages  
to the SAT problem  
in polynomial time

Take an arbitrary language  $L \in NP$

We will give a polynomial reduction of  $L$  to SAT

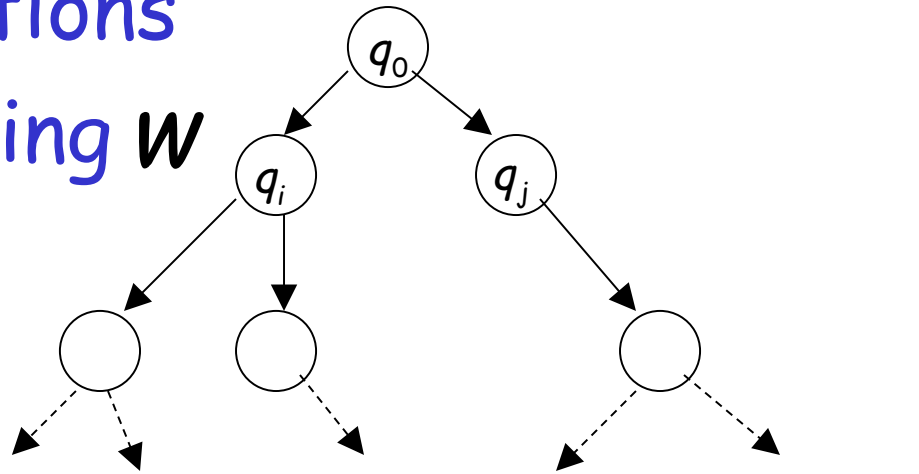
---

Let  $M$  be the **NonDeterministic**  
Turing Machine that decides  $L$  in polyn. time

For any string  $w$  we will construct  
in polynomial time a **Boolean expression**  $\varphi(M, w)$   
such that:  $w \in L \iff \varphi(M, w)$  is satisfiable

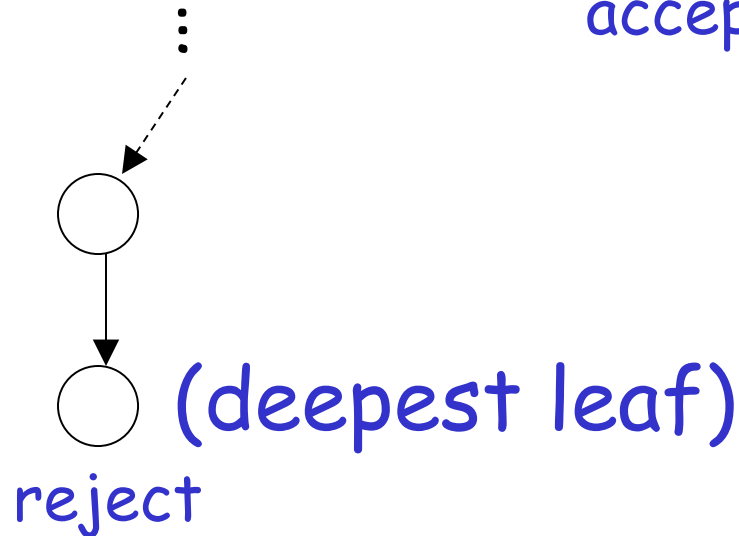
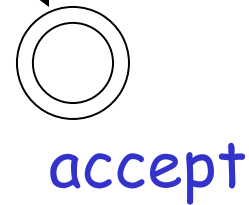
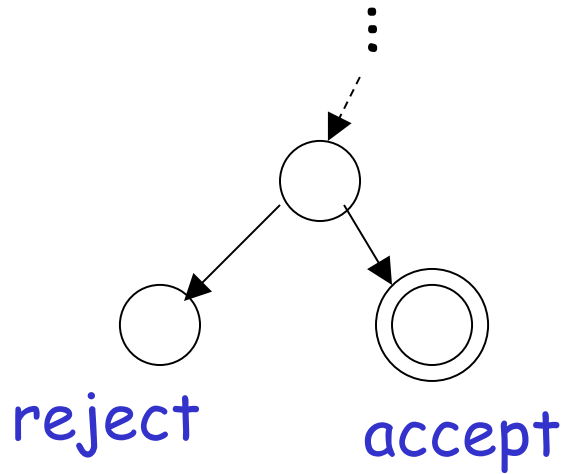
All computations  
of  $M$  on string  $w$

$$|w| = n$$

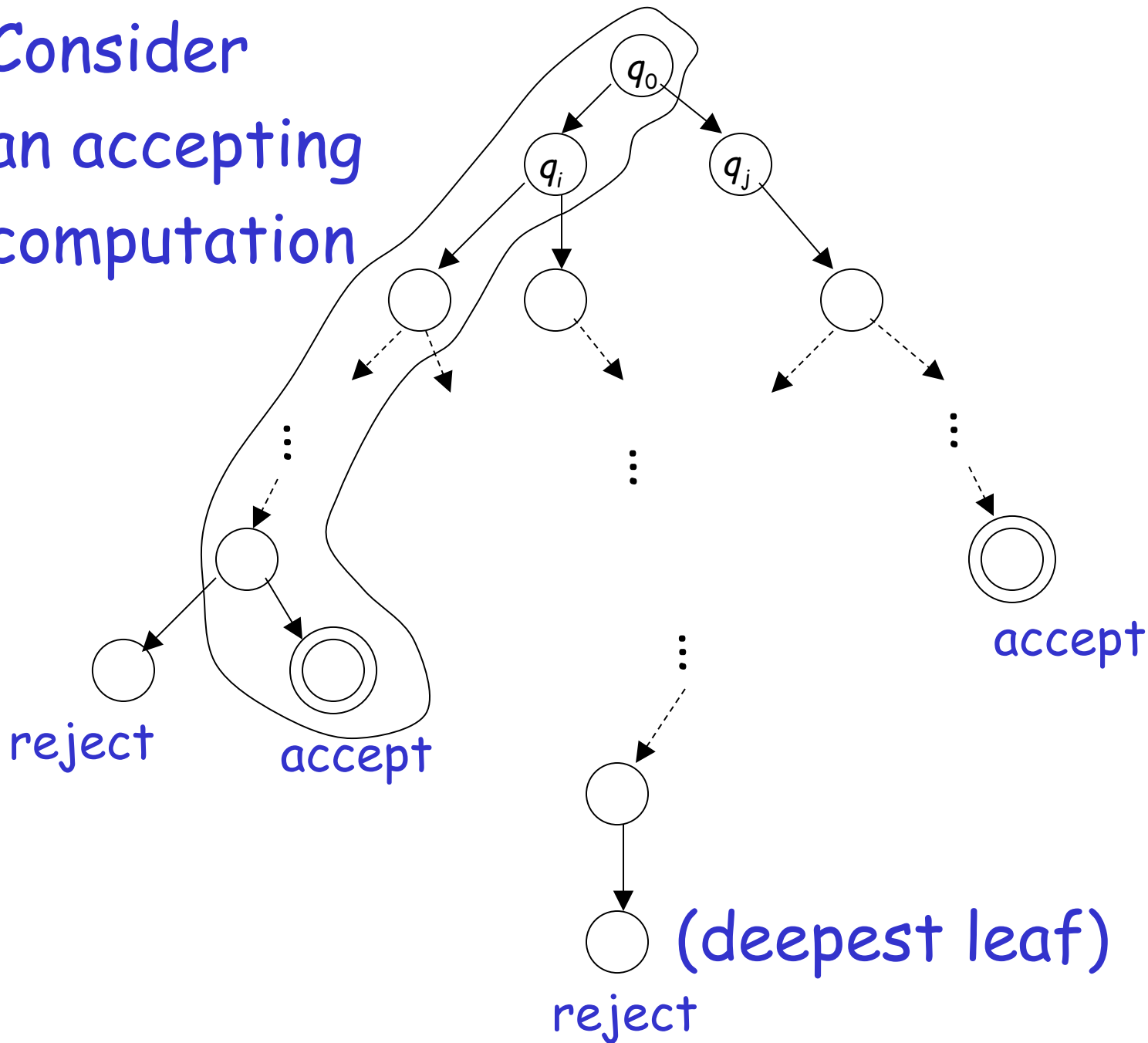


depth

$$n^k$$



Consider  
an accepting  
computation



depth

$n^k$

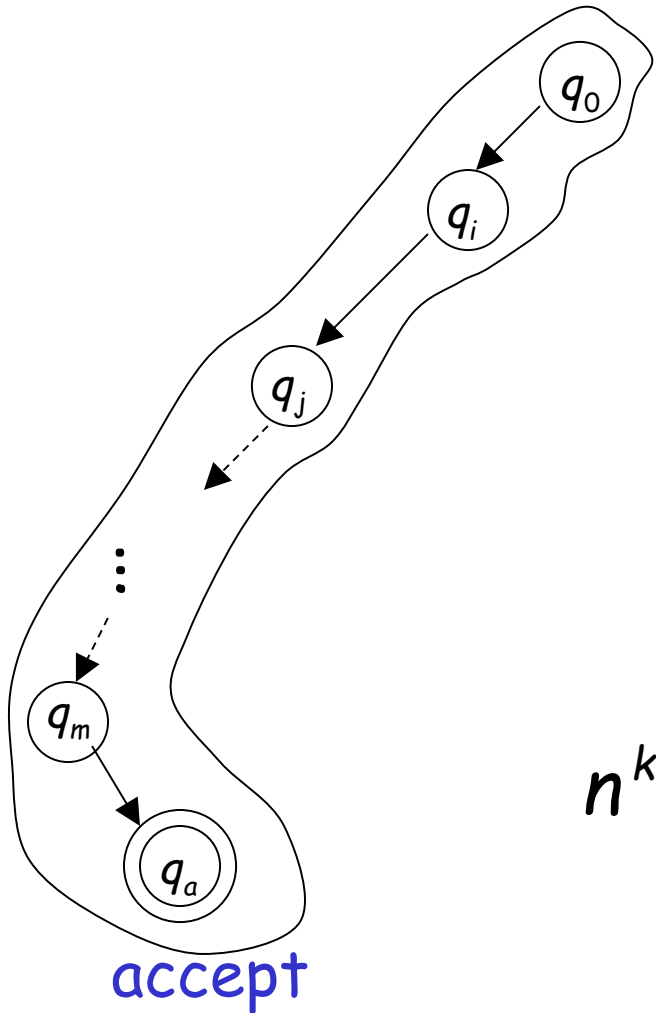
accept

accept

reject

(deepest leaf)  
reject

# Computation path



# Sequence of Configurations

initial state

$$1: \quad \textcircled{q_0} \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_n$$

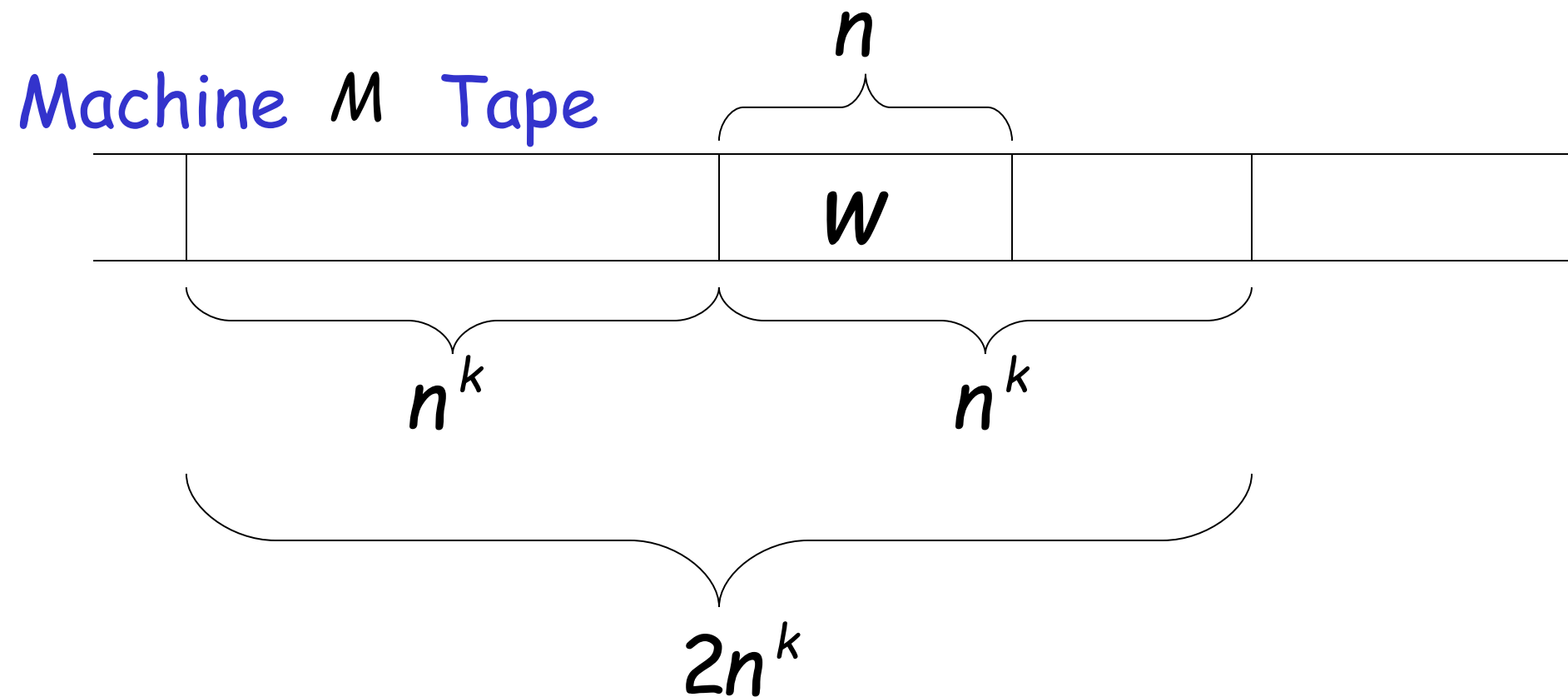
$$2: \quad \succ \sigma'_1 \textcircled{q_i} \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_n$$

$\vdots$

$$n^k \geq x: \quad \succ \sigma'_1 \cdots \sigma'_l \textcircled{q_a} \sigma'_{l+1} \cdots \sigma'_{n^k}$$

accept state

$$W = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_n$$



Maximum working space area on tape  
during  $n^k$  time steps

# Tableau of Configurations

1:	#	◇	...	◇	$q_0$	$\sigma_1$	$\sigma_2$	...	$\sigma_n$	◇	...	◇	#
2:	#	◇	...	◇	$\sigma'_1$	$q_i$	$\sigma_2$	...	$\sigma_n$	◇	...	◇	#
⋮													
x:	#	◇	...	$\sigma''$	$\sigma'_1$	$\sigma'_2$	$\sigma'_3$	...	$q_a$	$\sigma'_{l+1}$	...	$\sigma_{n^k}$	#
$n^k$ :	#	◇	...	$\sigma''$	$\sigma'_1$	$\sigma'_2$	$\sigma'_3$	...	$q_a$	$\sigma'_{l+1}$	...	$\sigma_{n^k}$	#

Accept configuration

identical rows

$\longleftrightarrow n^k \longrightarrow$

$\longleftrightarrow n^k \longrightarrow$

$\longleftrightarrow 2n^k + 3 \longrightarrow$



# Tableau Alphabet

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{C} &= \{\#\} \cup \{\text{tape alphabet}\} \cup \{\text{set of states}\} \\ &= \{\#\} \cup \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r\} \cup \{q_1, \dots, q_t\}\end{aligned}$$

Finite size (constant)

$$|\mathcal{C}| = O(1)$$

For every cell position  $i, j$   
and  
for every symbol in tableau alphabet  $s \in \mathcal{C}$

Define variable  $x_{i,j,s}$

Such that if cell  $i, j$  contains symbol  $s$

Then  $x_{i,j,s} = 1$

Else  $x_{i,j,s} = 0$

## Examples:

Diagram illustrating a sequence of length  $n^k + 3$ . The sequence is shown in two rows:

- Row 1:  $\#$ ,  $\diamond$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\diamond$ ,  $q_0$ ,  $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\sigma_n$ ,  $\diamond$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\diamond$ ,  $\#$
- Row 2:  $\#$ ,  $\diamond$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\diamond$ ,  $\sigma'_1$ ,  $q_i$ ,  $\sigma_2$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\sigma_n$ ,  $\diamond$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\diamond$ ,  $\#$

Red circles highlight the first  $\#$  and  $q_i$  in their respective rows, with red lines pointing to them from below.

$$x_{1,1,\#} = 1$$

$$x_{1,1,\diamond} = 0$$

$$x_{2,n^k+3,q_i} = 1$$


$$x_{2,n^k+3,\#} = 0$$

$\varphi(M, w)$  is built from variables  $x_{i,j,s}$

$$\varphi(M, w) = \varphi_{\text{cell}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{start}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{accept}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{move}}$$

When the formula is satisfied,  
it describes an accepting computation  
in the tableau  
of machine  $M$  on input  $w$

$\varphi_{\text{cell}}$  makes sure that every cell in the tableau contains exactly one symbol

$$\varphi_{\text{cell}} = \bigwedge_{\text{all } i,j} \left[ \left( \bigvee_{s \in \mathcal{C}} \mathbf{x}_{i,j,s} \right) \wedge \left( \bigwedge_{\substack{s,t \in \mathcal{C} \\ s \neq t}} \left( \overline{\mathbf{x}_{i,j,s}} \vee \overline{\mathbf{x}_{i,j,t}} \right) \right) \right]$$


Every cell contains  
at least one symbol

Every cell contains  
at most one symbol

Size of  $\varphi_{\text{cell}}$  :

$$\varphi_{\text{cell}} = \bigwedge_{\text{all } i,j} \left[ \left( \bigvee_{s \in \mathcal{C}} x_{i,j,s} \right) \wedge \left( \bigwedge_{\substack{s,t \in \mathcal{C} \\ s \neq t}} \left( \overline{x_{i,j,s}} \vee \overline{x_{i,j,t}} \right) \right) \right]$$

$(2n^k + 3)n^k \times (|\mathcal{C}| + |\mathcal{C}|^2)$

$= O(n^{2k})$


$\varphi_{\text{start}}$  makes sure that the tableau starts with the initial configuration

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{\text{start}} = & \mathbf{x}_{1,1,\#} \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,2,\diamond} \wedge \cdots \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,n^k+1,\diamond} \\ & \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,n^k+2,q_0} \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,n^k+3,\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,n^k+n+2,\sigma_n} \\ & \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,n^k+n+3,\diamond} \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,2n^k+2,\diamond} \wedge \cdots \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,2n^k+2,\#} \end{aligned}$$

Describes the initial configuration  
in row 1 of tableau

Size of  $\varphi_{\text{start}}$  :

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_{\text{start}} &= \mathbf{x}_{1,1,\#} \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,2,\diamond} \wedge \cdots \\ &\quad \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,n^k+1,\diamond} \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,n^k+2,q_0} \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,n^k+3,\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \\ &\quad \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,2n^k+2,\diamond} \wedge \mathbf{x}_{1,2n^k+3,\#}\end{aligned}$$



$$2n^k + 3 = O(n^k)$$



$\varphi_{\text{accept}}$  makes sure that the computation leads to acceptance

$$\varphi_{\text{accept}} = \bigvee_{\substack{\text{all } i,j \\ \text{all } q \in F}} X_{i,j,q}$$

Accepting states

An accept state should appear somewhere in the tableau

Size of  $\varphi_{\text{accept}}$  :

$$\varphi_{\text{accept}} = \bigvee_{\substack{\text{all } i,j \\ \text{all } q \in F}} X_{i,j,q}$$



$$(2n^k + 3)n^k = O(n^{2k})$$

$\varphi_{\text{move}}$  makes sure that the tableau  
gives a valid sequence  
of configurations

$\varphi_{\text{move}}$  is expressed in terms of  
legal windows

# Tableau

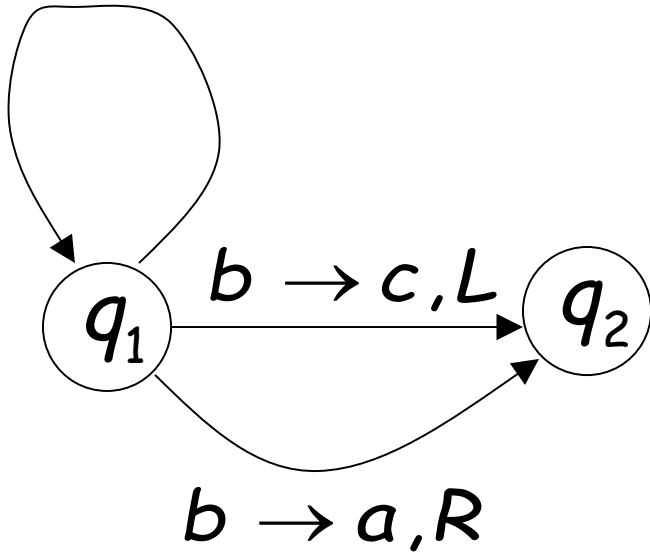
Window

$a$	$q_1$	$b$
$q_2$	$a$	$c$

2x6 area of cells

# Possible Legal windows

$a \rightarrow b, R$



$a$	$q_1$	$b$
$q_2$	$a$	$c$

$a$	$q_1$	$b$
$a$	$a$	$q_2$

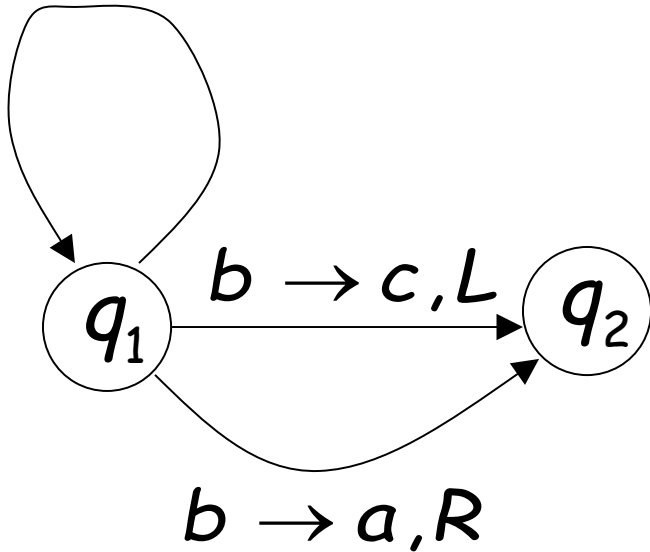
$a$	$a$	$q_1$
$a$	$a$	$b$

$a$	$b$	$a$
$a$	$b$	$q_2$

Legal windows obey the transitions

# Possible illegal windows

$a \rightarrow b, R$



$a$	$b$	$a$
$a$	$a$	$a$

$a$	$q_1$	$b$
$q_1$	$a$	$a$

$b$	$q_1$	$b$
$q_2$	$b$	$q_2$

$$\varphi_{\text{move}} = \bigwedge_{\text{all } i,j} (\text{window } (i,j) \text{ is legal})$$

window (i,j) is legal:

	$j$		$j$		$j$		
$i$	$a$	$q_1$	$b$	$i$	$a$	$q_1$	$b$
	$q_2$	$a$	$c$		$a$	$a$	$q_2$
	((is legal) $\vee$ (is legal) $\vee$ (is legal))						

all possible legal windows  
in position (i,j)

	$j$		
$i$	$a$	$q_1$	$b$
	$q_2$	$a$	$c$

(is legal)

Formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & x_{i,j,a} \wedge x_{i,j+1,q_1} \wedge x_{i,j+2,b} \\
 & \wedge x_{i+1,j,q_2} \wedge x_{i+1,j+1,a} \wedge x_{i+1,j+2,c}
 \end{aligned}$$



Size of  $\varphi_{\text{move}}$  :

Size of formula for a legal window  
in a cell  $i,j$ : 6

Number of possible legal windows  
in a cell  $i,j$ : at most  $|C|^6$

Number of possible cells:  $(2n^k + 3)n^k$

$$\leq |C|^6 \cdot (2n^k + 3)n^k = O(n^{2k})$$

Size of  $\varphi(M, w)$  :

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(M, w) &= \varphi_{\text{cell}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{start}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{accept}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{move}} \\ &\quad \swarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ &O(n^{2k}) + O(n^k) + O(n^{2k}) + O(n^{2k}) \\ &= O(n^{2k})\end{aligned}$$

it can also be constructed in time  $O(n^{2k})$   
polynomial in  $n$

$$\varphi(M, w) = \varphi_{\text{cell}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{start}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{accept}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{move}}$$

we have that:

$$w \in L \iff \varphi(M, w) \text{ is satisfiable}$$

Since,

$w \in L \iff \varphi(M, w)$  is satisfiable

and

$\varphi(M, w)$  is constructed  
in polynomial time



$L$  is polynomial-time reducible to SAT

END OF PROOF

## Observation 1:

The  $\varphi(M, w)$  formula can be converted to CNF (conjunctive normal form) formula in polynomial time

$$\varphi(M, w) = \varphi_{\text{cell}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{start}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{accept}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{move}}$$

Already CNF

NOT CNF

But can be converted to CNF using distributive laws

## Distributive Laws:

$$P \wedge (Q \vee R) = (P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R)$$

$$P \vee (Q \wedge R) = (P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R)$$

## Observation 2:

The  $\varphi(M, w)$  formula can also be converted to a 3CNF formula in polynomial time

$$(a_1 \vee a_2 \vee \cdots \vee a_l)$$

convert

$$(a_1 \vee a_2 \vee z_1) \wedge (\overline{z_1} \vee a_3 \vee z_2) \wedge (\overline{z_2} \vee a_4 \vee z_3) \wedge \cdots \wedge (\overline{z_{l-3}} \vee a_{l-1} \vee z_l)$$

From Observations 1 and 2:

CNF-SAT and  
3CNF-SAT are  
NP-complete languages

(they are known NP languages)



## Theorem:

- If:
- a. Language  $A$  is NP-complete
  - b. Language  $B$  is in NP
  - c.  $A$  is polynomial time reducible to  $B$

Then:  $B$  is NP-complete

## Proof:

Any language  $L$  in NP

is polynomial time reducible to  $A$ .

Thus,  $L$  is polynomial time reducible to  $B$

(sum of two polynomial reductions,  
gives a polynomial reduction)

Corollary: CLIQUE is NP-complete

Proof:

- a. 3CNF-SAT is NP-complete
- b. CLIQUE is in NP (shown in last class)
- c. 3CNF-SAT is polynomial reducible to CLIQUE (shown earlier)

Apply previous theorem with

A=3CNF-SAT      and      B=CLIQUE