



國立臺灣大學  
National Taiwan University

# UNIT 7

## NP-COMPLETENESS

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# Outline

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- Content:
  - Complexity classes
  - Reducibility and NP-completeness proofs
  - Coping with NP-complete problems
- Reading:
  - Chapter 34, 35.1~35.2

The Status of the P Versus NP Problem <http://cacm.acm.org/magazines/2009/9/38904-the-status-of-the-p-versus-np-problem/fulltext>

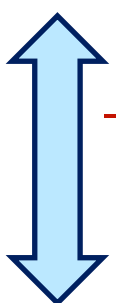


# Decision Problems

- A computational problem can be viewed as a **function**, mapping an input to some output
- Decision problems: output = T/F (True/False, Yes/No)
  - Given a graph  $G=(V, E)$ , is it connected?
  - Given a graph  $G=(V, E)$ ,  $u, v \in V$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , is there a path from  $u$  to  $v$  with  $\leq k$  edges?
    - Decision version of shortest path problem
    - Instance: possible input;  $k$ : threshold/bound
  - Given a graph  $G=(V, E)$ , is there a Hamiltonian path/cycle?
    - A **Hamiltonian path/cycle** is a path/cycle which goes through every vertex exactly once

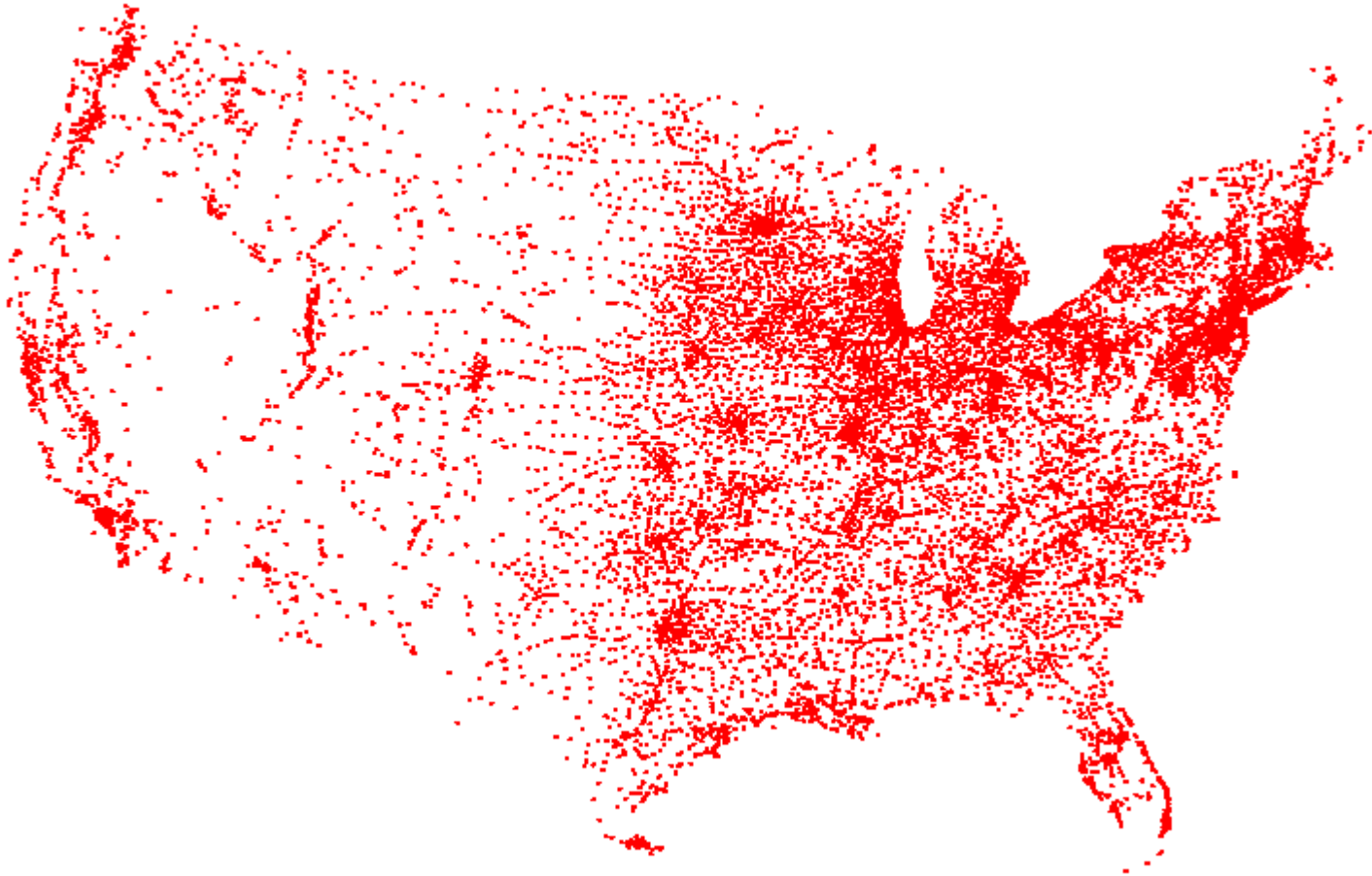


# Decision vs. Optimization Problems

- 
- **Decision** problems: those have **yes/no** answers
    - MST: Given a graph  $G=(V, E)$  and a bound  $k$ , is there a spanning tree with a cost at most  $k$ ?
    - TSP: Given a set of cities, distance between each pair of cities, and a bound  $b$ , is there a route that starts and ends at a given city, visits every city exactly once, and has total distance at most  $b$ ?
  - **Optimization** problems: those find a legal configuration such that its cost is **minimum** (or **maximum**)
    - MST: Given a graph  $G=(V, E)$ , find the cost of a minimum spanning tree of  $G$ .
    - TSP: Given a set of cities and the distance between each pair of cities, find the distance of a “minimum route” starts and ends at a given city and visits every city exactly once.
  - Could apply **binary search** on the bound of a decision problem to obtain solutions to its optimization problem

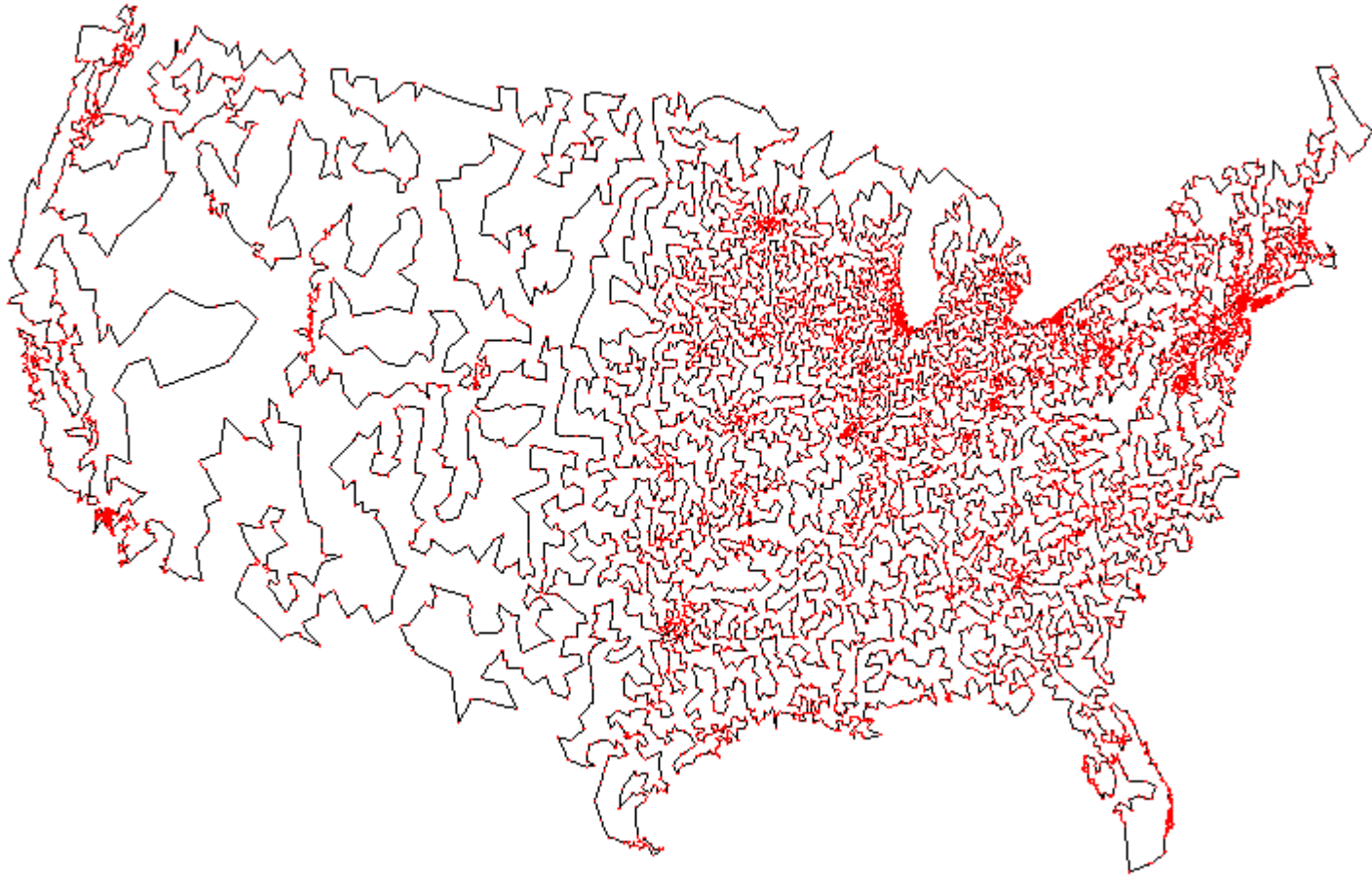


# Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP) (1/2)



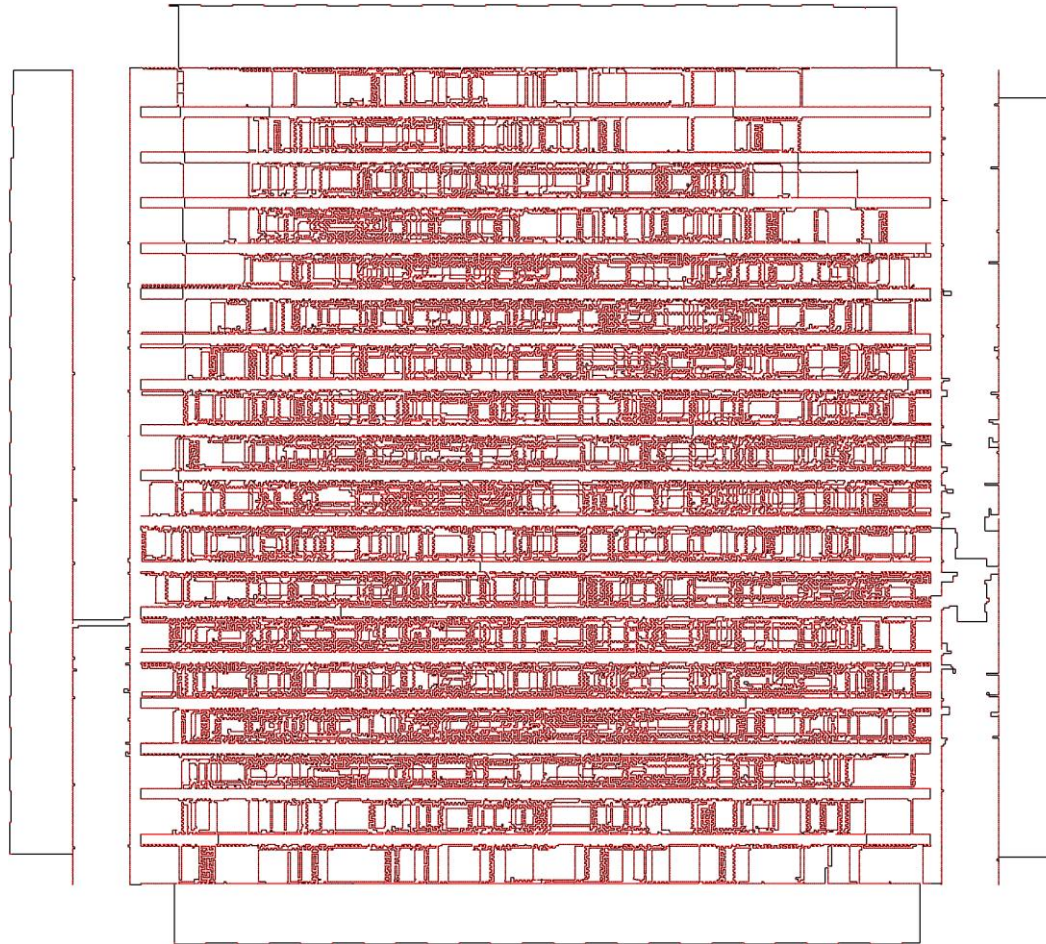
All 13,509 cities in US with a population of at least 500

# Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP) (2/2)



Optimal TSP tour

# TSP in VLSI



85,900 Locations in a VLSI Application  
Solved in 2006

**NP-completeness**





# Turing Machine

- Deterministic Turing Machine (DTM)

- Tape: (infinite memory)

- Store inputs/outputs and results
- $\infty$  long strip, divided into cells
- One symbol each cell

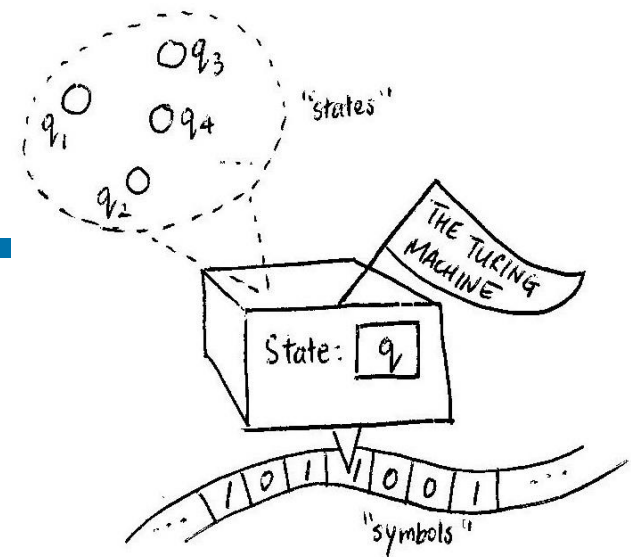
- Tape head:

- Point to one cell at a time
- Read a symbol from cell
- Write a symbol to cell
- Move one cell back/forward

- Finite state machine (table)

- Nondeterministic Turing Machine (NTM)

- Multiple branches

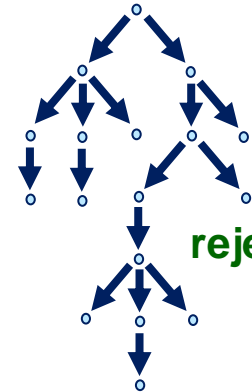


## Deterministic Computation



accept or reject

## Non-Deterministic Computation



accept

Think of a *Nondeterministic Turing Machine* as a computer that magically “guesses” a solution, then verifies it is correct. If a solution exists, computer always guesses it. i.e. a parallel computer that can freely spawn an infinite number of processes.



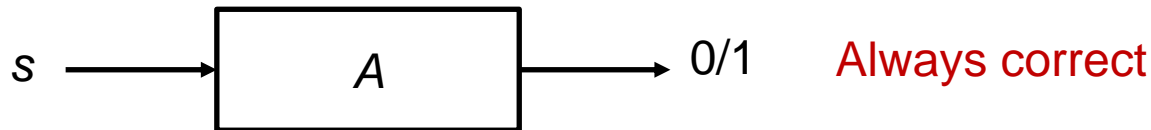


# Complexity Class P

- A decision problem is in **class P** iff there is an algorithm  $A$  s.t.
- An instance  $s$  is true  $\Leftrightarrow A(s)=1$
- $A$  runs in polynomial time (of size of instance  $s$ )



- An instance  $s$  is false  $\Leftrightarrow A(s)=0$



- P: polynomial-time solvable (of size of instance)

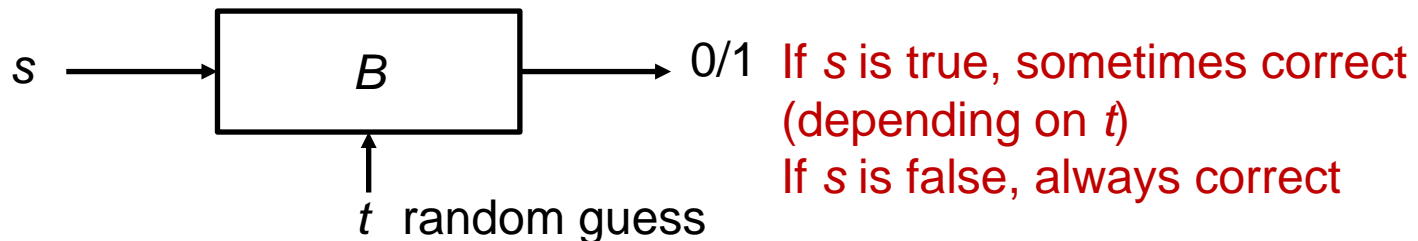
# Complexity Class NP

## *Nondeterministic Polynomial Time*

- A decision problem is in **class NP** iff there is an algorithm  $B(s, t)$ , which runs in polynomial time (of size of  $s$ ), s.t.
- An instance  $s$  is true  $\Leftrightarrow \exists t, B(s, t)=1$



- An instance  $s$  is false  $\Leftrightarrow \forall t, B(s, t)=0$



- Considering infinite computing power (NTM), test each possible solution, e.g.,  $B(s, 0)$ ,  $B(s, 1)$ ,  $B(s, 00)$ ,  $B(s, 01)$ , ...
- NP: polynomial-time verifiable (of size of instance)
  - Polynomial time solvable by NTM
  - Class NP is associated with decision problems

# Example: Set Cover Problem

- Given
  - a set  $U = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\}$
  - $n$  subsets  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n \subseteq U$
  - $k \in \mathbb{N}$
- Are there  $k$  subsets in  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n$  s.t. the union is  $U$ ? set cover
- e.g.,
  - $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, S_1 = \{1, 2, 3\}, S_2 = \{1, 3, 5\}, S_3 = \{3, 4\}, S_4 = \{2, 5\}$
  - $k=2$ , false;  $k=3$ , true

	1	2	3	4	5
$S_1$	×	×	×		
$S_2$	×		×		×
$S_3$			×	×	
$S_4$		×			×

	1	2	3	4	5
$S_1$	×	×	×		
$S_3$			×	×	
$S_4$		×			×

	1	2	3	4	5
$S_2$	×		×		×
$S_3$			×	×	
$S_4$		×			×

# SET COVER is NP

- **Theorem:** SET COVER  $\in$  NP

- Pf: By definition

- Idea:  $t$ : binary string, each bit indicates one subset

- $B(s, t)$ :

- If  $t$  is not an  $n$ -bit binary number,  $B(s, t)=0$

- If the number of 1s in  $t \neq k$ ,  $B(s, t)=0$

- Otherwise, pick  $S_i$  iff  $t[i]=1$  (will exactly pick  $k$  subsets)

- e.g.,  $B(s, 1011)=1$ ,  $B(s, 0111)=1$ , for  $k=3$

	1	2	3	4	5
$S_1$	×	×	×		
$S_2$	×		×		×
$S_3$			×	×	
$S_4$		×			×

	1	2	3	4	5
$S_1$	×	×	×		
$S_3$			×	×	
$S_4$		×			×

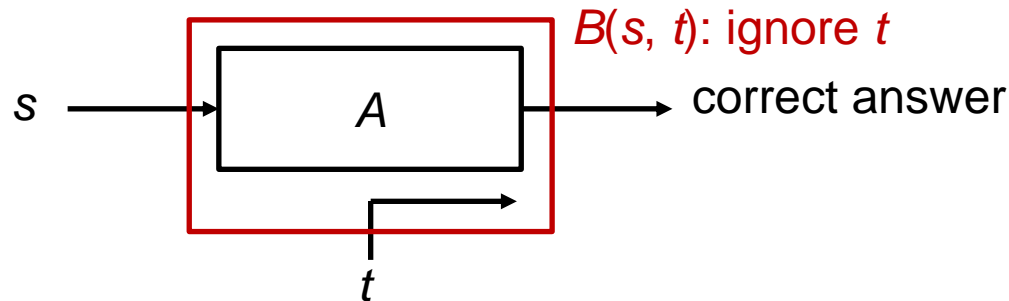
	1	2	3	4	5
$S_2$	×		×		×
$S_3$			×	×	
$S_4$		×			×

# Relation between P and NP

● **Theorem:** If problem  $X \in P$ , then  $X \in NP$

● Pf:

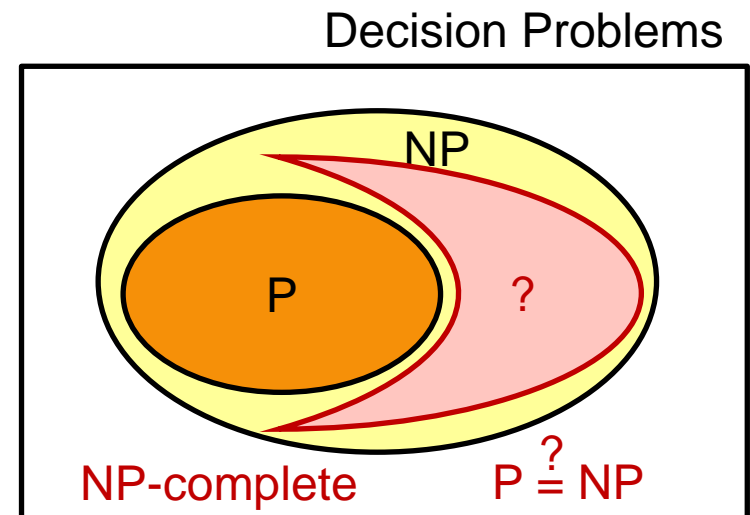
–  $X \in P, \exists A, A(s)$  is always correct



– Take  $B(s, t) = A(s)$

–  $B(s, t)$  satisfies the requirement of NP

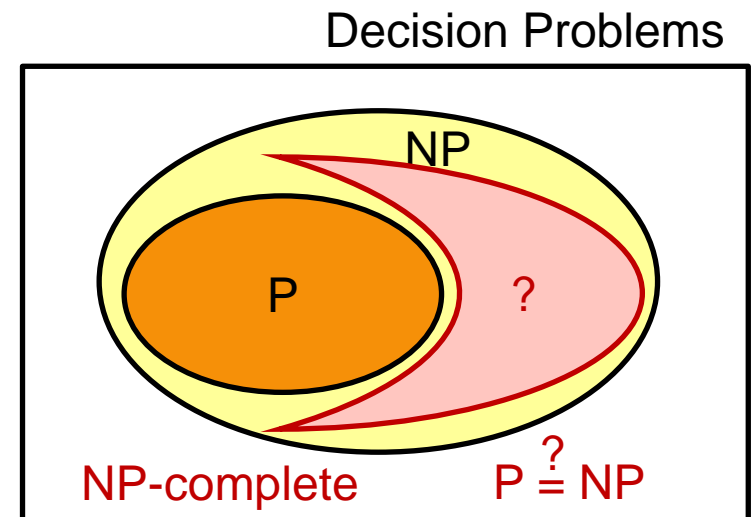
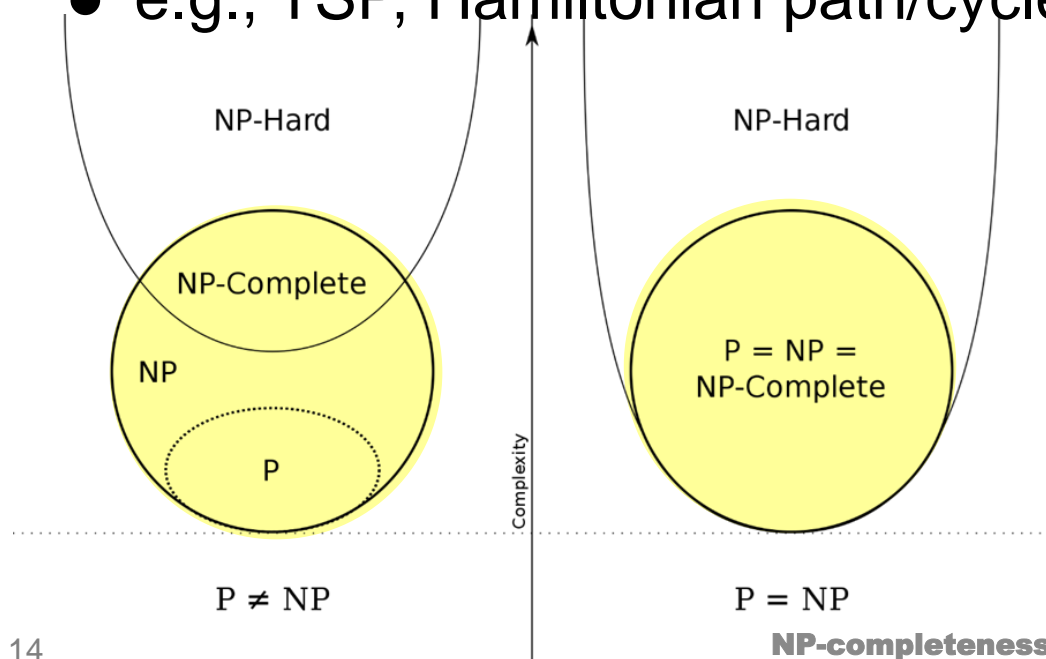
–  $X \in NP$



# NP-Completeness (NPC)

## Informal Definition

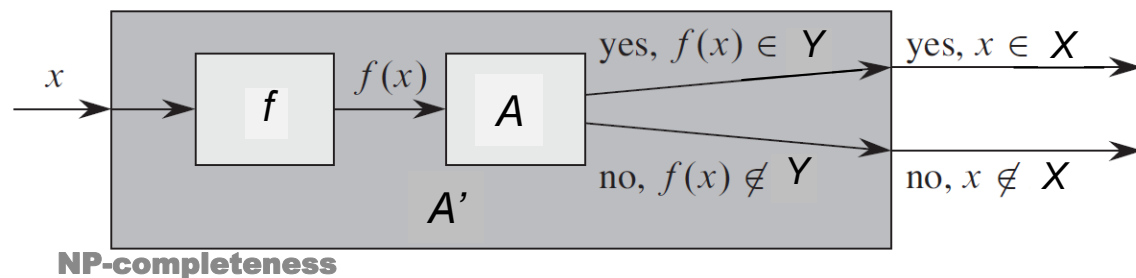
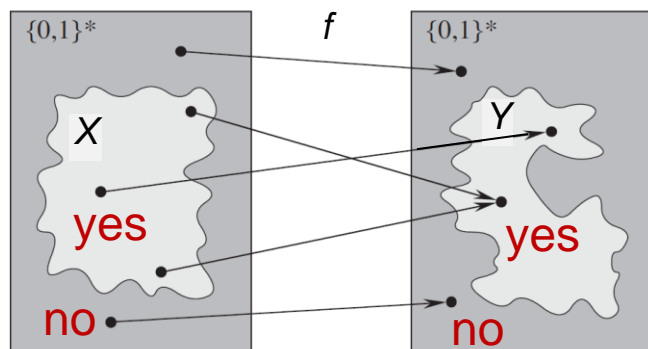
- A decision problem is in **class NP-complete** iff
  1. It is NP, and
  2. If any NP-complete problem is in P then  $P=NP$ 
    - $NP=P$ , i.e., every problem in NP has polynomial time algorithms
- NPC: hardest problems in NP
- e.g., TSP, Hamiltonian path/cycle, set cover, Tetris, Sudoku



# Polynomial-Time Reduction

*Notation:*  $X \leq_p Y$

- **Motivation:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two decision problems. If algorithm  $A$  can solve  $Y$ , can we use  $A$  to solve  $X$ ?
- **Polynomial Time Reduction**  $f$  from  $X$  to  $Y$ :  $X \leq_p Y$ 
  1. For any instance  $x$  of  $X$ ,  $f(x)=y$  is an instance of  $Y$
  2.  $x$  is true iff  $y$  is true
  3. Function (mapping)  $f$  can be computed in polynomial time of size of  $x$
- **Remarks:**
  - $Y$  is harder than or equally hard as  $X$
  - Multiple instances of  $X$  may share the same instance of  $Y$
  - The algorithm for  $Y$  is viewed as a **black box**. We pay for **polynomial time** to write down instances sent to this black box.





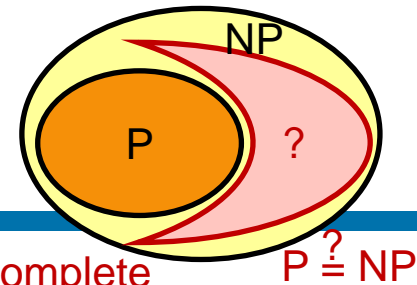
# Polynomial-Time Reduction

*Purpose: Classify problems according to relative difficulty*

1. **Design algorithms:** If  $X \leq_p Y$  and  $Y$  can be solved in polynomial-time, then  $X$  **can** be solved in polynomial time
    - Bipartite matching  $\leq_p$  Network flow
    - System of difference constraint  $\leq_p$  SSSP (Bellman-Ford)
  2. **Establish intractability:** If  $X \leq_p Y$  and  $X$  cannot be solved in polynomial-time, then  $Y$  **cannot** be solved in polynomial time
    - SAT  $\leq_p$  Set cover
    - Hamiltonian cycle  $\leq_p$  Travelling salesman
  3. **Establish equivalence:** If  $X \leq_p Y$  and  $Y \leq_p X$ ,  $X \equiv_p Y$ 
    - Up to cost of reduction
- $\leq_p$  is **transitive**:  $X \leq_p Y$  and  $Y \leq_p Z \Rightarrow X \leq_p Z$

# NP-Completeness (NPC)

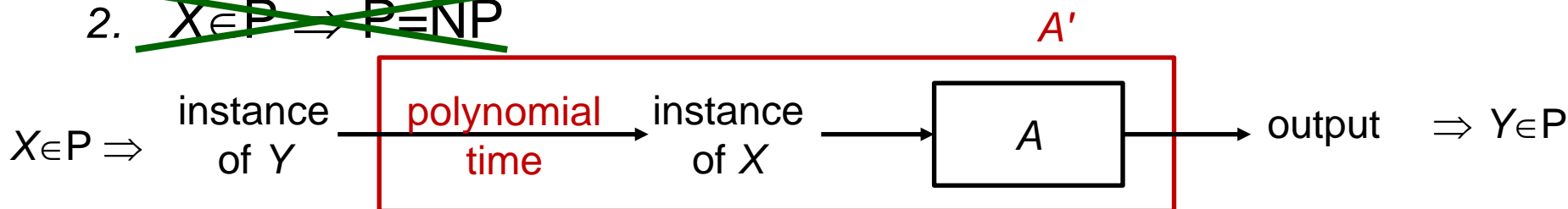
## Definition and Theorem



● **Definition:** A decision problem  $X$  is **NP-complete** iff

1.  $X \in \text{NP}$

2.  ~~$X \in \text{P} \Rightarrow \text{P} = \text{NP}$~~



2.  $\forall Y \in \text{NP}, Y \leq_p X$

● **Theorem:** A decision problem  $X$  is **NP-complete** iff

1.  $X \in \text{NP}$

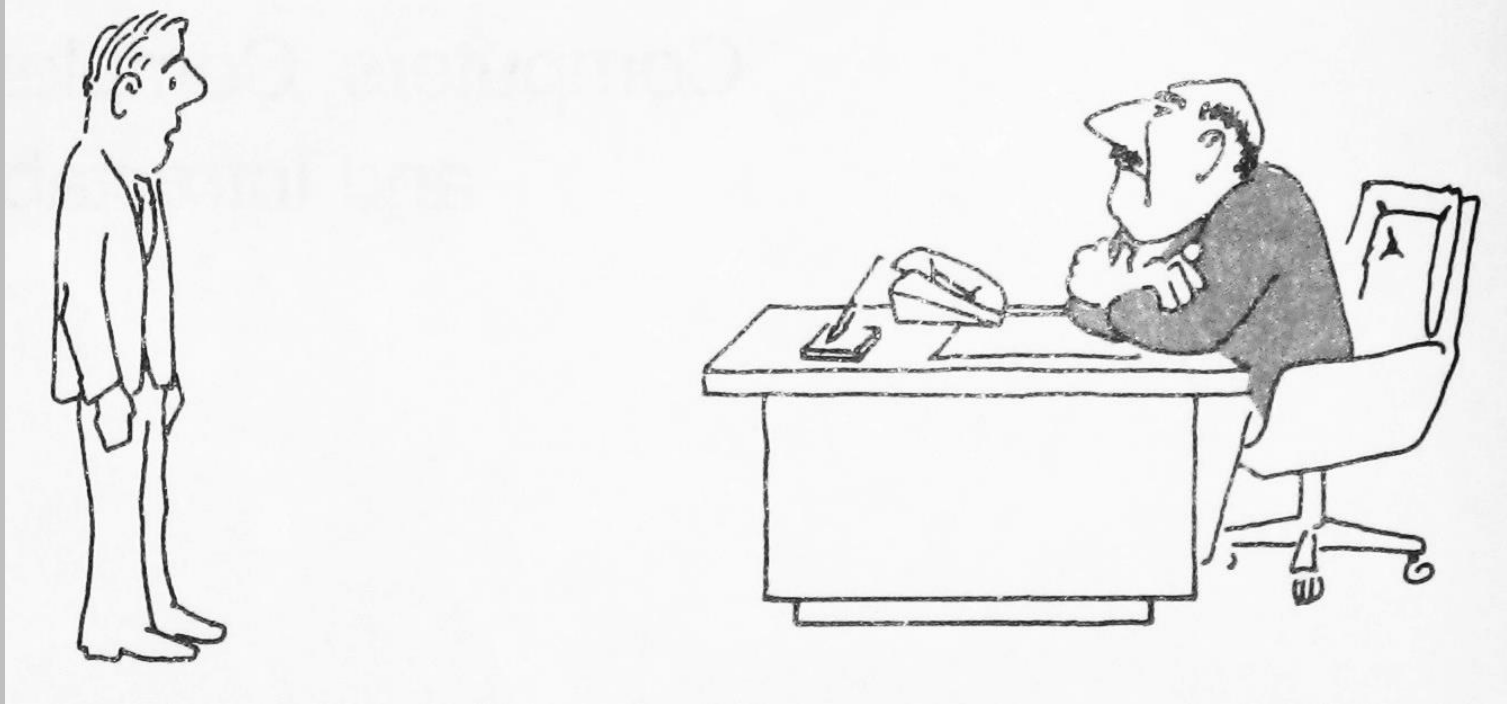
2.  $\exists Y \in \text{NPC}, Y \leq_p X$

■ **NP hard:** not required to be NP, e.g., halting problem

● **Pf:**

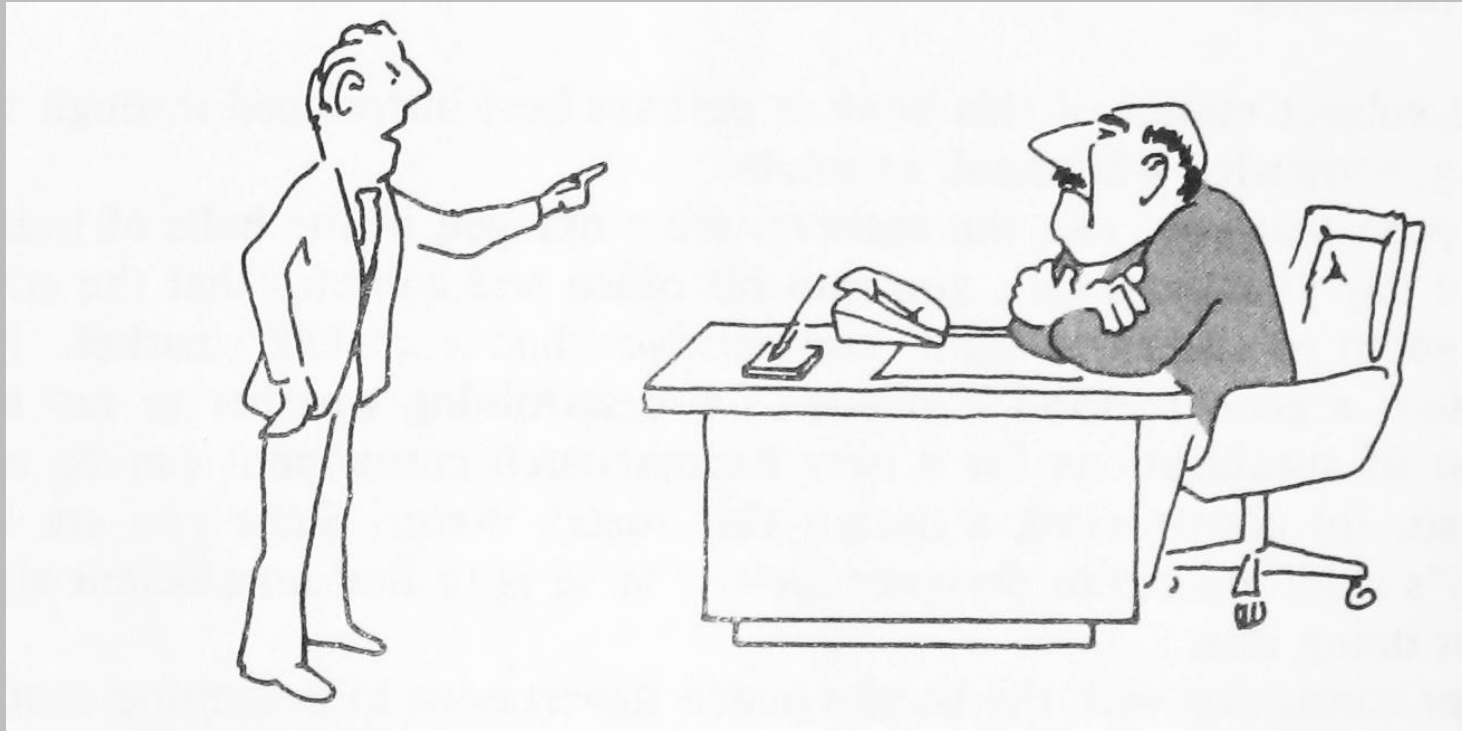
– All  $\text{NP} \leq_p Y \leq_p X$

# What You'd Rather Not Say



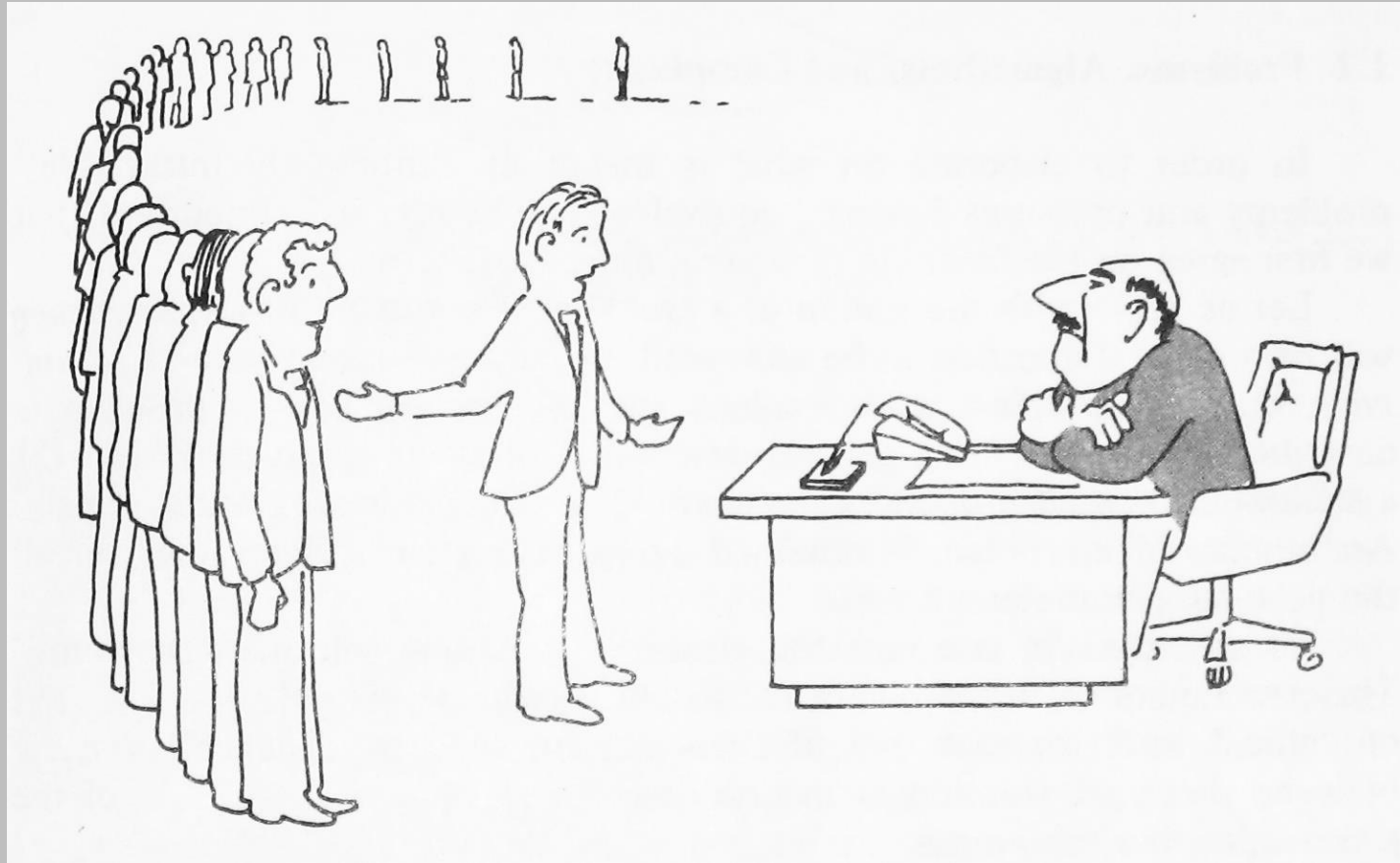
**“I can’t find an efficient algorithm.  
I guess I’m just too dumb.”**

# You Cannot Say This, Either



**“I can’t find an efficient algorithm,  
because no such algorithm is possible!”**

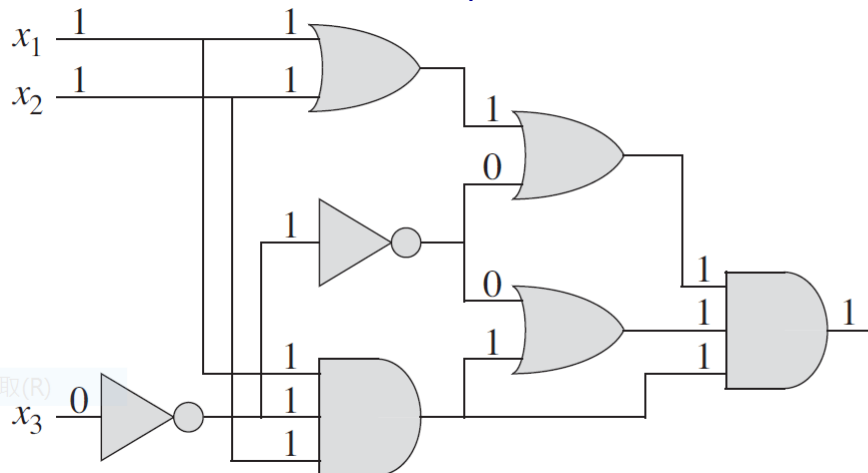
# What You Can Say



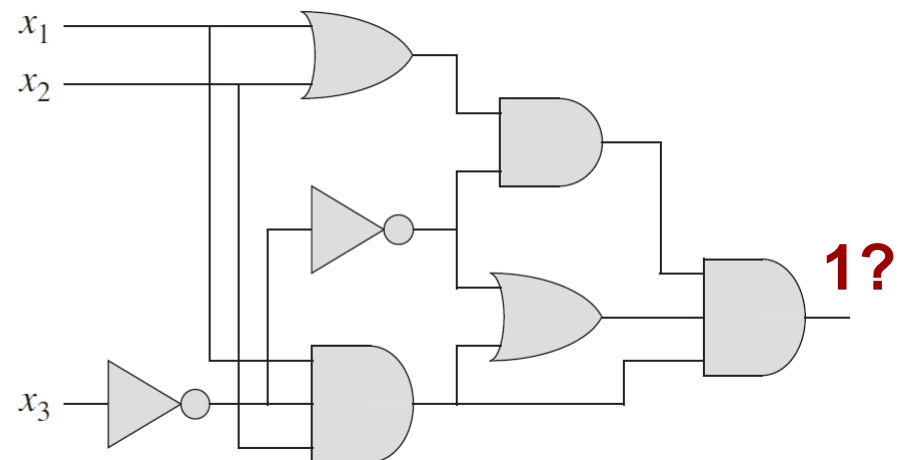
**“I can’t find an efficient algorithm, but neither can all these famous people.”**

# The Circuit-Satisfiability Problem (Circuit-SAT)

- The First Proved NPC: Circuit Satisfiability
- **The Circuit-Satisfiability Problem (Circuit-SAT):**
  - **Instance:** A combinational circuit  $C$  composed of AND, OR, and NOT gates.
  - **Question:** Is there an assignment of Boolean values to the inputs that makes the output of  $C$  equal to 1?
- A circuit is satisfiable if there exists a set of Boolean input values that makes the output of the circuit to be 1.
- **Circuit-SAT is NP-complete.** (Cook, ACM STOC'71)
  - $\text{Circuit-SAT} \in \text{NP}$
  - $\forall L' \in \text{NP}, L' \leq_p \text{Circuit-SAT}$



satisfiable



unsatisfiable

# The Satisfiability Problem (SAT)

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- The Satisfiability Problem (SAT):
  - **Instance:** A Boolean formula  $\phi$
  - $n$  Boolean variables:  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$
  - $m$  Boolean connectives: AND, OR, NOT,  $\leftrightarrow$ ,  $\rightarrow$ , parentheses
  - **Question:** Is there an assignment of truth values to the variables that makes  $\phi$  true?
- **Truth assignment:** set of values for the variables of  $\phi$
- **Satisfying assignment:** a truth assignment that makes  $\phi$  evaluate to 1
- Exp:  $\phi = ((x_1 \rightarrow x_2) \vee \neg ((\neg x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3) \vee x_4)) \wedge \neg x_2$ 
  - Truth assignment:  $\langle x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \rangle = \langle 0, 0, 1, 1 \rangle, \langle 0, 1, 0, 1 \rangle, \text{etc.}$
  - Satisfying assignment:  $\langle x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \rangle = \langle 0, 0, 1, 1 \rangle, \text{etc.}$
- **Satisfiable formula:** a formula with a satisfying assignment.
  - $\phi$  is a satisfiable formula.

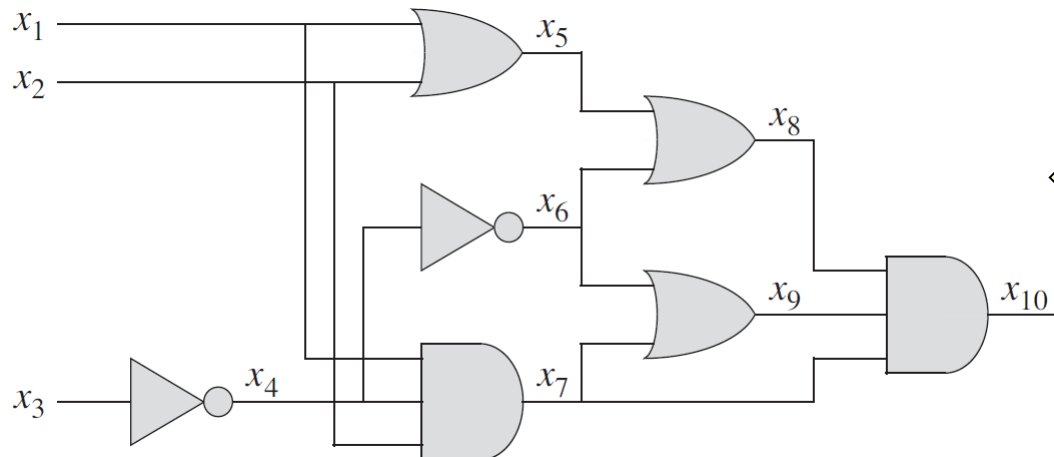


# SAT is NP-Complete

1. (Formula) SAT  $\in$  NP.

2. (Formula) SAT is NP-hard: Prove that Circuit-SAT  $\leq_p$  SAT.

- For each wire  $x_i$  in circuit  $C$ , the formula  $\phi$  has a variable  $x_i$ .
- The operation of a gate is expressed as a formula with associated variables, e.g.,  $x_{10} \leftrightarrow (x_7 \wedge x_8 \wedge x_9)$ .
- $\phi$  = AND of the circuit-output variable with the **conjunction** ( $\wedge$ ) of clauses describing the operation of each gate, e.g.,
- Circuit  $C$  is satisfiable  $\Leftrightarrow$  formula  $\phi$  is satisfiable. (Why?)
- Given a circuit  $C$ , it takes polynomial time to construct  $\phi$ .



$$\begin{aligned} \phi = & x_{10} \wedge (x_4 \leftrightarrow \neg x_3) \\ & \wedge (x_5 \leftrightarrow (x_1 \vee x_2)) \\ & \wedge (x_6 \leftrightarrow \neg x_4) \\ & \wedge (x_7 \leftrightarrow (x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_4)) \\ & \wedge (x_8 \leftrightarrow (x_5 \vee x_6)) \\ & \wedge (x_9 \leftrightarrow (x_6 \vee x_7)) \\ & \wedge \underbrace{(x_{10} \leftrightarrow (x_7 \wedge x_8 \wedge x_9))}_{\text{clause 23}} \end{aligned}$$

Reduction from Circuit-SAT to formula SAT

# SAT $\leq_p$ SET COVER

Conjunctive Normal Form

- Given an SAT instance of **CNF form**  $c_1 \wedge c_2 \dots \wedge \dots c_m$  using variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots x_n$

- Construct the corresponding SET COVER instance

$$U = \{ \underbrace{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_m}_{\text{clause}}, \underbrace{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n}_{\text{variables}} \},$$

$k=n,$

subsets  $S_{1T}, S_{1F}, S_{2T}, S_{2F}, \dots, S_{nT}, S_{nF}$

- e.g.,  $(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2)$

–  $U = \{d_1, d_2, d_3, y_1, y_2, y_3\}$

–  $S_{1T} = \{d_1, d_2, y_1\}$ : set  $x_1$  as 1, which clauses are true?

–  $S_{1F} = \{d_3, y_1\}$ : set  $x_1$  as 0, which clauses are true?

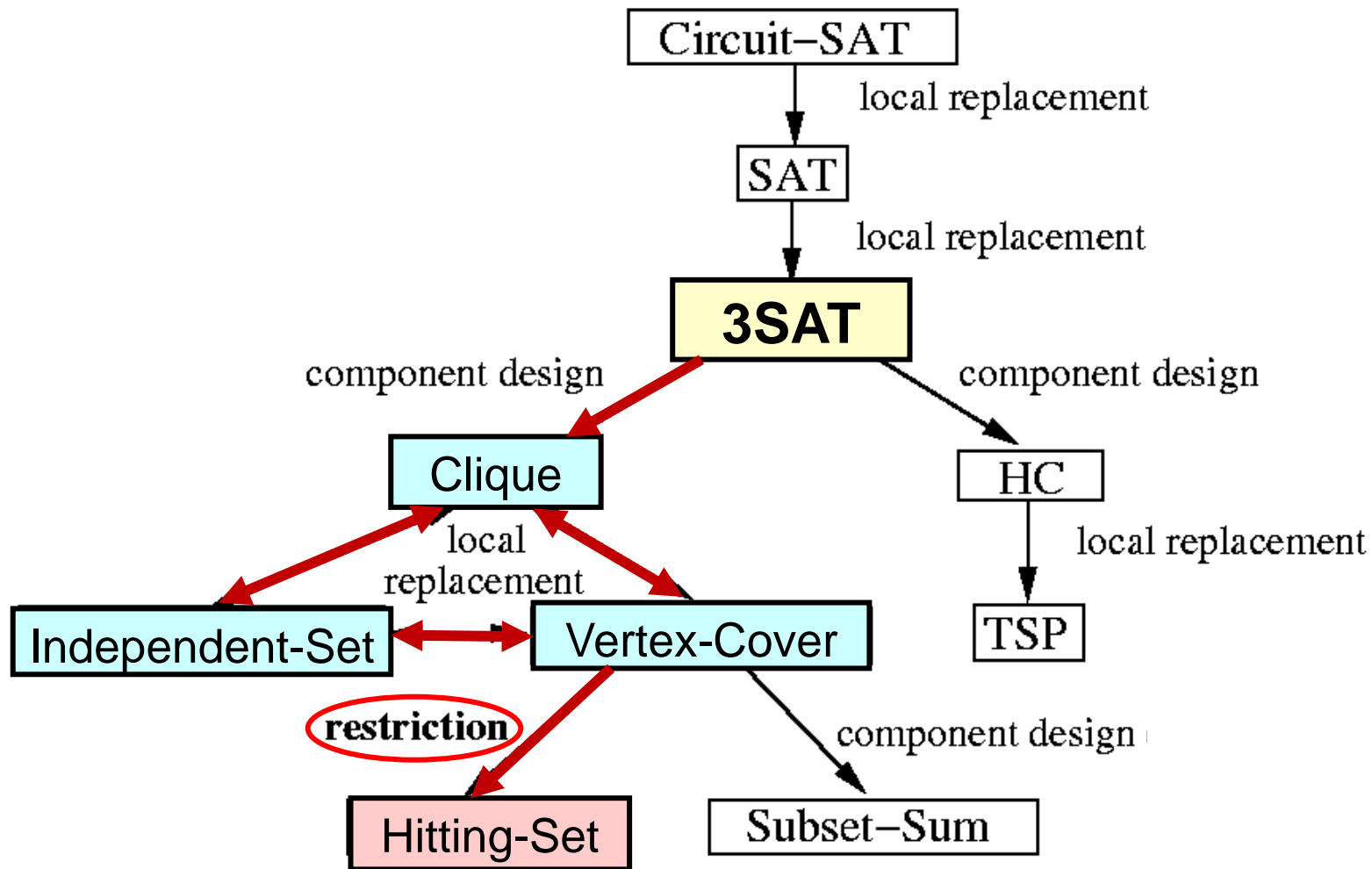
–  $S_{2T} = \{d_1, y_2\}$

–  $S_{2F} = \{d_2, d_3, y_2\}$  →  $x_1=T; x_2=F; x_3=T$

–  $S_{3T} = \{d_2, y_3\}$  →

–  $S_{3F} = \{d_1, y_3\}$

# Structure of NP-Completeness Proofs



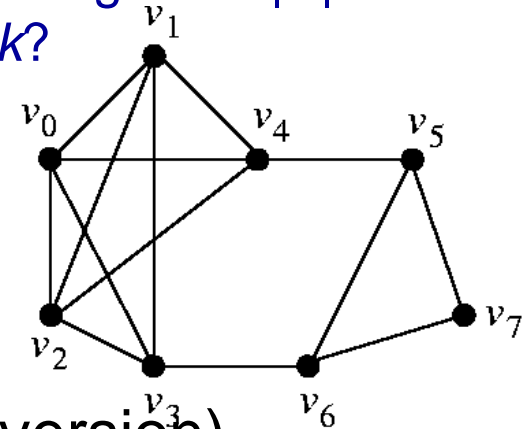
# 3SAT is NP-Complete

- 3SAT: Satisfiability of Boolean formula in 3-conjunctive normal form (3-CNF)
  - Each clause has exactly 3 distinct literals, e.g.,  
$$\phi (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\underbrace{\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_4}_{\text{clause}}) \wedge \dots$$

OR                  AND                  NOT
- **3SAT**  $\in$  **NP** (will omit this part for other proofs)
- **3SAT is NP-hard**:  $\text{SAT} \leq_p \text{3SAT}$  (see appendix)
  1. Construct a binary “parse” tree for input formula  $\phi$  and introduce a variable  $y_i$  for the output of each internal node.
  2. Rewrite  $\phi$  as the AND of the root variable and a conjunction of clauses describing the operation of each node.
  3. Convert each clause  $\phi'_i$  into CNF.

# Clique is NP-Complete

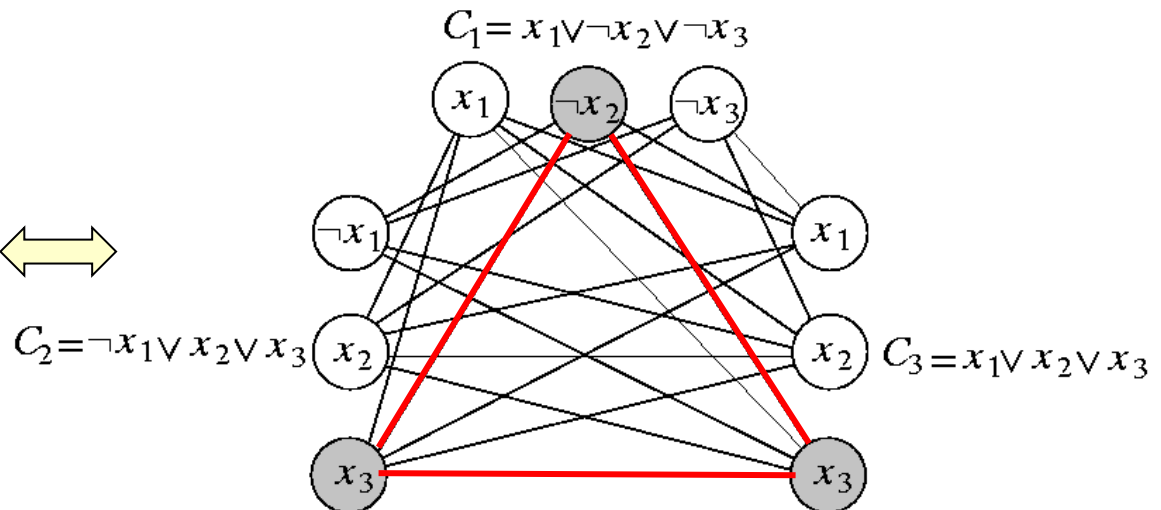
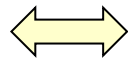
- A **clique** in  $G = (V, E)$  is a complete subgraph of  $G$ .
- **The Clique Problem (Clique)**
  - **Instance:** a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and a positive integer  $k \leq |V|$ .
  - **Question:** is there a clique  $V' \subseteq V$  of size  $\geq k$ ?
- **Example:**
  - Cliques:  $\{v_0, v_1, v_2, v_4\}$   $\{v_3, v_6\}$   $\{v_6, v_5, v_7\}$  ...
  - Is there clique of size=4? Yes
    - $\{v_0, v_1, v_2, v_4\}$
- **Maximum clique problem (optimization version)**
  - Given an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  find maximum clique
- **Clique  $\in$  NP.**
- **Clique is NP-hard:**  $3SAT \leq_P \text{Clique}$ .
  - **Key:** Construct a graph  $G$  such that  $\phi$  is satisfiable  $\Leftrightarrow G$  has a clique of size  $k$ .



# 3SAT $\leq_p$ Clique

- Let  $\phi = \mathbf{C}_1 \wedge \mathbf{C}_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathbf{C}_k$  be a Boolean formula in 3-CNF with  $k$  clauses. Each  $\mathbf{C}_r$  has exactly 3 distinct literals  $l_1^r, l_2^r, l_3^r$ .
- For each  $\mathbf{C}_r = (l_1^r \vee l_2^r \vee l_3^r)$  in  $\phi$ , introduce a triple of vertices  $v_1^r, v_2^r, v_3^r$  in  $V$ .
- Build an edge (compatible assignment) between  $v_i^r, v_j^s$  if both of the following hold:
  - $v_i^r$  and  $v_j^s$  are in different triples, and
  - $l_i^r$  is not the negation of  $l_j^s$  (No edge between  $x_3$  and  $\neg x_3$  (inconsistent))
- $G$  can be constructed from  $\phi$  in polynomial time.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi = & (x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \\ & \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \\ & \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \end{aligned}$$

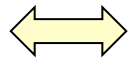


Satisfying assignment:  $\langle x_1, x_2, x_3 \rangle = \langle x, 0, 1 \rangle$

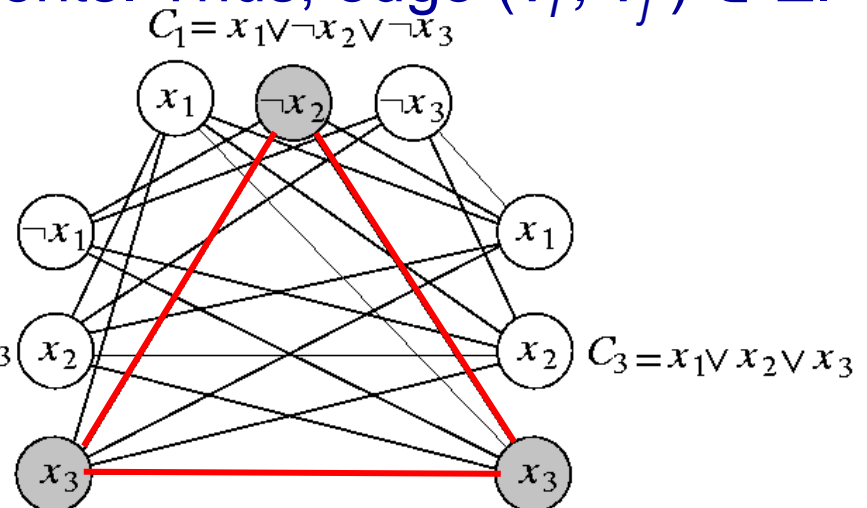
# $\phi$ Is Satisfiable $\Leftrightarrow G$ Has a Clique of Size $k$

- $\phi = C_1 \wedge \dots \wedge C_k$  is satisfiable  $\Rightarrow G$  has a clique of **size  $k$** .
  - $\phi$  is satisfiable  $\Rightarrow$  each  $C_r$  contains at least one  $l_i^r = 1$  and each such literal corresponds to a vertex  $v_i^r$ .
  - Picking a “true” literal from each  $C_r$  forms a set of  $V'$  of  $k$  vertices.
  - For any two vertices  $v_i^r, v_j^s \in V', r \neq s, l_i^r = l_j^s = 1$  and thus  $l_i^r, l_j^s$  cannot be complements. Thus, edge  $(v_i^r, v_j^s) \in E$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\phi = & (x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \\ & \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \\ & \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)\end{aligned}$$



$$C_2 = \neg x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3$$



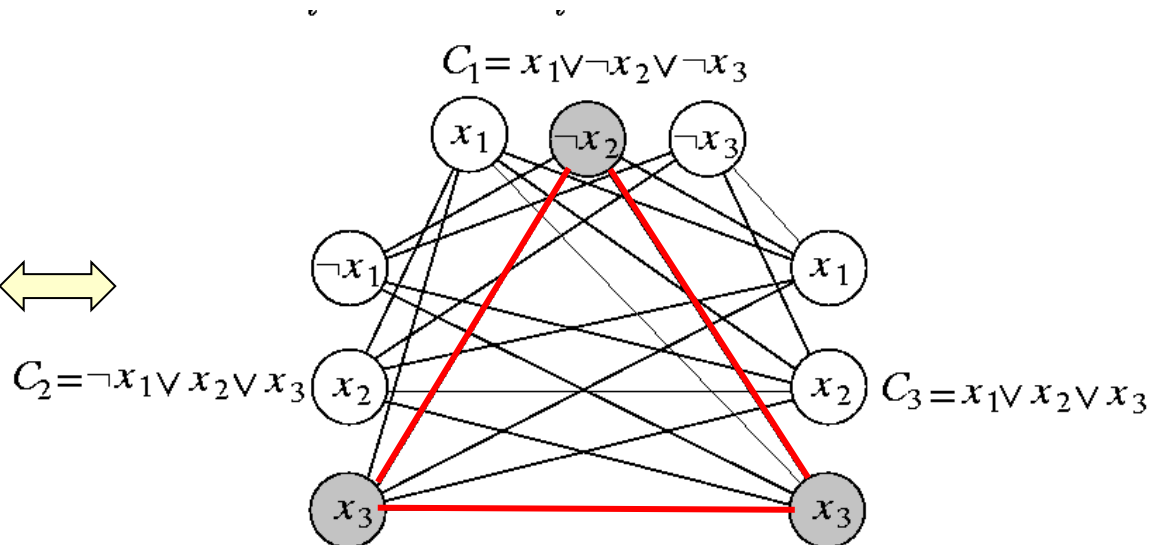
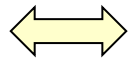
Satisfying assignment:  $\langle x_1, x_2, x_3 \rangle = \langle x, 0, 1 \rangle$



# $\phi$ Is Satisfiable $\Leftrightarrow G$ Has a Clique of Size $k$

- $G$  has a clique of **size  $k$**   $\Rightarrow \phi$  is satisfiable
  - $G$  has a clique  $V'$  of size  $k \Rightarrow V'$  contains exactly one vertex per triple since no edges connect vertices in the same triple.
  - Assign 1 to each  $l_i$  such that  $v_i' \in V' \Rightarrow$  each  $C_r$  is satisfied, and so is  $\phi$ .

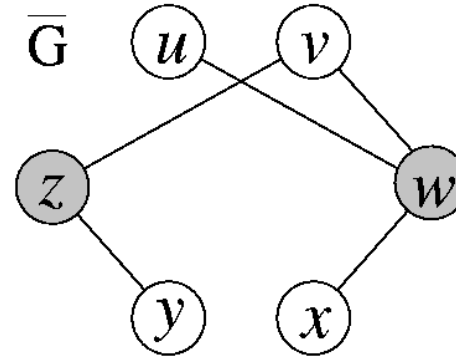
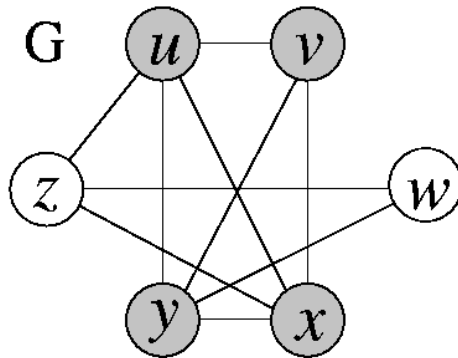
$$\begin{aligned} \phi = & (x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \\ & \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \\ & \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \end{aligned}$$



Satisfying assignment:  $\langle x_1, x_2, x_3 \rangle = \langle x, 0, 1 \rangle$

# Vertex-Cover is NP-Complete

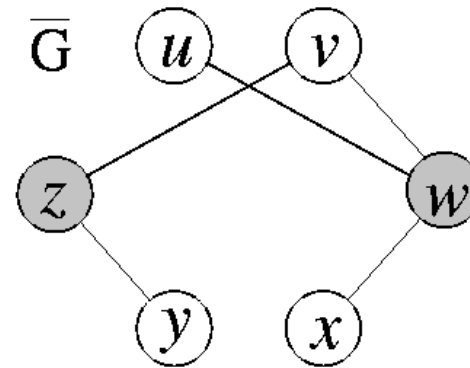
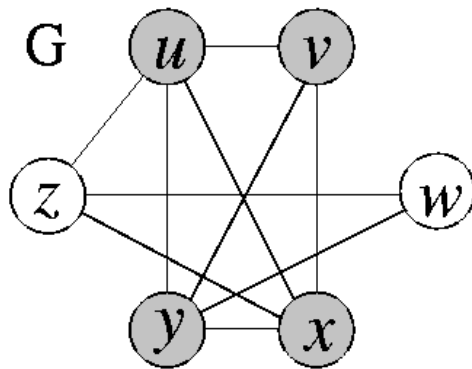
- A **vertex cover** of  $G = (V, E)$  is a subset  $V' \subseteq V$  such that if  $(w, v) \in E$ , then  $w \in V'$  or  $v \in V'$ . (**Vertices cover edges**)
- **The Vertex-Cover Problem (Vertex-Cover)**
  - **Instance:** a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and a positive integer  $k \leq |V|$ .
  - **Question:** is there a subset  $V' \subseteq V$  of size  $\leq k$  such that each edge in  $E$  has at least one vertex (endpoint) in  $V'$ ?
- **Vertex-Cover  $\in$  NP.**
- **Vertex-Cover is NP-hard:**  $\text{Clique} \leq_p \text{Vertex-Cover}$ .
  - **Key: complement of  $G$ :**  $\bar{G} = (V, \bar{E})$ ,  $\bar{E} = \{(w, v) : (w, v) \notin E\}$ .



Clique  $V' = \{u, v, x, y\}$     Vertex cover  $V - V' = \{w, z\}$

# Vertex-Cover is NP-Complete (cont'd)

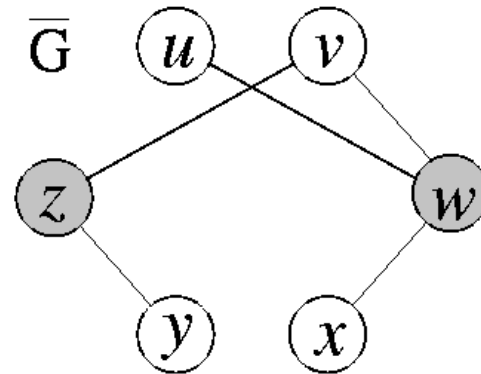
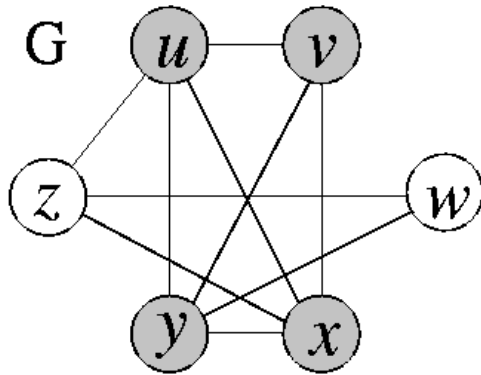
- $G$  Has a Clique of **Size**  $k \Rightarrow \bar{G}$  Has a Vertex Cover of size  $|V| - k$ .
  - Suppose that  $G$  has a clique  $V' \subseteq V$  with  $|V'| = k$ .
  - Let  $(w, v)$  be any edge in  $\bar{E} \Rightarrow (w, v) \notin E \Rightarrow$  at most one of  $w$  or  $v$  in  $V' \Rightarrow$  at least one of  $w$  or  $v$  does not belong to  $V'$
  - So,  $w \in V - V'$  or  $v \in V - V' \Rightarrow$  edge  $(w, v)$  is covered by  $V - V'$ .
  - Thus,  $V - V'$  forms a vertex cover of  $\bar{G}$ , and  $|V - V'| = |V| - k$ .



Clique  $V' = \{u, v, x, y\}$     Vertex cover  $V - V' = \{w, z\}$

# Vertex-Cover is NP-Complete (cont'd)

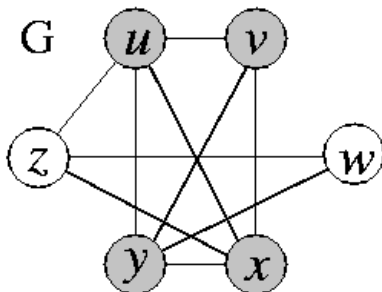
- $\bar{G}$  Has a Vertex Cover of size  $|V| - k \Rightarrow G$  Has a Clique of Size  $k$ .
  - Suppose that  $\bar{G}$  has a vertex cover  $V' \subseteq V$  with  $|V'| = |V| - k$ .
  - $\forall a, b \in V$ , if  $(a, b) \in \bar{E}$ , then  $a \in V'$  or  $b \in V'$  or both.
  - So,  $\forall a, b \in V$ , if  $a \notin V'$  and  $b \notin V'$ ,  $(a, b) \in E \Rightarrow V - V'$  is a clique, and  $|V| - |V'| = k$ .



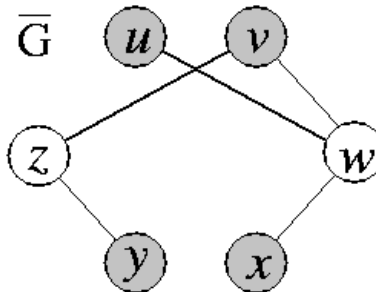
Clique  $V - V' = \{u, v, x, y\}$  Vertex cover  $V' = \{w, z\}$

# Clique, Independent-Set, Vertex-Cover

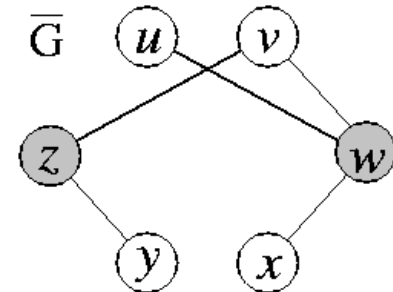
- An **independent set** of  $G = (V, E)$  is a subset  $V' \subseteq V$  such that  $G$  has no edge between any pair of vertices in  $V'$
- **The Independent-Set Problem (Independent-Set)**
  - **Instance:** a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and a positive integer  $k \leq |V|$
  - **Question:** is there an independent set of size  $\geq k$ ?
- **Theorem:** The following are equivalent for  $G = (V, E)$  and a subset  $V'$  of  $V$ :
  1.  $V'$  is a clique of  $G$
  2.  $V'$  is an independent set of  $\bar{G}$
  3.  $V - V'$  is a vertex cover of  $\bar{G}$
- **Corollary:** Independent-Set is NP-complete



Clique  $V' = \{u, v, x, y\}$



Independent set  $V' = \{u, v, x, y\}$



Vertex cover  $V - V' = \{w, z\}$

# Restriction: Hitting-Set is NP-Complete

---

- A **hitting set** for a collection  $C$  of subsets of a set  $S$  is a subset  $S' \subseteq S$  such that  $S'$  contains at least one element from each subset in  $C$ .
  - $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$ ,  $C = \{\{1\}, \{3, 5\}, \{4, 7, 8\}, \{5, 6\}\}$   
 $S'$  can be  $\{1, 4, 5\}$ ,  $\{1, 3, 4, 6\}$ , etc.
- **The Hitting-Set Problem (Hitting-Set)**
  - **Instance:** Collection  $C$  of subsets of a set  $S$ , positive integer  $k$ .
  - **Question:** Does  $S$  contain a hitting set for  $C$  of size  $\leq k$ ?
- **Hitting-Set is NP-Complete.**
  - Restrict to Vertex-Cover by allowing only instances having  $|c| = 2$  for all  $c \in C$ .
  - Each set in  $C \leftrightarrow$  edge; element in  $S' \leftrightarrow$  vertex cover.
- **Proof by restriction** is the simplest, and perhaps the most frequently used technique.
  - Other examples: Bounded Degree Spanning Tree, Directed HC, Weighted HC, Longest Simple Cycle, etc.

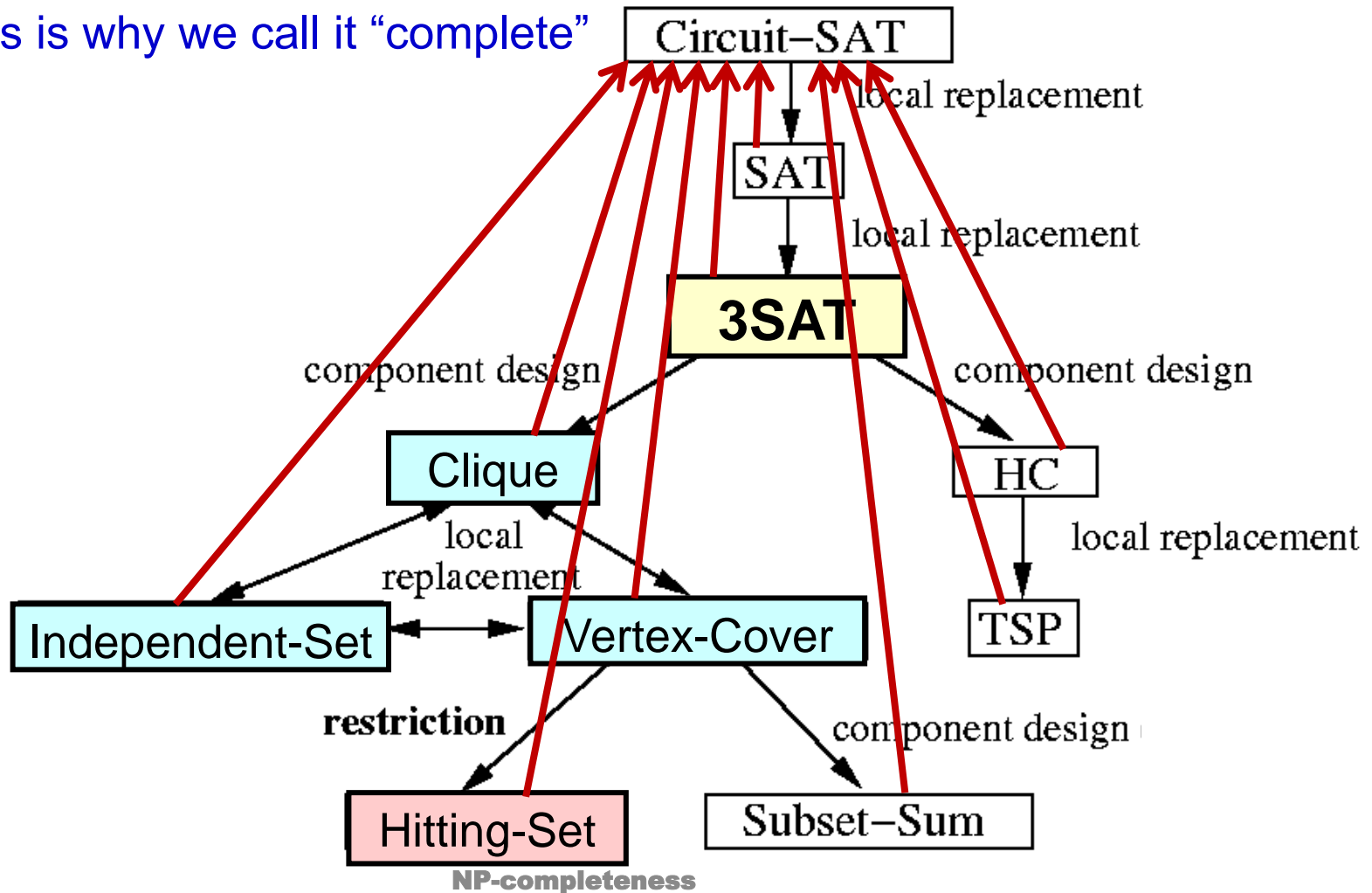
# Summary

- The class **P**: class of problems that can be **solved** in polynomial time in the **size of input**.
- The class **NP** (**Nondeterministic Polynomial**): class of problems that can be **verified** in **polynomial time** in the size of input.
  - **P=NP?**
- The class **NP-complete (NPC)**: A problem  $Y$  in NP with the property that for every problem  $X$  in NP,  $X \leq_p Y$ .
- Theorem: Suppose  $Y$  is NPC, then  $Y$  is solvable in polynomial time iff  $P = NP$ .
  - **Any NPC problem can be solved in polynomial time  $\Rightarrow$  All problems in NP can be solved in polynomial time.**



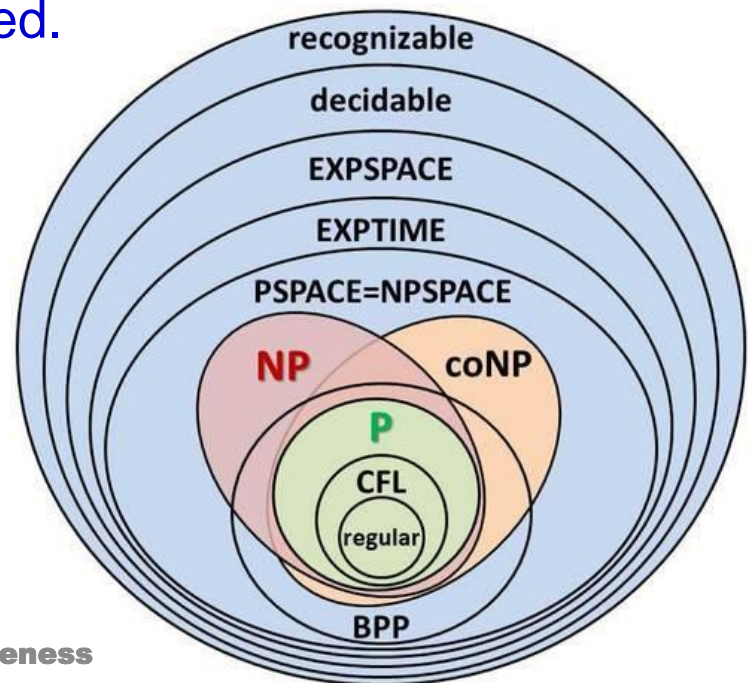
# NPC Problems Are Equally Hard!

- All NP problems can be reduced to Circuit-SAT
  - This is why we call it “complete”



# Other Complexity Classes

- Many other complexity classes...
  - co-NP: Problems whose complement is NP
  - PSPACE: Problems that can be solved using a polynomial memory space, regardless of computation time
  - EXPTIME: Problems that can be solved in exponential time
  - Undecidable: there is no algorithm that solves them, no matter how much time or space is allowed.
    - Halting problem



# Coping with NP-Complete/-Hard Problems

---

- **Approximation algorithms:**
  - Guarantee to be a fixed percentage away from the optimum.
- **Pseudo-polynomial time algorithms:**
  - E.g., dynamic programming for the 0-1 Knapsack problem.
- **Probabilistic algorithms:**
  - Assume some probabilistic distribution of the instances.
- **Randomized algorithms:**
  - Make use of a randomizer (random # generator) for operation.
- **Restriction:** Work on some special cases of the original problem.
  - E.g., the maximum independent set problem in circle graphs.
- **Exponential algorithms/Branch and Bound/Exhaustive search:**
  - Feasible only when the problem size is small.
- **Local search:**
  - Simulated annealing (hill climbing), genetic algorithms, etc.
- **Heuristics:** No formal guarantee of performance.

# Approximation Algorithms

---

- **Approximation algorithm:** An algorithm that returns **near-optimal** solutions.
- **Ratio (Performance) bound  $\rho(n)$ :** For any input size  $n$ , the cost  $C$  of the solution produced by an approximation algorithm  $\leq \rho(n)$  of the cost  $C^*$  of an optimal solution:

$$\max \left( \frac{C}{C^*}, \frac{C^*}{C} \right) \leq \rho(n)$$

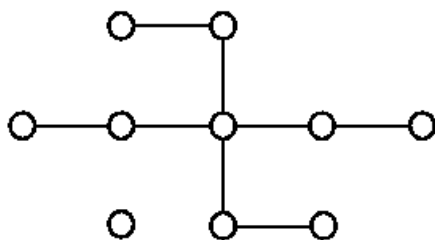
- $\rho(n) \geq 1$ .
- An optimal algorithm has ratio bound 1.
- **Relative error bound  $\epsilon(n)$ :**

$$\frac{|C - C^*|}{C^*} \leq \epsilon(n).$$

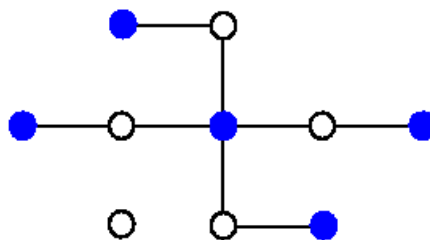
- $\epsilon(n) \leq \rho(n) - 1$ .

# Greedy Vertex Cover Algorithm Revisited

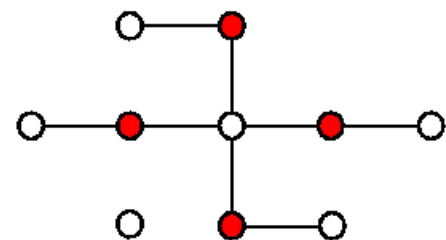
- **Greedy heuristic:** cover as many edges as possible (vertex with the maximum degree) at each stage and then delete the covered edges.
- **The greedy heuristic cannot always find an optimal solution!**
  - The vertex-cover problem is NP-complete.
- **The greedy heuristic cannot guarantee a constant performance bound.**



A graph instance



A vertex cover of size 5  
by the greedy algorithm



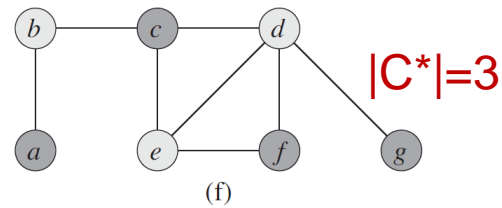
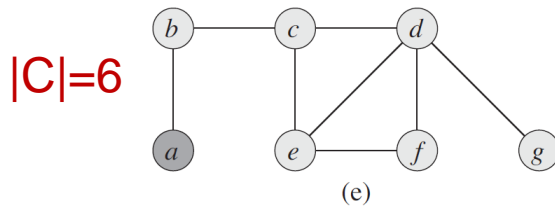
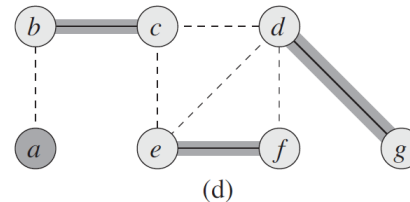
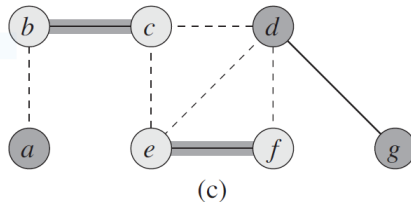
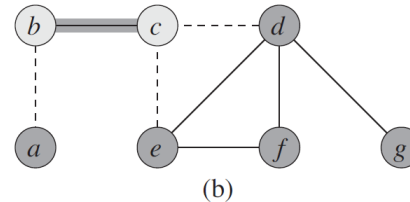
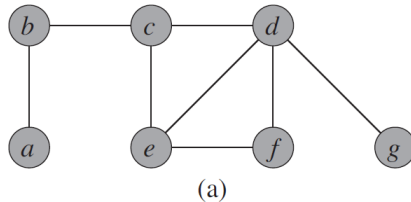
A vertex cover of size 4  
**Optimal solution!!**

# The Vertex-Cover Problem

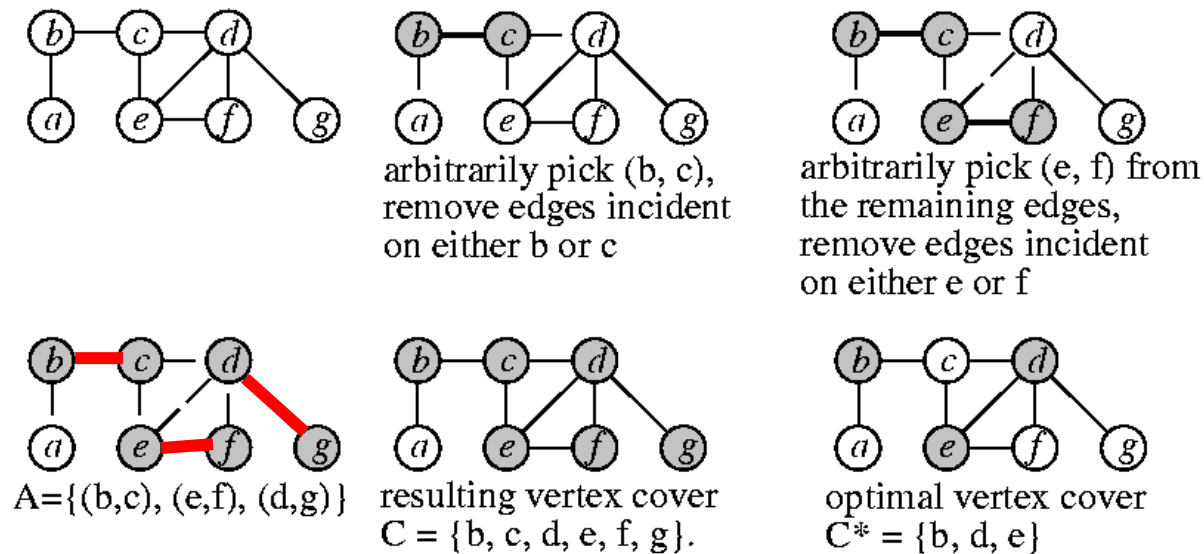
Approx-Vertex-Cover( $G$ )

1.  $C = \emptyset$
2.  $E' = E[G]$
3. **while**  $E' \neq \emptyset$
4.     let  $(u, v)$  be an arbitrary edge of  $E'$
5.      $C = C \cup \{u, v\}$
6.     remove from  $E'$  every edge incident on either  $u$  or  $v$
7. **return**  $C$

Time complexity:  $O(E)$



# Approx-Vertex-Cover Has a Ratio Bound of 2



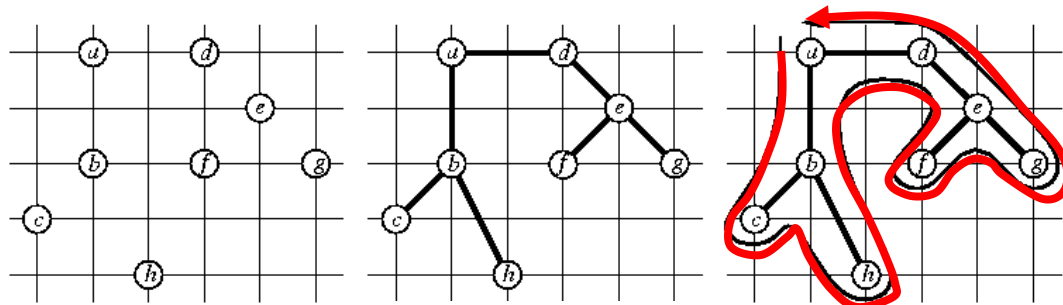
- Let  $A$  denote the set of edges picked in line 4  $\Rightarrow |C| = 2|A|$ .
- Since no two edges in  $A$  share an endpoint, no two edges in  $A$  are covered by the same vertex from  $C^*$ .
- Every vertex should be covered by some vertex in  $C^* \Rightarrow |A| \leq |C^*|$  and  $|C| = 2|A| \leq 2|C^*|$ .
- Recall: For a graph  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $V'$  is a minimum vertex cover  $\Leftrightarrow V - V'$  is a maximum independent set.
  - Is there any polynomial-time approximation with a constant ratio bound for the maximum independent set problem?

# Approximation Algorithm for TSP

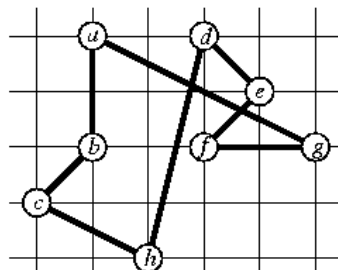
Approx-TSP-Tour( $G$ )

1. select a vertex  $r \in V[G]$  to be a “root” vertex;
2. grow a minimum spanning tree  $T$  for  $G$  from root  $r$  using MST-Prim( $G, d, r$ )
3. let  $L$  be the list of vertices visited in a preorder tree walk of  $T$
4. **return** the HC  $H$  that visits the vertices in the order  $L$

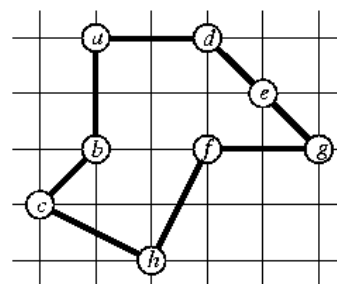
- Time complexity:  $O(V \lg V)$ .



Run MST-Prim:  $T$  Preorder traversal of  $T$



Resulting TSP tour  $H$  from the preorder traversal of  $T$

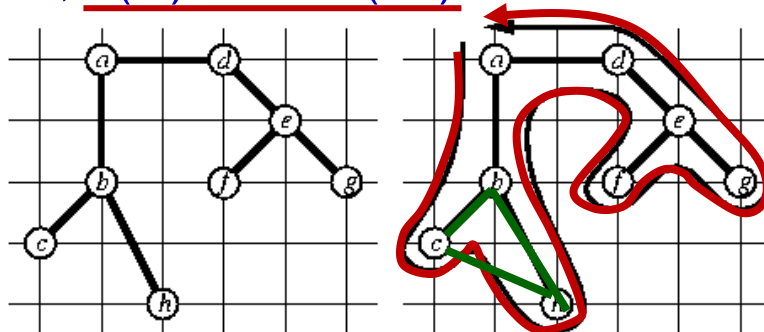


Optimal TSP tour  $H^*$



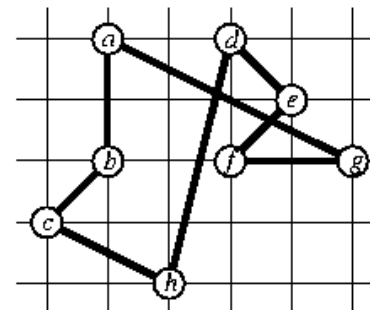
# Approx-TSP-Tour with Triangle Inequality

- Inter-city distances satisfy **triangle inequality** if for all vertices  $u, v, w \in V$ ,  $d(u, w) \leq d(u, v) + d(v, w)$ .
- **Approx-TSP-Tour with triangle inequality has a ratio bound of 2.**
  - Let  $T = \text{MST}$ ; Let  $H^*$  = optimal tour
  - $H^*$  is formed by some tree plus an edge:  $c(T) \leq c(T^*) \leq c(H^*)$
  - Let  $W$  = a full walk along  $T$ , e.g.  $a, b, c, b, h, b, a, d, e, f, e, g, e, d, a$
  - Since  $W$  traverses every edge of  $T$  twice:  $c(W) \leq 2 \times c(T)$
  - $H$  = removed from  $W$  all but first visit to each vertex, e.g.  $a, b, c, h, d, e, f, g$
  - Triangle inequality: removing vertex does not increase cost:  $c(H) \leq c(W)$
  - so,  $c(H) \leq 2 \times c(H^*)$

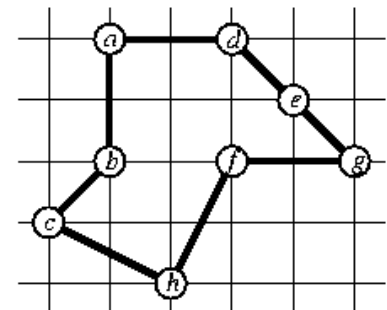


Run MST-Prim:  $T$

Preorder traversal  
 $W$  of  $T$



Resulting TSP tour  
 $H$  from the preorder  
traversal of  $T$



Optimal TSP tour  $H^*$

# TSP without Triangle Inequality

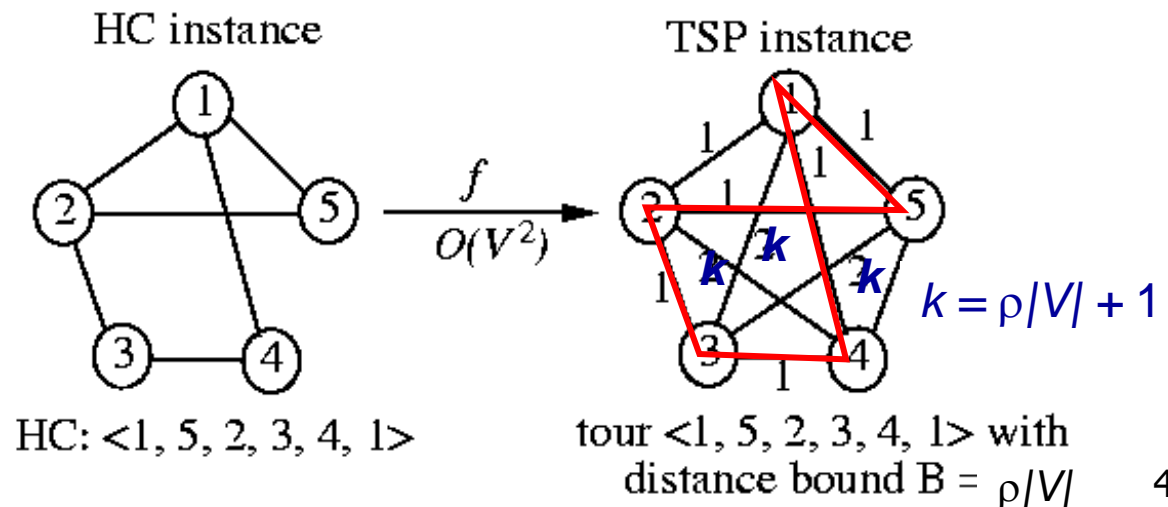
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- If  $P \neq NP$ , there is **no** polynomial-time approximation algorithm with constant ratio bound  $\rho$  for the general TSP.
  - Suppose on the contrary that there is such an algorithm  $A$  with a constant  $\rho$ . We will use  $A$  to solve HC in polynomial time.
  - Algorithm for HC
    1. Convert  $G = (V, E)$  into an instance  $G'$  of TSP with cities  $V$  (resulting in a complete graph  $G' = (V, E')$ ):
$$c(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (u, v) \in E, \\ \rho |V| + 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
    2. Run  $A$  on  $G'$  with  $c$
    3. If the reported cost  $\leq \rho |V|$ , then return “Yes” (i.e.,  $G$  contains a tour that is an HC), else return “No.”

Fact:  $HC \leq_p TSP$

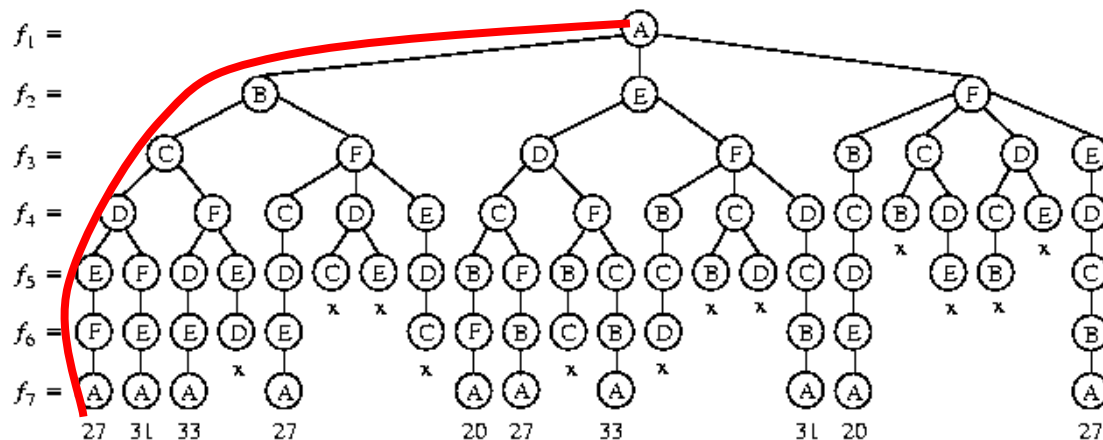
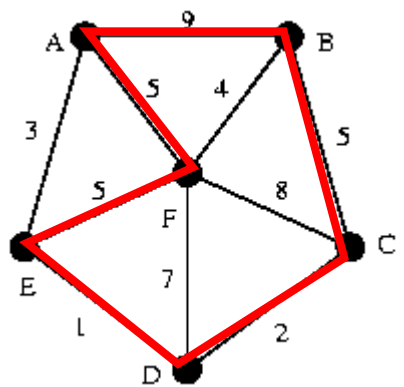
# Correctness

- If  $G$  has an HC:  $G'$  contains a tour of cost  $|V|$  by picking edges in  $E$ , each with cost of 1.
- If  $G$  does not have an HC: any tour of  $G'$  must use some edge not in  $E$ , which has a total cost of  $\geq (\rho|V| + 1) + (|V| - 1) = \rho|V| + |V| > \rho|V|$ .
- $A$  guarantees to return a tour of cost  $\leq \rho \times$  cost of an optimal tour if  $G$  contains an HC  $\Rightarrow A$  returns a cost  $\leq \rho|V|$  if  $G$  contains an HC;  $A$  returns a cost  $> \rho|V|$ , otherwise.
- $A$  solve HC in polynomial time

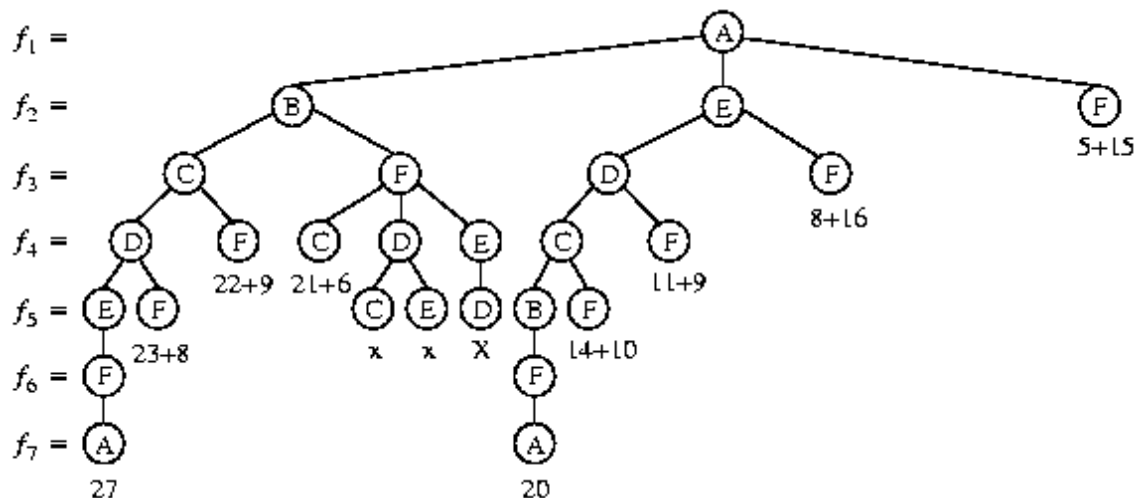


# Exhaustive Search vs. Branch and Bound

- TSP example



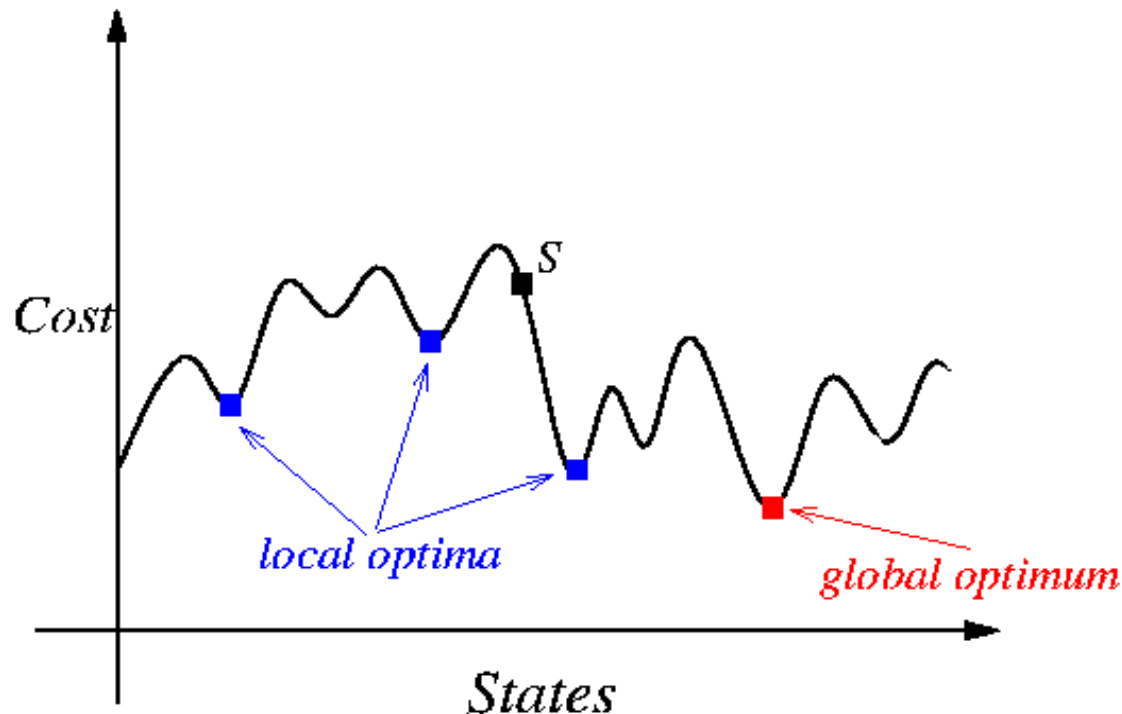
Backtracking/exhaustive search



Branch and bound

# Simulated Annealing

- Kirkpatrick, Gelatt, and Vecchi, “Optimization by simulated annealing,” *Science*, May 1983.
- Chen and Chang, “Modern floorplanning based on fast simulated annealing,” ISPD-05 (TCAD, April 2006).



# Simulated Annealing Basics

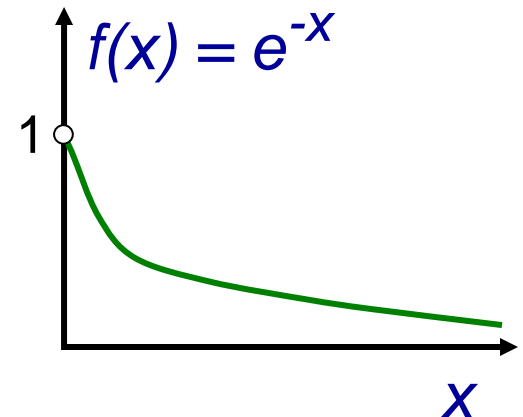
Skip

- Non-zero probability for “up-hill” moves.
- Probability depends on
  1. magnitude of the “up-hill” movement
  2. total search time

$$p = \min\{1, e^{-\Delta C/T}\}$$

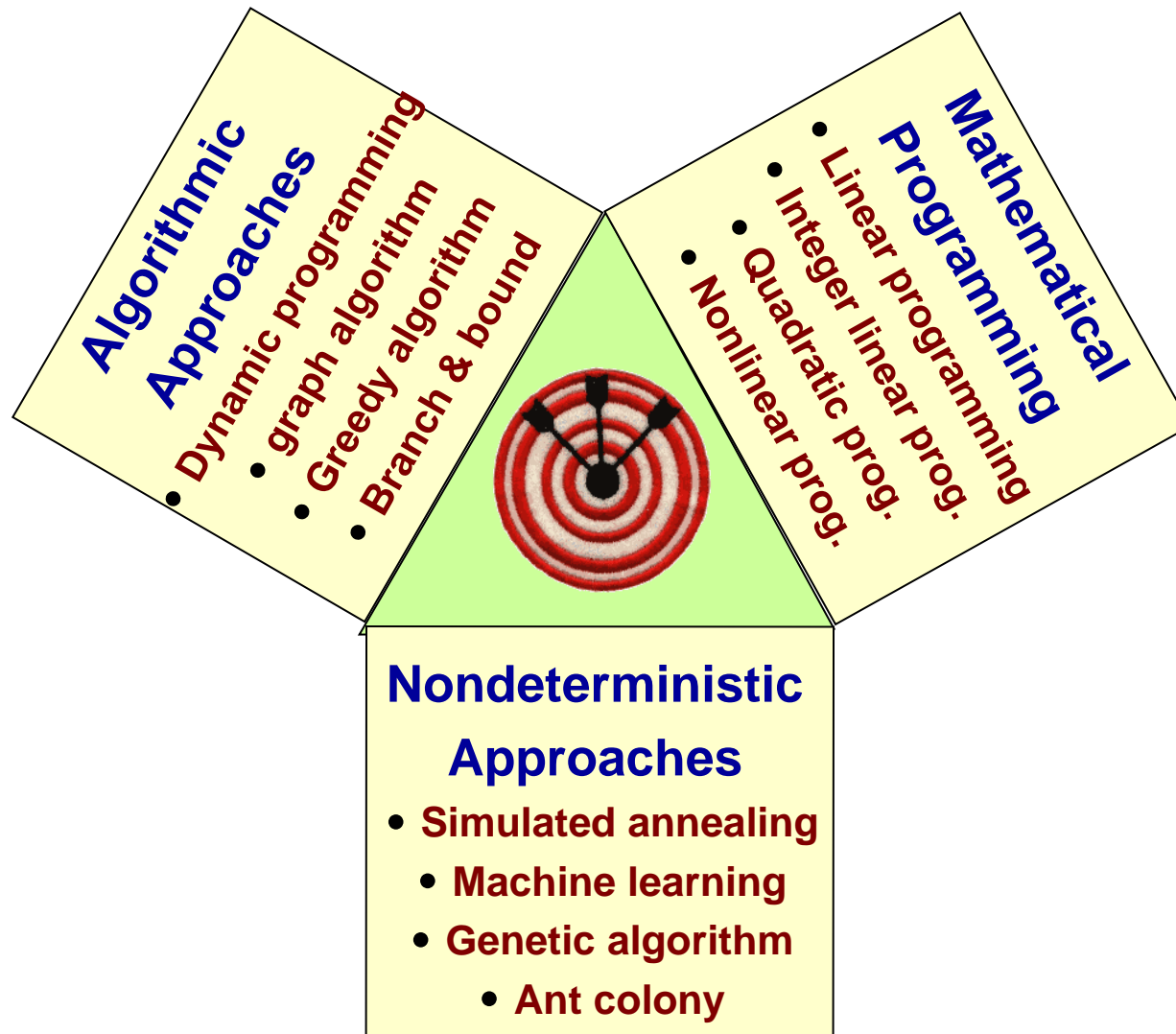
$$Prob(S \rightarrow S') = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \Delta C \leq 0 \quad /* \text{“down - hill” moves} */ \\ e^{-\frac{\Delta C}{T}} & \text{if } \Delta C > 0 \quad /* \text{“up - hill” moves} */ \end{cases}$$

- $\Delta C = cost(S') - Cost(S)$
- $T$ : Control parameter (temperature)
- Annealing schedule:  $T = T_0, T_1, T_2, \dots$ , where  $T_i = r^i T_0, r < 1$ .
- Try a certain # of solutions for each temperature till “frozen.”



# Algorithmic Paradigms

Skip



# Key Research Methodologies: **CAR**

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**C**riticality



**A**bstraction



**R**estriction

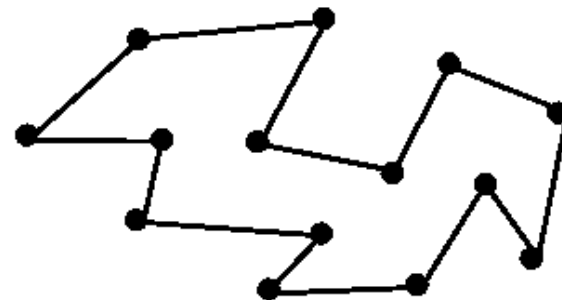
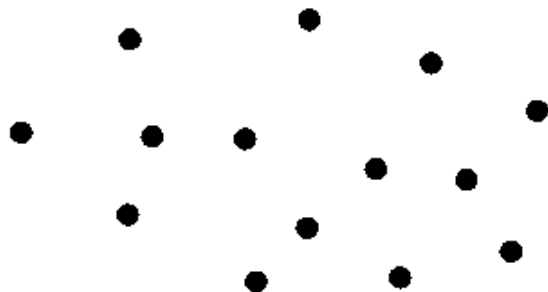


# Appendix



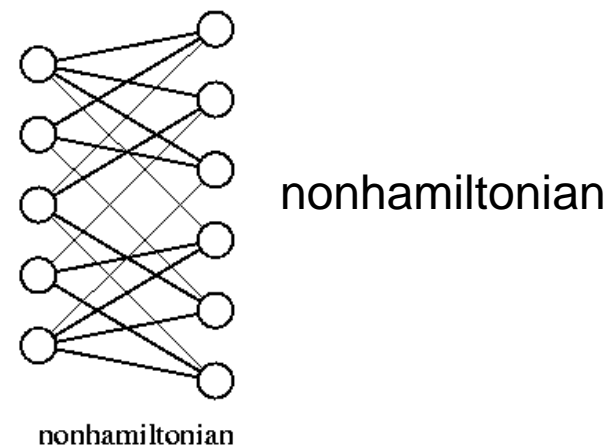
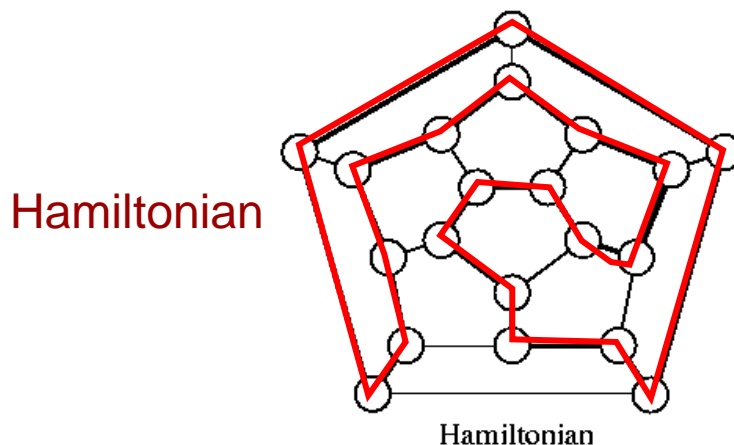
# Verification Algorithm: TSP $\in$ NP

- **Verification algorithm:** a 2-argument algorithm  $A$ , where one argument is an input string  $x$  and the other is a binary string  $y$  (called a **certificate**).  $A$  verifies  $x$  if there exists  $y$  s.t.  $A$  answers “yes.”
- Exp: Is TSP  $\in$  NP?
- Need to **check** a TSP solution in polynomial time.
  - Guess a tour (certificate).
  - Check if the tour visits every city exactly once.
  - Check if the tour returns to the start.
  - Check if total distance  $\leq B$ .
- All can be done in  $O(n)$  time, so TSP  $\in$  NP.



# Polynomial Reduction: $HC \leq_p TSP$

- The Hamiltonian Circuit Problem (HC)
  - **Instance:** an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ .
  - **Question:** is there a cycle in  $G$  that includes every vertex exactly once?
- TSP: The Traveling Salesman Problem
- **Claim:**  $HC \leq_p TSP$ .
  1. Define a function  $f$  mapping **any** HC instance into a TSP instance, and show that  **$f$  can be computed in polynomial time.**
  2. Prove that  $G$  has an HC iff the reduced instance has a TSP tour **with distance  $\leq B$**  ( $x \in HC \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in TSP$ ).



# HC $\leq_p$ TSP: Step 1

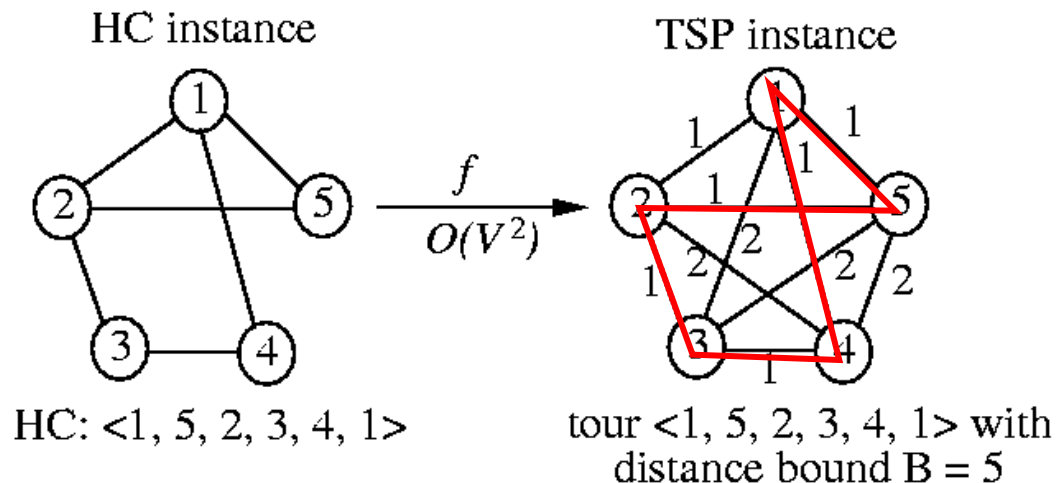
1. Define a reduction function  $f$  for HC  $\leq_p$  TSP.

- Given an HC instance  $G = (V, E)$  with  $n$  vertices
  - Create a set of  $n$  cities labeled with names in  $V$ .
  - Assign distance between  $u$  and  $v$

$$d(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } (u, v) \in E, \\ 2, & \text{if } (u, v) \notin E. \end{cases}$$

- Set bound  $B = n$ .
- $f$  can be computed in  $O(V^2)$  time.

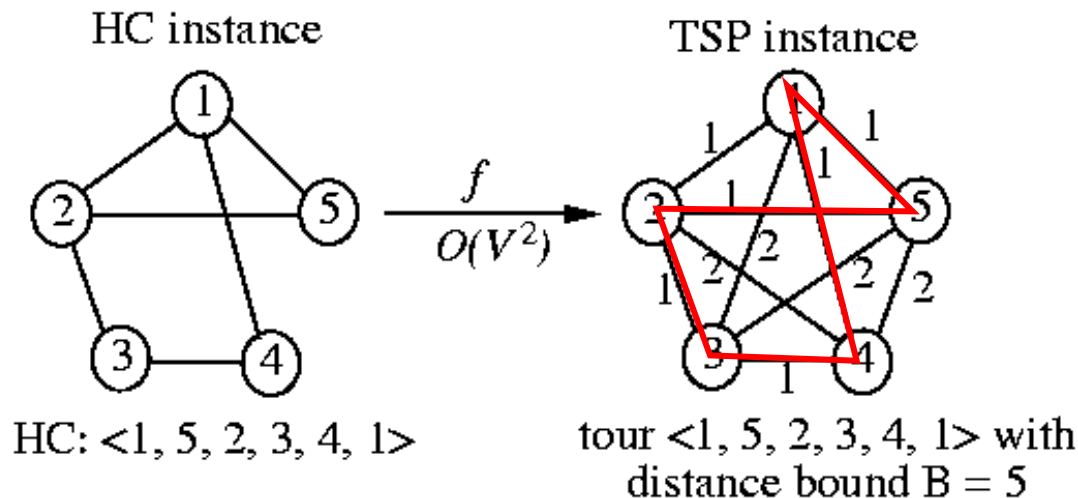
**look for the  
difference between  
the two problems to  
make the reduction!!**



## HC $\leq_p$ TSP: Step 2

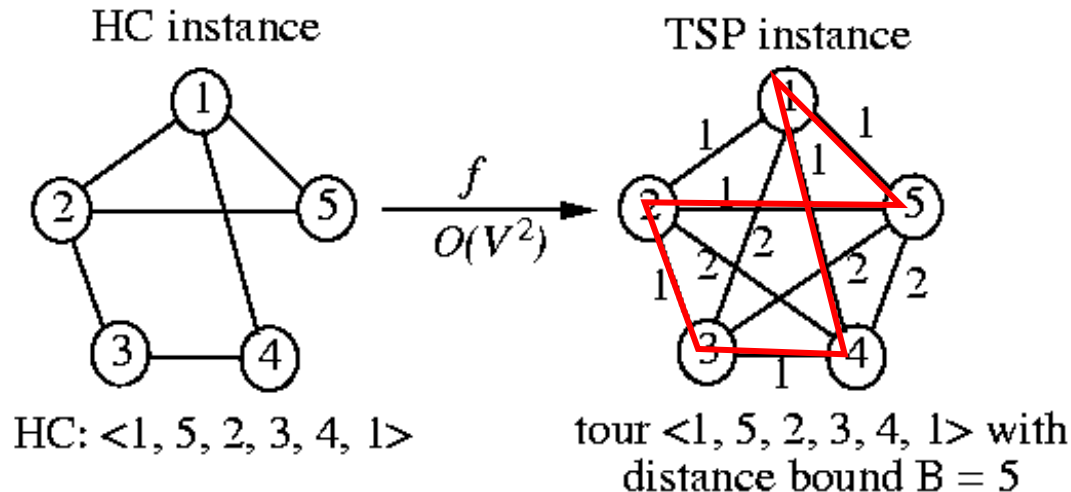
2.  $G$  has an HC iff the reduced instance has a TSP **with distance  $\leq B$** .

- $x \in \text{HC} \Rightarrow f(x) \in \text{TSP}$ .
  - Suppose the HC is  $h = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_1 \rangle$ . Then,  $h$  is also a tour in the transformed TSP instance.
  - The distance of the tour  $h$  is  $n = B$  since there are  $n$  consecutive edges in  $E$ , and so has distance 1 in  $f(x)$ .
  - Thus,  $f(x) \in \text{TSP}$  ( $f(x)$  has a TSP tour with distance  $\leq B$ ).



# HC $\leq_p$ TSP: Step 2 (cont'd)

2.  $G$  has an HC iff the reduced instance has a TSP **with distance  $\leq B$** .
- $f(x) \in \text{TSP} \Rightarrow x \in \text{HC}$ .
    - Suppose there is a TSP tour **with distance  $\leq n = B$** . Let it be  $\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_1 \rangle$ .
    - Since **distance of the tour  $\leq n$**  and **there are  $n$  edges** in the TSP tour, the tour contains only edges in  $E$  since all edge weights are equal to 1.
    - Thus,  $\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_1 \rangle$  is a Hamiltonian cycle ( $x \in \text{HC}$ ).

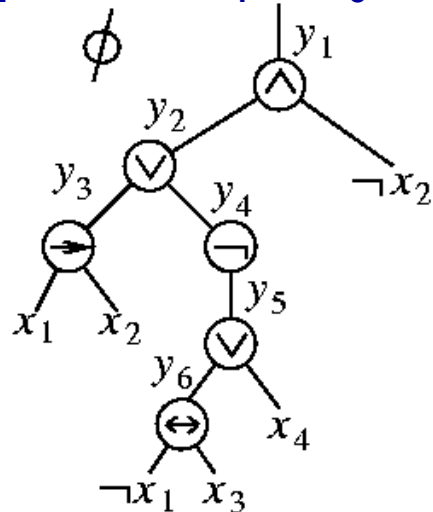


# 3SAT is NP-Complete

- **3SAT**: Satisfiability of boolean formulas in **3-conjunctive normal form (3-CNF)**.
  - Each clause has exactly 3 distinct literals, e.g.,  

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee \neg x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_3 \vee x_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee x_3 \vee \neg x_4)$$
- **3SAT**  $\in$  **NP** (will omit this part for other proofs).
- **3SAT is NP-hard**:  $\text{SAT} \leq_p \text{3SAT}$ .
  1. Construct a binary “parse” tree for input formula  $\phi$  and introduce a variable  $y_i$  for the output of each internal node.

$$\phi = ((x_1 \rightarrow x_2) \vee \neg ((\neg x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3) \vee x_4)) \wedge \neg x_2.$$



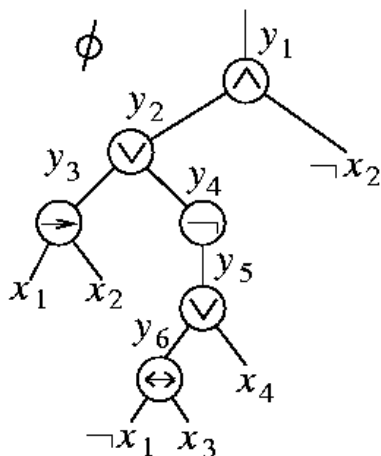
# 3SAT is NP-Complete (cont'd)

2. Rewrite  $\phi$  as the AND of the root variable and a conjunction of clauses describing the operation of each node.

$$\phi' = y_1 \wedge (y_1 \leftrightarrow (y_2 \wedge \neg x_2)) \wedge (y_2 \leftrightarrow (y_3 \vee y_4)) \wedge (y_3 \leftrightarrow (x_1 \rightarrow x_2)) \wedge (y_4 \leftrightarrow \neg y_5) \wedge (y_5 \leftrightarrow (y_6 \vee x_4)) \wedge (y_6 \leftrightarrow (\neg x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3)).$$

3. Convert each clause  $\phi'_i$  into CNF.

- Construct the **disjunctive normal form** for  $\neg \phi'_i$  and then apply DeMorgan's law to get the CNF formula  $\phi''_i$ .
- E.g.,  $\neg \phi'_1 = \neg (y_1 \leftrightarrow (y_2 \wedge \neg x_2)) =$   
 $(y_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge x_2) \vee (y_1 \wedge \neg y_2 \wedge x_2) \vee (y_1 \wedge \neg y_2 \wedge \neg x_2) \vee (\neg y_1 \wedge y_2 \wedge \neg x_2)$
- $\phi''_1 = \neg (\neg \phi'_1) = (\neg y_1 \vee \neg y_2 \vee \neg x_2) \wedge (\neg y_1 \vee y_2 \vee \neg x_2) \wedge (\neg y_1 \vee y_2 \vee x_2) \wedge (y_1 \vee \neg y_2 \vee x_2).$



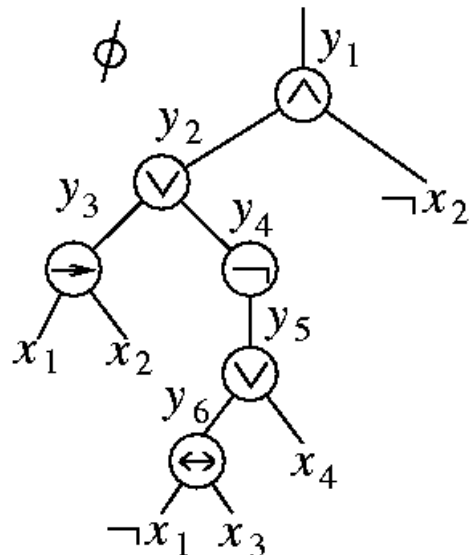
$y_1$	$y_2$	$x_2$	$(y_1 \leftrightarrow (y_2 \wedge \neg x_2))$
1	1	1	0
1	1	0	1
1	0	1	0
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	0	0	1

truth table for  $(y_1 \leftrightarrow (y_2 \wedge \neg x_2))$



# 3SAT is NP-Complete (cont'd)

4. Make each clause  $C_i$  have **exactly** 3 distinct literals to get  $\phi'''$ .
- $C_i$  has 3 distinct literals: do nothing.
  - $C_i$  has 2 distinct literals:  
 $C_i = (l_1 \vee l_2) = (l_1 \vee l_2 \vee p) \wedge (l_1 \vee l_2 \vee \neg p)$ .
  - $C_i$  has only 1 literal:  $C_i = l =$   
 $(l \vee p \vee q) \wedge (l \vee \neg p \vee q) \wedge (l \vee p \vee \neg q) \wedge (l \vee \neg p \vee \neg q)$ .
- **Claim:** The 3-CNF formula  $\phi'''$  is satisfiable  $\Leftrightarrow \phi$  is satisfiable.
  - All transformations can be done in polynomial time.



$y_1$	$y_2$	$x_2$	$(y_1 \leftrightarrow (y_2 \wedge \neg x_2))$
1	1	1	0
1	1	0	1
1	0	1	0
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	0	0	1

truth table for  $(y_1 \leftrightarrow (y_2 \wedge \neg x_2))$