# Complexity Classes

#### **Dimitrios Dekas**

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons "Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International" license.



## Theory of Computation

The field of theoretical computer science that examines the ability of a computational model to efficiently solve a particular problem using a certain algorithm.

## Theory of Computation

The field of theoretical computer science that examines the ability of a computational model to efficiently solve a particular problem using a certain algorithm.

Can be divided into two main sub-fields:

## Theory of Computation

The field of theoretical computer science that examines the ability of a computational model to efficiently solve a particular problem using a certain algorithm.

Can be divided into two main sub-fields:

Computability Theory

## Theory of Computation

The field of theoretical computer science that examines the ability of a computational model to efficiently solve a particular problem using a certain algorithm.

Can be divided into two main sub-fields:

- Computability Theory
- Computational Complexity Theory

## Computational Complexity Theory

It deals with the calculation of the resources required for the algorithmic solution of a problem. Classifies problems into complexity classes based on these costs.

## Computational Complexity Theory

It deals with the calculation of the resources required for the algorithmic solution of a problem. Classifies problems into complexity classes based on these costs.

Important computational resources:

# Computational Complexity Theory

It deals with the calculation of the resources required for the algorithmic solution of a problem. Classifies problems into complexity classes based on these costs.

Important computational resources:

Time

## Computational Complexity Theory

It deals with the calculation of the resources required for the algorithmic solution of a problem. Classifies problems into complexity classes based on these costs.

## Important computational resources:

- Time
- Space

# Complexity Classes

Equivalence classes that group problems of the same complexity with regard to the resource in question.

## Complexity Classes

Equivalence classes that group problems of the same complexity with regard to the resource in question.

Each complexity class falls under the following definition:

## Definition

A set of problems that are solvable by an automaton M, using the resource R, with complexity equal to O(f(n)), where n is the size of the input.

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

## Problems included in this class

AKS Primality Test

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

- AKS Primality Test
- Greatest Common Divisor

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

- AKS Primality Test
- Greatest Common Divisor
- ST-Connectivity

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

- AKS Primality Test
- Greatest Common Divisor
- ST-Connectivity
- Linear Programming

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

### Problems included in this class

Discrete Log Problem

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

- Discrete Log Problem
- Integer Factorization

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

- Discrete Log Problem
- Integer Factorization
- Graph isomorphism

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

- Discrete Log Problem
- Integer Factorization
- Graph isomorphism
- Minimum Circuit Size Problem

# Cook-Levin Theorem

The Cook-Levin theorem proved that the boolean satisfiability problem belongs to the NP-Complete class. Succeeding this theorem, a plethora of different problems were also added to the NP-Complete class.

### Definition

The class containing every language L so that:

- L belongs to the NP class.
- 2 Every language in NP is reducible to L in polynomial time.

### Definition

The class containing every language L so that:

- L belongs to the NP class.
- ② Every language in NP is reducible to L in polynomial time.

### Definition

The class containing every language L so that:

- ① L belongs to the NP class.
- 2 Every language in NP is reducible to L in polynomial time.

## Problems included in this class

Boolean satisfiability (Circuit-SAT, SAT, 3-SAT)

### Definition

The class containing every language L so that:

- ① L belongs to the NP class.
- ② Every language in NP is reducible to L in polynomial time.

- Boolean satisfiability (Circuit-SAT, SAT, 3-SAT)
- Hamiltonian Path

### Definition

The class containing every language L so that:

- L belongs to the NP class.
- 2 Every language in NP is reducible to L in polynomial time.

- Boolean satisfiability (Circuit-SAT, SAT, 3-SAT)
- Hamiltonian Path
- Graph coloring

### Definition

The class containing every language L so that:

- ① L belongs to the NP class.
- 2 Every language in NP is reducible to L in polynomial time.

- Boolean satisfiability (Circuit-SAT, SAT, 3-SAT)
- Hamiltonian Path
- Graph coloring
- Sudoku

## P vs NP

## Question

Is it possible to discover an algorithm for each problem belonging to the NP class, so that it can be solved in polynomial time and therefore it ultimately belongs to the class P?

## P vs NP

## Question

Is it possible to discover an algorithm for each problem belonging to the NP class, so that it can be solved in polynomial time and therefore it ultimately belongs to the class P?

The above question can be reformulated by using the NP-Complete class as follows:

## P vs NP

## Question

Is it possible to discover an algorithm for each problem belonging to the NP class, so that it can be solved in polynomial time and therefore it ultimately belongs to the class P?

The above question can be reformulated by using the NP-Complete class as follows:

#### Alternative Formulation

Is it possible to discover an algorithm for a single problem belonging to the NP-Complete class, so that it can be solved in polynomial time and therefore it ultimately belongs to the class P?

# What would happen if P = NP

• Complete understanding of protein folding.

# What would happen if P = NP

- Complete understanding of protein folding.
- Rapid progress in the production process.

# What would happen if P = NP

- Complete understanding of protein folding.
- Rapid progress in the production process.
- A significant portion of cryptographic systems will no longer be usable.

### Co-NP

### Definition

The class containing every language L whose negative snapshots are decidable by a non-deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.

# Co-NP-Complete

#### Definition

The class containing every language L so that:

- **1** L belongs to the Co-NP class.
- 2 Every language in Co-NP is reducible to L in polynomial time.

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in exponential time.

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in exponential time.

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in exponential time.

### Problems included in this class

• Winning game strategies

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine in exponential time.

- Winning game strategies
- T-step Turing maching acceptance.

## **NEXPTIME**

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in exponential time.

# **NEXPTIME**

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in exponential time.

# **NEXPTIME**

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine in exponential time.

### Problems included in this class

• SUCCINCT NP-Complete problems

# RP (Randomized Polynomial Time)

#### Definition

The class containing every language L for which there is a probabilistic Turing machine with the following properties:

- 1 It always runs in polynomial time.
- ② If the correct answer to the question of accepting a string is NO, then it always returns NO.
- **3** If the correct answer to the question of accepting a string is YES, then it returns YES with a probability of at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ , otherwise it returns NO.

## Co-RP

#### Definition

The class containing every language L for which there is a probabilistic Turing machine with the following properties:

- 1 It always runs in polynomial time.
- ② If the correct answer to the question of accepting a string is YES, then it always returns YES.
- ③ If the correct answer to the question of accepting a string is NO, then it returns NO with a probability of at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ , otherwise it returns YES.

# ZPP (Zero-Error Probabilistic Polynomial Time)

#### Definition

The class containing every language L for which there is a probabilistic Turing machine with the following properties:

- 1 It always runs in polynomial time.
- It returns an answer equal to YES, NO or DO NOT KNOW.
- The answer is always either DO NOT KNOW or the correct answer.
- **1** It returns DO NOT KNOW with probability  $\leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

#### **Theorem**

It is known that  $ZPP = RP \cap Co - RP$ .

# BPP (Bounded-Error Probabilistic Polynomial Time)

#### Definition

The class containing every language L for which there is a probabilistic Turing machine with the following properties:

- 1 It always runs in polynomial time.
- ② On any given run of the algorithm, there is a probability  $\leq \frac{1}{3}$  of giving the wrong answer, whether the answer is YES or NO.

### Quantum Computing Calculations

There is a similar complexity class, which deals with decision problems solved by quantum computers in polynomial time and is named Bounded-Error Quantum Polynomial Time.

# PP (Probabilistic Polynomial Time)

#### Definition

The class containing every language L for which there is a probabilistic Turing machine with the following properties:

- 1 It always runs in polynomial time.
- ② If the correct answer to the question of accepting a string is YES, then it returns YES with a probability  $> \frac{1}{2}$ .
- ① If the correct answer to the question of accepting a string is NO, then it returns YES with a probability  $\leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine that uses polynomial amount of space.

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine that uses polynomial amount of space.

### Problems included in this class

• First-order Theory Problems

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine that uses polynomial amount of space.

- First-order Theory Problems
- QSAT

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine that uses polynomial amount of space.

- First-order Theory Problems
- QSAT
- Succinct versions of many graph problems.

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine that uses polynomial amount of space.

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine that uses exponential amount of space.

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine that uses exponential amount of space.

### Problems included in this class

• Ideal Membership Problem

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine that uses exponential amount of space.

- Ideal Membership Problem
- Problems related to Vector Addition Systems

#### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a deterministic Turing machine that uses exponential amount of space.

- Ideal Membership Problem
- Problems related to Vector Addition Systems
- Temporal Planning with Concurrent Actions

### Definition

The class containing every language L that is decidable by a **non**-deterministic Turing machine that uses exponential amount of space.

Proved by Walter Savitch in 1970, it gives a foundational relationship between deterministic and non-deterministic space complexity. The theorem states that for any function  $f \in \Omega(\log(n()))$ , it holds that:

$$NSPACE(f(n)) \subseteq DSPACE(f(n))^2$$

Proved by Walter Savitch in 1970, it gives a foundational relationship between deterministic and non-deterministic space complexity. The theorem states that for any function  $f \in \Omega(\log(n()))$ , it holds that:

$$NSPACE(f(n)) \subseteq DSPACE(f(n))^2$$

Two useful results arise from the above theorem:

Proved by Walter Savitch in 1970, it gives a foundational relationship between deterministic and non-deterministic space complexity. The theorem states that for any function  $f \in \Omega(\log(n()))$ , it holds that:

$$NSPACE(f(n)) \subseteq DSPACE(f(n))^2$$

Two useful results arise from the above theorem:

Proved by Walter Savitch in 1970, it gives a foundational relationship between deterministic and non-deterministic space complexity. The theorem states that for any function  $f \in \Omega(\log(n()))$ , it holds that:

$$NSPACE(f(n)) \subseteq DSPACE(f(n))^2$$

Two useful results arise from the above theorem:

- PSPACE = NPSPACE
- EXPSPACE = NEXPSPACE

# Acknowledgements

Thank you for your attention. Please feel free to make any question.

Special thanks to Thanasis Vranis for his valuable assistance.