

# NP-Completeness (Branch-and-bound)

34-1x

**Polynomial time:**  $O(n^k)$  for some constant  $k$ ,  $n$  is the problem size. **polynomial**  $\rightarrow$  **easy, can solve it**

**Exponential time:**  $O(2^n)$ ,  $O(3^{n^3})$ , ...  
**non-polynomial**  $\rightarrow$  **hard, cannot solve it**

**non-deterministic algorithm:** an algorithm which

1. guesses an answer, and then
2. verifies the answer.

34-1a

**non-deterministic sort ?**

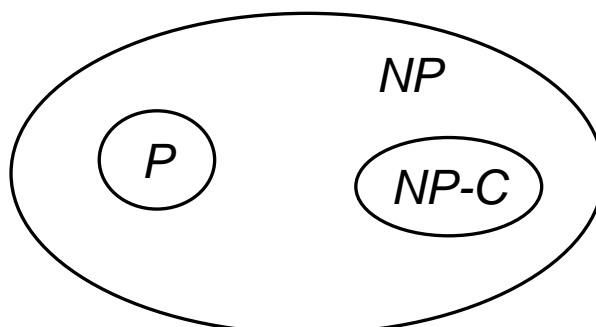
**P:** **polynomial deterministic** 計算 the set of problems that can be solved in  $O(n^k)$  time (using a deterministic algorithm).

**NP:** the set of problems that can be solved in  $O(n^k)$  time using a non-deterministic algorithm.  
(Or, problems whose answers can be verified in  $O(n^k)$  time.) 驗算

**polynomial**

34-1b

**non-deterministic**



34-1y

" $\delta(s, v) < 45$  ?"    " $|f^*| > 36$  ?" 34-2

**Decision problem:** return Yes/No!

**Reduction:** transform a problem into another.

34-2a

\* Selection  $\Rightarrow$  Sorting

\* Decision version  $\Rightarrow$  Optimization version

\* if  $A \Rightarrow B$ , then usually B is harder ( $B \geq_{\text{hard}} A$ )

34-2de

\* if  $A \Rightarrow^p B$  and  $B \Rightarrow^p C$ , then  $A \Rightarrow^p C$

34-2e'

reduction (hardness) is transitive

34-2fg

**NP-Complete:** a problem  $A$  is in  $NP-C$  iff (i)  $A$  is in  $NP$ , and (ii) all problems in  $NP$  can be reduced to it in  $O(n^k)$  time.

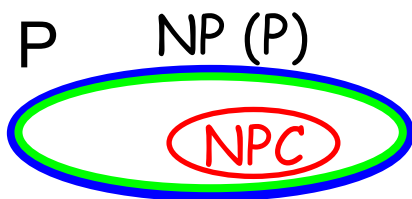
34-2h

\* all  $NP-C$  problems are of the same difficulty

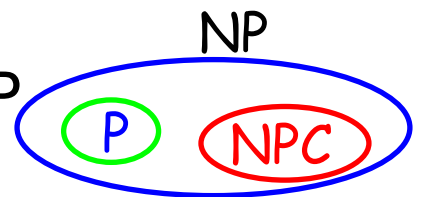
\* all  $NP \Rightarrow^p A \cong \text{an } NP-C \Rightarrow^p A \cong \text{all } NP-C \Rightarrow^p A$

\* If any problem in  $NP-C$  can be solved in  $O(n^k)$  time, then  $P=NP$ . It is believed (not proved) that  $P \neq NP$

\* if  $NP = P$



if  $NP \neq P$

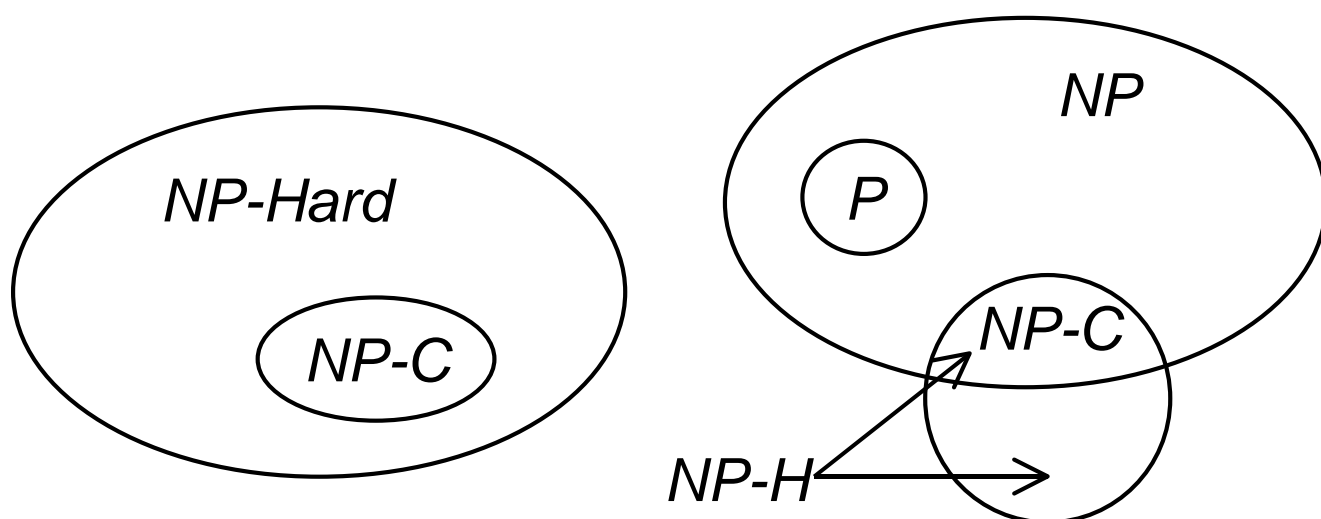


**NP-Hard:** a problem  $A$  is in  $NP-H$  iff

(1)  $A$  is at least as hard as problems in  $NP-C$ .

or (2) all problems in  $NP$  can be reduced to  $A$  in  $O(n^k)$  time.  $\text{all } NP \Rightarrow^p A$

or (3) a problem in  $NP-C$  can be reduced to  $A$  in  $O(n^k)$  time.  $\text{an (all) } NP-C \Rightarrow^p A$

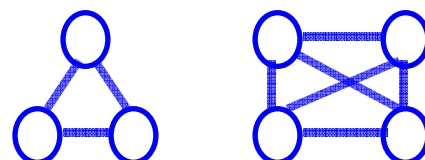
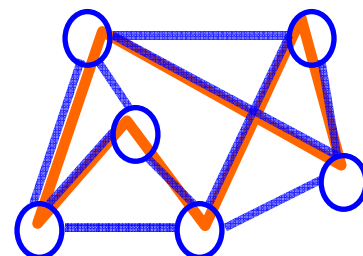


34-3ab

## NP-Complete problems:

$\begin{cases} 0: \text{false} \\ 1: \text{true} \end{cases}$

- \* **Cook Thm. (Turing award)**  
(Circuit) satisfiability problem (SAT):  
 $((a \rightarrow b) \vee \neg((\neg a \leftrightarrow c) \vee d)) \wedge \neg b$   
 $2^n$  assignments (Clearly,  $\text{SAT} \in \text{NP}$ )
- \* 3-CNF satisfiability problem (3SAT):  
 $(a \vee b \vee c) \wedge (a \vee \neg d \vee e) \wedge (b \vee f \vee a)$   
 (conjunctive normal form)
- \* The subset-sum (partition) problem: partition a set of (real) numbers into two subsets of the same sum.
- \* The hamiltonian-cycle problem  
 $\downarrow$
- \* The traveling-salesperson problem (TSP)
- \* The clique problem  
 $\rightarrow$  completely connected subgraph



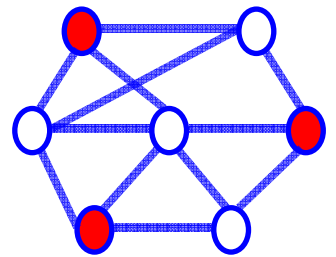
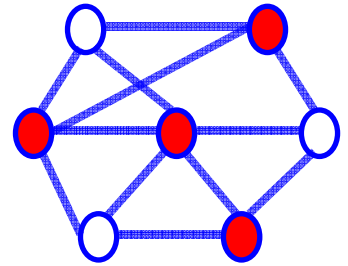
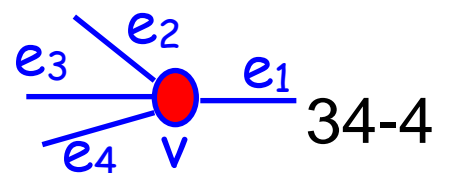
\* The longest "simple" path problem

\* The vertex-cover problem

\* The independent set problem

\* The graph coloring problem

\* 2SAT  $\in P$ . (2CNF  $\in P$ )



34-4a

34-4x

34-4b

**Question 1:** Determine whether the following statements are correct or not.

- (1) If a problem is *NP-Complete*, then it can not be solved by any polynomial time algorithm in worst cases.
- (2) If a problem is *NP-Complete*, then we have not found any polynomial time algorithm to solve it in worse cases.
- (3) If a problem is *NP-Complete*, then it is unlikely that a polynomial time algorithm can be found in the future to solve it in worst cases.
- (4) If a problem is *NP-Complete*, then it is unlikely that we can find a polynomial time algorithm to solve it in average cases.

- y (5) If we can prove that the lower bound of an *NP-Complete* problem is exponential, then we have proved that  $NP \neq P$ .

**Question 2:** Determine whether the following statements are correct or not, and justify your answer.

- N (a) Any *NP-hard* problem can be solved in polynomial time if there is an algorithm that can solve the satisfiability problem in polynomial time.
- N (b) Any *NP-Complete* problem can be solved by a polynomial time deterministic algorithm in average if and only if  $NP = P$  is proved.
- y (c) The clause-monotone satisfiability problem is *NP-Complete*, where a formula is called monotone if each clause of the formula contains either only positive variables or only negative variables.

**Question 3:** Determine whether the following statements are correct or not.

- N (1) The NP problems consist of only decision problems.
- N (2) If a problem is NP-complete, then it can not be solved by any polynomial time algorithm in worst cases.
- N (3) If we prove that problem  $A$  can polynomial-time reduce to satisfiability problem, then problem  $A$  is NP-complete.
- y (4) If a problem  $A$  is polynomial time reducible to problem  $B$  and  $B$  has a polynomial time algorithm, then problem  $A$  has a polynomial time algorithm.
- N (5) If an NP-complete problem can be solved in polynomial time, then  $NP \neq P$ .
- N (6) The problem of determining whether an integer number is a prime number is an NP-complete problem.  
\*Big CS News in 2001
- N (7) Any NP-hard problem can be solved in polynomial time if there is an algorithm that can solve the satisfiability problem in polynomial time.
- y (8) The hamiltonian-path problem can be solved in polynomial time on directed acyclic graphs

(9) 3-CNF (the satisfiability problem, in which each clause has exactly three literals) is reducible to 2-CNF problem.

By yourself, using 34-def.

**Question 4:** Suppose problem  $P_1$  can be reduced to another problem  $P_2$  in  $O(n^2)$  time, where  $n$  is the input size. Answer the following questions and justify your answer briefly.

- Y (a) If  $P_1$  is NP-hard, is  $P_2$  NP-hard?
- N (b) If  $P_2$  is NP-hard, is  $P_1$  NP-hard?
- N (c) Suppose  $P_1$  can be solved in  $O(f(n))$  time. Is it possible to derive a time lower-bound or a time upper-bound for  $P_2$ ? If it is possible, what is the time bound?

**Approximation Algorithm:** Let  $A^*$  be the optimal solution of an input. An approximation algorithm will produce a solution  $A$  such that

$$|A^* - A| / A^* \leq \varepsilon, \text{ e.g. } \varepsilon(n) = 0.5 \rightarrow \text{error within 50\%}$$

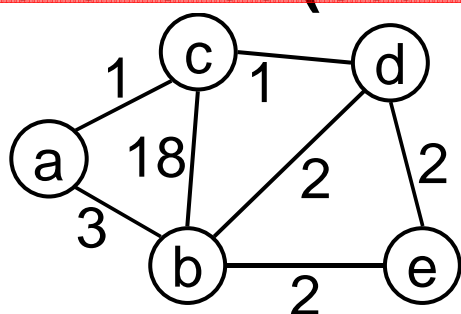
where  $\varepsilon$  is called the relative error bound.

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**Heuristic Algorithm:** may produce a good solution but no guarantee on the error bound.



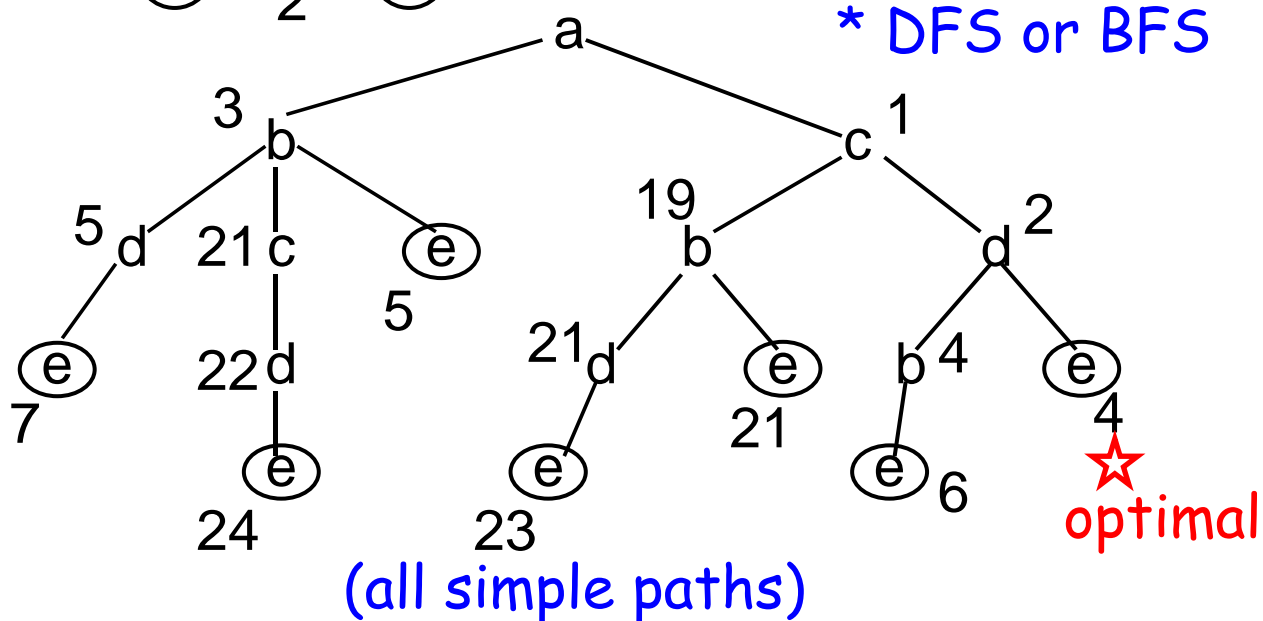
**Brute-force (search):** Try all possible answers.



: Find a shortest path from a to e.

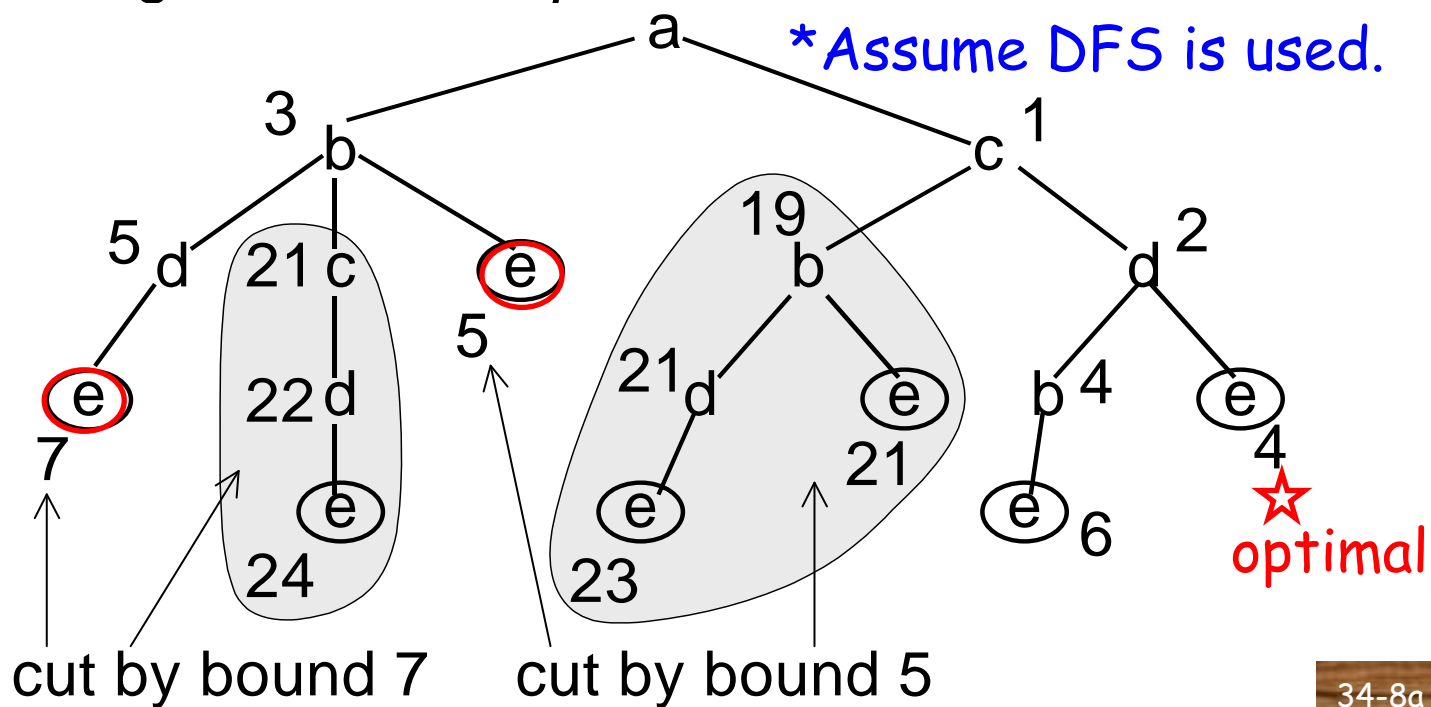
\* DFS or BFS

34-8x



**Branch-and-Bound search:** Brute-force + Intelligent cuts to impossible answers.

34-8z



34-8a

**Homework:** None.



