

LEC19 Complexity

Topday: Computational Complexity

- P, NP, EXP, R
- most problems are uncomputable
- hardness & completeness
- reductions

P

{problems solvable in polynomial time $n^{O(1)}$ }
where n = problem/input size

EXP

{problems solvable in exponential time $2^{n^{O(1)}}$ }

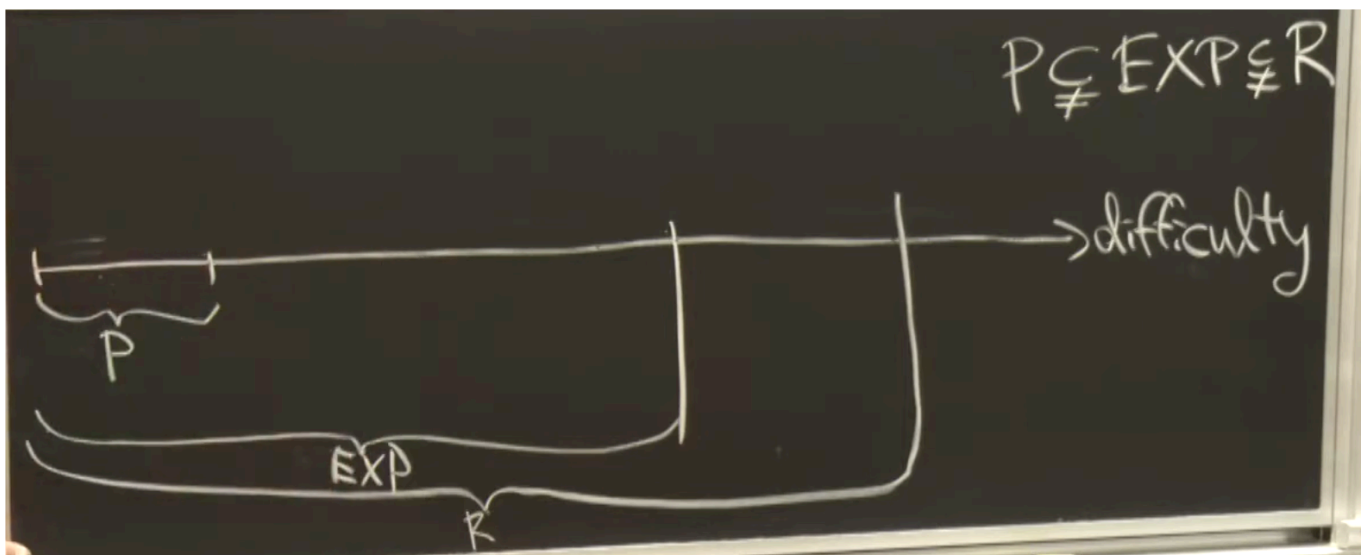
R

{problems solvable in finite time}

Examples:

$n \times n$ Chess is EXP

- negative-weight cycle detection $\in P$
- Tetris $\in EXP$, but don't know whether in P

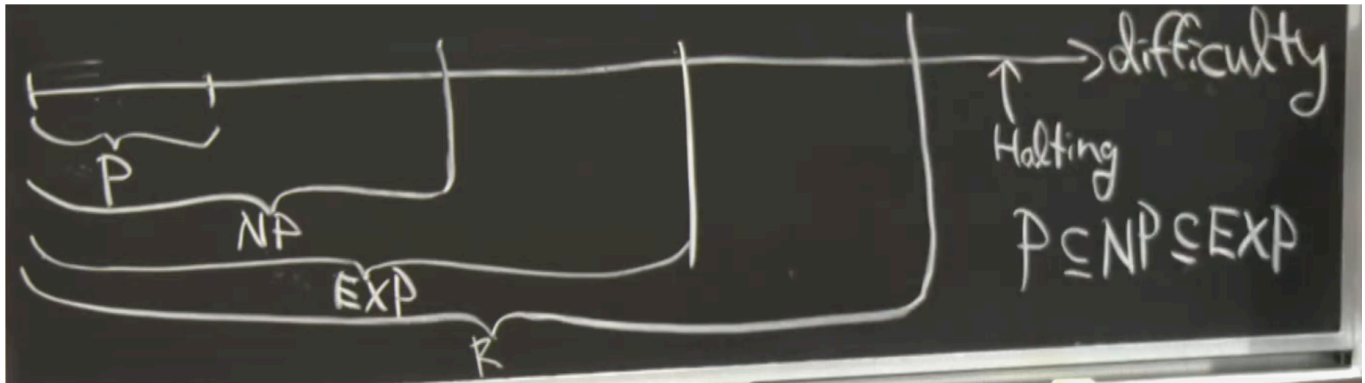


Halting problem:

$\notin R$

- Example
given a computer program, does it ever halt(stop) ?
-uncomputable($\notin R$)
- Most decision problems are uncomputable:
-program \sim finite string of bits \sim number $\in \mathbb{N}$
-> *decision problem* \sim function from inputs(string of bits \sim number in \mathbb{N}) $\rightarrow \{\text{YES, NO}\} \sim$
infinite string of bits of infinite input [uncountable] \sim
-no assignment of programs \rightarrow problems
-luckily most problem we care about $\in R$

NP



- {decision problems solvable in poly.time via a "lucky" algorithm}
take a guess that always right
-nondeterministic model: algorithm can make guesses then output YES or NO
-guesses guaranteed to lead to YES outcome if possible

Tetris $\in NP$

俄罗斯方块

version 1

- for each piece. guess how to place
- check rules
- if survive: return YES

- {decision problems with YES solutions that can be checked in polynomial time}

version 2

- certificate for YES input = sequence of moves for pieces
- given problem input + certificate poly-time verification algorithm
- for every YES input Exist certificate: verifier says YES
- every no input all vertificate: verifier says NO

P != NP ?

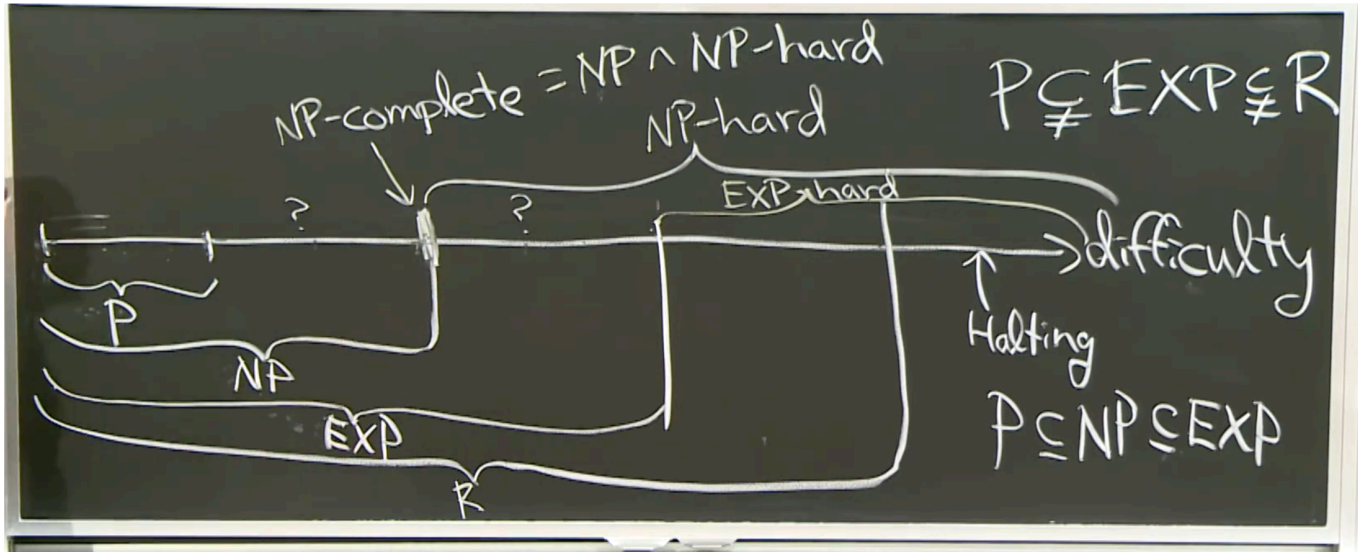
np are problems you can solve by lucky algorithms

p are problems you can solve by regular old algorithms

-Claim:

if $P \neq NP$, then Tetris $\notin P$

WHY? Tetris is NP-hard = "as hard as all problems in NP"



Reductions:

A input \rightarrow B input \rightarrow B solution \rightarrow A solution

ex: unweighted SSSP \rightarrow weighted SSSP

longest path \rightarrow shortest path

A is at least as easy as B congrant with B is at least as hard as A