

Foundations of Computing

Lecture 23

Arkady Yerukhimovich

April 18, 2023

Outline

- 1 Lecture 22 Review
- 2 co-NP
- 3 Redefining Our Notion of Proof
- 4 Interactive Proofs
- 5 Polynomial Identity Testing

Lecture 22 Review

- More \mathcal{NP} -complete problems
- The class $\text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$

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Are All Problems in \mathcal{NP} ?

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- For all possible assignments $w \in \{0,1\}^{|\phi|}$, $\phi(w) = 0$
- We define $\text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$ to contain all such languages that are complements of languages in \mathcal{NP}

\mathcal{P}

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Question:

Can you prove that $x \in L$, when $L \in \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$?

Proving that $x \in L$ for $L \in \text{co-NP}$

The Problem

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- It is widely believed that there is no poly-size, efficiently verifiable proof w that you could give for UNSAT
- $\mathcal{NP} \neq \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$

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A proof is a string that convinces us of the truth of some mathematical statement x

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- The verifier (and prover) can use randomness to decide whether to accept

An Example – Aladdin's Cave



S : flip a coin
if heads, come out on L
if tails, come out on R

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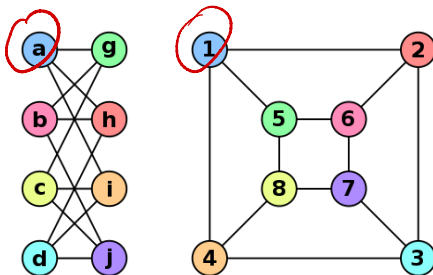
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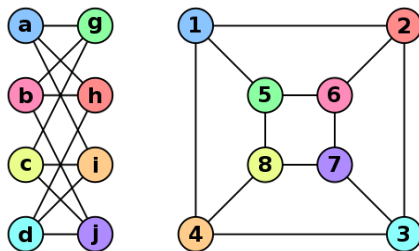
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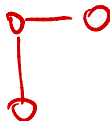
Claim

Graph Isomorphism $\in \mathcal{IP}$

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I.e., $\text{GNI} \notin \mathcal{NP}$
- The power of interaction and randomness has allowed us to do what we couldn't do before

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- 2 Accept if ALL proofs accept
- 3 P^* wins with probability $\leq 1/2$ in each run, so

$$\Pr[\langle P^*, V \rangle(x) = 1] \leq 1/2^n$$