

Foundations of Computing

Lecture 24

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April 18, 2024

Outline

- 1 Lecture 23 Review
- 2 Redefining Our Notion of Proof
- 3 Interactive Proofs
- 4 Polynomial Identity Testing

Lecture 23 Review

- 3-Coloring is \mathcal{NP} -complete
- Ladner's Theorem
- The class $\text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$

\mathcal{NP} – Yes instances are efficiently verifiable

$L \in \mathcal{NP}$ if there exists poly-time DTM V s.t. for $x \in L$ there exists a witness w s.t. $V(x, w) = 1$

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Is $\text{SAT} \in \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$?

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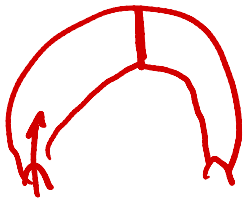
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- A proof doesn't have to be a string
- Can be an interactive procedure
- The verifier (and prover) can use randomness to decide whether to accept

An Example – Aladdin's Cave



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- Can give proofs for languages not in \mathcal{NP}
- Interactive proofs can be much more efficient (e.g., shorter) than non-interactive ones
- Can have additional properties that traditional proofs cannot satisfy.
 - Zero-knowledge

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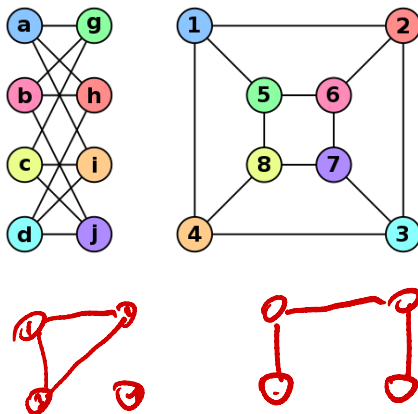
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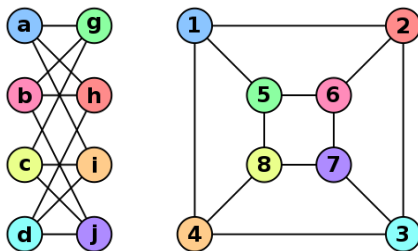
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- $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{IP}$
- $\mathcal{NP} \subseteq \mathcal{IP}$

Another Example – Graph Isomorphism



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Claim

Graph Isomorphism $\in \mathcal{IP}$

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 - Thus, $\Pr[b' = b] = 1/2$

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- $\text{GNI} \in \text{co-NP}$ but not $\in \text{NP}$
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- The power of interaction and randomness has allowed us to do what we couldn't do before

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- 3 P^* wins with probability $\leq 1/2$ in each run, so

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

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Another Example – Polynomial Identity Testing

Polynomial

A polynomial is an equation in one-variable

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 7 = \\ &\quad (x - 1)(x - 2)(x - 3) \end{aligned}$$

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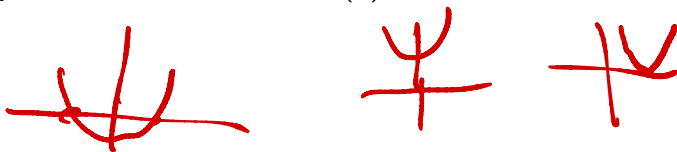
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$$P(f(x)=0) \leq \frac{2}{2^n}$$

Question: What should V do? How many queries does he need?

- Suppose that V is deterministic.
- What if you allow V to be randomized?

$$f \text{ has } \leq 2 \text{ roots} \\ x \leftarrow [0, 2^n]$$

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Next Week

We have seen the power of interactive proofs in convincing a verifier of the truth of some statement.

Question:

What does the verifier learn from seeing the proof?