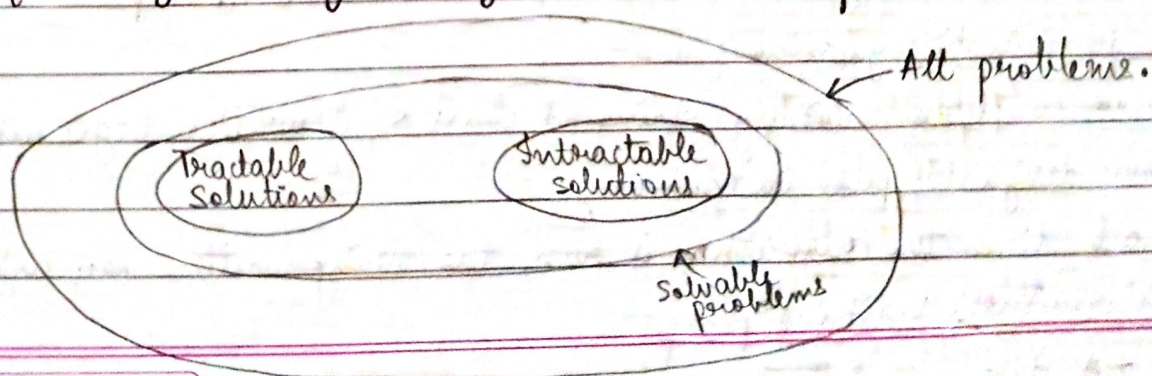


20/04 2020

20. Tractable and Intractable Problems

- An algorithm for a given problem is said to be a polynomial time algorithm if its worst case complexity belongs to $O(n^k)$ for a fixed integer k and an input of size n .
- The set of all problems that can be solved in polynomial amt of time are called Tractable problems. These problems ^{can} run in a reasonable amt of time even for very large amounts of input data.
- Intractable problems
 - the set of all problems that can't be solved in polynomial time
 - It's of type $O(k^n)$.
 - Require huge amts of time for even modest input sizes.



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Deterministic machines

- Conventional digital machines are deterministic in nature.
 - Serialization of resource access.
 - Do a sequential execⁿ based on:
 - von Neumann Architecture.
 - Serializⁿ of resource access.
- eg: Linear search $\rightarrow O(n)$

Non-deterministic machines

- Hypothetical machine.
 - >1 job can be done in 1 unit of time.
 - There will be only 1 hypothetical processor which can do >1 job at any instance of time.
- eg: Linear search $\rightarrow O(1)$ (parallel fashion)

> P Class / Polynomial Class Problems

The class of decision problems that can be solved in polynomial time by deterministic algorithms.

- eg:
- $O(1)$ - Constant
 - $O(\log n)$ - Sub-linear
 - $O(n)$ - Linear
 - $O(n \log n)$ - Nearly linear
 - $O(n^2)$ - Quadratic.

Decision problems are problems with yes/no answers.

> NP Class / Non-deterministic Polynomial Class Problems

The class of decision problems that can be solved in polynomial time by non-deterministic algorithms.

eg: Graph coloring

- Hamiltonian cycle
- " path

- Job scheduling with penalties

- Bin packing
- Subset sum problem
- Satisfiability "
- Traveling salesperson problem.

Non-deterministic algorithm has 2 phases and 2 of step:

(i) Non-deterministic guessing phase -

- Some completely arbitrary string of chars s , is written beginning at some designated place in memory.

- Each time the algorithm is run, the string written may differ.

(ii) Deterministic verifying phase -

- A deterministic subroutine begins execution.

- In addition to the decision problem's input, the subroutine may use or ignore s .

- Eventually, it returns a value true or false - or it may get in an infinite loop and never halt.

iii) Output step - If the verifying phase returned true, the algorithm outputs yes.