

TODAY: NP-completeness

- NP-hardness & -completeness

- 3SAT

  - ↳ Super Mario Bros.

  - ↳ 3-Dimensional Matching

    - ↳ Subset Sum

      - ↳ Partition

        - ↳ Rectangle Packing

      - ↳ 4-Partition

          - ↳ Rectangle Packing

            - ↳ Jigsaw puzzles

weak

strong

Recall: (from 6.006)

- P = {problems solvable in polynomial time}
  - ↳ size n
  - ↳  $n^{O(1)}$

- NP = {decision problems solvable in polynomial nondeterministic time}
  - ↳ output is YES or NO

  - ↳ in  $O(1)$  time can "guess" among polynomial number of choices &

    - if any guess leads to YES,

      - then will make such a guess

"lucky"

- can assume all guessing is done first  
 $\Rightarrow$  equivalent to polynomial-time verifier of polynomial-size certificates for YES answers
- note asymmetry between YES & NO
- problem  $X$  is
  - NP-complete if  $X \in NP$  &  $X$  is NP-hard
  - NP-hard if every problem  $Y \in NP$  reduces to  $X$ 
    - if  $P \neq NP$  then  $X \notin P$  ( $NP \setminus P \rightarrow X$ )
- reduction from problem A to problem B = polynomial-time algorithm converting A inputs into equivalent B inputs  $A \rightarrow B$ 
  - $\hookrightarrow$  same YES/NO answer
- if  $B \in P$  then  $A \in P$   $\xleftarrow{A \rightarrow B \rightarrow \text{solve}}$
- if  $B \in NP$  then  $A \in NP$   $\xleftarrow{}$
- if A is NP-hard then B is NP-hard

How to prove  $X$  is NP-complete:

- ①  $X \in NP$  via nondeterministic algorithm or certificate + verifier
- ② reduce from known NP-complete problem  $Y$  to  $X$

( $\Rightarrow$  any  $Z \in NP \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X \Rightarrow X$  is NP-hard)

- poly-time conversion from  $Y$  inputs to  $X$  inputs
- if  $Y$  answer is YES then  $X$  answer is YES
- if  $X$  answer is YES then  $Y$  answer is YES

3SAT: given Boolean formula of the form:

$$(x_1 \vee x_3 \vee \overline{x}_6) \wedge (\overline{x}_2 \vee x_3 \vee \overline{x}_7) \wedge \dots$$

↑ OR      ↑ NOT      ↑ AND  
↑ literals      ↓ clause

i.e. formula = AND of clauses

clause = OR of 3 literals

literal  $\in \{x_i, \overline{x}_i\}$

occurrences of variable  $x_i$

is there a variable  $\rightarrow \{\text{T}, \text{F}\}$  assignment

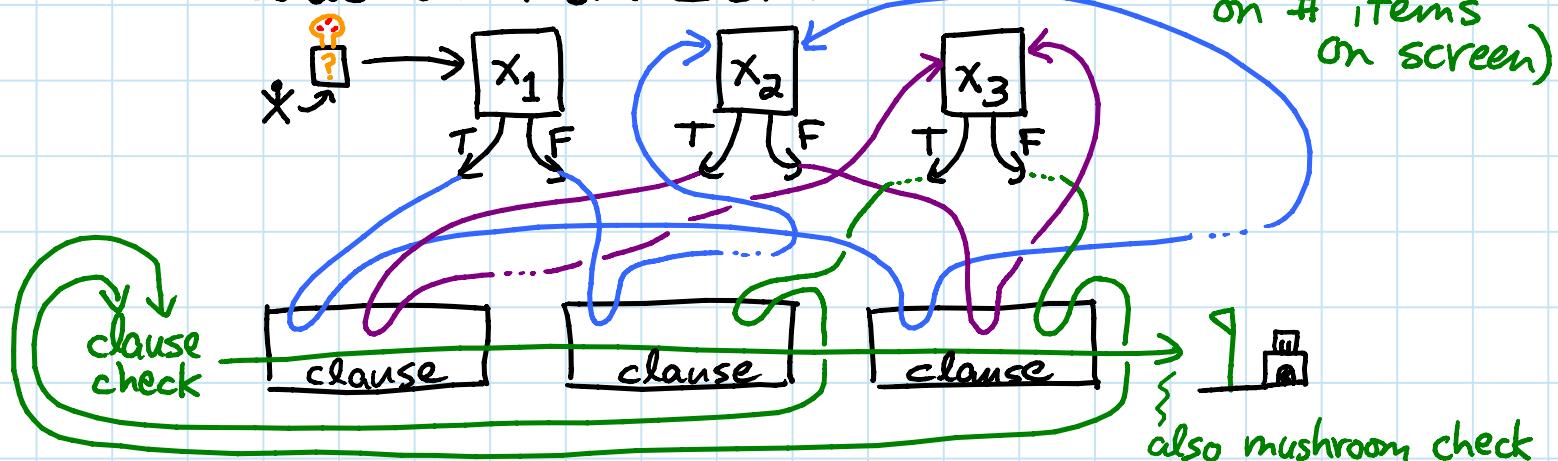
such that formula = T (satisfying assignment)

- NP-complete [Cook 1971]
- $\in \text{NP}$ : guess  $x_1$  is T or F  
guess  $x_2$  is T or F  
⋮  
check formula
- $O(\# \text{variables})$   
nondeterministic
- $O(\# \text{clauses})$
- NP-hard: intuition
  - convert algorithm into a circuit
  - convert circuit into a formula
  - convert formula into 3CNF (as above)

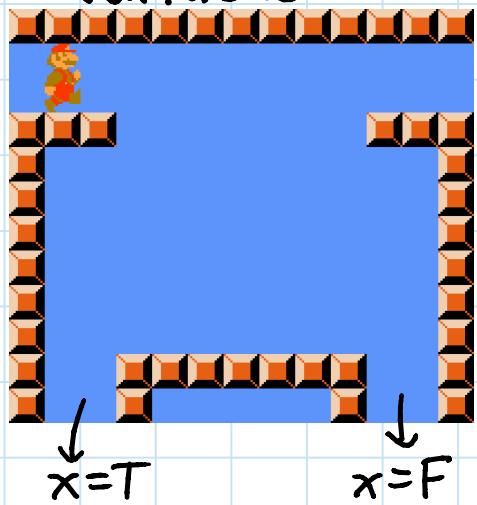
# Super Mario Bros. is NP-hard

(Aloupis, Demaine, Guo, Viglietta 2014)

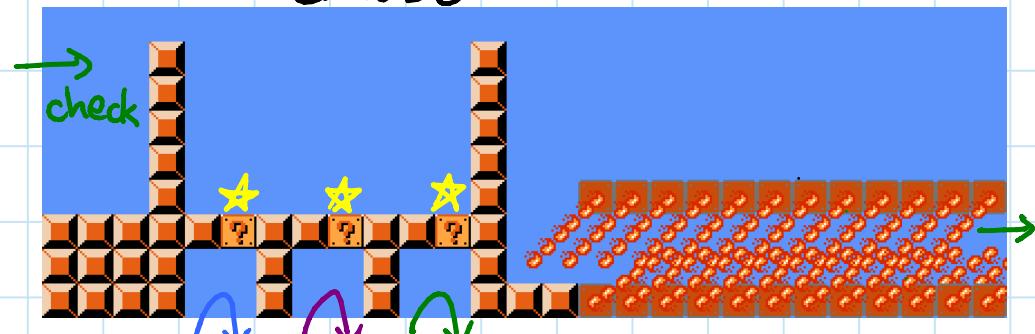
- generalized to arbitrary screen size ( $n \times n$ )
- reduction from 3SAT:



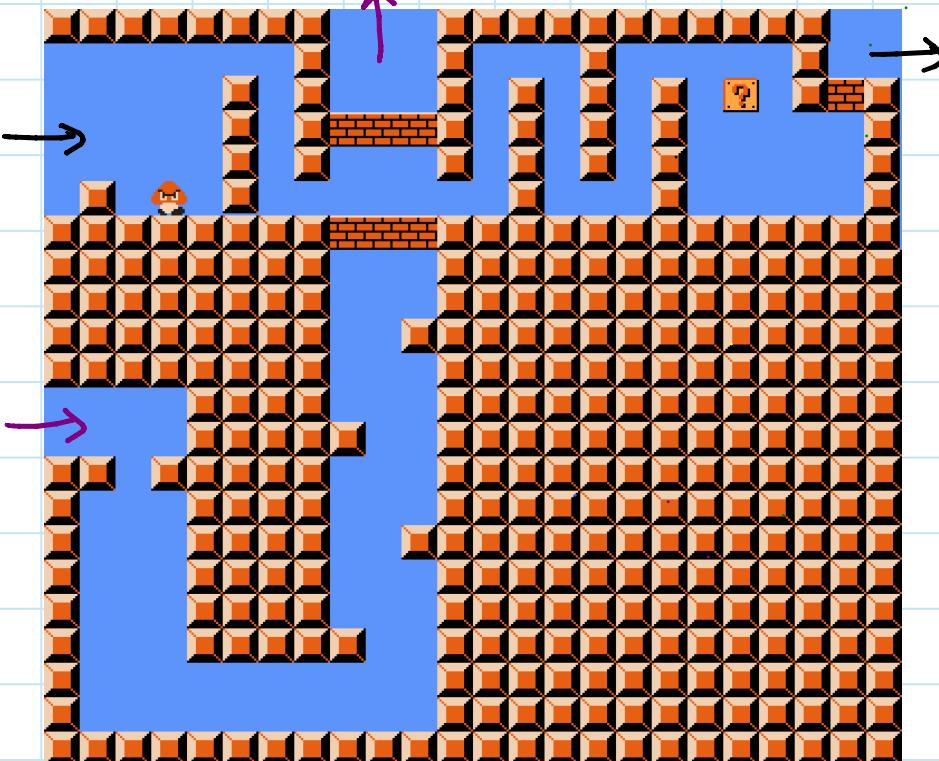
variable:



clause:



CROSS-OVER:



For many more cool examples, check out 6.890: "Fun with Hardness"

## 3-Dimensional Matching: (3DM)

given disjoint sets  $X, Y, Z$  each of  $n$  elements, & triples  $T \subseteq X \times Y \times Z$ , is there a subset  $S \subseteq T$  such that each element  $\in X \cup Y \cup Z$  is in exactly one  $s \in S$ ?

- $\in NP$ : guess which triples  $\in S$  -  $O(T)$  nondet.  
check for exact coverage -  $O(T)$

- NP-hard by reduction from 3SAT:

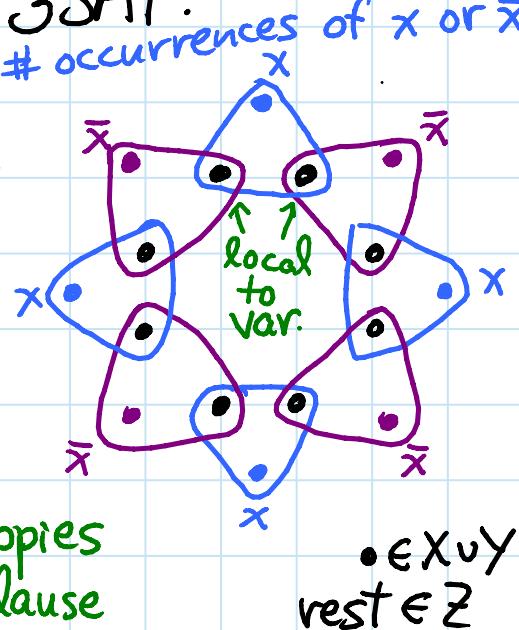
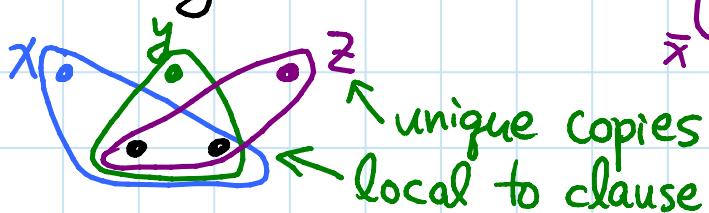
[Garey & Johnson 1979 book]

- variable  $x \rightarrow 2n_x$  chain:

- exactly 2 solutions

- either  $x$ 's or  $\bar{x}$ 's left

- clause  $x \vee y \vee z \rightarrow$



- solvable if  $x$  or  $y$  or  $z$ 's left

- garbage collection:  $\sum_{i=1}^k n_x - \# \text{ clauses}$  times  
all  $x_i$  &  $\bar{x}_i$ 's  
shared (per repeat)

repeated  $\sum_{x \in X} n_x - \# \text{ clauses}$  times

#  $x$  &  $\bar{x}$ 's left by vars. # covered by clauses

- can cover exactly all unused  $x_i$ 's &  $\bar{x}_i$ 's

- satisfying assignment  $\rightarrow$  3DM

( $x=T \rightarrow$  leave  $x$ ;  $x=F \rightarrow$  leave  $\bar{x}$ ; satisfy clauses;

cover remaining with garbage collector)

- 3DM  $\rightarrow$  satisfying assignment

( $x$  left  $\rightarrow x=T$ ;  $\bar{x}$  left  $\rightarrow x=F$ ; satisfy clauses)

Subset Sum: given  $n$  integers  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$   
 & a target sum  $t$ ,

is there a subset  $S \subseteq A$

such that  $\sum S = \sum_{a \in S} a = t$ ?

- NP: guess  $S$
- pseudopolynomial algorithm via DP (like Knapsack)  
 $\hookrightarrow$  polynomial in  $n$  & sum of numbers ( $A$ )
- weakly NP-hard by reduction from 3DM

$\hookrightarrow$  hard when numbers exponential in  $n$

(but still only polynomial number of bits)

- view numbers in base  $b = 1 + \max_i n_{x_i}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  never overflow/carry # occurrences of  $x_i$
- triple  $(x_i, x_j, x_k) \rightarrow 000100100001000$

$$= b^i + b^j + b^k$$

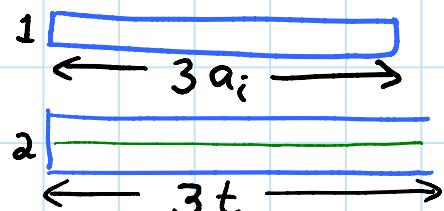
$$- t = 11\dots1 = \sum_i b^i$$

Partition: given  $n$  positive integers  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ ,  
 is there a subset  $S \subseteq A$   
 with  $\sum S = \sum(A - S) = \frac{1}{2} \sum A$ ?

- special case of Subset Sum ( $t = \frac{1}{2} \sum A$ )  
 $\Rightarrow \in NP$  & pseudopolynomial algorithm
- weakly NP-hard by reduction from Subset Sum  
 - let  $\sigma = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$
- add  $a_{n+1} = \sigma + t$  &  $a_{n+2} = 2\sigma - t$   
 $\Rightarrow$  exactly one is  $\in S$  (else  $3\sigma$  vs.  $\sigma$ )  
 $\Rightarrow$  partition must add  $t$  to  $a_{n+2}$   
 & add  $\sigma - t$  to  $a_n$

Rectangle packing: given  $n$  rectangles  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n$   
 & target rectangle  $T$  of area  $\sum_i \text{area}(R_i)$   
 can you pack  $R_i$ 's into  $T$  without overlap?

- $\in NP$  because areas match  
 $\Rightarrow$  can only rotate by int.  $\times 90^\circ$   
 $\Rightarrow$  can guess rotation & integer translation
- weakly NP-hard by reduction from Partition:  
 -  $a_i \rightarrow 1 \times 3a_i$  rectangle  $R_i$   
 -  $t \rightarrow 2 \times 3t$  rectangle  $T$   
 -  $3 > 2 \Rightarrow$  can't rotate  $90^\circ$   
 $\Rightarrow$  packing must find partition



4-Partition: given  $n$  integers  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ ,  $\rightarrow \epsilon(t/5, t/3)$

is there a partition into  $n/4$  subsets of 4 each with the same sum  $t = \sum A / (n/4)$ ?  
also works with 3

- $\in NP$ : guess  $A \rightarrow$  subset mapping
- strongly NP-hard by reduction from 3DM [G&J]

$\hookrightarrow$  NP-hard even when number values polynomial in  $n$

- write numbers in base  $r = 100 \cdot \sum (x \cup y \cup z)$

- element  $x_i \in X \rightarrow (10, i, 0, 0, 1) = 10r^4 + ir^3 + 1$

$$\& (11, i, 0, 0, 1) \times (n_{x_i} - 1) \text{ copies}$$

- element  $y_j \in Y \rightarrow (10, 0, j, 0, 2) \& (11, 0, j, 0, 2) \times (n_{y_j} - 1) \text{ copies}$

- element  $z_k \in Z \rightarrow (10, 0, 0, k, 4) \& (8, 0, 0, k, 4) \times (n_{z_k} - 1) \text{ copies}$

- triple  $(x_i, y_j, z_k) \rightarrow (10, -i, -j, -k, 8) = 10r^4 - ir^3 - jr^2 - kr^3 + 8$

- target sum  $t = (40, 0, 0, 0, 15) = 40r^4 + 15$

- no carries ( $r$  large enough)

- mod  $r \Rightarrow$  use one  $x_i$ , one  $y_j$ , one  $z_k$ , one triple

-  $\lfloor \sum/r \rfloor \bmod r \Rightarrow z_k \&$  triple match

-  $\lfloor \sum/r^2 \rfloor \bmod r \Rightarrow y_j \&$  triple match

-  $\lfloor \sum/r^3 \rfloor \bmod r \Rightarrow x_i \&$  triple match

-  $\lfloor \sum/r^4 \rfloor \bmod r \Rightarrow 4 \cdot 10 \rightarrow$  chosen triple  $\in S$

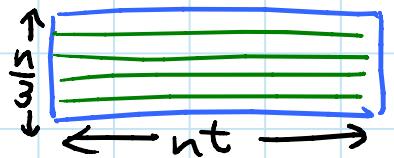
or  $11 + 11 + 8 + 10 \rightarrow$  unused triple  $\notin S$

- primary (10) form of  $x_i$  (or  $y_j$  or  $z_k$ )

must appear in exactly one chosen triple  
(and elements of triple must all match)

## Rectangle packing:

- strongly NP-hard by reduction from 4-Partition
- $a_i \rightarrow 1 \times n a_i$  rectangle  $R_i$
- $t \rightarrow \frac{n}{3} \times nt$  rectangle  $T$



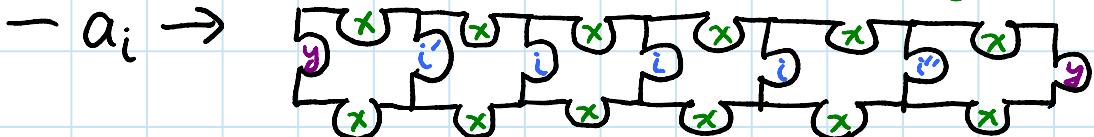
## Jigsaw puzzles:

[Demaine & Demaine 2007]

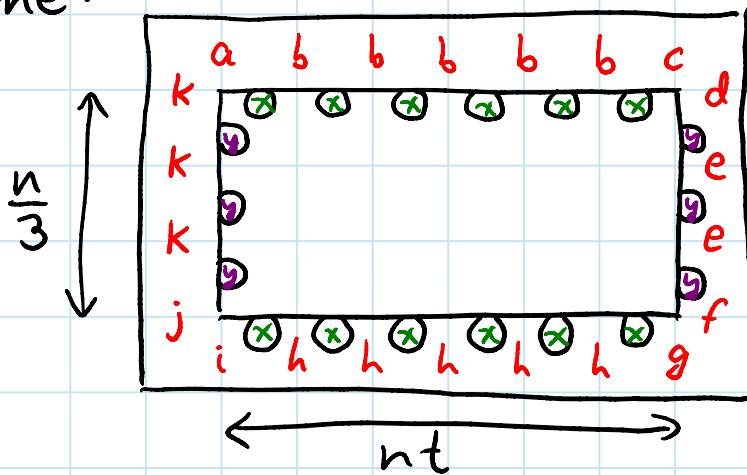
- model: square tiles (no pattern)  
each side tab, pocket, or boundary  
tabs & pockets must have matching shape  
target rectangular shape



- NP-hard by reduction from 4-Partition:  
(similar to reduction to Rectangle Packing)



- $t \rightarrow$  frame:



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