

# 1 Complexity Zoo

## 1.1 TIME[f(n)]

Informally: problems that can be solved in  $f(n)$  time.

**Definition 1.1.** Given some function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\text{TIME}[f(n)]$  are the set of problems solvable within  $O(f(n))$  atomic steps on a deterministic Turing machine. Where  $n$  is the size of the input.

## 1.2 NTIME[f(n)]

Informally: problems that can be solved nondeterministically in  $f(n)$  time.

**Definition 1.2.** Given some function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\text{NTIME}[f(n)]$  are the set of problems solvable within  $O(f(n))$  atomic steps on a nondeterministic Turing machine.

## 1.3 SPACE[f(n)]

Informally: problems that can be solved in  $f(n)$  space.

**Definition 1.3.** Given some function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\text{SPACE}[f(n)]$  are the set of problems solvable using a tape of length  $O(f(n))$  on a deterministic Turing machine. Where  $n$  is the size of the input.

## 1.4 NSPACE[f(n)]

Informally: problems that can be solved non-deterministically in  $f(n)$  space.

**Definition 1.4.** Given some function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\text{NSPACE}[f(n)]$  are the set of problems solvable using a tape of length  $O(f(n))$  on a non-deterministic Turing machine. Where  $n$  is the size of the input.

## 1.5 P

Informally: all problems that can be solved in polynomial time.

**Definition 1.5.**

$$\mathbf{P} = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} \text{TIME}[n^k]$$

Descriptive Complexity definitions:

**Definition 1.6.**

$$\mathbf{P} = \text{FO}(\text{LFP})$$

(First Order logic extended with the Least Fixed Point operator, with successor. A high level, handwavy description of the LFP operator is the added ability to recursively define FO formulas.)

**Definition 1.7.**

$$\mathbf{P} = \text{SO}(\text{Horn})$$

(Second Order logic restricted with Horn. SO logic allows you to quantify over subsets/relations/functions on the domain, and Horn means all ‘clauses’ are really implications with literal in the conclusion and all literals positive.)

Circuit Complexity definition:

**Definition 1.8.**

$\mathbf{P}$  = Set of problems that can be solved by a polynomial-time uniform family of boolean circuits

Notable Problems in  $\mathbf{P}$ :

- 2-SAT
- 2-Colourability
- Reachability

## 1.6 NP

Informally: all problems that can be solved in nondeterministic polynomial time.

**Definition 1.9.**

$$\mathbf{NP} = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} \text{NTIME}[n^k]$$

In terms of a verifier:

Informally: The set of decision problems where a solution can be verified in polynomial time.

Descriptive Complexity Definition:

**Definition 1.10.**

$$\mathbf{NP} = \text{SO}\exists$$

(Existential Second Order)

Notable Problems in  $\mathbf{NP}$ :

- SAT
- 3-Colourability
- TSP
- Subset sum



**1.7**   **FPT**  
**1.8**   **W[1]**  
**1.9**   **FPTAS**  
**1.10**   **PTAS**  
**1.11**   **L**  
**1.12**   **NL**  
**1.13**   **PSPACE**  
**1.14**   **coNP**  
**1.15**    $\Sigma_2^p$   
**1.16**    $\Sigma_i^p$   
**1.17**    $\Pi_2^p$   
**1.18**    $\Pi_i^p$   
**1.19**   **PH**  
**1.20**    $P^{SAT}$   
**1.21**    $NP^{SAT}$   
**1.22**   **P/poly**  
**1.23**   **P-Uniform**  
**1.24**   **EXP**  
**1.25**   **NC**  
**1.26**    $NC_0$   
**1.27**    $NC_1$   
**1.28**    $NC_2$   
**1.29**    $NC_i$   
**1.30**    $AC_i$   
**1.31**    $AC_0$   
**1.32**    $AC_1$   
**1.33**   **BPP**  
**1.34**   **RP**  
**1.35**   **co-RP**  
**1.36**   **ZPP**  
**1.37**   **APX**  
**1.38**   **PO**  
**1.39**   **PCP**