#### Pre-lecture brain teaser

In the following languages, three are decidable and three are undecidable. Which are which?

- $\cdot A_{CFG} = \{ \langle G, w \rangle \mid G \text{ is a } CFG \text{ that generates string } w \}.$
- $E_{CFG} = \{ \langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a } CFG \text{ and } L(G) = \emptyset \}.$
- ·  $ALL_{CFG} = \{ \langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a } CFG \text{ and } L(G) = \Sigma^* \}.$
- $\cdot A_{LBA} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a } LBA \text{ that generates string } w \}.$
- $E_{LBA} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a } LBA \text{ where } L(M) = \emptyset \}.$
- ·  $ALL_{LBA} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a } LBA \text{ where } L(M) = \Sigma^* \}.$

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#### ECE-374-B: Lecture 24 - Midterm 3 Review

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December 02, 2025

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

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YES!

#### YES!

```
 V = \{S\} 
 T = \{0,1\} 
 P = \{S \rightarrow \epsilon \mid 0S0 \mid 1S1\} 
 (abbrev. for <math>S \rightarrow \epsilon, S \rightarrow 0S0, S \rightarrow 1S1)
```

#### YES!

#### Lemma

A CFG in Chomsky normal form can derive a string w in at most 2<sup>n</sup> steps!

Knowing this, we can just simulate all the possible rule combinations for  $2^n$  steps and see if any of the resulting strings matches w.

YES!

#### YES!

In this case, we just need to know if we can get from the start variable to a string with only terminal symbols.

- 1. Mark all terminal symbols in G
- 2. Repeat until no new variables get marked:
  - 2.1 Mark any variable A where G has the rule  $A \rightarrow U_1U_2 \dots U_k$  where  $U_i$  is a marked terminal/variable
- 3. If start variable is nto marked, accept. Otherwise reject.

• 
$$V = \{S\}$$
  
•  $T = \{0, 1\}$   
•  $P = \{S \to \epsilon \mid 0.00 \mid 1.00\}$   
(abbrev. for  $S \to \epsilon, S \to 0.00, S \to 1.00$ )

Nope

#### Nope

Proof requires computation histories which are outside the scope of this course.

YES!

#### YES!

Remember a LBA has a finite tapes. Therefore we know:

- 1. A tape of length n where each cell can contain g symbols, you have  $g^n$  possible configurations.
- 2. The tape head can be in one of n positions and has q states yielding a tape that can be in qn configurations.
- 3. Therefore the machine can be in  $qng^n$  configurations.

#### YES!

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- 1. A tape of length n where each cell can contain g symbols, you have  $g^n$  possible configurations.
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- 3. Therefore the machine can be in  $qng^n$  configurations.

#### Lemma

If an LBA does not accept or reject in qng<sup>n</sup> then it is stuck in a loop forever.

#### Decider for A<sub>LBA</sub> will:

- 1. Simulate  $\langle M \rangle$  on w for  $qng^n$  steps.
  - 1.1 if accepts, then accept
  - 1.2 if rejects, then reject
- 2. If neither accepts or rejects, means it's in a loop in whihc case, reject.

Nope

#### Nope

Proof requires computational history trick, a story for another time.....

Nope

Nope

No standard proof for this, but let's look at a pattern:

# Decidability across grammar complexities

	DFA	CFG	PDA	LBA	TM
Α	D	D	D	D	U
Ε	D	D	D	U	U
A E ALL	D	U	U	U	U

Eventually problems get too tough....

#### Nope

No standard proof for this, but let's look at a pattern:

So we sort've know that  $ALL_{LBA}$  isn't decidable because we knew  $ALL_{CFG}$  wasn't (though intuition is never sufficient evidence).

# Un-/decidability practice problems

#### Available Undecidable languages

- ·  $L_{Accept} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a } TM \text{ and accepts } w \}.$
- $L_{HALT} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a } TM \text{ and halts on } \varepsilon \}.$

#### Practice 1: Halt on Input

Is the language:

$$L_{HaltOnInput} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and halts on } w \}.$$

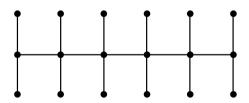
#### Practice 2: L has fooling set

Is the language:

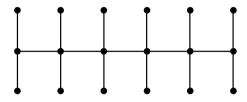
$$L_{HasFooling} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ has a fooling set } \}.$$

# NP-Complete practice problems

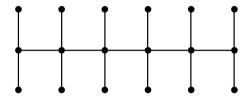
A <u>centipede</u> is an undirected graph formed by a path of length k with two edges (legs) attached to each node on the path as shown in the below figure. Hence, the centipede graph has 3k vertices. The **CENTIPEDE** problem is the following: given an undirected graph G = (V, E) and an integer k, does G contain a <u>centipede</u> of G vertices as a subgraph? Prove that **CENTIPEDE** is **NP-Complete**.



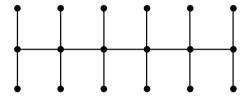
What do we need to do to prove Centipede is NP-Complete?



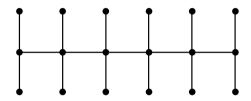
Prove Centipede is in **NP**:



Prove Centipede is in **NP-hard**:



Prove Centipede is in NP-hard:



**Hamiltonian Path**: Given a graph G (either directed or undirected), is there a path that visits every vertex exactly once

 $HC \leq_P Centipede$ 

A quasi-satisfying assignment for a 3CNF boolean formula  $\Phi$  is an assignment of truth values to the variables such that at most one clause in  $\Phi$  does not contain a true literal. Prove that it is NP-complete to determine whether a given 3CNF boolean formula has a quasi-satisfying assignment.

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Prove quasiSAT is in NP

A quasi-satisfying assignment for a 3CNF boolean formula  $\Phi$  is an assignment of truth values to the variables such that at most one clause in  $\Phi$  does not contain a true literal. Prove that it is NP-complete to determine whether a given 3CNF boolean formula has a quasi-satisfying assignment.

Prove quasiSAT is NP-hard

Prove quasiSAT is NP-hard

#### Prove quasiSAT is NP-hard

**3SAT:** Given a boolean formula in conjunctive normal form, with exactly three distinct literals per clause, does the formula have a satisfying assignment.

Good luck on the exam