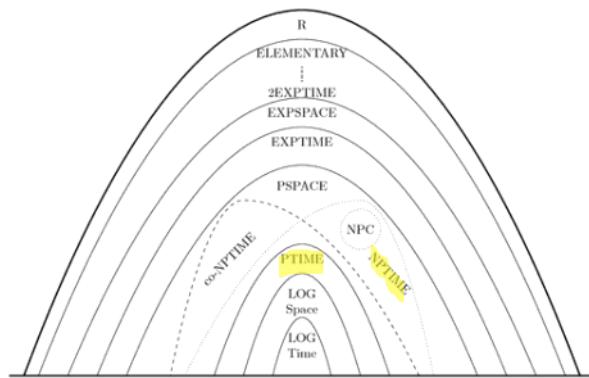


# Lecture 1

Wednesday, 3 May 2023 11:16

## Algebraic Methods in Computational Complexity Theory - Abhiram Natarajan

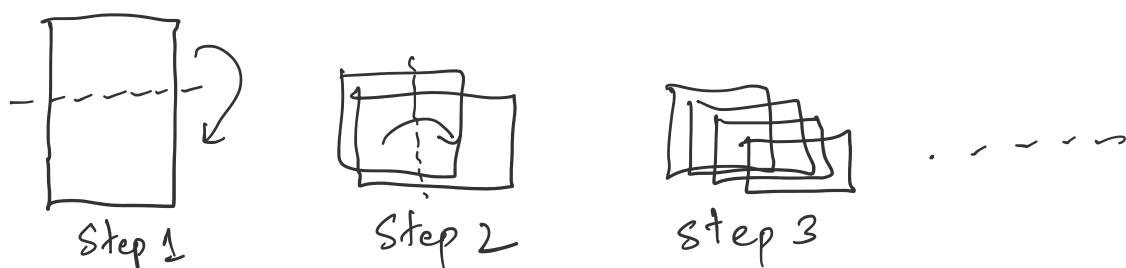


"Mathematical Study of Computation"

TED TALK COMPLEXITY THEORY

$$1+2+\dots = -1/\zeta_2$$

Process A



Process B

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
10000 sheets of paper	add 20000 sheets of paper on top	add 30000 sheets of paper

\* Process A takes 41 steps to get from earth to the moon

\* Process B 11 17 steps                  11                 

\* Process A takes 50 steps to get to the sun

\* Process B 11 387 " " " "

# COOL CONTRIBUTIONS OF COMPLEXITY TO SCIENCE

## ① Matrix Multiplication

$$A \quad B \quad C = AB$$

$n \times n$

Each entry requires  $n$  multiplications.

$n^2$  entries in  $C$ , thus  $n^3$  operation are enough to compute the Product.

## Timeline of matrix multiplication exponent

Year	Bound on omega	Authors
1969	2.8074	Strassen <sup>[1]</sup>
1978	2.796	Pan <sup>[11]</sup>
1979	2.780	Bini, Capovani <sup>[it]</sup> , Romani <sup>[12]</sup>
1981	2.522	Schönhage <sup>[13]</sup>
1981	2.517	Romani <sup>[14]</sup>
1981	2.496	Coppersmith, Winograd <sup>[15]</sup>
1986	2.479	Strassen <sup>[16]</sup>
1990	2.3755	Coppersmith, Winograd <sup>[17]</sup>
2010	2.3737	Stothers <sup>[18]</sup>
2013	2.3729	Williams <sup>[19][20]</sup>
2014	2.3728639	Le Gall <sup>[21]</sup>
2020	2.3728596	Alman, Williams <sup>[3]</sup>
2022	2.37188	Duan, Wu, Zhou <sup>[2]</sup>

2. CT gave us P vs NP question

Classic Nintendo Games are (NP-)Hard

Greg Aloupis\* Erik D. Demaine† Alan Guo‡

### Abstract

We prove NP-hardness results for five of Nintendo's largest video game franchises: Mario, Donkey Kong, Legend of Zelda, Metroid, and Pok  mon. Our results apply to Super Mario Bros. 1, 3, Lost Levels, and Super Mario World; Donkey Kong Country 1-3; all Legend of Zelda games except Zelda II: The Adventure of Link; all Metroid games; and all Pok  mon role-playing games. For Mario and Donkey Kong, we show NP-completeness. In addition, we observe that several games in the Zelda series are PSP-complete.

Expert in Donkey Kong / Super Mario Bros  $\implies$  Solve the Riemann Hypothesis

### 3. Zero Knowledge proofs.

## Kids' Books About Bullying

### 3. Zero knowledge proofs.

You can convince someone that you have a proof of any mathematical theorem without revealing anything abt. the proof.

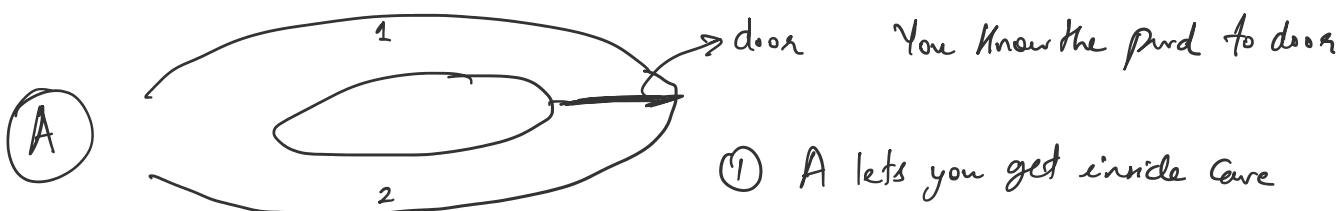


Goal:- Convince skeptic that balls are differently coloured

- ① Ball 1 in L Ball 2 in R , A shows you
- ② A hides balls behind back, & either swaps the balls or not.
- ③ A shows hands again. You call out SWAP/No SWAP
- ④ Repeat

A :- is convinced if you answer correctly all times.

**NO INFORMATION LEAKAGE**



- ① A lets you get inside Cave
- ② A asks you to come along  $1/2$ .

- ③ Repeat.

A is convinced if all calls are successfully answered.

### 4. Probabilistically Checkable proofs

You can write down the proof of the R.H. in such a way that anyone can verify the proof by looking at some like 60 bits of the proof.

Prob. of being falsely convinced  $\leq$  prob. that hallucinating

## "PCP THEOREM"

### 5. P vs NP question

"IS DOING HARDER THAN CHECKING"  
 $\equiv$  Separating orbit classes by calculating  
 multiplicities of irreps } In CT program  
 } 'String theory  
 } of CS'

Methods that don't work:-

- ① Relativization
- ② Natural proofs barrier
- ③ Algebraization.

WORK AROUND P vs NP  
 has been unique

### OVERVIEW OF TOPICS I WANT TO COVER

#### ① Matrix Multiplication

$$A_{n \times n} * B_{n \times n} = C_{n \times n}$$

Naive method       $C_{i,j} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{i,k} b_{k,j}$

$n$  mult,  $n-1$  additions per dot prod.

$\Rightarrow O(n^3)$  operations

Thm [Klyuyev, Kokkinis Scheelak '65] Naive method is optimal if only allowed to operate on rows & columns as a whole

Thm [Strassen '69] Can do better!  $O(n^{2.81})$  operations

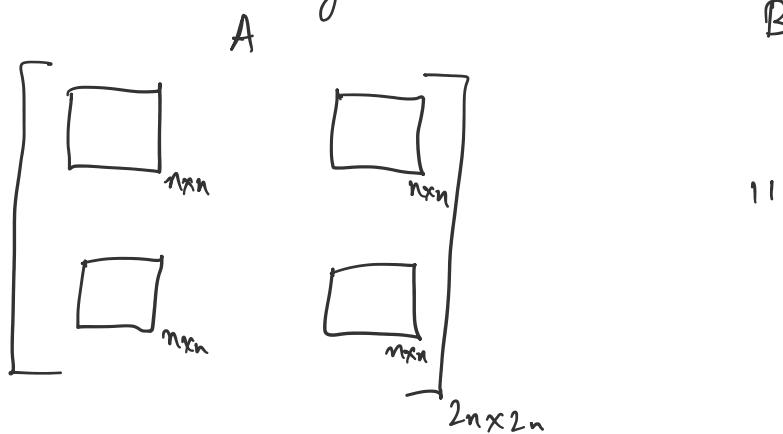
Observation       $2 \times 2$  matrices. Naive method 8 products & 4 sums.

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{1,1} \\ C_{1,2} \\ C_{2,1} \\ C_{2,2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (a_{1,1} + a_{2,2})(b_{1,1} + b_{2,2}) \\ (a_{2,1} + a_{2,2})(b_{1,1}) \\ (a_{1,1})(b_{1,2} - b_{2,2}) \\ (a_{2,2})(-b_{1,1} + b_{2,1}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{1,1} \\ C_{2,2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (a_{1,1})(b_{1,2} - b_{2,2}) \\ (a_{2,2})(-b_{1,1} + b_{2,1}) \\ (a_{1,1} + a_{2,2})(b_{2,2}) \\ (-a_{1,1} + a_{2,1})(b_{1,1} + b_{1,2}) \\ (a_{1,2} - a_{2,2})(b_{2,1} + b_{2,2}) \end{bmatrix}$$

→ Takes **7** products and 18 sums

Observation      Above method works if  $a_{i,j}, b_{i,j}$  are from non-comm. rings.



$$M_2(N_n(\mathbb{C})) \cong M_{2n}(\mathbb{C})$$

- Thus you can reduce using Strassen's  $2 \times 2$  idea, you can do matrix mult. using  $O(n^{\log_2 7})$  operation

Defn 'w' - called the exponent of  $n \times n$  matrix mult.

$$w = \inf \left\{ h \in \mathbb{R} \mid n \times n \text{ matrices can be multiplied using } O(n^h) \text{ operations} \right\}$$

$$2 \leq w \leq \underbrace{\log_2 7}_{\text{Strassen}}$$

Conjecture    w = 2 !!!

Abstraction of Matrix mult :-

$$\text{Matrix mult. map } M_{\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}} : \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \times \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$$

—  $M_{\langle n \rangle}$  is a bilinear map, thus it can be thought of as an element of  
 $(\mathbb{C}^{n \times n})^* \otimes (\mathbb{C}^{n \times n})^* \otimes (\mathbb{C}^{n \times n})$

Then ("geometric characterization of  $\omega$ ")

$$\omega = \inf \left\{ \gamma \in \mathbb{R} \mid \text{rank } M_{\langle n \rangle} = O(n^\gamma) \right\}$$

- Upper bounds correspond to decompositions of  $M_{\langle n \rangle}$
- Lower bounds - study secant varieties of the Segre variety

② Defn ["efficient solving"] An algorithm for a problem  $X$  is called efficient if the no. of operations of the alg. is bounded from above by a polynomial in the size of the instance of problem  $X$ .

$X$  is efficiently solvable if there exists an eff. alg. to solve  $X$ .

e.g. ① Problem Take in a list of  $n$  numbers. Output any of them

Alg ① Input the list  $\rightarrow n$  operations

② Print the first one  $\rightarrow 1$  operation

$\sim n+1$  operations  $\checkmark$  [efficient]

② Problem given a list of  $n$  numbers, output the list in descending order

Alg A ① Generate all permutations of the list  $\rightarrow \geq n!$

② Check each permutation and w/p the one that is sorted  $\geq n!$

$\sim \geq n!$   $\times$  [inefficient]

Alg B ① Find max of  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ , and output  $\xrightarrow{n \text{ ops}}$

② Delete the max from the list, and repeat ...

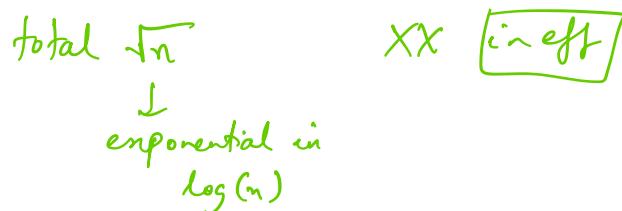
$n-1$  ops

$n-2$  ops

$O(n^2)$   $\checkmark$  [efficient]

③ Problem Check if  $n$  is prime  $\log(n)$  - length of input

Alg: check for divisibility with all nos. from 2 to  $\sqrt{n}$  -  $\sqrt{n}$



There exists a poly alg. for primality.

Agrawal, Manindra; Kayal, Neeraj; Saxena, Nitin (2004). "PRIMES is in P" (PDF). *Annals of Mathematics*. 160 (2): 781–793.

Defn [Poly time reducibility]

If we can solve arbitrary instances of problem  $Y$  using a polynomial no. of steps, plus a polynomial no. of calls to an alg. that solves  $X$ , then we write

$$Y \leq_p X$$

" $Y$  is polynomial time reducible to  $X$ " or " $X$  is at least as hard as  $Y$ "

Fact if  $X$  is efficiently solvable, &  $Y \leq_p X$ , then  $Y$  is efficiently solvable too.

Defn [K-Satisfiability problem (K-SAT)]

Given  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \{0, 1\}$  variables

$C_1, \dots, C_m$  clauses  $m = O(n^k)$

$C_i = \bigvee_{j=1}^k t_{i,j}$  where  $t_{i,j} \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n, \bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n\}$

Ques Is there a satisfying assignment?

$\{0, 1\}^m$  s.t. all  $C_i$  are simultaneously satisfied

E.g.  $x_1, x_2, x_3$

$$C_1 = x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \quad C_2 = \bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_3 \quad C_3 = x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3$$

e.g.  $x_1, x_2, x_3$

$$C_1 = x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2, C_2 = \bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_3, C_3 = x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3$$

$(0,0,0)$  is a satisfying ass.

try all  $2^m$  assignments NOT EFFICIENT

2-SAT is efficiently solvable

2.  $\wedge a b c d e f$  Krom, Melvin R. (1967), "The Decision Problem for a Class of First-Order Formulas in Which all Disjunctions are Binary", *Zeitschrift für Mathematische Logik und Grundlagen der Mathematik*, 13 (1-2): 15–20, doi:10.1002/malq.19670130104 ↗.

$(\geq 3)$ -SAT is not known to be efficiently solvable.

Def "Efficient Certification" — A soln. Can be efficiently certified  
 $\Rightarrow$  the proposed soln can be checked in poly time.

We'll say X is efficiently certifiable if solutions to arbitrary problem instances are efficiently verified.

e.g. Factoring

$\rightarrow$  Solving efficiently unknown

$\rightarrow$  Certification efficient

3-SAT

$\rightarrow$  Solving efficiently unknown

$\rightarrow$  Certification is efficient

Unsolved problem in computer science:

? Can integer factorization be solved in polynomial time on a classical computer?

(more unsolved problems in computer science)

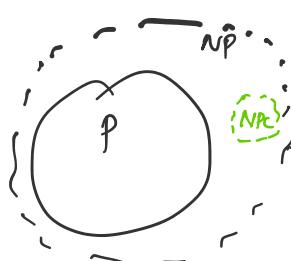
Def P  $\rightarrow$  class of all problems efficiently solvable

NP  $\rightarrow$  class of all problems efficiently certifiable

$P \subseteq NP$ , is concrete true?

Conjecture  $P \neq NP$

$P \not\subseteq NP$





Defn  $X$  is an NP-Complete problem if

$$(1) X \in NP$$

$$(2) \forall Y \in NP \quad Y \leq_p X.$$

$X$  is the hardest problems in NP.

Thm [Cook-Levin] Circuit-SAT is NP-Complete

Cor. Circuit-SAT  $\leq_p$  3-SAT

$$\Rightarrow 3\text{-SAT is NP-Complete}$$

⊗ If you can give an eff. alg for 3SAT  $\Rightarrow P = NP$

⊗ If you can show no such alg. exists  $\Rightarrow P \neq NP$

⊗ Even showing 3-SAT requires  $\omega(n)$  time is not doable at this pt.

⊗ Not believed that you can do even slightly better than  $2^n$ .

#### Exponential time hypothesis

Article Talk

5 languages

Read Edit View history Tools

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

In computational complexity theory, the exponential time hypothesis is an unproven computational hardness assumption that was formulated by Impagliazzo & Paturi (1999). It states that satisfiability of 3-CNF Boolean formulas cannot be solved in subexponential time, i.e.,  $2^{o(n)}$  for all constant  $c > 0$ .

WE SHALL WORK ON A "MORE ALGEBRAIC" CONJECTURE  
"algebraic analog of P vs NP"

Def VP - class of polynomials that are easy to evaluate  
VNP - class of polynomials whose coeffs are easy to evaluate

e.g.  $\det_n \in VP$   $n!$  terms, can be computed using Gaussian elim in  $O(n^3)$

$$P_{\text{perm}}_n = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} x_{1,\sigma(1)} x_{2,\sigma(2)} \cdots x_{n,\sigma(n)} \in VNP$$

Question [Valiant 1979]

$$VP \stackrel{?}{\subsetneq} VNP$$

For the relation b/w this & P vs NP, see Chap 21 of

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Bürgisser, Peter; Clausen, Michael; Shokrollahi, M. Amin (1997). *Algebraic complexity theory*. Grundlehren der Mathematischen Wissenschaften, Vol. 315. With the collaboration of Thomas Lickteig. Berlin: Springer-Verlag. ISBN 978-3-540-60582-9. Zbl 1087.68568.

Thm [Valiant 1979]

$$VP \neq VNP \Leftrightarrow \text{Perm}_n \notin VP$$

Notice  $\det_n$  has  $n!$  monomials, is  $\text{poly}(n)$  time computable

$\det_{n^c}$  has  $n^c!$  monomials, is  $\text{Poly}(n)$  time computable

Thus if  $\text{Perm}_n$  can be expressed as the determinant of a matrix

→ of size  $\text{poly}$  in  $n$ , then  $\text{Perm}_n \in VP \Rightarrow VP = VNP$

Defn [Determinantal Complexity]  $f \in \mathbb{F}[\bar{x}]$

$dc(f)$  is the min 's' s.t. there is an  $s \times s$  matrix of  
affine linear forms  $x_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}[\bar{x}] \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq s$

Such that

$$f = \det \begin{bmatrix} x_{1,1} & \cdots & x_{1,s} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_{s,1} & \cdots & x_{s,s} \end{bmatrix}$$

We will show

$$\frac{n^2}{2} \leq dc(\text{Perm}_n) \leq 2^n - 1$$

Conj  $dc(\text{Perm}_n)$  grows faster than any polynomial in  $n$ .

FEW NOMIALS

e.g.  $f_2 = 7x^{100} - 22x^{32} + 45x^4 + 9$

Thm [Descartes Rule of signs]

$f \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ , no of real roots (Counted with multiplicity)

$\sim 2t$   
 $\downarrow$   
 Sparsity.

## Theorem [MULTIVARIATE GENERALIZATIONS]

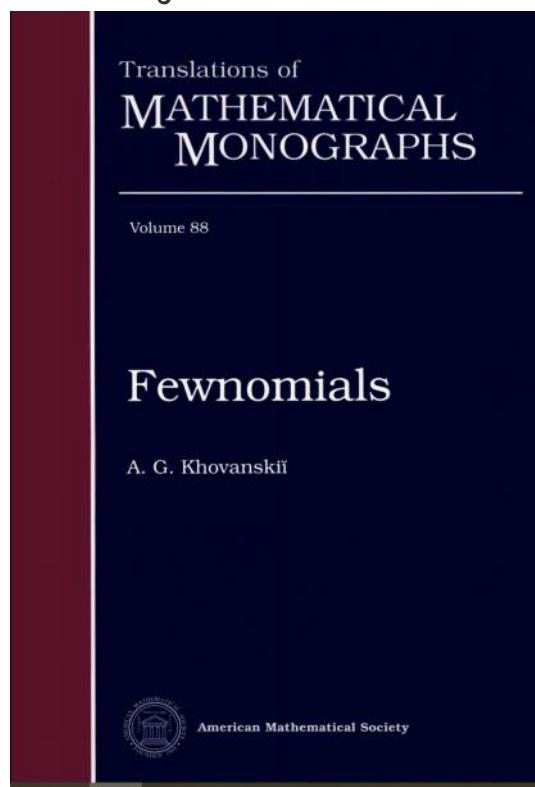
"Bogolyubov theorem for fewnomials"  
 $f_1, \dots, f_n \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

$\left\{ f_i = 0 \right\}$  has at most  $t+n+1$  distinct monomials

System has at most

$$2^{\binom{l+n}{2}} (n+1)^{l+n} \text{ no. of}$$

non-singular solutions in the positive orthant of  $\mathbb{R}^n$



Conjecture [Real-Tan Conjecture - Koiran] Consider polynomials  $f_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}[x]$

that are  $t$ -sparse.

$$f = \sum_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^k f_{i,j}$$

no. of real zeros of  $f \leq \text{Poly}(m, t, 2^k)$

Thm [Koiran]

Conjecture  $\Rightarrow \text{VP}_{\mathbb{C}} \neq \text{VNP}_{\mathbb{C}}$



GCT

$$V = (\mathbb{C}^{m^2})^*$$

$GL(V)$  - group of all automorphisms on  $V$

acts on

$\text{Sym}^m(V)$  - degree 'm' homogeneous polynomials in  $m^2$ -variables

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L & : p(x) & := P(L^T x) \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \\ GL(V) & \text{Sym}^m(V) & \end{array}$$

$$(\text{blog of transpose } L_1 \cdot (L_2 \cdot P) = (L_1 \cdot L_2) \cdot P)$$

$$\det_m \in \overline{\text{Sym}^m(V)}$$

Let  $n \leq m$ .  $\text{Per}_n$  is a lower degree poly than  $\det_m$  in fewer vars. Define

Padded permanent

$$\text{Per}_{m,n}^* = \underbrace{x_{m,m}^{m-n} \text{Per}_m}_{\text{Per}_n} \in \overline{\text{Sym}^m(V)}$$

Conjecture [Mnulmukay-Sohoni]

If  $m = 2^{n^{o(1)}}$ , then for sufficiently large  $n$ ,

$$\text{Per}_{m,n}^* \notin \overline{GL(V), \det_m}$$

Thm  $\deg(\text{Per}_n) \leq m \Rightarrow \text{Per}_{m,n}^* \in \overline{GL(V), \det_m}$

Thm  $\det(\text{Pee}_{m,n}) \leq m \Rightarrow \text{Pee}_{m,n}^* \in \overline{\text{GL}(V) \cdot \det_m}$