

5. Show that if every NP-hard language is also PSPACE-hard, then  $\text{PSPACE} = \text{NP}$ .

Since NP-hard contains all of the NP-complete problems, every NP-complete language must also be PSPACE-hard. This means SAT must also be PSPACE-hard.

Since SAT is NP-complete we know that  $\forall$  langs  $A \in \text{NP}$ , there is a polynomial time reduction  $A \leq_p \text{SAT}$ .

Since  $\text{SAT} \in \text{NP}$  there is a machine that non-deterministically polynomial time TM  $M$  which recognizes SAT.

Then we can construct a TM  $N$

$N =$  "On input  $w$

1. compute  $f(w)$  to polynomial nondeterministic mapping algorithm from  $A$  to  $B$
2. simulate  $f(w)$  on  $M$ , if  $f(w)$  is satisfiable, accept; else reject."

Since  $f$  is polynomial time computable,  $|f(w)|$  is polynomially bounded in  $|x|$  and therefore  $N$  runs in  $|x|$ , and since we have shown that  $w \in A$  iff  $f(w) \in \text{SAT}$  we have shown this is a valid reduction and that  $A \in \text{NP}$  and thus  $\text{PSPACE} \subseteq$