

Lecture 4: Randomized Computation (6 - 9 June)

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4.1 Review

Theorem 4.1 $\text{EXP} \subset \text{PolySize} \implies \text{EXP} = \Sigma_2^P$.

Proof: For all L in EXP there exists a TM M , which runs in time $2^{n^c} = t$ for an input x of size n . Imagine a $t \times t$ grid which describes the operation of M . Where each row is a configuration of M . This transcript is valid if and only if all windows (three consecutive cells in row i and the associated cell in row $i + 1$) are consistent. Consider the function $T : [t] \times [t] \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ where $T(i, j) = \text{cell } j \text{ at time } i$. Since we assumed $\text{EXP} \subset \text{PolySize}$ all we need to do is show that $T \in \text{EXP}$. Well, that's pretty obvious, simply execute the TM M . Now show that $T \in \Sigma_2$ as follows: $\exists C \forall i, j : \text{window } (i, j) \text{ (in the tableau) is consistent and the tableau ends in an accepting state.}$ ■

Note: (by IKW) it is possible to generalize this implication for NEXP , namely $\text{NEXP} \subset \text{PolySize} \implies \text{NEXP} = \Sigma_2$. Proving this is quite a bit more difficult and requires more tool.

4.2 Circuits

Let us consider the set of inclusion of circuit complexity: $\text{AC}_0 \subset \text{TC}_0 \subset \text{NC}_1 \subset \text{PolySize}$

Claim 4.2 $\text{NC}_1 = \text{PolySize formula}$.

Proof: $\text{NC}_1 \subseteq \text{PolySize}$ formula is the easy direction. Now let's attempt to show the other direction, $\text{PolySize formula} \subseteq \text{NEXP}$. Now a normal expansion of a formula F in x_1, \dots, x_n might be of depth $O(n)$. But if you think about it you realize that there are not a lot of "stuff" so a long path can be restructured to be made shorter and wider. In particular cut F into two pieces F_1 and F_2 each of depth approximately half. Let $f(F)$ be the formula associated with the circuit of F . Then ■

4.2.1 Valiant's Challenge

Find an explicit function $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ that cannot be computed by a circuit of size $O(n)$ and depth $O(\log n)$.

Definition 4.3 A majority gate is defined as follows: $\text{maj}_n : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

Example 4.4 Let a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n be n , n digit numbers. We want to show that this problem in the domain of Valiant's Challenge. So we need to demonstrate a $O(\log n)$ circuit of $O(n)$ size to solve this problem. The algorithm here requires a trick as follows:

Theorem 4.5 *Finding the parity of n numbers is in TC_0 .*

Proof: First we need to construct a threshold function. ■

4.3 AC_0

Theorem 4.6 *The addition of two n bit numbers is in AC_0 .*