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Let us assume that  $PSPACE = E$ , then arrive at a violation of the time hierarchy theorem (i.e. a contradiction).

Let us define an arbitrary language  $L$  from  $DTIME(n \cdot 2^{O(n)})$ . So, there exists a deterministic Turing machine  $M$  that decides  $L$  in  $O(n \cdot 2^{O(n)})$  time (which of course decides it in at most  $O(n \cdot 2^{O(n)})$  space).

Then let us define a language  $L_{pad} = \{ \langle x, 1^{2^{O(|x|)}} \rangle \mid x \in L \}$ . We now create a deterministic Turing machine  $N$  to decide whether an input  $y \in L_{pad}$ :

Does there exist a string  $z$  such that  $y = \langle z, 1^{2^{O(|z|)}} \rangle$ ? If not, then outright reject. If there is, then run  $M(z)$  for  $|z| \cdot 2^{O(|z|)}$  steps and output that answer.

Clearly, the space is  $PSPACE$  in  $|y|$  because the input to  $L_{pad}$  is  $|z| + 2^{O(|z|)}$  in length and the space of the algorithm is  $|z| \cdot 2^{O(|z|)}$ , which is  $polynomial(|z| + 2^{O(|z|)})$ . Thus,  $L_{pad} \in PSPACE$ . Which in turn makes  $L_{pad} \in E$  because we assumed  $PSPACE = E$ .

Now we want to show that  $L \in E$  also. We use  $L_{pad}$  to do this. Given an input  $x$ , pad it with  $2^{O(|x|)}$  number of 1's to create  $y$ , then run  $N(y)$ . The padding algorithm is  $E$  time because  $2^{O(|x|)}$  is  $E(|x|)$ . And  $N$  runs in  $E$  time. Hence,  $L$  is overall decidable in  $E$  time. But  $L$  is an arbitrary  $DTIME(n \cdot 2^{O(n)})$  language, violating the time hierarchy theorem, because  $2^{O(n)}$  is  $o(n \cdot 2^{O(n)})$ .