

Complexité avancée - TD 5

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Exercise 1 (Family of Circuits).

Definition. A boolean circuit with n inputs is an acyclic graph where the n inputs $x_1, \dots, x_n$ are part of the vertices. The internal vertices are labeled with $\wedge$, $\vee$ (with 2 incoming edges) or $\neg$ (with 1 incoming edge), with an additional distinguished vertex o that is the output (with no exiting edge). The size $|C|$ of a circuit C is its number of vertices (excluding the input ones). For a word $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$, the notation $C(x)$ refers to the output of the circuit C if the input vertices of C are valued with the bits of x .

Definition. For a function $t : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, a family of circuit of size $t(n)$ is a sequence $(C_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that: C_n is an n -input circuit and $|C_n| \leq t(n)$.

Definition. A language $L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$ is decided by a family of circuit $(C_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ if for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, for all $w \in \{0, 1\}^n$, we have: $C_n(w) = 1 \Leftrightarrow w \in L$.

Definition. For a function $t : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, we define $\text{SIZE}(t) := \{L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^* \mid L \text{ is decided by a family of circuits of size } O(t(n))\}$.

Definition.

$$\text{P/poly} := \cup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \text{SIZE}(n^k)$$

1. Show that any language $L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$ is in size $\text{SIZE}(n \cdot 2^n)$.
2. Show that for all function $t(n) = 2^{o(n)}$, there exists $L \notin \text{SIZE}(t(n))$.
3. Show that every unary language is in P/poly .
4. Exhibit a undecidable language that is in P/poly .
5. Show that P/poly is not countable.

Solution 1. 1. Let $L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$. For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we define $f_n : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ by $f_n(w) = 1 \Leftrightarrow w \in L$, for all $w \in \{0, 1\}^n$. Now, let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let us construct C_n with $O(n \cdot 2^n)$ vertices such that $C_n(w) = f_n(w)$ for all $w \in \{0, 1\}^n$. The function f_n can be represented as a two-column table with 2^n entries where each valuation of n variables to either 0 or 1 is associated 0 or 1. This table can be represented as a DNF $\phi = \vee_{1 \leq j \leq k} (\wedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_i = w_i^j)$ where $(w^j)_{1 \leq j \leq k}$ (for some $k \leq 2^n$) are the words of $\{0, 1\}^n$ ensuring $f_n(w_i) = 1$. Each clause $(\wedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_i = w_i^j)$ can be represented by a circuit with $O(n)$ vertices. As there are at most 2^n of them, the formula ϕ can be represented by circuit of size $O(n \cdot 2^n)$.

2. Let us find an upper bound on the number of circuits $d(n)$ of size $t(n)$. There are at most $t(n)$ internal vertices, each labeled by either $\vee$, $\wedge$, or $\neg$. Furthermore, each vertex has at most two predecessors taken among $n+t(n)$ vertices. Overall, we have:

$$d(n) \leq 3^{t(n)} \cdot ((t(n) + n)^2)^{t(n)} = (3 \cdot (t(n) + n)^2)^{t(n)} = 2^{t(n) \log((3 \cdot (t(n) + n)^2))}$$

In addition, there are 2^{2^n} functions from $\{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$. Since $t(n) = 2^{o(n)}$, we have $t(n) \cdot \log((3 \cdot (t(n) + n)^2)) = o(2^n)$. Thus $d(n) = 2^{o(2^n)}$. It follows that, asymptotically, there is not enough circuits of size $t(n)$ to compute all Boolean functions.¹

3. Consider a unary language $L \subseteq 1^*$. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we build the circuit C_n such that, if $1^n \in L$, then C_n consists of $\wedge$ vertices leading to the output, whereas if $1^n \notin L$, we consider a circuit C_n that always yields false (for instance, by having $x \wedge \neg x$ for some input x). Then, for all n , we have $|C_n| = O(n)$ and $C_n(w) = 1 \Leftrightarrow w \in L$.
4. The language

$$L = \{ 1^n \mid \text{the binary encoding of } n \text{ encodes a Turing machine in that always stops} \}$$

is unary and undecidable.

5. There exists a bijection between the set of unary languages and the set of subsets $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ of $\mathbb{N}$ (which associates to a unary language $L \subseteq 1^*$ the set of $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $1^n \in L$). Since $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ is not countable, so is $\mathcal{P}/\text{poly}$.

Exercise 2 (Σ_2^P and Π_2^P membership). 1. Let **ONE – VAL** be the problem of deciding whether a boolean formula is satisfied by exactly one valuation. Show that **ONE – VAL** $\in \Sigma_2^P$;

2. A boolean formula is minimal if it has no equivalent shorter formula – where the length of the formula is the number of symbols it contains. Let **MIN – FORMULA** be the problem of deciding whether a boolean formula is minimal. Show that **MIN – FORMULA** $\in \Pi_2^P$.

Solution 2. 1.

OneVal(φ):
 ($\exists$) choose a valuation ν
 if $\nu \models \varphi$
 then
 ($\forall$) choose a valuation ν'
 if $\nu' \models \varphi$ or $\nu' = \nu$
 then return TRUE
 else return FALSE
 else
 return FALSE

Here we have one alternation, with first the existential states and then the universal states.

2.

¹Question and solution inspired from Sebastiaan A. Terwijn Complexity theory course notes.

MinFormula(φ):

($\forall$) choose a formula ψ with $|\psi| \leq |\varphi|$
 ($\exists$) choose a valuation ν
 if $\nu \not\models (\varphi \Leftrightarrow \psi)$
 then return TRUE
 else return FALSE

Here we have one alternation, with first the universal states and then the existential states.

Exercise 3 (Σ_2^P and Π_2^P completeness). 1. The classical Σ_2^P -complete problem is Σ_2^P -SAT (note that it can be assumed that the Boolean formula is in DNF). Consider now a different version of SAT denoted $\exists\exists!$ – SAT:

- Input: a CNF-formula $\varphi(x, y)$ depending on the variables in x and y ;
- Outout: yes iff there exists x such that there exists a unique y satisfying $\varphi(x, \cdot)$.

Show that $\exists\exists!$ – SAT is also Σ_2^P -complete.²

2. Similarly, the classical Π_2^P -complete problem is Π_2^P -SAT (the Boolean formula can be assumed in 3-CNF). Consider now a new notion of satisfiability: we say that a valuation ν *nae-satisfies* (for not all equal) a 3-CNF formula ϕ , if in all clauses (with at least two literal) of ϕ , ν both sets a literal to true and a literal to false. The clauses with only one literal only need to be satisfied. We consider now this new version of SAT denoted *nae*- Π_2^P – SAT:

- Input: a Π_2^P -SAT formula $\forall x, \exists y, \varphi(x, y)$ with φ a 3-CNF;
- Outout: yes iff for all x , there exists y *nae-satisfying* φ .

Show that *nae*- Π_2^P – SAT is Π_2^P complete.³

Solution 3. 1. This problem is straightforwardly in Σ_2^P . Indeed, solving this problem only amount to guessing (existential states) x and y , checking that they satisfy the formula and then looking at any y' (universal states) to ensure that if $y' \neq y$ then x, y' does not satisfy the formula.

Consider now the Σ_2^P -hardness. We have a formula:

$$\Phi = \exists x, \forall y, \varphi(x, y)$$

Note that this is equivalent to:

$$\Phi \Leftrightarrow \exists x, \neg \exists y, \neg \varphi(x, y)$$

By introducing a new variable y' , this is equivalent to:

$$\Phi \Leftrightarrow \exists x, \exists! y, y', (y' \vee \neg \varphi(x, y)) \wedge (\neg y' \vee y_1) \wedge \dots \wedge (\neg y' \vee y_n)$$

with $y_1, \dots, y_n$ the variables appearing in y . Indeed, there is always one y, y' -valuation satisfying this formula (all y, y' set to true). Furthermore, as soon as $\neg \varphi(x, \cdot)$ is satisfied, by setting y' to false, the formula is satisfied.

This reduction can be computed in logspace and in addition, assuming that φ is in DNF, we obtain a Boolean formula in CNF by integrating y' into $\neg \varphi$.

²Idea of the question and solution from Daniel Marx, Complexity of unique list colorability.

³Idea of the question and solution from T. Eiter and G. Gottlob, Note on the Complexity of Some Eigenvector Problems

2. The decision problem $\text{nae-}\Pi_2^P - \text{SAT}$ is trivially in Π_2^P as once the x and y variables are guessed, it only amounts to check that, in each clause, a literal is set to true and another one is set to false.

Consider now an instance $\Phi = \forall x, \exists y : \varphi(x, y)$ of $\Pi_2^P - \text{SAT}$ with $\varphi(x, y)$ a 3-CNF. Let $\varphi = \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} C_i$. We consider n (existential) fresh variables $w = (w_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ and an additional fresh variable x_F . Then, we construct the formula:

$$\Phi' = \forall x, \exists y, \exists w, \exists x_F : \varphi'(x, y, w, x_F)$$

with $\varphi'(x, y, w, x_F) = (\neg x_F) \wedge \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} (C_i^1 \wedge C_i^2)$. For all $1 \leq i \leq n$, for $C_i = \alpha_i^1 \vee \alpha_i^2 \vee \alpha_i^3$, we set:

- $C_i^1 := \alpha_i^1 \vee \alpha_i^2 \vee w_i$;
- $C_i^2 := \alpha_i^3 \vee x_F \vee \neg w_i$.

Then, one can check that $\varphi(y, x)$ is satisfied if and only if $\exists w, \exists x_F : \varphi'(x, y, w, x_F)$ is nae-valid. Basically, if $\alpha_i^1 \vee \alpha_i^2$ holds, then w_i is set of false and if α_i^3 holds then w_i is set to true, and reciprocally. Note that this reduction can be done in logspace and that the resulting formula is a 3-CNF.

Exercise 4 (Collapse of PH). 1. Prove that if $\Sigma_k^P = \Sigma_{k+1}^P$ for some $k \geq 0$ then $\text{PH} = \Sigma_k^P$. (Remark that this is implied by $\text{P} = \text{NP}$).

2. Show that if $\Sigma_k^P = \Pi_k^P$ for some k then $\text{PH} = \Sigma_k^P$.

3. Show that if $\text{PH} = \text{PSPACE}$ then PH collapses.

4. Do you think there is a polynomial time procedure to convert any QBF formula into a QBF formula with at most 10 variables ?

Solution 4. First, note that $\Sigma_k^P = \text{co } \Pi_k^P$ for all $k \geq 0$. In the following, all quantifications are made with a polynomial bound on the size of the variables considered.

1. Let us assume that $\Sigma_k^P = \Sigma_{k+1}^P$ for some $k \geq 0$, we prove by induction that $\forall j \geq k, \Sigma_k^P = \Sigma_j^P$. This holds for $j = i$. Now, consider some $j > i$ and assume that $\Sigma_k^P = \dots = \Sigma_{j-1}^P$. Let $L \in \Sigma_j^P$. There exists a language $B \in \text{P}$ ensuring: $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1, \forall y_2, \dots, Q_j y_j, (x, y_1, \dots, y_j) \in B$.

Let $L' = \{(x, y_1) \mid |y_1| \leq p(|x|) \wedge \forall y_2, \dots, Q_j y_j, (x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j) \in B\}$ for some polynomial function p . We have $L' \in \Pi_{j-1}^P = \text{co } \Sigma_{j-1}^P = \text{co } \Sigma_k^P = \Pi_k^P$. That is, $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1, (x, y_1) \in L'$ with $L' \in \Pi_k^P$. In fact, $L \in \Sigma_{k+1}^P = \Sigma_k^P$ by hypothesis.

2. With the previous question, we just have to prove that $\Sigma_k^P = \Sigma_{k+1}^P$.

Let $L \in \Sigma_{k+1}^P$. As previously, There exists a language $B \in \text{P}$ ensuring: $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1, \forall y_2, \dots, Q_{k+1} y_{k+1}, (x, y_1, \dots, y_{k+1}) \in B$.

We define $L' = \{(x, y_1) \mid |y_1| \leq p(|x|) \wedge \forall y_2, \dots, Q_{k+1} y_{k+1}, (x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{k+1}) \in B\}$ for some polynomial function p . We have $L' \in \Pi_k^P = \Sigma_k^P$ by hypothesis.

That is, there exists $B' \in \text{P}$ such that $x \in L' \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1, \forall y_2, \dots, Q_k y_k, (x, y_1, \dots, y_k) \in B'$. But then, we have $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y, (x, y) \in L'$. This is equivalent to $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y, \exists y_1, \forall y_2, \dots, Q_k y_k, (x, y, y_1, \dots, y_k) \in B'$. This can be rephrased as $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y', \forall y_2, \dots, Q_k y_k, (x, y', \dots, y_k) \in B'$. It follows that $L \in \Sigma_k^P$.

3. If $\text{PH} = \text{PSPACE}$, then QBF is in Σ_k^P for some k . But QBF is a complete problem for PSPACE, and thus PH. Let there be $B \in \text{PH}$, it can be reduced to $\text{QBF} \in \Sigma_k^P$ in logspace, so $B \in \Sigma_k^P$. That is, $\text{PH} = \Sigma_k^P$.

4. It is unlikely that PH collapses, and the statement would imply the previous question.

Exercise 5 (Oracles). Consider a language A . A Turing machine with oracle A is a Turing machine with a special additional read/write tape, called the oracle tape, and three special states: $q_{\text{query}}, q_{\text{yes}}, q_{\text{no}}$. Whenever the machine enters the state q_{query} , with some word w written on the oracle tape, it moves **in one step** to the state q_{yes} or q_{no} depending on whether $w \in A$.

We denote by P^A (resp. NP^A) the class of languages decided in by a deterministic (resp. non-deterministic) Turing machine running in polynomial time with oracle A . Given a complexity class $\mathcal{C}$, we define $\text{P}^{\mathcal{C}} = \bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{C}} \text{P}^A$ (and similarly for NP).

1. Prove that for any $\mathcal{C}$ -complete language A (for logspace reductions), $\text{P}^{\mathcal{C}} = \text{P}^A$ and $\text{NP}^{\mathcal{C}} = \text{NP}^A$.
2. Show that for any language A , $\text{P}^A = \text{P}^{\bar{A}}$ and $\text{NP}^A = \text{NP}^{\bar{A}}$.
3. Prove that if $\text{NP} = \text{P}^{\text{SAT}}$ then $\text{NP} = \text{coNP}$.
4. Show that there exists a language A such that $\text{P}^A = \text{NP}^A$.
5. We define inductively the classes $\text{NP}_0 = \text{P}$ and $\text{NP}_{k+1} = \text{NP}^{\text{NP}_k}$. Show that $\text{NP}_k = \Sigma_k^P$ for all $k \geq 0$.

Solution 5. 1. We do the proof for NP. Obviously, we have $\text{NP}^{\mathcal{C}} \supseteq \text{NP}^A$. Now, $B \in \text{NP}^{\mathcal{C}}$. There exists a non-deterministic Turing machine running in polynomial time deciding B with an oracle $C \in \mathcal{C}$. We also have a logspace (and hence polynomial time) reduction f such that: $x \in \mathcal{C} \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in A$ since A is hard for $\mathcal{C}$. We build the non-deterministic Turing machine N' that executes N while replacing a call $u \in C?$ with a call $f(u) \in A?$. The Turing machine N' also runs in polynomial time and decides B with the oracle A . That is, $B \in \text{NP}^A$.

2. We simply have to swap the states q_{yes} and q_{no} in the computation.

3. P^{SAT} is a deterministic class, so it is closed by complementation. Hence, if $\text{NP} = \text{P}^{\text{SAT}}$, we have $\text{coNP} = \text{NP}$.

4. Consider $A = \text{QBF}$. By question 1, we have $\text{P}^{\text{QBF}} = \text{P}^{\text{PSPACE}}$ and $\text{NP}^{\text{QBF}} = \text{NP}^{\text{PSPACE}}$. Furthermore, $\text{NP}^{\text{PSPACE}} \subseteq \text{NPSPACE}$ since one can simulate the calls to the oracle in polynomial space (as there is a polynomial number of calls). Therefore, $\text{NP}^{\text{PSPACE}} \subseteq \text{NPSPACE} \subseteq \text{PSPACE} \subseteq \text{P}^{\text{PSPACE}}$.