

CPSC 421/501

Nov 24, 2025

- Last time:

- Boolean functions in $x_1, \dots, x_n$

$$\{T, F\}^n \rightarrow \{T, F\} \text{ or } \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

$$T=1, F=0$$

- Number functions $2^{(2^n)}$

- Boolean formulas in $x_1, \dots, x_n$ in $V, \wedge, \neg, (,)$

Most require formula size $\approx 2^n/n$

- Stated:

Subbotovskaya (1981):

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus \dots \oplus x_n$$

requires formula size $\geq n^{1.5}$ in $V, \wedge, \neg$

Conjunctive $\wedge$ AND

Defined 3CNF

$$C_1 \wedge C_2 \wedge C_3 \dots \wedge C_m$$

$$C_i = \text{---} \vee \text{---} \vee \text{---}$$

3 literals

$$x_1, \neg x_1, x_2, \neg x_2, \dots, x_n, \neg x_n$$

Why all this interest?

Theorem (Cook-Levin): $3SAT \in P$

$$\Rightarrow P = NP.$$

Same holds with 3SAT replaced
with SAT, 3COLOUR, CLIQUE,
PARTITION, SUBSET-SUM, ...

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$$\exists \text{SAT} = \left\{ \langle f \rangle \mid \begin{array}{l} f \text{ is in} \\ \exists \text{ CNF form,} \\ \text{and } f \in \text{SAT} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$f = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

say

$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_4) \wedge \dots$$

$$f \in \text{SAT} \Leftrightarrow$$

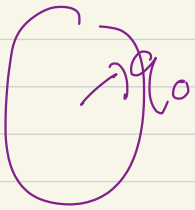
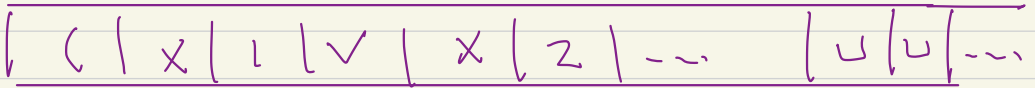
$$\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in \{T, F\} \text{ s.t. } f(\vec{x})$$

$$= f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = T$$

$$\sum_{\text{Bool form}} = \left\{ 0, \dots, 9, x, \wedge, \vee, \neg, (,), \# \right\}$$

$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge$$

$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \dots)$$

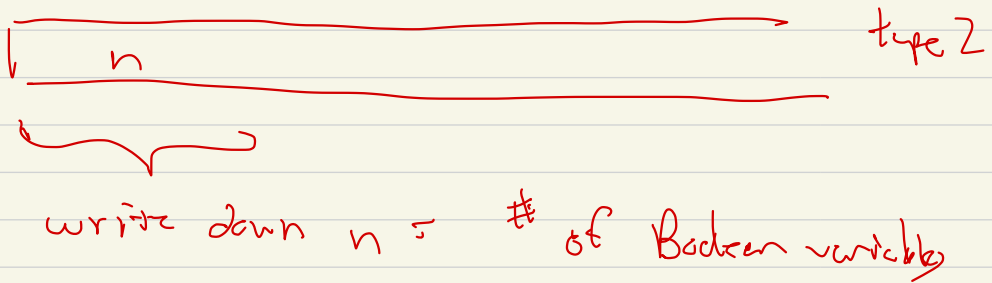
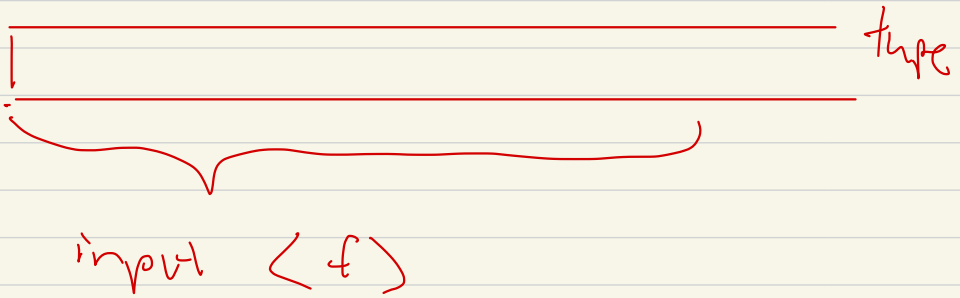


initial state

Claim: $\exists$ non-deterministic poly time algorithm to decide 3SAT

Algorithm: (Turing machines)

Phase 1: find out how many variables
in $\text{input} = \langle f \rangle$.



Phase 2: Check $\langle f \rangle$ is really a true
3 CNF formula

Phase 3:

Deterministic $\delta : Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$

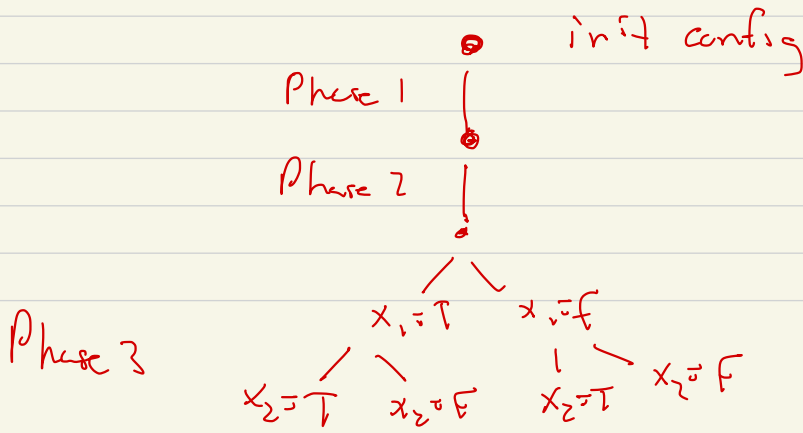
multitape $\delta : Q \times \Gamma^k \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma^k \times \underbrace{\{L, R, S\}^k}$

non-determinism

$\delta : Q \times \Gamma^k \rightarrow \text{Power}(\quad)$

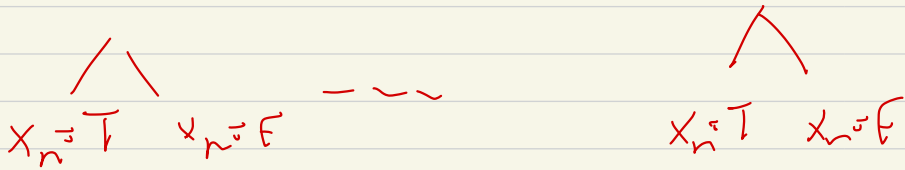
Use this to "non-deterministically guess"

values $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$

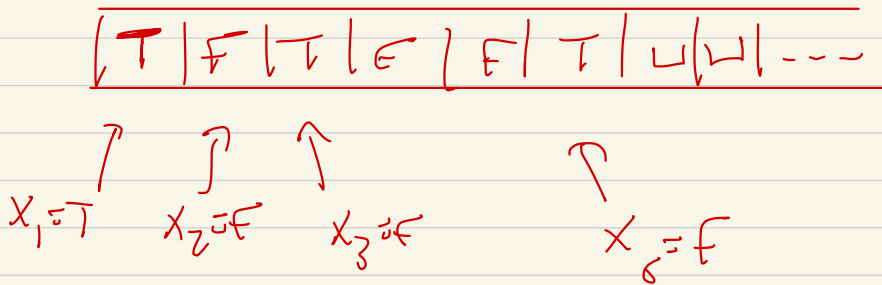


etc ;

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tape 3



"Non-Deterministic guess" (n=6)

for values $x_1, \dots, x_n$

CPSC 320 "verifiers" of some sort
of magically
appearing black
box thing

Phase 4: "Verify" or "check" if
non-deterministic guess is a satisfying
assignment

Claim 1: All this can be done
in a polynomial in $\text{length}(\langle f \rangle)$
amount of steps/time.

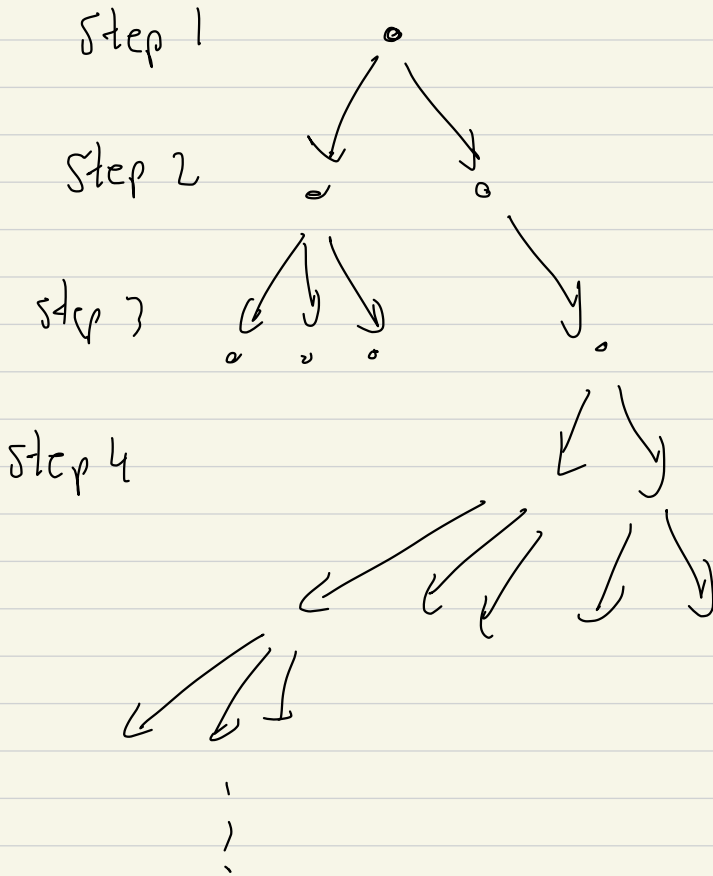
Then

Claim 2: There exist an accepting
configuration path iff

$$\langle f \rangle = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{the description} \\ \text{of a 3SAT} \\ \text{formula} \end{array} \right\}$$

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Computation:



Step t : $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

does ≥ 1 possible configuration end in q_{acc}

-LG-

Claim:

$$3SAT = \{ \langle f \rangle \mid f \text{ is a Boolean} \\ \text{in } 3SAT \}$$

is therefore in NP;

$$3COLOR = \{ \langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a 3-colourable} \\ \text{graph} \}$$

PARTITION = _ _ _

Now: If $L \subseteq \Sigma^* = \{1, \dots, n_\Sigma\}^*$,

and $L \in NP$, specifically L is decidable

in time $\leq C n^k$ (C, k constants) by

a non-det T.m. $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{acc}, q_{rej})$

- 1) -

then we can write down a Boolean

formula, $f = f(M, i)$,

given an $i \in \Sigma^h$ input

to M :

(1) $f = f(M, i)$ is a 3 CNF formula

(2) M accepts i iff

$$f(M, i) \in 3SAT$$

(i.e. $f(M, i)$ is satisfiable)

$$(3) \left| \langle f(M, i) \rangle \right| \leq C'_m |i|^{k'_m}$$

C'_m, k'_m constants depend on M