

## Polynomial time Verification

$P$  = set of decision problems solvable in polynomial time

Hamiltonian Cycle  $\in P$ ? we don't know!

Polynomial-time verification algorithm for decision problem  $X$ :

input to solution for  $X$  is  $x \rightarrow$  input for verification algorithm for  $X$  is  $x, y$   
certificate/evidence that  $X(x)$  is YES

$X(x) = \text{YES} \rightarrow$  there is a  $y$  s.t.  $\text{size}(y)$  is polynomial in  $\text{size}(x)$   
and  $X\text{-VERIFY}(x, y) = \text{YES}$

$X(x) = \text{NO} \rightarrow$  all  $y$  make  $X\text{-VERIFY}(x, y) = \text{NO}$

$X(x) = \text{YES}$  if and only if there is a  $y$  s.t.  $\text{size}(y)$  poly in  $\text{size}(x)$   
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sequence of vertices in  $G$

HC-VERIFY( $G, p$ )

poly  
poly  
poly

- check that each  $v$  in  $G$  appears at least one in  $p$
  - check that each  $v$  in  $G$  appears at most once in  $p$
  - for each  $(v_i, v_j) \in p$ , check that edge  $(v_i, v_j)$  exists in  $G$  and edge from last to first exists in  $G$
- if all YES, return YES  
else return NO

length =  $n$

if  $G$  has Hamiltonian cycle  $c$ , then  $\text{HC-VERIFY}(G, c) = \text{YES}$

if  $G$  has no Hamiltonian cycle, then  $\text{HC-VERIFY}(G, p) = \text{NO}$  for all  $p$

NP

$P$  = set of decision problems solvable in polynomial time

$NP$  = set of decision problems with polynomial-time verification algorithms

$HC \in NP$

$HC \notin P$  don't know (brute force checks all  $n!$  permutations of vertices)

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Travelling Salesperson: given fully connected, undirected, weighted G, and bound k, determine if G has a tour of total weight  $\leq k$

TSP  $\notin$  P no one knows

TSP  $\in$  NP: TSP-VERIFY(G, k, p)

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$TSP \stackrel{?}{\in} P$  no one knows

$TSP \in NP$ :  $TSP-VERIFY(G, k, p)$

if  $p$  is a tour  
 $t \leftarrow \sum_{(u,v) \in p} w(u,v)$  poly  
if  $t \leq k$  return YES poly  
return NO

if  $G$  has tour  $c$  of total weight  $\leq k$ ,  $TSP-VERIFY(G, k, c) = YES$

if  $G$  has no tour of total weight  $\leq k$ ,  $TSP-VERIFY(G, k, p) = NO$  for all  $p$

NP Problems

uses variables, and, or, not, ( )

assignment of T/F to vars to make  $\Phi$  T

SAT: given Boolean formula  $\Phi$ , determine if  $\Phi$  has a satisfying assignment

has satisfying assignment:  $(T \wedge T) \vee (F \wedge F)$   
 $(x \wedge \neg y) \vee (\neg x \wedge y)$   $x=T$   $y=F$

$(T \vee F \vee F) \wedge (F \vee (T \wedge T))$   
 $(x \vee y \vee z) \wedge (\neg x \vee (\neg y \wedge \neg z))$   $x=T$   $y=F$   $z=F$

no satisfying assignment:  $x \wedge \neg x$

$(x \vee y) \wedge (\neg y \vee z) \wedge (x \vee \neg z) \wedge (\neg x \vee y) \wedge (\neg x \vee z)$

brute force: check all  $2^{\# \text{ of variables}}$  possible assignments

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SAT: given Boolean formula  $\varphi$ , determine if  $\varphi$  has a satisfying assignment

SAT  $\in$  NP: SAT-VERIFY ( $\varphi, A$ ) ← assignment of T/F to each variable

substitute T/F into  $\varphi$  according to  $A$       poly  
 result ← value of resulting expression      poly  
 if result = T then return YES  
 else return NO

size = #variables in  $\varphi$  = polynomial in size of  $\varphi$

If  $\varphi$  has a satisfying assignment  $A$ , then SAT-VERIFY( $\varphi, A$ ) = YES

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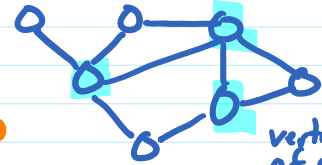
subset of vertices  $C$  s.t.  
all edges have  $\geq 1$  endpoint in  $C$

**VERTEX-COVER:** Given undirected  $G$  and  $k$ , is there a vertex cover  $C$  with  $|C| \leq k$ ?

**VC ∈ NP:** VC-VERIFY( $G, k, C$ )

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if  $C \subseteq V$  and  $|C| \leq k$   
for each edge  $(u, v)$   
if  $u \notin C$  and  $v \notin C$  return NO  
return YES  
return NO



vertex cover  
of size 3,  
none of size 2

**FEEDBACK-ARC-SET:** Given directed  $G$  and  $k$ , is there a subset of edges  $E'$  s.t.  $|E'| \leq k$  and  $G' = G$  with edges in  $E'$  removed is acyclic

**FAS ∈ NP:** FAS-VERIFY( $G, k, E'$ )

poly  
poly (DFS)  
poly

if  $E' \subseteq E$  and  $|E'| \leq k$   
 $G' \leftarrow G$  with edges in  $E'$  removed  
return  $\sim$ HAS-CYCLE( $G'$ )  
return NO



can remove 2 edges to  
make acyclic; removing  
only 1 always leaves a cycle



P=NP?

P = NP? ← no one knows  
↓

P ⊆ NP      is NP ⊆ P?      does every problem with a poly-time verification alg  
have a poly-time solution

NP-complete: X is NP-complete if it is among the hardest problems in NP

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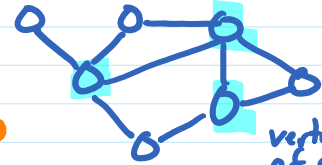
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