

## MAX BISECTION

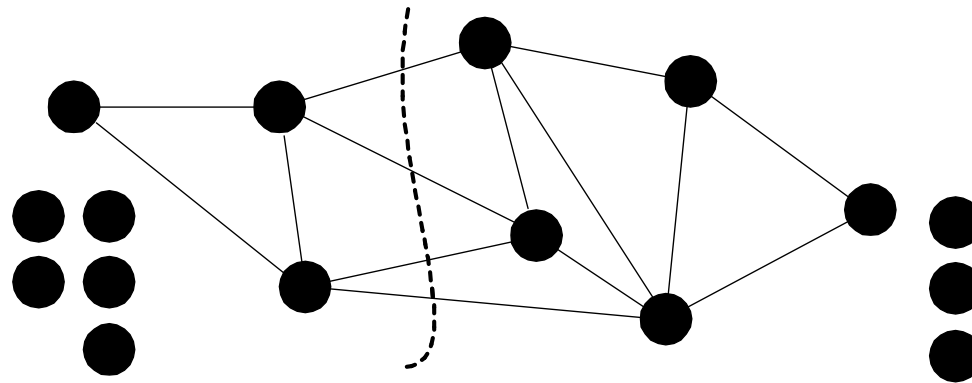
- MAX CUT becomes MAX BISECTION if we require that  $|S| = |V - S|$ .
- It has many applications, especially in VLSI layout.

## MAX BISECTION Is NP-Complete

- We shall reduce the more general MAX CUT to MAX BISECTION.
- Add  $|V| = n$  **isolated nodes** to  $G$  to yield  $G'$ .
- $G'$  has  $2n$  nodes.
- $G'$ 's goal  $K$  is identical to  $G$ 's
  - As the new nodes have no edges, they contribute nothing to the cut.
- This completes the reduction.

## The Proof (concluded)

- Every cut  $(S, V - S)$  of  $G = (V, E)$  can be made into a bisection by appropriately allocating the new nodes between  $S$  and  $V - S$ .
- Hence each cut of  $G$  can be made a cut of  $G'$  of the same size, and vice versa.



## BISECTION WIDTH

- BISECTION WIDTH is like MAX BISECTION except that it asks if there is a bisection of size *at most*  $K$  (sort of MIN BISECTION).
- Unlike MIN CUT, BISECTION WIDTH is NP-complete.
- We reduce MAX BISECTION to BISECTION WIDTH.
- Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $|V|$  is even, we generate the complement of  $G$ .
- Given a goal of  $K$ , we generate a goal of  $n^2 - K$ .<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup> $|V| = 2n$ .

## The Proof (concluded)

- To show the reduction works, simply notice the following easily verifiable claims.
  - A graph  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $|V| = 2n$ , has a bisection of size  $K$  if and only if the complement of  $G$  has a bisection of size  $n^2 - K$ .
  - So  $G$  has a bisection of size  $\geq K$  if and only if its complement has a bisection of size  $\leq n^2 - K$ .

## HAMILTONIAN PATH Is NP-Complete<sup>a</sup>

**Theorem 42** *Given an undirected graph, the question whether it has a Hamiltonian path is NP-complete.*

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<sup>a</sup>Karp (1972).

## A Hamiltonian Path at IKEA, Covina, California?



## TSP (D) Is NP-Complete

**Corollary 43** TSP (D) *is NP-complete.*

- Consider a graph  $G$  with  $n$  nodes.
- Create a weighted complete graph  $G'$  with the same nodes as from  $G$  follows.
- Set  $d_{ij} = 1$  on  $G'$  if  $[i, j] \in G$  and  $d_{ij} = 2$  on  $G'$  if  $[i, j] \notin G$ .
  - Note that  $G'$  is a complete graph.
- Set the budget  $B = n + 1$ .
- This completes the reduction.

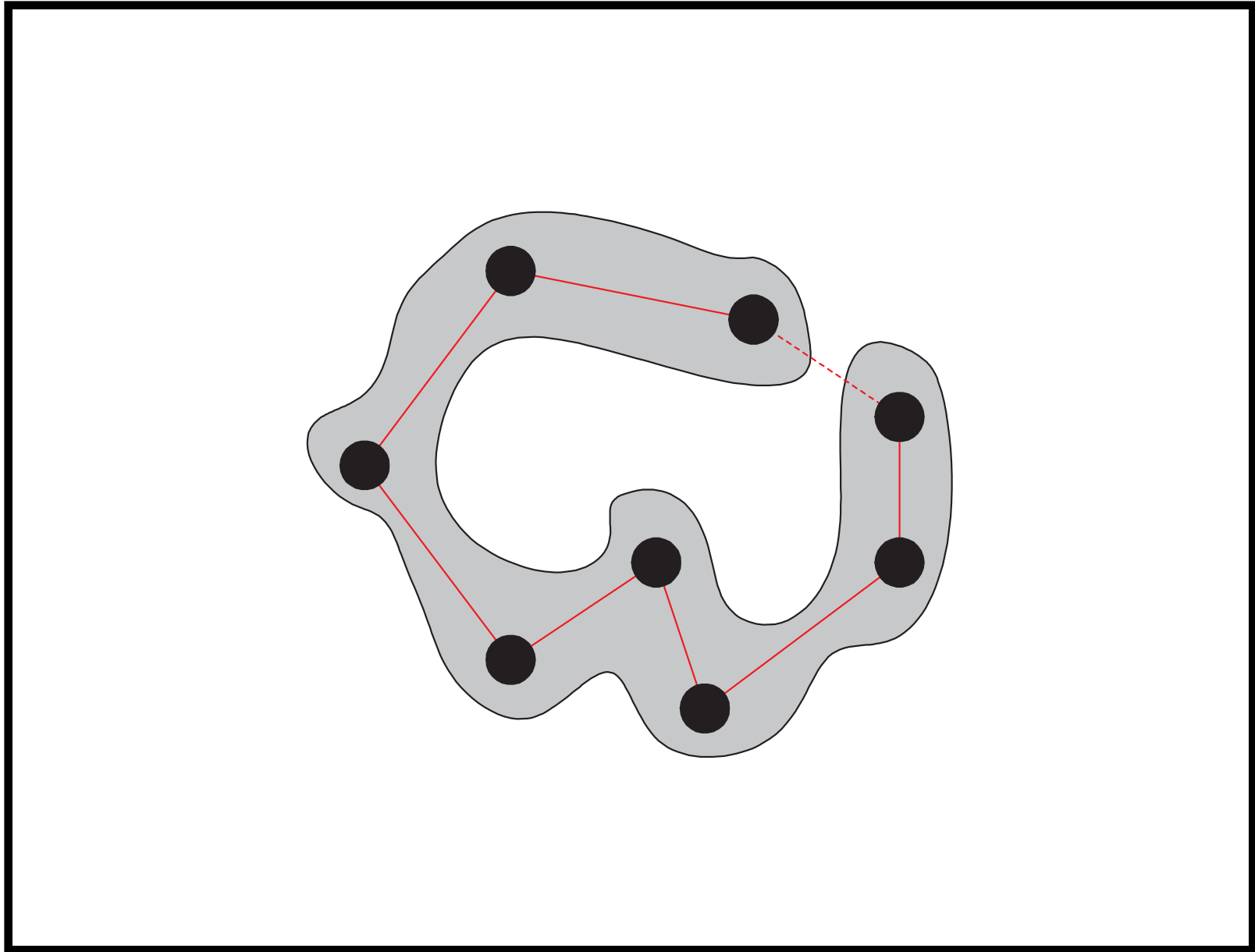


## TSP (D) Is NP-Complete (continued)

- Suppose  $G'$  has a tour of distance at most  $n + 1$ .<sup>a</sup>
- Then that tour on  $G'$  must contain at most one edge with weight 2.
- If a tour on  $G'$  contains 1 edge with weight 2, remove that edge to arrive at a Hamiltonian path for  $G$ .
- Suppose, on the other hand, a tour on  $G'$  contains no edge with weight 2.
- Then remove any edge to arrive at a Hamiltonian path for  $G$ .

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<sup>a</sup>A tour is a cycle, not a path.



## TSP (D) Is NP-Complete (concluded)

- On the other hand, suppose  $G$  has a Hamiltonian path.
- Then there is a tour on  $G'$  containing at most one edge with weight 2.
  - Start with a Hamiltonian path and then close the loop.
- The total cost is then at most  $(n - 1) + 2 = n + 1 = B$ .
- We conclude that there is a tour of length  $B$  or less on  $G'$  if and only if  $G$  has a Hamiltonian path.

## Random TSP

- Suppose each distance  $d_{ij}$  is picked uniformly and independently from the interval  $[0, 1]$ .
- It is known that the total distance of the shortest tour has a mean value of  $\beta\sqrt{n}$  for some positive  $\beta$ .
- In fact, the total distance of the shortest tour can be away from the mean by more than  $t$  with probability at most  $e^{-t^2/(4n)}$ <sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Dubhashi and Panconesi (2012).

## Graph Coloring

- $k$ -COLORING: Can the nodes of a graph be colored with  $\leq k$  colors such that no two adjacent nodes have the same color?<sup>a</sup>
- 2-COLORING is in P (why?).
- But 3-COLORING is NP-complete (see next page).
- $k$ -COLORING is NP-complete for  $k \geq 3$  (why?).
- EXACT- $k$ -COLORING asks if the nodes of a graph can be colored using exactly  $k$  colors.
- It remains NP-complete for  $k \geq 3$  (why?).

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<sup>a</sup> $k$  is *not* part of the input;  $k$  is part of the problem statement.

## 3-COLORING Is NP-Complete<sup>a</sup>

- We will reduce NAESAT to 3-COLORING.
- We are given a set of clauses  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m$  each with 3 literals.
- The boolean variables are  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .
- We shall construct a graph  $G$  that can be colored with colors  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  if and only if all the clauses can be NAE-satisfied.

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<sup>a</sup>Karp (1972).

## The Proof (continued)

- Every variable  $x_i$  is involved in a triangle  $[a, x_i, \neg x_i]$  with a common node  $a$ .
- Each clause  $C_i = (c_{i1} \vee c_{i2} \vee c_{i3})$  is also represented by a triangle

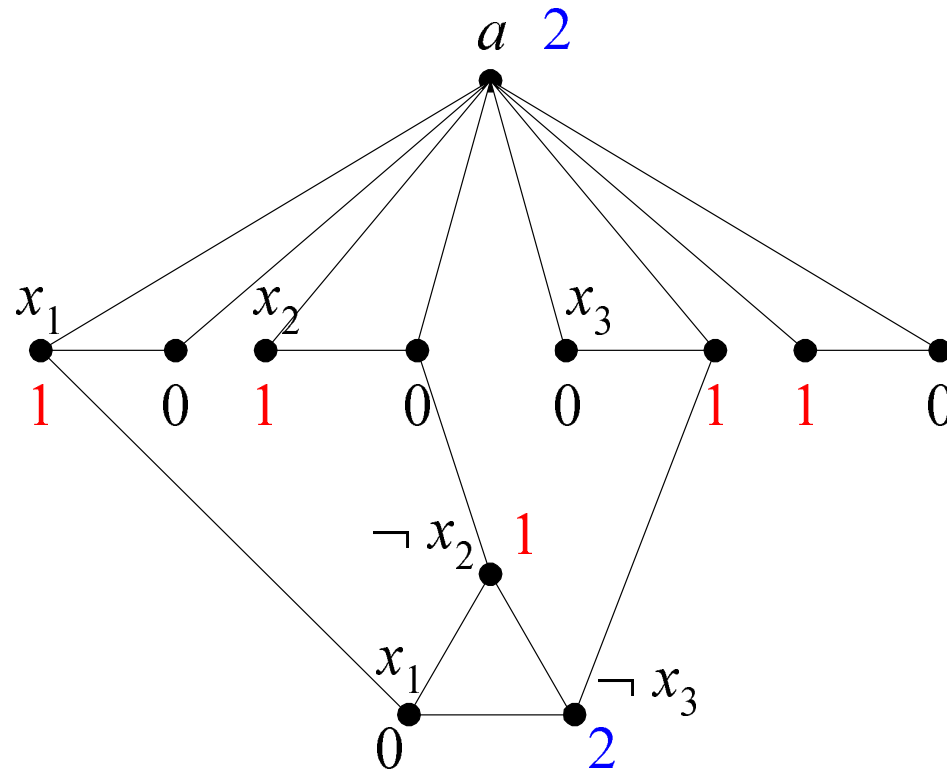
$$[c_{i1}, c_{i2}, c_{i3}].$$

- Node  $c_{ij}$  with the same label as one in some triangle  $[a, x_k, \neg x_k]$  represent *distinct* nodes.
- There is an edge between  $c_{ij}$  and the node that represents the  $j$ th literal of  $C_i$ .<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Alternative proof: There is an edge between  $\neg c_{ij}$  and the node that represents the  $j$ th literal of  $C_i$ . Contributed by Mr. Ren-Shuo Liu (D98922016) on October 27, 2009.

Construction for  $\dots \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge \dots$





## The Proof (continued)

Suppose the graph is 3-colorable.

- Assume without loss of generality that node  $a$  takes the color 2.
- A triangle must use up all 3 colors.
- As a result, one of  $x_i$  and  $\neg x_i$  must take the color 0 and the other 1.

## The Proof (continued)

- Treat 1 as **true** and 0 as **false**.<sup>a</sup>
  - We are dealing with those triangles with the “*a*” node, not the clause triangles yet.
- The resulting truth assignment is clearly contradiction free.
- As each clause triangle contains one color 1 and one color 0, the clauses are NAE-satisfied.

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<sup>a</sup>The opposite also works.

## The Proof (continued)

Suppose the clauses are NAE-satisfiable.

- Color node  $a$  with color 2.
- Color the nodes representing literals by their truth values (color 0 for **false** and color 1 for **true**).
  - We are dealing with those triangles with the “ $a$ ” node, not the clause triangles.

## The Proof (continued)

- For each clause triangle:
  - Pick any two literals with opposite truth values.
  - Color the corresponding nodes with 0 if the literal is true and 1 if it is false.
  - Color the remaining node with color 2.

## The Proof (concluded)

- The coloring is legitimate.
  - If literal  $w$  of a clause triangle has color 2, then its color will never be an issue.
  - If literal  $w$  of a clause triangle has color 1, then it must be connected up to literal  $w$  with color 0.
  - If literal  $w$  of a clause triangle has color 0, then it must be connected up to literal  $w$  with color 1.

## Algorithms for 3-COLORING and the Chromatic Number $\chi(G)$

- Assume  $G$  is 3-colorable.
- There is an algorithm to find a 3-coloring in time  $O(3^{n/3}) = 1.4422^n$ .<sup>a</sup>
- It has been improved to  $O(1.3289^n)$ .<sup>b</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Lawler (1976).

<sup>b</sup>Beigel and Eppstein (2000).

## Algorithms for 3-COLORING and the Chromatic Number $\chi(G)$ (concluded)

- The **chromatic number**  $\chi(G)$  is the smallest number of colors needed to color a graph  $G$ .
- There is an algorithm to find  $\chi(G)$  in time  $O((4/3)^{n/3}) = 2.4422^n$ .<sup>a</sup>
- It can be improved to  $O((4/3 + 3^{4/3}/4)^n) = O(2.4150^n)$ <sup>b</sup> and  $2^n n^{O(1)}$ .<sup>c</sup>
- Computing  $\chi(G)$  cannot be easier than 3-COLORING.<sup>d</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Lawler (1976).

<sup>b</sup>Eppstein (2003).

<sup>c</sup>Koivisto (2006).

<sup>d</sup>Contributed by Mr. Ching-Hua Yu (D00921025) on October 30, 2012.

## TRIPARTITE MATCHING

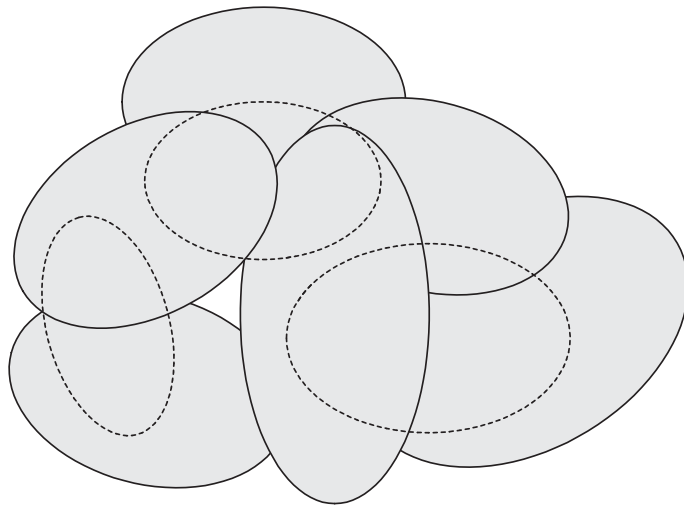
- We are given three sets  $B$ ,  $G$ , and  $H$ , each containing  $n$  elements.
- Let  $T \subseteq B \times G \times H$  be a ternary relation.
- TRIPARTITE MATCHING asks if there is a set of  $n$  triples in  $T$ , none of which has a component in common.
  - Each element in  $B$  is matched to a different element in  $G$  and different element in  $H$ .

**Theorem 44 (Karp (1972))** TRIPARTITE MATCHING *is NP-complete.*

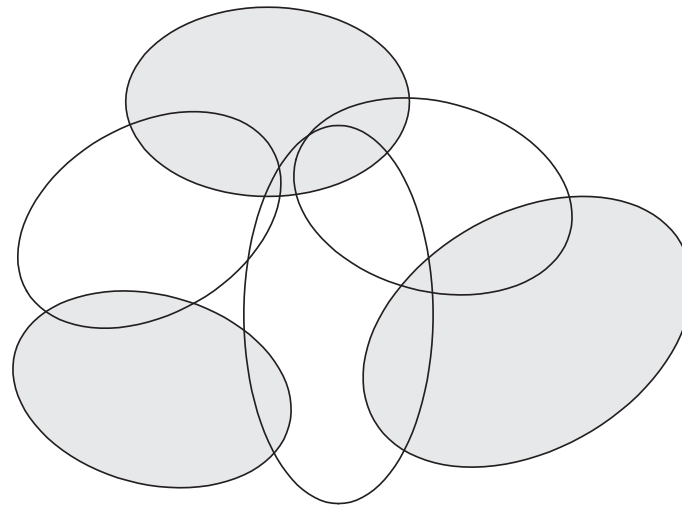


## Related Problems

- We are given a family  $F = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n\}$  of subsets of a finite set  $U$  and a budget  $B$ .
- SET COVERING asks if there exists a set of  $B$  sets in  $F$  whose union is  $U$ .
- SET PACKING asks if there are  $B$  *disjoint* sets in  $F$ .
- Assume  $|U| = 3m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $|S_i| = 3$  for all  $i$ .
- EXACT COVER BY 3-SETS asks if there are  $m$  sets in  $F$  that are disjoint (so have  $U$  as their union).



**SET COVERING**



**SET PACKING**

## Related Problems (concluded)

**Corollary 45 (Karp (1972))** SET COVERING, SET PACKING, *and* EXACT COVER BY 3-SETS *are all NP-complete.*

- SET COVERING can be used to prove that the influence maximization problem in social networks is NP-complete.<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Kempe, Kleinberg, and Tardos (2003).

## The KNAPSACK Problem

- There is a set of  $n$  items.
- Item  $i$  has value  $v_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and weight  $w_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .
- We are given  $K \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $W \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .
- KNAPSACK asks if there exists a subset

$$S \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

such that  $\sum_{i \in S} w_i \leq W$  and  $\sum_{i \in S} v_i \geq K$ .

- We want to achieve the maximum satisfaction within the budget.

## KNAPSACK Is NP-Complete<sup>a</sup>

- KNAPSACK  $\in$  NP: Guess an  $S$  and check the constraints.
- We shall reduce EXACT COVER BY 3-SETS to KNAPSACK, in which  $v_i = w_i$  for all  $i$  and  $K = W$ .
- The simplified KNAPSACK now asks if a subset of  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  adds up to exactly  $K$ .<sup>b</sup>
  - Picture yourself as a radio DJ.

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<sup>a</sup>Karp (1972).

<sup>b</sup>This problem is called SUBSET SUM.

## The Proof (continued)

- The primary differences between the two problems are:<sup>a</sup>
  - Sets vs. numbers.
  - Union vs. addition.
- We are given a family  $F = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n\}$  of size-3 subsets of  $U = \{1, 2, \dots, 3m\}$ .
- EXACT COVER BY 3-SETS asks if there are  $m$  disjoint sets in  $F$  that cover the set  $U$ .

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<sup>a</sup>Thanks to a lively class discussion on November 16, 2010.

## The Proof (continued)

- Think of a set as a bit vector in  $\{0, 1\}^{3m}$ .
  - 110010000 means the set  $\{1, 2, 5\}$ .
  - 001100010 means the set  $\{3, 4, 8\}$ .

- Our goal is

$$\overbrace{11 \cdots 1}^{3m}.$$

## The Proof (continued)

- A bit vector can also be seen as a binary *number*.
- Set union resembles addition:

$$\begin{array}{r} 001100010 \\ + 110010000 \\ \hline 111110010 \end{array}$$

which denotes the set  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8\}$ , as desired.



## The Proof (continued)

- Trouble occurs when there is *carry*:

$$\begin{array}{r} 010000000 \\ + 010000000 \\ \hline 100000000 \end{array}$$

which denotes the set  $\{1\}$ , not the desired  $\{2\}$ .

## The Proof (continued)

- Or consider

$$\begin{array}{r} 001100010 \\ + 001110000 \\ \hline 011010010 \end{array}$$

which denotes the set  $\{2, 3, 5, 8\}$ , not the desired  $\{3, 4, 5, 8\}$ .<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Corrected by Mr. Chihwei Lin (D97922003) on January 21, 2010.

## The Proof (continued)

- Carry may also lead to a situation where we obtain our solution  $11 \cdots 1$  with more than  $m$  sets in  $F$ .
- For example,

$$\begin{array}{r} 000100010 \\ 001110000 \\ 101100000 \\ + 000001101 \\ \hline 111111111 \end{array}$$

- But the correct answer,  $\{1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ , is *not* an exact cover.

## The Proof (continued)

- And it uses 4 sets instead of the required  $m = 3$ .<sup>a</sup>
- To fix this problem, we enlarge the base just enough so that there are no carries.<sup>b</sup>
- Because there are  $n$  vectors in total, we change the base from 2 to  $n + 1$ .

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<sup>a</sup>Thanks to a lively class discussion on November 20, 2002.

<sup>b</sup>You cannot map  $\cup$  to  $\vee$  because KNAPSACK requires  $+$ .

## The Proof (continued)

- Set  $v_i$  to be the integer corresponding to the bit vector encoding  $S_i$  in base  $n + 1$ :

$$v_i = \sum_{j \in S_i} (n + 1)^{3m-j} \quad (3)$$

- Now in base  $n + 1$ , if there is a set  $S$  such that

$\sum_{i \in S} v_i = \overbrace{11 \cdots 1}^{3m}$ , then every position must be contributed by exactly one  $v_i$  and  $|S| = m$ .

- Finally, set

$$K = \sum_{j=0}^{3m-1} (n + 1)^j = \overbrace{11 \cdots 1}^{3m} \quad (\text{base } n + 1).$$

## The Proof (continued)

- For example, the case on p. 399 becomes

$$\begin{array}{r} 000100010 \\ 001110000 \\ 101100000 \\ + 000001101 \\ \hline 102311111 \end{array}$$

in base 6.

- It does not meet the goal.

## The Proof (continued)

- Suppose  $F$  admits an exact cover, say  $\{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m\}$ .
- Then picking  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$  clearly results in

$$v_1 + v_2 + \dots + v_m = \overbrace{11\dots1}^{3m}.$$

- It is important to note that the meaning of addition (+) is independent of the base.<sup>a</sup>
- It is just regular addition.
- But an  $S_i$  may give rise to different integer  $v_i$ 's in Eq. (3) on p. 401 under different bases.

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<sup>a</sup>Contributed by Mr. Kuan-Yu Chen (R92922047) on November 3, 2004.

## The Proof (concluded)

- On the other hand, suppose there exists an  $S$  such that

$$\sum_{i \in S} v_i = \overbrace{11 \cdots 1}^{3m}$$

in base  $n + 1$ .

- The no-carry property implies that  $|S| = m$  and

$$\{S_i : i \in S\}$$

is an exact cover.



## An Example

- Let  $m = 3$ ,  $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ , and

$$S_1 = \{1, 3, 4\},$$

$$S_2 = \{2, 3, 4\},$$

$$S_3 = \{2, 5, 6\},$$

$$S_4 = \{6, 7, 8\},$$

$$S_5 = \{7, 8, 9\}.$$

- Note that  $n = 5$ , as there are 5  $S_i$ 's.

## An Example (continued)

- Our reduction produces

$$K = \sum_{j=0}^{3 \times 3 - 1} 6^j = \overbrace{11 \cdots 1}^{3 \times 3} \quad (\text{base } 6) = 2015539,$$

$$v_1 = 101100000 = 1734048,$$

$$v_2 = 011100000 = 334368,$$

$$v_3 = 010011000 = 281448,$$

$$v_4 = 000001110 = 258,$$

$$v_5 = 000000111 = 43.$$

## An Example (concluded)

- Note  $v_1 + v_3 + v_5 = K$  because

$$\begin{array}{r} 101100000 \\ 010011000 \\ + 000000111 \\ \hline 111111111 \end{array}$$

- Indeed,

$$S_1 \cup S_3 \cup S_5 = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\},$$

an exact cover by 3-sets.

## BIN PACKING

- We are given  $N$  positive integers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N$ , an integer  $C$  (the capacity), and an integer  $B$  (the number of bins).
- BIN PACKING asks if these numbers can be partitioned into  $B$  subsets, each of which has total sum at most  $C$ .
- Think of packing bags at the check-out counter.

**Theorem 46** BIN PACKING *is NP-complete.*

## BIN PACKING (concluded)

- But suppose  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N$  are randomly distributed between 0 and 1.
- Let  $B$  be the smallest number of unit-capacity bins capable of holding them.
- Then  $B$  can differ from its average by more than  $t$  with probability at most  $2e^{-2t^2/N}$ .<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Dubhashi and Panconesi (2012).

## INTEGER PROGRAMMING

- INTEGER PROGRAMMING asks whether a system of linear inequalities with integer coefficients has an integer solution.
- In contrast, LINEAR PROGRAMMING asks whether a system of linear inequalities with integer coefficients has a *rational* solution.

## INTEGER PROGRAMMING Is NP-Complete<sup>a</sup>

- SET COVERING can be expressed by the inequalities  $Ax \geq \vec{1}$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \leq B$ ,  $0 \leq x_i \leq 1$ , where
  - $x_i$  is one if and only if  $S_i$  is in the cover.
  - $A$  is the matrix whose columns are the bit vectors of the sets  $S_1, S_2, \dots$
  - $\vec{1}$  is the vector of 1s.
  - The operations in  $Ax$  are standard matrix operations.
- This shows INTEGER PROGRAMMING is NP-hard.
- Many NP-complete problems can be expressed as an INTEGER PROGRAMMING problem.

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<sup>a</sup>Karp (1972).

## Easier or Harder?<sup>a</sup>

- Adding restrictions on the allowable *problem instances* will not make a problem harder.
  - We are now solving a subset of problem instances or special cases.
  - The INDEPENDENT SET proof (p. 341) and the KNAPSACK proof (p. 393).
  - SAT to 2SAT (easier by p. 322).
  - CIRCUIT VALUE to MONOTONE CIRCUIT VALUE (equally hard by p. 294).

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<sup>a</sup>Thanks to a lively class discussion on October 29, 2003.



## Easier or Harder? (concluded)

- Adding restrictions on the allowable *solutions* (the solution space) may make a problem harder, equally hard, or easier.
- It is problem dependent.
  - MIN CUT to BISECTION WIDTH (harder by p. 368).
  - LINEAR PROGRAMMING to INTEGER PROGRAMMING (harder by p. 410).
  - SAT to NAESAT (equally hard by p. 335) and MAX CUT to MAX BISECTION (equally hard by p. 366).
  - 3-COLORING to 2-COLORING (easier by p. 377).

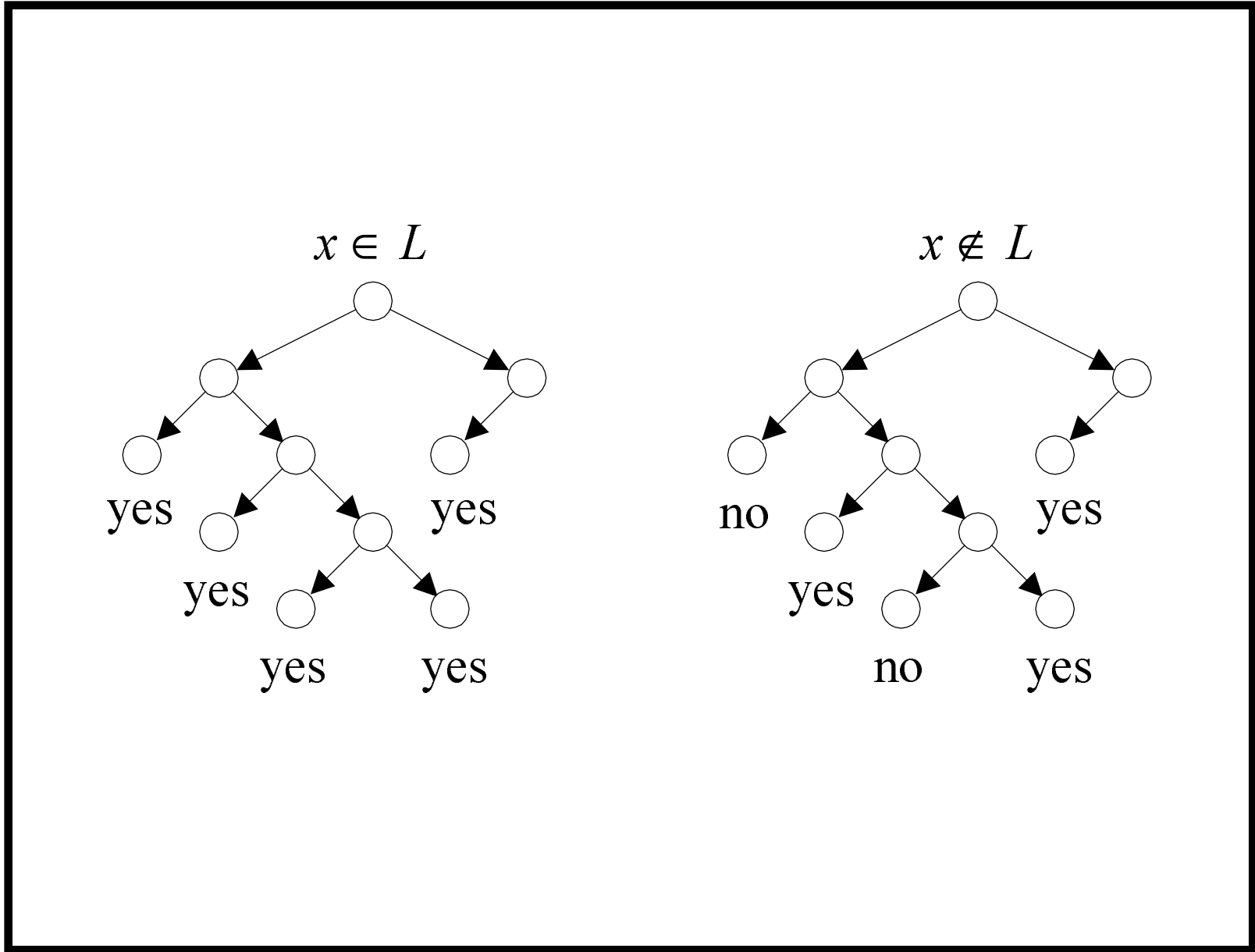
*coNP and Function Problems*

## coNP

- NP is the class of problems that have succinct certificates (recall Proposition 35 on p. 306).
- By definition, coNP is the class of problems whose complement is in NP.
- coNP is therefore the class of problems that have succinct disqualifications:
  - A “no” instance of a problem in coNP possesses a short proof of its being a “no” instance.
  - Only “no” instances have such proofs.

## coNP (continued)

- Suppose  $L$  is a coNP problem.
- There exists a polynomial-time nondeterministic algorithm  $M$  such that:
  - If  $x \in L$ , then  $M(x) = \text{“yes”}$  for all computation paths.
  - If  $x \notin L$ , then  $M(x) = \text{“no”}$  for some computation path.
- Note that if we swap “yes” and “no” of  $M$ , the new algorithm  $M'$  decides  $\bar{L} \in \text{NP}$  in the classic sense (p. 94).



## coNP (concluded)

- Clearly  $P \subseteq \text{coNP}$ .
- It is not known if

$$P = \text{NP} \cap \text{coNP}.$$

– Contrast this with

$$R = \text{RE} \cap \text{coRE}$$

(see Proposition 11 on p. 153).

## Some coNP Problems

- VALIDITY  $\in$  coNP.
  - If  $\phi$  is not valid, it can be disqualified very succinctly: a truth assignment that does not satisfy it.
- SAT COMPLEMENT  $\in$  coNP.
  - SAT COMPLEMENT is the complement of SAT.
  - The disqualification is a truth assignment that satisfies it.
- HAMILTONIAN PATH COMPLEMENT  $\in$  coNP.
  - The disqualification is a Hamiltonian path.

## Some coNP Problems (concluded)

- OPTIMAL TSP (D)  $\in$  coNP.
  - OPTIMAL TSP (D) asks if the optimal tour has a total distance of  $B$ , where  $B$  is an input.<sup>a</sup>
  - The disqualification is a tour with a length  $< B$ .

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<sup>a</sup>Defined by Mr. Che-Wei Chang (R95922093) on September 27, 2006.



## A Nondeterministic Algorithm for SAT COMPLEMENT

$\phi$  is a boolean formula with  $n$  variables.

```
1: for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  do
2:   Guess  $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$ ; {Nondeterministic choice.}
3: end for
4: {Verification:}
5: if  $\phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 1$  then
6:   “no”;
7: else
8:   “yes”;
9: end if
```

## Analysis

- The algorithm decides language  $\{\phi : \phi \text{ is unsatisfiable}\}$ .
  - The computation tree is a complete binary tree of depth  $n$ .
  - Every computation path corresponds to a particular truth assignment out of  $2^n$ .
  - $\phi$  is unsatisfiable iff every truth assignment falsifies  $\phi$ .
  - But every truth assignment falsifies  $\phi$  iff every computation path results in “yes.”

## An Alternative Characterization of coNP

**Proposition 47** *Let  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  be a language. Then  $L \in \text{coNP}$  if and only if there is a polynomially decidable and polynomially balanced relation  $R$  such that*

$$L = \{x : \forall y (x, y) \in R\}.$$

*(As on p. 305, we assume  $|y| \leq |x|^k$  for some  $k$ .)*

- $\bar{L} = \{x : \exists y (x, y) \in \neg R\}$ .
- Because  $\neg R$  remains polynomially balanced,  $\bar{L} \in \text{NP}$  by Proposition 35 (p. 306).
- Hence  $L \in \text{coNP}$  by definition.

## coNP-Completeness

**Proposition 48**  *$L$  is NP-complete if and only if its complement  $\bar{L} = \Sigma^* - L$  is coNP-complete.*

Proof ( $\Rightarrow$ ; the  $\Leftarrow$  part is symmetric)

- Let  $\bar{L}'$  be any coNP language.
- Hence  $L' \in \text{NP}$ .
- Let  $R$  be the reduction from  $L'$  to  $L$ .
- So  $x \in L'$  if and only if  $R(x) \in L$ .
- Equivalently,  $x \notin L'$  if and only if  $R(x) \notin L$  (the law of transposition).

## coNP Completeness (concluded)

- So  $x \in \bar{L}'$  if and only if  $R(x) \in \bar{L}$ .
- $R$  is a reduction from  $\bar{L}'$  to  $\bar{L}$ .
- This shows  $\bar{L}$  is coNP-hard.
- But  $\bar{L} \in \text{coNP}$ .
- This shows  $\bar{L}$  is coNP-complete.

## Some coNP-Complete Problems

- SAT COMPLEMENT is coNP-complete.
- VALIDITY is coNP-complete.
  - $\phi$  is valid if and only if  $\neg\phi$  is not satisfiable.
  - The reduction from SAT COMPLEMENT to VALIDITY is hence easy.
- HAMILTONIAN PATH COMPLEMENT is coNP-complete.

## Possible Relations between P, NP, coNP

1.  $P = NP = \text{coNP}$ .
2.  $NP = \text{coNP}$  but  $P \neq NP$ .
3.  $NP \neq \text{coNP}$  and  $P \neq NP$ .
  - This is the current “consensus.”<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Carl Gauss (1777–1855), “I could easily lay down a multitude of such propositions, which one could neither prove nor dispose of.”