

The most important NP-complete (logic) problem family!

SAT = Satisfiability: [Cook 1971; Levin 1973]

- given a Boolean formula (AND, OR, NOT) over  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$
- can you set  $x_i$ 's to make formula true?

Circuit SAT: formula expressed as <sup>acyclic</sup> circuit of gates (allows re-use)



CNF SAT: formula = AND of clauses

[Cook 1971]

↓  
Conjunctive  
Normal Form

clause = OR of literals

literal  $\in \{x_i, \text{NOT } x_i\}$

- can view as bipartite graph: variables vs. clauses, positive/negative edges

3SAT: clause = OR of 3 literals

[Cook 1971]

i.e. clause degrees = 3 (but allow repeats)

→ 3SAT-3: each variable occurs in  $\leq 3$  clauses

- E3SAT-4 but E3SAT-3  $\in$  P

[Tovey-DAM 1984]

↳ exactly 3 distinct literals per clause

$\neg x_1 \vee x_2$   
 $\neg x_2 \vee x_3$   
 $\vdots$   
 $\neg x_k \vee x_1$

Monotone 3SAT:

[Gold-I&C 1978]

also -3

each clause all positive or all negative

## Beware polynomial-time variants!

2SAT: clause = OR of 2 literals

- polynomial

-  $x \text{ OR } y \equiv \text{NOT } x \Rightarrow y \quad (\equiv \text{NOT } y \Rightarrow x)$

- guess  $x_i$ , follow all implication chains to check OK

BUT...

Max 2SAT: set variables to maximize # true clauses

- NP-complete [Garey, Johnson, Stockmeyer 1976]

Horn SAT: each clause has  $\leq 1$  positive literal

- NOT  $x$  OR NOT  $y$  OR NOT  $z$  OR  $w$

$\equiv \text{NOT } (x \text{ AND } y \text{ AND } z) \text{ OR } w$

$\equiv (x \text{ AND } y \text{ AND } z) \Rightarrow w$

[Horn 1951]

$\Rightarrow$  polynomial like 2SAT

Dual-Horn SAT: each clause has  $\leq 1$  negative literal

$\hookrightarrow$  "weakly positive satisfiability" [Schaefer 1978]

- negate all variables  $\rightarrow$  Horn SAT

$\Rightarrow$  polynomial

Renamable Horn SAT: more generally, can negate some variables globally to make formula Horn  
 $\Rightarrow$  polynomial [Chandru, Coullard, Hammer, Montañez, Sun - Annals Math. & AI 1990]

DNF SAT: formula = OR of clauses

clause = AND of literals

$\Rightarrow$  satisfiable  $\Leftrightarrow \geq 1$  clause  $\Rightarrow$  polynomial

↓  
Disjunctive  
Normal  
Form

## Alternative clauses for 3SAT:

1-in-3SAT = exactly-1 3SAT [Schaefer 1978]

- clause = exactly 1 of 3 literals is true  
( $\Rightarrow$  2 false  $\sim$  TFF, FTF, FFT)

*omitted by Schaefer*

Positive 1-in-3SAT: no negations - all literals positive

BUT...  $\rightarrow$  sometimes called "monotone"

Positive not-exactly-1 3SAT: [Schaefer 1978]

- clause = 0, 2, or 3 variables are true  
i.e.  $x_i \Rightarrow (x_j \text{ OR } x_k) \rightarrow$  Dual Horn
- also require  $x_1 = \text{TRUE}$  (else set all  $x_i = \text{FALSE}$ )  
&  $x_2 = \text{FALSE}$  (or allow  $|clause| \leq 3$ )
- polynomial

NAE 3SAT = not-all-equal 3SAT [Schaefer 1978]

- clause = 3 literals not all the same value  
(forbid FFF & TTT  $\Rightarrow$  1 or 2 true, 2 or 1 false  
 $\sim$  whereas 3SAT forbids just FFF)
- nice symmetry between TRUE & FALSE

*omitted by Schaefer*

Positive NAE 3SAT: no negations - all literals positive

## Schaefer's Dichotomy:

[Schaefer - STOC 1978]

- formula = AND of clauses
- general clause = relation on variables
  - assume in CNF (unique if minimal)

use Karnaugh maps

⇒ SAT is polynomial if either:

- setting all variables true or all variables false satisfies all relations
- subclauses are all Horn or all Dual Horn
- relations are all 2-CNF (subclause sizes  $\leq 2$ )
- every relation can be expressed as a system of linear equations over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ :

"XOR SAT"  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_i \oplus x_j \oplus x_k \oplus x_l = 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \text{XOR} \quad \quad \quad \rightarrow \text{Gaussian elimination} \end{array} \right.$

& otherwise, SAT is NP-complete!

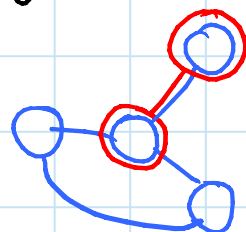
Another hard version of SAT - seldom used?

## 2-colorable perfect matching:

[Schaefer 1978]

- given a planar 3-regular graph
- 2-color the vertices such that every vertex has exactly 1 same-colored neighbor
- special case of 2-in-4 SAT

(planarity & 3-regular left as exercise)



## Pushing blocks:

- $1 \times 1$  robot navigating grid of blocks
- goal: get robot from start to target
- Push- $k$ : robot can push up to  $k$  blocks at once
- Push- $*$ : infinite strength
- PushPush: blocks slide until they hit something
- PushPushPush: blocks slide other blocks (ice) in chain reaction, up to strength  $k$
- Push...-F: some blocks are fixed
- Push...-X: robot path cannot self-intersect (tiles disappear after traversal)
- Sokoban = Push-1F but with goal of filling target squares with blocks

Push-\*: reduction from 3SAT [Hoffmann 2000]

- variable: push right in  $x_i$  or  $\bar{x}_i$  row  
→ fill in row of connection gadget
- connection: 1 free cell per occurrence of literal
- bridge: move up & block off leftward path
- clause: need a free spot below to traverse
- applies to PushPush-\* & PushPushPush-\* too

PushPush-1 in 3D: reduction from 3SAT  
[O'Rourke & Smith Problem Solving Group 1999]

(Push)Push-1 (in 2D): reduction from 3SAT  
[Demaine, Demaine, O'Rourke 2000]

- clause gadget, block other, lock gadget
- NAND crossover: not both  $N \rightarrow S$  &  $W \rightarrow E$
- unidir. crossover: optional  $N \rightarrow S$ , then  $W \rightarrow E$ 
  - can leak  $N \rightarrow S$  then  $W \rightarrow \underline{S}$ , which can enable revisiting old variables; luckily fork gadget forces single T/F assignment

## Phutball (Philosopher's Football) [Conway]

- one white stone (ball), many black stones (men)
- move = place new black stone  
OR "kick the ball" by jumping horizontally  
or vertically over black stones,  
immediately removing men, & repeat
- goal: reach opponent's side with ball
- PSPACE-hard [Dereniowski 2009]
- OPEN: EXPTIME-complete?
- NP-complete to decide mate-in-1:  
can you win in one move? (kick)
  - reduction from 3SAT [Demaine, Demaine, Eppstein 2000]

## Checkers:

- EXPTIME-complete [Fraenkel, Garey, Johnson, Schaefer, Yesha 1978]
- mate-in-1 is polynomial
  - jumps preserve  $x$  &  $y$  parity
  - ⇒ Euler path problem