

Space-Bounded Computation



- Input tape: read-only, for free
- working tape: read/write, incurs cost
- output tape: write-only, one-way, for free
→ streaming computation

Def: $A \leq_L B$ iff there is some log-space
computable $f: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ s.t. $\underline{x} \in A \Leftrightarrow f(\underline{x}) \in B$.

Call A **NL-hard** if every $B \in \mathbf{NL}$ satisfies $B \leq_L A$,
NL-complete if in addition $A \in \mathbf{NL}$ holds.

$L \subseteq NL \subseteq P \subseteq NP \subseteq PSPACE = NPSPACE \subseteq EXP$



Reductions

- polynomial-time *many-one*: $A \leq_p^m B$
 $f: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ **P**-computable s.t.: $\underline{x} \in A \Leftrightarrow f(\underline{x}) \in B$
– in general $B \not\leq_p^m \Sigma^* \setminus B$ (example?)
- log-spacebounded *many-one*: $A \leq_L^m B$
 $f: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ **L**-computable s.t.: $\underline{x} \in A \Leftrightarrow f(\underline{x}) \in B$
– $A \leq_L^m B \Rightarrow A \leq_p^m B$ (proof?)
- polynomial-time *Turing* Reduction: $A \leq_p^T B$
 A can be solved in polynomial time
by aid of oracle queries to B : $A \in \mathbf{P}^B$
– $A \leq_p^m B \Rightarrow A \leq_p^T B \Rightarrow A \leq_p^T \Sigma^* \setminus B$ (proof?)
- Further reductions: *truthable*, *parsimonious*...

Theorem: dirPath is **NL**-complete

Let $A \in \mathbf{NL}$, decided by $c \cdot \log n$ space-bounded NTM M

Input: \underline{w} ; output: dir.Graph G and vertices s, t such that:

M accepts $\underline{w} \iff$ there is a path in G from s to t

$G=(V,E)$, $V:=$ all configurations of M of size $c \cdot \log |\underline{w}|$

$(K_1, K_2) \in E \iff K_2$ is a successor config of K_1

$s:=$ start config of M on \underline{w} ; $t:=$ accept.config (wlog unique)

- M accepts $\underline{w} \iff$ there is a path in G from s to t ✓
- How large is G ? Constructible in logarithmic space?

qed



Immerman-Szelepcsényi

L = NL ? =coNL ? = P ? Compare „**P vs. NP**“

L vs. NL: **NL**-complete dirGraph, 2unSAT, nonBipartite

NL vs. P: **P**-complete problems

(probably do not admit an efficient parallelization)

NL vs. coNL: solved in 1987,
ACM Gödel Prize 1995 !

**Theorem (Neil Immerman,
Róbert Szelepcsényi): NL=coNL**

Proof: Show $\text{dirGraph} \in \text{coNL}$

Theorem: For $s(n) \geq \log n$ increasing,
NSPACE($s(n)$)=coNSPACE($s(n)$).



dirGraph \in coNL



Given $G=(V,E)$, $s,t \in V=\{1,\dots,m\}$. Goal:

Logspace NTM accepts iff t **not** reachable from s .

$A_i := \{ v \in V : \text{exists path in } G \text{ of length } \leq i \text{ from } s \text{ to } v \}$,

$c_i := \#A_i$, $i=0,\dots,m-1$. $A_0=\{s\}$, $c_0=1$. Accept iff $t \notin A_{m-1}$

Definition: NTM computes (partial) $f: \subseteq \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ iff

- \forall inputs $\underline{x} \in \text{dom}(f)$ there is an accepting computation.
- Every accepting computation outputs $f(\underline{x})$.

FNL is closed under composition! (proof?)

Lemma: For each i , $A_i \in \mathbf{NL}$.

Given (!) c_i , logspace NTM can even enumerate A_i :

- For each $v \in V$, 'guess' whether $v \in A_i$ (1) or not (0)
- If guessed 1: output, verify (**NL**) and increase counter
- In the end, accept iff counter= c_i !!!

dirGraph \in coNL



Given $G=(V,E)$, $s,t \in V=\{1,\dots,m\}$. Goal:

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Lemma: For each i , $A_i \in \mathbf{NL}$.

Given (!) c_i , logspace NTM can even enumerate A_i .

Lemma: Given (!) c_i , $A_{i+1} \in \mathbf{coNL}$:

Enumerate A_i and, if no edge to v found, accept.

Lemma: Given c_i , logspace NTM can compute c_{i+1} :

For each v , 'guess' whether $v \in A_{i+1}$ holds, and verify

Proof (Theorem): $1=c_0 \rightarrow c_1 \rightarrow c_2 \rightarrow c_3 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow c_{m-1}$