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# Randomized complexity classes

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Today: the  
Arthur vs. Merlin  
hierarchy **collapses**

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# Today

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- ❖ Babai's theorem:  $MA \subseteq AM$
- ❖ Also,  $MAM \subseteq AM$
- ❖ A detour through promise problems
- ❖ The Arthur vs. Merlin hierarchy collapses.



**MA is included in AM**

# Converting MA to AM

Why not just use « skolemization »?  
(Hint: does not work.)

- ❖ **Prop (Lemma 3.11).** Let  $F(x,y,r)$  be a predicate  
( $x$  of size  $n$ ,  $r$  of poly size  $q(n)$ ,  $y$  of poly size  $p(n)$ ) such that  $\forall x$ ,
  - either (1):  $(\exists y, \exists r, F(x,y,r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$  (« huge »)
  - or (2):  $(\exists y, \exists r, F(x,y,r)) \leq 1/2^n$  (« tiny »)



- ❖ Then for every poly  $g(n)$ , and for  $n$  large enough,
  - in case (1),  $F'(x) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}$  ... =1, in fact!
  - in case (2),  $F'(x) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$

where  $F'(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists r_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r', \bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i)$ .

and  $k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lceil m/n \rceil$ ,  $m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(n) + q(n) + g(n)$





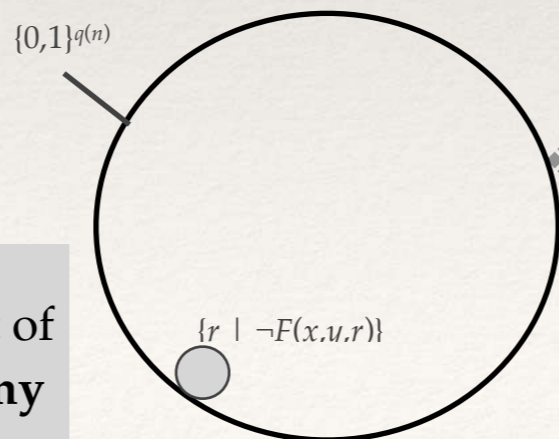
# Permuting E over $\exists$ , à la Lautemann

❖ In case (1) (« huge »),  
 $(\exists r, F(x,y,r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$  for some  $y$ .  
 We fix that  $y$ .

❖ I.e.,  $\Pr_r(F(x,y,r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$   
 ( $F(x,y,r)$  is a **predicate!**)  
 namely  $\Pr_r(\neg F(x,y,r)) \leq 1/2^n$

❖ We claim that, in that case,  
 for **all**  $r_1, \dots, r_k$ ,  
 there is an  $r'$  /  
 $\bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i)$

The complement of  
 $\{r \mid F(x,y,r)\}$  is **tiny**



**Prop (Lemme 3.11).** Let  $F(x,y,r)$  be a predicate

( $x$  of size  $n$ ,  $r$  of poly size  $q(n)$ ,  $y$  of poly size  $p(n)$ ) /  $\forall x$ ,

$\Rightarrow$  — either (1):  $(\exists y, \exists r, F(x,y,r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$  (« huge »)

— or (2):  $(\exists y, \exists r, F(x,y,r)) \leq 1/2^n$  (« tiny »)

Then for every poly  $g(n)$ , and for  $n$  large enough,

— in case (1),  $F'(x) = 1$

— in case (2),  $F'(x) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$

where  $F'(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists r_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r', \bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i)$ .

and  $k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lceil m/n \rceil$ ,  $m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(n) + q(n) + g(n)$

❖ Let  $r_1, \dots, r_k$  be arbitrary.  
 $\Pr_{r'}(\neg \bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i))$   
 $\leq \sum_{i=1}^k \Pr_{r'}(\neg F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i))$   
 $\leq k/2^n$

❖ Since  $k = \text{poly}(n)$ , this is  
 $< 1$  for  $n$  large enough.



# Permuting $E$ over $\exists$ , à la Lautemann

❖ In case (2) (« tiny »),  
 $(E_r, F(x,y,r)) \leq 1/2^n$  for every  $y$ .

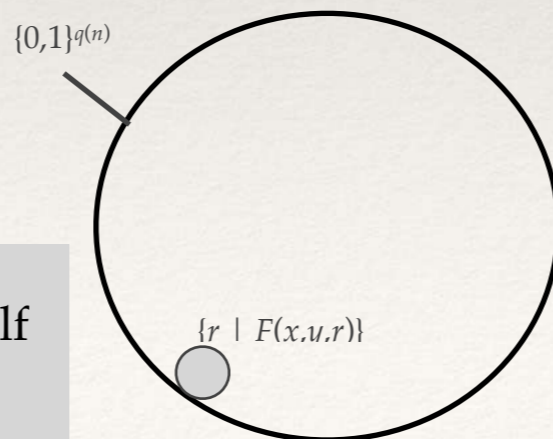
❖  $\Pr_r(F(x,y,r)) \leq 1/2^n$  for every  $y$ .  
 $(F(x,y,r)$  is a predicate!)

❖  $\Pr_{r_1, \dots, r_k}(\exists y, r', \bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i))$   
 $\leq \sum_{y, r'} \Pr_{r_1, \dots, r_k}(\bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i))$   
 $= \sum_{y, r'} \prod_{i=1}^k \Pr_{r_i}(F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i))$   
 (independence)

**Prop (Lemme 3.11).** Let  $F(x,y,r)$  be a predicate  
 $(x$  of size  $n$ ,  $r$  of poly size  $q(n)$ ,  $y$  of poly size  $p(n)) / \forall x$ ,  
 — either (1):  $(\exists y, E_r, F(x,y,r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$  (« huge »)  
 — or (2):  $(\exists y, E_r, F(x,y,r)) \leq 1/2^n$  (« tiny »)  
 Then for every poly  $g(n)$ , and for  $n$  large enough,  
 — in case (1),  $F'(x) = 1$   
 — in case (2),  $F'(x) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$   
 where  $F'(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E_{r_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r', \bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i)}$ .  
 and  $k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lceil m/n \rceil$ ,  $m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(n) + q(n) + g(n)$

❖  $\leq \sum_{y, r'} (1/2^n)^k$   
 $= 2^{p(n)+q(n)-nk}$   
 $\leq 1/2^{g(n)}. \quad \square$

$\{r \mid F(x,y,r)\}$  itself  
 is tiny





# MA $\subseteq$ AM

❖ **Thm 3.12 (Babai).** MA  $\subseteq$  AM.

❖ *Proof.* Let  $L \in \text{MA}$ .

For some  $D \in \mathcal{P}$ ,

(logical characterization of MA)

(1) if  $x \in L$  then  $(\exists y, \exists r, x \# y \# r \in D) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$

(2) if  $x \notin L$  then  $(\exists y, \exists r, x \# y \# r \in D) \leq 1/2^n$ .

❖ Apply the Proposition to  $F(x,y,r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \# y \# r \in D)$

(predicate!)

❖ Therefore  $L$  is in AM.  $\square$

**Prop (Lemme 3.11).** Let  $F(x,y,r)$  be a predicate  
( $x$  of size  $n$ ,  $r$  of poly size  $q(n)$ ,  $y$  of poly size  $p(n)$ ) /  $\forall x$ ,  
— either (1):  $(\exists y, \exists r, F(x,y,r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$  (« huge »)  
— or (2):  $(\exists y, \exists r, F(x,y,r)) \leq 1/2^n$  (« tiny »)  
Then for every poly  $g(n)$ , and for  $n$  large enough,  
— in case (1),  $F'(x) = 1$   
— in case (2),  $F'(x) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$   
where  $F'(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists r_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r', \bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i)$ .  
and  $k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lceil m/n \rceil$ ,  $m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(n) + q(n) + g(n)$

Ah yes, case (2) only applies for  $n$  large enough.  
For small values of  $n$ , tabulate.



# MAM $\subseteq$ AM

## ❖ Lemma 3.11. MAM $\subseteq$ AM.

❖ *Proof* (1/2). Let  $L \in \text{MAM}$ .

For some  $D \in \mathbf{P}$ ,

(logical characterization of MAM)

(1) if  $x \in L$  then  $(\exists y, Er, \exists y', x\#y\#r\#y' \in D) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$

(2) if  $x \notin L$  then  $(\exists y, Er, \exists y', x\#y\#r\#y' \in D) \leq 1/2^n$ .

❖ Apply the Proposition to  $F(x,y,r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\exists y', x\#y\#r\#y' \in D)$   
(predicate again!)

❖ Then  $F'(x) = Er_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r', \bigwedge_{i=1}^k \exists y', (x\#y\#(r' \oplus r_i)\#y' \in D) \dots$

**Prop (Lemme 3.11).** Let  $F(x,y,r)$  be a predicate  
( $x$  of size  $n$ ,  $r$  of poly size  $q(n)$ ,  $y$  of poly size  $p(n)$ ) /  $\forall x$ ,  
— either (1):  $(\exists y, Er, F(x,y,r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$  (« huge »)  
— or (2):  $(\exists y, Er, F(x,y,r)) \leq 1/2^n$  (« tiny »)  
Then for every poly  $g(n)$ , and for  $n$  large enough,  
— in case (1),  $F'(x) = 1$   
— in case (2),  $F'(x) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$   
where  $F'(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Er_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r', \bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x,y,r' \oplus r_i)$ .  
and  $k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lceil m/n \rceil$ ,  $m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(n) + q(n) + g(n)$



# MAM $\subseteq$ AM

❖ **Lemma 3.11. MAM  $\subseteq$  AM.**

❖ *Proof (2/2).*

❖  $F'(x) = \text{Er}_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r',$

$\bigwedge_{i=1}^k \exists y', (x \# y \# (r' \oplus r_i) \# y' \in D)$

❖  $= \text{Er}_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r', \underline{y'_1, \dots, y'_k},$

$\bigwedge_{i=1}^k (x \# y \# (r' \oplus r_i) \# y'_i \in D)$

❖ Hence  $L$  is in AM.  $\square$

**Prop (Lemme 3.11).** Let  $F(x, y, r)$  be a predicate  
( $x$  of size  $n$ ,  $r$  of poly size  $q(n)$ ,  $y$  of poly size  $p(n)$ ) /  $\forall x$ ,  
— either (1):  $(\exists y, \text{Er}, F(x, y, r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^n$  (« huge »)  
— or (2):  $(\exists y, \text{Er}, F(x, y, r)) \leq 1/2^n$  (« tiny »)

Then for every poly  $g(n)$ , and for  $n$  large enough,

— in case (1),  $F'(x) = 1$

— in case (2),  $F'(x) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$

where  $F'(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Er}_1, \dots, r_k, \exists y, r', \bigwedge_{i=1}^k F(x, y, r' \oplus r_i)$ .

and  $k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lceil m/n \rceil$ ,  $m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(n) + q(n) + g(n)$

Intermission: promise problems



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# Promise problems: example

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- ❖ Look back at, say, **SAT**:  
INPUT: a clause set  $S$   
QUESTION: is  $S$  satisfiable?
- ❖ We silently assumed that this defined a language...  
but a language is a set of words, not of clause sets
- ❖ Some input words may **fail to parse** as clause sets.
- ❖ Hence, really, what we are interested in is...

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# Promise problems

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- ❖ INPUT: a word  $w$   
PROMISE:  $w$  parses as a clause set  $S$   
QUESTION: is  $S$  satisfiable?
- ❖ Modeled as **two** languages:  
 $L^+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{w \mid w \text{ parses as a satisfiable clause set } S\}$   
 $L^- \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{w \mid w \text{ parses as an unsatisfiable clause set } S\}$
- ❖ In general, a **promise problem** is a pair of two disjoint languages:  
INPUT: a word  $w$   
PROMISE:  $w \in L^+ \cup L^-$   
QUESTION: is  $w$  in  $L^+$ ?



# Promise problems are often useless

- ❖ Testing the promise is usually easy (in  $\mathbf{P}$ , sometimes even lower)
- ❖ Then there is no difference in complexity between  $L^+$  and (the complement of)  $L^-$
- ❖ E.g., for **SAT**, both are **NP**-complete.

- ❖ INPUT: a word  $w$   
PROMISE:  $w$  parses as a clause set  $S$   
QUESTION: is  $S$  satisfiable?
- ❖ Modeled as **two** languages:  
 $L^+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{w \mid w \text{ parses as a satisfiable clause set } S\}$   
 $L^- \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{w \mid w \text{ parses as an unsatisfiable clause set } S\}$
- ❖ In general, a **promise problem** is a pair of two disjoint languages:  
INPUT: a word  $w$   
PROMISE:  $w \in L^+ \cup L^-$   
QUESTION: is  $w$  in  $L^+$ ?

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# Promise problems are sometimes useful

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- ❖ Let **BPP'** be the promise version of **BPP**, i.e.:
  - if  $x \in L^+$  then  $\Pr_r (x\#r \in D) \geq 2/3$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then  $\Pr_r (x\#r \in D) \leq 1/3$where  $D$  is a language in **P**.
- ❖ Then the following promise problem is **BPP'-complete**:
  - $L^+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\text{circuits } C \text{ that evaluate to } 1 \text{ on } \geq 2/3 \text{ of their inputs}\}$
  - $L^- \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\text{circuits } C \text{ that evaluate to } 1 \text{ on } \leq 1/3 \text{ of their inputs}\}$
- ❖ (There is no known **BPP**-complete problem.)



# Promise versions of Arthur-Merlin games

- ❖ All the classes in the Arthur-Merlin hierarchy have analogues as **promise problems**:

$\varepsilon', A', M', MA', AM',$  etc.

- ❖  $(L^+, L^-) \in AMAM\dots'$  iff  
for every polynomial  $g(n)$ ,

there is a poly time predicate  $P$  /

— if  $x \in L^+$ , then  $G(x) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}$

— if  $x \in L^-$  then  $G(x) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$

where  $G(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists r_1, \exists y_1, \exists r_2, \exists y_2, \dots, P(x, r_1, y_1, r_2, y_2, \dots)$

❖ **Thm 3.12'.  $MA' \subseteq AM'$ .**

**Lemma 3.11'.  $MAM' \subseteq AM'$ .**

(same proof as before!)

# The Arthur-Merlin hierarchy collapses



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# The $A$ - $M'$ hierarchy collapses

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- ❖ We will show by induction on the length of  $w$  that  $w' \subseteq AM'$ .
- ❖ Obvious if this length is 0.
- ❖ We will then look at the first letter of  $w$ , either  $A$  or  $M$ .

# $w' \subseteq AM'$ : (1) $w$ starts with A

❖ Let  $w \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A w_2$ , and let  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$ ... first, a useful lemma:

❖ **Square root lemma.** Let  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , and  $X$  be a non-negative real-valued random variable with finite expectation.

(i) If  $E(X) \leq \varepsilon$  then  $\Pr(X \leq \sqrt{\varepsilon}) \geq 1 - \sqrt{\varepsilon}$

(ii) If  $E(X) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$  then  $\Pr(X \geq 1 - \sqrt{\varepsilon}) \geq 1 - \sqrt{\varepsilon}$ .

**Theorem (Markov's inequality).**

Let  $X$  be a **non-negative real-valued** random variable with **finite** expectation  $E(X)$ . For every  $a > 0$ ,  
 $\Pr(X \geq a \cdot E(X)) \leq 1/a$ .

❖ *Proof.* (i) Let  $a \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 1/\sqrt{\varepsilon}$ , so  $a \cdot E(X) \leq \sqrt{\varepsilon}$ .

$$\Pr(X > \sqrt{\varepsilon}) \leq \Pr(X \geq \sqrt{\varepsilon}) \leq \Pr(X \geq a \cdot E(X)) \leq \sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

(ii) Use (i) with  $X$  replaced by  $1 - X$ .  $\square$

I.e., if the expectation of  $X$  is **very large**, then  $X$  is **large**, with **high probability**.



# $w' \subseteq AM'$ : (1) $w$ starts with $A$ (1/5)

i.e.,  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$  is decided  
by a formula of the form

$$E_r, \underbrace{\exists y_1, E_r, \exists y_2, \dots}_{F(x,r)}$$

- ❖ Let  $w \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A w_2$ , and let  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$ .
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then  $(E_r, F(x,r)) \geq 1 - 1 / 2^{2g(n)+2}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then  $(E_r, F(x,r)) \leq 1 / 2^{2g(n)+2}$

We reduce the error  
preventively.  
This will be needed.

- ❖ Beware:  $F$  is not a predicate,  
so expectation  $\neq$  probability
- ❖ But, with high probability on  $r$  ( $\geq 1 - 1 / 2^{g(n)+1}$ ),
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then  $F(x,r) \geq 1 - 1 / 2^{g(n)+1}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then  $F(x,r) \leq 1 / 2^{g(n)+1}$

Why?

**Square root lemma.** Let  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ , and  $X$  be a non-real-valued random variable with finite expectation.

- (i) If  $E(X) \leq \epsilon$  then  $\Pr(X \leq \sqrt{\epsilon}) \geq 1 - \sqrt{\epsilon}$
- (ii) If  $E(X) \geq 1 - \epsilon$  then  $\Pr(X \geq 1 - \sqrt{\epsilon}) \geq 1 - \sqrt{\epsilon}$ .

# $w' \subseteq AM'$ : (1) $w$ starts with A (2/5)

i.e.,  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$  is decided  
by a formula of the form

$$E_r, \underbrace{\exists y_1, E_r, \exists y_2, \dots}_{F(x,r)}$$

- ❖ Let  $w \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A w_2$ , and let  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$ .
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then  $(E_r, F(x,r)) \geq 1 - 1 / 2^{2g(n)+2}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then  $(E_r, F(x,r)) \leq 1 / 2^{2g(n)+2}$
- ❖ If  $x \in L^+$ , then by (ii)  $\Pr_r(F(x,r) \geq 1 - 1 / 2^{g(n)+1}) \geq 1 - 1 / 2^{g(n)+1}$
- ❖ If  $x \in L^-$ , then by (i)  $\Pr_r(F(x,r) \leq 1 / 2^{g(n)+1}) \geq 1 - 1 / 2^{g(n)+1}$

**Square root lemma.** Let  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ , and  $X$  be a non-real-valued random variable with finite expectation.  
(i) If  $E(X) \leq \epsilon$  then  $\Pr(X \leq \sqrt{\epsilon}) \geq 1 - \sqrt{\epsilon}$   
(ii) If  $E(X) \geq 1 - \epsilon$  then  $\Pr(X \geq 1 - \sqrt{\epsilon}) \geq 1 - \sqrt{\epsilon}$ .



# $w' \subseteq AM'$ : (1) $w$ starts with $A$ (3/5)

i.e.,  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$  is decided  
by a formula of the form

$$Er, \underbrace{\exists y_1, Er_2, \exists y_2, \dots}_{F(x,r)}$$

- ❖ Let  $w \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A w_2$ , and let  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$ .
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then  $(Er, F(x,r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^{2g(n)+2}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then  $(Er, F(x,r)) \leq 1/2^{2g(n)+2}$
- ❖ With high probability on  $r$  ( $\geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)+1}$ ),
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then  $F(x,r) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)+1}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then  $F(x,r) \leq 1/2^{g(n)+1}$
- ❖ Let  $D^+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x\#r \mid F(x,r) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)+1}\}$   
 $D^- \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x\#r \mid F(x,r) \leq 1/2^{g(n)+1}\}$   
 $(D^+, D^-)$  is a promise language in  $w_2'$ .
- ❖ By induction hypothesis,  $(D^+, D^-)$  is in  $AM'$ .

This is where we need **promise languages**.



# $w' \subseteq AM'$ : (1) $w$ starts with A (4/5)

❖ Since  $(D^+, D^-) \in AM'$ , for some  $D \in P$ :

— if  $x \# r \in D^+$ , then

$$\Pr_{r'}(\exists y', x \# r \# r' \# y' \in D) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)+1}$$

— if  $x \# r \in D^-$ , then

$$\Pr_{r'}(\exists y', x \# r \# r' \# y' \in D) \leq 1/2^{g(n)+1}$$

❖ If  $x \in L^-$  then  $(\exists y', x \# r \# r' \# y' \in D)$  holds:

— with prob.  $\leq 1/2^{g(n)+1}$  (on  $r'$ ) if  $x \# r \in D^-$ ,

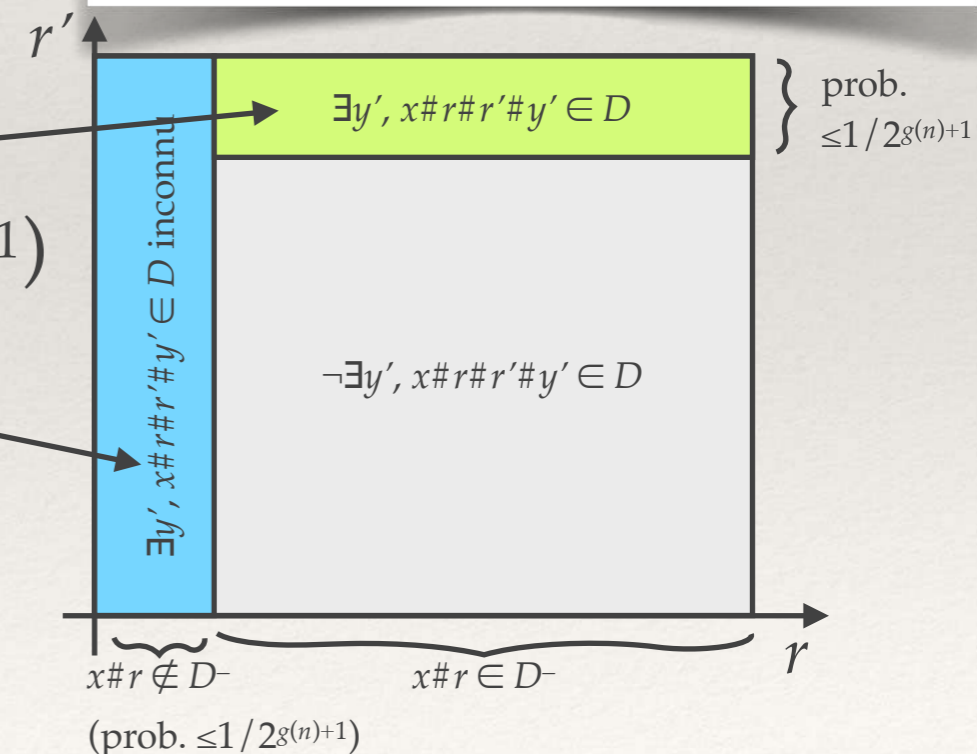
— and  $x \# r \notin D^-$  happens (i.e.,  $F(x, r) > 1/2^{g(n)+1}$ )

with prob.  $\leq 1/2^{g(n)+1}$  (on  $r$ )

hence with prob.  $\leq 1/2^{g(n)}$  total (on  $r, r'$ )

❖ Hence  $\Pr_{r, r'}(\exists y', x \# r \# r' \# y' \in D) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$

- ❖ Let  $w \equiv A w_2$ , and let  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$ .
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then  $(\exists r, F(x, r)) \geq 1 - 1/2^{2g(n)+2}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then  $(\exists r, F(x, r)) \leq 1/2^{2g(n)+2}$
- ❖ With high probability on  $r$  ( $\geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)+1}$ ),
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then  $F(x, r) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)+1}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then  $F(x, r) \leq 1/2^{g(n)+1}$
- ❖ Let  $D^+ \equiv \{x \# r \mid F(x, r) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)+1}\}$   
 $D^- \equiv \{x \# r \mid F(x, r) \leq 1/2^{g(n)+1}\}$   
 $(D^+, D^-)$  is a promise language in  $w_2'$ .
- ❖ By induction hypothesis,  $(D^+, D^-)$  is in  $AM'$ .





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# $w' \subseteq AM'$ : (1) $w$ starts with A (5 / 5)

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- ❖ In summary:
  - If  $x \in L^-$  then  $\Pr_{r,r'}(\exists y', x\#r\#r'\#y' \in D) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$
  - If  $x \in L^+$  then  $\Pr_{r,r'}(\exists y', x\#r\#r'\#y' \in D) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}$
- ❖ Therefore  $(L^+, L^-)$  is in  $AM'$ .
- ❖ Since  $(L^+, L^-)$  was arbitrary in  $w'$ ,  $w' \subseteq AM'$ .

# $w' \subseteq AM'$ : (1) $w$ starts with $M$ (1/2)

- ❖ Let  $w \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} M w_2$ , and let  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$ .
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then for some  $y$ ,  $F(x, y) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then for every  $y$ ,  $F(x, y) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$
- ❖ Let  $D^+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x\#y \mid F(x, y) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}\}$   
 $D^- \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x\#y \mid F(x, y) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}\}$
- ❖  $(D^+, D^-)$  is a promise language in  $w_2'$ .
- ❖ By induction hypothesis,  $(D^+, D^-)$  is in  $AM'$ .

This is simpler!

This is where we need **promise languages**.  
No way we could use a single language  
 $D^+ = \text{complement of } D^-$



# $w' \subseteq \text{AM}'$ : (1) $w$ starts with $M$ (2/2)

❖ Since  $(D^+, D^-) \in \text{AM}'$ , for some  $D \in \mathcal{P}$ :

— if  $x \# y \in D^+$ , then

$$(\exists r', \exists y', x \# y \# r' \# y' \in D) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}$$

— if  $x \# y \in D^-$ , then

$$(\exists r', \exists y', x \# y \# r' \# y' \in D) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$$

❖ If  $x \in L^+$  then for some  $y$ ,  $x \# y \in D^+$ , so

$$(\exists y, \exists r', \exists y', x \# y \# r' \# y' \in D) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}$$

❖ If  $x \in L^-$  then for every  $y$ ,  $x \# y \in D^-$ , so

$$(\exists y, \exists r', \exists y', x \# y \# r' \# y' \in D) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$$

❖ Hence  $(L^+, L^-)$  is in  $\text{MAM}'$ ... hence in  $\text{AM}'$ !  $\square$

- ❖ Let  $w \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} M w_2$ , and let  $(L^+, L^-) \in w'$ .
  - if  $x \in L^+$ , then for some  $y$ ,  $F(x, y) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}$
  - if  $x \in L^-$  then for every  $y$ ,  $F(x, y) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}$
- ❖ Let  $D^+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x \# y \mid F(x, y) \geq 1 - 1/2^{g(n)}\}$   
 $D^- \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x \# y \mid F(x, y) \leq 1/2^{g(n)}\}$
- ❖  $(D^+, D^-)$  is a promise language in  $w_2'$ .
- ❖ By induction hypothesis,  $(D^+, D^-)$  is in  $\text{AM}'$ .

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# The Arthur-Merlin hierarchy collapses

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- ❖ We have proved: For every word  $w$ ,  $w' \subseteq \mathbf{AM}'$
- ❖ If  $w_1$  is a subword of  $w_2$  (obtained by removing letters) then  $w'_1 \subseteq w'_2$   
E.g.,  $\mathbf{AM}' \subseteq \mathbf{AAMAMMA}'$ , right?
- ❖ So, for every word  $w$  of the form  $w_1Aw_2Mw_3$ ,  $w' = \mathbf{AM}'$ .
- ❖ The remaining words are:
  - $w \in \mathbf{M}^+\mathbf{A}^+$ : then  $w' = \mathbf{MA}'$
  - $w \in \mathbf{M}^+$ : then  $w' = \mathbf{M}' (= \mathbf{NP}')$
  - $w \in \mathbf{A}^+$ : then  $w' = \mathbf{A}' (= \mathbf{BPP}')$
  - $w = \varepsilon$ : then  $w' = \mathbf{P}'$ .

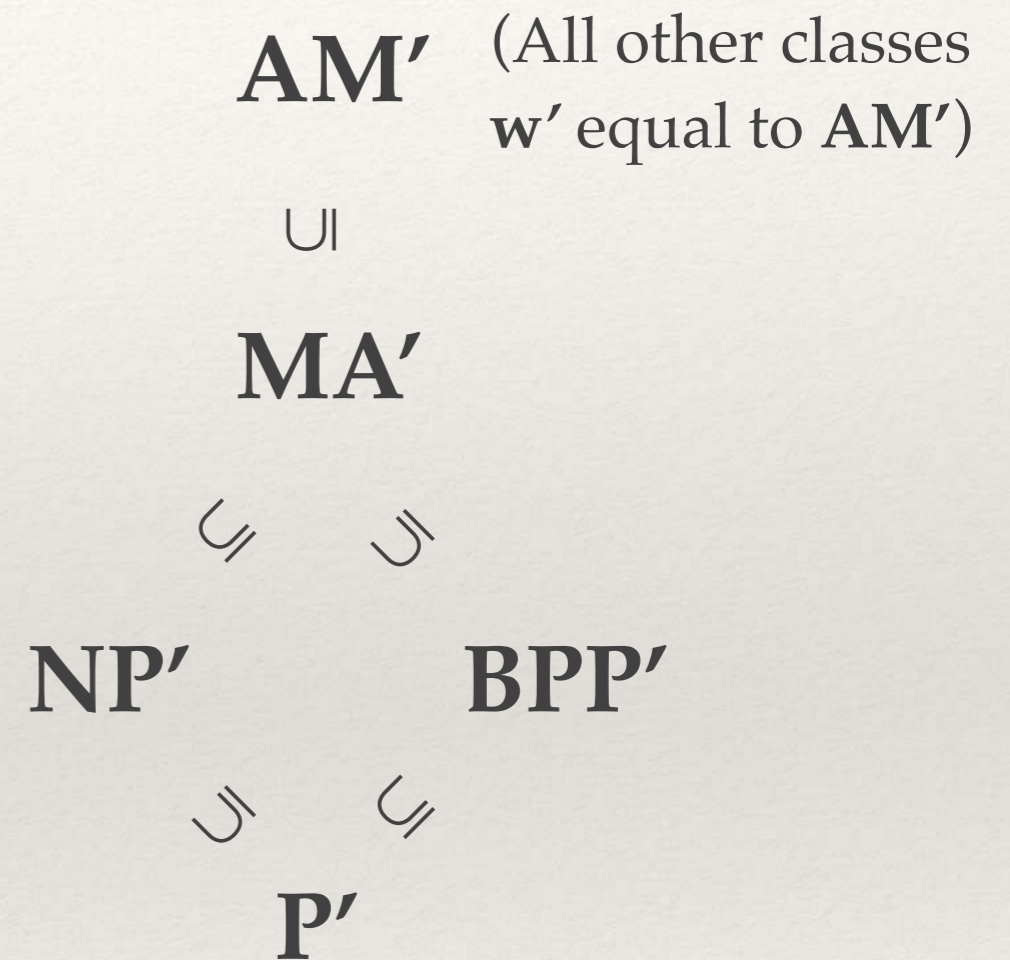


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# The Arthur-Merlin hierarchy collapses

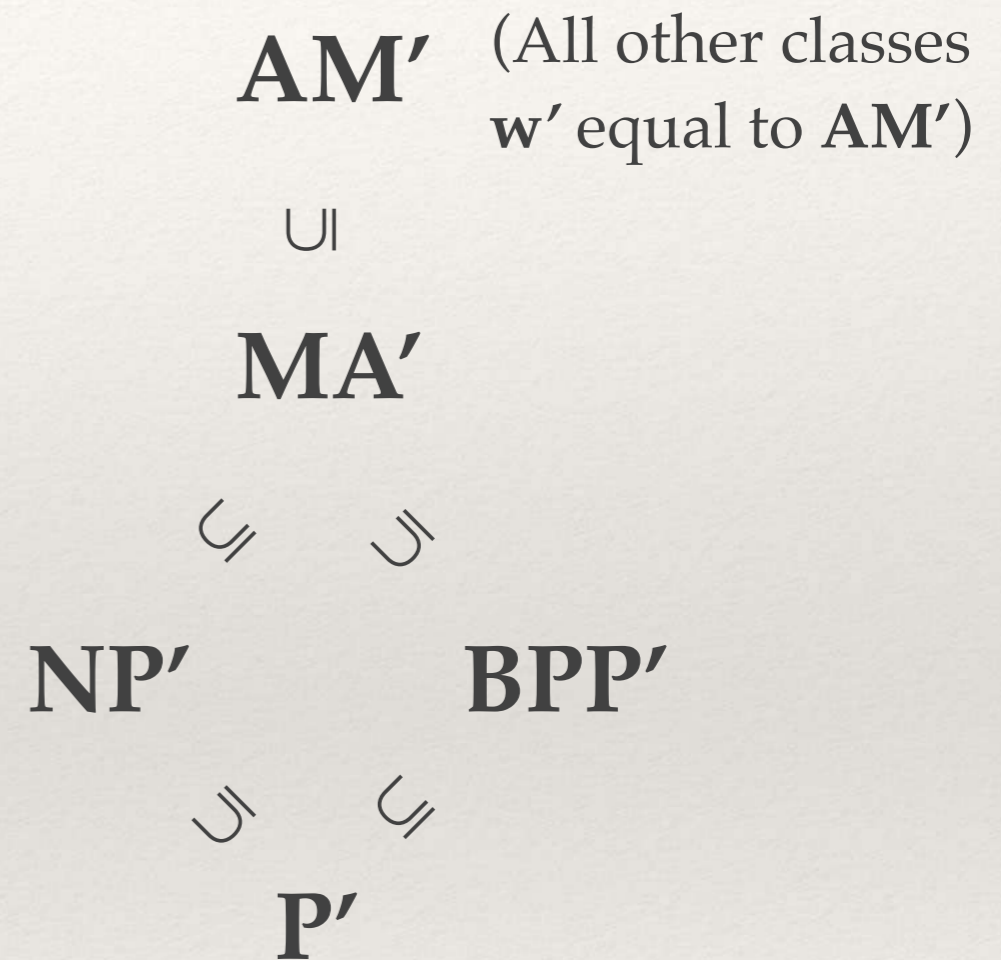
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❖ In summary:



# The Arthur-Merlin hierarchy collapses

- ❖ We can equate a language  $L$  with the promise problem  $(L, \text{complement of } L)$
- ❖ I.e., a promise problem  $(L^+, L^-)$  is a language iff  $L^+ = \text{complement of } L^-$
- ❖ Restricting to languages, we obtain...



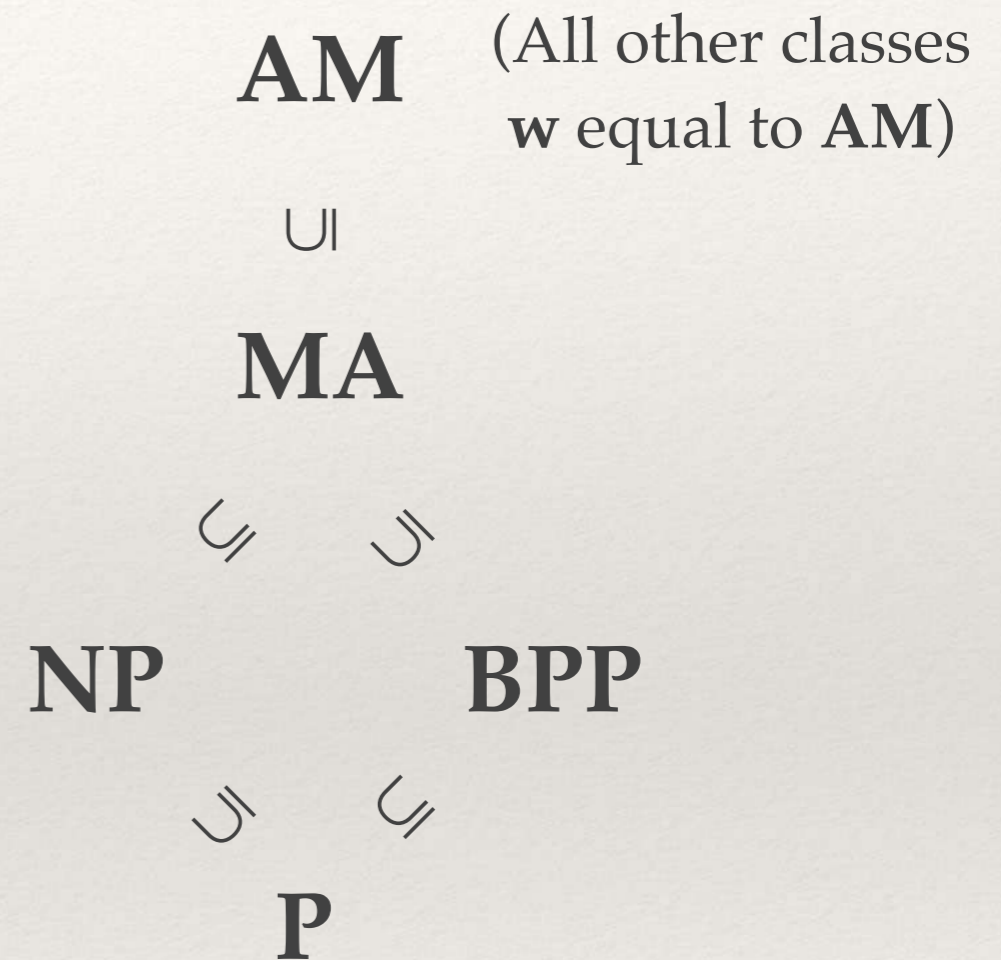


# The Arthur-Merlin hierarchy collapses

❖ **Thm 3.14 (Babai, Moran).**  
The A-M hierarchy collapses:  
there are no more than  
5 different classes in the  
hierarchy.

❖ (No other relation known  
between these classes.)

❖ Note: the same technique shows  
that  $\text{AM}[f(n)+\text{cst.}] = \text{AM}[f(n)] \dots$   
but no more.



Variable number of turns  $f(n) \dots$   
until now we only had a  
constant number of turns!

Next time...



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# Some more wonders!

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- ❖ Sipser's coding lemmas
- ❖ **AM** is in the polynomial hierarchy
- ❖ The Goldwasser-Sipser theorem:  
public coins  $\equiv$  private coins
- ❖ The Boppana-Håstad-Zachos theorem:  
Graph Isomorphism is most certainly not **NP**-complete.