

# Complexité avancée - TD 5

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## Exercise 1 Family of circuits

**Definition 1** A boolean circuit with  $n$  inputs is an acyclic graph where the  $n$  inputs  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are part of the vertices. The internal vertices are labeled with  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$  (with 2 incoming edges) or  $\neg$  (with 1 incoming edge), with an additional distinguished vertex  $o$  that is the output (with no exiting edge). The size  $|C|$  of a circuit  $C$  is its number of vertices (excluding the input ones). For a word  $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , the notation  $C(x)$  refers to the output of the circuit  $C$  if the input vertices of  $C$  are valued with the bits of  $x$ .

**Definition 2** For a function  $t : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , a family of circuit of size  $t(n)$  is a sequence  $(C_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that:  $C_n$  is an  $n$ -input circuit and  $|C_n| \leq t(n)$ .

**Definition 3** A language  $L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$  is decided by a family of circuit  $(C_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  if for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , for all  $w \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , we have:  $C_n(w) = 1 \Leftrightarrow w \in L$ .

**Definition 4** For a function  $t : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , we define  $\text{SIZE}(t) := \{L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^* \mid L \text{ is decided by a family of circuits of size } O(t(n))\}$ .

## Definition 5

$$\text{P/poly} := \cup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \text{SIZE}(n^k)$$

1. Show that any language  $L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$  is in size  $\text{SIZE}(n \cdot 2^n)$ .
2. Show that for all function  $t(n) = 2^{o(n)}$ , there exists  $L \notin \text{SIZE}(t(n))$ .
3. Show that every unary language is in  $\text{P/poly}$ .
4. Exhibit a undecidable language that is in  $\text{P/poly}$ .
5. Show that  $\text{P/poly}$  is not countable.

## Solution:

1. Let  $L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$ . For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we define  $f_n : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  by  $f_n(w) = 1 \Leftrightarrow w \in L$ , for all  $w \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . Now, let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let us construct  $C_n$  with  $O(n \cdot 2^n)$  vertices such that  $C_n(w) = f_n(w)$  for all  $w \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . The function  $f_n$  can be represented as a two-column table with  $2^n$  entries where each valuation of  $n$  variables to either 0 or 1 is associated 0 or 1. This table can be represented as a DNF  $\phi = \vee_{1 \leq j \leq k} (\wedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_i = w_i^j)$  where  $(w^j)_{1 \leq j \leq k}$  (for some  $k \leq 2^n$ ) are the words of  $\{0, 1\}^n$  ensuring  $f_n(w_i) = 1$ . Each clause  $(\wedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_i = w_i^j)$  can be represented by a circuit with  $O(n)$  vertices. As there are at most  $2^n$  of them, the formula  $\phi$  can be represented by circuit of size  $O(n \cdot 2^n)$ .

- Let us find an upper bound on the number of circuits  $d(n)$  of size  $t(n)$ . There are at most  $t(n)$  internal vertices, each labeled by either  $\vee$ ,  $\wedge$ , or  $\neg$ . Furthermore, each vertex has at most two predecessors taken among  $n + t(n)$  vertices. Overall, we have:

$$d(n) \leq 3^{t(n)} \cdot ((t(n) + n)^2)^{t(n)} = (3 \cdot (t(n) + n)^2)^{t(n)} = 2^{t(n) \log((3 \cdot (t(n) + n)^2))}$$

In addition, there are  $2^{2^n}$  functions from  $\{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ . Since  $t(n) = 2^{o(n)}$ , we have  $t(n) \cdot \log((3 \cdot (t(n) + n)^2)) = o(2^n)$ . Thus  $d(n) = 2^{o(2^n)}$ . It follows that, asymptotically, there is not enough circuits of size  $t(n)$  to compute all Boolean functions.<sup>1</sup>

- Consider a unary language  $L \subseteq 1^*$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we build the circuit  $C_n$  such that, if  $1^n \in L$ , then  $C_n$  consists of  $\wedge$  vertices leading to the output, whereas if  $1^n \notin L$ , we consider a circuit  $C_n$  that always yields false (for instance, by having  $x \wedge \neg x$  for some input  $x$ ). Then, for all  $n$ , we have  $|C_n| = O(n)$  and  $C_n(w) = 1 \Leftrightarrow w \in L$ .

- The language

$$L = \{1^n \mid \text{the binary encoding of } n \text{ encodes a Turing machine in that always stops}\}$$

is unary and undecidable.

- There exists a bijection between the set of unary languages and the set of subsets  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  (which associates to a unary language  $L \subseteq 1^*$  the set of  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $1^n \in L$ ). Since  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  is not countable, so is  $P/poly$ .

## Exercise 2 Some alternation

- Exhibit a polynomial time alternating algorithm that solves QBF.
- Let ONE – VAL be the problem of deciding whether a boolean formula is satisfied by exactly one valuation. Show that ONE – VAL  $\in \Sigma_2^P$ .
- A boolean formula is minimal if it has no equivalent shorter formula – where the length of the formula is the number of symbols it contains. Let MIN – FORMULA be the problem of deciding whether a boolean formula is minimal. Show that MIN – FORMULA  $\in \Pi_2^P$ .

## Solution:

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qbf(nu, phi):
  case(phi):
    - phi: propositional formula
              return yes iff nu stisfies phi
    - phi = exists x, phi'
              (exists) choose i in [0,1]
              qbf(nu[x = i], phi')
    - phi = forall x, phi'
              (forall) choose i in [0,1]
              qbf(nu[x = i], phi')

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<sup>1</sup>Question and solution inspired from Sebastiaan A. Terwijn Complexity theory course notes.

Here, the number of alternations is unbounded.

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2. OneVal(phi):
    (exists) choose a valuation nu
    if (nu satisfies phi)
    then
        (forall) choose a valuation nu'
        if (nu' does not satisfy phi) or (nu = nu')
        then return TRUE
        else return FALSE
    else
        return FALSE

```

Here we have one alternation, with first the existential states (exists) and then the universal states (forall).

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3. MinFormula(phi):
    (forall) choose a formula psi with |psi| < |phi|
    (exists) choose a valuation nu
    if nu does not satisfy phi <-> psi
    then
        return TRUE
    else
        return FALSE

```

Here we have one alternation, with first the universal states (forall) and then the existential states (exists).

### Exercise 3 Collapse of PH

1. Prove that if  $\Sigma_k^P = \Sigma_{k+1}^P$  for some  $k \geq 0$  then  $\text{PH} = \Sigma_k^P$ . (Remark that this is implied by  $\text{P} = \text{NP}$ ).
2. Show that if  $\Sigma_k^P = \Pi_k^P$  for some  $k$  then  $\text{PH} = \Sigma_k^P$  (i.e. PH collapses).
3. Show that if  $\text{PH} = \text{PSPACE}$  then PH collapses.
4. Do you think there is a polynomial time procedure to convert any QBF formula into a QBF formula with at most 10 variables ?

### Solution:

First, note that  $\Sigma_k^P = \text{co } \Pi_k^P$  for all  $k \geq 0$ . In the following, all quantifications are made with a polynomial bound on the size of the variables considered.

1. Let us assume that  $\Sigma_k^P = \Sigma_{k+1}^P$  for some  $k \geq 0$ , we prove by induction that  $\forall j \geq k, \Sigma_k^P = \Sigma_j^P$ , This holds for  $j = i$ . Now, consider some  $j > i$  and assume that  $\Sigma_k^P = \dots = \Sigma_{j-1}^P$ . Let  $L \in \Sigma_j^P$ . There exists a language  $B \in \text{P}$  ensuring:  $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1, \forall y_2, \dots, Q_j y_j, (x, y_1, \dots, y_j) \in B$ .

Let  $L' = \{(x, y_1) \mid |y_1| \leq p(|x|) \wedge \forall y_2, \dots, Q_j y_j, (x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j) \in B\}$  for some polynomial function  $p$ . We have  $L' \in \Pi_{j-1}^P = \text{co } \Sigma_{j-1}^P = \text{co } \Sigma_k^P = \Pi_k^P$ . That is,  $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1, (x, y_1) \in L'$  with  $L' \in \Pi_k^P$ . In fact,  $L \in \Sigma_{k+1}^P = \Sigma_k^P$  by hypothesis.

2. With the previous question, we just have to prove that  $\Sigma_k^P = \Sigma_{k+1}^P$ .  
 Let  $L \in \Sigma_{k+1}^P$ . As previously, There exists a language  $B \in \mathbf{P}$  ensuring:  $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1, \forall y_2, \dots, Q_{k+1}y_{k+1}, (x, y_1, \dots, y_{k+1}) \in B$ .  
 We define  $L' = \{(x, y_1) \mid |y_1| \leq p(|x|) \wedge \forall y_2, \dots, Q_{k+1}y_{k+1}, (x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{k+1}) \in B\}$  for some polynomial function  $p$ . We have  $L' \in \Pi_k^P = \Sigma_k^P$  by hypothesis.  
 That is, there exists  $B' \in \mathbf{P}$  such that  $x \in L' \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1, \forall y_2, \dots, Q_k y_k, (x, y_1, \dots, y_k) \in B'$ . But then, we have  $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y, (x, y) \in L'$ . This is equivalent to  $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y, \exists y_1, \forall y_2, \dots, Q_k y_k, (x, y, y_1, \dots, y_k) \in B'$ . This can be rephrased as  $x \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists y', \forall y_2, \dots, Q_k y_k, (x, y', \dots, y_k) \in B'$ . It follows that  $L \in \Sigma_k^P$ .
3. If  $\text{PH} = \text{PSPACE}$ , then QBF is in  $\Sigma_k^P$  for some  $k$ . But QBF is a complete problem for PSPACE, and thus PH. Let there be  $B \in \text{PH}$ , it can be reduced to  $\text{QBF} \in \Sigma_k^P$  in logspace, so  $B \in \Sigma_k^P$ . That is,  $\text{PH} = \Sigma_k^P$ .
4. It is unlikely that PH collapses, and the statement would imply the previous question.

#### Exercise 4 Oracles

Consider a language  $A$ . A Turing machine with oracle  $A$  is a Turing machine with a special additional read/write tape, called the oracle tape, and three special states:  $q_{\text{query}}, q_{\text{yes}}, q_{\text{no}}$ . Whenever the machine enters the state  $q_{\text{query}}$ , with some word  $w$  written on the oracle tape, it moves **in one step** to the state  $q_{\text{yes}}$  or  $q_{\text{no}}$  depending on whether  $w \in A$ .

We denote by  $\mathbf{P}^A$  (resp.  $\mathbf{NP}^A$ ) the class of languages decided in by a deterministic (resp. non-deterministic) Turing machine running in polynomial time with oracle  $A$ . Given a complexity class  $\mathcal{C}$ , we define  $\mathbf{P}^{\mathcal{C}} = \bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{C}} \mathbf{P}^A$  (and similarly for NP).

1. Prove that for any  $\mathcal{C}$ -complete language  $A$  (for logspace reductions),  $\mathbf{P}^{\mathcal{C}} = \mathbf{P}^A$  and  $\mathbf{NP}^{\mathcal{C}} = \mathbf{NP}^A$ .
2. Show that for any language  $A$ ,  $\mathbf{P}^A = \mathbf{P}^{\bar{A}}$  and  $\mathbf{NP}^A = \mathbf{NP}^{\bar{A}}$ .
3. Prove that if  $\mathbf{NP} = \mathbf{P}^{\text{SAT}}$  then  $\mathbf{NP} = \text{coNP}$ .
4. Show that there exists a language  $A$  such that  $\mathbf{P}^A = \mathbf{NP}^A$ .<sup>2</sup>
5. We define inductively the classes  $\mathbf{NP}_0 = \mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{NP}_{k+1} = \mathbf{NP}^{\mathbf{NP}^k}$ . Show that  $\mathbf{NP}_k = \Sigma_k^P$  for all  $k \geq 0$ .

#### Solution:

1. We do the proof for NP. Obviously, we have  $\mathbf{NP}^{\mathcal{C}} \supseteq \mathbf{NP}^A$ . Now,  $B \in \mathbf{NP}^{\mathcal{C}}$ . There exists a non-deterministic Turing machine running in polynomial time deciding  $B$  with an oracle  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ . We also have a logspace (and hence polynomial time) reduction  $f$  such that:  $x \in \mathcal{C} \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in A$  since  $A$  is hard for  $\mathcal{C}$ . We build the non-deterministic Turing machine  $N'$  that executes  $N$  while replacing a call  $u \in \mathcal{C}$ ? with a call  $f(u) \in A$ ?. The Turing machine  $N'$  also runs in polynomial time and decides  $B$  with the oracle  $A$ . That is,  $B \in \mathbf{NP}^A$ .

<sup>2</sup>In fact, there also exists a language  $B$  such that  $\mathbf{P}^B \neq \mathbf{NP}^B$ , which does not prove that  $\mathbf{P} \neq \mathbf{NP}$ .

2. We simply have to swap the states  $q_{yes}$  and  $q_{no}$  in the computation.
3.  $P^{SAT}$  is a deterministic class, so it is closed by complementation. Hence, if  $NP = P^{SAT}$ , we have  $coNP = NP$ .
4. Consider  $A = QBF$ . By question 1, we have  $P^{QBF} = P^{PSPACE}$  and  $NP^{QBF} = NP^{PSPACE}$ . Furthermore,  $NP^{PSPACE} \subseteq NPSPACE$  since one can simulate the calls to the oracle in polynomial space (as there is a polynomial number of calls). Therefore,  $NP^{PSPACE} \subseteq NPSPACE \subseteq PSPACE \subseteq P^{PSPACE}$ .