## 4 Possibilities of Relationships

Notice that $X \in \mathrm{NP} \Longleftrightarrow \bar{X} \in$ Co-NP and $\mathrm{P} \subseteq \mathrm{NP} \cap$ Co-NP


- People commonly believe we are in the 4th scenario


## Outline

## (1) Some Hard Problems

(2) P, NP and Co-NP
(3) Polynomial Time Reductions and NP-Completeness
(4) NP-Complete Problems
(5) Dealing with NP-Hard Problems
(0) Summary

## Polynomial-Time Reductions

Def. Given a black box algorithm $A$ that solves a problem $X$, if any instance of a problem $Y$ can be solved using a polynomial number of standard computational steps, plus a polynomial number of calls to $A$, then we say $Y$ is polynomial-time reducible to $X$, denoted as $Y \leq_{P} X$.

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To prove positive results:
Suppose $Y \leq_{P} X$. If $X$ can be solved in polynomial time, then $Y$ can be solved in polynomial time.

To prove negative results:
Suppose $Y \leq_{P} X$. If $Y$ cannot be solved in polynomial time, then $X$ cannot be solved in polynomial time.

## Polynomial-Time Reduction: Example

## Hamiltonian-Path (HP) problem

 Input: $G=(V, E)$ and $s, t \in V$Output: whether there is a Hamiltonian path from $s$ to $t$ in $G$

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Lemma $\mathrm{HP} \leq_{\mathrm{P}} \mathrm{HC}$.


Obs. $G$ has a HP from $s$ to $t$ if and only if graph on right side has a HC.

## NP-Completeness

Def. A problem $X$ is called NP-complete if
(1) $X \in \mathrm{NP}$, and
(2) $Y \leq_{\mathrm{P}} X$ for every $Y \in \mathrm{NP}$.

## NP-Completeness

Def. A problem $X$ is called NP-hard if
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- How can we find a problem $X \in$ NP such that every problem $Y \in$ NP is polynomial time reducible to $X$ ? Are we asking for too much?
- No! There is indeed a large family of natural NP-complete problems


## The First NP-Complete Problem: Circuit-Sat

## Circuit Satisfiability (Circuit-Sat)

Input: a circuit
Output: whether the circuit is satisfiable


## Circuit-Sat is NP-Complete

- key fact: algorithms can be converted to circuits

Fact Any algorithm that takes $n$ bits as input and outputs $0 / 1$ with running time $T(n)$ can be converted into a circuit of size $p(T(n))$ for some polynomial function $p(\cdot)$.


Time $T \square \square$

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Time $T \square \square$

- Then, we can show that any problem $Y \in \mathrm{NP}$ can be reduced to Circuit-Sat.
- We prove $\mathrm{HC} \leq_{P}$ Circuit-Sat as an example.


## $\mathrm{HC} \leq_{P}$ Circuit-Sat

## check- $\mathrm{HC}(G, S)$

- Let check- $\mathrm{HC}(G, S)$ be the certifier for the Hamiltonian cycle problem: check- $\mathrm{HC}(G, S)$ returns 1 if $S$ is a Hamiltonian cycle is $G$ and 0 otherwise.


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- hard-wire the instance $G$ to the circuit $C^{\prime}$ to obtain the circuit $C$
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## $Y \leq_{P}$ Circuit-Sat, For Every $Y \in N P$

- Let check- $\mathrm{Y}(s, t)$ be the certifier for problem $Y$ : check- $\mathrm{Y}(s, t)$ returns 1 if $t$ is a valid certificate for $s$.
- $s$ is a yes-instance if and only if there is a $t$ such that check- $\mathrm{Y}(s, t)$ returns 1
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Theorem Circuit-Sat is NP-complete.

## Reductions of NP-Complete Problems



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- Boolean variables: $x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{n}$
- Literals: $x_{i}$ or $\neg x_{i}$
- Clause: disjunction ("or") of at most 3 literals: $x_{3} \vee \neg x_{4}$, $x_{1} \vee x_{8} \vee \neg x_{9}, \quad \neg x_{2} \vee \neg x_{5} \vee x_{7}$


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- 3-CNF formula: conjunction ("and") of clauses: $\left(x_{1} \vee \neg x_{2} \vee \neg x_{3}\right) \wedge\left(x_{2} \vee x_{3} \vee x_{4}\right) \wedge\left(\neg x_{1} \vee \neg x_{3} \vee \neg x_{4}\right)$


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Input: a 3-CNF formula
Output: whether the 3-CNF is satisfiable

- To satisfy a 3-CNF, we need to satisfy all clauses
- To satisfy a clause, we need to satisfy at least 1 literal
- Assignment $x_{1}=1, x_{2}=1, x_{3}=0, x_{4}=0$ satisfies $\left(x_{1} \vee \neg x_{2} \vee \neg x_{3}\right) \wedge\left(x_{2} \vee x_{3} \vee x_{4}\right) \wedge\left(\neg x_{1} \vee \neg x_{3} \vee \neg x_{4}\right)$


## Circuit-Sat $\leq_{P}$ 3-Sat



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- Associate every wire with a new variable
- The circuit is equivalent to the following formula:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(x_{4}=\neg x_{3}\right) \wedge\left(x_{5}=x_{1} \vee x_{2}\right) \wedge\left(x_{6}=\neg x_{4}\right) \\
& \wedge\left(x_{7}=x_{1} \wedge x_{2} \wedge x_{4}\right) \wedge\left(x_{8}=x_{5} \vee x_{6}\right) \\
& \wedge\left(x_{9}=x_{6} \vee x_{7}\right) \wedge\left(x_{10}=x_{8} \wedge x_{9} \wedge x_{7}\right) \wedge x_{10}
\end{aligned}
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x_{5}=x_{1} \vee x_{2} \quad \Leftrightarrow
$$

| $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{5}$ | $x_{5} \leftrightarrow x_{1} \vee x_{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
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\begin{array}{ll}
x_{5}=x_{1} \vee x_{2} & \Leftrightarrow \\
\left(x_{1} \vee x_{2} \vee \neg x_{5}\right) & \wedge \\
\left(x_{1} \vee \neg x_{2} \vee x_{5}\right) & \wedge \\
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\end{array}
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& \left(x_{1} \vee x_{2} \vee \neg x_{5}\right) \\
& \left(x_{1} \vee \neg x_{2} \vee x_{5}\right) \\
& \left(\neg x_{1} \vee x_{2} \vee x_{5}\right) \\
& \wedge \\
& \left(\neg x_{1} \vee \neg x_{2} \vee x_{5}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

| $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{5}$ | $x_{5} \leftrightarrow x_{1} \vee x_{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

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- Thus, Circuit-Sat $\leq_{P}$ 3-Sat


## Reductions of NP-Complete Problems



