Notice that  $X \in \mathsf{NP} \iff \overline{X} \in \mathsf{Co-NP}$  and  $\mathsf{P} \subseteq \mathsf{NP} \cap \mathsf{Co-NP}$ 



• People commonly believe we are in the 4th scenario

### Outline

#### 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

#### 6 Summary

**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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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.

### Hamiltonian-Path (HP) problem

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**Output:** whether there is a Hamiltonian path from s to t in G

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

#### **Def.** A problem X is called NP-complete if

- $\ \ \, \mathbf{0} \ \ \, X \in \mathsf{NP}, \mathsf{ and}$
- **2**  $Y \leq_{\mathsf{P}} X$  for every  $Y \in \mathsf{NP}$ .

#### **Def.** A problem X is called NP-hard if

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  - How can we find a problem X ∈ NP such that every problem Y ∈ 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



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  $p(\cdot)$ .



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- Then, we can show that any problem Y ∈ NP can be reduced to Circuit-Sat.
- We prove  $HC \leq_P Circuit-Sat$  as an example.

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

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

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- G is a yes-instance if and only if there is an S such that  ${\rm check-HC}(G,S)$  returns 1
- Construct a circuit  $C^\prime$  for the algorithm check-HC
- hard-wire the instance G to the circuit C' to obtain the circuit C
- G is a yes-instance if and only if C is satisfiable

## $Y \leq_P \text{Circuit-Sat, For Every } Y \in \mathsf{NP}$

- Let check-Y(s,t) be the certifier for problem Y: check-Y(s,t) returns 1 if t is a valid certificate for s.
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**Theorem** Circuit-Sat is NP-complete.

### **Reductions of NP-Complete Problems**



 $\operatorname{3-CNF}$  (conjunctive normal form) is a special case of formula:

• Boolean variables:  $x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n$ 

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- Clause: disjunction ("or") of at most 3 literals:  $x_3 \vee \neg x_4$ ,  $x_1 \vee x_8 \vee \neg x_9$ ,  $\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_5 \vee x_7$

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- 3-CNF formula: conjunction ("and") of clauses:  $(x_1 \lor \neg x_2 \lor \neg x_3) \land (x_2 \lor x_3 \lor x_4) \land (\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_3 \lor \neg x_4)$

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Output: whether the 3-CNF is satisfiable

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- To satisfy a clause, we need to satisfy at least 1 literal

#### 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  $(x_1 \lor \neg x_2 \lor \neg x_3) \land (x_2 \lor x_3 \lor x_4) \land (\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_3 \lor \neg x_4)$





• Associate every wire with a new variable



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

$$(x_4 = \neg x_3) \land (x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2) \land (x_6 = \neg x_4) \land (x_7 = x_1 \land x_2 \land x_4) \land (x_8 = x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_9 = x_6 \lor x_7) \land (x_{10} = x_8 \land x_9 \land x_7) \land x_{10}$$

$$(x_4 = \neg x_3) \land (x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2) \land (x_6 = \neg x_4) \land (x_7 = x_1 \land x_2 \land x_4) \land (x_8 = x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_9 = x_6 \lor x_7) \land (x_{10} = x_8 \land x_9 \land x_7) \land x_{10}$$

Convert each clause to a 3-CNF

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Convert each clause to a 3-CNF	$x_1$
	0
$x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2  \Leftrightarrow$	0
	0
	0

$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_5$	$x_5 \leftrightarrow x_1 \lor x_2$
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
			45/7

$$(x_4 = \neg x_3) \land (x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2) \land (x_6 = \neg x_4) \land (x_7 = x_1 \land x_2 \land x_4) \land (x_8 = x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_9 = x_6 \lor x_7) \land (x_{10} = x_8 \land x_9 \land x_7) \land x_{10}$$

Convert each clause to a 3-CNF	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_5$	$x_5 \leftrightarrow x_1 \lor x_2$
	0	0	0	1
$x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2  \Leftrightarrow$	0	0	1	0
· · ·	0	1	0	0
	0	1	1	1
	1	0	0	0
	1	0	1	1
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	1	1	1	1

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$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_5$	$x_5 \leftrightarrow x_1 \lor x_2$
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
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	$egin{array}{c} x_1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c c} x_1 & x_2 \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c cccc} x_1 & x_2 & x_5 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$

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$x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2  \Leftrightarrow$	0	0	1	0
·	0	1	0	0
$(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \neg x_5) \land$	0	1	1	1
	1	0	0	0
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Convert each clause to a 3-CNF	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_5$	$x_5 \leftrightarrow x_1 \lor x_2$
	0	0	0	1
$x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2  \Leftrightarrow$	0	0	1	0
, <u> </u>	0	1	0	0
$(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \neg x_5) \land$	0	1	1	1
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$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_5$	$x_5 \leftrightarrow x_1 \lor x_2$
0	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
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1	1	1	1
	$x_1$ 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1	$\begin{array}{ccc} x_1 & x_2 \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c cccc} x_1 & x_2 & x_5 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$

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$x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2  \Leftrightarrow$	0	0	1	0
, <u> </u>	0	1	0	0
$(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \neg x_5) \land$	0	1	1	1
$(x_1 \lor \neg x_2 \lor x_5) \land$	1	0	0	0
$(\neg r_1 \lor / r_2 \lor / r_5) \land$	1	0	1	1
$(x_1 v x_2 v x_5)$	1	1	0	0
	1	1	1	1

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	0	0	0	1
$x_5 = x_1 \lor x_2  \Leftrightarrow$	0	0	1	0
, <u> </u>	0	1	0	0
$(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \neg x_5) \land$	0	1	1	1
$(x_1 \lor \neg x_2 \lor x_5) \land$	1	0	0	0
$(\neg r_1 \lor r_2 \lor r_5) \land$	1	0	1	1
$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_5)$	1	1	0	0
	1	1	1	1 45/
				TJ/

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$(\neg r_1 \lor / r_2 \lor / r_5) \land$	1	0	1	1
$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_5)$	1	1	0	0
$(\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_2 \lor x_5)$	1	1	1	1
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#### • Circuit $\iff$ Formula $\iff$ 3-CNF

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- The circuit is satisfiable if and only if the 3-CNF is satisfiable
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- Thus, Circuit-Sat  $\leq_P$  3-Sat

### **Reductions of NP-Complete Problems**

